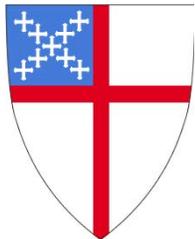


# The Pruden Parish Press

September 2011

Volume 5, Issue 1



## The Pruden Parish Press

*News & Information for Parishioners and Friends of Emmanuel*

*Published bi-monthly (except July) in September, November, January, March and May*

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*Editor & Publisher*

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## Chatham Concert Series to Begin New Season at Emmanuel

By Susan Paynter

There's an exciting new concert season in store for the Chatham community, beginning in November. Once again, Emmanuel is pleased to donate the use of its sanctuary as venue for the popular Chatham Concert Series. The series is quickly becoming a Chatham tradition and is making a name for itself in the world of classical music.

Concert plans include, for the first time, a **December Christmas concert** and sing-along as well as a special tribute to Saint Patrick in March. Artistic Director Kevin Matheson and President Bryan Matheson have been busy

booking a wide variety of musical talent from near and far, and are still at work to ensure a lively, varied and enjoyable season.

**The season opener, scheduled for Friday, November 11**, will be an evening of classical guitar. Some think of the guitar as little more than a rhythm instrument. This concert, with that instrument in the hands of Guitarist Stanley Alexandrowicz, is sure to open some eyes... and ears! Come see what the guitar is capable of doing in the hands of a master.

Timed to cap the Christmas in Chatham celebra-



**Kevin and Bryan Matheson**

tion, the December 4 Sunday afternoon concert will feature Mezzo-Soprano Katarzyna Sadej and the Rainier Trio -- violin, viola and piano. The headliners will be joined by young music students from the area and concert-goers will be encouraged to participate, adding their voices to the program of classical and popular music of the season.

*Please turn to page 2*

## Parish Picnic - Sunday, September 25th

Bill and Janis Simpson have invited us all to their lovely home on Cherrystone Road for the 2011 Emmanuel Autumn Picnic. The date will be Sunday, September 25; the hour, 5:00 in the evening.

The bucolic setting and

good company aren't the only things to look forward to. Tred Hunt will cater the main course and parishioners will fill in with beverages and desserts, so we know the meal will be tasty.

Be sure to put the picnic on your calendar. This



is an event you won't want to miss!

## Vestry Notes from the Senior Warden



As of early August the flooring in the main body of the Church and re-carpeting of the Chapel and its access hall has been completed.

The project came in on budget and appears to be a fine addition to the sanctuary and certainly improves the appearance. The new carpeting in the Chapel makes that room significantly more appealing.

Venetian blinds will be installed in the windows on the south side of the entrance way to the Chapel in order to minimize sunlight problems which contributed to the early fading of the previous carpeting.

The search for a part-time priest continues, albeit slowly. I have material from two (2) possible candidates and will shortly after Labor Day arrange for the Vestry to communicate with these people by telephone conference call to the end that a question and answer session might be held preliminary to an invitation for a personal visit.

I express my appreciation to those persons who have filled in and supplied music for our summer services during the sabbatical granted to our regular organist, Ken Scott. Plans are now that he will return to his regular position at the end of September.

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*The search for a part-time priest for our Church continues, albeit slowly. I have material from two possible candidates.*

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As most of you know, the Chatham Concert Series will again be held at Emmanuel, beginning Friday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, with a classical guitar program. This will be followed on Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, February 5<sup>th</sup> (or possibly 19<sup>th</sup>) and in early March.

It is a service to the community and a welcome and pleasant addition to our use of the facility. The December 4<sup>th</sup> program will have a special emphasis on Christmas music as that Season approaches.

Our Church finances are still in

good shape though our investment portfolio has suffered along with the economic downturn nationwide. Still, we need to be mindful as the year winds down that gifts and pledges are the financial backbone of our Parish and I implore you to give consideration to that phase of our Parish life in your year end planning.

