A Visit to Emmanuel

BY Gregory Bryan Francis Brown

'Twas the night before New Years, when all through the nave
Not a staffer was stirring, not Joseph or Dave;
The Chrismons were hung o'er the altar with care,
They'd made quite an impression, on Christmas Eve there;
Our Leah had finally gotten a break;
From the end-of-year stuff - and the toll that it takes;
Sarah finally got rest from helping couples to wed,
so she works both her OTHER jobs, kindly, instead.
And Cathy in her new job, and I in my old,
Were trying our best to stay out of the cold,
Now our new little Bennett had just gotten a splash,
As will Emmelyn Liebler 'fore her baptism bash.
But before we move on into Twenty-Fifteen,
Let's take a glance back to some places we've been.

Back in Feb, 'fore we'd gotten quite sick of the snow,
We blessed lots of candles, then went down for a show,
The parishioners present got to taste lots of Chili,
That AVERY beat our Rector, well wasn't THAT silly!
(I WILL defeat you, Avery Sears!)
Also in Feb. our new Vestry was book-ed
To flatten the bumps and to straighten the crooked.
"Now, Lasher! now, Turner! now Connie and T!"
On, Petersen, Carpenter, Hammond - Farley!
To the top of the tower! to the bottom of the 'croft!
Grab hold of the reins...keep this parish aloft!"
O'erseen by a bishop, so lively and drawled
With his marvelous vision, he keeps us enthralled;
We tackled Dietrich through April, right up until Easter,
HUGE confirmation class, a relative feaster!
Our first Thrift Shop Prom raised some money for children;
With the noise that was made,
awed that there's still a building!

Summer rolled round, and we got to go camping,
I don't remember much of that as I was all drugged out.
I do remember getting a ticket for failing to stop at a stop sign, so be aware when you exit D&W via Rice Street that there is often a State Trooper posted there.
He was dressed all in blue, from his head to his foot,
And his buttons were all shiny, this didn't look good;
A bundle of tickets he had on a pad,
To give to the people whose driving was bad.
Drat, but this is another poem...where was I? Oh, yes...back to Emmanuel.

Our Capital campaign had raised bundles of money
Our church will soon be, much far sweeter than honey!
As leaves that before the wild hurricane fly,
When they meet with an obstacle, mount to the sky;
Such was the chaos our Capital Campaign cell took on, and this parish did respond ever so well.
You raised half a million to fix up the roofs,
The lot will be new, we won't damage our hoofs!

Our altar guild shines all the silver and brass,
They work VERY hard, never sit on their...
sofas when there is work to be done.
Advent did bring lots of good contemplation,
And teaching from a monk that had avoided temptation.
We've used new blue vestments via Don and Virginia
Our "Beth-whites" from Carol, didn't know you'd it in ya!
Our dear BOW continues to reach,
out into our Community, from ski-slope to beach.
Our Structure cell continues to do lots a wonder,
From the leaks up above to the chambers down under.
Our gardens were beautiful, all of the summer.
Both weeks that it lasted, so short...what a bummer.
Dan Armstrong continues to be quite insane,
(fill in your own verse here, but make sure it rhymes with -ane
Suggestions include inane, bane, pain, feign, gain,
you get the picture)
(But Dan does it all for Jesus, so he's still a rockstar)
He was chubby and plump, a right jolly old elf,
And I laugh when I see him, in spite of myself;
(how did THAT stay in there? Really...
   NO connection to Dan Armstrong)

We have an awesome kid's Christian education;
Our children benefit from this ass-oc-see-ay-ation!
Our Grade Two through Fives, and our kind Worship Center engage all our youngsters and make their faith better; Our middle and high-schoolers go straight to work, Fill the "stockings" at Manna; Playing "Sardines" is a perk, Our great EfM-ers meet downstairs with Beto, As in catacomb times, this: Formation First-Rate-o! Our choirs are angelic, the young and the not-so-young, Singing beautiful melodies, quiet and bold! Our welcoming people, give greetings a-warm; ...sincere and inclusive...folks feel right at home. Our people who deal with finances are great, With level heads, pencils sharp, wisdom they state. Our stewardship group leads through quiet example, For spiritual leadership...they are quite a sample. Liturgy and Worship try new things each year, Some raise our hearts, and some bring a tear. (In a good way) Our greeters and ushers will find you a seat! Our readers and acolytes are charming and neat! As Dave likes to say, "If you can laugh, you can sing!" If you need a new ministry, he's got just the thing. I can see I'm now droning, I should wrap this up. Get home to my kiddos, perhaps walk the pup. As I climb into "Leo", ere I drive out of sight- "Happy New Year to all, may Harbaugh's tenure be a blight!"

