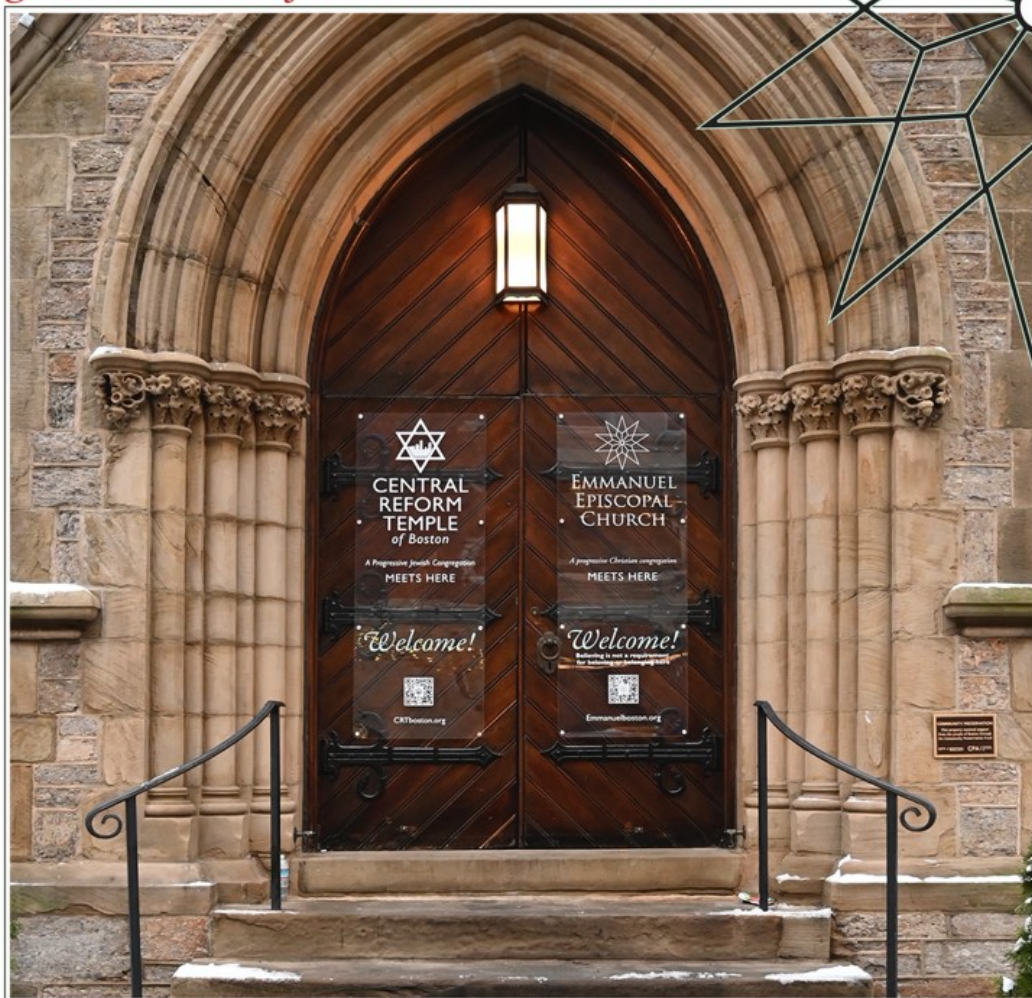


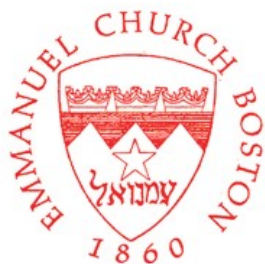
*I was glad when they said to me, "let us  
go to the house of the Lord!"*

PSALM 122



# EMMANUEL CHURCH

*In The City of Boston*



*2023 ANNUAL REPORT*  
*February 4, 2024*



## **Annual Meeting Agenda**

**Sunday, February 4, 2024, 12:15 pm**

- **Call to Order**
- **Establishment of a quorum**
- **Approval of Minutes from the 2023 Annual Meeting**
- **Recognition of Commissions and Committees**
- **Warden remarks**
- **Treasurer Remarks (including budget discussion)**
- **Election of Vestry members, Clerk, Treasurer, Wardens, Delegates and Representatives**
- **Recognition of outgoing vestry members**
- **Courtesy resolutions**
- **Rector remarks**
- **Open Forum**
- **Closing Song**

