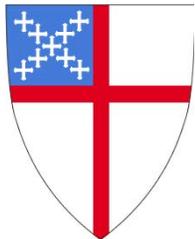


The Pruden Parish Press

March 2010

Volume 3, Issue 4



The Pruden Parish Press

News & Information for Parishioners and Friends of Emmanuel

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

Jeanne Reynolds
Editor

Wayne Wilson
Publisher

Inside this issue:

Vestry Notes	2
Emmanuel Hosts Dinner For Main Street Churches	2
Calendar Notes for March - May 2010	3
Saturn String Quartet Opens Concert Series	4
Photos	4
The Priest's Corner	5
Prayer List	5
More photos	5
Emmanuel's Treasures	6
Help the Lay-Weeders!!	6

Parish Celebrates with Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

By Susan Paynter

On February 16, about 48 parishioners and guests found refuge from the cold in Emmanuel's Parish Hall.

It was a good night to enjoy the hot pancakes and warm fellowship of our traditional Shrove Tuesday Supper.

Shrove Tuesday -- also known as Fat Tuesday or, in French, *Mardi Gras* -- is, by custom, the last chance for Chris-

tians to indulge before the abstinence of Lent.

The Emmanuel family happily indulged in the hot spiced apples, pancakes, and ham cooked up by a squad of men and boys under the direction of Tred Hunt and Richard Camp.

Beth Coles, hostess for the evening, had decorated with winter greenery and, with her team of servers, made sure everyone was well fed.

By the way, "shrove" is the past tense of "shrive," which concerns the atonement for and pardon of sins. The name was given to



Johnny Hunt flips the pancakes under Vic Millner's watchful eye. (Photos by Rosemary Nichols)

the day before Ash Wednesday, as Christians were traditionally "shriven" so they could enter the Lenten season in a state of purity.

Still, after our pancake supper, most of us would agree that Fat Tuesday fits us best!



Diocesan Council Meets in Williamsburg

The Diocese of Southern Virginia met in Williamsburg February 12-14 at the Williamsburg Lodge.

Both clergy and lay representatives from churches across the diocese enjoyed great conversation and worship as well as time spent listen-

ing to presentations by our guest Phyllis Tickle.

Tickle's latest book *The Great Emergence* has taken Christendom by storm suggesting we are currently going through an ecclesiastical rummage sale prompting a transition equal in impor-

tance to the protestant reformation.

Diocesan council was also a time to hear from Bishop Hollerith as he shared experiences and accomplishments during the first year of his episcopacy. *Please turn to p. 5*

Vestry Notes from the Senior Warden

We began our new year at the January vestry meeting with the re-election of Ron Irby and me as Junior and Senior Wardens for 2010. Of course John Geyer and Sharon Taylor will continue as Treasurer and Registrar, respectively. May God watch over us and guide us in our decisions. I think I can say with confidence that we all are looking forward to serving you for another year.

Using a model suggested by David, our vestry members will be assigned to specific areas important to the way we operate as a church such as worship, finance, communications, fellowship, etc. I will mail a more thorough description to you once we have com-

pleted discussion of this approach at our February vestry meeting.

At the February meeting, the vestry will also finalize the budget for the year and address the list of repairs and improvements that

This year vestry members will be assigned to specific areas important to the way we operate as a church

needs to be prioritized and implemented soon on the inside and, as weather permits, on the outside of the church.

The car club cruise-ins that were such a big success last year, bringing several hundred to a couple of

thousand people to downtown Chatham, will resume in April with a car show on the 4th Saturday of each month through October. The vestry will consider what can be done in conjunction with the car events, which present wonderful opportunities to raise funds for the church.

Finally, I hope that all of you will be able to attend the remaining concerts in the Chatham Concert Series that are being hosted by our church. The first concert in January was a huge success and we look forward to the remaining events.

- Dick Camp



Emmanuel Hosts Dinner for Chatham Main Street Churches

By Susan Paynter

On Wednesday, January 13, the house was packed as Emmanuel hosted the Chatham Main Street Churches Dinner. We were joined by Watson Memorial Methodist, Chatham Presbyterian, and Chatham Baptist Churches for social hour, dinner, and David Smith's talk on "The Episcopal Church & the New World Order."

Social hour topped the agenda. It may not have been a full hour, but it sure was social! Many enjoyed a glass of wine, and judging by the decibel level of the "party buzz," *everyone* enjoyed catching up with friends and neighbors while nibbling on hors d'oeuvres provided by parishioners.

Social hour led to dinner. In the days leading up to the event, David had joked that if more than the expected 50 attended, we'd

just multiply the loaves and fishes. Well, it was lasagna and garlic bread -- but we were able to feed the overflow crowd of about 70, with just enough left over to assure us that no one left hungry.

