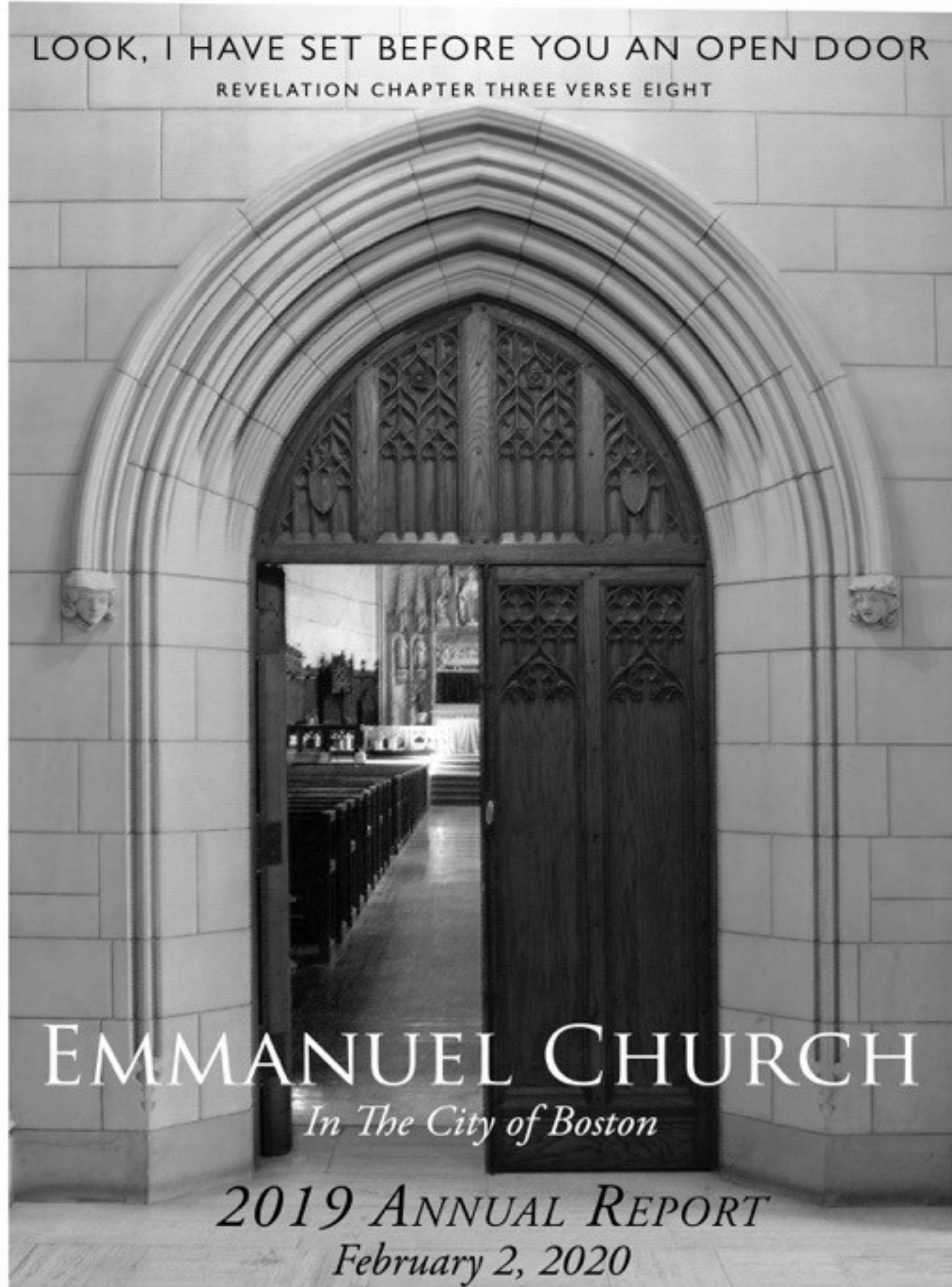


LOOK, I HAVE SET BEFORE YOU AN OPEN DOOR  
REVELATION CHAPTER THREE VERSE EIGHT



**Annual Meeting: Sunday, February 2, 2020  
Agenda**

- ◇ Call to Order
- ◇ Establishment of a quorum
- ◇ Approval of Minutes from the 2019 Annual Meeting
- ◇ Recognition of Commissions and Committees
- ◇ Warden and Clergy remarks
- ◇ Talk of the Parish
- ◇ Treasurer Remarks (including budget discussion)
- ◇ Election of Vestry members, Clerk, Treasurer, Wardens, Delegates and Representatives
- ◇ Recognition of outgoing Vestry members and Officers
- ◇ Courtesy resolutions
- ◇ Open Forum
- ◇ Closing Song

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*Thanks for the photos shared in this report, taken by members of the Emmanuel community.*

## Emmanuel Church Annual Meeting Minutes February 3, 2019 at 12:30 in the Parish Hall

**Senior Warden Tom Barber** called the meeting to order. He asked our clerk, Sharon Ballard to certify that a quorum of parishioners was present – she confirmed that we did in fact have a quorum of parishioners present (a quorum for Emmanuel constituting more than 28 parishioners present).

This is the **159<sup>th</sup>** annual meeting of Emmanuel Church!

Tom next offered a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the 2018 Annual Meeting. The minutes are incorporated into the Annual Report. The congregation approved the motion.

Tom recognized all of the people who make up the commissions and committees at Emmanuel. In particular, he mentioned our thanks for Jaylyn Olivo and Luke Abdow for making lunch today and the vestry for providing desert and drinks.

### Senior Warden’s Remarks

Tom remarked that both he and Elizabeth Richardson (acting as senior and junior wardens respectively) were grateful that we survived Pam’s sabbatical. We were fortunate to have the support of Rick Stecker leading our Sunday Services in August, Susan Ackley, serving as sabbatical priest in residence as well as Bob Greiner, our deacon, to lead us and provide pastoral care. We were very fortunate to experience some great sermons, more puppets and poetry and a new healing ministry Eucharist, as well as thoughtful pastoral care. Tom also expressed his gratitude for our mission partners, CRT and EMI as well as the growing support from and for Ecclesia Ministries. Working together as an extended community with the support of all these individuals, organizations and people in the congregation helped to strengthen our bonds as a community and make us stronger.

The Vestry Vibes summarizes all of the activities the vestry undertook in 2018. Tom included all of these activities the vestry has undertaken in 2018 in the Warden Remarks in the Annual Report.

As part of the Mutual Ministry Review the vestry and Pam engaged in during January of 2018, we reflected back on the highs and lows we encountered on the vestry and set some goals to address areas we wanted to improve. Two themes in particular emerged:

1. Improve our financial literacy – most vestry members perceived that we collectively did not understand aspects of our parish finances as well as needed. To that end, in 2018, the vestry embarked on following initiatives: adding vestry member to the finance commission (so they could report back on our finances to the group), understanding more about our stewardship campaign and budgets, and presented on the topics of stewardship and financial matters at monthly vestry meetings. As a result of these activities, the Vestry has improved its understanding of our finances.
2. Enhance our efforts to communicate better with the parish. To that end, we started writing the Vestry Vibes. We have also tried to provide more updates to our Facebook page.

Tom concluded by saying the State of our Parish is strong – and 2018 was a wonderful year at Emmanuel.

### Rector’s Remarks

Pam mentioned that in 2019, she is looking forward to working on 3 initiatives:

1. **Emmanuel House:** As the Emmanuel House opened at the end of the 2018 summer, Pam hopes to help the residents settle into their life as a community and into the life of our parish as well as how to live as part of the Allston/Brighton neighborhood. As Pam discussed in her sermon today, evolving from living in a more solitary manner, to living as part of a community and then as part of our ministry is challenging. It is not linear evolutionary process. Pam asked both the Emmanuel House residents to stand (DeAnne Johnson, Jamie

Shore, Charlie Riggs, and Jonathan Smith – and then recognized the parishioners that have engaged and supported the Emmanuel House, including Mike Scanlon, Bill Margraf and Paddy Cavanaugh.

2. **INDABA Diocese Program:** The Diocese has initiated a conversation program for parishes to get to know each other in a deeper way. Emmanuel is paired with St. James Church (Porter Square), and Trinity Church (Marshfield). The conversations will take place in March (St. James will host in Porter Square), June (Trinity will host in Marshfield), and October 5-6 (Emmanuel will host here in Boston). Pam Wertz, Bill Margraf, Rebekah Rodrigues, and Matt Griffing will participate on the Emmanuel team. There will be opportunities for parishioners to get involved with hosting people from the other parishes on the weekend of Oct 5-6th.
3. **Parish wide planning study to address failing Lindsey Organ.** We have hired a consultant to help us with assessing our options and the planning process for rehabilitating our Lindsey Chapel Organ. We have some cost estimates that indicate repairs to the organ will cost in the range of \$450,000 to \$600,000 while a new organ will cost in the range of \$650,000 to \$700,000. We are also considering adding air conditioning to Lindsey Chapel and Parish House. A careful planning process and assessment of our options is required to decide how to move forward. The opinions of people in our parish will help us decide on our final plan. During the next several weeks, all parishioners will have the opportunity to take part in the feasibility study process. The consultant will provide a survey, undertake one-on-one interviews, and conduct focus groups. We encourage everyone to give honest and open input. Pam expressed that she is interested in the advice and counsel from members of the parish. If anyone has any questions on this, please share them during the open forum at the end of the meeting.

Pam next presented some slides from her sabbatical. She first presented slides on events that happened at 15 Newbury Street when she was away. She then presented slides that showed how she spent her sabbatical – learning Qur’anic Arabic, spending some time with family on vacation in August and her travels with Joy to Turkey, Austria and Spain (in search of hamsas!). Pam shared that her sabbatical was a time of integration, weaving together different parts and phases of her life. Studying and learning Arabic was more of a heart centered exercise whereby she focused more on Arabic calligraphy and words than learning to speak the language.

### Treasurer’s Report and Remarks

Sam Warren provided the Treasurer’s Report and presented highlights from 2018 financials and the 2019 budget. We started off 2018 with strong pledge fulfillment during January and February. However, we also had some unanticipated heating/utility costs over the winter period. We adjusted our budget for heating/utility expenses higher for 2019 based on the results of 2018. Fortunately, we experienced strong pledge fulfillment at end 2018. This enabled us to come out ahead of our budget even with the higher heating/utility expenses. The vestry has passed a balanced budget for 2019.

Emmanuel Investments. The total value of our investments is down in 2018 as compared to 2017. We attribute this decrease in value to the last quarter in 2018, when the markets declined. Overall, our investments have grown and retained their value. We had such a strong year in 2017, that we are able to weather any small decline in 2018.

Sam offered his appreciation to the folks in parish administration, including Amanda March, Sarah Brock, Morgan Middlebrook and Don Firth for their help. In addition, Sam thanked George Mutrie, who just retired from Morgan Stanley, as he has been our investment manager at Emmanuel for a long time. The congregation recognized George for all his work on behalf of Emmanuel.

Sam asked parishioners if they had any comments or questions. “It’s amazing,” one parishioner noted.

No one had any other comments or questions on our financials.

### Election of Officers/Vestry/Delegates

This year, we have 5 vestry member positions open. Two of our officers, Sam Warren and Sharon Ballard are stepping down.

**Nominations for Vestry and Officers.** See below.

Office	Nominee (all have been asked/willingness confirmed)
Senior Warden; 1-year term	Tom Barber (3 <sup>rd</sup> )
Junior Warden; 1-year term	Elizabeth Richardson (3 <sup>rd</sup> )
Treasurer; 1-year term	Gennifer Sussman (1 <sup>st</sup> )
Clerk; 1-year term	Liz Levin (1 <sup>st</sup> )
Vestry (3-year term)	Edgar Brenninkmeyer (1 <sup>st</sup> )
Vestry (3-year term)	Ellen Hinkle (1 <sup>st</sup> )
Vestry (3-year term)	Susan Kieffer (2 <sup>nd</sup> )
Vestry (3-year term)	Bill Margraf (1 <sup>st</sup> )
Vestry (2-year completion of unfulfilled term)	DeAnne Johnson
Vestry (1-year completion of unfulfilled term)	Mary Beth Clack
DioMass Convention delegates (1-year term)	Matthew Griffing & Jim Olesen
DioMass Convention alternate (1-year term)	Paddy Cavanaugh
Boston Harbor Deanery delegates (1-year term)	Margaret Lias & Charlie Riggs
Episcopal City Mission delegates (1-year terms)	Joy Howard & Mike Scanlon
Episcopal Relief & Development rep (1-year term)	Jamie Shore

Nominations - unanimously elected as presented.

Motion to Approve Vestry/Officers/Delegates: Motion Approved.

Four vestry members will continue serving on the vestry, including Pavel Hradecky, Peter Johnson, Matt Griffing and Jim Olesen.

One parishioner asked if we could recognize and thank Ann Higgins for her work organizing parishioners who make sandwiches for BostonWarm. It is a big job coordinating the making of 80 sandwiches each week!

Pam next provided a thank you gift to vestry members leaving service – Robert Diettrich, Sharon Ballard and Sam Warren were in attendance.

As Pam does each year, she then presented flowers in special recognition to parishioners who offer steady, quiet and reliable service to the community. This year Pam gave bouquets to following people: Mary Chitty, for her historical research and archiving work; Robert Diettrich for legal pro-bono work on behalf of the Church; and Nancy Peabody for her all her work on the building commission task force, and the patience and good humor she brings to the task.

Courtesy Resolutions. (see 2018 Annual Report at page 37)

We had 26 courtesy resolutions. After we read the 26 resolutions, Pam added 2 more: 27) Jaylyn Olivo and Luke Abdow for preparing lunch and the Vestry for offering dessert; and 28) Ann Higgins for organizing/delivering sandwiches for BostonWarm.

Motion to Adopt Resolutions – Passed.

### Open Forum

Pam asked parishioners to ask any questions or discuss any issues.

- One parishioner asked the group to eat the dessert!
- Another parishioner noted that Chapel Choir this past summer was particularly beautiful and wanted to recognize Kevin Neel and the people singing in the chapel choir. Another parishioner noted that Kevin Neel is wonderful to work with – and especially wanted to thank him.
- Steven Babcock thanked all parishioners who help him with the collection, ushering and participate in the offertory and communion elements of the service. Steve mentioned that people are very gracious and always accept to participate in the service when he asks them. It has been a delight to have such great people to work with.
- Another parishioner thanked members of CRT who ushered at Christmas Eve. Pam mentioned that this was Bob Greiner's idea. And another parishioner extended a thank you to Pat Krol. Pat is the one person who is in our building almost every day of the week and looks out for building and our community. She is often the first person to contact Julian Bullitt if we have a problem.

