



A Publication of  
Emmanuel Church, Chester Parish  
Chestertown, Maryland

# The Messenger

November/December 2020

## *From Darcy+*

How many times over the last eight months have we talked about walking in the wilderness, sailing through uncharted waters, living in unprecedented times? Far too many, I dare say. And yet, we find ourselves still here. Still wandering, sailing, but yes, living.

That is the message I hope to share with you today as we approach the last two months of 2020, and the seasons of Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas. We are still living, even as we mourn the deaths of so many from this pandemic. We are living in a different world where we are far more careful about washing our hands, countertops, and work surfaces than ever before. We avoid crowds, have learned to stand and sit 6 feet away from people who are not part of our family bubble, and have added a face mask as the latest fashion accessory in our wardrobe.

We have resurrected old ways of keeping in touch with family, friends, and fellow parishioners, by writing notes and picking up the phone to make a call. And we have learned to make use of technology to “zoom” meetings, “YouTube” or live-stream church services, and help our children and grandchildren attend classes virtually and in hybrid mode.

As we move into the holiday season, using our new experiences and ways of life to help us navigate a path forward, trying to maintain the traditions most important to us in new and safe ways, let us not forget to offer our prayers to God, who knows our needs, better than we ourselves know them.

In the words of the Apostle Paul, writing to the Philippians, *“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus”* (Philippians 4:6-7).

With my prayers for each of you as we enter the holiday season asking God to guide our way and fill our hearts with hope, love, peace and joy,

Darcy+

## **Emmanuel’s Search and Transition Committees**

*by Libby Rice*

The Search Committee is up and running! We held our first meeting soon after receiving our charge from the Vestry and blessing from the parish, August 29. All members were present and accounted for, even though we met virtually. Each of us were in our own homes, looking at the quilt of faces on our computers. It feels very strange to meet this way but given the difficulties of meeting in person, it is the best alternative and we all seem to be adjusting and working together very well.

In our first gathering, we met with Connie Clark, the Diocese of Easton’s consultant for the transition process. She walked us through the steps of the search process, and offered her expertise should we need it at a later date.

Our first order of business was to craft a prayer, or collect, for our work together. It is printed in the bulletins and recited at our worship services and we invite you to include it in your daily prayers. We need all the help we can get to find a replacement for our Darcy.

We are in the process of getting organized around our next three tasks.

First, we are fine-tuning our budget request to present to the Vestry for approval; work has started on our “Search Page” which will be a link on our website and contain all the information that

## **Worship Schedule**

### **Saturdays:**

5 p.m. Eucharist

### **Sundays:**

10:30 a.m.—Eucharist  
with music

**Reservations Required**

**Call 410-778-3477**

*continued on page 2....*

we gather to share with you and with prospective candidates. Lastly, we are starting to rework our Parish Profile, last published in 2006. As defined by the Episcopal Church, the Parish Profile includes information “about the parish’s services and programs, budget, parish life and goals and, when completed is made available to clergy who may be interested in a call to the parish.” This is where we tell the story of who we are, what we do, and where we identify our hopes and dreams for the future as well as what we are seeking in our next rector to become the church that God is calling us to be.

This is where every voice of Emmanuel is needed. Before COVID-19, we would have had a large and yummy parish breakfast followed by small group discussions to talk about these things. Now we are thinking of all the ways we can listen to what you all have to say; in very small groups after church, in Zoom meetings, by e-mail and snail-mail and telephone conversations. We will do our best to reach out to each of you and to keep you informed of what we are doing. We welcome your questions. Please send them to the Search Committee at [Chesterparishsearch@gmail.com](mailto:Chesterparishsearch@gmail.com). We will be in touch!

## Did You Know . . .

. . . that the Bazaar Committee has selected **Kent Attainable Housing, Inc.** (<https://kentattainablehousing.org/>) **and the Samaritan Group of Kent County** (<http://samaritangroupkent.org/outreach-services.html>) to be the recipients of the proceeds from this year’s sale of preserves supplemented by a disbursement from the Bazaar Committee reserve funds? It is hoped that we will be able to donate \$2,500 to each of these organizations in January, 2021.

. . . that we are celebrating **Creation Season** at Emmanuel for the fourth year? Each week from the first Sunday of October to the last Sunday after Pentecost we focus on a different aspect of God’s creation as we pray for the world and renew our promise to be good stewards of all God has given us.

