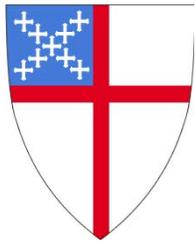


The Pruden Parish Press

May 2012

Volume 5, 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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Editor & Publisher

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Parish Welcomes Visiting Priests

Emmanuel will welcome two visiting priests during the coming weeks.

The Rev. Gary Barker of Christ Church, Smithfield, Virginia will be with us on April 29th as preacher and Celebrant.

Gary earned his B.A. in English and German Literatures from Tulane University in New Orleans in 1980. He also



holds an M.A. in English and American Literature from the University of Virginia. He received his M.Div. with honors from Virginia Theological Seminary in Alexandria, Virginia, and was or-

dainated a priest of the church in 1991.

Gary began his ordained ministry at Emmanuel Church in Harrisonburg where he served as assistant rector and chaplain to the students of James Madison University, Eastern Mennonite College (now University) and Bridgewater College. In 1993, Gary began a new ministry as Vicar of Grace Church in the town of Stanardsville, Virginia.

On May 6th, Emmanuel will welcome **the Rev. Pamela Webb** of Emmanuel Brook Hill Episcopal Church, Richmond.



Pam graduated from Virginia Theological Seminary in 1994 and was ordained in the Diocese of Southern Virginia. She served at two parishes in that Diocese before becoming Rector at St. John's in Tappahannock in the Diocese of Virginia.

She returned to Virginia Seminary for two years to serve as Director of Alumni Affairs and Church Relations. Pam served as Interim Rector of St. Paul's in Wilkesboro, NC in the Diocese of Western North Carolina and then as Interim Rector at Holy Comforter in Burlington, NC in the Diocese of North Carolina.

Please join us in welcoming our visiting priests.

Emmanuel Begins Card Ministry

Emmanuel recently began a card ministry for parishioners and friends in the community which includes prayers at the altar each week and cards to individuals remembering birthdays, wedding anniversaries, prayer concerns, and death dates for family

members.

To participate in this ministry, please complete your list using the form recently distributed by mail, email us at emmanuelchatham@gmail.com, or visit our website at [www.](http://www.emmanuelchatham.org)

emmanuelchatham.org

and click on **Card Ministry / Prayer Concerns**



in the left column.

Please feel free to submit multiple forms if needed.

Vestry Notes from the Senior Warden

The Best of Times

Oh how fast 50 years pass by! It seems like just yesterday that I was a teenager and Dr. Loving was having "Sock Hops" for us in the Parish House.

After his death, our "Beloved Jim Mathieson" arrived as a youngster to be our priest.

Now 50 years later and Emmanuel is in our 168th year. You might ask if the glass is half empty or half full today. Although there have been some ups and downs since the "sixties," I'm so proud of our church and our people.

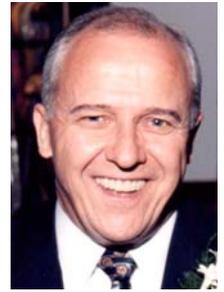
I sincerely believe everyone and everything is so positive and going so well. I've never seen so much excitement about the future and so many positive changes.

Emmanuel is in our 168th year.

Although our flock may be small everyone is so active and very involved in numerous activities.

From our officers and vestry, the Oak Grove Ministry, Altar Guild, ECW, Ushers, Organist, Choir, Lay Readers, Acolytes, Coffee Hour, Card Ministry, Newsletter, Website, potential Sunday School program and two great candidates

to be our full time priest, Emmanuel is active and the move!



As my generation prepares to hand over the reins to the next generation to carry Emmanuel to and beyond our Bi-Centennial era, I know God is in His Heaven, and with His Help, all is well with Emmanuel, Chatham.

Let us go forth in the name of Christ and help build His Kingdom!

In Christian Love,

Billy Simpson

Easter 2012 at Emmanuel Photos By Susan Paynter



Beautiful flowers for the Cross



Flower Cross on the Lawn



Martha Jane welcomes a visitor



A bountiful Coffee Hour after the Easter Eucharist



Concert Photos (p. 4) - Sally with Kenyon. William Plail explains Bag Pipes.



Emmanuel Calendar Notes for May - August 2012

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

11:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite II - 2nd & 4th Sundays
The Reverend J.W. Mathieson, Celebrant

Morning Prayer - 1st, 3rd, & 5th Sundays

12:00 pm Coffee Hour
In the Parish Hall following the Service

Thursdays

7:30 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
These elders would welcome *your* cheer!

