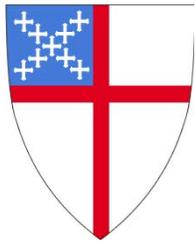


# The Pruden Parish Press

September 2008

Volume 2, 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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## Emmanuel Readies Parish House for a Busy Fall Schedule

*By Jeanne Reynolds*

Fall is the time of year when we focus on **stewardship**. The dictionary defines stewardship as “the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one’s care.” The summer months have been very busy as we made several repairs and improvements to our Parish facilities.

**A new nursery room** has been renovated and furnished in anticipation of new members or visiting families with babies and toddlers. With inside hall windows, the new room will be convenient and safe for families and nursery attendants. Join

us in thanking Sharon Taylor and John Geyer for helping to prepare this room.

The former office has been transformed into a **newly renovated meeting room**. The Vestry is very grateful to Spencer Plaster Jr. for the donation of a wonderful conference table and comfortable chairs. Our thanks go to Jane Smith, Lee Gibson, Richard Camp, Mary Catherine Plaster, Wayne Millan and Mark DePaulo for their contributions of labor.

**The parlor** has been cleaned up, and we are seeking some new furniture for that room such



as a nice sofa or chairs. If you have suitable extra furniture, please consider donating it.

Some **exterior painting** of the Church and Parish Hall has begun with the painting of the front doors and wrought iron handrails. Carroll Younger completed this work and did an excellent job! In early September, Carroll will begin work on the side leaded glass windows.

## Sunday School Begins September 7th

**A Sunday School class for children four to eight years old** will begin September 7th at 9:45 am in the Parish House.

The Class will be taught by **Sharon Taylor**, a life-long Emmanuel

parishioner with many years of experience teaching young children in the public schools.

Interested parents of four to eight year olds should contact Sharon directly regarding available space in the class.



Sharon Taylor

## Vestry Notes from the Senior Warden



We are now over half way through the church year. Our attendance continues above prior year levels and donations have increased to keep us in good financial condition.

Last time, I asked you to consider serving on our new Finance or Outreach Committees. Billie Reynolds has agreed to chair **the Finance Committee**, and their initial objective is to review our investment portfolio and make recommendations to the Vestry.

**The Outreach Committee** needs a Chairperson to get up and running. Both committees are important to the vitality and mission of our church so please contact the

committee chairperson or me to get involved.

On September 27th, I will be Emmanuel's delegate to a **special meeting to elect a new Bishop**.

*"Our attendance continues above prior year levels and donations have increased...."*

Jeanne Reynolds will be the alternate. **Background information about the candidates** appeared in the Jamestown Cross, and our web site includes a summary with links to the Diocesan website. I urge you to review the candidates and make your preference known.

Also in September, we will begin **our Stewardship** efforts. We have been fortunate and the church is blessed with so many who give so much. But for many years, the vestry has approved a deficit budget. While we usually come out very close to that budget it has been because of donations in the last month or so of the year.

There are several initiatives, including **youth and outreach activities**, which we need to embrace if we are to strengthen our parish and pursue our mission. I am hopeful that our budget for next year can begin to provide for these initiatives. – *Dick Camp*

## More Renovation Photos (courtesy of Jeanne Reynolds)



Nursery Room

Ladies Restroom



Office Work Space

## Diocese to Elect 10th Bishop on September 27th

**A Special Meeting of Diocesan Council** will be held on September 27, 2008 to elect the 10th Bishop of Southern Virginia. Delegates to the Meeting will choose from among six candidates selected by the Nominating Committee and approved by the Standing Committee.

**The Nominees are:**

The Very Reverend Edward H. Harrison  
The Rev. Herman "Holly" Hollerith, IV  
The Rev. Dr. Ladson F. Mills III  
The Rev. Canon E. Daniel Smith  
The Rev. L. Murdock Smith  
The Rev. Mary C. Sulerud

**Background information about the candidates** appeared in the Jamestown Cross, and our web site includes a summary with links to the Diocesan website.

