



NOVEMBER 2017

At Emmanuel Episcopal Church, we strive to provide people the opportunity for growth in their faith through our mutual love, respect and acceptance of one another.

NEWS FROM THE NARTHEX

FROM FATHER ROBERT MANY BLESSINGS TO EACH OF YOU!

As a spiritual leader I want to share with you some sobering thoughts on what is going on in our world and society. There are so many opinions that flow into debates that are basically unwinnable. In the end, this creates a tremendous amount of fear among all individuals on all sides of the issues surrounding gun control. What do you have that I don't think you should have? What do I have that you have no right to take away from me? That's about where the debates begin and end.

Of course we all have rights guaranteed by the Constitution; but is it really possible that there can be no limits to the types of weapons we might accumulate in our own personal arsenals? Was that the intent of the early framers? If that's the case, then how can we be so determined to get involved in the business of other countries and tell them what weapons they can and can't have and how to use them or how not to use them? I know I'm stretching the limit here but what's the difference? We want to make sure we stop countries from inflicting mass destruction and unharnessed violence

against us; but as a nation we are afraid to confront one "lobby" or another so we indirectly allow the same kind of violence to be unleashed on our streets. 26 people were shot and died in Sutherland Springs Texas on Sunday. 29 were shot in Chicago last weekend. Is that less shocking or sad for us? Are our senses in the face of violence becoming numbed?

With these questions in mind, I want to share with you some words from Bishop Wright on the occasion of the recent violence in Texas. In reflecting on what the national response to these situations has been, he responds to those who say that this is not a time to talk about policy, but rather a time to pray for the victims and their families. Instead Bishop Wright says,

Let's not pray. As someone who convenes and commends prayer for a living, what America needs now is less prayer and more action from her elected officials. When the doers of evil are foreign born, suggestions for policy and action flow forward. When the doers of evil are Americans with automatic and semi-automatic weapons we are invited to moments of silence and prayer. Silence is what we use to hear God

speaking, not a place to hide from our responsibility. Prayer is not a refuge for cowards. Prayer is where we steel ourselves to partner with God for good. Please do not invite me to pray in response to the horror of Sutherland Springs Texas, unless it is to pray courage over elected officials who intend to work for the ban of automatic and semi-automatic weapons.

As a spiritual leader I challenge us to think about those who have been killed in houses of worship – perhaps the one place left to find comfort and strength and union with God. Here is the list:

--Nov. 5, 2017: Dressed in black tactical-style gear and armed with an assault weapon, 21-year-old Devin Kelley opened fire at the First Baptist Church of Sutherland Springs, Texas, killing 26 people and wounding about 20 others.

--Sept 24, 2017: Emanuel Kidega Samson, 25, was charged with killing a woman and wounding six other people with gunshots at Burnette Chapel Church of Christ in Nashville, Tennessee.

--Aug. 13, 2016: Imam Maulana
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Emmanuel Episcopal Church

**Serving the People
of God in the name of**

Bishop Rob Wright
of the Diocese of Atlanta

and the Vestry

Anna Alexander, Youth Ministry
& Liaison to the Day School
LaBau Bryan, Communications
Randy Forrester, Pastoral Care
Bill Fox, Facilities
Brian Freese, Adult Formation
Rob Hoyt, Stewardship
Roger Lange, Junior Warden
Cristy Odom, Parish Life
Terrie Seward, Senior Warden
Carter Stanfield, MEMC
Brooke Stortz, Parish Life
Jan Wheeler, Pastoral Care

and supported by the Staff

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Georgia Collier
Melissa Fulcher
Karen Holland
Megan Hooper
Sam Polk
Ben Popham
Denise Thomas
Amy Wraga

and assisted by the Clergy

Fr. Robert Salamone, Rector

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Alauddin Akonjee and his friend Thara Uddin were fatally shot as they left a New York City mosque. Oscar Morel, 35, was charged with second-degree murder.

--Aug. 9, 2016: A shooting during a party at a Jersey City, New Jersey, church left 17-year-old Leander Williams dead and two teenage girls wounded. Daequan Jackson, 18, was charged with murder.

