Agenda

Call to Order
Establishment of a quorum
Recognition of Commissions and Committees
Warden and Clergy remarks
Treasurer Remarks (including budget discussion)
“Help, Thanks, Wow” Exercise
Election of Vestry members, Clerk, Treasurer, Delegates and Representatives
Recognition of outgoing Clerk, Treasurer and Vestry members
Courtesy resolutions
“Help, Thanks, Wow” Display
Open Forum
Closing Song
Emmanuel Church Annual Meeting Minutes  
January 26, 2014 at noon in the Parish Hall

Senior Warden Penny Lane calls the meeting to order; Clerk Paul Guttry certifies a quorum.

Junior Warden Frank Bunn recognizes the commissions and their contributions to the Annual Report.

Penny reminds us that Bishop Shaw is retiring and outlines the activities already organized to recognize his ministry and welcome the new bishop.

Because the Cathedral will be closed for renovations, Emmanuel will be hosting a couple of large Diocesan events, including confirmation and ordination. Penny goes over the people we are supporting in discernment for the diaconate and priesthood.

Work will soon begin on repointing and repair of the alley wall; potential contractors will do a walk-through next week.

Rector Pam Werntz is thankful for the great sabbatical; she thanks us all for being a great parish, thanks her clergy colleagues, and expresses gratitude to the hospitality folks who made this Annual Meeting happen. She comments that the folks in discernment are a huge help to her, not only logistically, but they also bring a level of enthusiasm that is contagious.

More than $2000 has been given to the annual fund so far in thanks for Keith Nelson’s work as administrator.

Pam sees a year of expansion coming, including serving as an offsite cathedral, with more services, more educational programming, and more mission programming.

Treasurer Barbara DeVries is grateful for continuing opportunities to learn from others. She sees a new sense of financial stability here, setting the stage for the future: generous giving, gifts of capital, pledge increases, and planned giving. Pam has recognized that our financial assets have increased 75% over five years.

New this year: funding a part-time administrative position. Utilities count for a huge expense and a large part of the (relatively small) deficit, as does delayed payment of rental fees and utilities.

Election of Officers, Vestry, Delegates, and Representatives

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried that the entire slate below be elected.

As is customary when the Executive Committee is returning, the members nominate each other: Senior Warden Penny Lane, Junior Warden Frank Bunn, Treasurer Barbara DeVries, and Clerk Paul Guttry.
Nominator | Nominee | Office
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Pam Guttry | Jutta Friedrichs | Vestry
Helen McKinney | Barbara Oder | Vestry
Penny Lane | Joe Yeretsian | Vestry
Pamela Wernitz | Ann Higgins & Matt Griffin | Diocesan Convention delegates
Jennifer Coes | Joy Howard & Mike Scanlon | Episcopal City Mission delegates
Peggy Bradley | Episcopal Relief & Development representative

Pam thanks outgoing Vestry members Jennifer Coes, Rick Stone, and Dan Hazen.

Pam also recognizes behind-the-scenes help: Scott Corey-Dunbar for wedding and logistical help; George Jutta Friedrichs Vestry uses space at Emmanuel to contribute additional money to help pay for heat.

Facing a financial crisis in terms of reduced building income (the loss of the Aggressive Street Outreach Nominator Office), Pam also recognizes behind-the-scenes help: Scott Corey-Dunbar for wedding and logistical help; George Jutta Friedrichs Vestry uses space at Emmanuel to contribute additional money to help pay for heat.

Through rigorous and careful management of income and expenses, generosity on every front, and some great luck, we closed 2014 with a small budget surplus.

We reached a critical mass number of children at Emmanuel to launch a monthly program called Small Wonders, led by The Rev. Susanne George and Helen McKinney. Children and their parents seem delighted with the opportunity to learn and build community.

We collaborated with The Crossing; St. Bartholomew’s Church, Cambridge; Trinity Church, Boston; and the chaplaincies of Boston University and Massachusetts Institute of Technology in a proposal to Diocesan Council to establish intentional housing communities for adults in transition, in Boston and Cambridge. Although we are waiting to hear whether we receive the five-year grant, the fact of our collaboration is groundbreaking and the vision of providing supportive and affordable housing is inspiring.

As a worshipping community in 2014, our Sunday attendance remained the same in terms of average Sunday attendance, and grew slightly in services offered. During Holy Week, Emmanuel Church celebrated The Great Vigil of Easter for the second time in recent history, preceded by an interfaith memorial observance in Common Square commemorating the first anniversary of the Boston Marathon bombing. In addition to Small Wonders on the first Sunday of every month, we added an evening prayer service in the chapel on second Sundays. It was thrilling to welcome our newly consecrated bishop for All Saints’ Day (observed November 2), complete with a grand puppet parade. Bishop Gates noted, with poignancy, when he addressed the congregation, that Bishop Shaw had originally scheduled himself to celebrate All Saints’ Day with Emmanuel, but had not lived to be able to do that. We celebrated Bishop Shaw’s life the day before at a burial service at Trinity Church, Boston.

Emmanuel celebrated ten baptisms in 2014: Wilson Santos, Gus Trout, William Marsh (son of Priscilla Young’s godson who had also been baptized here), Lucy McGuire, Benjamin McGuire, Pamela Roecker, Daley Ryan, Hadley Stuart, Piper Stuart, and Lucian Viazmenski (who was also celebrated as a Son of Israel). Of the ten marriage celebrations at Emmanuel this year, four were presided over by me: Johanna Ettin & Shauna Shames, Megan Brown & Joseph Minifie, Pamela Roecker & Sandra Niedergall, and Warren Laird & Stephen Blackwell. Two memorial services were offered from Emmanuel Church in 2014, commemorating and giving thanks to God for the lives of Samuel Pendleton Cowardin in the context of our Sunday service, and a service for Camille Malamud.

Our candidate for the priesthood, Yolanda Rolle, continued to thrive at Yale Divinity School, and Tom Bartlett, our candidate for the diaconate is thriving in the deacon formation training process. Emmanuel Church has a rich history of raising up people for ordination in the Episcopal Church. Did you know that our first rector was not ordained as an Episcopal priest until a year into his rectorate? This year we presented Helen McKinney for postulant in the diaconate and Tamra Tucker for postulant in the priest formation process. Thanks to all of the members of the Worship Commission, who, week in and week out, help create the conditions conducive for us to draw nearer to the Holy One in wonder, love, and praise. At the end of the year, we bid farewell to long-time Worship Commission member and liturgist, Scott Corey-Dunbar, who moved with his husband to South Carolina. Karen Thompson and Meg Anderson also stepped down from co-chairing Altar Guild. We owe each of them a huge debt of gratitude for their work behind the scenes of worship.

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We said goodbye in the spring to our first three interns from the Expressive Art Therapy degree program at Lesley University: Evelyne Kane, Elizabeth Kelly, and Amanda Rigatti. We said hello to three more in the fall: Lianna Johannaber, Jessi Naff, and Rebekah Woolf. This is the fruit from the 2013 spring collaboration between Emmanuel Church and two of our most important mission and outreach programs: common art and Cafe Emmanuel. They have also participated in my weekly prison ministry program on Monday nights. Although they are not a part of the Sunday worshipping community, I hope you have gotten to know them through their weekly blog posts in our e-news.

We had another fabulous year supporting B-SAFE and other outreach ministries. As the year came to a close, area clergy and program leaders had come together to respond to the humanitarian crisis precipitated by the sudden closure of the Long Island Bridge to coordinate response to the City of Boston administration, a multi-media communication strategy, and most importantly, immediate relief for the 700 Bostonians were evacuated from shelters and treatment programs that had been operating on Long Island for many years. Plans are underway to extend hospitality to people who are unhoused or marginally housed on Mondays and Fridays through Holy Week to augment the year-round Wednesday common art program and the Safe Haven Shelter.

Significant adult education offerings in 2014 included:

- Three forums on Science & Spirituality in collaboration with Central Reform Temple (CRT) through Emmanuel Center: Anne Goldman addressed climate change; Ted Bunn addressed origin of the universe; and Peggy Bradley addressed what makes humans unique.
- We initiated a series of three programs commemorating the end of the American Civil War with CRT with a showing of the movie *Teas of the Trade*, with guests Dain and Constance Perry.
- We joined with Emmanuel Music for two forums, a presentation about BWV 33 and a presentation on CPE Bach.
- The Lenten Supper Series, “Ashes to Ashes” drew many guest speakers and participants to talk together about end of life decisions.
- Seminarist Bill Cruise and parishioner Jane Redmont joined together to offer a series of three programs exploring vocation.
- Chapel camp offered a rich array of after church offerings between Memorial Day and Labor Day for the seventh year in a row.

Margo Risk’s move to Chicago leaves a hole in our hearts and in the editorial role for Voices, our news magazine. In the spring, Shan Overton needed to step down from vestry and her education coordination efforts at Emmanuel, to focus on completing her dissertation. We owe both of them many thanks.

We welcomed Greg Johnston to the staff in July as our part-time administrative assistant, working closely with Janice Randall and Tamra Tucker to better coordinate event management including ceremonies at Emmanuel. At the end of the year, Janice Randall announced her intent to retire and has trained Greg in all aspects of her work so that the transition will be as seamless as possible, and Emmanuel’s hallmark resourcefulness and hospitality, so wonderfully in evidence among our support staff, will continue. You should know that in a typical week at Emmanuel, as many as 1500 people seek sanctuary or services of one kind or another. This is a busy place!

Lastly, as ever, I give thanks to God for the love and support of my wife, Joy, and our daughters, Sarah, Laura, and Grace, which make my work among you possible.

Faithfully submitted,
The Rev. Pamela L. Wemtz

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Warden’s Report

If 2013 was a year in which Emmanuel Church defined some needs and aspirations, then 2014 was a year in which we set about making those things happen.

Our successes in the TogetherNow campaign, the 2014 Annual Fund Drive and in receiving grants from the Massachusetts Historical Commission and the George Henderson Fund allowed us to focus our attention on repairing our beautiful old building and on ways of meeting the needs of a growing congregation. Thanks to our MHC grant, we initiated phase one of the masonry repair of our back wall in April and work was completed in July. The low bid we accepted allowed us to expand the scope of work in phase one but the discovery of some very severe structural issues that were discovered early on threatened to devour our contingency. Throughout this phase, Peter Johnson, our Local Project Manager, the Emmanuel Building Commission, our architect, Lynne Spencer of Spencer, Vogt Group and our contractor, the Aniceto Company, were present and engaged and their meticulous attention was certainly noticed by the MHC which in June awarded us $52,000 in additional funds which allowed us to stay on track financially. Our ability to match that grant did not hurt! Serpentino Stained Glass has begun to repair the Burnham Memorial window, damaged in the 2001 fire, thanks to the grant from the Henderson Fund.

While the renovation process is the good news for the building, we were faced with some staggering heating bills last winter. Early indications this year give us some hope that heat won’t be as costly in 2015, but the experience of last winter has prompted us to explore ways of becoming self sufficient and not tied to the City of Boston’s steam supplier. The Building Commission has been astound in finding ways of reducing our energy consumption and we continue in these efforts.

