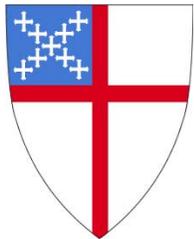


The Pruden Parish Press

January 2008

Volume 1, Issue 2



The Pruden Parish Press

News & Information for Parishioners and Friends of Emmanuel

Jeanne Reynolds
Editor

Wayne Wilson
Publisher

Inside this issue:

Congregational Meeting Elects Swanberg & Camp;	2
...Salutes Senior Warden Langhorne Jones, Jr.	2
Parish Calendar Notes for January - March 2008	3
In Memoriam - Frank Taylor and Nelson Light	4
Windows Restoration Fund Nears \$3,000	4
A Letter from the Vicar Emmanuel Prayer List	5
Thank You to the Women of Emmanuel	6

Emmanuel Welcomes Dr. David Smith As Pastoral Vicar

Dr. David H. Smith became Pastoral Vicar of Emmanuel on January 1, 2008. He has been the chaplain and religious studies teacher at Chatham Hall since 2002 and continues in that role.

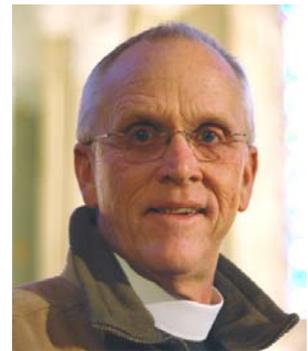
As pastoral vicar, Dr. Smith will lead Emmanuel's worship services and carries all the rights and responsibilities of a rector except consecrating elements for the Eucharist.

In November 2007, Dr. Smith, an ordained Presbyterian minister for nearly 30 years, began a one-year process leading to ordination as a priest in the Episcopal Church. During this

time, area priests will celebrate the Eucharist at Emmanuel on a regular basis.

A native of Roanoke, Virginia, Dr. Smith received his Bachelor of Arts degree in political philosophy from St. Andrews Presbyterian College and his Doctor of Ministry degree from Union Theological Seminary in Richmond.

Dr. Smith began his ministry in 1979, serving as school minister at Woodberry Forest School in Orange, Virginia and teaching courses in Old and New Testaments, World Religions, and Biblical Themes in Contempo-



rary Fiction.

After six years at Woodberry, Dr. Smith was called to serve as minister at the Meadows Presbyterian Church in Charlottesville, Virginia. His tenure there lasted 11 years during which time the church membership and physical plant doubled and the budget tripled.

Please turn to page 2

Parish Thanks Dr. and Mrs. Ruef for their Service during 2007

During the Coffee Hour on Sunday, December 30th, Emmanuel parishioners thanked Dr. and Mrs. Ruef for serving as supply priest and parish secretary, respectively, during 2007.

Dr. Ruef had twice previously served Emmanuel as

part-time rector (1985-1987 and 1992-2005).

Dr. Ruef's academic career has included teaching at The Berkeley Divinity School; as well as Principal Organizer, Education for Ministry, for the Diocese of Buffalo; Dean and President of

Nashotah House; and Head of Religious Studies and Chaplain at Chatham Hall.

His parish ministry included serving as Vicar of the Church of the Holy Family in Park Forest, Illinois and Associate at St. Paul's Church, Charlottesville.

Emmanuel Welcomes Dr. Smith & Family

Continued from Page One

In 1996, Dr. Smith was invited to become Senior Minister at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Jackson, Mississippi. Covenant was the largest PCUSA church in the state and was actively involved in community, national and world affairs. The church also had a 170 student pre-school and a school for the arts that numbered over 300 students and faculty.

After serving Covenant for six years, the Smith family longed for a different lifestyle and Chatham filled the bill. Dr. Smith was invited to become the chaplain, religious studies teacher and cross

country coach at Chatham Hall, as well as pastor of the Kentuck Presbyterian Church. While his service at Chatham Hall continues, Dr. Smith resigned from the Kentuck Presbyterian Church at the end of December 2007.



Dr. Smith is married to Jane and

they have two children Emma, a junior at The University of Mary Washington, and Rebecca, a sophomore at Chatham Hall.

His current hobbies include photography, training dogs, and minor league baseball. In years past Dr. Smith had a 3.1 golf handicap, flew airplanes, hiked the Appalachian Trail, sailed boats throughout the Bahamas, and along with Jane helped build and/or renovate nine houses.