--April 24, 2016: Mark Storms fatally shot 27-year-old Robert Braxton III during Sunday services in a suburban Philadelphia church.

--Feb. 28, 2016: Rev. William B. Schooler, 70, was fatally shot by his 68-year-old brother inside an office at St. Peter's Missionary Baptist Church in Dayton, Ohio, as Sunday services were winding down.

--June 17, 2015: Nine black worshippers, including a pastor, were killed by Dylann Roof, a 21-year-old white supremacist, after he prayed with them for nearly an hour. The shooting happened at historic Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in downtown Charleston, South Carolina.

--April 13, 2014: Neo-Nazi and former Ku Klux Klan leader Frazier Miller Jr. fatally shot Dr. William Corporon and his 14-year-old grandson Reat Underwood outside a Jewish center in Overland Park, Kansas as they arrived for a community event. He then drove to a Jewish retirement community where he fatally shot Terry LaManno who was visiting her mother.

--March 31, 2013: A 28-year-old man fatally shot his father during Easter services at the Hiawatha Church of God in Christ in Ashtabula, Ohio. Reshad Riddle then made a rambling statement at the pulpit while yelling about God and Allah, still holding his handgun as panicked worshippers fled the church.

--Dec. 2, 2012: Elementary school

music teacher Gregory Eldred, 52, shot his ex-wife, Darlene Sitler, while she played the organ during a church service at the First United Presbyterian Church in Coudersport, Pennsylvania.

--Oct. 24, 2012: A former facilities maintenance employee at World Changers Church International in College Park, Georgia, opened fire, killing church volunteer Greg McDowell, 39, while he was leading a prayer.

--Aug. 5, 2012: Six members of the Sikh Temple of Wisconsin, in Oak Creek, were fatally shot by a white supremacist, Wade Michael Page. Page was shot by a responding officer and later killed himself.

--May 9, 2012: Joseph Lewis Jr., 84, was fatally shot while sitting in a car guarding Victory Way Assembly Church of God in Christ in Detroit, Michigan. Two teenagers, 15-year-old Anthony Williams and 18-year-old Alandre Boone, attacked him while a Bible study took place inside.

--May 3, 2012: A homeless man killed himself after fatally shooting a priest and a church secretary at St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Ellicott City, Maryland.

Another prominent church leader (who happens to be an avid hunter) has said recently, "when the hunting sport has human prey, we have to take action." We're not supposed to be at war with one another. As the next few weeks unfold we will begin preparing to welcome "The Prince of Peace." We will also be seeking out family and friends to celebrate with joy and hope and Thanksgiving. In your name, as I am thinking of you, I will also be thinking and praying for all of those victims of violence and especially their families who this year will probably find no peace at all. We can change what we need to change with courage and determination.

Blessings, Robert +

AN EVENING OF THANKS!

Dear Friends,

I hope you can all join us for an Evening of Thanks on November 16th. This is our annual fund raiser for our operating budget and promises to be a fun-filled opportunity to socialize with each other. Your \$50 admission fee will include live music, beer and wine, plus heavy hors d'oeuvres catered by our wonderful Lindsay.

We are still looking for silent auction items, so if you have something to donate, please contact us. Or if you know someone willing to make a donation to the silent auction, please put us in touch with them. We are looking for upscale items, since most of the money raised comes from our generous donations and lucky bidders.

Emmanuel depends on this annual fundraiser and your attendance makes a difference. Contact Crysty (cmodom55@gmail.com) or Brooke (brookebstortz@gmail.com) with any questions.