Motion to Adjourn—Passed

**The meeting was adjourned.** Ryan Turner led us in singing “God has done marvelous things.”

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Levin, clerk *pro tempore*

## Rector's Report

قُلْنَا يَا نَارُ كُونِي بَرْدًا وَسَلَامًا عَلَىٰ إِبْرَاهِيمَ

WE SAID, “O FIRE BE COOLNESS AND PEACE FOR IBRAHIM.” QUR’AN 21:69

When 2019 began, I had an abundance of energy and enthusiasm, having just returned from sabbatical study and rest. Little did I know that the most challenging year of my ministerial life was underway. For the next eight weeks or so, there was hardly a cold or stomach virus that my body didn't want to host. Then I suffered a badly sprained sacroiliac joint. Meanwhile, priestly, pastoral, teaching, and prophetic work demanded my best efforts, tested and used everything I had, and stretched me to grow and learn, much more than I wanted to, because growth spurts are clumsy and painful.

There is a beautiful story in the Qur'an about the Prophet Abraham (Ibrahim) calling the people in his home town to worship the Holy One and to cast aside all other gods. The people are so enraged that they threaten to throw him into a fire. The Holy One does not prevent Abraham from being tossed into the flames, but does command the fire to be coolness and peaceful (asalaam) for Abraham. The fire obeys and Abraham gets through it. As I thought about 2019 at Emmanuel Church, this passage came to mind because it has been a year of metaphorical fires, and yet, in the end, I realize that we have not been burned, and I have an overwhelming sense of well-being, restored health, and peace, for which I give thanks to God.



The Rev. Stephen Smith. Thankfully, there was much joy when Isla Elise Olesen was baptized in April. Alas, I did not preside over any weddings in 2019.

We collaborated with our neighbors, Church of the Covenant, Old West Church, and Ecclesia Ministries again on Maundy Thursday, and with Church of the Covenant for our Blue Christmas service. The Rev. Sarah Brock, formerly Parish Operations Manager, served as deacon the day after her ordination at the Cathedral in June. Our most innovative services this year were the celebrations of our newly-formed covenant at Central Reform Temple's Shabbat service and Emmanuel Church's Eucharist service; and the boutique blessing at Brunello Cuccinelli's store opening at 11 Newbury. We are blessed that they are our new neighbors due to how eager they are to be in a mutually supportive relationship with us because of our steady and compassionate hospitality to people who are often otherwise unwelcome on Newbury Street. What a breath of fresh air!

I continue to be very grateful for the liturgical and preaching gifts and friendship offered by my clergy colleagues in this past year: Deacon Bob Greiner, Rabbi Howard Berman, Bishop Clark Grew, Rick Stecker, Susan Ackley and Elise Feyerherm, as well as Bill Margraf and Jane Redmont for leading Healing Prayer services, and Paddy Cavanaugh and Susan Entin for leading Morning Prayer services. Thanks to all of the leaders and members of the Worship Commission and Altar Guild who help create the conditions conducive for us to draw nearer to the Holy One in wonder, love, and praise. Thanks to Ryan Turner and Kevin Neel for their superb musicianship and generous collaborative spirits.

At the end of July, we said goodbye to Sarah Brock, who answered a call to serve as curate at St. John's Church in Beverly Farms. Kevin Neel expressed interest in coming on board as our Parish Operations Manager at 4/5 time and Morgan Middlebrook agreed to increased responsibilities. Together, they are making the office sing!

Vocational discernment conversations with me and then with parish committees led Paddy Cavanaugh and Margaret Lias to formally apply for ordination, Paddy for the priesthood, and Margaret for the diaconate. Both were invited by the Bishop to become postulants. That's the good news. The bad news is that it means they will leave us as they continue their education and spiritual formation. There are six others who have met with me to talk about their vocational discernment(s), some for lay ministry and some for ordained ministry. In 2019, we celebrated Tamra Tucker's ordination to the priesthood at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul, and Keith Nelson's life vows at the Society of St. John the Evangelist monastery. Christen Mills, former Parish Assistant, was instituted as Rector of Epiphany Church, Walpole. Both the worshiping congregation and the parish office are vocational incubators!

As you'll read in building related reporting, this was an extremely busy year for capital projects. Our large and complex mission asset—our building and grounds—makes most of the ministry we do together possible. Accessibility and function were significantly compromised as doors, ramps, steps, elevator, kitchen, third floor construction, and roof work were all underway in the second half of the year. A heavy burden has been borne by staff and building users as these necessary repairs have been made. The members of the Building Commission, steered by a weekly task force comprising Mike Scanlon, Julian Bullitt, Nancy Mueller, Nancy Peabody, deserve our unending thanks for their sacrificial gifts of time and talent to keep our old building functioning and we are so grateful. We owe a huge debt of gratitude to Peter Johnson for project management for the entryway renovations, while wrapping up the back wall project. He also took on the oversight of our beautiful and challenging gardens.

Emmanuel's outreach continues in visionary and exciting ways. Our founding collaboration with Creche has resulted in three life-giving cooperative residential communities: The Creche House in Newton Centre, The Emmanuel House in Allston, and The Crossing House in North Cambridge. Plans are well underway for a St. Mary's House in Dorchester. Relationships are being cultivated to support dreams of intentional residential communities in at least two other congregations. Thanks to Mike Scanlon, Bill Margraf, Paddy Cavanaugh, and Jenn Poole for their thoughtful and helpful collaborations with the intentional communities. Thanks to Luke Abdow, Kevin Neil (not our organist), Charlie Riggs, Rebekah Rodrigues, Jonathan Smith, Jamie Shore, who live in the Emmanuel House, and Morgan Middlebrook, who lives in the Creche House, for their commitment and witness.

In other significant outreach, our annual B-SAFE commitment continued to be strong, thanks to Peggy Bradley, Luke Abdow, Bob Greiner, and all who raised money, gave money, knitted, sang, planned, shopped, cooked, served, accompanied and honored about 80 children and youth. Emmanuel participated in another 10,000 meal packaging event (Rise Against Hunger) this past year, held at The Church of the Advent for the whole deanery. The wide communication about our Covenant with Central Reform Temple is also a form of outreach, modeling for others what we believe is the first of its kind collaboration between a parish and a synagogue.

There are more people to thank than I can possibly list here. If you are reading this, you are among those for whom I am most grateful. As always, I give thanks to God for the large and generous love and support of my wife, Joy, and our family, Sarah and Sarah Beth and Khalil, Laura and Tim and Elliott Ann, and Grace, who make my work among you possible.

Respectfully submitted,  
The Rev. Pamela L. Werntz

## Warden's Report

While 2019 has been a turbulent time for domestic politics in the United States, in world affairs, and for our changing climate, and we at 15 Newbury Street have had our own challenges, we close the year with a renewed sense of purpose and gratitude, and awareness that Emmanuel Church as well as the community of our mission partners and guests have forged ever stronger bonds this year.

Purpose and gratitude: We have been led with energy and inspiration by our clergy: The Rev. Pamela Werntz, Rector; The Rev. Robert Greiner, Deacon; and associate clergy including



The Rt Rev. Clark Grew, The Rev. Dr. Rick Stecker, The Rev. Isaac Everett, The Rev. Susan Ackley, and The Rev. Elise Feyerherm (the latter two presiding at Friday afternoon Recovery Eucharists). Rabbi Howard Berman has continued to be an integral presence within the community, most noticeably at his final production of "A Light Through the Ages," a telling of the Chanukah story in word and song, attended by many Emmanuelites.

Our administrative staff, now led by Parish Administrator/Organist/Chapel Choir music director Kevin Neel, have created small miracles day in and day out not only for Emmanuel Church, but also for our several mission partners and the myriad guests who attend services, meetings, rehearsals and other events each week.

Our deep thanks to our vestry colleagues, who give so generously of their time, talent, wisdom and resources. Several members of the Executive Committee, comprising Liz Levin, Clerk, Gennifer Sussman, Treasurer, and ourselves (Elizabeth Richardson, Junior Warden and Tom Barber, Senior Warden), will be departing our present roles and taking on new ones, more to follow at the Annual Meeting.

We express our abiding gratitude for the parishioners of Emmanuel Church, whose radical welcome, deep commitment to social justice, passionate embrace and support of the arts and spirituality, stewardship of our building and support for our clergy and staff are truly extraordinary.

Emmanuel Music continues to enrich us with inspiring motets and cantatas during our worship and with a rich calendar of concerts, this year featuring especially the music of Britten and Bach. EMI and Emmanuel once again hosted gifted young musicians at the Bach Institute, and made plans for EMI's 2020 trip the Leipzig for the Bachfest. Kudos to all the EMI musicians, and especially to Music Director Ryan Turner, Executive Director Pat Krol, and President Dana Whiteside.

Central Reform Temple and Emmanuel exchanged vows of mutual commitment in 2019, writing and memorializing a covenant between ourselves, articulating our shared hope and expectation of an enduring rich relationship and life together at 15 Newbury St. We celebrated this unique relationship and its consecration at Friday Shabbat service and at Sunday Eucharist in October, 2019. The Emmanuel Center, our arts and spirituality collaborative, was active hosting events and activities, and we once again helped to usher each others' high holy days. We anticipate with mixed emotions Rabbi Howard Berman's planned retirement in May 2020.

Our collaboration with Ecclesia Ministries/*common cathedral* remained strong, as we continued many joint efforts to provide sanctuary, warmth, comfort, food, and spiritual sustenance to many on society's margins. Amanda Grant-Rose has continued expertly to lead the organization with grace and creativity.

**Forging ever stronger bonds:** A wise person once told me that good administration should be invisible, should clean up messes and make things better, and should do the right thing, especially when no one is looking. Listed below are selected issues, projects and ideas that have been discussed this year at your Vestry's meetings. I hope you will agree that the Vestry and your Clergy have been able administrators this year.

- **The Building Commission:** Once thought of as an albatross and money sink, we now view 15 Newbury Street as a valuable asset. It is tended with loving care by the Building Commission. Here is an update on some of their many projects:
  - The elevator in the parish hall is almost completely repaired. This has been a massive and complex labor due to the antiquity of the design and parts, and scarcity of workers who know how to repair such devices.
  - Thanks to a City of Boston Community Preservation grant of over \$300K, repairs on the front wall of the building, including new granite stairs at the parish hall entrance and repair to Newbury Street doors and more are underway.
  - The Building Commission has created a 5-year plan, and has explored extensively how to improve fire safety at 15 Newbury Street



- Thanks to a \$60K grant from a family foundation, air conditioning has been installed on the third floor of the Parish Hall, the location of most of the administrative offices for the parish, the synagogue, and Emmanuel Music, Inc.
- **Stewardship:** Led by co-chairs Liz Levin and Jamie Shore, we enjoyed a successful pledge stewardship season to support our finances in 2020.
- **Safety and security:** A task force met several times and has developed a safety and security plan for 15 Newbury St. CRT, EMI, Emmanuel, Ecclesia Ministries and our other mission partners have both unique and also overlapping security concerns. Representatives from each of our organizations have collaborated and have developed our own plans to optimize security and safety. We plan to install a defibrillator device early in 2020.
- **Ordination:** Parishioners and clergy formed discernment committees for Margaret Lias for the diaconate and Paddy Cavanaugh for the priesthood. We are thrilled that both Margaret and Paddy have been approved by the bishop to proceed as postulants for ordination.
- **Mission Hub/Creche:** Creche, very ably led by The Rev. Isaac Everett, was awarded an unrestricted grant of \$100K over 3 years from The Episcopal Church in recognition of the outstanding success of the Emmanuel House, the Creche House, and Creche's creative approach to fostering intentional communities.
- **Exploring the feasibility of renovating or replacing the aging Lindsey Chapel Organ:** The vestry engaged Jonathan Ambrosino to assist us in performing an analysis of whether and how to best preserve the Lindsey Chapel Organ. The Vestry also engaged Brian Raiche, an Episcopal priest in the Diocese of Massachusetts and development expert, to conduct a feasibility study for fundraising. We came to see proposed project both as a financial challenge and also in theological terms as we considered the fundamental role of music in our worship at Emmanuel Church, and in our wider community both in the main sanctuary and in the chapel. We have much more work ahead, and we are forming an organ committee and a fundraising committee now to lead the project forward.
- **Abraham: Out of One, Many:** Emmanuel Church collaborated with the Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Central Reform Temple and Dar Al-Islam of Boston to present an art installation by Muslim, Jewish and Christian artists inspired by life of Abraham and his faith journey. The installation was held at the Cathedral from October 27 - December 6. We also brought attention to Sarah and Hagar through a conversation series led by our own Jane Redmont.
- **Indaba:** Emmanuel Church, Trinity Church, Marshfield and St James's Church, Cambridge participated in this first iteration of the Indaba project, sponsored by the Diocese. The word Indaba, comes from Zulu, and means "business," or "matter." Representatives from each church visited the others for a weekend and shared ideas, concerns and hopes. Participants found the process to be extremely positive and we have formed strong relationships with members of the other parishes.
- **Vestry development:** Vestry members were oriented to our roles and responsibilities at a vestry meeting early in 2019, attended a Vestry retreat at the Bethany House in Arlington, attended an Emmanuel Center arts presentation in May, and educated ourselves about our fiduciary responsibilities with a series of presentations focusing on finance during our meetings. We engaged in a Mutual Ministry Review with our Rector and set meaningful goals for our leadership for 2020.
- **Commissions:** In addition to the Building Commission's monthly presentations at Vestry meetings, we heard updates by Jim Bartlett, chair of the Finance Commission, and Matt Griffing, along with Susan Kieffer and Elizabeth Richardson about the Communications Commission.
- **Welcome:** Welcome is a part of everything that we do in our community. Two events stand out in 2019. First, the Welcome Table Brunch (formerly called Newcomers Brunch) was well attended and appreciated. And more recently, Emmanuel hosted the Diocesan Convention Eucharist. Our sanctuary overflowed with guests from around the Diocese.
- **Pianos.** The old parish hall grand piano was retired this year. It could no longer hold pitch despite efforts to tune it after many years of service. This year, we are the recipients of an upright piano from Julian Bullitt, the first replacement for the old grand. And then, John Hsia bestowed the gift of his historic Steinway A grand piano. Originally a gift by Henry Higginson (founder of the Boston Symphony Orchestra) to his niece, this

piano then passed to John and his late wife Constance. This beautiful instrument is now in the parish hall, and is reserved for choral and instrumental rehearsals and performances. Thank you to Julian and John for your wonderful generosity!

