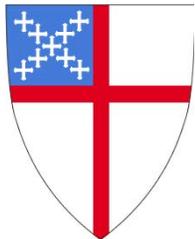


The Pruden Parish Press

May 2010

Volume 3, Issue 5



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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David Smith Appointed Chaplain at Woodberry Forest School

On Sunday May 2nd, Dr. Smith announced that he would be leaving Chatham Hall, and Emmanuel, to become the J. Curtis Lewis '44 Chaplain to Woodberry Forest School, effective September 1, 2010.

Dr. Smith began his career in ministry and teaching at Woodberry Forest in 1979—1985.

In addition to his duties as Chaplain, Dr. Smith will teach courses in reli-

gious studies, coach athletic teams, and serve as a residential and academic advisor for the students.

Founded in 1889, Woodberry Forest is a private, all-male boarding school located in Madison County, Virginia, with nearly 400 students from 31 states and 13 foreign countries.

In his remarks to the parish, Dr. Smith stated that, "Emmanuel has



Dr. David Smith

been, by far, the most wonderful church experience of my life."

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Chatham Concert Series Stages Grand Finale

By Susan Paynter

Friday evening, April 30, brought the final performances of the Chatham Concert Series to Emmanuel's Sanctuary. Headliners **Liz Frazer**, soprano, and **Minjung Seo**, pianist, entertained an appreciative audience with a lively and varied program.

The two women exhibited the fruits of their extensive musical education and their national and international perform-



Liz Frazer, soprano, and **Minjung Seo**, pianist

ance experience. Seo, an active solo and collaborative artist demonstrated a fine touch and great sensitivity as she accompanied Ms. Frazer in her stunning display

of vocal and emotional range.

Those attending were enthusiastically caught up in the emotions dramatically portrayed by Ms. Frazer as she took them from three charming pieces of love and longing by Ernest Chausson to five novel songs (one might even say "quirky" songs) taken from the letters of Calamity Jane to her daughter (fathered by

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Vestry Notes from the Senior Warden



The vestry has approved a balanced budget for 2010 that we believe is achievable. Thanks to generous donations in 2009, we have been able to put \$20,000, not needed for operations, into the investment account.

As for repairs and improvements, the vestry is considering cleaning the brickwork on the outside of the church and installing a watering system to aid with maintaining the church landscaping, both of which can be paid for with funds from the residual money from the sale of the rectory that has been reserved for capital improvements. Good so far, right?

On the morning of April 24th I had

an early morning call to advise me the kitchen was flooding. While helping John Geyer and Langhorne Jones swab the decks, it became clear that the water supply to the leaking water heater was not isolated as thought.

“David came to us at a critical time and that was a blessing. We have all enjoyed and been enlightened by his time with us.”

After failed attempts to locate a valve to turn off the water to the heater, we finally had to turn off the water at the street, which led to cancellation of Holy Eucharist Service on the 25th.

On the following Monday I was

able to get a plumber to remove and bypass the water heater so that water for kitchen and bathroom use could be restored while we consider replacement options. At that point, I had survived the biggest crisis since I became Senior Warden. Not a big deal right? Well, not so fast!

On Tuesday, after water was again running safely in the church pipes, I had a welcome visitor with very unwelcome news. Dr. Smith called to ask if he could stop by for a visit and when he did I was told of his plan to move away.

Needless to say, I had all of the emotions one has on news of a significant loss, impact, or tear in the fabric of our daily lives. David came to us at a critical time and that was a blessing. We have all enjoyed and been enlightened by his time with us.

But now, we have to look ahead. Clearly we cannot replace David, but we must find someone for the next phase in the life of our wonderful church. Chatham Hall is moving forward in search of someone to fill their needs with us in mind.

We must also move forward to search for someone, realizing that the person Chatham Hall hires may not be able to serve our needs.

To this end, we have formed a search committee to guide us through the search process. Hopefully we can move through this difficult process smoothly and find our next blessing. Although not easy, I think we can!

- Dick Camp

Concert Series Concludes at Emmanuel

Continued from page 1

Wild Bill Hicock) which were set to music by Libby Larson.

As it happens, 2010 is the 100th anniversary year of the birth of Samuel Barber, and Seo and Frazer performed three of his pieces as an ode to the great American composer. In the first concert of the series, the Saturn String Quartet had also feted Barber, who **Kevin Zakresky**, creator of the Chatham Concert Series, believes is America's finest composer.

As appropriate punctuation to the bitter-sweet end of a wonderful season of music in Chatham, Seo artfully accompanied Frazer in her closing renditions of two heartbreaking arias from Bizet's *Carmen* and Puccini's *Tosca*. A misty-eyed audience showed its appreciation with a standing ovation.

Sadly, this year's concert series is over. But the future of classical music in Chatham looks bright. As he has in the past, Zakresky, music director of Chatham Hall, introduced two young, local guest performers to the concert audience: **Libby Goldstein**, flutist of Martinsville; and **Jae Lee**, guitarist of Chatham Hall.