Looking forward to seeing you on the 16th,

Crysty and Brooke

EMMANUEL TRANSITIONS

To Emmanuel

Doug and Janice Brown
from
Chapelwood UMC
Athens GA

Pamela Spahr
from
Center for Spiritual Living
San Jose, CA

John Bowman
from St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Indianapolis, IN

Mark and Stacy Kraby
from
St. Mark's Lutheran
Spokane, WA

From Emmanuel

Frank Harrison
to
St. James Episcopal Church
Marietta, GA

Gary and Elaine Shattuck
to
The Redeemer
Greensboro, GA

John and Charlotte Waters
to
The Redeemer
Greensboro, GA

Baptisms

Jamie Kennamor Lozano
child of
James H. Kennamor and Carolina
Lozano Calderon

Jovany Mendoza
child of
Carolina Lozano Calderon

Thomas Oliver Pryor Jr.
child of
Thomas Oliver Sr. and Katherine
Perry Pryor

Deaths

Ann Bretscher
Bobby Gibson

I am Resurrection and I am Life, says the Lord. Whoever has faith in me shall have life, even though he die. And everyone who has life, and has committed himself to me in faith, shall not die for ever.

EMMANUEL NEWS & OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

Please join us for Emmanuel Episcopal's **NOVEMBER NEWCOMER COFFEE** on Sunday, November 12 at 9:30 am in the Narthex. Coffee and light refreshments will be served.

Parish Life and Vestry members will be there to answer questions and, if you'd like, give you a brief tour of the church campus.

Children and youth are welcome to attend. The nursery will be available for children ages six weeks to three years old.

Questions? Ask Katherine Byrne at krbyrne49@gmail.com or at 706.296.7344.

The **2017 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING** will be held Sunday, December 3rd. This year there will be two regular full Sunday services followed by the Annual Meeting with a light lunch provided.

Please join us as we celebrate the year and elect our new Vestry Members!

Terrie Seward, Senior Warden



WELCOME OUR NEW YOUTH MINISTERS

They are Megan Hooper and Ben Popham. You may reach them at meg.e.hoops@gmail.com and benpopham25@gmail.com.

AN OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE

BIGGER VISION WINTER HOMELESS SHELTER

On any given night during the past year, there were over 400 individuals and families experiencing homelessness in Athens-Clarke County. Despite the efforts of many organizations, over 200 families were left without a bed during the night. Bigger Vision was established in 1998 as a response to the needs of the homeless in Athens. This shelter dedicates its services to sheltering those individuals who lack permanent housing. Their mission is to provide for the individual who is temporarily homeless a warm, dry place to sleep each night on a first-come, first-served basis.

Emmanuel has signed up to prepare a meal for 40 individuals for four winter Sunday nights. If you would like to be a part of a cooking team or deliver the meal and serve the guests, please sign up to volunteer. The sign-up sheets will be set up in the narthex in early December. The dates for volunteers to prepare and serve are: January 7, February 4, March 4. For more information, contact Merry Reetz Stovall at merryrs@bellsouth.net.

MOVING BEYOND LIFE'S HURTS

The Elder Connection Committee invites you to a program on November 8th at 2:00 pm in the chapel with Tom Camp, pastoral counselor and spiritual director of Samaritan Center.

Tom will speak about "Moving Beyond Life's Hurts." He is an ordained minister of The United Methodist Church, a professional counselor, and certified Yoga Therapist. Following his talk we will have an opportunity to walk the labyrinth in the memorial garden.

A STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE TO EMMANUEL

My name is Rob Hoyt. My wife Patti and I have been members of Emmanuel for 11 years and I am serving you in my second year on the Vestry – we are usually 8:30 people. I am blessed and honored to be chairing the Stewardship Committee for the 2018 Pledge Campaign and I am here to announce the start of this year's Campaign. As one clergy member wrote in an Episcopal Church Foundation publication, "Nothing sends people scurrying for the sexton's closet faster than hearing the footsteps of the stewardship chairperson coming down the hall." I certainly hope that isn't your first reaction!

I am sure you are as excited as I am about the many good works that are occurring in our Parish. We have a beautiful place to worship and one that we have worked hard to preserve for many years to come. As you may have read in the September *News from the Narthex*, Fr. Robert described several of those activities and noted that a lot has been accomplished recently in assuring that "externally our campus remains in good order."