At the annual meeting today both of us will step down from our Warden positions. It has been an honor to serve you during the past several years, and we know you will be in very capable hands with your new Wardens soon to be elected. It gives us deep pleasure and satisfaction to know that Emmanuel Church is precious to each of us, individually and collectively, as we continue each day "to do the work that we have been given to do."

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Richardson, Junior Warden and Tom Barber, Senior Warden

## Deacon's Report



Another year and a blessing to be a part of various ministries: serving as Deacon of the Word and Altar, occasional preaching, attending Vestry meetings, Worship Commission meetings, assisting members of the Altar Guild, occasional pastoral and hospital visits, attending Bible Study, being available for Small Wonders, and attending a few of the ongoing meetings here. I was also happy once again, along with my husband, Baoxin Zhang, to coordinate our Mass Exodus Luncheon in Chinatown on Labor Day Sunday. It continues to be a wonderful tradition for folks to have a couple of hours to chat and to know each other more deeply. In addition, I really enjoyed being part of the B-SAFE program this past July, helping to deliver and serve lunches at St. Mary's Church in Dorchester (what a beautiful church and what a fabulous group of volunteers from Emmanuel) and joining with young people on a visit to Spectacle Island in Boston Harbor.

This past year, I continued to assist at Morning Prayer on Wednesday mornings, Emmanuel's day, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul. I will be letting go of this ministry as I prepare to retire from my Cathedral position in early February. I encourage you, if in the Downtown Crossing area on Wednesday mornings, to stop by at 8:30 for this 20-minute service.

This year was particularly wonderful as Emmanuel Church and Central Reform Temple entered into a formal Covenant relationship. I've been enriched by attending many of the Shabbat services. In addition, I along with several members of the vestry, became greeters for the High Holy Day services. This has been joyful for members of the Temple and Emmanuel and has provided another way in which our communities have become closer. In response, members of the Temple provided greeters to assist our worship on Easter Sunday and Christmas Eve.

Baoxin continues to support fully my diaconal ministry. He enjoyed guiding us through the menu during our Mass Exodus outing. However, because of Bao's work schedule he is not able to join me on most Sundays. I continue to be so grateful to Pam, who guides me in so many ways as I live more deeply into being a deacon. And I love this community. You all continue to make me joyful with your friendship and smiles.

Respectfully submitted,

The Rev. Deacon Bob Greiner

## Organist's Report

2019 marked my fourth full year as Organist at Emmanuel and Chapel Choir Director and my first as Parish Operations Manager. It has been a joy! The Rodgers organ in the sanctuary delivered varied repertoire convincingly and is largely unproblematic. I collaborated with Emmanuel Music to present Benjamin Britten's "The Company of Heaven" in September.

In the summer the Chapel Choir continued their excellent service of leading hymns and presenting an anthem at the Offertory. We welcomed four new members, as well as a few drop-in singers throughout the summer, and said "goodbye for now" to a few. Average weekly attendance in the choir for the summer months was 13, with the highest number of singers being 20 on September 15. On September 15, we were joined by three Emmanuel Music singers, a handful of instrumentalists, and Ryan Turner, conductor, to present Handel's "As Pants the Hart." Chapel Choir members learned and rehearsed the piece on the Sunday mornings leading up to that Sunday. I am continually impressed and inspired by the talents and devotion of the wonderful volunteers in the Chapel Choir!

The ailing organ in Lindsey Chapel continues to limp along, though somewhere between "stalwartly" and "stubbornly." The fact that it still functions is miraculous, though it poses many challenges to any organist who plays it. Following our consultation in 2018 with Jonathan Ambrosino and the feasibility study from Brian Raiche, development expert, and also with the enthusiastic support of the congregation, we now begin in earnest the next steps of the process with the formation of an organ committee. Emmanuel's Organ Committee will meet in February for the first time and consists of myself, Christina Laberge & Jim Olesen (co-chairs), Jill Silverstein, Ben Houge, Edgar Brenninkmeyer, and Pam Wertz, *ex-officio*. The tasks of this committee will be many and will stretch through 2020 and beyond: 1) affirm the scope of the organ project 2) partake in the research and listening visits to hear representative organs of chosen organ firms 3) decide which firms we would like to solicit and receive proposals 4) make a recommendation to Vestry based on those proposals 5) negotiate details of the contract 6) see the process through to the end of the installation and 7) celebrate! There will be many communications in the near future about this project, so be on the lookout!

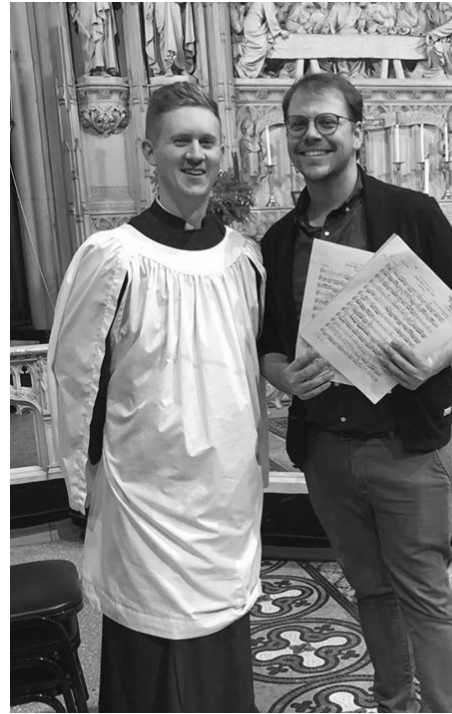
As always, it is a pleasure to play the organ for such a supportive congregation, and to work with such wonderful people in the Chapel Choir. I look forward to what 2020 brings!

Respectfully submitted,  
Kevin Neel

## Worship Commission Report

The Worship Commission nourishes the spiritual life of Emmanuel Church by helping to create a welcoming, reverent, and attractive space and time in which all might feel embraced by the beauty of our liturgy and be nourished and challenged on their spiritual journey.

We meet monthly as a whole commission for evaluation, planning, and coordination, but much of our work takes place in subgroups—altar guild, altar servers, lectors, prayer leaders, bread bakers—in person and through electronic communication. We take some time at the beginning of each meeting for brief prayer and reflection on the liturgical season or holy day in which we find ourselves. We rely on the commitment and talent of our commission



members and of the many others who serve God and our parish through their diverse ministries. Our annual report is above all an act of gratitude.

Our co-chair Garrett Garborcauskas, who also coordinated and trained our altar servers, left Boston in the summer to attend medical school in Connecticut, but with his usual efficiency and foresight, he recruited and trained two leaders to coordinate the altar servers, Bill Margraf and Jamie Shore. Jamie and Bill keep track of the worship schedule and have recruited and trained new altar servers for the ministries of crucifer, torch bearer / Eucharistic minister, and subdeacon. We have an influx of new altar servers, both young and older joining the already existing crew. Thanks to Luke Abdow, Carolyn Beard, Mary Blocher, Paddy Cavanaugh, Paul Curtis, Jo Dutilloy, Susan Entin, Hannah Field, Garrett Garborcauskas, Matt Griffing, Ellen Hinkle, Joy Howard, Bill Margraf, Jane Redmont, Rebekah Rodrigues, Jamie Shore, and Kerilyn Tacconi!

We continue to be grateful for our hard-working altar guild. Its members prepare, set up, and clear the altar and chancel, and tend to the material elements of worship that enhance the beauty and reverence of Holy Eucharist on Sunday and of other celebrations,

including funerals and memorial services. If you like quiet, behind-the-scenes work and enjoy order and aesthetics, we have just the ministry for you! Contact altar guild coordinator Paddy Cavanaugh (now also a postulant for ordination to the priesthood) to learn how you can be involved. Paddy is also the person to contact if you would like to be a bread baker.

Thanks to altar guild members: Ed Mavers, Susan Entin, Ann Higgins, Barbara DeVries, Mary Blocher, Wendy Grew, Paddy himself, and Bill Margraf, who were always ready to pinch-hit, as were several members of our Emmanuel House intentional community. Special thanks to Susan Entin and Ed Mavers for altar guild work above and beyond the call of duty this year. And thanks to bread bakers Luke Abdow, Marian Ellwood, Penny Lane, Jaylyn Olivo, and Rick Stecker.

Rebecca Lightcap recruits, coordinates, and trains our readers and prayer leaders and continues to set a high standard for delivery so that the congregation may hear the Word of God ably proclaimed and may be led reverently in the prayers of the people. Too numerous to name here, these ministers have borne with good humor many adjustments, technical and logistical, which have resulted in uniform improvements in the ministry over the past year. Thank you, proclaimers and pray-ers!

We want to welcome warmly all those who come through our doors at Emmanuel, and even before the Sunday service begins, the first people that worshippers encounter are greeters and ushers. Vestry members take turns as greeters and Stephen Babcock, our head usher, makes sure that all runs smoothly, including distribution of the bulletins and coordination of the offertory procession. Our Senior Warden, Tom Barber, sets the scene on Sundays, with his opening announcements and his reminder of God's welcome to us at communion and in the very fact of our being present together.

In late 2018, members of our Morning Prayer crew moved their prayerful operations to the Cathedral on Tremont Street and in 2019 they have continued to lead Morning Prayer there every Wednesday morning at 8:30. A different area congregation takes responsibility for Morning Prayer on each day, enhancing the ministry of our diocesan cathedral.

The weekly healing service for people in recovery and struggling with addictions continues on Fridays at 3:30 p.m., coordinated by Susan Ackley, who served as our sabbatical priest two years ago. We celebrate a lay-led healing prayer service with laying on of hands on two of the Fridays (led by Bill Margraf and Jane Redmont) and a Eucharist with healing prayer and laying on of hands on the two other Fridays (led by Susan Ackley, who comes down from New Hampshire once a month, and Elise Feyerherm, who serves at St. Paul's, Brookline). This year we purchased a small altar to enhance our service, held in the Parish Hall, and our friends at common art made and gave us a special altar cloth to use.

We are also grateful to Sarah Brock, Emmanuel's Parish Operations Manager, now ordained as a priest in Beverly Farms and succeeded in her position at Emmanuel by Kevin Neel, man of many talents, who is also our stellar organizer. We are grateful also to Morgan Middlebrook, Emmanuel's Administrative Assistant. Kevin and Morgan write, edit, copy and post worship bulletins and announcements, both printed and online.

We continued our season reflections open to the whole community through Pentecost, continuing the sessions held before the beginning of each liturgical season, beginning before Lent last year. The purpose of these gatherings, held over a light lunch after coffee hour, was to reflect on and offer education about the focus, mood, and liturgical emphases of each season and to deep our understanding of each season: Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Holy Week and Easter, Pentecost, and the time after Epiphany and Pentecost.

As always, we thank our clergy—our rector The Rev. Pam Werntz, The Rt. Rev. Clark Grew, The Rev. Isaac Everett, The Rev. Dr. Frederick Stecker, and our deacon, The Rev. Bob Greiner, as well as our rabbi-in-residence, Howard Berman, who will be retiring soon after rich years of service at Central Reform Temple. We continue the tradition begun with CRT, serving as greeters on the Jewish High Holy Days; our CRT friends serve as greeters at Easter and Christmas.

We continue to worship ecumenically with our neighbors on the next block of Newbury Street, the clergy and congregation of Church of the Covenant (Presbyterian/United Church of Christ), who join us in Lindsey Chapel for Maundy Thursday and for our Blue Christmas service on December 21. Clergy from Old West Church (United Methodist), *common cathedral*/Ecclesia Ministries (ecumenical) continue to join us on Maundy Thursday, reminding us by their presence of the relationship between the ministry of welcome at worship and the ministry of welcome to people who are without dignified and adequate shelter, especially on Mondays and Fridays through BostonWarm, and on Wednesdays through *common art*.

All our work, and the work of other liturgical ministers, is an answer to a call from God. We serve God, the Emmanuel community, and each other, whether we proclaim the scriptures, set up and clean up, or collaborate with the artists of Emmanuel Music. We give special thanks for Emmanuel Music, whose artists contribute so deeply to “worshipping God in the beauty of holiness”—and in the holiness of beauty.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jane Redmont, Chair

## Building Commission Report

Dear friends of Emmanuel, 2019 was stressful and event-filled year, but finally a rather cool, one might say cooling, year! I will give you an overview, but first some thanks are in order. Nancy Mueller has been keeping us, and our records, organized since before I joined Building Commission. She has been keeping our Preventive Maintenance Manual tabulated and up to date, as well bringing method to the storage of the building records. She has now retired from this work after many years, so I want to express my thanks, the commission's thanks and I am sure the whole congregation's thanks for the many years of work and commitment she has contributed to the well being and preservation of our building.

Emmanuel is blessed in so many ways, and the building commission in particular. We have a brilliant scientist- Julian Bullitt, who continues to devote his retirement faithfully and creatively, and Nancy Peabody who tracks our furnishings, upholstery, and interiors concerns, who continue on the weekly small committee, and at our monthly meetings, Galen Gilbert, Paul Curtis, and David Silverstein. Huge gratitude to all of them. I would also like to acknowledge what a pleasure it has been working with Kevin Neel and Morgan Middlebrook on our projects.

2019 has been dominated by a number of projects in addition to the ones Peter Johnson is reporting on. The elevator is a major one. We do still have an elevator, I promise! The project, which started in the previous year, was to replace the machinery and controls. Then we needed new metal doors, then the inspector decided that the head house, or machine room, on the roof needed restoration. All the heavy equipment needed to be craned down, and the new craned up, but that required a reinforced platform built to protect the roof of the parish house, and a protected path to the platform. While we were at it we did a “cut and paste” repair job on the parish house roof generally. We now have a very spiffy and attractive head house, a brand new motor and machine, all new electronic controls, and we are in the home stretch.



Oh, there is one other thing: the inspector started making noise about our new electronic controls being in an air conditioned environment! While we were puzzling out work arounds for that one, thanks to Pat Krol, a gift magically appeared to air condition the 3rd floor offices, so that is a second big project, and it provided the climate control we need for the elevator. As I said above, Emmanuel is very blessed, and we are very grateful to the Cedar Tree Foundation for the gift of the funds for air conditioning. We have installed a heat pump system which will not only provide cooling in the summer, but also provide supplemental heat in the winter, so the offices should be much more comfortable.

A difficulty arose in regard to the restoration of the doors in Peter's report. Around the center entrance there has been some displacement of the stones which we were able to trace to the expansion of rust around the steam pipe which enters the building under that area. While we were having the masonry repaired as part of the CPA project we also wanted to stop the rust. It is very useful to have a scientist on your team at such times. What we needed is called Galvanic Protection, and Julian Bullitt is just the fellow to talk to about it because he was able to devise a system that uses a small electric current to stop the process of rust formation. He designed

and installed this system on the rusting pipe- the engineers were visibly impressed!