. . . the Emmanuel **Bazaar Committee** has created a list of some of the local non-profits we have supported in the past? The list can be found in this edition of the *Messenger*. Because we will not have our regular holiday bazaar this November due to COVID concern and will only be able to support two organizations this year, the Committee wanted to give our parish community the opportunity to support additional worthy organizations.

. . . the **Rev. Deacon Lisa Webb**, who was ordained to the Sacred Order of Deacons by Bishop Marray on October 11, will preach at the Emmanuel Saturday evening and Sunday morning services of Holy Eucharist the weekend of November 7 & 8?

. . . Emmanuel sponsors a chapter of the **Brotherhood of St. Andrew**? The Emmanuel Chapter is composed of men from several of the Episcopal churches in Kent County. They meet monthly on the third Wednesday of each month at 7:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall for a service of Holy Eucharist and a brief meeting. “The Brotherhood of St. Andrew is charged with “the spread of Christ’s Kingdom among men.” If anyone is interested in joining the Emmanuel Chapter, please contact Fred Price, president, or David Sharretts, treasurer, for more information.

## Emmanuel’s Annual Giving Tree—The COVID-Edition

As is the case with almost everything else these days, Emmanuel’s Giving Tree will take on a different look for 2020. Instead of asking Emmanuelites to shop for gifts to wrap and place under the tree for distribution to the families we adopt for Christmas, we have been asked to help in a different but safer way for all concerned.

Lisa Mazingo, Director of the Kent Family Center, the group we have worked with for several years at Christmas, suggests *the best gifts this Christmas for the KFC clients will be \$25 gift cards to Acme, Redner’s, and/or Amazon*. This will allow them to purchase the things each family needs most.

To participate, purchase a gift card or two, and drop them off at Emmanuel between Sunday, November 29 (the First Sunday of Advent) and Friday, December 18. If you wish to make a cash donation, please send a check payable to Emmanuel and note “Giving Tree” on the memo line. Emmanuel’s Giving Tree coordinator, Judie Willock, will purchase the gift cards for you.



## Senior Warden's Corner

As we finish out the regular calendar year and begin the new church year, I imagine everyone is sighing with relief that 2020 is near the end. It's been a very bumpy ride, lots of turbulence, and very few white billowy clouds to admire outside the window. And just when we think no more bad things could happen, something does.

Despite the misfortune, we've learned to adjust and to value some new ways of managing our lives. We can "see" and visit friends and family with Zoom and FaceTime. Our yards have probably never looked as good as they did this spring and summer. We've had time to hear and see birds, butterflies and other of God's creatures that we often missed in the former "busy" times. Emmanuel parish members who have not been able to join in person have shared in the services that Darcy has provided through recordings and livestreaming.

While the Coronavirus is still a threat and we mourn those who have suffered and those we have lost, we are learning to tolerate and adapt to a new "normal." My wish for our parish family and all dear to them is abundant blessings as we celebrate Advent and Christmas, as well as a hopefully Happy and Healthier New Year.

*Sandy Bjork*

## Emmanuel Bazaar Preserves – Order Yours Now

*by 2020 Bazaar Committee*

While we all will miss the in-person Bazaar this year, you can still purchase delicious jams, chutneys, and relishes lovingly prepared, with all COVID-19 precautions observed, by members of our parish, in the Emmanuel parish hall kitchen. **To place an order contact Linda Robbins by email at: [Lindarobb@aol.com](mailto:Lindarobb@aol.com) or phone her at 617-835-1973.**

The following preserves are now ready to order:

Mango Chutney (limit three jars per household), Peach Chutney, Strawberry Preserves, Blueberry Lime Jam, Three-Fruit Marmalade, Corn Relish, Brandied Peaches.

Cost: All half-pint jars are \$5 each. The Brandied Peaches in a 12 oz jar are \$6 each.

**There will be two Sundays, November 15 and 22, to pick up your order** at the Parish Hall, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., and pay on site by cash or check. All monies raised from the preserve sales, along with \$4,000 from the Emmanuel Bazaar Fund will be donated equally to Kent Attainable Housing, and Samaritan Group of Kent County.

Thank you for your support!

## List of Previous Christmas Bazaar Beneficiaries with Contact Information

The Bazaar Committee has provided this list of some of the local organizations Emmanuel's bazaars have supported in the past. They focused on organizations that are working to provide special services and relief to those in need during this pandemic. Particular focus is on organizations providing food assistance, help with housing and utilities, behavioral and physical health support. To learn more about any of these organizations, or to learn more about the two organizations the committee has chosen to support this year, go to the website listed for each.

