

Your Vestry Wants To Hear From You!

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

Rector — Mark Gatz

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

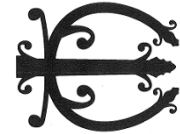
Susan Maule

Ingrid Riseley

Peggy Lauterbach

Chris Runice

(One Vacancy)



*Emmanuel
Church Staff*

The Rev'd Canon Dr. Mark Gatz,
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

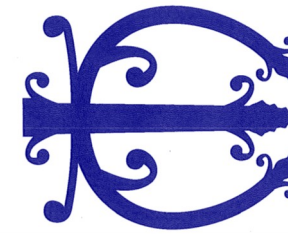
office@emmanuelbelair.org

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

23 OCTOBER 2019–5 NOVEMBER 2019



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

27 October 2019 — Joel 2:23-32; Psalm 65; 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18; Luke 18:9-14

3 November 2019 — Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4; Psalm 119; 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12; Luke 19:1-10

COLLECT FOR THE FEAST OF ALL SOULS, 2 NOVEMBER

O God, the Maker and Redeemer of all believers: Grant to the faithful departed the unsearchable benefits of the passion of your Son; that on the day of his appearing they may be manifested as your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and ever. *Amen.* <http://satucket.com/lectionary/index.htm>



Calendar Corner

- **Sunday, 27 October:** Sunday services at 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, and 12 Noon. [Music at 10:00 AM by the Third Saturday Band!](#) Canon Gatz preaching. 1:00 PM: Centering Prayer and Meditation in All Saints Chapel.
- **Sunday, 27 October at 5:00 PM:** Fellowship Dinner in the Parish Hall, featuring our first Chili Cook-off. See elsewhere in this issue for further information.
- **Tuesday, 29 October at 10:00 AM:** Holy Communion with prayers for healing in the Maryan Room.
- **Wednesday, 30 October at 9:30—11:00 AM:** Bible Study in the Harward Parlor, led by Heather Costantino.
- **Thursday, 31 October at 7:00 PM:** Choir practice in the choir room in the lower level of the church. Use the Office entrance.
- **Sunday, 3 November:** Sunday services at 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, and 12 Noon. [Breakfast served in the Parish Hall at 9:00 AM.](#) Canon Gatz preaching. Sunday School begins at 10:00 in the Parish Hall. 1:00 PM: Centering Prayer and Meditation in All Saints Chapel.

See Something, Snap Something

It takes many hands to bless the water of Baptism!



We are

Wonderfully

Made! *Psalm 139*



Giving Thanks

We *are* wonderfully made, and so we have a lot to be thankful for! As members of Emmanuel Church, we show that thankfulness in many ways:

- * We express it in our worship. The prayer we say together over the Bread and Wine for Holy Communion is called "The Great Thanksgiving."
- * We reach out to others to give them a chance to give thanks, especially in our outreach project.
- * We are grateful to the kind words and pastoral thoughts and prayers of our family, friends, and neighbors who share our pews and who offer support and assistance when we are in need.
- * And we do what we can to support the infrastructure that makes these ministries possible with our financial support.

Our Finance Committee has worked hard this summer to prepare a budget for 2020 that seeks to meet our needs based on the abundance of our blessings, rather than on the scarcity of our resources that we are sometimes tempted to see first. The Budget was presented to the Vestry this week, and you will begin to hear about how you can express your thanks by pledging your support. Pledge cards will be mailed soon, along with a narrative description of how we use your contributions to be God's hands and voice in the greater Bel Air community, and to care for the spiritual needs of our parishioners.

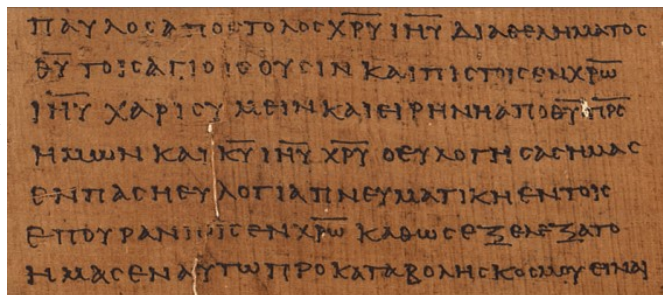
We hope you will read the material we send you and ask yourself what you have to be thankful for, with respect to what God is doing in your life and the life of your family. We are thankful for the pledges and contributions that over 110 households have made in recent years, and we pray that we may count on yours this year. Stay tuned!



“Why do you keep doing that?”

Last Sunday, while preaching on the parable of the Unjust Judge and the Persistent Widow [Luke 18:1-8], I made the comment that the judge gave in to the widow’s pleading because he was afraid that she would give him a black eye — haul off and smack him in the face. The New Revised Standard Version (the translation we read on Sunday’s in church) suggested a much milder rendering of the original Greek text, rendering it as “she may wear me out.” This is far from the first time I have studied a passage for preaching and made such an alternative suggestion. And I get questioned about it. “Why do we read from that Bible if it is not an accurate translation? Why do you need to change it?”