Other projects we have worked on include the design of a comprehensive fire alarm system. At present we have a hard wired alarm system that covers the basement, kitchen, sacristies and back stairs- in other words that places where fire might most likely start, but it is 18 years old, and attempts to expand it have not been fruitful. We commissioned a new comprehensive design by highly recommended engineers and have explored the expense of implementation. There is a long way to go on that but we do now have the design. We have been involved in trying to prioritize project future capital projects. On a more immediate level we have installed some heating tapes in the eaves that get ice dams, a new dishwasher and range in the kitchen, and we continue to work closely with Kevin, Morgan, and CWS on ongoing maintenance issues

It has been a busy year!

Respectfully submitted,  
Michael Scanlon, Chair



## Back Wall Project Report - Phase 2 Report

The repair and restoration of the nearly 200-foot-long back wall of our building was the focus of Emmanuel's TogetherNow Campaign. We worked from a plan that divided the scope of necessary repairs and restoration into two phases, aligned with the flow of contributions.

The first phase of on-site work, which included the most critical repairs to the back wall, was completed in the summer of 2015. The second phase of the project began in the spring of 2018, when the majority of pledges to the capital campaign had been fulfilled.

Nearly all of the work scheduled for Phase 2 was completed by the end of 2018. A few items – including repair and replacement of protective window grills and installation of a new access door from the music library out onto one of the flat roofs—were left to complete.

In 2019 Building Commission members decided that one section of roof along the rear of the building that had not been included in the original scope of work should be replaced. Just as it became clear this work was necessary, Emmanuel was awarded a grant from Boston's Community Preservation Act funds. We were able to use a portion of the money to replace this section of roofing. Our general contractor for both the Back Wall Project and the CPA-funded Newbury Street Façade Project left scaffolding used for the back wall in place so that this roofing work could be completed in 2019.

**Funds available and funds expended**—In addition to \$483,300 available for the Back Wall Project through Emmanuel's TogetherNow Campaign, grants from the Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund totaling \$158,200 supported this work. The total available (in rounded-off numbers) for both phases of the project was just over \$641,600. At the end of 2019 there was a surplus in our budget of just under \$52,000.

Though the project is essentially complete, the back wall “assembly” – the masonry, wood, and metal parts and pieces that work together to make up the back wall's structure and water-tightness – will always need some maintenance and repair. Some, or all, of the surplus amount available could be used for this work. Or, the Vestry, in consultation with the Building Commission, could direct these funds to another building-related project.

Respectfully submitted,  
Peter Johnson, Project Manager

## Newbury Street Façade Project Report

In June 2018 Boston's Community Preservation Commission awarded Emmanuel a grant of \$306,700 for restoration work primarily focused on the Newbury Street façade of our building with no requirement for matching funds.

Because this round of awards was the first, the distribution and monitoring of these grants by the City's newly-formed Community Preservation Department has been protracted. Emmanuel received its first allotment of funds in late 2018; the majority of work included in the project did not begin until 2019.

The scope of work supported by the grant comprises:

1. **Restoring five sets of entry doors and their tympanums along the building's Newbury Street façade** - All the entryways' wooden and metal components to be removed, refurbished, and reinstalled so they operate properly.

**Progress:** Three of the doors have been completed - those to the Lindsey Chapel, the Brides' Door adjacent to the chapel, and the doors of the entry closest to Arlington Street, which are used by the most people on a

daily basis. The remaining two sets of doors and the tympanums above all five doorways are scheduled for completion in 2020.

2. **Restoring the center entry vestibule's masonry** - A steam pipe passing through the masonry wall in the basement has rusted and expanded, causing displacement of the vestibule's masonry above. The steam pipe's protective sleeve will be replaced, cracks in the masonry will be repointed, and the keystone in the arch above the doors will be reset.

**Progress:** The masonry cracks have been repaired. Our steam supplier, Veolia (now known as “Vicinity”), performed some on-site work to address the expansion of the steam pipe, but has been unwilling to completely solve the problem. In consultation with our architects and engineers, Julian Bullitt has determined the rusting and ensuing expansion can be resolved at little cost using cathodic transfer – protecting the iron pipe from rusting through its connection to a zinc pipe buried in soil adjacent to the masonry walls of the vestibule. Experiments with connections and placement of the sacrificial zinc pipe are ongoing.

3. **Resetting the Newbury Street entries' staircases** - Freeze/thaw cycles and everyday wear and tear require these masonry stairways be pulled apart and reset.

**Progress:** The stone steps at four of the entries have been reset in their original locations and in a manner that permits water to drain away more efficiently. The steps up to the landing in front of the “main” doors (at the entry closest to Arlington Street) were installed about 20 years ago when the accessible ramp was constructed. Stone veneers were grouted in place on top of newly-constructed concrete stairs. Water entering joints in these treads froze and thawed every year, causing the treads to lift and shift unevenly. In May 2019, we determined that we could afford to replace these stone veneers with a monolithic granite slab for each step, which would solve the freeze/thaw/expansion problems. In addition, replacing the stone-veneered landing at the top of the stairs and the worn sandstone threshold under the doors was included in the expanded scope of work. The new stones arrived and were installed in November, just before the wooden doors were rehung after their restoration. Additional grouting at each of the stairways' interface with adjacent surfaces will be completed in 2020, once appropriate temperatures for this work return.

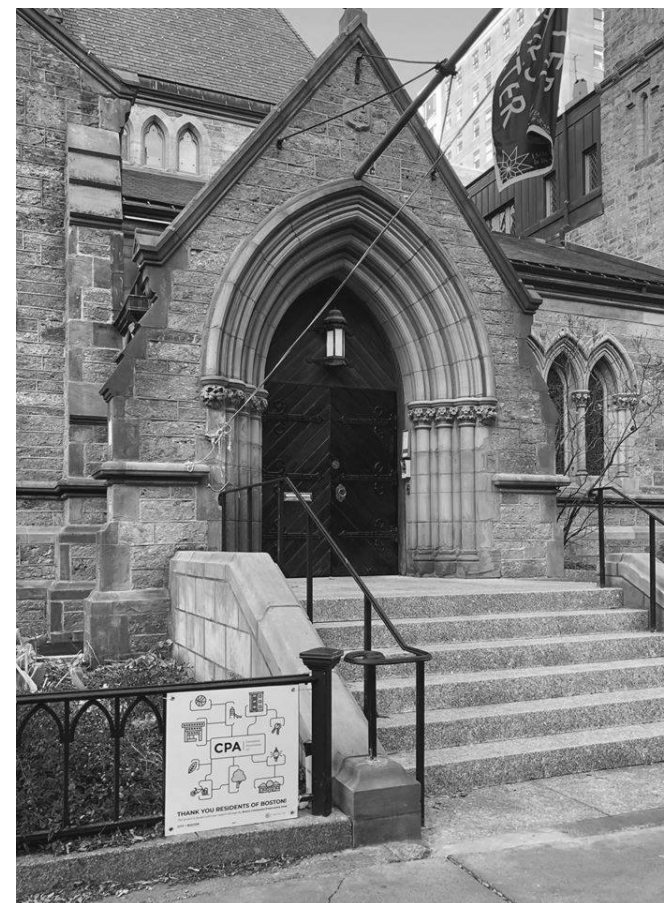
4. **Replacing a portion of the building's roof and installation of heating cables and snow guards** - A section of roof on the rear side of the building is extremely vulnerable to ice and snow damage. Copper roofing and flashing will prevent water from penetrating the building's interior. Additional roof restoration will include broken slate replacement, installation of snow fences and heating plates and cables to melt ice and snow before it builds up in the roofing valleys and along gutters.

**Progress:** This work has been completed.

In addition to the components described above, we will also install new exterior light fixtures appropriate to the character of our building and new sign panels to replace those taken down as the doors have been restored. We anticipate finishing all portions of the project in 2020.

**Funds available and funds expended**—Most grant funds are released after costs are incurred. For Boston's CPA program, funds are released in tranches ahead of expenditures. The City has already provided \$204,466 for this project. As of the end of 2019, we have spent \$232,480. We anticipate the City will release the remainder of the grant in two more increments, holding back a reserve on the \$306,700 total, pending inspection of the project after all components are completed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Peter Johnson, Project Manager



## Green Team Report

The Green Team is responsible for maintaining Emmanuel's garden along Newbury Street. Our work includes planting seasonal blooming annual, grasses and bulbs, spring and fall cleanups, summer maintenance, and winterization. Additional new perennial plantings are planned for 2020.

A local landscape design and maintenance firm provides support, repairing the irrigation system's piping when needed, starting up and shutting down the system seasonally, repairing its piping and valves, and assisting with occasional pruning and garden cleanup. The resident rodent population continues to assault our efforts to provide a thriving garden. Julian Bullitt mounts a never-ending counter-offensive, deploying dry ice in their burrows – with some promising results.

Gardens are challenging and rewarding, and city gardens even more so. We welcome volunteers (no experience necessary) to help us ensure our garden remains a welcoming and beautiful part of Emmanuel's presence on Newbury Street.

Respectfully submitted,  
Peter Johnson

## Treasurer's Report

Emmanuel Church is well-positioned financially at the start of 2020. The year-end income statement for 2019 is effectively balanced, with a small negative result of just over \$500 of a budget of \$777,000. Income from Place Use was higher than budgeted, but unfortunately there were an unusually low number of Ceremonies (which are always difficult to predict). Pledge income was over-budgeted for 2019, but fulfillment of actual pledges was high. Fortunately expenses were well within the budget, helped by lower than anticipated heating costs.

Investments, managed by Morgan Stanley and Middleburg Financial, showed a 25% return for the year. These funds provided \$220,000 in support to Parish operations, including the cantata series, and \$61,000 toward the Elevator Project this year as well as supporting smaller projects like the new stair and music room carpeting. As a result of the strong financial market, total holdings at year end were still up almost 16%.

At the Rector's request, the Vestry undertook to deepen its knowledge of financial matters and church business practices through a series of presentations by Vestry members and by Jim Bartlett, Chair of the Finance Commission.

Your Treasurer, in coordination with members of the Building Commission and the Rector, developed a five-year Capital Improvement Plan, which was presented to the Vestry in support of one of its Mutual Ministry Goals for 2019. This was possible because of information developed and reviewed by Julian Bullitt and Mike Scanlon. Activity will start in 2021, rather than 2020, so that the Building Commission has a breather after the intense work of the past few years: the Back Wall Project funded by the TogetherNow Campaign and grant funds; The Newbury St Façade Project funded by a CPA Grant; the Elevator Project supported by Emmanuel's Legacy Fund; and the recent air-conditioning of the third floor offices funded by a grant from a family foundation. Special thanks to Peter Johnson for tracking the financial detail of the Back Wall and Newbury St. Façade Projects as Project Manager.

Don Firth, our Controller, is retiring in early 2020 after seven years of support to Emmanuel. We are very grateful for his competence and dedication to his work for Emmanuel during his tenure. Jim Maguire, who comes to us by recommendation, is taking over the accounting role from Don. Kevin Neel is fulfilling his financial duties as Parish Administrator with great competence.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gennifer Sussman, Treasurer

## Finance Commission Report

The Finance Commission of Emmanuel Church (Commission) advises the Vestry on matters pertaining to the financial health of the Parish, both within each fiscal year and long term. The members are Jim Bartlett (chair), Barbara DeVries, George Mutrie, Charlie Felsenthal, Robert Dietrich, Gennifer Sussman (Parish Treasurer), and Sam Warren. Pam Wertz attends meetings in an *ex officio* capacity as does Jake Mutrie, who reports on current performance for all of our invested funds and also longer term investment strategy.

Commission members meet several times a year to review operating performance against plan, the status of our endowments and related investments, progress on major capital projects, and how pledge campaigns and other sources of income are coming together in any given year. This year we also completed a comprehensive review and assessment of our investment managers' performance and operating procedures. The results of this assessment were reported to the Vestry in early November, which in summary gave our managers high marks for their performance, strategic outlook, and view of the impressive experience and capabilities of the personnel that manage our funds.

During 2019 a priority, as always, was to follow the Parish's annual income and expenses, recognizing from the beginning that we might experience a shortfall due to the loss of a portion of our rental income. That condition continued into the fiscal year. Fortunately, guided by careful oversight by Pam and the Vestry, expenses were largely on target for the year, as was other income resulting in essentially a breakeven. Throughout the year our Managers of endowment funds performed superbly well despite erratic, market-driven equity performance on the investment income side. For the year just ended Emmanuel's portfolios were up a total of 20% over the prior year, our best performance in several years. At December 31, 2019 our total endowment portfolio reached \$4,610,000, close to a record for the Parish.

As reported by the Building Commission, there are several capital projects either underway and/or due to be completed in 2020. The funding of these projects will be a combination of funds from the Parish investment holdings and grants from outside sources. One major project, the Lindsey Chapel Organ and related air conditioning upgrades, will be reviewed with professional consulting help in 2020 and decisions made as to how to proceed with the necessary repairs or upgrades and recommendations on how to finance any such projects.

Our Commission has concluded once again that at year-end, Emmanuel is in a sound financial position for the following reasons: 1) our Rector provides leadership in all aspects of the Parish's life, and consistently exhibits strong fiscal oversight; 2) we have endowments and other funds totaling a record \$4.6 million, which provides significant cash flow to support operations; 3) we have excellent oversight and control over capital projects, plus in some cases grants applied for and awarded through the Parish leadership's efforts; and 4), we are blessed with financial support as a Parish through your generous and heartfelt annual and long-range giving.

2020 is planned again to be a breakeven year for Emmanuel. Will there be surprises? Yes, there always are. But we believe we have in place the professional oversight to remain fiscally sound even if we experience a dislocation in stock markets and economies worldwide.

