

# PRUDEN PARISH PRESS

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## FROM THE RECTOR

Halfway through Lent '04, we know that Holy Week cannot be far off. We are pretty sure about that, as opposed to a return of prosperity, or the end of the problem in Iraq.

The future in most ways is a blank screen on which we project our hopes and fears. Our certainty about the Church Year represents our hopes. We call it an expression of faith.

When we look at the world around us, things like outsourcing, terrorism, and problems in Iraq represent our fears. But none of this separates us from the possibility of participating in the life of self-giving and re-creation represented by Jesus. Regardless of the worldly future, this is the reality *in which we live and move and have our being*.

-John Ruef

## FROM THE VESTRY

Members of the new Vestry installed in January include Sr. Warden Garrie Thompson, Jr. Warden Tred Hunt, Treasurer John Geyer, Registrar Sharon Taylor, Mary Hicks Heitzler, Ken Scott, and new members Richard Camp and Lisa Mullis.

Members and guests have commented on notable improvements completed recently including new carpets in the rear hallways, lights in the foyer and new tile floors in the foyer and kitchen.

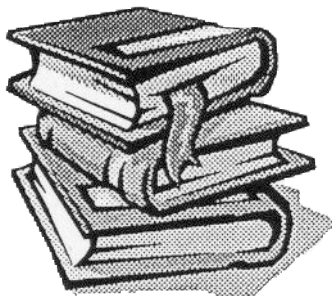
In addition, organ repairs were finished along with protective roofing and gutter work. Minor wind damage to the roof was repaired in March.

On Shrove Tuesday, 30 people enjoyed the annual pancake supper—including delicious country ham provided by Tred Hunt.

## FROM THE WORSHIP COMMITTEE

The worship committee is launching a donation drive for new prayer books and hymnals so that parishioners and visitors may participate fully in all aspects of worship.

Since these texts are central to our liturgy, their absence in the pews can be



frustrating for veterans and newcomers. Memorial or honorary contributions may be made by contacting Ken Scott. Books of Common Prayer are \$18 and Hymnals are \$19. The inside cover of each donated volume will contain both the name(s) of the individual memorialized or honored and the name(s) of the contributor.

### **CALL ME ZECHARIAH**

For the past 10 years a vital contributor to weekly worship at Emmanuel has unobtrusively occupied a niche in the south transept, singing heartily nearly every time the church doors were opened. Many of us (including those who knew this dear old windbag best) often took this mellifluously-voiced old fellow's presence for granted until the fluting melodies, ringing choruses, and deep basso-profundo fell silent, their source having been struck dumb as Zechariah by the same freshets that breathed life into the greening spring landscape.

Fortunately, the story does not end here. After an eight-month absence, this magnificent 139-year-old once again fills the nave with glorious strains piped from its new position of prominence. As we welcome the return of our 1865 S.S. Hammill organ, let us examine the colorful history and recent trials of this venerable Chatham resident.

The organ first entered service in Newbury, Mass. during the height of the Victorian Era at the end of the War Between the States. After serving two Congregational parishes during the first 125 years of its existence, the instrument was acquired by Emmanuel through the organ clearinghouse of Lexington, Mass. The organ-building firm of Taylor and Boody of Staunton, Va. gave the instrument a thorough renovation, incorporating additional pipework including 30 wooden pedal pipes from the circa 1917 M.P. Moller tubular pneumatic instrument it replaced.

The instrument utilizes tracker action, the oldest extant and most reliable organ technology. Direct mechanical connections of wood and wire connect each key to one of the organ's pallet valves, leather-covered blocks of wood that open to admit air from the bellows into the various

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be re-erected approximately six feet further into the nave.

This relocation moved the organ forward out of the old Moller's chamber into which it had been "shoehorned" during its 1990 installation. In addition to reducing the potential for additional damage due to water leakage, the move greatly improved the instrument's visual and tonal presence within the church.

Since its return to service, many have commented favorably regarding both the organ's new location and its improved sound. We rejoice to once again have our walls resound with the music of this marvelous specimen of the "king of instruments."

-Ken Scott

### **DID YOU KNOW...**

...Several suitable-for-framing prints by Helen James on display in the parish hall are available for purchase from the Women of the Church. For information, contact Jane Ruef or Ruth Jones.

### **NURSERY**

A nursery is now available during Sunday 11 a.m. services. For information about the nursery, contact a vestry member or simply stop by the nursery after church on your way to coffee hour! Spread the word to your friends and neighbors who have small children and may decide to visit Emmanuel and make use of the nursery.



### **PLEDGE CARDS**

It will be much appreciated if members elect to complete a pledge card and submit it during the offertory or place it in the treasurer's box in the rear hallway. Thank you!

### **NEWSLETTER INFORMATION**

The *Pruden Parish Press* is a quarterly newsletter from Emmanuel Episcopal Church. The next issue will appear in July 2004. To submit comments or provide information for publication, contact Ann Duke.