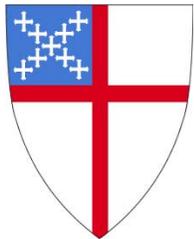


The Pruden Parish Press

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News & Information for Parishioners and Friends of Emmanuel

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Resurrection Window Returning To Emmanuel before Christmas

The Vestry anticipates that the Resurrection Window will be returned to the East wall of the Sanctuary, fully restored, by the middle of December.

According to Church records, this magnificent window was given in 1921 by John W. Craddock in memory of Elizabeth Carrington Gilmer and Peach Gilmer Craddock.

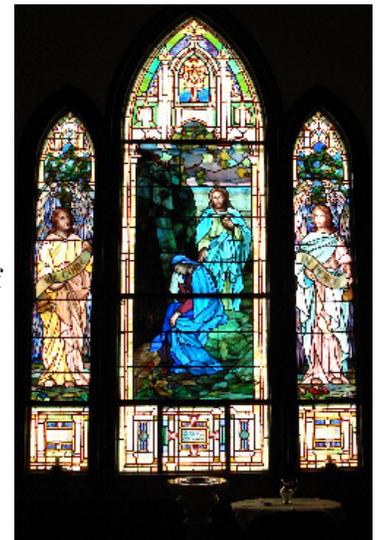
The restoration of the window and surrounding woodwork is being paid for by monies from the sale of the Rectory.

Although the window has the textured draped glass seen in many

Tiffany windows, the real identity of the window's studio creator is not known for sure.

Some years ago, a Tiffany Company employee who inspected the windows indicated his belief that they were made by Tiffany despite the absence of a Tiffany signature on the window.

The two Sanctuary Windows, the Good Shepherd Window on the right side of the Sanctuary, and the Ascension Window on the left side, are also in need of considerable repair work including stabilizing rods and new Plexiglas



outside covers to replace existing cloudy covers.

In addition, all of the windows along the main body of the Church need significant repairs to the window frames and sills.

Over \$2,000 Raised for Church Windows Restoration Fund

A campaign was recently initiated by Norman Reynolds to fund repairs to our Church's windows.

Launched with two \$500 matching gift commit-

ments from anonymous donors, the campaign quickly raised \$2,088.

A third anonymous donor has now come forward offering another \$500 matching gift which should soon push

the campaign total over \$3,000. This amount will provide an excellent down payment on this costly project.

A contractor has been hired to begin the needed repair work.

Emmanuel Dinner Clubs Mark Milestone With Pot Luck Supper

More than two dozen parishioners and friends gathered in Emmanuel's Parish Hall on Saturday evening October 20th for a pot luck supper to celebrate the successful conclusion of the first season of Emmanuel's Dinner Groups Program.

The summer season's four dinner groups (ably led by Betty Camp, Jane De Paulo, Mary Hicks Heitzler and Jane Ruef) brought some four



dozen parishioners and friends together on multiple occasions and in a variety of social settings ranging from cocktail and dinner parties, to picnics and restaurant nights out.

Re-christened **Emmanuel Dinner Clubs**, the program allows groups of 8 to 10 adults, singles and couples, to meet on a monthly rotating basis for an evening of pot-luck, fun and fellowship.

Since the format of each evening is at the discretion of that night's host / hostess, the venue could be a cookout, a buffet, just coffee and desserts, or an evening at a local restaurant.

Group Leaders for the second season of Dinner Clubs are Virginia Chapin, Jane Ruef, Linda Swanberg, and Alice Wilson. If you would like to join a Dinner Club for the coming season, please call one of the group leaders or email the Parish Office at

emmanuelchatham@gmail.com.

The Treasurer's Report, September 2007

At the October 21st Vestry Meeting, Emmanuel Treasurer John Geyer reported on the Parish's financial condition for the year to date through September 30, 2007.

Total operating fund receipts for the nine months ended September 30th were \$42,259 compared with total operating fund disbursements of \$37,680.

The operating fund balance at September 30th was \$20,600.

Overall receipts were just slightly ahead of the \$42,120 budgeted for the first nine months of the year.

Total contributions through September 30th were \$34,215 compared to budgeted contributions of \$33,000.

