

Your Vestry Wants To Hear From You!

Here is a list of your vestry to contact with any concerns!

Rector — Mark Gatza

Senior Warden — Sandy Cormack

Junior Warden — Linden White: Treasurer — James Macgill

Registrar — Kevin Fleming

Michael Barton

Joseph Gwiazda

Bonnie Montalvo

Cathy Proctor

Heather Costantino

Frances Mason

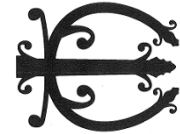
Susan Maule

Ingrid Riseley

Peggy Lauterbach

Chris Runice

(One Vacancy)



*Emmanuel
Church Staff*

The Rev'd Canon Dr. Mark Gatza,
Rector

The Rev'd Bill Smith, Associate
Brent A. Pertusio, Organist-Choirmaster
Heather Costantino, Christian Education
Coordinator

James Kennard, Sexton

Church Phone

410 838-7699

Church Cell Phone for

Pastoral Emergencies

443 752-0573

www.emmanuelbelair.org

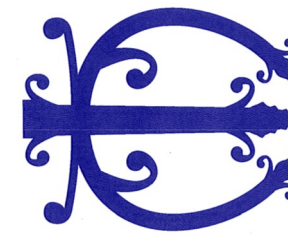
office@emmanuelbelair.org

Services:

Saturday: Resumes 21 September

Sundays — 8 AM, 10 AM & Noon

Tuesdays — 10 AM



THE TRUMPET
EMMANUEL EPISCOPAL CHURCH
303 NORTH MAIN STREET
BEL AIR, MARYLAND 21014
6 NOVEMBER 2019–19 NOVEMBER 2019



UPCOMING SUNDAY SCRIPTURE LESSONS [\[lectionarypage.net\]](http://lectionarypage.net)

10 November 2019 — Haggai 1:15b—2:9; Psalm 145; 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17; Luke 20:27-38

17 November 2019 — Isaiah 6:17-25; Canticle 9; 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13; Luke 21:5-19

CONSECRATION OF SAMUEL SEABURY, 1ST BISHOP IN AMERICA, 1784

We give you thanks, O Lord our God, for your goodness in bestowing upon this Church the gift of the episcopate; and we pray that, joined together in unity with our bishops and nourished by your holy sacraments, we may proclaim the Gospel of redemption with apostolic zeal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

<http://satucket.com/lectionary/index.htm>



Calendar Corner

- **Sunday, 10 November:** Sunday services at 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, and 12 Noon. Canon Gatza preaching. 1:00 PM: Centering Prayer and Meditation in All Saints Chapel.
- **Tuesday, 12 November at 10:00 AM:** Holy Communion with prayers for healing in the Maryan Room.
- **Wednesday, 13 November at 9:30—11:00 AM:** Bible Study in the Harward Parlor, led by Heather Costantino. Topic: The Gospel of Thomas.
- **Wednesday, 13 November at 1:00 PM:** Yarn Guild meets in the Rectory.
- **Thursday, 14 November at 7:00 PM:** Choir practice in the choir room in the lower level of the church. Use the Office entrance.
- **Sunday, 17 November:** Sunday services at 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, and 12 Noon. Canon Gatza preaching. Sunday School begins at 10:00 in the Parish Hall. 1:00 PM: Centering Prayer and Meditation in All Saints Chapel.
- **Monday, 18 November 2019 at 7:00 PM:** Vestry meets in the Harward Parlor in the Slype.

See Something, Snap Something



Singing for their Supper

Our friends, the Bay Country Gentlemen, have sung many times at Emmanuel Church over the years, most often at our Fall Fellowship Dinner. This Barber Shop harmony group is one of several active choruses in the area, including a chapter of the Sweet Adelines and the Chorus of the Chesapeake. Here is a portion of the group singing at our Chili Cook-Off event last week.