I also considered:  
"We'll see you at worship, no matter the Rite!"  
"Tottenham rules, Arsenal, well...not quite!"  
"C'mon Lion's linemen, stop causing a fight!"  
And finally..."Aaron Rodgers is a wiener*."  
I KNOW it doesn't rhyme, but I HAD to say it. (*BUT...we'll give you TWO Matt Staffords for him!)

Grace and Peace,  
Fr. Greg

---

**FR. GREG'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**FOR THE HARBINGER**

If you want to be confirmed in May, please see Fr. Greg! Classes will be starting in February!
FROM THE COORDINATOR OF
LAY MINISTRIES

It's not easy. As a matter of fact, it can be hard work and time-consuming. We have made a choice at Emmanuel. We have chosen not the easy way of being church, but the good way. Truly getting to know other people takes time and attention, and a willingness to put up with the messiness of life. When we have a lot of people involved in a lot of ministries, it gets messy keeping everyone engaged, getting information to everyone who needs it, and so on. And on.

It is worth the effort. What a blessing this church is: we have a lot of people involved in a lot of ministries. Bennett Herceg has a ministry of being cute. Kathy Petersen leads the Beyond Our Walls Cell in our engagement with the community. Dee Moline sings a steady and reliable soprano. Bruce Turner knows how to oomph the extension ladder into position. And so on. And on.

As we turn to a new calendar year, our Cell Leaders will meet on Sunday January 11 to conspire. Yes, conspire: the root word means "breath together" as the breath of God's Spirit moves us. We have an exciting year ahead. If you are not yet involved in a Cell, call me, or e-mail me, or corner me at coffee hour, or something. Let's talk. Better yet, let's conspire.

Dave

Cell Leaders Gathering

The Cell Leaders will meet on Sunday January 11 at 7:00pm. We will prepare as needed for the Annual Meeting, review and update our roster of who is participating in which cells, and look at the calendar for the months to come.
EEE FINANCIAL INFORMATION

November 30, 2014 EEC Financial Update

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<th>Actual YTD</th>
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<tr>
<td>Income less Expense</td>
<td>$ (5,292)</td>
<td>$ 5,566</td>
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At the end of November, EEC's operating income continued to exceed expenses (+$5,566) but this margin is decreasing as we take care of year-end expenses.

We will be sending out 2014 Year-End Donation Statements in January. Most of these will be e-mailed directly to parishioners. Any 2014 pledge payments received after December 31 will be credited in 2015 as past year pledge payments.

If you have not yet turned in your 2015 pledge form; it's not too late, you may still do so.

The Building God's House to Do God's Work Capital Campaign has been extremely successful with over 100 pledges received for approximately $500,000.

For your convenience Emmanuel's Website has "Donate" buttons which parishioners can use to pay their stewardship pledges or pledges to the God's House/God's Work campaign online. Online pledge forms are also available; click the "Stewardship" tab.

FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

A great heart felt thank you to the children's choir and the adult choir for the beautiful service of lessons and carols on
December 14. Also, to the choirs and soloists for the music at the Christmas Eve Services. Many hours of hard work, rehearsing and dedication go into preparing for these services. On behalf of the entire congregation THANK YOU!!!

Important date coming February 15, 2015: Maestro Libor Ondras, new conductor of the Great Lakes Chamber Orchestra will be heard in concert, here at Emmanuel Episcopal Church at 4:00 p.m. In addition to being a fine conductor Libor Ondras is also an accomplished violist, and professor of music at Grand Rapids Junior College. This solo viola concert is part of the Great Lakes Chamber Orchestra Sunday Concert Series, open to the public free of charge!

BOOK CLUB NEWS

Reading and Christmas. These are a few of my favorite things! The book club is hoping you’re finding time to relax during this busy season to sit and read.