But equally exciting is our multi-faceted outreach to our members, to the Athens community, and to the community beyond. For a number of years, Emmanuel has been one of just a few parishes in the Diocese of Atlanta that has not only met the 10% parish contribution, but has, as good stewards, met the voluntary 11% contribution in support of our Diocese and its ministry and missions.

Our pledge card this year lists 29 different missions and ministries (and I am sure we missed some) to which you can pledge your time, talent, and energy. From Altar Guild and Choir to Facilities and the newly formed Holy Helpers. Our outreach includes the thriving Thrift House, our excellent Day School, a long-running commitment to the Interfaith Hospitality Network, and a robust grants program that supports a number of community organizations, just to mention a few.

But we believe, and I am sure you agree, that, as recent events remind us, in our Church community and the community beyond numerous needs remain and there are many opportunities for enhancing mission. Reflecting this, our Campaign theme for this year is *Enhancing Mission at Emmanuel*.

Why should you consider a pledge to Emmanuel? In a recent sermon, Fr. Robert suggested that "all are invited in," but that it's not about just showing up, but about being present. I believe that part of being present in this place is offering to God your gifts of time, talent and treasure. And these gifts represent individual or family commitments to further the mission of the church. As well, it's been suggested that when stewardship is viewed as ministry, lives can be transformed in the giving of gifts to change and repair a broken world as we reconcile ourselves to God.

Our goal this year is *Enhancing Mission at Emmanuel* by increasing both pledging levels and pledging participation rates. As an important first step, members of the Vestry each received pledge cards over the past few weeks and were asked to consider their pledge as part of this year's campaign. Demonstrating their commitment to *Enhancing Mission at Emmanuel*, we have reached 100% participation with a significant increase in the total pledge.

What could additional resources from increased pledges mean for mission at Emmanuel? Of course, the answer is many things, but a few specific examples might include: 1) Further develop and support of our emerging Hispanic Ministry, which, at least in part, has been facilitated by increased pledging this year; 2) refreshing and making our Common Room more welcoming for all of the fellowship and outreach activities that we might envision; 3) Enhanced engagement with the UGA community; or perhaps 3) Being able to more fully respond to requests for support from groups locally. We encourage you to share with us what aspects of mission are moving you to enhanced pledging this year.

So what's next? A letter from the Stewardship Committee and a pledge card should arrive in your mail by the end of next week. The pledge card requests information on your financial pledge on one side and your envisioned commitment of time and talent on the other.

Rob Hoyt, Stewardship Chair

EMMANUEL & 5 RESTAURANT-BAR THANKSGIVING DINNER

*“For I was hungry and you gave me food. I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me.”
Matthew 25:35*

It's that time again! Emmanuel will again partner with 5 Restaurant-Bar to feed those who are hungry on Thanksgiving Day. Emmanuel will cook boneless hams and turkey breasts, cook, assemble and deliver Thanksgiving meals to those who are homebound.

5 Restaurant-Bar will serve a seated Thanksgiving Dinner to anyone at the restaurant at 269 N. Hull Street. Everyone will be welcomed. This worked very well last year.

If you missed the sign-up sheets in the Narthex for your opportunity to give thanks by cooking and delivering a ham or turkey, volunteering to help cook and assemble the take-out meals in the Emmanuel kitchen on Thanksgiving morning or deliver the meals to the homebound around noon on Thanksgiving Day, just contact us.

This will be the last year that we will be able to coordinate this ministry. Please contact either of us if you feel called to take this on for 2018. We will be happy to teach you the ropes!