- Community Food Panty, <https://kentfoodpantry.org/>
- Community Mediation Upper Shore, <http://www.cmusmediation.org/>
- Compass Regional Hospice, <http://compassregionalhospice.org/>
- For All Seasons, Inc. <https://forallseasonsinc.org/>
- Good Neighbor Fund, Chester Valley Ministers Association, PO Box 227, Chestertown
- Kent Center, <https://kentcenter.org/>
- Kent Family Center, <https://www.kentfamilycenter.org/>
- Homeports, <https://homeports.org/>
- Meals on Wheels, Upper Shore Aging, Inc. 200 Schaubert Rd, Chestertown
- Rebuilding Together Kent County, <https://www.rebuildingtogetherkcmd.org/>

## **The Annual Meeting of Chester Parish, Emmanuel Episcopal Church**

The Annual Meeting of Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Chester Parish is scheduled to be held on the last Sunday of January, 2021 (Sunday, January 31, 2021). It will in all likelihood be a virtual Annual Meeting with everyone able to attend the meeting through the power of Zoom. More details will be available in December and early January.

At this meeting, we will elect two (2) new members of the Vestry to serve three-year terms, and will thank Sue Roberson and George Barnum whose terms will expire with the January 2021 meeting. Jim Block has agreed to stand for re-election to a second three-year term. Sue Roberson and George Barnum are chairing the Nominating Committee. If you are interested in serving a three-year term on the Vestry or in being nominated to serve as a delegate or an alternate to Diocesan Convention, which will be a virtual convention on Zoom, March 6, 2021, please contact either Sue ([susanroberson1@yahoo.com](mailto:susanroberson1@yahoo.com)) or George Barnum ([gdb20024@gmail.com](mailto:gdb20024@gmail.com)).

### **Many Thanks To:**

. . . Jim Block (photographer), Susan Roberson (coordinator), George Barnum (cover designer and printer), and Laura Kaufmann (technical and computer expertise) for all the hard work that went into creating the new Emmanuel pictorial directory!

. . . Helen Billings, Jenifer Emley, Edward Maxcy, and Laura Kaufmann for assembling the directories, and for faithfully helping to fold Sunday bulletins and the bimonthly Messenger, every time there is a need.

. . . all who have served as ushers (too numerous to name) since we began regathering for in-person worship service in the church at the end of June. Your dedication to making sure that all who enter are meeting all COVID-restriction guidelines, and then staying after the service to sanitize the worship space, is a labor of love and very much appreciated!

. . . the members of the Flower Guild (Sandra Bjork, Suzanne Fisher, Susan Flanigan, Darlene Housley, Mary McGinnis, and Bob Tyson) who have faithfully provided beautiful flower arrangements for the altar each week since our regathering in June, and for our special services of Easter and Pentecost.

. . . the members of the Altar Guild (Barbara Belden, Sandy Bjork, Steve Croker, Nancy Dick, Karin Hargy, Ann Hedgepeth, Darlene Housley, and Bob Tyson) who have been able to resume Altar Guild duties for our Saturday evening and Sunday morning in-person worship services. Thanks also to Altar Guild chair, George Barnum, for his help in scheduling and working with Darcy+ and the Altar Guild members to be sure all communion vessels, altar linens, vestments and paraments are cleaned and sanitized. Thank you also the other Altar Guild members who have been unable to return to in-person service due to COVID concerns but remain a part of our community of prayer and service.

### **What's Up with Sunday School?**

*by Jenny Lee Freebery*

What better way to learn about Creation than to be outside in the beautiful world that God created! Covid has made for an unusual year. This time last year I never would have thought that all my students would be having class outside wearing masks, and staying 6 feet apart. However, there is a silver lining that we have been able to do some really fun outdoor activities that I wouldn't have thought of if we weren't forced to change up our Sunday School setup. Recently our students collected leaves around the church grounds and used them to make people and animals. We played charades with a theme of God's 7 Days of Creation. We learned about the Parable of the Sower and planted beans into rocky soil, weedy soil, no soil, and good soil and discussed how to create 'good soil' in our lives to help us grow strong. As hard as it is adapting to this very different world, it is nice something positive, like an outdoor Creation Celebration can come out of it.

## Confirmation at Emmanuel, April 18, 2021

Bishop Santosh Marray, 11<sup>th</sup> Bishop of the Diocese of Easton, will make his annual visitation to Emmanuel on April 18, 2021. In preparation for his visitation we are beginning Confirmation classes for our youth who are interested in being confirmed by the Bishop this spring. Adult Confirmation classes will be held at a later date.