Accompanied by Zakresky on piano, Goldstein did a superb job with a lovely Bizet minuet from *L'Arlésienne* (“The Girl from Arles”). Taking the audience from France to Spain, and performing solo, Lee showed great delicacy of string work with a Francisco Tarrega romance.

Mr. Zakresky has brought great joy with his classical concert series. We are blessed to have him, and have been delighted to serve as venue for yet another marvelous season of world-class music!

Emmanuel Calendar Notes for May - July 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 (through May)
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— May 30)
- 12:00 pm Coffee Hour
In the Parish Hall following the Service

Wednesdays

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

1st Thursday of each month

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

4th Sunday of each month

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

SPECIAL DATES AND EVENTS

Sunday, May 30

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

Around the Parish



Looking ahead...

As news spread of Dr. Smith's impending departure, many of us experienced a confusion of emotions: shock, anger, fear, sorrow. We felt like a people in crisis. By now we're over the shock.

The anger was directed not so much at Dr. Smith but at the situation: not as wrenching, but akin to the anger one can feel toward a loved one who suddenly and unexpectedly passes away. We're getting over that, as well.

The fear we feel when facing an unknown future often looks overblown in hindsight. Undoubtedly this fear will, too.

That leaves us with our sorrow at losing not only a good friend, but an insightful leader. Many of us saw Dr. Smith as our best chance for growing our church. We need to re-think that.

Interestingly, the Chinese character for "crisis" is a combination of the characters for "danger" and "opportunity." We know the danger, but what's the opportunity in this situation?

Perhaps it's to realize that ensuring a vital future for Emmanuel is not a burden to be shouldered by one man, even one as talented as Dr. Smith. It's a weight we should all bear together.

Emmanuel is unique. We have an extraordinary collection of smart, talented, creative, caring individuals with a vast diversity of experience and thought. That's probably why we enjoy one another's company so much.

We should each make it our goal to share our talents, ideas and energy with each other, our vestry and our new priest.

Emmanuel Celebrates Holy Week

By Susan Paynter

This year the heart of the Christian calendar was the most active time at Emmanuel in memory. From Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday, the community was welcomed again and again to join us in reflection, meditation and celebration.



On Ash Wednesday evening, we gathered for a moving evening of reflection: on our human nature, our

mortality and our relationship with God. The service included the Imposition of the Ashes and Holy Communion.

On March 17 many parishioners turned out as **Dr. Smith** took his turn as speaker at the Chatham Churches' **Wednesday Lenten Dinner** series held at Chatham Baptist. It was an overflow crowd, and they listened to a story they'd heard countless times – The Prodigal Son – as if for the first time, and with a deeper understanding.



On Palm Sunday, Emmanuel celebrated in our traditional manner, lacking only Mark DePaulo to weave our palm fronds into crosses at coffee

hour. The DePaulos were in Northern Virginia, attending Morgan's crew regatta. Jayne DePaulo was back and fully on

duty as Dr. Smith's right hand for Holy Week.

Maundy Thursday was an evening of reflection and symbolism. Dr. Smith washed the feet of young Acolytes Emily and Andrew, reminding us of our duty to love and serve. This was followed by Holy Communion, Stripping of the Altar, and a silent departure.



Ron and Irma Irby and friends lived the spirit of the day by taking Ron's band's music and refreshments to the residents of Oak Grove Residential Care.

On **Good Friday** evening, all entered Emmanuel's sanctuary in silence and, after the readings, participated in the Passion Narrative. Principals were Kenyon Scott, as narrator, and Mark DePaulo reading Jesus' lines; but everyone participated and helped to express the ordeal. At the conclusion of the service all exited as they had entered: in silence.

On **Saturday** evening, April 3, we celebrated **the Easter Vigil** by gathering first on the Main Street lawn. There a great fire burned, a symbol of the light of Jesus. From this fire Dr. Smith lit the Paschal Candle, and from that the congregation lit individual candles.

Then, in procession, we brought our light into Emmanuel's darkened sanctuary for a triple celebration: of the Israelites' deliverance from the bondage of slavery, of Jesus' breaking the bonds of death, and of Christians' restora-

tion to grace. Dr. Smith offered a Renewal of Baptismal Vows and Holy Communion.

The fest continued in the Parish Hall with a bountiful reception. Food and drink were provided by the congregation. Elizabeth Whitehead donated flowers from her garden, and Beth Coles artistically arranged them for the tables. It was a wonderful celebration.

We concluded Holy Week on a beautiful **Easter Sunday** morning. Emmanuel's lawn was crisp and clean, thanks to our gardener, Charlie Jones, and our "Lay Weeders" Mary Hicks Heitzler and John Geyer. Mary Hicks, it was noted, had even drafted the occasional unwary passer-by to weed and mulch! (This is as good a place as any to mention that yard help is always welcome. If you're willing, please coordinate with Mary Hicks.)