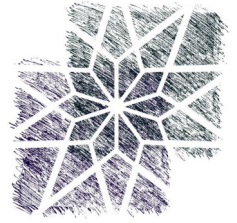
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## Emmanuel Church

### Minutes of Annual Meeting Held via Zoom

February 5, 2023 at 1pm



This is a draft of the minutes that will be posted to Parish Operations>Annual Report>Annual Report Prep (as final when edits of Exec Comm. are added). –MBC

#### Emmanuel Church

#### CALL TO ORDER

Senior Warden Liz Levin called the meeting to order.

#### ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM

Clerk Mary Beth Clack certified that a quorum of parishioners had been established by the presence on Zoom of over 26 attendees required, including our rector and senior warden.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE 2022 ANNUAL MEETING

Liz offered a motion to approve the meeting minutes of the 2022 Annual Meeting, which had been printed and distributed in the *2022 Annual Report*. *The congregation approved the motion.*

#### RECOGNITION OF COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES

Liz expressed her heartfelt thanks to all of the many people who serve on Emmanuel's Commissions and Committees, who have had to be more creative during covid-19 and continue to operate in the same mode, although the worst of the pandemic has passed. Liz gave special thanks to the two Ad Hoc Committees, the Columbarium Committee and the Seminarian's Lay Committee.

#### WARDEN'S REMARKS

Liz said that while many new things were begun this year, other things remained the same. What is the same is the spirit and heart of Emmanuel Church, clergy and parishioners alike. We were able to offer radical welcome even at a time when all was not comfortable for those at the margins. Our new Parish Administrator, Vaughan Sherrill, and our new Parish Assistant, Robb Scholten, are doing their best to keep things afloat, including during the most challenging time of "Steamageddon," which Pam called, "the cloud of unknowing." (Steamageddon resulted from a serious steam leak on the third floor). Liz recommended that everyone read the annual reports which are amazing evidence of all that has been done by our parishioners and ministry partners this year.

#### RECTOR'S REMARKS

Pam began by saying that if the meeting were in the Parish Hall, she would be leading a standing ovation for Liz, citing our senior warden's fine leadership during another year of enormous challenges and remarkable accomplishments. Pam cited the challenges this year; among them staff turnover, financial uncertainty, and pandemic fallout, and more. Pam called for a round of applause for Liz.

Every year, Pam identifies three things for us to think about in the coming year. First, she said she would like to reprise what was said last year about our mission partners. Emmanuel Center, Emmanuel Music, Inc., Central Reform Temple, and Ecclesia Ministries are continuing to be in rebuilding and growing mode. New leaders at the executive level are The Rev. Carrington Moore of common cathedral who began in June, Rabbi Dr. Michael Shire

of Central Reform Temple who started in July, and Jackie Dentino, who has been at EMI for a year and a half. Our new staff members, Vaughan Sherrill and Robb Scholten, join Lisa Faber Ginggen and John Dilworth. Pam encouraged us to go out of our way to get to know them.

Secondly, when Pam thinks of the effects of the pandemic on Emmanuel, she is reminded of the tremendous mission asset that is our building, and the mission clarity that came to us with so many other places of meeting and worship shutting down. This will continue to be true in the future. Attendance at vestry and study group meetings has boomed because of our ability to meet virtually. We have more attendees today at our Zoom annual meeting than would likely be in our Parish Hall. The downside of three years of pandemic is evident in the lack of opportunities to get to know people who are not in our immediate circle of concern. These opportunities arise in chance conversations before and after meetings, the incidental and accidental discoveries of common (and uncommon) interests and amusements that one discovers informally, and in times when one is able to observe things that are not as evident while participating via YouTube and Zoom. Our reach has grown tremendously through online worship and study but our grasp seems to be missing an opposable thumb when it comes to strengthening relationships within the parish and expanding our circles of concern. It's a "head-scratcher," and Pam hopes that we will develop new ways or recover old ways that will enable us to build and strengthen relationships with each other. Pam is missing the depth of connection, the lack of which comes with not being as present, or present in the same ways, as we were before the pandemic started.