Finally, it has been my observation that our Sunday attendance has declined. There may be both collective and individual reasons for this, but I urge you to do your best to attend our regular Sunday services and other special events since the life blood of any Parish is the interaction of its members in the common purpose of worship and service to God and to the community.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

H. Victor Millner, Jr.  
Senior Warden

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## Chatham Concert Series Continues at Emmanuel

*Continued from page 1*

The New Year concert will be a homecoming celebration of sorts. On Sunday afternoon, January 8, you'll want to come out for the Roanoke Symphony Orchestra's Principal Oboist, Bill Parrish.

As many of you know, Bill's dad was Emmanuel's priest and rector just prior to John Reuf's tenure. Bill fondly remembers the time he spent practicing his oboe in the same sanctuary where he'll

now be performing at the top of his game. The Saturn String Ensemble will join Mr. Parrish for Benjamin Britten's Phantasy Quartet for oboe, violin, viola and cello.

The dark days of February will be lit up as Baritone David Castonguay and the Saturn String Ensemble perform English songs from Butterworth to the Beatles, and Mozart's Eine Kleine Nachtmusik.

The March program will celebrate Saint Patrick and is still being put together. The hope is to offer a concert featuring an organist we all know very well and the best-known Bagpiper in Chatham. Hmm, who could they be? And – oh yes! – backup by Chatham's very own Hargrave Highlanders. This will be one to remember!

More details to come. Keep and eye on Emmanuel's newsletter and website for updates.

# Emmanuel Calendar Notes for Sep. – Dec. 2011

The schedule of services and other parish events summarized below are as of the date of publication. Changes or additional details will be published in the Sunday service bulletins, by special announcement and / or on the parish web site at [www.emmanuelchatham.org](http://www.emmanuelchatham.org). The complete calendars are also available on the web site.

## RECURRING EVENTS

### Sundays

11:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite II - 2nd & 4th Sundays  
The Reverend J.W. Mathieson, Celebrant

Morning Prayer - 1st, 3rd, & 5th Sundays

12:00 pm Coffee Hour  
In the Parish Hall following the Service

### Wednesdays

6:00 pm Choir Practice  
All parishioners are invited to participate.

### 1st Thursday of each month

2:00 pm The Briar Ridge Ramblers perform at Oak Grove Residential Home.  
Social Hour sponsored by Emmanuel  
These elders would welcome *your* cheer!

### 4th Sunday of each month

12:30 pm Vestry Meeting - Parish Hall Conf. Room

## SPECIAL EVENTS

### Sunday, September 25

5:00 pm **Parish Picnic at the Simpsons**

### Friday, November 11

[TBD] **Chatham Concert Series -**  
Guitarist Stanley Alexandrowicz

### Sunday, December 4

3:30 pm **Chatham Concert Series -**  
Christmas Concert with Mezzo-Soprano Katarzyna Sadej and the Ranier Rio

## Mother's Day - 2011 at Emmanuel

By Susan Paynter

Sunday, May 8 was Mother's Day and we celebrated, Emmanuel Style. The vestry decided to make this a day to honor all the women of Emmanuel for their constant, often unseen, nurturing of the church.

Langhorne Jones presented each of the ladies with a beautiful red carnation as we entered the church.

The Reverend Jim Mathieson gave us an overview of the history of the women of Emmanuel and their contributions from day one.

After the service, the men served luncheon. Langhorne Jones had set up the parish hall with tables, linens and centerpieces.



Alice, Walter, Beth and Janice enjoy a fine lunch.

Tred Hunt had prepared a feast of chicken, cole slaw, mixed-green salad, potato salad, rolls, and chocolate and red-velvet cakes.

All the men helped plate the food,

serve the ladies at table, pour tea and wine and even clean up!

Nicely done, men of Emmanuel.  
Thank you!