We are

Wonderfully

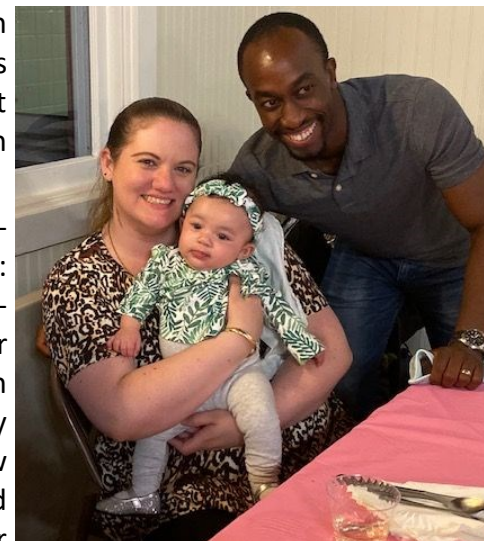
Made! Psalm 139

And So are the Things we share Together!

Our Fall Fellowship Dinner was a terrific event, with something like 75 years between the youngest and the oldest present — just what Church is supposed to be like — as illustrated in the pictures included here.

Hosting our first-ever Chili Cook-Off, we had six different varieties to sample, including styles that varied from traditional to exotic and featuring beef, pork, chicken and a cornucopia of vegetables. It was particularly fun to watch our youngest parishioners as they tried new things, wary at first and then seeing their eyes widen with surprise and delight.

The votes for the Cook-Off were tallied and we have a winner: **Donna Wilson** is the Emmanuel Church Chili Queen for her Caribbean Spiced black bean concoction. That said, every voter complained about how hard it was to choose, and many begged to vote two or three times! Donna has sent us her recipe and it will be included in a future *Trumpet*. **Michael Barton** gets a special Honorary Rector's Award for his Pumpkin Cornbread.





Hope for the Future

As life and the work of the Church have unfolded during the last several weeks, it became clear that early November was going to be difficult. As Fr. Bill said to me in the sacristy last Sunday — and speaking from the perspective of a friendship that is now decades old — “Funerals seem to come your way in waves.” Saturday, 2 November, my family was in Annapolis to bid our final, liturgical farewell to my mother-in-law, Margot Hamill, who died several weeks ago. As I write this, the family and friends of Lillian Sivertsen are continuing the celebration of her life in our Parish Hall, following her funeral. Thursday we will say all the right prayers and taste a little bit of God’s heavenly banquet in the presence of the mortal remains of Walter Wolfel. And about a week later, in a service at the Chapel at Oakcrest Village, we will give thanks for the life of Tom Biggerman — a life, I must say, which included the largest collection of jokes and funny stories I have ever encountered!

I confess to you that these waves are not easy for me. I am, by nature, a thinker, and the strong feelings that I encounter in families and in myself at these moments take a little extra time, extra energy, and extra care to handle appropriately. It is often the case that I must delay my own expression of grief and loss in order to lead others through those processes. In the best of times I am able to go back to them on my own and do my own praying; too many times, however, they find an odd moment and come unbidden.

My spiritual toolbox has a particular instrument for leading me through such moments. The tool is old and venerable, and shows up time and again in the Psalms — which is one of the reasons that there are always two or three or four appointed to be read each day in Morning and Evening Prayer. That tool is, in the words of its chief modern proponent, the “Theology of Hope.” Jürgen Moltmann, A ‘confessing member’ of the German reformed tradition — which means he refused to renounce his faith to conform to the Nazi worldview — Moltmann found strength to deal with the holocaust that surrounded him by returning again and again in his prayers and in his reading of scripture to the stories of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. He discovered, in his study, that though the word “hope” was not something Jesus himself talked about, it was woven throughout the letters of Paul as he described especially how he was looking forward to his own death and the welcome he knew he would receive into the fullness of the Kingdom of God. If Paul could find hope given his mission and the trying times, maybe we can as well.

The hope that the Church proclaims is far richer and more active than hope as the world as we know it suggests. You often hear the word “hope” used to described a desired outcome in a circumstance that we think we have little or no control over. “I hope [insert *my favorite team* here] makes the playoffs” is typical of the way the word is used in contemporary society. The truth is that no matter how many jerseys you own, or what your license plate says, or how many bags of chips you eat watching a game on TV, nothing you can do off the field will help them to win more games. You just hope it happens. Hope, in this world, is passive.