Because we ended up cancelling our December meeting, we will be discussing not one, but two books at our January 12th meeting. First up is "The Secret Rooms" by Catherine Bailey and the second is "The Invention of Wings" by Sue Monk Kidd. Both are great reads and we invite you to join us for some lively discussion.

We will be meeting at the home of Joy McBride at 7pm, Monday January 12. If you plan on joining us, (or if you need directions) please contact Joy at jmcbride@freeway.net. Any other questions, feel free to contact Nancy Turner at taketurns@charter.net
EEC CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

The EEC Capital Campaign Cell is delighted to announce that the 100th pledge was received in late November with the total commitment now exceeding $498,000! Planning has already begun for roof replacement and parking lot repair with the objective of starting work on both projects early next spring. Assuming all goes well there may be funds left over to begin a long overdue renovation of the under-croft and second floor meeting rooms.

Meanwhile the Capital Campaign Cell is still pursuing additional pledges, grants and other sources of funding. Thanks again to all of you who have supported the Building God's House to do God's Work campaign with your time, treasure and prayers.

"GIT-R-DUN" CELL GROUP INTRO

"What is the Git-R-Dun Cell group", is likely your first thought after seeing its title above. The Git-R-Dun Cell group is charged with managing and overseeing the construction of the projects for the "Gods House Gods Work" capital campaign. The group consists of Bruce Turner, Scott Shepperd, David Farley and cell group leader Kent Cartwright. The Git-R-Dun Cell Group has hit the ground running. We have facilitated the hiring of GMB Architects and Engineering for design, engineering and project management and we have some preliminary drawings. The Finance Committee is researching establishing a credit line for the project. Given that construction costs appreciate roughly 6-7% per year, finance charges would be less than the cost inflation if we wait one or two years to begin construction to allow for pledges to come in. So the good news is we fully intend to begin and finish most of the major aspects of the GHGW campaign (namely roof and parking lot) in 2015. We believe we could be interviewing contractors as early as February. Through
the generosity of the parish and under the direction of the Vestry, we
do plan to "Git-R-Dun"!

EfM - EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY

Education for Ministry is an adult theological program that
was created and introduced by the University of the South
in Sewanee, Tennessee in 1975. I am currently enrolled in
the third year of what is a four year program. The first year
of study focuses on the Old Testament ("The Hebrew
Bible"), the second year's focus is on the New Testament.
The third year is spent studying Church history, and the
fourth year studies modern theology and ethics and
interfaith encounter. While EfM is a four year program, you
enroll for one year at a time.

The typical EfM class has an assortment of different years
running simultaneously. We currently have 2 first year
students, one second year student, and 4 third year
students. Each year has assigned readings, specific to the
student's year, but the discussions include all of us,
regardless of year. The beauty of the discussions is that we
each have a different focus when reading that we can then
share, which expands all of our understanding.

I first enrolled as an EfM student back in the fall of 1998.
Because I was teaching High School Sunday School and was
serving as a Lay Eucharistic Minister, I felt I needed to
understand both my faith and our church's history more
fully - I graduated in May, 2002 with a four year certificate
from Sewanee, as well as a permanently changed way of
thinking. I sometimes felt that being in the world required
me to straddle the line between the spiritual and the
"culture." EfM helped me to integrate my spiritual self into
my day to day existence.
I again enrolled in EfM in September, 2012 because I craved a deeper religious and spiritual challenge - and because my faith requires nurturing to continue to grow -- the small group nature of EfM promotes the building of trusting relationships that encourage that growth.

Please feel free to ask any of us in the class about EfM. Our 3rd Year students include Katie McInnis, Christina Cartwright, Sandy Selden, and me (Lynn Glahn). The 2nd Year student is Vic Knowlton, and the first year students are Jan Haynes and Kathy Petersen.

2015 COFFEE HOUR ANNOUNCEMENT

It's a new year! 2014 was a great year and we enjoyed all the good fellowship times during our coffee hours. It was especially rewarding to see so many of our cell groups, clubs, classes and other groups volunteering to serve a Sunday. My thanks to all of you dedicated people! We do enjoy coffee hour as a perfect opportunity to visit with our friends, meet new members or visitors, all while sipping coffee or tea and nibbling on some goodies.

