

EMMANUEL EPISCOPAL CHURCH

HIGH NOTES



SEPTEMBER

2013

Inside this issue:

Stewardship	2
Christian Education	3
Youth / Acolytes	4
Outreach	5
Holiday Bazaar	6
Fellowship	7
Birthdays/Anniversaries	9

High Notes Submissions

Articles for each month's *High Notes* must be submitted to the [church office](#) by the 15th of the month.

A Note from Chuck

Greetings everyone and welcome to September!

Because I face the congregation during our Sunday services, I'm in a perfect position to see all sorts of things that others in our congregation may miss. One recent Sunday, several things caught my eye during the 10:30 a.m. service:

— During one of the hymns, I noticed a young boy gently leaning against his mother, watching her finger move across the page as she pointed out each word of the hymn we were singing. Mom was helping her son join in the sung prayer of the congregation, and indeed, mother and son were both singing with enthusiasm.

— At the time of the offering, I saw a father pull a bill from his pocket and give it to his young daughter, letting her put it into the offering bag when the usher came by. The little girl did so with a smile on her face, happy that she was able to contribute to the work of the church.

— When it came time to pray the *Our Father*, I watched as young adults said the words with reverence—acknowledging God as our Heavenly Father.

— At the exchange of the sign of Christ's peace, I saw friends and strangers alike, young and old, long-time parishioners and recent visitors all greet each other and me, uniting us in the never-ending bond of God's love and the peace of the Lord.

After the service it was neat to see kids at home enough to run around in the parish hall, under the watchful eyes of parents and siblings, as parishioners of all ages gathered for coffee and sweet treats prepared by our tireless volunteers ... the chatter was infectious as old friends embraced, and new friends were welcomed.

Before accepting the Call to become the next rector of Emmanuel I visited a lot of other churches. In an intentional effort to not tear down another congregation, please allow me to simply say that Emmanuel is blessed. Blessed with individuals who nurture others already here and blessed with individuals who care enough to welcome



(Continued on page 2)

Emmanuel Church Staff

Bishop of Virginia
The Right Rev. Shannon Johnston
Rector
The Rev. Charles C. McCoart, Jr.
Director of Christian Education
Claire Haymes
Organist/Choir Director
Ryan Fitch
Parish Administrator
Kelli Cortis
Nursery Caregivers
Lilian Urrea
Rosa Alarcon

2012-2013 Vestry

Senior Warden
Russ Haymes
Junior Warden
Vonda Delawie
Treasurer
Gene Lange
Members
Christina Bartley
Emily Buckman
Bob Carragher
Bob Feden
Joe Scott
Michelle Vaughan
Meredith Wade

Sunday Services

8:00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist Rite I
10:30 a.m.—Holy Eucharist Rite II

Church Office Hours

Monday—Thursday
10:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

Emmanuel Episcopal Church

1608 Russell Road
Alexandria, VA 22301
703-683-0798 (phone)
703-683-6158 (fax)

administrator@emmanuelonhigh.org
www.emmanuelonhigh.org

(Continued from page 1)

folks like me who have just arrived. I'm still new here, but already I feel welcomed and a part of the life and ministry of our parish.

Thank you for being a part of Emmanuel Episcopal Church. This is a great congregation that is striving to become an even better one! I realize you could choose to attend any church; so seriously and sincerely, thank you for choosing Emmanuel.

Peace friends,

Chuck

Stewardship Campaign Kick-Off

Mark your calendars – **September 29** will be the *official* Sunday kick-off of this year's Stewardship Campaign at Emmanuel. But before we get there, I want you to take a moment to think about what God – and Emmanuel – mean to you ... and to other congregants ... and to our preschoolers and their parents ... and to those who attend AA meetings at Emmanuel each week ... and to the Irish Dancers who practice in the parish hall each week ... and to the many other people and organizations in Alexandria and throughout the world that Emmanuel *touches* through our outreach, prayer, fellowship or when they drive by on Russell Road.