For the Church, hope is alive and active and engaging. To hope is to look at the good around us and give thanks. It is also to look at the pain, suffering, and death we see and to set it side by side with the Gospel stories of the resurrection, to see how the victory of Jesus over death can show us the victory over the things that threaten our own health and well-being. Hope doesn’t sit still for Christians, and we must chase it.

Need some hope for your toolbox? Read some Psalms and an Epistle or two. A couple each morning, or evening, or whenever is convenient. Spend \$10 and get the *eCommonPrayer* app for your phone, and it will lead you through them step by step. Whether electronically or from a book, the Psalms will give you a clearer view of the kingdom that is coming, apart from the distractions the world and the devil put in our path.

Totidem Verbis



Mark Gatza+

WHAT’S A PLEDGE AND HOW DO I DO IT? (THE Whys & Wherefores Come Later!)

Over the next several weeks Emmanuel Church will be asking you to support our 2020 budget. We hope to inspire you with stories of the good works that we do and the services we provide to you as an individual, to your families, and to the communities God has set us in. We hope you will look inside of yourself and find some appreciation for who we are and what we are about, and will translate that into a financial commitment that will keep the enterprise afloat. If you are relatively new to the Episcopal Church or to Emmanuel, you may hear us use some language that is unfamiliar in this context. First, we are sorry to fall back so quickly on “secret codes” and short-cuts — an all too common practice among people in any organization. Second, we want to make good by defining our terms so that you will understand what we are asking for and how to respond. As the subtitle says, we will explain why in subsequent communications.

- ✧ **It will cost about \$300,000 to run Emmanuel Church in 2020: Who pays for that?** Emmanuel Church is entirely self-supporting. We have an endowment fund of about \$100,000 that provides about \$4000 of income a year. We receive some income from the proceeds of the Cottage Thrift Shop (though we give away as much as we sell), some donations from individuals and groups that use our facilities, and a little bit of odd, miscellaneous income. But something like 80% of our income derives from contributions from people who are members and visitors to Emmanuel.
- ✧ **What’s a “Pledge?”** This is one of those words that gets tossed around as if everyone knows what it means. A “pledge” is a promise from someone to contribute a certain amount of money to Emmanuel Church over the course of the next year. Though a few people like to contribute a lump sum to the church each year, by far the majority of us choose to give some each week or each month. By pledging to contribute a certain amount, the Vestry can create a budget that will help us decide on priorities for ministry and maintenance over the coming year. Parishioners indicate their pledges by filling out a “pledge card” — okay, it’s just a piece of paper! — returning it for the Finance Committee to use to tally our projected income. That in turn shapes the decisions that go into our budget.

- ✧ **Besides creating a budget, is there any other reason I should pledge?** Yes indeed! If you itemize deductions on your income tax forms, you can factor in deductions for charitable giving. Emmanuel keeps records of the contributions of people who have filled out pledge forms and prepares a report that can be used as a receipt when you file your taxes. This saves you some time and labor pouring over your checkbook.

- ✧ **Do I have to pay my pledge with checks?** Nope! You can use our PayPal button on the website to set up automatic regular payments from a credit card. And most banks will allow you to set up an automatic payment system from your checking account, where they will create a check and mail it to us free from any additional fees. About a quarter of our regular pledge payments come this way, and it is particularly helpful for us during the summer months when people travel and attendance is low.

- ✧ **What if I am afraid to make a commitment? Life changes fast sometimes!** Yes it does, and we know all about it. If you make a pledge and later discover you can’t fulfill it, you are always welcome to drop a note to our treasurer, James Macgill, and he will make adjustments accordingly. By the same token, if a blessing drops into your lap and you are able to give more, let us know. But consider this: God and the Holy Spirit are at work here, and if things start to look scary, think about doubling down on your prayers and asking God for the help you need to be faithful to your commitment. I would be happy to share stories with you about how many people have been able to rise above such a challenge and thrive — my own story included!

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