Our determination to increase the administrative staff began in earnest early in 2014 when Tamra Tucker came on board. Tamra is an administrative magician but more help was still required and we saw the happy addition of Greg Johnston to help with general administrative work, to assist Janice Randall with the scheduling of weddings, and to develop marketing strategies for weddings and other events. Based on the number of deposits we have received for future weddings, that effort appears to have been successful.

Pam Wemtz and the Vestry agreed last year that we needed to find ways of meeting the needs of young families with children. We have initiated the Second Sunday service, an early evening service on the second Sunday of the month that is designed to attract that cohort. And Rev. Susanne George and Vestry member Helen McKinney are offering the Godly Play curriculum to youngsters in the Small Wonders program, held during a portion of the worship service on the first Sunday of the month.

Because the Cathedral has been closed for renovations, Emmanuel was chosen to host two large Diocesan services last fall and it was a joy to be part of. At the end of May, Bishop Gayle Harris and Bishop Barbara Harris confirmed a large group from parishes in Eastern Massachusetts, and a week later, the late Bishop Thomas Shaw returned to ordain candidates for priesthood to the transitional diaconate. Among those ordained that day was our own Patrick Cheng. And in September, on the weekend when our new bishop, The Rt. Rev. Alan Gates, was consecrated, Emmanuel was host to a visit from the Presiding Bishop, The Very Rev. Katherine Jefferts Schori, who addressed Diocesan clergy. All Emmanuelites can be proud of the warmth and hospitality we offered to so many of our Episcopalian neighbors.

And there were many other reasons for celebration: a wonderful and engaging visit to Emmanuel by Bishop Gates last spring; and it was a rewarding week with the B-SAFE program at St Mary’s Church in Uphams Corner; an anniversary of our deepening relationship with Central Reform Temple; an Annual Fund Stewardship Drive that exceeded expectations.

We also said goodbye to some long-time Emmanuelites whose devotion and contributions to our church will be greatly missed: Scott Corey-Dunbar who served as Treasurer and as Chair of the Worship Commission and quietly in other important ways that we continue to miss; to Margo Risk, editor of Voices for many years, driver of adult education offerings, and articulate literary presence in our midst; to John and Bonnie Mears, engaged and unhesitating contributors to the life of our community.
Worship Commission Annual Report 2014

As we look back on 2014, we give thanks for the many people who have worked to make our liturgy possible and beautiful. We are especially grateful for the leadership of our rector, The Rev. Pamela Werntz, our deacon the Rev. Susanne George, transitional deacon, the Rev. Patrick Cheng, and the supportive worship leadership of the Right Rev. Clark Grew and the Rev. Rick Stecker. We are also very grateful for the ongoing participation of our music director, Ryan Turner, and our organist and summer choir director, Nancy Granert, and their ability to bring art and faith together to fill our communal worship with reverence and beauty.

We give thanks for the devotion (and now-completed) leadership of Scott Corey-Dunbar. Scott welcomed us to participation in liturgy, mentored us, encouraged us and embraced us with his generous spirit. We very much miss his capability and his presence with us. Scott was instrumental to the worship team’s ability to meet the many opportunities and challenges we faced this year. These included Emmanuel’s hosting of church to diocesan confirmation and ordination services last Spring. We wish Scott all the best in his new adventures in South Carolina.

Emmanuel was also fortunate to have had intern Martha Tucker with us through spring, when she was ordained deacon. Her contributions to worship leadership were very special. This fall, seminarians Bill Cruse and Cat Healy joined us, sharing their journeys and helping to shoulder the work of liturgy. They are wonderful additions to the team and we are so lucky to have them.

As always we are completely in the debt of our ushers, led by Steve Babcock, and our Altar Guild, led by Karen Thompson and Meg Anderson. We wish Karen and Meg the best as they step down from this role they have so capably executed for so many years. We are grateful for their generosity in teaching us and guiding us as we move forward.

Last but by no means least, we are grateful for the mastery of our parish operations manager in keeping us all on the same page, and doing it with such grace. Without her, none of this would be possible without additional radical divine intervention.

This is a time of great transition for the worship team. With Martha, Patrick, Scott, Karen and Meg having completed this phase of their ministries and moving on, we would like to say that liturgy is the work of the people and we welcome you to join us, as altar servers, altar guild members, ushers or just as volunteers for our several clean-up and sanctuary decoration opportunities each year.

It is a privilege to participate in our worship together in these roles.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Blocher

Altar Guild Report

Praying

It doesn't have to be the blue iris, it could be weeds in a vacant lot, or a few small stones; just pay attention, then patch a few words together and don't try to make them elaborate, this isn't a contest but the doorway into thanks, and a silence in which another voice may speak.

~Mary Oliver~

The doorway into the Emmanuel Sacristy leads into a room of thanksgiving. Meg Andersen, Mary Blocher, Scott Corey Dunbar, Barbara DeVries, Ann Higgins, Bernd Kasemir, Bonny Mears, Karen Thompson, and Ivanna Yi are grateful for all of those participants of the Worship Commission.

Through much dedicated work of our Rector, The Reverend Pamela I. Werntz, new altar guild opportunities included preparing Eucharist for Confirmation and Ordination. Our community was blessed to welcome many others to Emmanuel.

We continue to be thankful for our Rector, The Reverend Pamela I. Werntz, for her extraordinary leadership. Because of Pam’s guidance, we have been blessed to have The Rev. Dr. Patrick Cheng and The Rev. Martha Tucker be with us. We congratulate both of them on The Ordination To The Sacred Priesthood and wish them well on their new journeys.

Altar guild is pleased to be with The Rt. Reverend J. Clark Grew, Senior, Pastoral Assistant, The Rev. Frederick Stecker, Rabbi Howard Berman, and Deacon, The Rev. Suzanne George. Thank you for your presence and support. During this past semester, we were so fortunate to have Seminarians, Bill Cruse and Catherine Healy join us. They responded to every need of worship committee and altar guild with enthusiasm.

No words can express what Scott Corey Dunbar has been for Emmanuel. Over the years and countless hours, in the many known positions and unknown services, Scott provided his wisdom, multi faceted talents, and gift of himself to us. Scott’s dedication, organization and spiritual awareness were blessings given freely to especially to Worship Commission and altar guild. We miss Scott in all ways. We send our prayers for Scott and Wallace as they begin a new beginning in South Carolina.

Our dear, Camille Malamud passed away on December 7, 2014. Camille had lovingly served on Emmanuel’s Altar Guild for decades. Camille’s beautiful spirit of joy and kindness will be remembered. We extend our deep sympathy to Bill and her family.

We are grateful for Glenn Seberg’s flower arrangements and talents. Much gratitude to Meg’s artistic presence and Sara Peattie’s unique puppets and thought provoking banner displays. Thank you to our bread bakers, Penelope Lane, Jaylyn Olivo, Karen Thompson and The Rev. Rick Stecker. We are always blessed with the decorators who help enhance the Sanctuary and Lindsey Chapel during Christmas and Easter.

Blessings to Bonny and John Mears as they move into their new home. We are sorry to see them leave.

Serving on Emmanuel’s Altar Guild as co-chairs has been a privilege and an honor. We have always felt Pam’s appreciation and gratitude. We have enjoyed, behind the scenes, quiet serious times as when names are added for the weekly prayer lists and the louder times when humor brings laughter. Thank you all for the camaraderie and the many learned experiences. We will miss these weekly times together.

Respectfully submitted,
Meg Anderson and Karen Thompson
Building Commission Report

Emmanuel’s Building commission is comprised of Julian Bullitt, Paul Curtis, Galen Gilbert, Nancy Mueller, Nancy Peabody, Maryann Upton, Kelly Seifert, Michael Scanlon and David Silverstein. The commission and the senior warden meet monthly in the old organ loft for lunch on the second Wednesday of the month to review activity of the preceding month and to strategize for the future. I am very grateful to all our commission members, and encourage anyone who is interested in our work and would like to help to consider joining us. There is always a lot of work!

An informal working committee of Julian Bullitt, Nancy Mueller, Nancy Peabody, and I meet every Wednesdays at 10AM. At this smaller meeting we review maintenance tasks with the site supervisor from Community Work Service and the parish administrator Tamra Tucker. With the latter we also review bills and accounts, address problems, and monitor building systems. The work of this committee is documented in Julian Bullitt’s monthly reports which Elizabeth Richardson has been kindly posting to our “google docs” site. There is a tremendous amount of material covered in these including data analysis by Julian.

At the end of 2013, we were about to embark on the first phase of the masonry restoration of the north wall. Peter Johnson, who shouldered the task of managing that project and the required documentation for the Massachusetts Historical commission will report separately. We owe a huge debt of gratitude to Peter for taking on that task and managing it with competence and efficiency. In conjunction with that work our grant writers headed by Penny Lane, also won a grant from the Henderson Foundation for the restoration of the Burnham Window, which is now at Serpentino’s studio.

Our work in committee has been much more mundane than these exciting projects.

A large and constant focus is our heating system. There are two distinct problems: on the one hand the system is old, and like all iron mechanical systems of it’s age it needs constant maintenance. One the other hand, we have not generated our own steam for many years, we buy it from a public utility. The price has increased dramatically over the last two years, and while our actual consumption of steam is down as a result of the economy measures we have undertaken, our bills have none the less doubled over what they were three years ago. The remedy is to install our own boilers in the short term, and in the long term replace the actual heating system. This is a very complex problem that will be phased over a very long time. It is our intention to include in this project some air-conditioning in the parish house, particularly the offices, and also in Lindsey Chapel. We have become a study project for the Northeastern University Engineering Club, and have also been working with Steve Pritchard of Renew Energy Partners, Audrey Schulman of HEET in Cambridge and the Green energy folks in the Diocese.

Because of the complexity of our building’s construction over various periods, and also the complexity of the varying demands of usage by different groups, settling on the correct way to proceed is not going to be easy.

During 2012 we started a project to consolidate our locks and keys, and we succeeded in reducing in the two rings of dozens of keys to a system of master and sub-masters that has made building access better for just about everyone. At that time we decided for reasons of economy to not include the front door, and also not to use restricted copy keys. In the intervening months some room usages have changed, some access problems have been identified and we have realized that not using restricted coping keys was a false economy. During the past months we have replaced the keys with non-copyable key blanks, and also included the front door on the system. The result is that while everyone has a new key that does what their old one did, and also now opens the front door, all the keys are inventoried, and key holders cannot have copies made. So we now know, for the first time in decades, who has a key to the front door. Tamra has also formalized key distribution, every key holder has signed a document, and these are kept in record.

We have continued with light bulb replacement, the major change this year is that now all the chandelier bulbs are LED. We are now at the point where almost every bulb in the building is a low energy consuming unit. A side benefit is that we have been able to put the Lindsey Chapel chandeliers on dimmers, and are hopeful that the reduced current will preclude the need to have them rewired. While on the subject of lighting I will mention that Julian has designed a central control system for the lights on the sanctuary. At present the controls are seat-tered in multiple locations making the task of controlling the lights very unwieldy. This would require equipment and some rewiring. We search for funds to finance this enhancement.