Respectfully Submitted,  
James T. Bartlett, Chair

Emmanuel Church

Ministry Support and Expenses for year end 12/31/19 with 2020 budget

	12 months Actual 2019	12 months Budget 2019	Annual Budget 2020	
<b>Ministry Support</b>				
1	Pledge Income	\$ 251,456	\$ 275,000	\$ 280,000
2	Plate Offerings	\$ 29,515	\$ 25,500	\$ 25,500
3	Investment Income	\$ 139,476	\$ 102,439	\$ 109,224
4	Endowment Income	\$ 134,947	\$ 134,689	\$ 137,562
5	Other Income/Gifts	\$ 16,494	\$ 64,500	\$ 61,000
6	Place Use-Resident	\$ 97,852	\$ 96,295	\$ 91,901
7	Place Use-Non Resident	\$ 107,076	\$ 102,000	\$ 102,000
9	<b>Total Ministry Support</b>	<b>\$776,816</b>	<b>\$800,423</b>	<b>\$807,187</b>
<b>Ministry Expenses</b>				
10	Clergy Salary & Benefits	\$ 159,627	\$ 161,323	\$ 167,207
11	Music Staff & Program	\$ 77,597	\$ 77,228	\$ 78,070
12	Cantata Program	\$ 67,071	\$ 67,071	\$ 72,939
13	Parish Operations Staff	\$ 140,505	\$ 133,710	\$ 134,079
14	Parish Operating Expenses	\$ 36,313	\$ 39,910	\$ 38,674
15	Parish Programs	\$ 11,060	\$ 8,700	\$ 9,000
16	Outreach	\$ 24,427	\$ 24,427	\$ 23,821
17	Diocesan Assessment	\$ 41,746	\$ 41,746	\$ 44,725
18	Building & Facilities	\$ 203,879	\$ 229,476	\$ 220,898
19	Building Sextons & Cleaning	\$ 15,155	\$ 16,698	\$ 16,698
20	<b>Total Ministry Expenses</b>	<b>\$777,379</b>	<b>\$800,287</b>	<b>\$806,110</b>
21	<b>Total Ministry Support less Ministry Expenses</b>	<b>\$(563)</b>	<b>\$136</b>	<b>\$1,077</b>

Actual Ministry Support and Expense by Major Category 2019				
Ministry Support		Ministry Expenses		Surp/(Def)
Program Income		Program Expense		
Pledges	\$ 251,456	Clergy Salary & Benefits	\$ 159,627	
Plate	\$ 29,515	Music Staff and program	\$ 77,597	
Young Music Fund	\$ 67,071	Cantata Program	\$ 67,071	
Rectory Fund	\$ 18,697	Parish Operations Staff	\$ 140,505	
Diocesan Investment Trust (DIT)	\$ 16,494	Parish Operating expenses	\$ 36,313	
Other Income/Gifts	\$ 53,580	Parish Programs	\$ 11,060	
Misc. Interest & Dividends	\$ 128	Outreach	\$ 24,427	
	\$ 436,941		\$ 516,600	\$ (79,659)
Endowment Income	\$ 134,947	Diocesan Assessment	\$ 41,746	\$ 93,201
<b>Total Parish Operations Income</b>	<b>\$ 571,888</b>	<b>Total Parish Operations Expense</b>	<b>\$ 558,346</b>	<b>\$ 13,542</b>
<b>Place Use Income</b>		<b>Place Use Cost</b>		
Place Use Revenue-Resident	\$ 97,852	Building & Facilities	\$ 216,111	
Place Use Revenue-Non Resident	\$ 107,076	Building Sexton and Clean	\$ 15,155	
			\$ 231,266	
		Reimbursed Utility Expenses	\$ (1,600)	
		Reimbursed Boston Warm Expenses	\$ (10,632)	
<b>Total Place Use Income</b>	<b>\$ 204,928</b>	<b>Total Place Use Costs</b>	<b>\$ 219,033</b>	<b>\$ (14,105)</b>
<b>Total Ministry Support</b>	<b>\$ 776,816</b>	<b>Total Ministry Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 777,379</b>	<b>\$ (563)</b>

2020 Budget Summary Ministry Support and Expense by Major Category				
Ministry Support		Ministry Expenses		Surp/(Def)
Pledges	\$ 280,000	Clergy Salary & Benefits	\$ 167,207	
Plate	\$ 25,500	Music Staff and Program	\$ 78,070	
Young Music Fund	\$ 72,939	Cantata Program	\$ 72,939	
Rectory Fund	\$ 18,911	Parish Operations Staff	\$ 134,079	
Other Income/Gifts	\$ 61,000	Parish Operating Expenses	\$ 38,674	
Diocesan Investment Trust (DIT)	\$ 17,224	Parish Programs	\$ 9,000	
Investment Interest & Dividends	\$ 150	Outreach	\$ 23,821	
	\$ 475,724		\$ 523,790	\$ (48,066)
Endowment Income	\$ 137,562	Diocesan Assessment	\$ 44,725	\$ 92,837
<b>Total Parish Operations</b>	<b>\$ 613,286</b>	<b>Total Parish Operations Expense</b>	<b>\$ 568,515</b>	<b>\$ 44,771</b>
Place Use Revenue-Resident	\$ 91,901	Building & Facilities	\$ 233,298	
Place Use Revenue-Non Resident	\$ 102,000	Building Sexton and Clean	\$ 16,698	
<b>Total Place Use Income</b>	<b>\$ 193,901</b>	<b>Total Place Use Costs</b>	<b>\$ 249,996</b>	<b>\$ (56,095)</b>
		Reimbursed Utilities Expenses	\$ (12,400)	
<b>Total Ministry Support</b>	<b>\$ 807,187</b>	<b>Total Ministry Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 806,110</b>	<b>\$ 1,077</b>

**Emmanuel Church Condensed Statement of Financial Position  
December 31, 2019**

Assets		Liabilities and Equity	
<b>Checking/Savings</b>		<b>Liabilities</b>	
Checking	\$ 63,183	Accrued Expenses	\$ 8,309
Money Market	\$ 76,871	Deferred Revenue	\$ 52,798
Rector's Discretionary Fund	\$ 5,192	403B-Pension Liabilities	\$ 1,835
PayPal Cash	\$ 208	Due to Others	\$ 1,100
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	<b>\$ 145,454</b>	Rector's Sabbatical Reserves	\$ 1,897
<b>Other Current Assets</b>		Reserve for Building Repairs	\$ 4,200
Due from Morgan Stanley	\$ 33,717	Reserve for Organ Repairs	\$ 3,888
Due from Boston Warm	\$ 1,520	<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 74,027</b>
<b>Total Other Current Assets</b>	<b>\$ 35,237</b>	<b>Equity</b>	
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$ 180,691</b>	<b>Donor Restricted and Capital Funds</b>	
<b>Unrestricted Investments</b>		Donor Restricted and Capital Funds	\$ 10,646
Morgan Stanley Funds	\$1,235,455	Building Renovation Funds	\$ 94,299
<b>Total Unrestricted Investments</b>	<b>\$1,235,455</b>	<b>Total Donor Restricted and Capital Funds</b>	<b>\$ 104,945</b>
<b>Restricted Investment Funds</b>		<b>Unrestricted Investment Funds</b>	
Diocesan Investment Trust	\$ 248,723	Morgan Stanley Endowment Funds	\$ 983,55
Morgan Stanley Funds	\$3,368,797	Unrealized Gain/(Loss) on Investments	\$ 251,905
<b>Total Restricted Investment Funds</b>	<b>\$3,617,520</b>	<b>Total Unrestricted Investment Funds</b>	<b>\$1,235,455</b>
<b>Total Investment Funds</b>	<b>\$4,852,975</b>	<b>Restricted Endowment Funds</b>	
<b>Fixed Assets</b>		DIT Endowment Funds	\$ 190,217
Fixed Assets	\$ 48,741	Unrealized Gain/(Loss) on DIT Investments	\$ 58,506
Accumulated Depreciation	\$ (29,520)	Morgan Stanley Endowment Funds	\$2,433,764
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	<b>\$ 19,221</b>	Unrealized Gain/(Loss) on Investments	\$ 935,032
		<b>Total Restricted Endowment Funds</b>	<b>\$3,617,520</b>
		<b>Total Investment Funds</b>	<b>\$4,852,975</b>
		Accumulated Surplus/(Deficit)	\$ 27,323
		Retained Earnings	\$ 1,494
		Depreciation	\$ (7,315)
		Net Income/(Loss)	\$ (563)
		<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>\$4,978,860</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$5,052,887</b>	<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	<b>\$5,052,887</b>

## Stewardship Report

“God’s dream is that you and I and all of us will realize that we are family, that we are made for togetherness, for goodness, and for compassion.”

Desmond Tutu (b. 1931)

The Stewardship Committee for the 2020 campaign led by Liz Levin and Jamie Shore included The Rev. Pamela Wertz, Susan Kieffer, and Penny Lane along with the invaluable assistance of Kevin Neel and Morgan Middlebrook. The beautifully designed packet materials were created by Meg Joyce.

This year’s campaign was designed to stress how we, as a parish, belong to one another and support each other. This includes parishioners as well as the larger community of marginalized individuals whom we support as a parish. The co-chairs of the campaign sent an introductory letter out to all parishioners and friends of Emmanuel. Here is a quote from that letter which is illustrative of the campaign theme.

“As autumn begins, we wish you all peace and love and give thanks for your presence in this community. As members of this community we all belong to one another and support each other in many different ways. We reach out to and hold up those who are ill or grieving, we rejoice with those who are reaching milestones in their life, we welcome in the stranger as well as those known to us. We are family by choice. Giving to Emmanuel Church sustains us as a family and enables us to care for those of us on the margins of society. The health of our community is reflected not only in the amount of the pledges made but even more importantly in the number of pledging individuals and households.”

This initial mailing was followed by a letter from our Rector, the Rev. Pamela Wertz which included the beautifully crafted printed materials designed by Meg Joyce.

As we have done in years past, three of our parishioners spoke briefly from the pulpit to express their commitment to the community of Emmanuel and why they decided to pledge to support this community. Margaret Lias, Jamie Shore, and Charlie Riggs each spoke on three separate Sundays giving heartfelt expression to their thoughts. Additionally, three parishioners, Jaylyn Olivo, Edgar Brenninkmeyer, and Liz Levin, submitted paragraphs giving their reasons for supporting Emmanuel Church through making a pledge. These were published in our weekly online newsletter and in the weekly announcement sheet distributed on Sunday.

As of January 31, 2020, we have received 113 pledges from individuals and families for a total of \$295,645. Last year our final number of pledges was 104 and amounted to \$268,630.

We are extremely grateful to all who have been so generous with their support of Emmanuel Church, our clergy, and our programs and are excited to have several new pledgers, as well.

Respectfully submitted,  
Liz Levin and Jamie Shore

## Hospitality Commission Report

Members: Peggy Bradley, Nancy Mueller, Susan Kieffer, and vestry member Elizabeth Richardson

We have continued to follow Pam Wertz’s reminder that, “when we share food from our common table, we nourish one another and provide welcome to newcomers and visitors.” From January to June and September to December, church members are assigned two Sundays during the year to bring in food for coffee hour. Anyone



with conflicts in their assigned date, or who forgot, is encouraged to exchange with another person or bring in something when they feel they can. Backup cookies and crackers can be placed in Emmanuel's hospitality cabinet in the Parish Hall.

New this year is that we now obtain our coffee, tea, and hot cups from Equal Exchange. They are an original fair-trade company, who deal with coffee- & tea-farm co-operatives and work as directly with the farmers as possible. They also provide discounts for churches.



The Commission brings in fresh milk, and Morgan Middlebrook, Parish Assistant, helps with keeping us up-to-date on stock in the hospitality closet, as well as communicating with the sextons. Each Sunday the sextons make coffee and take care of setting all the food and drinks out. With food to share, people stay to engage in conversation and join the planned activities. We have arranged for BostonWarm to get any decent leftovers, although there are rarely any!

Anyone who wishes to join us is welcome.

Respectfully submitted,  
Peggy Bradley

## Communications Commission Report

Members: Mary Chitty, Mary Beth Clark, Kathryn Collins, Maureen Driscoll, Matt Griffing (chair), Susan Kieffer, Rebecca Lightcap, Elizabeth Richardson, and Michael Scanlon

The Communications Commission seeks to portray life at Emmanuel in ways that inspire good works and attract new members to our community. We also strive to provide information and promote connections within the current community. The Commission publishes content through our social media channels and [www.emmanuelboston.org](http://www.emmanuelboston.org).

### Social Media

We continue to reach out to the world through our newsletter, Facebook Page, and Google My Business listing. We also link to our website from various topics on Wikipedia, for which we maintain a growing spreadsheet.

Our profound thanks to our Parish Operations Manager Kevin Neel and Parish Assistant Morgan Middlebrook, who produce the announcement sheet in our Sunday bulletin and its enhanced online version *ThisWeek@Emmanuel*. It is emailed and linked from our homepage and Newsletter page (Homepage > Community > Newsletter). With timely images, traffic advisories, announcements of events in our facilities and diocese, and messages from our vestry and clergy, it has become our primary source of news pertinent to our community.

Google searches lead to our Google My Business listing for "Emmanuel Episcopal Church of Boston", which gives directory information, hours, photos posted mostly by visitors, directions via Google Maps, and links to our website and Wikipedia page. Extrapolating from its latest quarterly statistics (which are probably inflated by robot use), over 3.8K users linked to our website, about 10K sought directions, and over 300 called our office. Our rat-

ing by reviewers continues to be 4.6 out of 5. We respond to thank all reviewers who rate us above average to thank them and invite them to join us when they can. Over the last quarter Google listed us in search results about 19K times and showed us on 363K maps. This year members of the public posted 23 photos of our windows and facilities, many of which were shown thousands of times. A 30-second video clip of a cantata was viewed 2K times.

Our Facebook followers have grown by about 7% to 717 "likes." Anyone can look at our page, which does not require a Facebook account: [www.facebook.com/EmmanuelBoston.org](http://www.facebook.com/EmmanuelBoston.org). We hope all members of our community with Facebook accounts will 'follow' us and feel free to post to it. This year we have posted a total of 150 times with 11 videos and 35 albums comprised of 618 captioned photos, and more were posted outside these albums. Rebecca Lightcap's 22 "Sermon Takeaways" summarized sermons with bulleted points long before we could post their full texts to our website. Thanks to photographers Julian Bullitt, Matt Griffing, and Elizabeth Richardson; our deacon, our rector, The Rev. Isaac Everett, and Joy Howard for their contributions to our page; and to all who shared our posts on their pages.

### Website

2019 was a year for taking stock of our website and improving our record keeping on our shared Google drive. Although we had not identified this site inventory as a goal, we realized it was sorely needed. Our team divided up the website for review, so that each of us took responsibility for a 'hub' section of our main menu and its subsidiary pages and links. We made many recommended changes and recorded more time-consuming suggestions on a spreadsheet housed on our shared Google drive. We plan to implement the more complicated improvements this year. Throughout the year, we worked to keep our worship news, sermons, About Us, and staff pages up to date.

The Commission made progress on two of our stated goals. We are getting close to having a "sandbox" copy of the site, which will allow us to try out bigger changes in a safe environment. We've started adding photos to our shared drive, so they can be accessed for projects.

According to Google Analytics, our website received 39K page views in 2019 (down slightly from 2018) with 30K unique page views (also down slightly). The average number of pages viewed per session remained 2.4 pages. Page views increased for the following pages: About, About/Staff, Community/News, Community/12-step Programs, Mission/History, Worship, Worship/Music, and Worship/Sermons. Place Use and Weddings experienced decreased traffic.