4th Sunday of each month

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

SPECIAL EVENTS

Sunday, April 29

11:00 am Visiting Priest - The Rev. Gary Barker

Sunday, May 6

11:00 am Visiting Priest - The Rev. Pamela Webb

Music at Emmanuel

By Sally Ford



We've had a wonderful start to the Easter season. The choir has had a good beginning and I'm excited about their enthusiasm and commitment.

I'd like to extend an open invitation to anyone of any age who would like to join us. You don't have to be able to read music and since we'll be working six weeks ahead of schedule on our music there is ample time to learn new things! I'm looking forward to all the good things we're going to accomplish this year.

New Time: Choir will meet on Thursdays at 7:30 PM.

I'm so happy to be playing the **S.S. Hamill** organ again. I like to play

preludes and postludes that are based on hymn tunes or other sacred songs.

Composers like to put the melody (also called Cantus Firmus) in different places. Sometimes it can be found in the pedal part, or sometimes the lower notes, the higher notes, or buried inside all of the parts.



It will be easier to find if you realize that sometimes the composers slow down or speed up the melody and sometimes they even hide it inside busy notes.

Let me know if I play any hymn tunes or sacred songs that you recognize. I'm always interested to hear things like that from parishioners.

From the Archives...

We recently discovered these unpublished photos in **The Pruden Parish Press** archives. Can you guess the time, place, and occasion? (Thanks Jeanne.)



Who's the guy in the tri-corner?!



Celebrating St. Patrick - Concert Series Finale

By Susan Paynter

Pipes and more pipes! One week before St. Patrick's Day, the **Chatham Concert Series'** Season Finale -- of chamber music concerts hosted by Emmanuel -- was a spirited tribute to St. Patrick.

On Friday evening, March 9, a crowd of 86, many in green, turned out to hear former Emmanuel Organist Kenyon Scott and Bagpiper William Plail salute the Irish saint with a Celtic-themed program.

In his opening remarks, Artistic Director Kevin Matheson graciously thanked Emmanuel for hosting the series, to the applause of music-lovers in attendance.

The wonderful acoustics of our church make it an ideal venue for the chamber music series which is dedicated to bringing classical music to the community and, when possible, giving valuable performance experience to young music students who often are invited to play one piece. While no students played at this concert, we were all charmed to see their developing skills at previous concerts.

Billed as "A St. Patrick's Day Prelude," the season finale showcased the roots of much of our musical heritage. Mr. Plail, on the pipes, played enduring favorites such as "Danny Boy," "Endearing Young Charms," "The Wearing of the Green," and "Let Erin Remember." He brought us airs, reels, marches, jigs and quicksteps.

At one point, Plail apologized for having to stop the program to retune his bagpipes. The audience, though, was fascinated by the acrobatics involved. "It looks like he's wrestling a giant tarantula on his back!" one attendee exclaimed.



Celebrating St. Patrick: Left to right, Kevin Matheson, Artistic Director, artists Kenyon Scott and William Plail, and Bryan Matheson, President

Mr. Scott, feeling at home on Emmanuel's modified Hamill pipe organ, joined forces with Mr. Plail to treat us to a unique expression of the wonderful old Welch tune, "Hyfrydol." While the title was unfamiliar to many, the music wasn't as several well-known hymns, including "Alleluia Sing to Jesus" have been set to the tune.

Scott played two Irish/Celtic hymn tune voluntaries, and crossed into the English tradition for Ralph Vaughan Williams' "Sine Nomine," associated with the hymn "For All the Saints," which naturally includes St. Patrick.

The organ portion of the program also included secular, sometimes rollicking, Scots pieces, and the "Organ Estampie," which clearly evoked its medieval origin.

As a lover of Virginia history, Kenyon Scott also highlighted Virginia's Celtic heritage, including in his program several fiddle tunes from colonial-era Buckingham County, arranged for organ.

Few know our organ as well as Kenyon Scott, and he chose to play J.S. Bach's "Little Prelude and Fugue in G Major" to showcase the Hamill's modified pedal board.

It was fun to watch him "dance" his way through this short piece, giving the pedal board a real work out.

At program's end, many audience members approached the two musicians with questions and thanks. Kenyon Scott was seen going over the intricacies of our organ with Sally Ford, Emmanuel's newly hired organist, while William Plail explained how bagpipes work and the ins-and-outs of his traditional Highland garb.

William Plail lives in Amherst. He's a woodworker in addition to his musical avocation as a pipe soloist, a member of Roanoke's Warpipes and local pipe-and-drum bands in Charlottesville and Lynchburg. He is a composer of bagpipe tunes and a prolific arranger of traditional carols and hymns for the pipes.

Kenyon Scott is a native of Pittsylvania County, principal of Gretna High School, and lives with his family on their farm east of Gretna. He has studied music since age five and accepted his first position as church organist at 14. He served 15 years as organist and choirmaster at Emmanuel and now serves Danville's West Main Baptist Church.