I'd like to ask all members of Emmanuel to look at your calendars, then talk to your group, or your church buddy and consider signing up for a Sunday in the next six months. It's easier and more fun if there is more than 1 person or 1 couple volunteering for each Sunday. Bonnie Marquardt is again coordinating the Sundays in January thru March, and DJ & T Jones are the coordinators for April thru June. It will make their role easier if you all support them by filling in those blank Sundays early! The clip-board is always on the counter in the Undercroft Kitchen.

Nancy & Bill Nicholson will be down in sunny Florida until April, so if you want a particular Sunday or have any questions about coffee hours please contact the coordinator for that quarter, or Leah in...
the Church Office. Bonnie's number is 459-4237, the Jones' 487-9574, and the office is 347-2350.

~ Nancy Nicholson

WHY WE PRAY FOR LYNN GLAHN EACH SUNDAY

Ever wonder what that prayer request in the bulletin means? The one that goes "Lynn, for discernment"? We're asked to pray for her as she navigates the process leading to her eventual ordination as a Deacon.

This process is (to me) a surprisingly long and complicated one. After hearing our Bishop express his appreciation for the work and ministries of Deacons throughout the church and his hope to raise up Deacons from every congregation, Lynn began to ask herself if this were a vocation to which the Spirit might be calling her. After much prayer and talking with her family and with Father Greg, she decided to embark on the process.

One of the first steps was to form a Discernment Group make up of Emmanuelites. Our Convener was Shirley Burns and the others were Dave Droste, Joan Holec, Nancy Turner and me. Father Greg provided us with a short book to guide us in the process, got us off and rolling, and then made himself available to us if we had questions. We met about seven or eight times with Lynn, helping her to discern if this was a Call of the Spirit which fits her gifts. We unanimously felt it was and so we recommended her to our Vestry. They nominated her to the Diocese, and now there are several stages through which her journey will take her. At each stage, she covets our prayers and our support.
I believe it's an exciting thing when a fellow member decides to embark on a journey like the one Lynn is on. Deacons are something new to me, but I recall quite clearly the significant contributions to our life together made by Betty Carlson and Barbara Wagner while they were among us. Lynn already serves Emmanuel and the community in numerous ways. She now sees possibilities to use her gifts through the Office of the Diaconate. It's something of a feather-in-the-cap of a congregation when it fosters these kinds of vocations among its members, so in addition to our prayers for Lynn, I'd suggest we also give vent to a "Hip Hip Hooray!" (in a dignified Episcopalian way, of course) on her behalf!

~ Bill Heil

THE CHRISMON PROJECT

How wonderful to see the old and new Chrismons on display in Emmanuel's chancel on Christmas Eve! This project was largely funded by special memorial donations given in remembrance of the following former members of our parish:

- LeRoy & Faith Brooks
- Clarence & Dorothy Damsgaard
- Dean John
- Helen Reid
- Jean Stilling
- Joe Worswick

Each year these Chrismons will serve as a loving reminder of these former parishioners and the women who first brought the Chrismon Project to Emmanuel Church.
Ah SYMBOLS!!

Symbols abound in every business and organization. They give a quick reference to the entity or something important to and within that entity. The color "red" does not say danger or stop, but in context it tells us exactly that. So where we see the symbol and how it is presented brings its full meaning into play.

Here at Emmanuel we have many symbols, some more obvious than others. They may have a real history of use, or are rather recently born. The first and most prominent symbol in our church building is the "cross". How many do we have? The processional cross for sure, and more than one of those, and the one, opps two, on the reredos as well. One carved in the reredos itself and then the free standing cross.

Oh yes, there is a cross on top of the aumbrey, and on every one of those little dishes containing hop water. And on the baptismal font, on the front of the Pascal candle. Each scene of the "Stations of the Cross" has a cross carved in it, plus the cross as part of the image itself.

But where is the biggest physical cross in our church? See the next issue of the Harbinger for the answer.
CHURCH OFFICE NEWS

HEAD'S UP END OF YEAR REPORTS

It's getting to be that time of year again - the time for End of Year Reports. If you are a Committee person please submit your reports via e-mail to emmanuel1020e@gmail.com. If you do not have internet, please submit your reports on 8-1/2 x 11 paper, typewritten. All reports should be short and to the point; the report should not be more than one page if possible.