We would like to reach the following goals in 2020:

1. Refresh imagery on the homepage.
2. Revamp our weddings page and the blurb for weddings on our homepage.
3. Find a working solution for again posting audio sermons to the site.
4. Establish a YouTube channel. (We are looking for someone with experience in video production, or someone who is interested in learning it.)
5. Add content to the Building section to reflect recent improvements.
6. Enhance our Social Justice pages.
7. Finish an offline, working copy of our website.

Thanks to all Commission members for their contributions throughout the year: especially Mary Chitty for gathering Google Analytics data, Kathryn Collins for posting sermons, Mary Beth Clack for creating a Pauli Murray page, Maureen Driscoll for working on a sandbox version of the site, and Susan Keiffer for updating weekly our worship information and newsletter links. If you are interested in helping out in any way, please reach out to us!

Respectfully submitted,  
Matt Griffing and Elizabeth Richardson

## 20s/30s Group Report

The Emmanuel 20s/30s group began meeting twice per month in the fall of 2019. The mission of the group is to be a warm, welcoming space for young adults in the Emmanuel community, and to foster meaningful connections amongst young Emmanuelites. The group gathers twice per month: on the first Sunday of the month after church for brunch and discussion, and the third Saturday for dinner and prayer. We've had many gatherings, including a lively and well attended discussion with Ryan Turner and Pam Werntz, during which we dug more deeply into the Bach Cantata series at Emmanuel. We have an active e-list that informs members of upcoming gatherings and other happenings. We are eager to continue growing this ministry in the year to come, and to continue to be a hospitable space for young adult Emmanuelites.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kerilyn Tacconi, Paddy Cavanaugh, and Luke Abdow

## Knitting Circle Report

Ten years ago, The Emmanuel Knitting Circle was born and here we still are, at the beginning of a new decade. Over the years we have enjoyed meeting almost monthly to share patterns, tips, gossip and good fellowship. For much of that time, we have taken on an annual project of knitting an afghan that is raffled for the benefit of B-SAFE. Last year we set a record, raising more than \$1,000 to help support our summer program at St. Mary's Church in Uphams Corner, Dorchester.

We're always happy to welcome newcomers. We meet at my home in Cambridge on the last Thursday of the month from 2:30-4p.m. If this is appealing to anyone reading this report, just contact me at [penelopelane77@gmail.com](mailto:penelopelane77@gmail.com) and we'll hope to see you soon.

Respectfully submitted,  
Penelope Lane, Chair

## Small Wonders Program Report

Small Wonders, Emmanuel's program for young children, meets monthly, usually on the first Sunday of the month. Through stories from the Godly Play curriculum, singing and crafts, we welcome our youngest congregants to participate in the life of the church in ways that are meaningful to them. In addition, Bob Greiner and Susan Kieffer welcome children by providing activity bags always available on the steps of the baptismal font.

We also host the Easter Egg Hunt in Lindsey Chapel - a highlight for the children. We had 15 participants in 2019 and it was heartwarming to watch the older children help the little ones find eggs. As Emmanuel continues to grow, we hope to expand our ministry to young children and their parents.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ellen Hinkle and Linnea Massie



## Pastoral Care Commission Report

First of all, our Deacon, Bob Greiner, continues to be a great gift to the pastoral work of the church.

Secondly, my heart is warmed each time a younger person, new to the congregation, comes up to me and asks how, in this case, she can help. And when I asked her to do a small task, she smiled and said yes.

As usual, some of the pastoral work done by members of the commission has been casual ride sharing: "Can I give you a lift?" Of course this kind of activity is not limited to named members of the commission. If a metric were to be applied to the work of the commission, most of the care in our community would be of this kind. Such connection is the mark of healthy religious community. It might go without saying, but, in an annual report, it should be said.

Also, each Sunday morning, during prayers, names are read by the lector, and names are said by members of the congregation. This too is part of the work of the Care Commission. This too is the mark of a healthy religious community, and especially, the mark of capable religious leadership. The murmured chorus of names is the hymn of the Care Commission.

What do we actually do? Most of what we have done is connect with those people who made their needs apparent, writing cards of condolence or congratulation, providing meals, visits, transportation to and from medical appointments, and most importantly of all, transportation to and from services and other church events for people who might otherwise be unable to attend. We have a community of stalwarts on the commission who give a great deal of time, and others who are able and willing to help out as needed on a more limited basis. We are grateful to you all.

What do we plan to do? More of the same, following the lead of our rector, and responding to the needs of the people in our community. Maybe you will be one of them, giving, receiving, perhaps both receiving and giving.

Respectfully submitted,  
Walter Jonas

## Episcopal Relief and Development Report

Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD) works on initiatives that aid women, children, and those faced with climate change in 31 countries throughout the world. It is essential that we at Emmanuel Church remain connected to ERD and have a global perspective about communities struggling with hunger, poverty, disaster, and disease. I was grateful for the opportunity to periodically report about ERD in the bulletin and e-news. I am not in this position next year but am looking forward to handing this important ministry to Dawn Dreisbach. If you want to get more connected to the valuable ministries of ERD, sign up for their newsletter at: [www.episcopalrelief.org/what-you-can-do/stay-informed/sign-up/](http://www.episcopalrelief.org/what-you-can-do/stay-informed/sign-up/)

Respectfully submitted,  
Jamie Shore

## BostonWarm Report

The abrupt closure of the Long Island Bridge by the City of Boston in October 2014 destroyed the safety net for more than 700 clients of the city's largest complex of public and privately-funded services for people without housing as well as people struggling with addiction. Additionally, their service providers were suddenly without work, equipment, business records, and medical records for their clients. This was followed by Boston's snowiest

winter on record, with more than 108 inches of snow recorded between December 2014 and March 2015. In response to the crisis, religious leaders from more than 65 institutions around Boston launched a collaboration called BostonWarm.

For the fifth winter in a row, Emmanuel Church has provided a day shelter in our parish hall, extending hospitality to people in need of relief from the cold, and warming the hearts of guests, volunteers, staff and other supporters. BostonWarm is open on Mondays and Fridays from 8 am to 1 pm, and is coordinated by *common cathedral* (the Boston branch of Ecclesia Ministries). We provide breakfast and coffee plus a warm lunch, usually serving between 75 and 100 people. Our guests say they value Emmanuel because of our spacious facilities and the welcoming attitude of staff and volunteers. BostonWarm is the second *common cathedral*-related program housed in Emmanuel joining *common art*, a Wednesday program that has been held in for more Wednesday at Emmanuel for more than twenty years.

2019 also saw continued growth in the relationship between *common cathedral* and Emmanuel Church in a different way: *common cathedral* moved its office into Emmanuel's basement in February 2017. This move has given *common cathedral's* program staff a predictable space for meetings and counseling close to the programs they oversee, something they have not had in the past. It has also provided the opportunity for the staff of *common cathedral* and Emmanuel Church to work together more closely on issues of mutual concern.

The relationship between Emmanuel and *common cathedral* has also grown as more members of the church volunteer for BostonWarm. Whether it is our dedicated group of sandwich-makers, those who work in the kitchen or help serving, or the many people who have made large and small contributions to BostonWarm and *common art*. It with some pride that we at Emmanuel can see these *common cathedral* programs as the important social justice programs of Emmanuel Church.

Thanks to all who helped support these programs in 2019. We look forward to working more closely with Amanda Grant-Rose, executive director of *common cathedral*, and her staff in the coming year as we continue to serve many of our neediest members more effectively. If you are interested in learning more or supporting this program in any way, please visit the *common cathedral* website at [commoncathedral.org](http://commoncathedral.org).

Respectfully submitted,  
Jim Bradley

## **B-SAFE - Bishop's Summer Academic and Fun Enrichment Program Report**

Team leaders: Peggy Bradley, Bob Greiner, Luke Abdow

Team on-site: Jim Bradley, Susan Entin, Ellen Hinkle, Frank Bunn, Pam Wertz

Team off-site (food preparation): Joy Howard, Carolyn Roosevelt, Liz Levin, Mary Beth Clack, and Pat Krol

Each year, for the last 10 years, Emmanuel people have joined together with many other churches to provide lunches for the summer day camp program known as B-SAFE (The Bishop's Summer Academic & Fun Enrichment program). The program is led by St. Stephen's in the South End and especially by The Rev. Liz Steinhauser. Our particular assignment has been the program for young elementary school-age kids held at St. Mary's Church in Upham's Corner, Dorchester, during the week after the Fourth of July.

It all starts early in the year coordinating with partner volunteer churches and at Emmanuel: scheduling, planning meals, signing up volunteers, raising funds, and buying food. A splendid afghan was made, as it is each year, by Emmanuel knitters organized by Laura Jeppesen and Paul Guttry, and auctioned off. On Sundays we collected

spare change and other donations, then topped off our efforts with a benefit concert in Lindsey Chapel performed by Gail Abbey, Margaret Johnson, and Shannon Larkin. We did very well—thank you to you all.

At the end of our week of lunches on Friday, we took the kids and counselors to Spectacle Island on a Boston Harbor Cruise ferry. Many had never been on a boat before and were quite excited. After swimming and lunch, we returned to Long Wharf. From there we all walked through the Rose Kennedy Greenway south to the waterfront playground near the Children's Museum. Bob, Jim, Luke and I ended that long hot day, sitting, and watching the still energetic kids zoom up and down the slides before they headed off on the bus home. We think their summer camp experience started off pretty well!

Respectfully submitted,  
Peggy Bradley

## **Creche Report**

What started as a "Mission Hub" funded through the TogetherNow campaign has evolved into an independent non-profit, CRECHE. Pam Wertz and I sit on the board, along with representatives from the MIT chaplaincy, "The Crossing," St Mary's in Dorchester, and the Northeastern University and Boston College Chaplaincy. Our purpose is to create intentional communities associated with parishes in our area, one of these is our own Emmanuel House in Allston. In addition there is a Creche House at Trinity Church in Newton and a Crossing House in Cambridge. A number of new communities are on the horizon, in particular St Mary's in Dorchester is very enthusiastic, and we expect them to be our fourth house.

During 2019 we have enjoyed the assistance of a Life Together fellow, Sky Gavis-Hughson, who is working with our households in their various community outreach and social justice projects, and we have received word from our diocese that the Life Together placement will continue in the coming year. Our executive director, Isaac Everett, and our outgoing treasurer, Thea Keith-Lucas of MIT, participated in a very intense fundraising education program, the benefit of which we are already seeing, with increasing grants and gifts. We are also participating in the Creative Callings program at BU.

Naturally our own Emmanuel House is a particular interest. Jamie Shore, Rebekah Rodrigues, Charlie Riggs, Luke Abdow, and Jonathan Smith have been joined by Kevin Neil (note the spelling of Kevin's last name, he is not our organist). They have become much loved members of our community. Emmanuel House is enriching the Allston neighborhood by opening up the garden at St. Lukes Road and inviting the community in with a picnic table, lending library, and space for outdoor yoga. Raised vegetable and herb beds are being developed and create an oasis in the urban neighborhood. They offer morning prayer every morning and compline once a week and a few neighborhood folks have started to join them regularly, bringing some spiritual life back to the beautiful campus of St. Luke and St Margaret. All are welcome, particularly Emanuelites. We are grateful to them for hosting our Lent supper and study series as well as our parish picnic this year.

Respectfully submitted,  
Michael Scanlon, Creche Board Member

## **History & Archives Commission Report**

Vestry member Mary Beth Clack and outgoing Junior Warden Elizabeth Richardson have been stalwart members of the History and Archives Commission, with important contributions by Building Commission members Peter Johnson, Julian Bullitt, and Michael Scanlon. Much of the work of the Commission this past year has been done in conjunction with the Communications Commissions members Kathryn Collins, Maureen Driscoll, Matt Griffing,



and Susan Kieffer. Thanks also to Morgan Middlebrook and Kevin Neel, who fielded inquiries into Emmanuel's history and referred researchers to us.

We heard, for instance, from Tracy Strayer, great-granddaughter of Henry Wynd Young, that she has begun research into his artistic contributions, which include a pair of stained-glass lancets showing the Adoration of the Magi [under the South gallery in our Sanctuary]. She confirmed that this Colonel Cranmore Nesmith Wallace Memorial Window [pictured as #18 in Part I of *Our Building History*] was indeed by him. She sent us this sketch from her great-grandfather.

Mary Beth Clack created a webpage on Pauli Murray, whom Emmanuel sponsored for ordination [www.emmanuelboston.org/mission/history/pauli-murray]. She became the first African-American woman to become an Episcopal priest and is venerated in *Holy Women, Holy Men of the Episcopal Church*.

We updated our History webpage [www.emmanuelboston.org/mission/history] and its links. We are currently reviewing our history pages, Timeline posts, and *Our Building History*, which is available as three PDFs which can be downloaded from our website [www.emmanuelboston.org/mission/building/history-of-our-building].

Serpentino Stained Glass Studio of Needham, MA published an article "Glorious Glass" (*Traditional Building*, Dec. 2019, pp. 28-30), which features our Pilgrim's Progress Window. Thanks to Peter Johnson for alerting us to this article [tinyurl.com/tc8cjyt].

We have added to our Google Drive spreadsheets, digitized newspaper articles, and other documents about historic parishioners and their contributions to Emmanuel. If you would like to peruse them, please contact Elizabeth Richardson [clerk@EmmanuelBoston.org] for access to it and our Parish Information Drive.

We are grateful to Parish Operations Manager Kevin Neel, who is working on reorganizing the layout of furniture and file cabinets in the Archives Room. Since we have a considerable backlog of material to be sorted and processed, this will help make organizing and updating our inventories easier. As we contemplate digitizing material to make it more available, even duplicates would be useful. If you find historical material, please let us know [archivist@emmanuelboston.org].

### Goals for 2020

With the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Emmanuel Music coming up in 2020, we are investigating relevant archival material. A draft webpage entitled "Organs and Organists at Emmanuel" is in progress. We are working on a history of jazz at Emmanuel and a slideshow of our stained glass for our website. We hope to convert our building guide from PDFs to interconnected webpages. We also want to develop a physical display of archival photographs. Since today's events quickly become tomorrow's history, oral histories (video or audio) from current parishioners would be a valuable addition to our collections. We welcome your contributions, suggestions about and participation in History and Archives activities.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Chitty, Chair



## Parish Office Report

2019 was a year of transition in the parish office up on the third floor. Last August, Sarah Brock transitioned from her role as parish administrator here to be called as Curate at St. John's, Beverly Farms. Our longtime organist, Kevin Neel, has since added Parish Operations Manager to his collection of hats. His extensive administrative experience and existing relationships with Emmanuel's community enabled him to jump into the role seamlessly.