**Beginning September 12<sup>th</sup>, the candidates for Bishop will begin "Walk Aabouts"**, appearing at several locations in the Diocese. The location closest to Emmanuel will begin on the 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm at the First Baptist Church in South Boston. All parishioners are invited to attend, meet the candidates, and hear them speak and respond to questions.

## Emmanuel Calendar Notes for September – November 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](http://www.emmanuelchatham.org). The complete calendars are also available on the web site.

### SEPTEMBER

#### Sun, 9/7 – Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

9:45 am **Sunday School** for Young Children Begins  
10:00 am **G2R** with Dr. Smith Resumes  
11:00 am **Morning Prayer** – Dr. Smith

#### Fri, 9/12 – Meet the Nominees for Bishop

6:30 pm First Baptist Church, South Boston

#### Sun, 9/14 – Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

9:45 am **Sunday School** for Young Children  
10:00 am **G2R** with Dr. Smith  
11:00 am **Holy Eucharist** – Bill Jones, Celebrant

#### Sun, 9/21 – Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

9:45 am **Sunday School** for Young Children  
10:00 am **G2R** with Dr. Smith  
11:00 am **Morning Prayer** – Dr. Smith  
12:30 pm **Vestry Meeting**

#### Sat, 9/27 – Diocesan Meeting to Elect New Bishop

8:00 am Powhatan High School, Powhatan, VA

#### Sun, 9/28 – Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

9:45 am **Sunday School** for Young Children  
10:00 am **G2R** with Dr. Smith  
11:00 am **Holy Eucharist** – Celebrant TBA

### OCTOBER

#### Sun, 10/5 – Twenty First Sunday after Pentecost

9:45 am **Sunday School** for Young Children  
10:00 am **G2R** with Dr. Smith  
11:00 am **Morning Prayer** – Dr. Smith

#### Sun, 10/12 – Twenty Second Sun. after Pentecost

9:45 am **Sunday School** for Young Children  
10:00 am **G2R** with Dr. Smith  
11:00 am **Holy Eucharist** – Win Lewis, Celebrant  
11:00 am **St. Mary's Choir** Sings at Emmanuel

#### Sun, 10/19 – Twenty Third Sunday after Pentecost

9:45 am **Sunday School** for Young Children  
10:00 am **G2R** with Dr. Smith  
11:00 am **Morning Prayer** – Dr. Smith  
12:30 pm **Vestry Meeting**

#### Sun, 10/26 – Twenty Fourth Sun. after Pentecost

9:45 am **Sunday School** for Young Children  
10:00 am **G2R** with Dr. Smith  
11:00 am **Holy Eucharist** – Celebrant TBA

### NOVEMBER

#### Sun, 11/2 – All Saints Day

9:45 am **Sunday School** for Young Children  
10:00 am **G2R** with Dr. Smith  
11:00 am **Morning Prayer** – Dr. Smith

#### Sun, 11/9 – Twenty Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

9:45 am **Sunday School** for Young Children  
10:00 am **G2R** with Dr. Smith  
11:00 am **Morning Prayer** – Dr. Smith

#### Fri, 11/14 – Ordination Service for Dr. Smith

7:00 pm St. Mary's Chapel, Chatham Hall

#### Sun, 11/16 – Twenty Seventh Sun. after Pentecost

9:45 am **Sunday School** for Young Children  
10:00 am **G2R** with Dr. Smith  
11:00 am **Holy Eucharist** – Dr. Smith  
11:00 am **St. Mary's Choir** Sings at Emmanuel  
12:30 pm **Vestry Meeting**

#### Sun, 11/23 – Last Sunday after Pentecost

9:45 am **Sunday School** for Young Children  
10:00 am **G2R** with Dr. Smith  
11:00 am **Holy Eucharist** – Dr. Smith

#### Thurs, 11/27 – Thanksgiving Day - Services TBA

#### Sun, 11/30 – First Sunday of Advent

9:45 am **Sunday School** for Young Children  
10:00 am **G2R** with Dr. Smith  
11:00 am **Holy Eucharist** – Dr. Smith