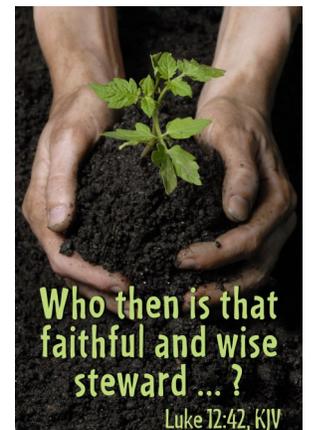
When thinking about this introductory newsletter piece, I checked the dictionary for a definition of **stewardship**. Personally, I like this one:

"The responsible overseeing and protection of something considered worth caring for and preserving."

I hope you – like I – feel Emmanuel is worth caring for and preserving.

There are lot of good things going in our church, and it's time we **all** take a minute to think what we can do to keep us headed (and moving) in the right direction. Monetary support, without a doubt, is important. But it takes more than just money to run and grow a church, both in size and spirituality.

Between now and September 29, think from time to time about what **you** can do to make Emmanuel a better place than it is today. After all, isn't that what God would want us to do?



Who then is that
faithful and wise
steward ... ?

Luke 12:42, KJV

Thanks for listening!

Bob Carragher, Vestry Liaison to the Stewardship Committee

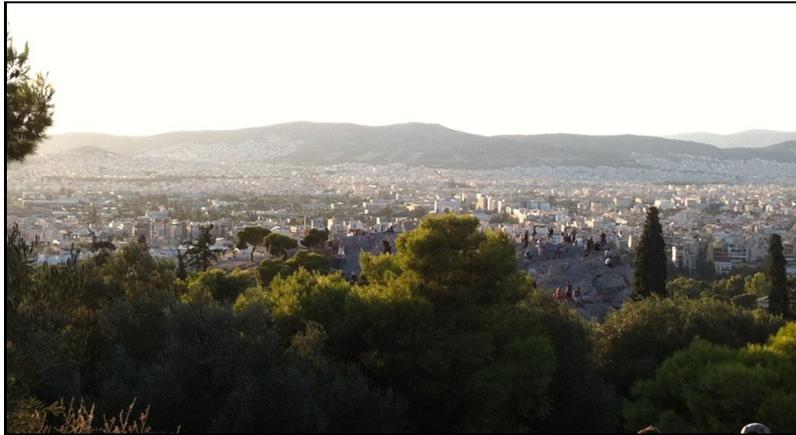
Something Old or Something New?

One thing's certain. We can always learn something new. Or we can learn to see what we thought we knew in a different way. As this program year kicks off, we encourage you to gather with your

brothers and sisters at Emmanuel for some form of Christian formation. Whether it be Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m., Tuesdays at 11:00 a.m., Wednesday nights at 7.30 p.m. or a time you'd like to suggest, coming together to learn, support one another in prayer and explore our own purpose in Christ is a wonderful thing.

Isn't the God in whom "we live and move and have our being" worth some of our time this Fall?

Paul addressed the learned men of Athens at the



Areopagus. His eloquence is compelling and still holds for us today, as Men and Women of Alexandria.

"Men of Athens! I see that in every way you

are very religious. For as I walked around and observed your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: TO AN UNKNOWN GOD. Now, what you worship as something unknown I am going to proclaim to you.

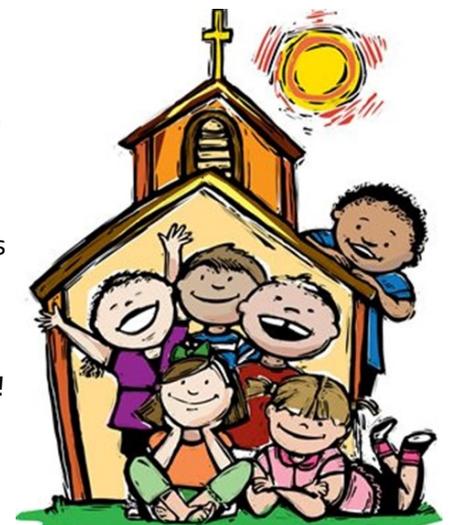
The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by hands....he himself gives life and breath and everything else to all...**God did this so that we would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from each one of us.**" Acts 17:23ff

Sunday School Open House

On September 8 you are cordially invited to come down to the preschool classrooms between 10:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. for our Sunday School Open House. Enjoy coffee and pastries, a chance for parents, teachers and children to reconnect, register, ask curriculum questions, find out what teaching involves, make suggestions, get to know your church family outside the pews, so much more. Even if you do not have children in Sunday school, we invite you to join us to show your support and maybe pick up a couple of prayer requests or volunteer your talents on a one-off basis.