That’s how the question has come to me, twice now. Particularly in the sequence of passages we have read this summer, there are several place that I think that particular translations don’t really capture the meaning that either Jesus or St. Luke is trying to express. If you wander over to the “Canon’s Bits” page on our website, you will see a detailed “complaint” about the translation of a the Hebrew response mad when God decides to talk to someone. It is traditionally translated “Here I am,” but I think it works better as “Hunh?” Over the years I have been asked several times if I am *allowed* to do that — to suggest my own translation — and once I received a pretty serious challenge by someone who questioned my authority and my scholarship, ultimately leaving the congregation I was serving. So, here’s a little bit of an explanation of why I am comfortable substituting my own translations in certain situations.



First, I will be the first to admit that I am not a Bible Scholar. That profession, for me, has appeared several times as a temptation, but it is not what God has called me to do. Biblical Scholars, mostly university and seminary professors, spent their time pouring over old manuscripts and texts and engaging in academic arguments about what texts really say. Their end-product is clarity about the written word. I am a preacher, and my end-product is the health of the community I serve and the faith that I can inspire and nurture in that context. It is my job to take what they have produced — the text of the scriptures as they were written — and make sense out of them for you today. It is a very dynamic process, because times change and the people in our community come and go. And so I have studied enough Hebrew and Greek to follow along, but also to know the breadth of meanings within which they are making choices.

Second, since the time of King James in the early 1600’s, translations were produced by committees of scholars, whose goal was to figure out how to produce a text that they all could agree with. King James was careful to choose scholars from a variety of Anglican perspectives and traditions and insisted that they work together, even when it meant coming to some sort of compromise. Translation by committee will almost always trim off the extremes of sentiment and smooth over the rough spots, which are the place God sometimes speaks most clearly. Can you imagine listening to a sermon written by a committee?

Finally — and most important to me — the major translations available for us to use generally lack a sense of humor. The words of Jesus and Paul are portrayed as deadly serious utterances, as if it were a sin for a servant of God to crack a smile. Psalm 104:26 mentions the great Leviathan, which God made simply to watch it play in the waters, and Jesus’ renaming of the apostle Simon as Peter, “Rocky,” must have elicited howls of delight from those tagging along. Among the many things that a group of people need to share on their way to becoming a community is an understanding of their weaknesses and failures, all of which are best handled with a light touch and a bit of laughter. For more thoughts on this by a kindred spirit, try <https://redeeminggod.com/warning-geeky-greek-post-ahead/>.

Totidem Verbis

Mark Gatza+

LAST CALL FOR FELLOWSHIP DINNER



There are still tickets available for our fellowship dinner, [Sunday, 27 October 2019 from 5:00 to 7:30 PM.](#) Come early to taste the competition chili dishes and cast your votes for the winner. Then while the kitchen is reset for supper, retire to the sanctuary for a concert by the Bay Country Gentlemen. The main course will then be served, with three kinds of chili available: a traditional red, a green pork chili, and a Vegan style. Cornbread is a traditional side — and here’s where you can help. Bring six or eight servings of your favorite cornbread recipe so that we can try each other’s. Your favorite combination of buttermilk, cornmeal, add-ins, and (if you are from the North like I am, sugar!) will make yours unique. And we want to try them. Beverages will be available with a small up-

charge for wine or beer.

[This is primarily a fellowship event, not a fund raiser,](#) but we will need to ask for a modest donation to cover the costs of the food. Adult tickets will be available for \$10 each. Tickets for children under the age of 14 are free, though we ask that parents make an appropriate contribution given their age and appetite.

MENU UPDATE:

For those of you who are not chili fans, homemade Mac & Cheese will be available, as well as hot dogs, so there should be something for everyone.

COMPETITORS: If you’d like to be a contestant, please fill out the Registration Form that can be downloaded from the website at www.emmanuelbelair.org. All of the rules and procedures can be found there as well. Registrations are due by 5:00 PM on Wednesday, 23 October.

The Third Saturday Band



It’s been a while since we have enjoyed the music of our Third Saturday Band at our 10:00 AM service. A variety of injuries and maladies have kept them behind the scenes over the last couple of months. But that ends this week as they will be with us Sunday, 27 October 2019. If you haven’t yet heard them, you are in for a special treat, since they bring music of a new and more contemporary style than our usual program. We always look forward to them on Christmas Eve as they provide the hymns and carols for our early service — making it the most popular service of the three we offer that evening. Thanks to Bernie & Debbie Rochowiak, Peter Costantino, and Chris Runice for sharing their talents.

COTTAGE THRIFT SHOP

New shelves in the Trego House Cottage Thrift Shop make it easier to keep things organized for customers and volunteers alike. Did you know that profits from the sale of thrift shop items to support Emmanuel’s annual budget? Or that we give away items to the homeless or out-of-work? Volunteers are always in need to support this ministry. Ask the Clergy or Heather Costantino how you can help. The shop is open Fridays & Saturdays from 9:30 to Noon.