Our first Confirmation class for youth will be held on Sunday, November 1 at 11:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall. At this first meeting we will develop a schedule for the next months of preparation and begin the conversation about what it means to be confirmed in the Episcopal Church. Rev. Darcy has been in contact with the five families who have youth of Confirmation age and invited the students to bring a parent/grandparent with them for the first meeting. If any other young people are interested in preparing for Confirmation, please contact Rev. Darcy at [drdarcy.williams@gmail.com](mailto:drdarcy.williams@gmail.com) and plan to attend the November 1 meeting.

## Stewardship 2020 for 2021: November 2 – November 22

*“Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.” (1 Peter 4:10)*

Each year in late October and early November, “STEWARDSHIP” becomes a common word to hear around churches. It is that time of year when parish vestries, committees, and councils begin the work of creating a budget for the upcoming year. They look back to recent history to review parish expenses, and the look forward to with an eye to the needs, wants, hopes, and dreams of the parish for the next year. For Emmanuel, the needs, wants, hopes, and dreams will be a bit bigger than usual as the parish plans for calling the 34<sup>th</sup> rector of this historic parish.

But STEWARDSHIP is so much more than just asking parishioners to support the parish budget. STEWARDSHIP is so much more than money. It is a way of life. It is a matter of the heart combined with an understanding that all we have come from God. It is our response to God’s limitless love that is showered on us in so many ways. When we give of our time, talent, and treasure to care for God’s earth, to serve our neighbors, and to be examples of God’s boundless love, we are doing the work of STEWARDSHIP.

When you receive your stewardship mailing with the enclosed pledge card during the first week of November, please prayerfully consider what you can do to give back to God out of the abundance of God’s gifts to you.



## Garnet ES School Supplies, Fall 2020

Thanks to the generosity of our Emmanuel parish family, we were able to donate more than 600 items (or packs of items) to Garnet Elementary School this fall. The first collection occurred in late August through early September and focused on providing packs of crayons, colored pencils, and #2 wood “lead” pencils, as well as pencil sharpeners, child-safe scissors, tissues, and composition books. The second collection focused on pencil pouches/boxes, dry-erase markers, pencil erasers, and more pencils.



Of the 600 items collected and donated, there were 113 boxes of crayons (24 count), 104 packs of colored pencils, 61 packs of #2 lead pencils, 63 composition books, and 98 packs of dry-erase markers! Many thanks to Steve Croker for coordinating this annual outreach, especially for counting up the donations, and delivering them to Garnet!

## Parish Advent Reflections

All good ideas are worthy of being copied, and this one is no exception.

I remember from years ago that St. Mary Anne's, North East, published a booklet of Advent mediations. The "meditations" were written by parishioners, children, youth, and adults. Recently I saw that they are reviving the idea this year. I suggested to our Worship Committee and Vestry that we might want to do the same at Emmanuel, and received an enthusiastic YES!

With that introduction, I invite all of you to participate in a special Advent meditation project called "**Parish Advent Reflections.**"

We are asking parishioners of all ages to write short personal reflections on the Advent and/or Christmas seasons (approx. 300 words or less). You might be inspired by a favorite Christmas hymn, a bible verse, a family tradition, or a memory of a Christmas past, a special pageant or Christmas Eve service. Artwork is also acceptable (we suggest pencil sketches for best reproduction).

Advent begins November 29 and for 27 days we join with Christians throughout the world to anticipate and prepare for the birth of the Christ Child. We need 27 submissions to make this happen. **Our deadline for submission is November 10** to allow for publishing and distribution to begin on November 21. If you plan to submit something, please let Darcy+ know at [drdarcy.williams@gmail.com](mailto:drdarcy.williams@gmail.com) or by calling at 410-778-3477.



## Ordination of Lisa Webb

by Nancy Dick

Dr. Katherine Elizabeth Webb was ordained to the Sacred Order of Deacons on Saturday, October 10, 2020 by Bishop Santosh Marray, XI Bishop of the Diocese of Easton. The church looked festive with red paraments and spectacular red flower arrangements. The clergy wore matching red stoles. Due to the pandemic attendance had to be by invitation only. There were 42 in church, including four of her classmates from the Diocesan School for Deacons. Everyone was masked.