### RECURRING WEEKLY EVENTS

**Choir Practice** - Wednesdays at 6 pm in the Church.

**Sunday School** for Young Children - Sundays at 9:45 am

**G2R (Genesis to Revelation)** - Sundays at 10 am

**Coffee Hour** - Sundays in the Parish Hall after the Service

# Emmanuel Receives Wonderful Memorial Gift

By Jeanne Reynolds, Junior Warden

**Spencer Plaster has given Emmanuel a beautiful wooden conference table and twelve leather chairs** for the newly renovated Parish Hall meeting room **in memory of his late father, Robert Spencer (Bob) Plaster.**



Bob was known for his marvelous sense of humor and his love for golf and family. Bob's humor never left him. Even on the night before he died on May 10, 1977, the staff and other

patients in Bowman Grey's Emergency Room were sharing in his wonderful sense of fun.

The Plaster family have been active communicants of Emmanuel Church since 1966. Bob first came to Chatham at age 10 to attend Hargrave Military Academy. Following early attendance at Chatham Baptist Church, Bob asked to change to Emmanuel because it was more like the Moravian Church, which he had known in Winston-Salem. **It was at Emmanuel's Episcopal Young Churchmen that Bob first met Mary Catherine Sours.** She was then twelve and he was fourteen.

After they married, Bob and Mary Catherine lived in Pensacola, Florida while Bob served in the Navy. With Bob playing center, the Naval Air Station basketball team earned first place in competition during those four years. Later, they moved to Atlanta until Bob graduated from Emory University and then on to Winston-Salem where Bob worked for pharmaceutical companies.

With close family ties, they relocated to Chatham where Bob became a stockholder and vice-president at Hunt Chevrolet. Following that experience, Bob opened his own business, Bob's Auto Parts. At his shop Bob became known for his friendly chats and

wonderful tomato crops, which he grew just under his window air conditioner!

This time Bob needed no permission to return to Emmanuel as a communicant. He combined his busy life with family and church, serving as **Junior Warden** and partnering with Mary Catherine as **Sunday School teachers and Youth Group leaders.** During this period, some 90 teenagers were active in Emmanuel's E.Y.C.

**Bob and Mary Catherine raised their two children, Susan and Spencer, in Chatham and at Emmanuel.** Spencer was very active as a member of the E.Y.C. and as an acolyte and a crucifer. Susan, twelve at the time of the family's move to Chatham, also served as an acolyte and was involved in E.Y.C.



Bob has been sadly missed by his friends and most of all by his loving family – Mary Catherine, Susan, Amy, Elizabeth, Spencer, Kerrie Ann, Ann Elise, Sally Katherine, and Clara Spencer.

Please join the Vestry in thanking Spencer for this wonderful memorial gift in honor of Bob Plaster.

## More of Emmanuel's Treasures

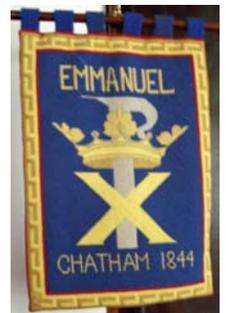
During the processional each Sunday at Emmanuel, the crucifer carries a magnificent **Brass Processional Cross** that was given to the Church in memory of Mrs. Nan Hurt Hancock by the Women of Emmanuel.



Nan and Chester Hancock lived in the house on Chalk Level Extension Road (Hurt Street), which is now the home of Emmanuel's Martha Scearce.

Spencer Plaster carried the Brass Processional Cross at Chatham's first Community Ecumenical service for the USA Bicentennial Celebration, which was celebrated at Cheatham Chapel, Hargrave Military Academy.

On very special occasions, **Emmanuel's beautiful blue and gold needlepoint banner is carried in the procession.**

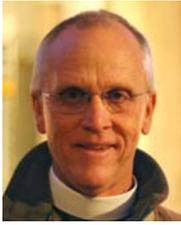


Mrs. Richard Arey and Mrs. Joseph Saurette designed and stitched the banner in needlepoint.

The banner was completed for the 135<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the consecration of Emmanuel Church and was dedicated at a special service, which took place in June of 1979.