PS: Maximize your coffee and chat time by bringing the forms already filled out!

PPS: 6th grade and up will be having their own Open House – watch announcements for the **new location for God and Donuts!**



Calling All Teens!

Just when you thought summer fun was over, here's the breakdown on upcoming youth events hosted by the diocesan Parish Youth Ministries (PYM):

Saturday, October 5 — Youth Day of Service, St. Thomas', McLean, helping set up their humongous pumpkin patch. Youth and youth leaders from all over the diocese will be there – lunch on PYM.



November 8-10 — Senior High Weekend at Shrine Mont (you know its

going to rock)

And looking way ahead to spring, note these opportunities and dates:

March 28-30 — 6th and 7th grade weekend at Shrine Mont

May 16-18 — 8th grade weekend at Shrine Mont

Details, contact information, and registration forms for these great events will be in your e-mail and church bulletins soon and we will be talking about them in the *God and Donuts* classes.

Teacher Commissioning

We look forward to commissioning our Sunday school teachers on September 15 during the 10.30 a.m. service. Please join us that day in recognizing them and their service to our younger members.

Acolyte Festival and Banner Dates

Last year we were represented at the National Cathedral Acolyte Festival by one brave acolyte from Emmanuel. We very much hope to put together a good group of older and younger acolytes to attend this fantastic and fun event this October



12. Some information is available [here](#) or contact [Claire Haymes](#) or [David Buckman](#) for more details and to sign-up.

In connection with this festival, Judy Carlton is generously working on a special small-scale banner for us, more suited to the size of our smaller acolytes than the large Emmanuel banner. All acolytes will have an opportunity to add something to the banner to make it truly a community effort — watch this space for a date in September for work on the banner!

Backpack Blessing

Though school will already have begun for most students, from preschool through to high school, we still want to take the opportunity on September 8 to pause and give this new beginning to God. Each new school year is a huge milestone for children and parents alike and we want to make time to ask God's blessing. So, whatever stage of study your child is

at, we encourage you to attend and bring along some token of your school supplies, from a pencil to your whole backpack and we'll make sure they receive a special blessing for the new school year. We will also be including in those prayers the 25 children from [Community Lodgings](#) for whom we were able to provide school supplies through your generosity.



Haiti

Bondye di ou: Fe pa ou; m'a fe pa 'm.

We are blessed with a great connection to the Rev. Sonley Joseph, parish priest in St. Martin-de-Tours, Delmas, Port-au-Prince, Haiti. Last year we began getting to know his congregation and situation. We have provided assistance for their music program, for a retreat for their leadership and we've enjoyed many photographs and reports of their church activities. We have also just approved funding [for 20 scholarships for young people at the church school](#). Rev. Joseph is very interested in partnering with us and St. Mary's in Arlington, and is very responsive to our questions. This program year we plan to bring a connection to Haiti into many parts of Emmanuel parish life and hope in that way to be informed and inspired to provide wise and generous assistance to our brothers and sisters there. Claire Haymes is our advocate for Haiti – contact her if you have any fundraising or awareness-raising ideas!

Bondye di ou: Fe pa ou; m'a fe pa 'm.

(Bondee-ay dee oo: fay pa oo, m'ah fay pam.)

God says to you: You do your part; I'll do mine.

Men anpil chay pa lou.

(men anpeel chay pa loo.)

Many hands lighten the load.



Save the Date:

The Emmanuel Annual Holiday Bazaar Returns for Another Year

November 16, 2013

Planning has begun for the Annual Holiday Bazaar to be held in the Parish Hall on November 16 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. This year's bazaar will feature a Silent Auction, handmade items from Emmanuel's sewing group, and boutique vendors so you can get ahead on your holiday shopping. Meanwhile, children's activities will keep the little ones entertained downstairs. They'll even have a chance to shop for mom and dad in Santa's Workshop. (Elves will be on hand to help children wrap their gifts.)