More photos on page 2

Remembering Our History

An excerpt from **Emmanuel Church Centennial 1844 - 1944**
by Maude Carter Clement, courtesy of Walter Coles, Sr.

CAMDEN PARISH

ON MAY 25, 1944, Emmanuel Church, Chatham, Virginia, will complete its first century of service and ministry. It is a rural church, situated in south central Virginia at Pittsylvania Court House, a typical old Virginia courthouse town, of some 1200 people. The church has a small congregation, but its accomplishments in the past century, under the able leadership of its ministers, have been noteworthy.

As the church of Pittsylvania Court House, Emmanuel's background reaches into late colonial days; in 1752, when this county was a part of Antrim Parish, Halifax County, three churches were established within its present area. Upon the formation of Pittsylvania County and Camden Parish in 1767, four new churches were built, located near Chalk Level, Rondo, Toshes, and Leatherwood. The home of the colonial minister, known as the Glebe, was a plantation of 588 acres, also situated near Rondo. Early ministers who served the parish were the Reverend Alexander Gordon, the Reverend James Stevenson and the Reverend Lewis Gwilliam.

The Church of England was so closely associated in the minds of the people with the English government, that after the successful close of the Revolutionary War these congregations of Pittsylvania languished and died. But Camden Parish was represented at the Convention which met in Richmond on May 18, 1785, for the purpose of organizing the church, taking steps to secure a bishop for Virginia, and naming delegates to a church convention to be held in Philadelphia in the fall. On April 1, 1735, the last recorded meeting of the Colonial Vestry of Camden Parish was held at the home of Mr. James Roberts, when Colonel Haynes Morgan (a lawyer living near Riceville) and Abram Shelton, Gents (who lived near Chalk Level) were appointed to represent the Parish at the Richmond Convention. There were present at this Convention only 36 clergymen and 71 laymen.

Three

Prayer List

Pray for the sick and the shut-ins:

- * Alan Arey
- * Louis DePaulo
- * Nancy Jones Hayes
- * Allene Hunt
- * Marvin Mullis
- * Shannon & Ed Olivarez
- * Alice Overbey
- * Catherine Overbey
- * David Brochu
- * Dorothy Roop
- * Dr. John Ruef
- * Rosemary Nichols
- * Gloria Thompson
- * Jane Ruef
- * West Mathieson
- * Helen Melton



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.

Spotlight - Walter Coles

Continued from page 6

He'd like to see a reinstatement of programs for children and youth, beyond Sunday school. "A Christmas pageant -- as just one example -- would be nice," he says.

Walter has been involved in the search for a priest. He believes "a fulltime priest is the way to go." He says, "Many have left our church and we'd like them to come back. A good priest would help make that happen," increasing our numbers and ensuring a future for Emmanuel.

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Billy Simpson, Senior Warden

The Rev. J. W. Mathieson, Supply Priest

Visit Emmanuel on the World Wide Web

at www.emmanuelchatham.org.

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

The article submission deadline for the September issue is **August 15th**.



Spotlight on the Vestry — Walter Coles, Sr.

By Susan Paynter

Walter Coles, who was elected to the vestry last December, has quite a history with our church. Though he isn't the only member to have grown up at Emmanuel, no one shares a longer family chronicle with the church.

An ancestor, U.S. Congressman Walter Coles (1790-1857) was a founding member; and even before the church structure was built, a circuit-riding priest held worship at the Coles home, Coles Hill, among other parish homes.

Since joining the vestry, Walter has made it his mission to preserve church records. He has been scanning the registry and miscellaneous letters and documents so the originals may be safely stored even as access is increased. He has completed scanning the registry of

births, baptisms, confirmations, marriages & deaths from 1844 to 1944: a hundred years of church history and a genealogical treasure trove. He's continuing the project, but the last 30 years of information have never been recorded in the registry. He has the documents and is determined that they will be properly recorded. He plans to eventually have a link to the registry on the Emmanuel web site.

Walter and his wife Alice, who grew up at Epiphany Church in Danville, have traveled the world together. Walter is retired from the U.S. State Department's Agency for International Development. Before that he served in the U.S. Army, including a tour in Viet Nam. Their two children, Lanier and Walter, were baptized

at an Episcopal church in Bangkok, Thailand. Walter, though, was baptized and confirmed right here at Emmanuel. He returned to Chatham when he retired from the government and is now president and CEO of Virginia Uranium Inc.



Coles appreciates the history of our church and the way it parallels and reflects Chatham, Virginia and U.S. history. Like other church members, though, he would like to see a little more future under our roof. That is, more young people in the church.

He remembers playing basketball, when he was a kid, with other boys and the young, athletic priest.

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