There is a long list of maintenance issues, everything from leaks in the restrooms to damaged dumpsters - we actually keep a list, I have it here on my desk as I write. It is boring to read and more boring to relate, so let me end with a more hopeful story. In search for ways to try to control our heating cost we discovered that the steam company has a program by which we could “pre-buy” units of steam at a fixed price. The first quote, last October, was for $34.00 per unit. This price was higher than any last year; we declined, but were filled with dread. We get these “offers” now every month. In December they were offering $39.00, most recently they offered $23.00 dollars for February. Still we haven’t bitten, expecting the drop in oil prices will affect this market as well, and thank God we haven’t! We just received the December bill and the rate was $15.00 per unit. so maybe this year will be easier.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Scanlon

Back Wall Project Report

During the past year, we have completed the first of three projected phases of what we rather prosaically call The Back Wall Project. From 1861, when construction on the church building began, through the early 1920s, when Lindsey Chapel was completed, Emmanuel’s back wall grew to comprise nearly a third of the Newbury Street block between Arlington and Berkeley Street – it’s a very long (and tall) wall! Incremental maintenance has been performed throughout the years, but our preservation architects and structural engineer determined that the wall’s structural issues and overall deteriorating condition confirmed the Building Commission’s conviction that this wall should be the focus of the 2012 TogetherNor capital campaign. The successful completion of the pledge phase of that campaign meant that in 2014 we could begin the necessary repairs and conservation of the back wall’s fabric: thousands of bricks embedded in mortar, tons of stone, steel, and iron, and several dozen windows (some ordinary, some masterpieces of stained glass).

Plans, specifications, and cost estimates for the first phase of the project were completed in late 2013. With the money pledged in the campaign beginning to accumulate, supplemented with a $47,500 grant from the Massachusetts Historical Commission, we were able to issue a request for bids from contractors in January of 2014. Five proposals were received, and we were able to select a highly qualified and experienced firm, Aniceto Construction, to work on the project for a contracted price less than cost estimates prepared the previous year. We were able to include more work in this phase than originally anticipated, thanks to this favorable pricing; the next phases will involve less work than originally anticipated.

The contract was signed in February, and the project began in earnest once the weather allowed. The scaffolding Aniceto Construction designed and installed for the project was only the depth of the narrow sidewalk adjacent to Emmanuel’s back wall - a unique feat of engineering among the bidding contractors that saved a great deal of time and money, since the traffic in the alley was never impeded and no police details were required. Every morning the workers climbed up and down the scaffolding Aniceto Construction designed and installed for the project was only the depth of the narrow sidewalk adjacent to Emmanuel’s back wall - a unique feat of engineering among the bidding contractors that saved a great deal of time and money, since the traffic in the alley was never impeded and no police details were required. Every morning the workers climbed up and down the scaffold - about 60 high, and most weeks in the summer, so did members of the Building Commission.

Here follow some brief highlights - what was unique (or challenging) about this work.

- The scaffolding Aniceto Construction designed and installed for the project was only the depth of the narrow sidewalk adjacent to Emmanuel’s back wall - a unique feat of engineering among the bidding contractors that saved a great deal of time and money, since the traffic in the alley was never impeded and no police details were required. Every morning the workers climbed up and down the scaffold - about 60 high, and most weeks in the summer, so did members of the Building Commission.
The structural deficits caused by expansion and contraction of the iron pins used in the original construction were much more severe than originally supposed, but was not discovered until the upper portion of the wall was dismantled. This necessitated another visit by the structural engineer and a redesign (and custom fabrication) of the stainless steel anchoring devices that were to replace the original iron fasteners - and an increase in cost of nearly $50,000. The supplement to the original grant by the State Historical Commission covered these costs.

After analysis of the existing mortar arrived, the architects specified a mix for the repointing that is rarely used nowadays. Not many contemporary masons know how to use this mortar; it sets up faster and is more difficult to handle. This relatively "soft" mortar quite closely matches the mix used in the original construction. Subsequent "harder" mortar mixes used for repair work in the intervening years meant that the wall was subjected to stresses that caused cracking and water infiltration, contributing to the structural problems uncovered during the project.

Before the work began, we invited our neighbors across the alley to a meeting at the church. We introduced the project team, described the scope of work and showed them the construction schedule. We then stayed in weekly contact with them throughout the duration of the project. All of the buildings across the alley are residential; many have gardens, decks, and garages adjacent to the alley, and some of the residents were legitimately concerned about the impact the construction would have on their daily lives. We did as much as possible to mitigate the negative side-effects of the work as it progressed. Since the scaffolding did not block the alley, the neighbors could always drive in and out of their garages. There were weeks of "grinding" as the masons drilled out the old mortar between many of the brick courses, but vacuums attached to their grinders minimized the dust released into the air.

The Proposition, which was filmed at Emmanuel in 1998.

Now how we begin work on the next phase of the Back Wall Project will be determined by the flow of donations from the Together/Now Campaign. Many people pledged over a number of years, and once the building fund is sufficiently replenished through these continuing pledge payments, we will proceed to the next phase.

This first phase of the project has been successful because of the diligent and collaborative work of many people. As well as our architects, consultants, and contractors, I thank the Building Commission, the Vestry, and the staff of the church and Emmanuel Music for their support, their creative contributions – and their tolerance of the metaphorical and real messes such a project brings.

Respectfully submitted,
Peter Johnson, Project Manager

Green Team Report
The Green Team is responsible for maintaining the Emmanuel Garden. This year has been especially busy as Emmanuel Church was privileged to host three major Diocesan events: Confirmation in May, Ordination in June, and Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori’s meeting with Clergy in September.

Altogether, we held nine working sessions from April through November. These included spring clean-up, mulching and planting of annuals, installation of four new boxwood bushes, summer maintenance, fall clean-up, planting of spring bulbs and fall grass, and winterization. Members who were able to help this year include Barbara DeVries, Donald Moran, Eileen and Larry Moyer, Nancy Mueller (co-leader), Elizabeth Richardson, Barbara Rose (co-leader), and Joan Ventura. We welcome all who are interested in working in our garden. Keep your eyes open for those spring flowers!

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Mueller and Barbara Rose

Treasurer’s Report
2014 Budget
Emmanuel faced significant challenges this past year with the loss of a valued resident organization and a dramatic increase in fuel charges in spite of our ongoing successes in reducing our fuel consumption. Aggressive Street Outreach (ASO), a longtime resident program serving the homeless population from space in Emmanuel’s basement, lost their federal funding and ceased providing their services at the end of June. This meant a loss in anticipated space use fees of $10,000 for 2014. We hope to form a task force of interested parishioners to work towards identifying a mission sensitive organization to use this available space and increase building income.

Based on the high fuel charges we saw in 2013, we increased the budget for that line significantly in 2014. Although all the diligent work by the Building Commission and volunteers from our resident organizations in implementing a number of energy conservation measures paid off in reduced usage, by the end of July our fuel expenses equaled 94% of the year’s budget. Realizing that there were five more months of fuel cost ahead and two of them cold months, we requested a fuel surcharge from all organizations who regularly use space at Emmanuel to assist us in meeting these soaring costs. A letter went out in September requesting a specific amount from each group payable by December 2014. Emmanuel is fortunate – and very thankful to have understanding organizations who were willing to assist by providing an additional $13,943 to help offset the final fuel cost.

So by December 31, 2014, I thought Emmanuel would have a deficit, one higher than Emmanuel had experienced in recent years, only to be wonderfully surprised by the largesse of 2014 pledge payments received in December. These 2014 pledge payments and some pledge payments from 2013 exceeded our 2014 budgeted income and contributed to our surplus! Manna from heaven. If you haven’t pledged for 2015, please know it is not too late and all amounts are welcome and needed. Gratitude and amazement are extended to our excellent Parish Administrator, Tamra Tucker, our financial wizard Rector, Pam Wermitz, and the omnipresent Building Commission for their diligence and attention to the financial challenges Emmanuel faced this year. Their efforts supplemented by the prudent investing overseen by George Mutrie and parishioners generous gifts from parishioners contributed to increasing Emmanuel’s financial health.

2015 Budget
For the first time in many, many years, the Vestry approved a barebones budget showing a deficit. A tremendous amount of work prepared by Tamra Tucker and our controller, Don Firth, as well as input from the various Commissions helped the Executive Committee analyze each line to determine realistic and accurate figures for the 2015 budget before presenting it to the Finance Commission and subsequently the Vestry for approval. While
this budget provides for a 3% salary increase for staff, you should know that the salary for our wonderful and overworked Rector is at the minimum amount that a parish is allowed to pay a rector at our size. The challenges for the Vestry and all of us next year are to alleviate Emmanuel’s work load for staff and to increase our energy self-sufficiency. These are goals that all of us who love Emmanuel can work toward.

The following charts show the 2014 summary balance sheet, and two versions of the annual income and expenses in terms of budgets and actuals.

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### Emmanuel Church Balance Sheet

**December 31, 2014**

#### Assets
- PayPal Cash: 1,628
- Checking: 149,498
- Money Market: 20,980
- Rector’s Discretionary Fund: 2,996
- Total Checking/Savings: 175,108
- Other Current Assets: 108
- Due From Others: 198
- Prepaid Expenses: 4,006
- Pledges Receivable: 46,680
- Investment Accounts: 34,500
- Emmanuel Legacy Fund: 187,390
- Pip Fund: 18,099
- Diocesan Investment Trust (DIT): 223,510
- Morgan Stanley Investments (MS): 3,608,115
- Okolock Investment: 10,000
- Total Investments: 4,090,478
- Total Other Current Assets: 4,316,468
- Fixed Assets: 10,000
- Total Endowment Funds: 3,566,724

#### Liabilities
- Loan for Operations: 18,000
- Deferred Revenue: 6,540
- Deferred 2015 Pledges: 12,400
- Accrued Expenses: 7,824
- Total Liabilities: 44,564
- Equity: 250,807
- Unrestricted Emmanuel Church Legacy Fund: 250,807
- Designated Funds: 187,920
- Building & Capital Funds: 75,344
- Other Designated Funds: 24,299
- Total Designated Funds: 99,642
- Endowment Funds: 223,510
- Pipe Organ: 16,465
- DIT Endowment Funds: 190,217
- M.S. Endowment Funds: 3,140,043
- Okolock Fund: 10,000
- Total Endowment Funds: 4,090,478

#### Total Assets: 4,331,637

#### Total Liabilities + Equity: 4,331,637

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### Emmanuel Church Profit and Loss Statement for 12 months ending 12/31/14

**with 12 month budget 2014 and proposed 12 month budget 2015**

#### Operating Revenues
- Pledge Income: 254,586
- Plate Offerings: 19,031
- Investment Income: 148,427
- Endowment Income: 13,699
- Other Income/Gifts: 62,042
- Space Use: 126,036

**Total Operating Revenues: 623,821**

#### Operating Expenses
- Clergy Salary & Benefits: 120,537
- Music Staff & Program: 66,308
- Cantata Program: 53,213
- Parish Operations Staff: 93,000
- Parish Operating Expenses: 23,390
- Parish Programs: 11,870
- Outreach: 17,435
- Diocesan Assessment: 36,263
- Building & Facilities: 196,721
- Building Sextons & Cleaning: 17,395

**Total Operating Expenses: 636,132**

#### Operating Revenues less Expenses
- Steam Heat Special Assessment: (13,943)
- Operating Revenues less Expenses: 1,632

**Annual Budget 2014:**
- Pledge Income: 250,000
- Plate Offerings: 20,500
- Investment Income: 147,192
- Endowment Income: 14,203
- Other Income/Gifts: 70,500
- Space Use: 153,000

**Annual Budget 2015:**
- Pledge Income: 235,000
- Plate Offerings: 20,500
- Investment Income: 169,410
- Endowment Income: 15,404
- Other Income/Gifts: 60,000
- Space Use: 130,800

**Operating Revenues less Expenses:**
- Steam Heat Special Assessment: (25,424)
- Operating Revenues less Expenses: 1,035
The Finance Commission, reporting to the Vestry, provides oversight and guidance on Emmanuel’s financial affairs. Its activities include: monitoring investment performance in the various endowments under Emmanuel’s direct control, evaluating manager performance and results, overseeing the implementation of financial policies, making recommendations on strategic and ethical investment issues, and reviewing operating plans and results.