With gratitude and thanksgiving for each of you and all that you do, Lindsey Payne and Dee Forester



November Birthdays

1 Sara Clarke, Kirby
Murray, Lucy Buckner,
Noah Kraus
2 Max Gilstrap, Bill
Bowdoin, Wren Howard,
Brian Kemp
3 Emory Thomas, Baxley
Williams, Cole Northcutt
4 Sue Strang, Jim de Haseth
5 Tyler Herbster, Ada
Henry
6 Thomas Rostas

7 Kevin York
8 Penny McLanahan, Mike
Fitzgerald
9 Gus Backelant, Adam Baker
10 Dan Bartlett
11 Polly Connerat, Cissy
Hutchinson, Victoria Russell,
Mark Kraby
12 Diane Ehlers, Mark
Miller, Timothy Price, Erika
Greene, Elizabeth Lovelind
13 Jennifer Wells, Lori

Tiller, Sarah Brooks
Matthews, Ransom Thomas
15 Jean Estes, Dodd Rentz,
Angie Hicks, Jacques
Germain
16 Charles Beard
17 Wade Shields, Katherine
Barrow, Campbell Ball,
Crawford Grow
18 Jon Cook, Ashton Ellett,
Carly Murray
19 Josephine Thrasher

20 Thomas Wilson, Sara
Baldwin
23 Betsy Turner, Jay Shinn
24 Hal Cofer, Helen Byrne,
Charles Denning, Janie Price,
Cindy Sullivan, Polly Hixson
25 Lee Albright, Jonathan Fox
26 Diana Falletta, Carol Bowles
27 Temple McLanahan
29 Winston Dunlap
30 Len Reid



Emmanuel's Service & Faith Formation schedule is as follows; only exceptions are listed on the calendar below:

- *Wednesdays: 5:30 pm* Healing Service & Eucharist, Chapel
- *Saturdays: 5:30 pm* Holy Eucharist Rite II, Chapel; *6:00 pm* Spanish Holy Eucharist
- *Sundays: 8:30 am* Holy Eucharist Rite I, Church; *9:15 am* Faith Formation for Children & Youth; *9:30 am* Adult Formation, Westminster, and *10:30 am* Holy Eucharist Rite II, Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 3:30: Yoga, Old Music Suite 7:15: Choir Rehearsal	2 6:30: Stephen Ministry, Library	3	4 4:45: Daughters of the King
5 Noon: Natural Spirituality, Library; Homeless Day Center Lunch Prep, Common Room 2:30: Bigger Vision, Common Room	6	7 10:00: Natural Spirituality, Library 7:30: Al-Anon, Old Music Suite	8 3:30: Yoga, Old Music Suite 2:00: Elder Connection, Chapel 7:15: Choir Rehearsal	9 11:30: Eucharist, Lanier Gardens 6:30: Stephen Ministry, Library	10 Annual Council	11 Annual Council 9:00 am: Stephen Ministry, Library
12 Noon: Natural Spirituality, Library 1:30: Prayer Shawl Ministry, Old Music Suite 4:00: Daughters of the King, Canterbury	13 10:00: Bible Study, Coventry	14 10:00: Natural Spirituality, Library 7:30: Al-Anon, Old Music Suite	15 3:30: Yoga, Old Music Suite 7:15: Choir Rehearsal	16 6:00: Evening of Thanks, Common Room 6:30: Stephen Ministry, Library	17	18 4:45 Daughters of the King
19 Noon: Natural Spirituality, Library	20 Day School Closed This Week 10:00: Bible Study, Coventry	21 10:00: Natural Spirituality, Library 6:00: Thanksgiving Eucharist 7:30: Al-Anon, Old Music Suite	22 Noon: Church office closes 7:15: Choir Rehearsal	23 Church Office Closed	24 Church Office Closed	25
26 Noon: Natural Spirituality, Library	27 10:00: Bible Study, Coventry	28 10:00: Natural Spirituality, Library 7:30: Al-Anon, Old Music Suite	29 7:15: Choir Rehearsal	30 6:30: Stephen Ministry, Library		



The Vestry Covenant

We, the Vestry of Emmanuel Church, promise to honor God by nurturing the spirit and ministering to God's people. We will support everyone's gifts for service and leadership made possible by God's grace. Ministry to the poor will be at the center of all we do. We promise to welcome with Christian hospitality all persons and to offer opportunities to all to grow in faith. We will strengthen ourselves through faithfulness in worship, daily prayer, and stewardship of our time, talents and treasure. We will foster love and joy in God's service.

EMMANUEL EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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