Restoration and construction projects have been a focus here over the past year. With expert guidance from Parish Assistant Morgan Middlebrook and extensive help and support from our building commission and building users alike, we coordinated our active building calendar with the demands of eliminating the use of several doors and entrances. Thanks to our community's unity of purpose, we generally maintained "business as usual." We now enjoy full access to our historic building.

Other highlights include:

- Boston Early Music Festival (BEMF) again had a successful residency. For five weeks last spring/summer, Emmanuel was full of world-class musicians and artists. Plans are currently in the works for the next Festival in 2021.
- Emmanuel hosted the Diocesan Convention's Eucharist last November. The Sanctuary was packed to the gills on a Saturday afternoon, and we received copious praise for both our building and our community.
- Palaver Strings' Lifesongs Project was hosted here last winter. This series of workshops enabled participants to write songs about their lived experiences as LGBTQ people. The week culminated in recording sessions of their original music in Lindsey Chapel.

Working at Emmanuel continues to be life-giving. Despite the challenges we may face including climbing many sets of stairs in any given day, there is much to enjoy. Here we share laughter, choral sing-alongs, pizza days (#thanksPat!), and most of all, the opportunity to grow in meaningful relationship with all the people who call Emmanuel Church home.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kevin Neel & Morgan Middlebrook

## Diocesan Convention Delegate Report



What follows is our summary of the proceedings on Saturday, November 2, 2019. Further details can be found at [www.diomass.org/diocesan-convention-2019](http://www.diomass.org/diocesan-convention-2019).

Clergy attending from Emmanuel were The Rev. Pam Wertz and Deacon Bob Greiner. The lay delegates were Matt Griffing and Jim Olesen. A rich diversity was present from the moment one walked into the Back Bay Events Center to register, diversity of color and gender and costume, all happily embracing and greeting. Once one registered, there was the opportunity to vote electronically for representatives to various diocesan councils and other elected positions of leadership.

The morning session began at 8:30 am with the declaration of a quorum. Reading of summaries of amendments to the diocesan canons of governance followed. Then came a video of Presiding Bishop Michael Curry preaching with great energy in a city outdoor park on "The Way of Love," which Bishop Alan Gates spoke to next in his ad-



dress to the convention. He was wary of “the next ‘New Thing,’ “ he said, until he realized that The Way of Love was not new but ancient; it was the foundation of Christian faith that must be acted on. Bishop Gates spoke of three ways we can act.

First was “Go.” This meant crossing present boundaries, not abandoning traditions we care about and practice. Evidence of one such boundary is that young adults have not found a place in the Episcopal church. To cross this boundary, we must listen to them now in order to grow and empower new leaders.

Second was “Turn,” from fear and sin to justice and hope. We Episcopalians must listen to survivors of sexual misconduct in our church to face our systemic sin. On the diocesan website there will soon appear a poster for every congregation to display of “safe church” policies. This is a call for collective and individual repentance.

Third came “Rest,” which meant giving God’s creation a rest, restoring God’s natural balance which we have brought into unbalance. The bishop drew from the parable of the unjust judge: the earth is the widow and we the unjust judge. He cited several steps the diocese is taking to bring practice into line with environmental health. He pointed to an Episcopal website: [www.sustainislandhome.org](http://www.sustainislandhome.org) which enables all of us to assess our environmental practice.

The Task Force for 20s and 30s presented next. Several young adults spoke of their personal path to the church and to this convention. They spoke of the church’s welcome of individuality and community, of the listening they received when talking with clergy and congregation members, and that, in their peer group, interest in religion is a social negative. They asserted that they want to be in an intergenerational community, and they sought Christian Formation. They made these recommendations:

1. Nurture change without fear of failure.
2. Increase awareness of unintentional barriers to the young for leadership positions.

A video of a 2019 Episcopal youth event in New Mexico showed youth engaging with asylum seekers, witnessing court proceedings, and gaining some fellow-feeling with border agents.

The Ecumenical Council reported on sins so accepted that they aren’t recognized as deformities; for instance, divisions between faiths. The Council is active in forging unity with other faiths.

Resolutions: The Convention had five Resolutions to be voted on. Each was passed through voting by clergy and lay delegates.

1. Engaging Young Adults Fully in the Life of the Church: a) Create an advisory committee to work toward engaging young adults; b) give this effort staff and budget.
2. This Resolution asks congregations to support efforts to eliminate the present Massachusetts legislation known as Life Without Parole; to support new legislation that, having served 25 years of incarceration or more, any person can become eligible to seek parole; to express support for State Senate bill 826 and House bill 3358 to the governor and every state legislator.  
Opposing points of view regarding this Resolution included:  
Against: concern and justice for the families of one who was murdered; that evil in the world is real and those who do it do not deserve a second chance; that perpetrators must accept the consequences of their actions.  
For: The proposed legislation that there be the opportunity to petition for a review of a prisoners case after 25 years, not the assurance of parole; the Church cannot abandon those whom society has discarded but must follow Christ’s example; that those incarcerated are disproportionately African American. It was emphasized more than once that the Church must “walk with” the bereaved.
3. Each congregation is called to form a “Next Step” group that commits them to specific actions that fulfill the goals of the Creation Care pledge, [[www.episcopalchurch.org/creation](http://www.episcopalchurch.org/creation)], to grow a loving, liberating

and life-giving relationship with the whole of God’s Creation. Specifically, each congregation is encouraged to reduce the carbon footprints of their households and church property and to support mutual efforts by participating in programs like The Episcopal Church’s “Sustaining Earth, Our Island Home” [[www.sustainislandhome.org](http://www.sustainislandhome.org)] and our own diocese’s “Creation Care Tithing.” [[www.CreationTithe.com](http://www.CreationTithe.com)]

4. This resolution, declares the diocese to be a Safe Haven. The leadership of the Diocese condones and materially supports clergy whom refuse to cooperate with or commit nonviolent acts of interference against operations of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, or by providing sanctuary to undocumented people within parochial or diocesan facilities, with the exception of those who have committed felony crimes.
5. In response to Bishop Alan Gates’ address, the Dioceses takes up Presiding Bishop Michael Curry’s invitation to the Way of Love to reimagine church with our young adults now, to turn and hear the witness of abuse survivors and make the church more safe and whole, and to rest in the rhythms of renewal and give God’s creation the care it needs.

The 2020 Diocesan Budget was passed, including the individual parish and mission assessments and approved adjustments for 2020. The diocesan Total Clergy Compensation was also passed. There were elections for Clerical and Lay Deputies to the 2021 General Convention, as well as Clerical Member of the Standing Committee and Members of the Board of Directors of the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center.

Respectfully submitted,  
Matthew Griffing and James Olesen

## Indaba Report

This year Emmanuel Church participated in Indaba, a year-long conversation with two other parishes in the Diocese of Massachusetts . Joining with teams representing St James’s Cambridge and Trinity Marshfield, the Emmanuel team (Pam Werntz, Matt Griffing, Rebekah Rodrigues, and Bill Margraf) engaged in weekends of deep conversations about our respective parishes’ faith journeys, challenges, joys, and hopes, while building what we realized afterward was a Spirit-filled community.

Indaba calls for each parish to host the other parish teams to encounter their community for a weekend. The weekends consisted of introductions to the various ministries of the host parish, times for faith sharing, bread breaking, and being open to see how each community applies Gospel values to its needs. Culminating the weekend was worshipping with the host parish’s community. The depth of our sharing was the wonder of each weekend. The coalescence of vulnerability, support, and affirmation brought each of us to that place where we knew something truly good had unfolded.

At the end of the experiences, all the teams felt deeply connected to each other. Having walked together, and listened deeply to each other, our prayerful realization was how amazing God is in the work of the Church through so many people building the Kingdom in so many and such creative ways. Even our respective hardships were validated, leaving each of us a bit less burdened and a lot more fortified.

Coming to understand that Indaba as a relational process, and not an exchange program, has all the teams discerning how we can continue our journey together into the future. In the meantime, we hold in our hearts a gratitude for the opportunity to reflect on who we are as Episcopalians in diverse parishes all striving to share the Good News in our local communities.

Respectfully submitted,  
William Margraf

## Emmanuel Music Report

**Overview:** In 2019 Ryan Turner, Music Director of Emmanuel Church and Artistic Director of Emmanuel Music, marked his ninth season, and Pulitzer Prize-winning composer John Harbison continued as Principal Guest Conductor. The season celebrated John's milestone birthday, with his works featured throughout the season.

### Activities and Operations

**Artistic:** The Sunday Cantata Series, the heart of Emmanuel Music, continues, coordinating with the weekly liturgy. Guest conductors included Michael Beattie, John Harbison, and for the first time, Ruben Valenzuela, the Founder and Artistic Director of the Bach Collegium San Diego joined the ensemble for Bach's motet "Jesu meine Freude" in April. The Good Friday service presented selections from Buxtehude's *Jesu Membra Nostris*. For the annual Blue Christmas service, the men of Emmanuel Music, with Ryan Turner and Kevin Neel in the choir, presented the premiere of James Primrosch's *Journey*. On November 10, violinist Veronika Starke, Assistant Principal First Violin of the Gewandhaus Orchestra, joined the ensemble for Bach Cantata BWV 79 as part of our partnership with the Boston Symphony Orchestra. Kevin Neel, organist, was featured in a number of works during the year, most recently Benjamin Britten's "The Company of Heaven" in September. Again, a number of Saturday cantata rehearsals were opened to the public, extending the reach to a wider audience.

A very successful Lenten noontime recital series continued in the Leslie Lindsey Chapel for six weeks featuring chamber works of John Harbison and Benjamin Britten with soloists from the Emmanuel Music ensemble and friends. In April our Evening Concert Series with both Ryan Turner and John Harbison conducting, presented *Bach and Harbison*, with Bach's *Easter Oratorio*, and two works of Harbison. In October, Bach's *Mass in B minor* was presented to a full house. *Late Night at Emmanuel* presented three programs, "Celebrating John Harbison" in January, "Tango" in May, and Renaissance Men's "On this Island" in November. On January 29, the Emmanuel community lost a beloved Emmanuel Music colleague, baritone Sanford Sylvan.

**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 staff changes: We bid farewell with appreciation to Margaret Lias, Director of Development, and welcomed Heath Marlow to that position. Also, Jayne West, Community Connections Coordinator, retired from that position, and was succeeded by Megan Bisceglia. 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 support of Julian Bullitt, in too many areas to list, and to Jim Bradley, for his weekly assistance with cantata setup. Lois Beattie continued to be an essential member of the administrative team. Thomas Stephenson 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.

Dana Whiteside, president, with vice-president Peter Libby; treasurer David Vargo; and clerk Eric Reustle continue as officers of the Emmanuel Music Board. Violinist and co-vice president Heidi Braun-Hill stepped down from the



board because of a possible conflict of interest with the new collective bargaining agreement between Emmanuel Music and the Boston Musician's Association. Board committees continued to support operations with their ongoing advice and active advocacy.

**Community Connections and Outreach:** In 2019, **The Bach Institute** took place during the month of January, with 14 college and conservatory students, coached by Emmanuel Music faculty, immersed in history and performance of Bach: they joined the Emmanuel ensemble for three Sunday cantatas; they presented outreach performances at nursing homes and retirement centers; and performed a final concert for the Emmanuel community and the public in the Sanctuary. In addition, there were free public events including weekly cantata talks with Pamela Dellal and the conductors, and programs by Bach scholar Christoph Wolff and Principal Guest Conductor, John Harbison.

Our successful **Community Connections** partnerships with the Boston Arts Academy, Perkins School for the Blind, and a new partner, Boston Latin Academy, are continuing with many Emmanuel musicians participating in performances, master classes, and lecture/demonstrations. 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.

**Budget and Fundraising:** We have been successful in engaging members of the Emmanuel Community to underwrite individual cantatas to cover the direct costs not covered by the Young Fund, and are deeply grateful for their critical support. In addition to significant support from individuals, Emmanuel Music was fortunate to again receive funding from the Massachusetts Cultural Council and the Boston Cultural Council. A significant challenge in 2019 and going forward is sustaining and expanding the number of concert-goers and donors in order to maintain the artistic quality of the ensemble and the artistic vision of the Artistic Director.

**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 Wertz, the Emmanuel Church Vestry, the staff, and the congregation.

Respectfully submitted,

Ryan Turner, Artistic Director and Pat Krol, Executive Director

## Central Reform Temple Report

In the words of the Psalmist, הֵיטֵב מְהֵ טוֹב (Heenay mah tov), "How good it is and how lovely for people to dwell together." In 2019, the depth of our interfaith relationship with our family at Emmanuel Church took the amazing step to declare a covenant relationship with one another as we share this beautiful home together. This is a remarkable step in the lives of our communities and in the wider world of multi-faith community relationships. We are blessed to have built a deep and loving relationship of respect, understanding, and hope. Our spiritual covenant was celebrated with a weekend of festivities November 15-17. Friday Shabbat ser-



vices welcomed Pam’s participation in a meaning-filled ceremony and Sunday Church services saw Howard’s reciprocal participation. Each community hosted a special festive reception after services – an opportunity for us to truly celebrate together.

All of us at Central Reform Temple knew the day would come when our Rabbi would be ready to retire – but we wished that day would never come. In August, it was with sadness that we announced that Rabbi Berman would retire as the rabbi of Central Reform Temple at the end of this fiscal year (May 31, 2020). As our founder, he brought us to this place and time. He served us for 15 years, built our community, and established Central Reform as a voice of liberal Judaism in the city center. He has provided us with many years of teaching and inspiration. All of these ensure we can face the future with confidence that we are standing on a firm foundation. The journey begins to find our next rabbinic leader. We are fortunate that the community conversations in March of 2019 provided valuable data about our needs and hopes for the future. They confirmed that the congregation desires to remain together as a clergy-led temple and the spiritual covenant between our two communities assures us a home to live and continue to grow.

We maintained our regular programming throughout 2019 with bi-weekly Shabbat services and Rabbi Berman’s mid-week Torah Study group, exploring an array of texts and teaching. Our expanded Sisters in Spirit multi-faith dialog community, now including the women from Emmanuel Church, thrives. Our Social Action program supports both the Maurice J. Tobin Elementary School in Mission Hill (fall and spring campus clean-ups and Chanukah school uniform drive), and the Greater Boston Food Bank (through the annual High Holy Day food drive, and this year, a Passover food drive and two volunteer days at the Food Bank facility).

Emmanuel and Central Reform’s support of one another during our respective holy seasons continues by providing ushers and greeters at Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Christmas, and Easter. We appreciate these gestures of love, respect, and hospitality, and are especially grateful for Deacon Bob Greiner having proposed the idea last year. Opportunities for our connection include the efforts of Emmanuel Center (initiatives in a separate report). One of note was this year’s celebration of the Blessing of the Pets in the Sukkah. We loved this idea of meeting in the Sukkah, so we plan to do it again there next year!