Emmanuel has been both fortunate and prudent over the years in building a strong endowment position that provides vital income to help support all the church does for so many. Our annual draw on the endowment funds has been maintained in the 4-5% range, an appropriate and competitive level for endowments of our size and nature. This draw has generated income for operations, and at the same time allowed us to continue building our investment base for the future.

From time to time investment policy issues arise, and when they do the Finance Commission is requested to develop a point of view or recommend action. As examples, an important investment decision was made in 2014 to divest our equity holding in corporations producing or trading fossil fuels, primarily to address climate change concerns. The Commission also decided again to defer the guaranteed 2% cash return on our investment in Oikocredit, which provides microfinance assistance to fledgling enterprises in developing countries. We agreed to continue our loan at $10,000 for another year, and at same time contributing our cash return to Oikocredit as additional funds for their microfinance programs.

Another essential responsibility of the Commission is to periodically review Emmanuel’s investment policies and practices and make adjustments where needed. This past year the Commission undertook such a review and the revised “Statement of Investment Policies and Practices” will be presented to the Vestry for their approval.

On the operating side, Emmanuel’s leadership under Pam Werntz and her staff have generated a remarkable record of budgetary performance in the past 7 years. While the Finance Commission contributes to the planning effort and review decisions that impact budgets, it the Rector, her staff and valued parishioners that make it happen.

Mid-summer, the Commission welcomed Jim Bartlett as the new Chair of the Commission. We would like to express our thanks for the commission’s members who regularly contribute their time and thoughts this past year: Charles Felsenthal, Dan Hazen, Bonnie Mears, George Mutrie.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Bartlett and Barbara DeVries

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Growth Committee Report

I enthusiastically attribute work done in the new Small Wonders program, to continued effort, as part of the growth committee. Keeping a steady number of attendance in the Small Wonders program, biblical lessons for kids, we hope to attract more families and children to Emmanuel. While the focus of the growth committee continue to find ways of further growing our congregation, adding programs for young children and families accounts for planned and new growth. Very exciting!

The wonderful Emmanuel welcome bags have become an integral role in the job of greeter every Sunday morning. As part of the role, the greeter is to welcome parishioners, hand out programs, and set up welcome bags near the entrance. Many thanks again to Gail and Meg Abbey for bringing such an important piece, of work toward growth, to Emmanuel.

Peace and Blessings,
Helen K McKinney
B-SAFE Report

We had a wonderful week at B-SAFE in July. I was so sorry to see it go, but I am looking forward to another week this year! Eighteen volunteers helped in fundraising, baking, shopping, cooking and prep for our week on site at St. Mary’s, and 13 total worked on site at St. Mary’s. We worked an additional day this year, since we raised enough money and had enough volunteer support. We served anything from tacos to sandwiches to 20 cheese pizzas from Upham’s Pizza. But the highlight of the week, hands down, was an outdoor cookout the last day at St. Mary’s. Not a cloud in sight, we assembled three small grills and cooked 100+ hamburgers and 100+ hotdogs for 80 hungry kids and teens. I laugh now, looking back, as I remember sitting in my car in stand still traffic with 3 small table top grills, knowing how many burgers and hotdogs needed to be grilled in just a little over an hour. I thought to myself, “Have I made a mistake? Did I not plan this well?” Of course, this is how God works. Even in the most unlikely of scenarios, God provides, and what is meant to be unfolds and reveals itself to us in beautiful ways. Seeing the kids gathered on the grass, without a cloud in the sky, and the smell of charcoal and hickory in the air, will forever hold a place in my memory.

Many thanks, again, to the volunteers and all who helped contribute to such a wonderful year at B-SAFE.

Peace and Blessings,
Helen K. McKinney

Stewardship Report

The Stewardship Committee for the 2015 Campaign included Meg Abbey, Jane Redmont, Bill Cruse, and co-chairs John Mears and Tom Barber. We received invaluable assistance and advice again this year from Pam Werntz, Penny Lane and James Bartlett.

Every year, parishioners move on to new opportunities and challenges, and this year was no different. Like-wise, we welcome newcomers to our midst. This year was notable for the departure of more than a few active members of our community, including co-chair John Mears and his wife Bonny Mears, who left at the end of the year, bound for Delaware. The Stewardship Committee’s goal this year has been to match last year’s successful campaign in which we received 125 pledges, and to sustain our many missions, including providing competitive salaries and benefits to our staff.

The committee felt that the brochures, FAQ sheets, pledge cards and letters that we developed last year were well crafted. We made minor adjustments in content and design to refresh and update the materials, and letters and pledge cards were sent to parishioners; FAQ sheets and pledge cards were placed in the pews within the sanctuary. Four dynamic speakers made pulpit pitches: Joy Howard, Jaylyn Olivo, Becky Lightcap, and Stephen Babcock.

At the time of this writing, we have received 94 pledges towards our goal of 125. We hope in the weeks ahead to continue our progress, reaching out individually to parishioners who have yet to pledge for 2015. We are grateful to all who have generously stepped forward to support Emmanuel Church.

Respectfully submitted,
Tom Barber

Capital Campaign Report

As of Sept 30, 2014, $430,886.65 had been received through Emmanuel’s TogetherNew capital campaign. The focus of Emmanuel’s campaign was to make much needed repairs to the alley wall of our building, which stretches from Lindsey Chapel to the parish hall, and represents nearly half the structure of our church. Phase one of the alley wall project was successfully completed last summer, and included the oldest and most vulnerable section of the wall, the original 1861 construction.

Thank you to all who pledged to the campaign, and especially to those who have completed their pledges early! Having those funds available up front allowed us to qualify for grants and also to increase the scope of work to be included in the initial phase of the project.

The diocese administers capital campaign pledges for all of the participating congregations (something our small, overworked staff could not have added to their already full plates). We will continue to serve as TogetherNew co-chairs for the duration of the five year campaign. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or concerns about the campaign or your statements from the diocese, or to make a pledge if you haven’t already made one.

We use data from quarterly reports generated by the Diocese to anticipate future revenue from campaign pledges. Peter Johnson, Project Coordinator, relies on information from those reports in planning and scheduling the remaining work to be done on the wall, which includes rather urgent repair to the north walls of Lindsey Chapel and the Parish Hall. It’s very important that we be able to predict future pledge payments as accurately as possible. In a five year campaign, it’s understandable that changes and adjustments may become necessary. Please don’t hesitate to contact Lynd Matt at the diocesan offices if you would like to have an extension, a change of amount or schedule of payments, or if you find that it is necessary to simply say, “I am not going to be able to meet this pledge at this time.” You may be assured that changes will be made discreetly, and adjustments will be made to the reminders that you receive to reflect those changes. Lynd may be reached at lmatl@diomass.org or 617-482-4826 ext. 515.

For information on diocesan programs that TogetherNew funds are supporting, visit http://www.diomass.org/together-now-campaign.

Respectfully submitted,
Gail Abbey and Jim Bradley

Development Committee Report

The Development Committee has four essential missions:

1. Assist the annual stewardship campaign leadership (in any way they believe we can be helpful)
2. Coordinate with and support the TogetherNew campaign
3. Coordinate with Grant-writing endeavors
4. Initiate a program for Legacy Giving

During 2014, our committee has focused primarily on legacy giving. Emmanuel has a 150-year history of bold initiatives in community outreach. Throughout this period, we have been blessed by a number of generous donors who have enabled our parish’s general endowment to reach its current value of about $3.8M.

In recent decades we maintained a dynamic ministry that combined a high level of involvement with the arts with extensive community outreach. During this time, however, the maintenance of our church building was inadequate and we began to make excessive draws on our endowment. Over the last seven years this regrettable trend has been reversed. We have cut down on our operating expenses, greatly expanded revenues from other groups utilizing our building and completed a highly successful capital campaign. We now have a balanced budget with a minimal and safe draw on our endowment. We are finally on a firm financial footing.

As we face the future we need to build our endowment in order to assure the continuation of Emmanuel’s ministry well into the future.

In most cases legacy giving consists simply of a bequest in one’s will. In some cases, a more elaborate legal instrument can be developed to minimize federal and state taxes. We can provide brochures that explain in detail different options. Moreover, the Diocese can provide expert consultation. In other cases, a simple life insurance policy or retirement savings plan can list Emmanuel Church as one beneficiary.

Those among us who are already struggling to maintain or increase their annual pledge to Emmanuel wonder how they can consider planning legacy gift. There is a basic difference between one’s resources that are available for annual donations to the church or other philanthropic causes and funds that are present or anticipated in an individual’s estate.

It is vitally important that we build our endowment. This will enable us to honor ongoing yearly obligations such as the assessment from the diocese, the maintenance of adequate support for our clergy and participation in new or expanded missions, and care for our building as a mission asset.
Continued growth in our endowment is a testament to the contributions of our forbears at Emmanuel, to the generosity of current members and to our confidence in Emmanuel’s future.

During the past year members of our development committee have met with nearly all of our vestry members. Early in 2015 we plan to have an open discussion about legacy giving after one of our worship services. During the next couple of years we will make arrangements to meet with members of our congregation.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Bunn, Chair
Gail Abbey, Jim Bartlett, Jim Bradley, and Joy Howard

Pastoral Assistant Report

I’m pleased to submit this report as the Pastoral Assistant at Emmanuel Church. During 2014, my responsibilities focused primarily on liturgical matters and other tasks as assigned by the Rector.