Please welcome Dr. Smith, Jane, Emma, and Rebecca to our parish family.

Congregational Meeting Elects Swanberg & Camp;

Emmanuel held its 2007 Congregational Meeting and Luncheon on Sunday December 9th following the 11 a.m. Service. After a delightful pot luck luncheon, Senior Warden Langhorne Jones, Jr. formally opened the meeting.

Vestry Elections - Parishioners **Linda Swanberg** and **Richard Camp** were nominated by the Vestry Nominating Committee

(retiring members Janet Turner and Langhorne Jones) to serve three-year terms beginning in January 2008. Following a call for nominations from the floor, they

The parish's investment portfolio has achieved an 8.59% return over the last six years.

were elected by acclamation.

Parish Reports - **Senior Warden Jones** then reviewed some of the highlights of parish life during 2007; **Dr. Ruef** offered a few thoughts about the coming ministerial transition; and **Treasurer John Geyer** led an extended review of the parish's overall financial condition including *(continued below)*

...Salutes Senior Warden Langhorne Jones, Jr.

...the recent excellent performance of our investment portfolio.

John noted that, while the operating budget through October is in balance, the pledges received from parishioners to date do not yet support the increased expenditures which will be required by the calling of a new vicar in 2008.

During the course of the parish reports, parishioners engaged in a spirited debate about the process of calling a new vicar, the long-term prospects of the parish, and the proper use of the parish's financial resources.

Salute to Langhorne Jones - At the conclusion of the meeting and

on a motion by Norman Reynolds, parishioners saluted **Langhorne Jones** with a standing ovation for his outstanding service as Senior Warden during a difficult year.

2007 marks the completion of more terms as a member of the Vestry and as Senior Warden than Langhorne can remember!

Emmanuel Calendar Notes for January – March 2008

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. The complete calendars are also available on the web site.

JANUARY

Sunday, January 6 - The Epiphany

11:00 am **Holy Eucharist**
Dr. David Smith, Pastoral Vicar;
The Rev. Wilson Carter, Celebrant

Sunday, January 13 - First Sunday after the Epiphany

11:00 am **Morning Prayer**
Dr. David Smith, Pastoral Vicar

Sunday, January 20 - Second Sunday after the Epiphany

11:00 am **Morning Prayer**
Dr. David Smith, Pastoral Vicar

Sunday, January 27 - Third Sunday after the Epiphany

11:00 am **Holy Eucharist**
Dr. David Smith, Pastoral Vicar;
Deacon Bill Jones, Celebrant

FEBRUARY

Sunday, February 3 - Last Sunday after the Epiphany

11:00 am **Morning Prayer**
Lay reader (Dr. Smith will be attending the Annual Diocesan Council Meeting in Williamsburg)

Tuesday, February 5 - Shrove Tuesday

Pancake Supper – Details TBA

Wednesday, February 6 - Ash Wednesday

Imposition of Ashes – Details TBA

Sunday, February 10 - First Sunday in Lent

11:00 am **Holy Eucharist**
Dr. David Smith, Pastoral Vicar;
Deacon Bill Jones, Celebrant

Sunday, February 17 - Second Sunday in Lent

11:00 am **Morning Prayer**
Dr. David Smith, Pastoral Vicar

Sunday, February 24 - Third Sunday in Lent

11:00 am **Holy Eucharist**
Dr. David Smith, Pastoral Vicar;
The Rev. Canon Win Lewis, Celebrant

MARCH

Sunday, March 2 - Fourth Sunday in Lent

11:00 am **Morning Prayer**
Dr. David Smith, Pastoral Vicar

Sunday, March 9 - Fifth Sunday in Lent

11:00 am **Morning Prayer**
Dr. David Smith, Pastoral Vicar

Sunday, March 16 - Palm Sunday

11:00 am **Holy Eucharist**
Dr. David Smith, Pastoral Vicar;
Deacon Bill Jones, Celebrant

Thursday, March 20 - Maunday Thursday – Details TBA

Friday, March 21 - Good Friday – Details TBA

Sunday, March 23 - Easter Sunday

11:00 am **Holy Eucharist**
Dr. David Smith, Pastoral Vicar;
The Rev. Canon Win Lewis, Celebrant

Sunday, March 30 - Second Sunday of Easter

11:00 am **Morning Prayer**
Dr. David Smith, Pastoral Vicar

RECURRING WEEKLY EVENTS

Choir Practice* - Wednesdays at 6 pm in the Church

Coffee Hour** - Sundays in the Parish Hall following the 11 am Service

* All parishioners are invited to participate in the Choir.