After dessert, David took the floor. He had a rapt audience as he walked us quickly through the history of the Episcopal Church: from our roots in the Roman Catholic Church to the establishment of the Church of England under its dubious founder, Henry VIII; through the bad patch under Bloody Mary; then back on track with Good Queen Bess and her Middle Way, blending the beauty and pageantry of Rome with the ideals of the Reformation; onward to The New World and the Colonial Period; through the split with the Church of England; the establishment of the Episcopal Church and her place in the Anglican Communion; and right up to

Robin Williams!

Top 10 Reasons for Being an Episcopalian (according to Robin Williams, that is)

- 10 No snake handling.
- 9 You can believe in dinosaurs.
- 8 Male and female, God created them; male and female we ordain them.
- 7 You don't have to check your brains at the door.
- 6 Pew aerobics.
- 5 Church year is color coded.
- 4 Free wine on Sunday.
- 3 All of the pageantry, none of the guilt.
- 2 You don't have to know how to swim to get baptized.
- 1 No matter what you believe, there's bound to be at least one other Episcopalian who agrees with you.

Ron Irby's T-shirt. Photo by Susan Paynter

David wrapped up his presentation with an informative and thoughtful riff on Williams' comedic "Top 10 Reasons for Being an Episcopalian." Emmanuel members were very pleased to share our pastor's engaging ways with the greater Chatham community.

Emmanuel Calendar Notes for March - May 2010

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.

RECURRING EVENTS

Sundays

- 9:45 am Sunday School for Young Children
Class for 4 to 8 year olds taught by Sharon Taylor in the Parish House. Please contact Sharon directly regarding space in the class.
- 10:00 am G2R with Dr. Smith (Resumes March 28)
Adult Christian Formation Bible Class - Currently surveying the New Testament - in the Parish House Conference Room. New participants are welcome.
- 11:00 am Holy Eucharist - Rite II
(Morning Prayer on March 14)
- 12:00 pm Coffee Hour
In the Parish Hall following the Service

Wednesdays

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

1st Thursday of each month

- 2:00 pm The Briar Ridge Ramblers perform at Oak Grove Residential Home
Social Hour sponsored by Emmanuel

SPECIAL DATES AND EVENTS

Wednesday, March 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31

Chatham Main Street Churches Lenten Dinners - will be held every Wednesday evening during Lent. Chatham Baptist Church, Chatham Presbyterian Church, and Watson Memorial Methodist Church - hosted by Chatham Baptist. Please call Chatham Baptist to RSVP (432-8003).

- 5:30 pm Dinner
6:15 pm Mediation - the Main Street church clergy

Sunday, March 14

- 11:00 am Morning Prayer

Friday, March 26

- 7:00 pm Chatham Concert Series - Justin Craig, classical guitar - See website for details.

Sunday, March 28 - Palm Sunday

- 10:00 am G2R with Dr. Smith - Class Resumes
12:30 pm Vestry Meeting - Parish Hall Conf. Room

Holy Week Services, April 1 - 3

- 7:00 pm Maunday Thursday - Foot Washing / Holy Eucharist
- 7:00 pm Good Friday / Tenebrae / Stripping of the Altar
- 7:00 pm Saturday - Great Easter Vigil and Holy Eucharist

Sunday, April 4 - Easter Day

- 11:00 am Easter Holy Eucharist

Sunday, April 25

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

Friday, April 30

- 7:00 pm Chatham Concert Series - Liz Frazer, soprano & Minjung Seo, piano
See website for details.

Sunday, May 23

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

Sunday, May 30

- 10:45 am Sunday School and G2R - Recess for the Summer

Saturn String Quartet Opens Concert Series

By Susan Paynter

Four days after hosting the Main Street Churches Dinner in the Parish Hall (see p. 2) Emmanuel threw her Sanctuary doors open to the community and *another* overflow crowd! This time an estimated 100 music lovers gathered on Sunday afternoon, January 17, to kick off the 2010 Chatham Concert Series, organized by Choirmaster Kevin Zakresky of Chatham Hall.

The world-class Saturn String Quartet brought us a delightful program of music. From the opening number -- a Mozart Divertimento -- to the encore -- the prettiest version of Charlie Daniels' *Devil Went Down to Georgia* that we're likely to hear -- the string musicians held the audience in their thrall.

Two of Chatham's own also per-

formed. Representing the next generation, ten-year-old violinist Staley Lyle brought us a Vivaldiesque concertino by Ferdinand Kuchler; and Kevin Zakresky, singing tenor, showed his dramatic flair with songs by Peter Warlock.

Zakresky is a tenor no one would boo. We're so grateful to him for bringing high-caliber classical musicians to Chatham -- a benefit few small towns can offer their communities. And the gratitude works both ways.

In his welcoming address, Zakresky thanked Emmanuel for opening our beautiful church to the



Kevin Zakresky (center) enjoying a lighter moment with the Saturn String Quartet, (l to r) Charles Shafer, violin, Louise Grévin, cello, Bryan Matheson, viola, and Kevin Matheson, First Violin

community, free of charge, for the concert series. He remarked that there's no site in Chatham better suited to chamber music. After the concert, violinist Charles Shafer remarked that the Sanctuary "has real good reverb, but not *too* much." Shafer's fellow quartet members are Kevin Matheson, First Violin; Bryan Matheson, Viola; and Louise Grévin, Cello.