Emmanuel participants in the service were: The Rev. Dr. Darcy Williams, preacher; Presenters – Darcy+ and Jim Block, chair of Lisa's discernment committee; Lectors– Libby Rice, Old Testament, Nancy Dick, Psalmist, and Bill Webb, The Epistle. Choir members in recordings of *Veni Sancte Spiritus* and *I, the Lord of sea and sky* – Sandra Bjork, Karen Dockstader, Mary Grace Brosius, Penni Walker Doyle, Edward Maxcy, Kathy Ruckman and Betty Weller; and Avis Wheatley, organist. Vesters – her parents, Charles and Katherine Paff.

Lisa chose the day for her ordination the Feast of Vida Dutton Scudder, one of the Holy Women of the church. "An early leader of the Society of the Companions of the Holy Cross, a society of which Lisa is a member, Vida Scudder is an icon for all who aspire to live a godly life in the service of others." (Darcy Williams+ sermon 10/10/2020)

"As a deacon, Lisa will be a bridge between God and God's people. She is called to 'serve all people, particularly the poor, the weak, the sick, and the lonely.' she is to interpret to the Church the needs, concerns, and hopes of the world." "an icon for all who aspire to live a godly life in the service of others. There are some liturgical duties she can perform: set the table for Holy Eucharist, preach, read the Gospel, dismiss us at the end of worship.

Lisa was vested by her parents with a red stole, presented with a Bible from the Bishop and given a stole, a tippet and a painted wood icon of the Road to Emmaus from Emmanuel.



Following the service Lisa and her family received the congregation on the lawn of the courthouse.



# FLOWER MEMORIALS, PARISH PRAYER CYCLE

## Worship in November

### Oct. 31/Nov. 1 (W) All Saints' Day

*Flowers:* All the faithful departed members of Emmanuel Church

**Parish Prayer Cycle:** Betsy Tait; Esther Taylor; and Joan Testin+ & Barbara Mooney

### November 7/8 (G) Pentecost XXIII (Proper 27)

*Flowers:* Mr. & Mrs. Harry W. Pennington, Mr. & Mrs. Morton Gibbons-Neff, Jr., Mitchell Chance Gibbons-Neff, and Peter Gibbons-Neff

**Parish Prayer Cycle:** Michelle, Phil, & Abby Ticknor; Helen & Bob Tyson; and Sissy VanSant

### November 14/15 (G) Pentecost XXIV (Proper 28)

*Flowers:* Margaret Harris & W. Norman Cooper, Eugenia Bonwill Cooper, and William H. Cooper

**Parish Prayer Cycle:** Linda Verbeck; Elizabeth Vrugtman; and Diane & Basil Wadkovsky

### November 21/22 (W) Thanksgiving Propers

*Flowers:* Bette Larrimore Smith, and Maurice E. & Nellie M. Smith

**Parish Prayer Cycle:** Tracy, Ron, & Harriss Walters; Laurel Ward; and Jeff Warden

### November 28/29 (BL) Advent I

*Altar Greens:* Harrison C. "Jim" Bristoll, Jr., J. Thomas & Bessie Perry Kibler, and John T. Kibler, Jr.

**Parish Prayer Cycle:** Lisa & Bill Webb, and K.T. Pagano; and Betty Weller

## Worship in December

### December 5/6 (BL) Advent II

*Altar Greens:* Debby Pritzlaff

**Parish Prayer Cycle:** Clif West; Avis Wheatley; and Mike & Debbie Williams

### December 12/13 (BL) Advent III

*Pink Roses:* Irene Betzer

**Parish Prayer Cycle:** Darcy+ & Joe Williams; Missy Willis; and Judie & John Willock

### December 19/20 (BL) Advent IV

*Altar Greens:* Margaret Metcalfe Brogan, William John Brogan, and Fredrica Brogan Tumolo