The Emmanuel bake table will feature a huge display of cakes, cookies, and pies. This year we will also be taking a limited number of orders for holiday pies to be delivered to your home in time for Thanksgiving Dinner. A delicious lunch of homemade soups, chili, and breads made by our Emmanuel chefs will be served from 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

For those of you who are not familiar with the Holiday Bazaar, this is Emmanuel's biggest fundraiser of the year. It's also one of our most important fellowship events. It's a day of traditional holiday fun that includes good food, shopping, and a chance to visit with friends old and new. There is something for everyone at the Emmanuel Bazaar. Please mark your calendars and plan on bringing the whole family to this heart-warming event.

In the coming weeks we will be looking for volunteers who are interested in helping make the bazaar a success. No contribution of time or talent is too small. Join us for our next bazaar planning meeting on Monday, September 16 at 7:00 p.m. in the Memorial Room. We will be distributing volunteer sign-up sheets and donor forms soon. For more information, please contact Mary Ann Frank at (703) 683-6034/home or (703) 739-5048/work or mfrank@pbs.org.





Please join our Church for our annual
**Pet Blessing in honor of St.
 Francis Day!**

When: Sunday, October 6

12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m.

Where: Church Playground

We'll have special treats for our pets.

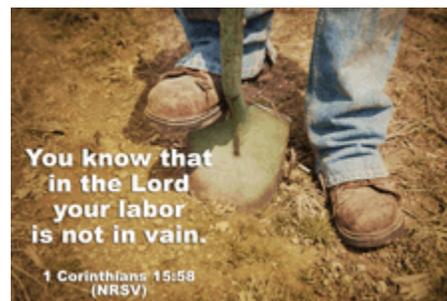


Dining Out at Goodwin House

The next dinner with members and friends of Emmanuel who live at Goodwin House Alexandria is set for Wednesday, September 25. The evening begins with a social hour at 5:45 p.m., followed by dinner. Guests who don't live at Goodwin House are asked to pay a modest (under \$20) amount for their dinner. The event is open to anyone who would like to come to enjoy the festive atmosphere and wonderful company. Jim Bradley coordinates the event and is happy to answer any questions. Contact Kelli (703-683-0798) in the church office to make your reservation.

Groundbreaking for the New Immanuel Chapel

The Dean and President of Virginia Theological Seminary, The Very Rev. Ian S. Markham, Ph.D., warmly invites you to the groundbreaking for the new Immanuel Chapel, Holy Cross Day, Saturday, September 14, 2013, 11:00 a.m., on the Grove close to the location of the new Immanuel Chapel. Reception immediately following in the Refectory. 3737 Seminary Road, Alexandria, Virginia 22304.





- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 7 Emily Coda | 21 Mary Murphy |
| 8 Ashley Clark-Beale | 22 John Edsall |
| 10 Pete Petersen | 26 Torrence Delawie |
| 10 Emily Pfeiffer | 27 Evelyn Kirk |
| 11 Liam Kasik | 27 Stewart Bartley |
| 18 Stephen Moore | 27 Ben Bilodeau |
| 19 Dorothy Dunn | 29 Henry Kennett |
| 20 Jason Dresen | 29 Avery Schettenhelm |



Meredith and Doug Wade
September 2

Judi and Tony Brush
September 2

Bayanne and James Hauhart
September 12

Barbie and Paul Frank
September 25

Donald and Lynne Simpson
September 28



September

- 3 First Day of Preschool
- 8 Fall Kickoff; Sunday School Open House; Backpack Blessing
- 14 Groundbreaking for the New Immanuel Chapel
- 15 First Day of Sunday School; Teacher Commissioning
- 16 Holiday Bazaar Meeting
- 24 Preschool Parent's Night

October

- 6 Blessing of the Animals
- 12 National Acolyte Festival

November

- 16 Holiday Bazaar

December

- 8 Breakfast with St. Nicholas
- 24 Christmas Pageant

May 2014

- 2-4 Shrine Mont Retreat