With respect to my Sunday liturgical duties, I served during the first half of the calendar year as a torch-bearer and sub-deacon. Following my ordination to the diaconate on June 7, 2014, I shared in the diaconal responsibilities with the Rev. Susanne George. I continued to serve on the Worship Commission throughout the year, and I preached in March (the first Sunday of Lent) and in June (the Third Sunday after Pentecost).

Other liturgical responsibilities included assisting with the Easter Vigil service in April; planning the first Second Sunday evening service in September with Ms. Catherine Healy, one of our seminarians; helping the Rector and the chair of the Worship Commission to organize the training of the new subdeacons in October; and presiding at my first Eucharist as an Episcopal Priest on January 11, 2015.

With respect to other tasks, I continued to serve on the Website Committee, and I created a Twitter account for Emmanuel Church. I also attended a number of vestry meetings during the year. Finally, I prepared to preach and preside at the Sunday Eucharist on January 25, 2015.

My regular responsibilities as Pastoral Assistant ended on Christmas Eve. Since then, I have moved full-time to New York City to serve as the Chief Compliance Officer at the Church Pension Group, the national pension fund of the Episcopal Church. It has been a great blessing to be a part of the Emmanuel Church community since October 2012, and I look forward to our paths crossing again in the future.

Respectfully submitted,

I graduated from Yale in less than 4 months (who's counting?!). I am convinced that my time in seminary was made easier because of all that I learned from you, and because of the financial and spiritual support that you continue to share with me. Thank you.

We do not know what 2015 will bring. But for you, I pray that 2015 brings great health, great wealth, and much laughter. I give God thanks for you in all things. With love, thanksgiving, and a smile,

Respectfully submitted,

Yolanda A. Rolle

Candidate’s Report

I have been a parishioner at Emmanuel now for more than 6 years. I have been blessed that Emmanuel has been sponsoring me to become a vocational Deacon in the Diocese. I am now in my third and final year of the Deaconate Formation Program and am a Candidate for Ordination. Over this three year period each postulant/candidate is required to attend monthly retreats, consisting of worship, Liturgical training and education as well as participate in several different internship programs. This past year I have interned at an organization called the Samaritans. Samaritans provides helpline support, either on the phones or internet, to those contemplating suicide. This internship has provided me with incredible experience on how to provide pastoral support to those in need. I have learned that merely being present for those in need, just listening on the phone, is such a blessing and a Grace given to us by God. I am now starting another internship interning at The Church of our Saviour in Brooklyn. Here I will lead worship, develop Liturgical skills supporting the Rector, preach and become involved in the day to day activities of the Parish. The Church of our Savior is a wonderful parish in our Diocese and again I feel so blessed to be able to support them. Given that a Deacon is a non-paid role in the Diocese I do continue to work at my day job in the Back Bay at a company called American Tower. My wife Francesca and my two grown children, continue to be very supportive of me as I continue this wonderful journey. And I can’t thank Pam, the Vestry, my discernment committee, and the entire Emmanuel community enough for your continued support, prayers and love. Emmanuel is such a special place, it is such a community filled with love and grace. I look forward to seeing you all soon and always may your lives be filled with peace.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Bartlett

Deacon’s Report

I was one of two deacons at Emmanuel this year, after the ordination of intern Patrick Cheng to the transitional diaconate in June. He has now been priested, but I remain as your vocational deacon. Some of you might be wondering, "what is a deacon and why are they coming and going? transitional, vocational? Huh?" So, I’d like to offer what I hope is a little clarification.

The word "deacon" derives from the Greek diakonia which can be translated as “serving at tables.” Jesus remarked in Luke “I am among you as one who serves.” Discipleship was a central concept to Jesus and the apostles, therefore it belongs to all members of the church, through baptism, to help bring about God’s
Emmanuel Church has so much to offer the Boston community, and particularly seminarians like me who are preparing to humbly serve congregations and the world. Thank you for opening your doors, your hearts, your home. I am forever formed and blessed. May God’s grace continue to bless us richly.

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Cruse

Seminary Intern Report

It has been such a delight to serve as an intern at Emmanuel this year, and I am so grateful to all who have welcomed me into the life of this parish. I have learned so much from participating in Sunday morning worship as a torchbearer, subdeacon, and altar guild member, as well as from attending the monthly meetings of the vestry and Worship Committee. Being a part of Emmanuel’s magnificent liturgy has been a humbling and rewarding experience, helping me develop a deeper understanding of how worship can glorify God.

I have also begun to look forward to Bible study at Emmanuel as a highlight of my week – I miss it during the months when it does not meet! I love hearing so many different perspectives on the Gospel reading for the week to come, and am especially appreciative that we always end with the most important question we can ask in our life of faith: “What difference does it make?”

It has been an honor to preside and preach at the monthly evening service (held the second Sunday of each month at 6:00 PM in Lindsey Chapel), which draws a regular group of 6-8 worshipers, and provides an important space for reflection and contemplative prayer. If you find yourself looking to quiet the noise of hurry and anxiety in your life, I invite you to join us in this peaceful, quiet service.

As I have already told Pam, finding an internship at a church like this feels like winning the lottery, and I am reminded of my good luck every time I walk through Emmanuel’s doors. I remain in awe of the wonderful people in this place, who have helped me grow in my own relationship with God while also teaching me how to help others grow in theirs.

Respectfully submitted,
Catherine Healy

Hospitality Commission Report

Members: Peggy Bradley, Nancy Mueller, Ellen Hinkle, and Milly Wells. Jennifer Coes has been active all year and is now taking some time off for family affairs.

In this eighth year of the Hospitality Commission we continued to follow Pam Wemstra’s guidance reminding us all - “when we share food from our common table, we nourish one another and provide welcome to newcomers and visitors”. Church members were assigned a Sunday during the year (Feb to May & Sept to Jan) to bring in food for coffee hour. Tamra Tucker sent out lists in January and September, and a new one is due out soon.

Most weeks, I bring milk and send out email notifications to the 3-6 assignees and to the members of the commission. I communicate with Pam to correct email addresses if possible. Anyone with conflicts in time, or who forgot, is encouraged to exchange with another or bring in something when they feel they can. Backup cookies and crackers have been kept with steady support from Nancy, Ellen, Milly and Jennifer, and someone else brings milk when I am not in town. Coffee, hot cups (8 oz size), etc. are delivered from Staples to Tamra's attention and she stashes them above the hospitality closet.

Please note that when we are in need of supplies, Pat Krol comes through for us. Anyone with conflicts in time, or who forgot, is encouraged to exchange with another or bring in something when they feel they can. Backup cookies and crackers have been kept with steady support from Nancy, Ellen, Milly and Jennifer, and someone else brings milk when I am not in town. Coffee, hot cups (8 oz size), etc. are delivered from Staples to Tamra’s attention and she stashes them above the hospitality closet. We have decaf coffee and water available besides tea and regular coffee. Please note that when we are in need of supplies, Pat Krol comes through for us. Therefore, she is welcome to ours if she needs it. With lovely food to share, people stay to engage in conversation and join the planned activities, and we have little if anything leftover each Sunday.

This past summer in the Chapel, we covered some Sundays with frozen lemonade and homemade iced tea made up by the sexton. All our committee members put cookies in the closet to be used for those months. We did not arrange specific coverage for the summer by our members, therefore it was probably a bit hit or miss and hot coffee was served a lot. I hope to make a plan for this summer.

Emmanuel Church has so much to offer the Boston community, and particularly seminarians like me who are preparing to humbly serve congregations and the world. Thank you for opening your doors, your hearts, your home. I am forever formed and blessed. May God’s grace continue to bless us richly.

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Cruse

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Respectfully submitted,
Catherine Healy
Communications Report

Voice

In her last intro as editor, before moving to Chicago, Margo Risk wrote, “As I reflect on my decade at Emmanuel, I fill with gratitude for the holiness and beauty I have experienced.” We could say the same for our experiences of the editions of Voices that Margo shaped in publication. In 2014, Voices published a winter and summer edition. Both are posted on the website at: http://www.emmanuelboston.org/community/newsletter/. The 2014 Voices team was as follows: Margo Risk, Editor; Matthew Griffing, Graphic Design; Tamra Tucker, Printing and Distribution; Jaylinn Olivo, Carolyn Roosevelt, Michael Scanlon, and Pamela Wernitz. Margo ended her introduction with the following encouragement: “Keep discovering and creating beauty and holiness. Emmanuel’s a great place to find opportunities for both.”

Website

2014 was another year of growth for the Web Committee. We saw an increase in visitors to the site, met or came close to meeting almost all of the goals we had set in last year’s report, added two new members, and provided training in the use of our WordPress platform. We continued in our broader goal of representing Emmanuel Church through an engaging online presence. We updated the website with news on events and worship services, while working on projects to create more permanent content.

In striving to meet our specific goals from last year, we

• Created four new permanent pages of content. They highlight puppetry at Emmanuel, describe the World War I memorial in the entrance foyer, document the history of music at Emmanuel, and showcase the North Wall Preservation Project. A page describing the Small Wonders program is in development.
• Posted 15 times on Facebook about website content.
• Developed three slide shows, two on the Easter services and one on http://www.emmanuelboston.org/puppets/. A prototype slide show on our stained-glass windows was created and an improved version set to music is in the works.
• Created 20 graphic, sidebar banners for the homepage, which linked to interior pages. Welcomed two new members, Susan Kieffer and Eileen Moyer.

Set up Google Analytics to more accurately track data on website use.

Data from Google Analytics showed that from February 22, 2014, to January 6, 2015, our website received approximately 40,000 page views, 18,000 sessions (that is, distinct visits to the site), and 13,600 users. While not a perfect comparison, this was an increase from the 28,000 page views recorded by the WordPress statistics tool for the previous year.

Our most popular pages or categories of pages, by page views, were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page Type</th>
<th>Page View Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homepage</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Worship</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>About</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

history
building
sermons
music
community (Central Reform Temple, Emmanuel Center, and Emmanuel Music)
events
mission (social justice, stewardship, musings from the margins, and Miriam's well).

All statistics included activity of the Web Committee itself. Google Analytics allows us to keep track of more detailed information, such as how visitors are referred to the site, whether visitors are new or returning, and some demographic information about them. Starting next year we will be able to track changes in usage data with more accuracy.

In 2015, we hope to continue to broaden our base of content contributors on the Committee, especially in the area of social media and multimedia. We will try to meet the following measurable objectives:

• To add 5 permanent pages
• To post on our Facebook page links to our website 10 or more times
• To add 2 multimedia features to the site. We wish to find resources for recording sound or video.
• To create 20 sidebar banners, in addition to weekly Bach Cantata banners
• To recruit a new member with an interest in social media
• To increase our use of Google Analytics
• To highlight 3 anniversaries of historic events.