The banner was also carried in the processional at the consecration of the Rev. A. Heath Light as Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Southwestern Virginia

# Stewardship is Fun!



Stewardship is fun!  
I truly believe that,  
and Jesus did too.

**Jesus spoke 10 times more frequently about money than he did about prayer.** He knew that our spiritual vitality and the integrity of our living faith could not be separated from how we appropriate our money.

**A very wise person once told me that the best way to conduct a spiritual inventory was to audit someone's checkbook.** Doing so will immediately reveal where personal priorities lie.

*"Don't ask me why, but... the more money I give away, the more 'wealth' God provides."*

**Stewardship is fun for a number of reasons.**

It is fun because **we can see how the resources God gives us, and we in turn give away, are used for the well being of our church and all of God's people.** We can see the world change as a result of our giving.

It is fun because **we know in our hearts that giving money away is the right thing to do** and we like doing the right thing.

It is fun because **we experience first hand the providence of God at work.** Even though we might fret about not having "enough", we discover that when we generously return resources to God there is always enough left and more to boot.

Stewardship is fun because **we are reminded that we are "caretakers", not "owners".**

Everything we have and enjoy is on loan and should be shared.

To lock away our creativity, energy and money will cultivate nothing other than mold and lethargy, neither of which is much good to anyone.

We all know the economy stinks right now. Prices are going up and investment returns are going down. There is not much we can do about the economy except change our lifestyles and reconsider our saving strategies.

However, there is one economic lifestyle strategy a lousy economy need not affect and that is stewardship.

Don't ask me why, but **my experience has been that the more money I give away, the more "wealth" God provides.**

Provision does not necessarily come in the form of dollars, but arrives in ways I could never have imagined. The time for all of us to sharpen our pencils and construct our budgets (both personal and church) is rapidly approaching.

Stewardship is fun. Giving money away is fun. We have all been given much and the little bit God expects in return is enough to change the world.

- David Smith



## Lost & Found

A silver wedding band with the inscription MAK-WTW 6-21-81 was recently found in Emmanuel's parking lot. Inquiries should be made to Sharon Taylor, Registrar.

# 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
- \* Virginia Hunt
- \* Ruth Gibson
- \* Robin Haley
- \* Frank Fowler
- \* Marvin Mullis
- \* Lane Millner



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.

## A Special Young Lady

When 7-year-old **Emily Mullis** walks down the aisle on Sunday mornings with her beautiful golden locks, that adorable little smile and always those – Oh So Cute – shoes, she lights up our day.

Well, Emily made a decision to do something really wonderful. She has cut her hair - for the very first time! She had 10 inches cut off and sent them to "Locks of Love" so that someone else can also have beautiful golden locks.

It was all her decision to do this for someone who has been sick and needs a little boost - someone she will never know but whose life will be made a little bit happier. - Mary Hicks Heitzler

## Emmanuel Episcopal Church

*in the Diocese of Southern Virginia*

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### Dr. David H. Smith, Pastoral Vicar

Phone: 434- 432- 7117  
Email: [dsmith@chathamhall.org](mailto:dsmith@chathamhall.org)

### Visit Emmanuel on the World Wide Web

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

Please send comments, stories or article suggestions to **Jeanne Reynolds** 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**.

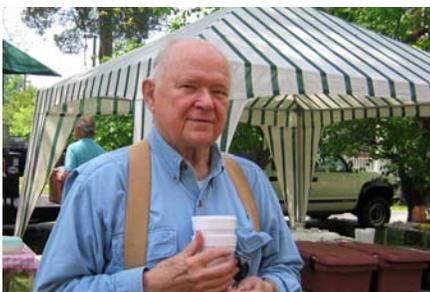
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# Around the Parish in Pictures

(photos courtesy Rosemary Nichols and Jeanne Reynolds)



Bar-B-Que on the Lawn



What does Dr. Ruef know that we don't?!

### The Briar Ridge Ramblers entertain at the Dinner Groups Spring Potluck Supper



Some spring plantings



John Geyer seems to be everywhere. Thank you John!