** Please sign up to host a Coffee Hour. Coffee Hour is one of our best opportunities for greeting and staying in touch with fellow parishioners. The sign-up sheet is located in the Parish Hall.

In Memoriam

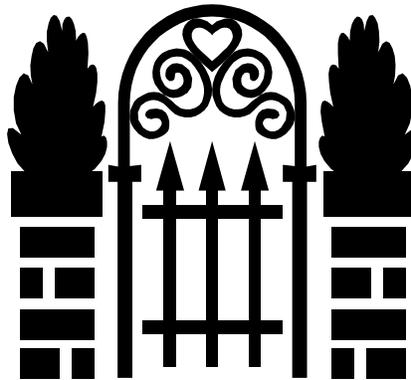
Francis Clement Taylor (1915 – 2007)

A generous friend, loving father and grandfather, avid gardener, passionate photographer, pilot, talented wood worker and enthusiastic ham radio operator – these are a few of the adjectives used by his niece, Sharon Taylor, to describe Frank Taylor.

A retired mail carrier, life long member of Emmanuel and long-time choir member, Frank died on December 29, 2007 at the age of 92.

One of eleven children, Frank is survived by his daughters, Nancye Jo and Marty, and son, Frankie, as well as two grandchildren and one great granddaughter, and a sister, Doris Bishop.

Not one to sit at home idle, Frank became a ham radio operator and kept in touch with the world. His hobby of photography took him all over Pittsylv-



vania County. Always generous with his photographs, which he developed in his own dark room, he frequently presented them to friends and family.

Many of Frank's friends and acquaintances were also the beneficiaries of produce from his beautiful garden which he planted and tended even in his 92nd year of life.

Frank had a heart of gold but would speak his mind honestly.

All those who had the pleasure of knowing Frank Taylor will miss him very much.

The Hon. Frank Nelson Light (1924 – 2007)

Former Chatham resident and long-time member of Emmanuel Church, Nelson Light died peacefully on November 27, 2007 at Westminster Canterbury in Virginia Beach. He was 83.

A retired Chief Judge of the 22nd District Court, Nelson is survived by his wife Polly, sons Arthur and Charles, four grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

He is also survived by his brother, the Right Reverend A. Heath Light, and several nieces and nephews.

Nelson was very active in the Episcopal Church at all levels. He served on the vestry and as Junior and Senior Warden both at Emmanuel in Chatham and later at All Saints Episcopal Church in Virginia Beach.

He was a frequent delegate to the convention for the Diocese of Southern Virginia and also served as a delegate to eight national conventions.

Emmanuel's loss was All Saints' gain when Nelson and Polly retired to Virginia Beach in their later years.

They have been sorely missed.

Windows Restoration Fund Nears \$3,000

Our Treasurer, John Geyer, reports that \$2,969.81 has been raised for the Windows Restoration Fund as of the end of December comprised of \$1,469.81 in donations coupled with three matching gifts of \$500 each.

John also reports that another church member has offered a fourth match of \$500 providing yet another opportunity



for parishioners who wish to contribute to "double their money."

Work will begin on the side window repairs as soon as the weather permits.

A post script - Work on the Resurrection Window has taken longer than expected but should be nearing completion.

A Letter from the Pastoral Vicar



Why would a 55+ year old third generation Presbyterian minister with almost 30 years experience, ten years from receiving full retirement

benefits, with an enviable lifestyle and work schedule suddenly decide to abandon everything known and professionally comfortable to change denominations and start over?

You can't imagine how many people have asked that question and justifiably so. It does seem a bit odd at best and down right nutty at worst, but then again God is involved.

expressing concern about what my father and grandfather might say. Her reply was simple and to the point. "Honey," she said, "the last time I checked they were both dead so do what you feel the good Lord wants you to do and enjoy every minute."

I suppose being at Chatham Hall prompted my initial interest. We have chapel three times a week and celebrate the Eucharist once

"The decision to transition my ordination to the Episcopal Church is not...as sudden as it might appear."

a month. I became enamored with

I began reading the Daily Office and other books about festival and feast days, church history, and the theology of liturgy.