Facebook

Our following grew from 219 to 296 “likes” by the end of 2014. Over the year we posted 95 times, linked to our website 15 times, and added 295 images that document our parish life and concerns. Our Christmas Eve post reached over 800. On the second day of Christmas we had 63 unique “check ins” (that is, people who actually clicked on our photos or followed our links). On the third day of Christmas our maximum 28-day-average “reach” hit 2040. Thanks to Jane Redmont, Joy Howard, Matt Griffing, and Pam Wernitz for joining us in posting. Before departing for New York, The Rev. Patrick S. Cheng bequeathed us a Twitter account with a dozen followers: “Emmanuel Boston.” We’re grateful to him for facilitating our evangelism in this direction.

Please check out https://www.facebook.com/pages/Emmanuel-Church-in-the-City-of-Boston/73998089240 or link to it from our homepage: http://www.emmanuelboston.org/. We hope that you will “befriend” each other on Facebook, if you are so inclined, because it helps build fellowship within the Emmanuel community. Parishioners with FB accounts are encouraged to “like” our page, to browse its feed for posts of or interest. Please contact a Committee member if you have an interest in helping out.

Knitting Circle Report

Our knitting group continues from year to year as a monthly oasis of friendship, shared projects and thoughts and tea and cookies.
In spring 2014, we made another afghan which we raffled for the benefit of our BSafe week at St. Mary’s Church Uphams Corner, and for which realized close to $1,000. And when we learned that Margo Risk, an admirer of our work, was moving to chilly Chicago, we knit a lap robe to keep her warm and remind her of Emmanuel.

We meet at my home in Cambridge at 2:30 p.m. on the last Wednesday of the month except for August and welcome any knitters or needle workers who would like to share fellowship with us and laugh a lot!

Respectfully submitted,
Penelope Lane, Host

Small Wonders - Godly Play Report

The Small Wonders program has been a great success. Susanne and I have welcomed kids anywhere from age 2 to age 11, and have maintained steady attendance since October. The material is rich, and we have already covered lessons from Creation to Noah’s Ark to the story of Advent. While the kids have the opportunity to engage in the story lesson itself, it is in the arts and crafts projects at the end of every lesson where we truly see the children and parents come alive and take part in the mystery and joy of God! We look forward to many months to come, with so many possible lesson plans, we only find difficulty in what lesson to teach next! We hope for continued growth in numbers, but have maintained a wonderful attendance number of 6-10 children.

Respectfully submitted,
Helen McKinney

I am delighted to have the opportunity, with Helen McKinney, to re-instate Godly Play at Emmanuel this year. Emmanuel had invested in the Montessori program for spiritual education some ten years ago, and it is still in great shape. Everything is very well made, and mostly wooden. There is a plethora of possible lessons, arranged by seasons in nature and in the church, including bible stories, parables, and holiday liturgies for children. Helen and I work well together and the lessons seem to flow easily for us. The children, as far as I can tell, really enjoy having their own space and time together and are engaged in the storytelling and wildly creative with projects to follow. We meet on the first Sunday of the month, in the chapel during the sermon and prayers. We return to the main sanctuary in time for communion. We usually have a display in the parish hall during coffee hour to share what we have done each Sunday.

Respectfully submitted,
Susanne George

Pastoral Care Commission Report

Our most effective pastoral ministry is the announcement each week in the sheet which accompanies the order of service. In it we welcome people to contact us should they have some need that we might fulfill, or know of some need that should be addressed.

We are especially fortunate to have within our community Susanne George as deacon. Much of her contribution to the life of the community is in the pastoral work of this community. She writes: “I was involved in the Care Commission this year mostly as a pastoral care visitor to parishioners who are house bound or in a rehabilitation facility. I also have sent cards to people who are grieving the loss of a loved one, or who are recovering from an illness or surgery. I have enjoyed this ministry and being a team member of this commission.”

We are equally fortunate to have accomplished, over the past year, substantial stabilization in the life of one member of our community, a person whose needs were large, and who engaged many of the members of our community in pastoral assistance. Good intentions only go so far; a commitment of time and energy go much further, and the improvements in this person’s life have left us with a surfeit of people who would do more, were they to hear of needs.

Most of what we do is sending cards, and visiting, as we hear of difficult times in the lives of members of our community, which will continue, under the direction of our rector.

Respectfully submitted,
Walter Jonas and Pauline Ratta

Emmanuel History & Archives Report

Much of the work of History and Archives this past year has been done in conjunction with the Building and Web Commissions. Many thanks to Julian Bullitt, Patrick Cheng, Matt Griffith, Joy Howard, Susan Kieffer, Eileen and Larry Moyer, Elizabeth Richardson, and Mike Scanlon.

John Mears did a wonderful job of finding photographs in the Harvard Archives of the soldiers represented in the World War I memorial as we remember the Centennial of this War. World War I Memorial windows www.emmanuelboston.org/mission/building/world-war-memorial/.

The stained-glass triptych in our lobby, installed in 1920, was created by Henry Wynd Young (1874–1932), St. Michael (on the left) and the Archangel Gabriel (bearing a scroll inscribed Deus Iudex, meaning God judges) flank the memorial panel. Dated 1914-1918, it displays the shield’s of America’s allies: Britain, France, Italy, Belgium, Serbia and Japan. On either side, inscribed in stone are the names of parishioners lost in the Great War: We now have photos and brief biographies of Oric Bates, Edward Hooper Gardiner, Samuel Pierce Mandell, Edward Hale Perry, Nathan Stone Simpkins Jr., Kenneth Weeks, Lawrence Barrett Williams, and Richmond Young. We don’t have information or photos of Ezra Charles Fitch Jr., Prescott Wilder Gould, Harold Brittan Klingman, Davidge Warfield Patterson or Lawrence Barrett Williams but would welcome whatever might become available. Perhaps we could create a display of these photographs to hang nearby to help us remember these parishioners. We have a number of 19th and early 20th century images of Emmanuel that always attract attention when on display. Is there space to have a more permanent display of historic images?

We continued to add to the Emmanuel Timeline with entries on parishioners Pauli Murray 2012 named to Episcopal sainthood and Isabella Stewart Gardner confirmed at Emmanuel in 1864 www.emmanuelboston.org/category/timeline/.

Recently we’ve looked into what early Emmanuelites had to say about abolition and slavery. Look for a webpage on this to be available shortly. We know that Harriet Beecher Stowe’s daughters and sister had been confirmed at Emmanuel in 1862 and that we have a memorial window for Nathaniel Bowditch, son of the abolitionist and founder of the Anti-Man Hunting League William Ingersoll Bowditch , given by Emmanuel Church founder William Richards Lawrence, and that many of the Lawrences were abolitionists and decided to try to learn more.

We continue to work on the Emmanuel Building Guide, which has wonderful photographs by Julian Bullitt, Matt Griffith and Mike Scanlon. www.emmanuelboston.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/emmanuel-building-guide-2012-dec.pdf Work is progressing on a slideshow of building photographs and would love to figure out a way to include music in this.

We get inquiries from various people about past parishioners and baptisms and weddings. Many thanks to Janice Randall who has been a great help in looking into historic parish registers and with other inquiries.

I completed my term on the board of the Parish Historians’ Society. The annual meeting was in April 2014 and the annual meeting was in April 2014 at St. Michael’s Marblehead, which has been celebrating their 300th anniversary. The 2014 Annual Meeting will be April 25, 2015 at Christ Church, Quincy. There was much discussion at this meeting of what’s involved with digitizing photographs, and keeping track of and captioning images.

We would welcome help with digitizing photographs and would also be interested in knowing what you might have tucked away that might add to what we have of Emmanuel images. While we have some photos of people and events we know our collection is far from comprehensive.

We are working on a one page Emmanuel Church building highlights guide as proposed by Jessica Shaughnessy, and hope to have that out sometime in 2015.

Oral history interviews with parishioners could be a wonderful addition to our archives (and website).

We have wonderful space for the Archives, shared with various people, books and other records. We hope to update our archives inventory once the other paper files have settled down, and to better organize Archive collections.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Chitty

Meeting will be April 25, 2015 at Christ Church, Quincy.
Parish Operations Manager Report

As I began my transition into the position of Parish, Building, and Financial Administrator at Emmanuel Church a year ago, I felt right at home. Being a life-long Episcopalian, involved at Emmanuel, in the Diocese and at The Crossing gave me a special insight into why my job mattered. I saw the life flowing through our community in an enriching way, and that energy gave me everything I needed to thrive in my new position. Becoming the parish operations manager gave me an opportunity to test my strengths and help build the capacity at 15 Newbury St. I came into this position with 4 over-arching goals: to change banks, to improve our membership database, to hire an administrative assistant that would help build our capacity, and to create a standard operations policy and procedure for the staff and guests that find themselves in any way at Emmanuel. We have in the last year changed banks from Bank of America to Eastern Bank, we have an additional wonderful administrative assistant, Greg Johnston, we are currently transitioning our membership databases to streamline our processes, and we have a solid, working document for our standard operations procedures. I’d say it’s been a full and successful year.

In addition to holding the larger picture, I am tasked with the pleasure of balancing the minute details of the daily operations that range between finding lost items left by visitors, organizing large Diocesan events, orienting more than 100 people to a new key system, managing payroll, paying the bills, building the bulletin and most importantly helping parishioners have everything they need to maintain and build the love, care and capacity of Emmanuel. This past year has been challenging in all the best ways; it has shown me what I can do and what to ask for help. Broadly, we have welcomed back nearly 40 communities to meetings, concerts, and events and welcomed in 22 new communities and organizations. While we have said goodbye to 3 exceptional sextons, we have added 4 dedicated and hospitable sextons to our staff family. As we gear up for a new season of Emmanuel Summer Music Festival, Greg and I continuously learn to lean into the grace that allows us to hold over 60 different groups within our walls, making it a loving and safe home for all. In this next year my larger goals are centered around streamlining organization from the third floor offices to the basement storage areas, which will include preparing heavily and efficiently for your next parish operations manager. While I am excited to move forward in the organization process as a postulant and begin seminary in the fall, I am both sad to leave home and excited for what comes next for Emmanuel. It has been my deep and life-giving pleasure to serve Emmanuel Church and I look forward to an exceptionally organized and energized year.

Respectfully submitted,
Janice Randall

Administrative Assistant Report – Janice Randall

As Administrative Assistant, I assisted with general administration: answered or directed phone calls and emails; responded to requests for information, especially archival information; and fielded mail. I have assisted with church tours and prepared materials, and distributed newcomer information cards. Additionally, I prepared the weekly bank deposits. Finally, I served as primary wedding coordinator.

Wedding Summary
• The number of weddings held during 2014 was 11. Looking ahead to 2015, deposits have been received to date for three upcoming weddings.
• Since 2005, the least number of weddings was in 2005 (3) and the most in 2007 (17). Although the number of weddings varies per year, Rev. Werntz’s decision to increase rental fees in 2013 has helped to sustain a “healthy” and welcome revenue source.
• Additionally, as Emmanuel receives many requests for use of our space, we continue to try to accommodate requests for weddings, even if a first choice date by the couple is not available.
$22,350.00 was received in 2014 for weddings (balances due for weddings in 2014 and deposits for weddings in 2015).