# Clarinetist Alex Jones Headlines May Concert

By Susan Paynter

The smooth, mellow tones of the clarinet filled the nave of Emmanuel Church on Friday evening, May 6. It was the Season Finale of the Chatham Concert Series, featuring the **Pittsburgh Philharmonic Orchestra's Principal Clarinetist, Alex Jones.**

The program was one of romantic music for clarinet and strings as Jones was joined by Chatham Concert Series Artistic Director **Kevin Matheson** on violin, **Bryan Matheson** on viola and violin, and **Brenda Wittwer** once again accompanying on piano. In the tradition of the series, a young music student gained performance experience as eleven-year-old **Staley Lyle** took the stage for the first post-intermission piece.

But let's begin at the beginning. Jones opened the concert playing two clarinets (one at a time!) for George Gershwin's Three Preludes for Clarinet & Piano, with Wittwer on piano. Gershwin's music demanded much from Jones and his considerable talent as well as the full range of both his B-Flat and A Clarinets. The audience, unable to hold its appreciation, applauded enthusiastically after each of the three movements.

Next came Darius Milhaud's Suite for Violin, Clarinet & Piano. Originally written as incidental music for a play, it shone on its own with the technical skill and fluency of Jones, Kevin Matheson and Wittwer.

Bryan Matheson and Wittwer joined Jones for four of Eight Pieces for Clarinet, Viola and Piano by Max Bruch. They must have been difficult pieces, but the three artists



L to r: Kevin Matheson, Staley Lyle, Brenda Wittwer, Alex Jones, & Bryan Matheson

played so fluidly that the audience was allowed to simply enjoy.

Following intermission and young Lyle's talented turn with a complicated concerto of Johann Sebastian Bach, accompanied by Bryan Matheson on violin; it was time for Robert Schumann's Fantasy Pieces for Clarinet, Viola and Piano. Lighthearted, fun and a showcase for the superior skills of all three musicians, the music – we were surprised to learn – was written just prior to Schuman's psychological breakdown and attempted suicide.

The exotic music of Aram Khachaturian was next: Trio for Clarinet, Violin and Piano. Khachaturian showed his great talent early with this music, written as a student project and inspired by the folk music of Armenia, Azerbaijan and Khachaturian's native Georgia. How well the clarinet, played by a master like Jones, evokes the aura of the exotic lands of the Caucasus region! Folk inspired it may have been, but this was not simple music. As Bryan Matheson said after the concert, in appreciation of Jones, brother Kevin, and Wittwer, "The Khachaturian was wicked hard!"

It was a grand finale to the concert and the series when all four musicians collaborated on Paquito D'Rivera's "Danzon." The understructure of a strong Latin rhythm and the overlay of the sophisticated musical patterns of the classical style highlighted the talent and flexibility of all the musicians. Kevin Matheson courageously and successfully stepped out of what must be a classical musician's comfort zone to groove to the music with some improvisation.

It was a fine evening. The intimacy of the venue allowed the audience to practically reach out and touch the musicians. It's sometimes easy to forget how hard musicians work, but there was no mistaking it this night. You could see it in the performers' perspiration, in the serpentine movements of Jones' body as he coaxed the music from his clarinet, in the focused concentration on the brows of all four artists.

We've been so fortunate to be able to host this series. World-class musicians have made room in their schedules for multiple rehearsals before each performance, and have given their gifts of time, labor and talent to this community.

*Please turn to page 5*

## Together, Emmanuel Family Meets Challenges

By Susan Paynter

Sunday, July 31, proved a prime example of how, pulling together, parishioners have managed to keep Emmanuel on an even keel in the face of stormy seas. This summer our challenges included the absence of a rector as the search committee continues its work, and the temporary loss of an organist as Kenyon Scott took a summer sabbatical to serve in Danville.

In spite of the want of priest and organist, the Sunday prayer service carried the beauty and significance one looks for in the Episcopal Church.



The hymns were played by **Joan Shelton** on Emmanuel's Steinway piano. Joan and her daughter Sarah, members of Chatham Baptist, have become welcome members of the Emmanuel family while Joan fulfills our musical needs.

We followed the prayer service using the bulletin prepared by **Langhorne Jones**. He selected a lovely photo of the east window as the cover art, and included a piece at the end of the bulletin explaining the history of the window.