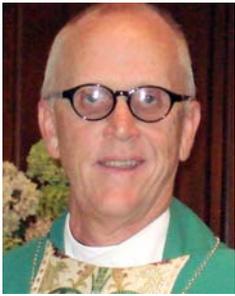
As is our Easter tradition, everyone brought flowers from home to create the colorful living cross for the Main Street lawn. The altar was white with lilies brought in all week by those who chose to celebrate Easter and memorialize loved-ones in this special way.



As the Easter Sunday celebration ended, we did what other families do at the end of the holidays: we gathered in the kitchen and the parish hall, to enjoy the leftovers!

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Thank You!



The two and a half years we have been together have been fantastic.

I can say, in all honesty and without reservation, that my

time at Emmanuel has been, by far, the most wonderful church experience of my life....not just career....but life.

The incredible support and hospitality you offered leading up to and including my ordination was phenomenal. The spirit of worship has always been profound and sincere.

“Emmanuel has been, by far, the most wonderful church experience of my life.”

The kindness and compassion you share with each other is truly inspirational. But most impressive has been the FUN!

Jane and I always come home from church talking about conversations we had, good laughs shared, and the freedom everyone has to be exactly who you are and know you will be loved because of it and, at times, in spite of it.

I'm not sure everyone realizes how rare all this is, but trust me, it is highly unusual. The BEST church experience I have ever had!

So, after eight years at Chatham Hall (but only 2.5 at Emmanuel) Jane and I will be heading out.

I have accepted an invitation to become chaplain at Woodberry Forest School near Orange, Virginia. As most of you know, I served Woodberry once before, but

a lifetime ago...1979-1985. However, they were extremely formative years. The Woodberry experience gave me many skills that I have used ever since: discipline, determination, honor, diplomacy, vocational integrity and patience. I absorbed every thing the community had to offer and then some.

So now I have the chance to go back and maybe return a portion of the life blood I drew from the place. Throughout my life I have felt a deep indebtedness and appreciation for Woodberry and would like to spend some time repaying it.

So, what about Emmanuel?

Win Lewis, canon to the ordinary, Dick

Camp and Gary Fountain will be in communication with each other regarding the ongoing relationship between Chatham Hall and Emmanuel.

Father Cleon Ross will do his best to assure ongoing pastoral oversight and the presence of a priest for worship leadership. The transition should be seamless and smooth.

We have come a long way together and the experience has been (and for a little while will continue to be) great fun.

Emmanuel lives and will continue to live! The spirit of God is present and strong.

- David Smith



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
- * Alan Arey
- * Linda Swanberg
- * Alice Overby
- * Connie Turner Heath



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.

Pray for the Departed:

- * Nat Clement
- * Irene Fry

Almighty God, we remember this day before thee thy faithful servants; and we pray that, having opened to them the gates of larger life, thou wilt receive them more and more into thy joyful service, that, with all who have faithfully served thee in the past, they may share in the eternal victory of Jesus Christ our Lord; who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Holy Week at Emmanuel

Continued from page 4

The altar guild, vestry, Kenyon Scott and the choir must have been exhausted at this point from work that was so well done and that brought so much beauty to Emmanuel for Lent and Easter.

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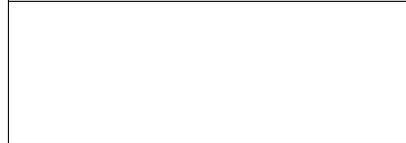
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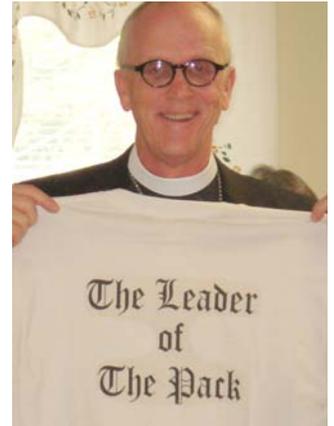
at www.emmanuelchatham.org.

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 September issue is **August 15th**.



Dr. Smith Surprised with Coffee Hour Birthday Party April 11



On Sunday, April 11, Emmanuel's Coffee Hour was the setting for a surprise birthday party for Dr. David Smith, Emmanuel's Priest-in-charge. The event was facilitated by a bit of collusion among several parishioners. (Organizing surprise parties is hard work!)

The surprise birthday present quickly became the center of attention as Dr.

Smith modeled his present – a tee shirt emblazoned with “the Leader of the Pack.”

Photos from left to right: the present, Bob Jiranek enjoys the moment with Dr. Smith, Bob and Pete Aagaard oversee the grand opening, Dr. Smith acknowledging his new status, and, of course two wonderful birthday cakes to finish off the occasion.