Emmanuel History and Church Tours

A 45 minute tour outline was prepared a few years ago and continues to be available to staff or other church members interested in conduction a church tour. A shorter version is also available. Provide tours when request-
patience and a respectful discourse while he embarks on a “listening tour”. He requested postponement of the adoption of a diocesan mission strategy until 2016.

Elections were held for a new clerical member of the Standing Committee and alternate clerical and lay deputies to serve as needed at the 2015 General Convention. Two newly configured congregations in North Easton and Danvers were recognized. Approval was given to the clergy compensation guidelines for 2015, the Diocesan Assessments and the 2015 $8.2 million budget.

This year’s Mission Institute awarded grants to El Hogar Ministries, which provides housing and schools for disadvantaged children in Honduras; the organization partners with the Parish of the Epiphany, Winchester. Presentations were given by the two newest Mission hubs, serving immigrant communities in Boston’s Metro West and the North Shore.

Thanks were given to the staff and clergy of St Stephen’s for hosting the convention. The Diocesan staff and all those associated with the process of transition and consecration of the new bishop received recognition, while appreciation was expressed to Trinity Church, Boston and those involved in the funeral service for Bishop Shaw.

During the service of Holy Communion, the delegates heard from Bishop Gayle Harris and Rev. T. James Koderza about the consequences of war and, in particular, the devastation caused by the atomic bombings in Hiroshima and Nagasaki nearly 70 years ago.

Following lunch there was a presentation about the Episcopal Relief and Development’s upcoming $7.5 million campaign, celebrating its 75th anniversary in 2015. An offering was collected for the fund in the midday service.

The Committee on Resolutions presented four resolutions. The convention voted to send an additional memorial to the Episcopal Church’s Generation Convention to promote multi-faith knowledge among lay and ordained church leaders. There were three resolutions, two of which related to the investment policy of the Diocese. The delegates approved the resolution which endorsed an inclusive approach to sustainable and responsible investing, but rejected a resolution which called for divestment from three U.S. companies dealing with the West Bank Settlements. Finally, the convention approved a resolution which called upon the General Convention to divest from fossil fuel companies and to reinvest in clean, renewable energy; a provision for specific percentages of clean energy sector investment was deleted from the resolution prior to the vote.

The business of the Convention concluded with resolutions which expressed gratitude to the life and service of Bishop Shaw, a welcome to Bishop Gates and agreement to postpone a new mission strategy until 2016, as requested by Bishop Gates.

All proceedings are described in more detail at http://www.diomass.org/diocesan-convention-2014. Respectfully submitted, Matt Griffing and Ann Higgins

Emmanuel Music Report

Overview: In 2014 Ryan Turner, Music Director of Emmanuel Church and Artistic Director of Emmanuel Music, marked his fifth season as Artistic Director of the ensemble. John Harbison continued as Principal Guest Conductor, with many of his works programmed in the Sunday liturgies.

Activities and Operations

Artistic: The Sunday Cantata Series, the heart of Emmanuel Music, continues, coordinating with the weekly liturgy. With Ryan Turner as principal conductor, guest conductors included Michael Beattie, John Harbison, and James Olsen. Highlights of the cantata series included a premiere of a C.P. E. Bach cantata, Britten’s Cantata Misortundum, and a premiere of the chorales of a co-commissioned cantata, Supper at Emmaus, by John Harbison, in memory of Craig Smith. In addition, a number of Saturday cantata rehearsals were opened to the public. Emmanuel Music was privileged to participate in the consecration of the 16th bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts, Alan Gates. Ryan Turner led a chorus of hundreds of singers from churches throughout the diocese in the service, and Emmanuel brass players provided thrilling accompaniment to the service. A very successful Lenten noontime recital series continued in Leslie Lindsey Chapel for six weeks featuring four-hand fortepiano works with members of the Emmanuel Music ensemble. In January, Emmanuel Music presented two performances of Stephen Sondheim’s A Little Night Music at Boston Conservatory. In May, Handel’s oratorio Susanna was presented, preceded by a talk by Ellen Harris, noted Handel scholar. In September, our evening concert, Encore, featuring a premiere by John Harbison of the same name, was presented at Longy School of Music, and was preceded by a talk featuring John Harbison, John Heiss, and poet Louise Glick. The four-year Beethoven Chamber Series concluded in March, and a multi-season Mendelssohn-Wolf Chamber Series was inaugurated in November.

Organizational: We are fortunate that John Harbison continues to be involved as Principal Guest Conductor, and that Michael Beattie holds multiple roles as Artistic Administrator, vocal coach, and continuo player. There were major changes in the staff: Director of Development Jude Epstein Bedel and husband Olivier welcomed a new baby, Quentin, and Jude took a maternity leave in October through December. Communications Manager Allie Fiske moved on to a position at New England Foundation for the Arts, and was succeeded by Joanna Springer. Again, a number of interns and volunteers supported Operations, Development and Marketing efforts as well as offered general office support. We are especially grateful for the extraordinary assistance of Julian Bulilit, in too many areas to list, and to Jim Bradley, for his weekly assistance with cantata set-up. Lois Beattie has been an essential member of the administrative team. Thomas Stephenson, Geoff Steadman and the recording engineer team continue to extend our operations within our budget, and to continue to build the Emmanuel Music recording archive. Pamela Dellal continues her critical function with the weekly coordination of the texts, translations, and notes that appear in the Sunday bulletins.

Kate Kush continued to lead the Emmanuel Music Board in 2014. Rick Stone and Ruth Tucker stepped down when their three-year terms concluded. Harpsichordist Charles Sherman joined the board in October.

Community Connections and Outreach: In 2014, The Bach Institute took place during the month of January, coached by Emmanuel Music faculty, and with 14 college and conservatory students, coached by Emmanuel Music faculty. They presented a performance of Bach: they joined the Emmanuel ensemble for three Sunday cantatas; they presented outreach performances at nursing homes, retirement centers, and at the Chittick School in Boston; and they performed a final concert for the Emmanuel community and the public in Lindsey Chapel. In addition, there were free public events including weekly cantata talks and a Master Class with Pamela Dellal, and a talk by John Harbison.

Our successful Community Connections partnerships with the Boston Arts Academy, Perkins School for the Blind, and the Murphy, Dever, and Edison Public Schools in Dorchester are continuing with many Emmanuel musicians participating in performances, master classes, and lecture/demonstrations, under the coordination of Janye West. Students from the Boston Arts Academy presented their end-of-year recital at Emmanuel Church, with an audience of parents, friends, and faculty. These opportunities take the music of Emmanuel to a wider community, while also bringing young people and their parents into Emmanuel Church. We are grateful that the Rowland Foundation continues to fund the Community Connections program. A new initiative in 2014 was a Boston Public School outreach with Emmanuel Music faculty Gail Abbey, Paul Guntry, and Tim Steele, who spent three months working with teachers and elementary students in three schools, culminating in a performance at the Strand Theater entitled Home around the World.

Administrative, Budget and Fundraising: In 2014, the aging Emmanuel Music database was replaced with a cloud-based service, with many more features enabling much more analysis of donations and ticket sales. The Development Director and board were actively involved in addressing a looming deficit, and because of their efforts, we finished our fiscal year in August with only a small deficit. We are deeply grateful to Emmanuel Church members who have stepped up to underwrite individual cantatas. In addition to significant support from individuals, and the Young Music Fund at Emmanuel Church, Emmanuel Music was fortunate to again receive funding from the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

Emmanuel Church: Emmanuel Music is honored to be the Ensemble-in-Residence at Emmanuel Church, our home and the community that enables us to present the music of Bach and other great composers. We are especially appreciative of the ongoing, collaborative, and critical support of Pam Wernitz, the Emmanuel Church Vestry, the staff, and the congregation.

Respectfully submitted, Ryan Turner and Pat Krol
Central Reform Temple Report

This past year, 2014, we inaugurated our 10th Anniversary year as we continue with our mission of being a “Progressive Jewish congregation, worshipping in the historic liberal traditions of Classical Reform Judaism… a house of prayer for all people, nurturing spirituality and learning and we work for justice and peace in our community and around the world…” We are grateful for our shared life with you, our dear friends of Emmanuel Church. We could not be who we are without you.

Our community continues to grow in the slow, steady pace that we feel is best, with just over 140 members, and we have had discussions on maintaining our close knit community by planning a gradual increase up to 200 members. We are gratified that our demographic diversity remains broad, encompassing people of all ages and spiritual backgrounds.

We continue to provide two Sabbath Evening Services each month through the leadership of our Rabbi, Howard Berman. We have also instituted a monthly dinner following the second Shabbat service of the month that has had attendance of over 30 people each month. We also continue to offer Shabbat Torah Study once a month with Rabbi Devon Lerner. Our monthly movie night has been successful as well and we invite you all to join us to watch and discuss.

Our trip to Cuba brought 27 members of CRT, Emmanuel and friends together to explore the complex political situation and the differing social and religious issues in today’s Cuban society, as well as experience and see the beauty of the country and its people - along with its many challenges.

Our Seder was well attended once again, and brought together our congregation with members of Emmanuel Church, to share in the traditions of Passover. Rabbi Berman continued to highlight the story of Miriam, Moses’ sister, and the other women in the narrative of the Exodus, through the newly published version of the Haggadah, the Passover liturgy, which our rabbi edited and is which is now being used by congregations and families throughout the country.

Summertime brought about large crowds for our worship services, as well as several new programs. From our services held in Provincetown, to visiting members in their homes, our community continued to come together despite summer time travels.

With the ending of the summer, we ushered in our celebration of the New Year 5775 and our 10th Anniversary year with the observance of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Our Sukkah stood proudly again this year outside Emmanuel Church and brought visitors from around the world.

On November 7, we were joined by hundreds of our members and friends for our Interfaith Community Service of Celebration of our Temple’s decade of “Spirit, Study and Service.” The clergy of many of our neighboring churches participated in our worship, with special music by our combined choirs, and messages by Pam Werntz and Nancy Taylor, Senior Minister of Old South Church.

Our Social Action Committee continues our outreach with two significant initiatives. Central Reform Temple’s relationship with the Tobin Elementary School in Mission Hill began several years ago. Through our efforts we have seen an amazing improvement of the grounds of the school with our spring and fall clean up. This community respects the grounds now with a noticeable change in the amount of trash and broken bottles. We again provided a binder with school supplies to students in the 6th grade so that all have the tools needed for success. Rabbi Berman discussed the meaning of Passover to the 5th grade class and they showed us their homemade Seder Plates. Our Chanukah gift drive to provide uniforms for students to keep them warm raised a record total of contributions again this year.

We also continued our High Holy Day food drive for the Greater Boston Food Bank between Rosh Hashanah and Sukkot that collected 780 pounds of food, providing 650 meals to people in our communities who are in need. Bringing bags of food to our High Holy Day Services has become a distinctive Central Reform tradition.