**John Geyer** led us through the Morning Prayer rites, including thoughtfully selected prayers -- such as that for rain.

The lessons were read by **Rick Dixon**. Rick is in residence in Chatham while vacationing from directing foreign languages at The Episcopal High School in Alexandria.



**Beth Coles** presented the loaves-and-fishes homily, written by a priest from another parish. Both Rick and Beth spoke clearly, with fluency and appropriate sensitivity.

There was a last-minute switch of coffee-hour hosting as **Mary Catherine Plaster** wanted to share her July tomato bounty. She did a wonderful job, providing an exuberance of tomato sandwiches and other delicacies.

Visitors from out of town joined in as we all caught up with one another and community news. Worship, fellowship and food: there's no doubt that at Emmanuel everyone is well fed -- soul *and* body!



A quick visit before Morning Prayer

## Prayer List

Pray for the sick and the shut-ins:



- \* Allene Hunt
- \* Catherine Overbey
- \* Dorothy Roop
- \* Marvin Mullis
- \* Scott Daniel Reynolds
- \* Alan Arey
- \* Alice Overbey
- \* Louis DePaulo
- \* Shannon & Ed Olivarez
- \* Nancy Jones Hayes
- \* John Ruef
- \* Mary Grymes
- \* Rosemary Nichols
- \* Harry Wilson Jones
- \* Gloria Thompson

Heavenly Father, giver of life and health: Comfort and relieve thy sick servants, and give thy power of healing to those who minister to their needs, that those for whom our prayers are offered may be strengthened in their weakness and have confidence in thy loving care; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

### Alex Jones in Concert

*Continued from page 4*

To quote young Staley Lyle, "It was really cool. I had a blast!"

Make no mistake: the appreciation flows in all directions. Before the concert began, Kevin Matheson spoke and gratefully thanked Emmanuel for our support of the series. Alex Jones wrote a note on a concert program and pinned it to our bulletin board: "Great place to play. Love the church! Thanks for hosting me! Alex Jones, Clarinet." And community members are equally grateful to be able to attend fine musical performances without leaving Chatham.

## Emmanuel Episcopal Church

*in the Diocese of Southern Virginia*

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**H. Victor Millner, Jr.**, Senior Warden

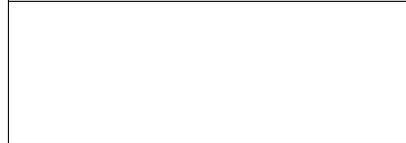
**The Rev. J. W. Mathieson**, Supply Priest

### Visit Emmanuel on the World Wide Web

at [www.emmanuelchatham.org](http://www.emmanuelchatham.org).

Please send stories, article suggestions or comments to **Susan Paynter** or **Wayne Wilson** or email them to [emmanuelchatham@gmail.com](mailto:emmanuelchatham@gmail.com).

The article submission deadline for the November issue is **October 15th**.



## Something New Underfoot

By Susan Paynter

Emmanuel's old tile flooring served for many years but it was never a thing of beauty. Lately, the tiles had begun to peel up, crack and break. Senior Warden Vic Millner and Junior Warden Tred Hunt decided it was time for a facelift... or a footlift.



After some research, D&T Tiles out of Ringgold was chosen to apply new flooring in the sanctuary upstairs, and to take up the Chapel flooring downstairs and replace it with carpeting.

The flooring chosen for the sanctuary is a dark, hardwood-look panel flooring that is expected to last far into the future. It was put down right over the old floor to minimize disruption to our Sunday services.

Downstairs, workers chiseled up the old floor tiles to provide a sound base for the new stain-resistant carpeting.

Other maintenance projects newly completed or soon-to-be-tackled are a new dishwasher for the kitchen; new carpet, window blinds and paint for the downstairs, south-side



entryway; and a reseeded front lawn. Reseeding, of course, will have to wait for cooler autumn weather.

Everyone seems to be pleased with the facelift and grateful to the vestry for keeping Emmanuel looking good and running smoothly.