In this year of transition and change for Central Reform Temple, we are especially grateful for our shared life with our dear friends of Emmanuel Church, the collegial support of Pam Wertz, and the embrace of the people of the Parish. We look forward to continuing this deep and meaningful relationship in 2020 and beyond.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jill S. Silverstein, Ed.D., President

## Emmanuel Center Report

We begin the 2019 Emmanuel Center annual report with our statement of purpose. Drafted in June 2018, the statement appears at the bottom of every agenda for our monthly meetings to remind us of our focus:

### Statement of Purpose

Emmanuel Center is the programmatic partnership of Central Reform Temple and Emmanuel Church. Our two congregations are faithfully rooted in our distinct religious traditions and shared spiritual heritage. We strive to model compassionate encounters between Judaism and Christianity that affirm the difficult challenges of history and aspire to new levels of understanding. We collaborate with arts and educational groups on events that explore spiritual and ethical perspectives on our shared human experience.

This statement serves as a useful reminder that our aspirations can inspire us to bite off more than we can chew. Such was the case for our agreeing to sponsor and host a concert performance on March 2 of Lidarti’s oratorio

“Esther” by the MIRYAM Ensemble. MIRYAM’s conductor, Dylan Sauerwald, describes the piece as the “only evening-length piece of Jewish sacred music in the European classical tradition since antiquity to the nineteenth century, and very well to the twentieth.” While we were delighted to have participated in the East Coast premiere of this piece, unexpectedly low ticket sales didn’t cover our expenses. Fortunately, proceeds from the benefit vocal recital in April by CRT member, Marilyn Levitt, helped right our budgetary ship. We are grateful to Marilyn for her music and for making Emmanuel Center the beneficiary of her recital.

On the afternoon of May 5, we held our second annual leadership cultivation event in the Parish Hall. We invited lay leaders of Central Reform Temple and Emmanuel Church to gather for a screening of short films by the visual artist, Paul Kaiser, a lifelong friend of then Senior Warden Tom Barber. A couple dozen people enjoyed food, beverages, and lively discussion as we deepened relationships between members of our two communities.

In June, co-chair Susan Werbe announced that she was leaving CRT (and the Emmanuel Center) to join a Jewish Center nearer to her daughter, son-in-law, and new granddaughter. We miss her creative spark and generous spirit. Happily, Nancy Barricklo accepted our invitation to join the board and has infused our gatherings with new energy, enthusiasm, and curiosity. We are delighted to have her with us.

In the spring, Phil and Lynn Berrie from Houston, TX, reached out to learn more about the ways our two communities share our home and support each other’s missions. When their home congregation—Emmanuel Episcopal Church in Houston—was destroyed by Hurricane Harvey in the fall of 2017, they were invited to make a temporary home at Temple Sinai, a Reform Jewish Synagogue in West Houston. In July, the Berries traveled to Boston and met representatives from both our communities for brunch. They also attended a Friday night Shabbat service as well as a Sunday morning Eucharist in Lindsey Chapel. We enjoyed connecting with members of another Emmanuel congregation that is engaged with a Reform Jewish community beyond the boundaries of being ‘renters.’ In October, we joined with the Cathedral Church of St. Paul and Dar-Al Islam on the interfaith art exhibit, “Abraham: Out of One, Many.” Several of us attended the concert entitled “Sacred Service” by *et al.*, a vocal ensemble co-founded by Emmanuel’s organist, Kevin Neel. This moving concert featured music from each of the Abrahamic traditions sung in the midst of the art exhibit. Others participated in a book conversation series about Sarah and Hagar, moderated by Jane Redmont.

Over the third weekend in November, our two communities celebrated the signing of a spiritual covenant statement between us. At the Friday evening Shabbat service and the Sunday morning Eucharist, leaders from both congregations read the covenant statement aloud and lit a unity candle together: Howard held a flame from one of the temple’s Shabbat candles, and Pam held a flame from Emmanuel’s Paschal candle, and they used their individual candles to light a single pillar candle, together.

This was the second consecutive year members of our communities greeted and ushered at each other’s high holy day celebrations. Emmanuelites assisted at Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, and CRT members helped on Easter morning and Christmas Eve. Several CRT members also participated in the Easter puppet parade. These were deeply meaningful experiences for all who took part, and more examples of the myriad ways we are family to each other.

We are grateful for this year’s energetic, creative, and generous board: Tom Barber, Nancy Barricklo, Howard Berman, Liz Levin, Mike Scanlon, and Pam Wertz. We look forward to the coming year as we will say goodbye to Rabbi Berman, who is retiring, welcome his successor, and look for more creative ways to collaborate and explore what it means to live together in Love.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joy Howard, Co-Chair  
Jill Silverstein, Co-Chair

## A Note about Pauli Murray

The blessings and embodiments of Emmanuel Church in how God is with us are as rich and varied as they are familiar to us: Emmanuel Music, Ecclesia Ministries, and the Emmanuel Movement. And yet one element of our heritage quietly sits in the heart of our ever-unfolding and historical mission of meaningfully transforming our various communities and beyond. Just as Emmanuel Music elevates our vision of God’s beautiful creation, and Ecclesia Ministries richly and radically welcomes those who have been dispossessed, the life, ministry and example of The Rev. Anna Pauline Murray (Pauli Murray), whom Emmanuel sponsored for priesthood, calls us to consider deeply and act purposefully in the cause of justice for communities who have long suffered racism, sexism, homo- and transphobia, economic marginalization, spiritual isolation, and sacramental deprivation.

Pauli Murray hungered for justice for matters that were simply beyond the awareness or imagination of the various communities in which they lived. The progress of their life was a process of confronting the biases and hate of any majority by creatively and collaboratively tearing down walls of discrimination by expanding justice to be inclusive, protective, and substantial for all people.

As Pauli discerned their vocation here at Emmanuel, Pauli was speaking truth to power. This truth was as old as time, as painful and dehumanizing as our nation’s history of racism and slavery, as alienating as the impact of sexism, and homo- and transphobia, and, yet, as universal and liberating as the Gospel of Jesus of Nazareth, Son of God and son of Mary. Pauli, through their vocation, called upon the Church to undertake a commitment to be everything it claimed it was by ordaining its first African-American woman to the Episcopal priesthood. And yet as we prayerfully consider Pauli’s identity with regard to gender identity and gender fluidity, Pauli is actually the Episcopal Church’s first non-male-identified African-American to take Holy Orders for the priesthood in the Episcopal Church.

In Pauli Murray, we have an example of fighting the good fight for uplifting of all God’s children without exception. Pauli’s essential goal was to call others to act rightfully so that everyone could take their rightful place in society, in Church, and in love. Their call challenges us to bravely stand with what is struggling and emerging in identity so as to be as full and complete as the Creator hopes. Pauli and Jesus both teach us what seems ambiguous at one point in history is made clear later. This is the Incarnation unfolding in real time.

Our world today hungers for a loving and fighting spirit like Pauli Murray. Similarly, Emmanuel Church has a tradition of openness to all and a reverence for all. As the 110th anniversary of Pauli Murray’s birth approaches in 2020, we hope to undertake Pauli’s practice and our tradition of engaging in brave conversations of how we as a community committed to lifting up God’s creation with the vision and righteous determination Pauli Murray so powerfully created just paths for so many.

Let’s walk together with Pauli this year in the Way of Love.

Respectfully submitted,  
William Margraf

## Leadership Nominations for 2020

Nominating Committee for 2020: Tom Barber, Elizabeth Richardson, Liz Levin, Mary Beth Clack, Gennifer Sussman, Pavel Hradecky, Peter Johnson, Pam Werntz (ex-officio)

Office	Nominee (all have been asked and their willingness confirmed)
Senior Warden (1-year term)	Liz Levin (1 <sup>st</sup> )
Junior Warden (1-year term)	Bill Margraf (1 <sup>st</sup> )
Treasurer (1-year term)	Gennifer Sussman (2 <sup>nd</sup> )
Clerk (1-year term)	Elizabeth Richardson (1 <sup>st</sup> )
Vestry (3-year term)	Tom Barber (1 <sup>st</sup> )
Vestry (3-year term)	Peter Johnson (2 <sup>nd</sup> )
Vestry (3-year term)	Mary Beth Clack (1 <sup>st</sup> )
Vestry (2-year completion of unfulfilled term)	Kerilyn Tacconi
Vestry (1-year completion of unfulfilled term)	Rebekah Rodrigues
DioMass Convention delegates (1-year term)	Matthew Griffing & Ellen Hinkle
DioMass Convention alternate (1-year term)	Jim Olesen
Boston Harbor Deanery delegates (1-year term)	Mary Blocher & Charlie Riggs
Episcopal City Mission delegates (1-year terms)	Joy Howard & Mike Scanlon
Episcopal Relief & Development rep (1-year term)	Dawn Dreisbach

## Courtesy Resolutions

WE EXPRESS OUR PROFOUND GRATITUDE TO:

1. Tom Barber, Senior Warden, and Elizabeth Richardson, Junior Warden, Gennifer Sussman, Treasurer, and Liz Levin, Clerk for their spirit-filled and steady leadership over the last year.
2. Pavel Hradecky for his completed three-year term on vestry, and Mary Beth Clack for her completed one-year term 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 Community Works Services folks who keep the inside of the building looking great.
5. Peter Johnson for serving as Project Manager for the completed Back Wall restoration and for taking on project management for the “portals” project.
6. Ryan Turner, Kevin Neel, 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. Sarah Brock, Morgan Middlebrook, and Kevin Neel, 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. Howard Berman, Rabbi-in-Residence, Jill Silverstein, President, and all of the members of Central Reform Temple whose covenant relationship with Emmanuel Church is a blessing.
9. The Rt. Rev. J. Clark Grew for his presence as Senior Pastoral Associate, The Rev. Bob Greiner for serving as Deacon among us, The Rev. Dr. Rick Stecker, Priest Associate, for generous supply coverage and readiness to step in when needed, and The Rev. Isaac Everett, Creche Executive Director for being with us once a month.



10. The Rev. Susan Ackley for steering and serving, and The Rev. Dr. Elise Feyerherm, Bill Margraf and Jane Redmont for their leadership assistance with the new Recovery Healing Services.
11. Jane Redmont, Chair of Worship Commission, Garrett Garborcauskas, co-chair for the “first semester,” Bill Margraf and Jamie Shore for coordinating and training altar servers, Paddy Cavanaugh for coordinating Altar Guild, Rebecca Lightcap for coordinating lectors and prayer leaders, 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, altar guild participants; to Glenn Seberg for his attention to floral arrangements for liturgical festivals in the last year, and to Wendy Grew, retiring from altar guild after ten years of dedicated service.
12. 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. Thanks especially for those who provided our meal for today’s Annual Meeting.
13. Ellen Hinkle and Linnea Massie for leading our monthly Small Wonders program for children of the parish, and Bob Greiner, Susan Kieffer, and Pavel Hradecky for helping as needed.
14. Liz Levin and Jamie Shore, Co-chairs, and all who have worked to build a meaningful Pledge Stewardship Season.
15. Jim Bartlett, chair, and all who work on the Finance Commission
16. All who led Chapel Camp activities during the Summer.
17. Walter Jonas, Chair of the Pastoral Care Commission, and all who quietly and consistently provide pastoral care in the name of Emmanuel Church.
18. Meg Joyce, Matthew Griffing, Elizabeth Richardson, and Michael Scanlon for superb graphic design and photo documentation of parish life.
19. Matthew Griffing, Elizabeth Richardson, and the members of the Communications Commission for their fine management of Emmanuel Church’s web pages and social media.
20. Mary Chitty, historian and Elizabeth Richardson and Mary Beth Clack, archivists.
21. Penny Lane for gathering Emmanuel knitters in her home every month.
22. Emmanuel Center board members for implementing our vision of interfaith collaboration.
23. Peggy Bradley, Luke Abdow, Bob Greiner, and all who planned, fundraised, shopped, cooked, and served lunch to the B-SAFE day campers at St. Mary’s Church in July.
24. Ann Higgins, coordinator, and all who help make 80 sandwiches a week for BostonWarm guests.
25. Luke Abdow and Kerilyn Tacconi for serving as point persons for the 20s/30s group that meets twice a month.
26. Matt Griffing, Bill Margraf, and Rebekah Rodrigues for their leadership in the diocesan Indaba program, and all who presented and accommodated guests when it was Emmanuel’s turn to host.
27. All who represented Emmanuel Church in public witness at parades, marches, and rallies such as the Rallies on behalf of Immigrants, the Mother’s Day Walk and the Pride Parade.
28. All of the people of Emmanuel, known and unknown, who consistently show up and pitch in and give what they can to further the mission of Love within and beyond the walls of 15 Newbury Street.
29. All who prepared material for the 2019 Annual Report and today’s Annual Meeting.

Are there others?

30. \_\_\_\_\_
31. \_\_\_\_\_
32. \_\_\_\_\_
33. \_\_\_\_\_

## Closing Song

### God has done marvelous things

Musical score for Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass parts. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are: Mar - vel - ous, mar - vel - ous, mar - vel - ous. God has done mar - vel - ous, God has done. God has done.

Musical score for Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass parts. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are: 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!

## 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. Isaac Everett, Creche Executive Director  
The Rev. Robert Greiner, Deacon  
Ryan Turner, Music Director  
Kevin Neel, Organist & Parish Operations Manager  
Morgan Middlebrook, Administrative Assistant  
Donald Firth, Contoller  
Event Sextons:  
Bill Comer, Dennis Gaskell, Dylan Hillerbrand,  
Sid Richardson, Jeremy Vaughan

### Emmanuel Church Vestry

Tom Barber, Senior Warden  
Elizabeth Richardson, Junior Warden  
Liz Levin, Clerk  
Gennifer Sussman, Treasurer  
Edgar Brenninkmeyer  
Mary Beth Clack  
Matthew Griffing  
Ellen Hinkle  
Pavel Hradecky  
Peter Johnson  
Susan Kieffer  
Bill Margraf  
James Olesen  
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](http://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](mailto:info@centralreformtemple.org) 617-262-1202

### Parish Office

15 Newbury Street, Boston, MA 02116

Hours: Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

[www.emmanuelboston.org](http://www.emmanuelboston.org) [parishadmin@emmanuelboston.org](mailto:parishadmin@emmanuelboston.org) 617-536-3355

The Rev. Pamela L. Werntz: [werntz.emmanuel@gmail.com](mailto:werntz.emmanuel@gmail.com)