The reports are due to the office manager by Monday, January 5, 2015 at noon. The next Annual meeting is tentatively scheduled for Sunday, January 18, 2015. We need your cooperation on the reports to make it complete and ready to be out to the congregation one week before the Annual Meeting.

HARBINGER NEWSLETTERS/OTHER MAILINGS

With the New Year comes new budget constraints; as such the Church Office will attempt to keep to a minimum the amount of mail sent/postage used for this upcoming year.

In an effort to keep costs low, if you are able to pick up a copy of the latest Harbinger Newsletter and/or other documents rather than having them mailed, please do so. Thank you for your assistance in managing this cost.
Together we can manage anything and keep our budget steady.

**SCHEDULES FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY**

**COFFEE HOUR:**
Jan. 4: Worship Center  
Jan. 11: TBD  
Jan. 18: TBD  
Jan. 25: TBD

**JANUARY BIRTHDAYS:**
01/01 - William Chatterson  01/01 - Nicole Viterbo  
01/05 - John Smith  01/06 - Nancy Hodgkiss  
01/06 - Richard Kelbaugh  01/07 - Matilda Musser  
01/07 - Benjamin Hall  01/08 - Deborah Kan  
01/10 - Suzanne Carpenter  01/11 - Moon Seagren  
01/11 - Juliana Liebler  01/11 - Madeleine Corteville  
01/12 - Cricket Kelbaugh  01/14 - Christine Carpenter  
01/15 - Patricia (T.) Jones  01/16 - Maeve Janssens  
01/17 - Mary Iles  01/18 - Borge Reimer  
01/18 - SaRa Jackson  01/18 - Alana Ernsberger  
01/19 - Nina Wagar  01/20 - Bess Bleyaert  
01/21 - Molly Landi  01/25 - James Hempstead  
01/27 - Ronald Varga  01/27 - Benjamin Doornbos  
01/27 - Nina Chatterson  01/29 - Robert Need  
01/31 - Stephanie Asiala Gross  01/31 - VaLaura Nibbelink

**JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES:**
2nd -- Kirk & Kristin Lufkin  
3rd -- Glen (Rusty) & Pamela Carpenter
<table>
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<tr>
<th>JAN. 4</th>
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<td>Bill &amp; Ginny King VaLaura Nibbelink</td>
<td>Bruce &amp; Connie Booth</td>
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<td>Wendy Price Nancy Turner</td>
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<td>Louise Graham</td>
<td>Lynne Blachy Louise Graham</td>
<td>Karel Howse</td>
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Emmanuel Episcopal Church Calendar
JANUARY 2015

Click [here](#) to visit our website.

*We think differently. We act differently. We worship together. We welcome all.*
Emmanuel Episcopal Church
1020 East Mitchell Street
Petoskey, MI 49770
Phone: 231.347.2350 Fax: 231.347.3699

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Connie Booth, Jr. Warden 2016 330-0957(c) javajo54@gmail.com
Angela Lasher 2016 302-4635(c) ajlasher@hotmail.com
Russ Carpenter, Clerk 2017 348-0736(h) russcarpenter1113@gmail.com
David Farley 2017 487-9113/881-9113(c) dncfarley@gmail.com
Todd Petersen 2017 622-8044(h) tmpetersen51@gmail.com
Vacant 2016

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Karel Howse, Altar Guild 348-5406 terrapin@freeway.net
Joe Fortin, Music Director 347-2350 musicdir@att.net
Tom Hord, Acolyte Scheduler 622-8306 tom.hord@yahoo.com
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Maryln Graham, LEM Coordinator 347-1742 marcusbarcus@sbcglobal.net
Mary Kreid, Lector Scheduler 526-6036

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Sunday School Grades 2-5: Carrie Farley 487-9113 shop@cutliersonline.com
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Senior High Youth: DJ Jones 838-8671 foundationwizard@gmail.com
Wendy Thatcher  881-0715
Greg Brown 330-6209 revgregbrown@gmail.com
Diocesan Summer Camp: Cathy Brown 758-2465 petoskeybrowns@gmail.com
Training Leaders for Christ: Greg Brown  revgregbrown@gmail.com
Thursday Guild
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Education for Ministry Program
Herb Glahn  526-0155  herb@glahnbookkeeping.com
Theology Pub Program
Dave Penniman  548-4006  dpenniman@gmail.com

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