In the midst of all this, a bit of frustration set in. From time to time I was asked by students if I could baptize them. While it would have been a privilege to do so, Presbyterian polity would not allow it, and of course Episcopal canon law would not permit me to celebrate Eucharist. In other words, both denominations prohibited me from doing what an ordained person is permitted and trained to do. Something had to change.

And so, an elixir of two parts fascination and one part frustration stirred by the hand of God and served in a chalice held by friends,

The decision to transition my ordination to the Episcopal Church is not, however, as sudden as it might appear. The idea has been whirring around in my head for a couple of years. I remember testing the notion with my wife Jane and several trusted colleagues just to see what their reaction might be. Much to my surprise, no one was scandalized. In fact, the encouragement and support were universal.

I remember calling my mother and running the idea by her,

the structure and language of the Prayer Book and how beautifully and consistently it led us through worship.

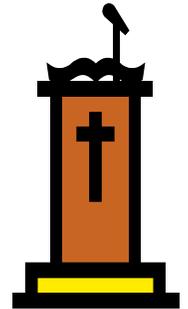
I was amazed that by the time one student was in her junior year she had memorized major portions of Morning Prayer, Evening Prayer, Compline and Rite I.

The great dignity, elegance, symbolism and reverence with which the Eucharist was celebrated ignited a spiritual flame in me I thought dead.

family, and other Episcopal priests has become a divine drink slaking the vocational thirst of this curious pilgrim.

There is much to learn, many roads to travel, and people to meet along the way. I am honored and humbled that you have invited me to be with you and that you are willing to join the journey.

- David Smith



Emmanuel Prayer List

Pray for the sick and the shut-ins :

- Allene Hunt
- Juanita Willis
- Nita and Frank Andrews
- Catherine Overbey
- Betty Whitehead
- Dorothy Roop



- Willie Frances Wyatt
- Jane Reynolds
- Dale Ruoff
- Virginia Hunt
- Helene Briggs
- Ruth Gibson
- Robin Haley

Pray for the departed:

- Frank Taylor
- Micheline Bridges Nichols
- Nelson Light
- Catherine Brooks (Kitty) Miller

Emmanuel Episcopal Church

in the Diocese of Southern Virginia

66 North Main Street, P.O. Box 26
Chatham, VA 24531

Phone: 434- 432- 0316
Email: emmanuelchatham@gmail.com

Dr. David H. Smith, Pastoral Vicar
Phone: 434- 432- 7117
Email: dsmith@chathamhall.org

Visit Emmanuel on the World Wide Web

at www.emmanuelchatham.org.

The web site includes information about:

- News and Coming Events
- Emmanuel's Online Calendar
- The Parish Prayer List
- Recent Sermons
- Recent Sunday Service Bulletins
- Links to Diocesan & Church web sites

Mailing Address Line 1
Mailing Address Line 2
Mailing Address Line 3
Mailing Address Line 4
Mailing Address Line 5

Thank You to the Women of Emmanuel

Behind the many activities that take place at Emmanuel are the capable **Women of Emmanuel** (W.O.E.). Every woman who attends Emmanuel is invited to join W.O.E. and participate in any or all of its functions. Funds for W.O.E. are generated by yearly membership dues and donations, i.e. memorials. Emmanuel women belong to the ECW convocation and host meetings as requested.

Outreach is a big part of W.O.E. Funds go regularly to Boy's Home in Covington, Virginia and Jackson Field Home in Jarratt, Virginia. W.O.E. also responds to requests for financial

help from other community organizations as funds permit.

Outreach is a big part of the Women of Emmanuel.

Within the parish, W.O.E. contributes funds to help with the cleaning of the Church and the Parish Hall, and W.O.E. funds have been earmarked for part of the cost of re-tiling the Ladies' bathroom floor scheduled for February.

The W.O.E. is also the driving force behind all the lovely receptions at Christmas, Easter and other special occasions, in addition to set ups

for covered dish gatherings (with lots of help from the men with the cleanup and the tables) as well as altar flowers and receptions for funerals.

Ruth Jones has for many years taken on the task of chairing W.O.E. and Jane Ruef has acted as the group's treasurer. Jane Reynolds, Virginia Chapin and Mary Catherine Plaster have also worked for many years keeping the group functioning.

To these ladies and all the members of W.O.E., we offer a big

THANK YOU!