Disbursements through nine months of \$37,680 were \$6,128 less than the \$43,808 budgeted with approximately \$4,700 of the difference resulting from lower than budgeted clergy salary and expenses.

Rector Search Update

The Vestry continues to work with Winn Lewis from the Bishop's office and Cleon Ross, our Convocation Leader, to address Emmanuel's long-term clergy needs. Their next meeting will be held on November 9th.

One potential candidate has



recently advised the Vestry that he will remain in his current position for at least another year.

In his remarks to the Annual Diocesan Council meeting last February, Bishop Buchanan noted that the Episcopal Church

continues to experience a severe shortage of trained and available priests, especially to serve smaller congregations.

He stated his belief that we must seek creative solutions, such as ordination of deacons-in-charge, to meet the growing parish ministry needs of our congregations.

The Pharisee and the Sinner by Dr. Ruef



The Gospel for the Twenty Second Sunday after Pentecost -

Luke 18:9-14

Most rectors would be delighted to hear one of their parishioners say that he tithes. And don't we wish we had more like him!

But according to Luke, the parishioner, like the Pharisee in the gospel, was boastful and one should not be like that. Ok so far.

But what about the business of "despising others," in this case, the tax collector?

We don't know how much the tax collector gave. All we know is that

he identified himself as a "sinner."

Tax collectors were assumed to be sinners because of their occupation. In the eyes of conservative Jews such as this Pharisee, it was not possible for a tax collector to adhere to the Jewish tradition the way they did. They were lumped together with extortionists, the unjust, and adulterers.

Luke tells us what he thinks this parable is about: being in a right relationship with God, i.e. "justified."

In Luke's eyes, the tax collector was better off, i.e. "justified," than the Pharisee.

Could the parable be construed any other way?

What was the tax collector's problem? Did he think of himself as a "sinner" in our sense of the word? Or did sinner simply mean outcast?

And if so, do we have here another instance of Jesus' sense of humor?

Would our morals be offended if we thought that the tax collector laughed all the way home?

Once again, the Gospel gives us something to think about.

Emmanuel Launches 2008 Pledge Drive

The 2008 Every Member Canvas/Pledge Drive commenced with a letter dated October 26th from the Vestry to all Emmanuel parishioners. A Preliminary 2008 Budget and a pledge card were enclosed with each letter.

Although the parish's basic operating costs are not expected to increase significantly for 2008, our total costs will rise substantially

with the planned recruitment of a new Parish Priest.

We greatly value Dr. Ruef's leadership and presence in our midst, but he did retire once – and he might actually like to do so again one of these days!

The Vestry asks that each parishioner give prayerful consideration to increasing your giving for 2008

as we seek to sustain and enhance God's work in this place.

Please return pledge cards to John Geyer, Treasurer, by November 25th so that the Vestry may finalize the 2008 Operating Budget before our December 9th Congregational Meeting.

Prayer List

Pray for the sick and the shut-ins in our Parish community:

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
Marvin Mullis

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.

Emmanuel Episcopal Church

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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 by Dr. Ruef
- 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

New Parish Directory & Calendars Enclosed

The **Parish Directory** has been revised as of September 2007 through the diligent efforts of Betty Camp. The Directory includes names, current addresses and telephone numbers for all active communicants.

A copy of the Directory has been enclosed as an insert with this newsletter. Additional copies are available in the rear of the Church. Please provide any corrections or additions to Betty Camp or the Parish Office.

Parish Calendars for November and December 2007 are also enclosed. The Calendars

include information about the upcoming **Congregational Annual Meeting** as well as the schedule of services for Thanksgiving and Advent.

The calendars are also available online at the parish's website at

www.emmanuelchatham.org.



Coffee Hour

Please sign up to host an upcoming Sunday 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.

If you are unable to host a Coffee Hour, please contribute to the church pantry which is used to support Coffee Hour when a host is not available. Acceptable food items include chips or cookies, as well as items which require freezing or refrigeration.

(The pantry is a cabinet located in the Parish Hall kitchen and should not be confused with the Food Basket for the needy which is located in the rear of the Church.)