Central Reform continued with our relationship with the Peace Islands- Boston Dialog Foundation, a Turkish Muslim group, with whom we have established an interfaith dialogue over the past five years. The wom-en of both communities decided that they wanted to meet separately (in addition to the ‘coed’ meetings). Between 15-20 women, calling themselves “Sisters in Spirit”, meet every 6 weeks and have engaged in rich conversations about our two faith traditions, meaningful ritual symbols, customs surrounding death and dying, holidays and most recently about the being Jews and Muslims in America at Christmas.

On December 14, Central Reform Temple once again offered our holiday gift to the community with the fifth annual Chanukah Cantata, “A Light through the Ages”. This is an effort that requires the hands and hearts of so many of our members, as well as musicians from Zamir Chorale of Boston. With over 500 people, our large, and not just from CRT, we had attendees of all faiths from all over the metropolitan area, many of whom have attended previously; this is being welcomed as a holiday gift offering along side so many well established seasonal musical programs and performances.

This coming year as we continue to celebrate our anniversary year, we look forward to expanding our collaborations with Emmanuel Church - both in our shared programs of the Emmanuel Center, as well as our celebrations of each other’s traditions. Our very special relationship with Emmanuel Church, and the collegial support of Pam Werntz and the people of the Parish, make this all possible. We were happy to participate in the Emmanuel Church Building fund drive. We value and respect our unique and fulfilling relationship with our trusted friends at Emmanuel Church and look forward to the future.

Respectfully submitted,
Todd Katzman, President

Emmanuel Center Report

Emmanuel Center continues its commitment to collaboration and fun. In 2014, we had just a handful of programs (for our CRT/Emmanuel community and for a broader audience), with a focus on fostering relationships among the members of Emmanuel Church and Central Reform Temple. We welcomed three new members to our Board in 2014 – Frank Bunn, Harriet Finkelstein and Michael Scanlon, and thanked Penny Lane for her service as she stepped down.

This year, after being “snowed out” of our Putim-Mardi Gras festivities in 2013, we enjoyed a Late Winter Salon in March in Parish Hall. Food appeared in abundance as everyone brought something delicious to share. Somehow it always works out that there is a wonderful mix of savory and sweet, starters, main dishes and desserts. With a little wine, soda and sparkling cider, many of our ‘family members’ shared their talents – music, dramatic readings, poetry. Joy Howard and Marc LaCasse were the emcees and a good time was had by all.

In April, more than 30 from the two congregations enjoyed an evening of theater seeing “The Book of Mormon”. Several gathered at Petit Robert before the play for dinner and a bit of dialog about the subject matter, before meeting at the Opera House. Again, it was another fun occasion where members of both congregations got to spend an evening breaking bread together, and being encouraged to think about the juncture of spirituality and the arts in its many guises.

After planning and organizing during the spring and summer months, we kicked off a 3-part series marking the 150th Anniversary of the Civil War, subtitled “Spiritual perspectives of the struggle and its legacy”. On October 12th, we viewed the feature documentary film, Traces of the Trade: A Story from the Deep North, in which filmmaker Katrina Browne discovers that her New England ancestors were the largest slave-trading family in US history. Dain and Constance Perry, who appear in the film and are, respectively, descendants of the slave-owning and slave families depicted in the story, were the guest facilitators who lead our discussion. It was a powerful and provocative conversation, one which we hope to continue in 2015, along with the second two parts of the series - a dialogue between Rabbi Berman and Massachusetts State Representative Byron Rushing about the impact of the Episcopal and Jewish role in the Civil War, the Slave trade and Abolition in January and a presentation by Gary Zola based on his book about Abraham Lincoln and the Jews entitled “They Called Him Rabbi Abraham” in April.

Under the aegis of Emmanuel Center, the Spirituality and Science group continued to meet on a periodic basis throughout 2015 on topics as diverse as “The Big Bang” and what makes humans unique in the animal kingdom.
My gratitude to our Board, who, with energy and imagination, meet regularly to develop programming which seeks to celebrate and nurture the human spirit. This is an effort that is well-worth our collective engagement and one for which I am proud to serve.

Respectfully submitted,
Jill S. Silverstein, Ed.D., President of the Board

Nominating Committee for 2015: Gail Abbey, Frank Bunn, Barbara DeVries, Nadja Gould, Paul Guttry, Penny Lane, Pam Wernitz

Proposed Slate for election at Annual Meeting Feb 8, 2015

Vestry member: 3 year term  
3 year term Elizabeth Richardson  
3 year term James Olesen  
3 year term Matthew Griffing

Senior Warden: 1 year term  
Penelope Lane (3rd and last year)

Junior Warden: 1 year term  
Frank Bunn (3rd and last year)

Treasurer: 1 year term  
Barbara DeVries (5th year - no term limit)

Clerk: 1 year term  
Paul Guttry (5th year - no term limit)

 DioMass Convention Delegate: 1 year term Matthew Griffing

 DioMass Convention Alternate: 1 year term Barbara Oder

 Boston Harbor Deanery Delegate: 1 year term James Bradley and Walter Jonas

 Episcopal City Mission Delegate: 1 year term Joy Howard  
1 year term Michael Scanlon

 Episcopal Relief & Development: 1 year term Peggy Bradley

Courtesies

WE EXPRESS OUR PROFOUND GRATITUDE TO:

1. Penelope Lane, Senior Warden, and Frank Bunn, Junior Warden, Barbara Devries, Treasurer, and Paul Guttry, Clerk for their spirit-filled and steady leadership over the last year.

2. Gail Abbey and Nadja Gould for their completed terms on vestry, and Shan Overton for more than two years of service on vestry.

3. All who serve on vestry, as delegates, and as representatives of Emmanuel Church.

4. Michael Scanlon, Chair of the Building Commission, Julian Bullitt engineer extraordinaire, and all the members of the Building Commission and Green Team for their good and helpful deeds at 15 Newbury Street too numerous to list. To CWS folks who keep the inside of the building looking great.

5. Peter Johnson for serving as Project Manager for the Back Wall restoration.

6. Ryan Turner, Nancy Granett, John Harbison, Michael Beattie, Joan Ellersick, all of the musicians of Emmanuel Music, all who sing in the Chapel Choir and play for chapel services, who provide beautiful music and joy to our worship.

7. Tamra Tucker and the office, building and event staff and volunteers of Emmanuel Church and Emmanuel Music for smoothing our way at every turn. To Pat Krol for her energy and enthusiasm for collaboration.

8. Janice Randall for her years of service coordinating weddings and other administrative support. We extend blessings on her retirement.

9. Howard Berman, Rabbi in Residence, Todd Katzman, synagogue president, and all of the members of Central Reform Temple whose relationship with Emmanuel Church is a blessing.


11. Meg Anderson, Karen Thompson and all the members of the Altar Guild for dedication, flexibility and grace in the performance of their work; to Scott Corey-Dunbar for his added attention to weddings; and to Glenn Seberg for his attention to floral arrangements for liturgical festivals in the last year.

12. Mary Blocher and Scott Corey-Dunbar, Co-chairs of Worship Commission, Stephen Babcock for his reliable friendly service as head usher, and to all who assist in leading worship as sub-deacons, acolytes, lectors, prayer leaders, ushers and Eucharistic ministers.

13. All who made Holy Week and Easter services particularly beautiful in 2014.

14. Martha Tucker, Catherine Healy, Bill Cruse, Jiana Johannaber, Jessi Naff, and Rebekah Woolf for choosing Emmanuel Church for their internships.

15. Peggy Bradley, of the Hospitality Committee, for her leadership in ensuring warm, inviting, and delicious hospitality after worship services, and to all who bring food and who help host special events.

16. Helen McKinney and Susanne George for launching the Small Wonders program for children of the parish.

17. Frank Bunn, chair, and all who work on the Development Committee, which includes follow up by Gail Abbey and Jim Bradley on the TogetherNow Campaign.

18. Tom Barber and John Mears, Co-chairs, and all of the members of the Stewardship Committee who have worked to ensure another successful Pledge Stewardship Season.

19. Jim Bartlett, chair, and all who work on the Finance Commission

20. Margo Risk, editor, and all who contribute to the production of our fabulous parish newsletter Voices.

21. All who led Chapel Camp activities during the Summer.

22. Pauline Ratta and Walter Jonas, co-chairs of the Pastoral Care Commission, and all who quietly and consistently provide pastoral care in the name of Emmanuel Church.

23. Meg Abbey, Matthew Griffing and Michael Scanlon for superb graphic design and photo documentation of parish life.

24. Matthew Griffing, Elizabeth Richardson, and the members of the Web Committee for their fine management of Emmanuel Church’s web pages.

25. Mary Chitty, archivist and historian.

26. Penny Lane for gathering Emmanuel knitters in her home every month.

27. Emmanuel Center board members for implementing our vision of interfaith collaboration.

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28. Helen McKinney, and all who planned, fund-raised, shopped, cooked, and served lunch to the B-SAFE day campers at St. Mary’s Church in July.

All who prepared material for the 2014 Annual Report and today’s Annual Meeting.

Closing Song

God has done marvelous things

Mar - vel - ous, mar - vel - ous, mar - vel - ous

God has done mar - vel - ous, God has done

God has done

mar - vel - ous things! Praise the Lord!

mar - vel - ous things! Praise the Lord!

mar - vel - ous things! Praise the Lord!

mar - vel - ous things! Praise the Lord!

Notes
Emmanuel Church in the City of Boston

Sunday 10:00am—Holy Eucharist in the Sanctuary.

Emmanuel Church Staff
The Rev. Pamela L. Werntz, Rector
The Rt. Rev. J. Clark Grew, Senior Pastoral Assistant
The Rev. Dr. Frederick Stecker, Priest Associate
The Rev. Susanne George, Deacon
Ryan Turner, Music Director
Nancy Granert, Organist
Catherine Healy, Seminarian
Interns:
Liana Johannaber, Jessi Naff, and Bekah Woolf
Tamra Tucker, Parish Operations Manager
Janice Randall, Administrative Assistant
Greg Johnston, Administrative Assistant
Donald Firth, Controller
Event Sextons:
Dennis Gaskell, Katie Everett,
Jessica Shaughnessy, Dov Plotkin,
Rachel-Olivia Strauss, Jac Picard,
Jeremy Vaughan

Emmanuel Church Vestry
Penelope Lane, Senior Warden
Frank Bunn, Junior Warden
Paul Guttry, Clerk
Barbara DeVries, Treasurer
Gail Abbey
Tom Barber
Jim Bartlett
Jutta Friedrichs
Nadia Gould
Margaret Johnson
Helen McKinney
Barbara Oder
Joseph Yeretsian
Pat Krol, ex-officio

Emmanuel Music has been Ensemble-in-Residence in Emmanuel Church since 1970.
Craig Smith, Founder and Artistic Director (1947-2007)
Ryan Turner, Artistic Director
John Harbison, Principal Guest Conductor
Pat Krol, Executive Director
www.emmanuelmusic.org 617-536-3356

Central Reform Temple of Boston, a Progressive Jewish Congregation, makes its home in Emmanuel Church.
Rabbi Howard Berman
info@centralreformtemple.org  617-262-1202

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