**Parish Prayer Cycle:** David Wing & Linda Parry; and Joan Wise

### December 26/27 (W) Christmas I

*Flowers:* Christmas memorials

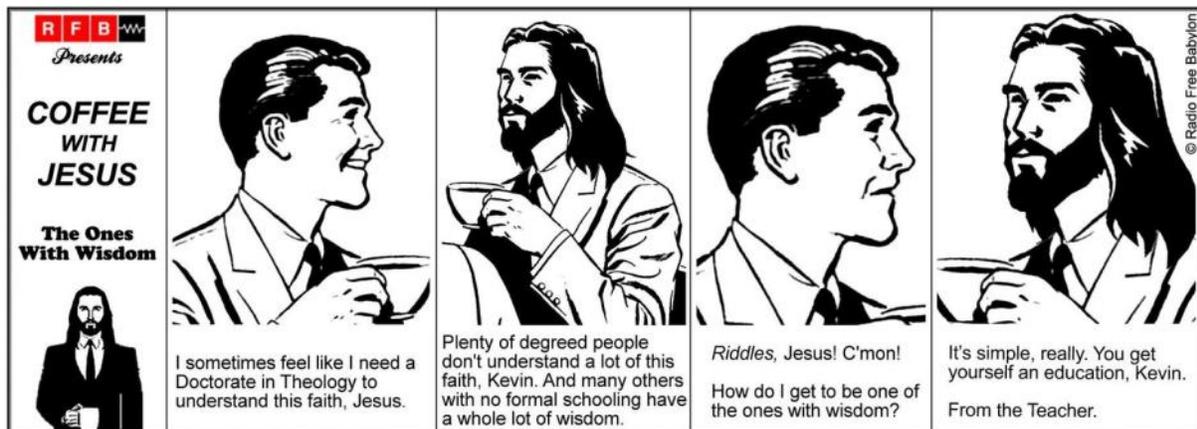
**Parish Prayer Cycle:** Genie & Michael Wootton; and Erin, Karl, Mackie, Tills, & Bo Zierfus

### January 2/3, 2021 (W) Christmas II

*Flowers:* Christmas memorials

**Parish Prayer Cycle:** Pam & Ron Abler; Bunny & Frank+ Adams; Peggy Albertsen; and Anne Allen

*Notes: Uppercase letters in parentheses indicate liturgical colors:  
B=black, BL=blue, G=green, R=red,  
LA=Lenten array, P=purple,  
W=white*



## Volunteer Opportunities

The following ministries at Emmanuel are seeking additional volunteers:

1. **Ushers** for the Saturday evening and Sunday morning in-person worship services. We have a core group who have been helping since we opened our doors for regathering for in-person worship services, but would love to have a few more. Call the Parish Office at 410-778-3477 to volunteer and ask to receive a copy of the current “usher duties.”
2. **Lectors and Intercessors** for the Saturday evening and Sunday morning in-person worship services. Call the Parish Office at 410-778-3477 to volunteer.
3. **Garth Committee.** Mackey Dutton is looking for a few more volunteers to help care for the Garth. Become part of this committee whose main job is to help keep the Garth the beautiful, quiet, space it is. Contact Mackey at 410-778-0955 for more information.
4. **Altar Guild.** We are seeking a few new or returning members of the Altar Guild to help clean the Communion vessels after Saturday evening and Sunday morning services. Please contact George Barnum at [gdb20024@gmail.com](mailto:gdb20024@gmail.com) if you would like to be added to the Altar Guild rota.

### Updated Information

Sandy Ryon  
300 Chino Farms Lane  
Chestertown, MD 21620  
Cell Phone: 215-870-2660  
No Landline

**Note:** In-person worship services are scheduled each **Saturday at 5 p.m.**, and **Sunday mornings at 10:30 a.m.** As seating is limited, due to social distancing concerns, please call, Monday—Friday, 9 a.m.—2 p.m., to reserve a seat.

**Remember**—The deadline for the January/February 2021 issue of *The Messenger* is **Monday, December 14**. Due to Christmas services and office closure following the holiday, **December 14 is a solid deadline**, and no submissions will be accepted after that date.

Submit your hard-copy articles to the Parish Office, or e-mail them to [emmanuelchesterparish@gmail.com](mailto:emmanuelchesterparish@gmail.com). We would also love to have copies of any pictures of the Parish at work or play for inclusion in future articles.

#### Staff:

The Reverend F. Darcy Williams,  
*Priest-in-Charge*  
Stephanie LaMotte, *Director of Music*  
*and Choirmaster*  
G. Robert Tyson, *Choirmaster Emeritus*  
Avis Wheatley, *Organist*  
Laura Kaufmann, *Parish Secretary*  
Sue Byerly, *Financial Assistant*  
Melvin Thompson, *Sexton*

#### Parish Officers:

Sandra Bjork, *Senior Warden*  
Thomas Mack, Jr., *Junior Warden*  
Roger Brown, *Treasurer*  
Penny Block *Registrar*

#### Vestry:

*Term end dates are in parentheses*  
George Barnum (2021)  
Jim Block (2021)  
Susan Roberson (2021)  
Craig Jackson (2022)  
Brianna Mayer (2022)  
George Shivers (2022)  
Nancy Dick (2023)  
Earl McGimpsey (2023)  
Betty Weller (2023)

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