We can be pleased to be able to offer our community a venue for top-flight, live classical music. The series will continue with monthly concerts through April, bringing us music for oboe, classical guitar, soprano voice, and piano. Treat yourself to at least one!



Intermission. Photos by Susan Paynter

More Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper Photos by Rosemary Nichols



Beth Coles setting up



Tred Hunt in the kitchen

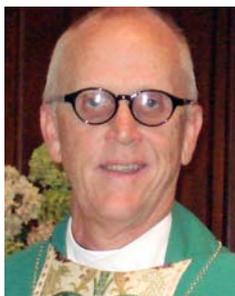


Preparing to eat



Boys will be boys

The Priest's Corner



While much work and many decisions are a regular part of every diocesan council, the most important component of the gathering is having time to be with other clergy and lay people from across the state.

Far too often we get caught up in our local life and lose sight of our common life, identity, and faith with all other Episcopalians.

Having been part of another denomination for the entirety of my professional life, I can say, with some degree of authority, **we Episcopalians truly enjoy being together. It is a fun crowd!**

“God created life and saw that it was GOOD.”

If he didn't enjoy being with people why did he take every opportunity to do so?

It always surprises me when folks hear that I will be going to a convocation clerics meeting, or a diocesan committee meeting, or to diocesan council, and say (though usually in jest) something like “I'm sorry to hear that”.

I know it is supposed to be funny, and I usually laugh, but the truth is, I like it!

I have found being a Christian in the Episcopal Church downright liberating. It's all right to enjoy life!

After all, God created it and saw that it was GOOD!

- David Smith



Now, you may think such an observation is silly, lacking depth and meaning, but not so.

From our earliest days Christian people were known not only for loving one another, but truly enjoying being in each other's company.

God is obviously a God of relationships; otherwise God would never have created people (whose company God enjoys), established covenants with us (any number of times), or bothered to live among us (albeit not for long.)

Jesus must have enjoyed being with his disciples. If he didn't want company why would he have bothered to invite his buddies to come along?

Prayer List

Pray for the sick and the shut-ins:

- * Allene Hunt
- * Nita Andrews
- * Catherine Overbey
- * Dorothy Roop
- * Marvin Mullis
- * Aly Youssef
- * Betty Jean Bryant
- * Karen Keesee
- * Scott David Reynolds
- * Ron Irby
- * Nat Clement
- * Irene Fry
- * Alan Arey
- * Linda Swanberg
- * Alice Overby
- * Caryl Yeatts



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.

Council Meets...

Continued from page 1

The bishop has visited many churches for services of ordination and confirmation and appointed new committees and individuals to oversee the ongoing work of the church.

In particular, the bishop appointed a committee to determine the future fate of Talbot Hall, the current site of the diocesan office

and bishop's residence. The property is in need of much repair and redevelopment that could drain necessary operating capital needed to underwrite the cost of programs and staff. The bishop also encouraged every church to reexamine its pledge to the diocese and work toward giving 10% of gross income.

Several resolutions and constitutional amendments were proposed and passed as well as the diocesan budget for 2010 which saw no increase from 2009.



More Pancake Supper Photos by Susan Paynter

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

The Rev. Dr. David H. Smith
Priest in Charge
Phone: 434- 432- 7117
Email: dsmith@chathamhall.org

Visit Emmanuel on the World Wide Web

at www.emmanuelchatham.org.

Please send stories, article suggestions or comments to **Jeanne Reynolds** or **Wayne Wilson** or email them to emmanuelchatham@gmail.com.

The article submission deadline for the May issue is **April 15th**.



Emmanuel's Treasures

By Jeanne Reynolds

Two of Emmanuel's life long members were the last two men to hang their hats in Emmanuel's Narthex.

Sam and Frank Taylor were brothers who worshipped throughout their lives at Emmanuel.

Frances Clement Taylor passed away in December of 2007 at the age of 92. With his wonderful strong voice Frank contributed to the choir for many years. Frank became a much beloved senior figure in his pew on Sundays.

Samuel Williamson Taylor died at 82 years on Sept 29, 2004. Sam had served numerous times as Junior Warden and was Sunday

School Superintendent at Emmanuel for many years.

When the Choir raised funds through a yard sale to renovate the Narthex, it was done in memory of Sam by the Choir and the Taylor family.

The old hat shelf was replaced by the Taylor family with an elegant coat/hat rack.

The choir members and the Taylor family believe that Sam and Frank would have approved of the new hat rack.



Photo by Rosemary Nichols

Help the Lay-Weeders!!

Spring is just around the corner, and Emmanuel's Lay-Weeders (John Geyer and Mary Hicks Heitzler) ask parishioners to save

their old newspapers so that they may be used for weed control in the spring when the Lay-Weeders start to work on the shrubs and flower beds around the church yard.