Lastly, Pam will be taking her scheduled sabbatical in the fall, and focusing the study portion of her time away on interrogating her Maryland family ancestry and their enslavement of African Americans up until the end of the Civil War. Pam grew up with a lot of abolitionist hero stories about her ancestors, and only recently discovered that these stories don't tell the whole story. A year ago she found that part of the story had been whitewashed. She will be learning more of the truth and engaging in correcting, or adding to, the narrative for her siblings, children, and grandchildren. She has information but has not had the time to investigate. She also does not want to be stuck in the learning stage. Pam wishes to begin paying reparations, monetary and non-monetary, and paying reparations forward if it's not possible to pay back. She is being encouraged and educated as she consults our diocesan resources, and is making active use especially of *A Toolkit for Reparations in Community: A Resource for the Body of Christ*.

Pam has also joined an organization called "Coming to the Table." (Table is an acronym for "Taking America beyond the Legacy of Enslavement") Pam learned of this group from Bill Margraf when she began to learn more about her family history. "Coming to the Table" is a national organization with local affiliates that meet together to tell stories and engage in deep dialogue about building relationships that relate to taking action to dismantle inequitable systems and structures that are based on race. What is required is time to do that work. Pam is hoping to discover descendants of those enslaved by her ancestors, but will not know what she will find until she begins this study. Pam and Joy will travel in the deeper South; they will rest and have fun, visiting friends and family. While away, Pam hopes that Emmanuel, as a predominantly white parish, will continue to engage in its own truth finding and telling, about the ways in which our white founders benefited from enslaved labor and in which white parishioners still benefit from unjust systems and structures that are based on race. Pam's hope is that when we come back together in Advent 2023, we will compare notes and discern our parish's next steps to heal our wounded hearts and souls, since everyone's hearts and souls are wounded by the sins of racism.

Pam invited our Treasurer, Mark Fernau, to speak about the approved budget for 2023.

## **TREASURER'S REMARKS**

Mark said that it was an honor to serve as Treasurer during his first year. He appreciated the opportunity to get to know the staff, and more parishioners, who are full of love of Emmanuel, and grace, and wisdom. He noted that the position was harder than he thought it would be, due partly to circumstances, and partly because Emmanuel is a larger organization than his previous church. Our finances are detailed and complicated, and there were

personnel changes this year. He has learned a great deal and will continue to do so. He expects that the second year will be a smoother one for him and the team..

Mark said that our auditor recommended that Emmanuel restate its numbers from last year because of an accounting error; this small tweak is documented in the report. Overall, the 2022 operating budget had a deficit of \$7,000 mostly on the expense side, resulting from unexpected building expenses and higher parish expenses, and the Parish Administrator was offered a salary more commensurate with the requirements of the position. However, this is a relatively small deficit. Some of the surplus from last year will cover it. On the income side, pledges came in as expected. Mark recommended that parishioners read Pam's remarks on the importance of pledging. Special gifts were generous in 2022. The Building Commission has been working well to keep expenses lower; an example was their changing to a different trash contractor to decrease costs.

Big expenses included the costs for the replacement of roof slates (covered by the reserve fund); the repairs to the fan in the attic; and the purchase of a state-of-the-art keypad security system which will be implemented in the coming months. These expenses resulted in a deficit of approximately \$27,000. That will be covered by the Legacy Fund which comprises bequests and gifts designated by the vestry for building-related expenses. Mark noted that a very generous donation was made to replace one of the Angel windows damaged in the fire of about 20 years ago. That money, while restricted, provided a potential cushion last year to ensure smooth cash flow.

Mark and team are pleased to present a balanced budget. The 2023 budget includes generous raises for our lay staff (which reflect inflation and reward merit). The budget has realistic estimates for upcoming building expenses. The budget may need adjustment on the income side, so the vestry will do so if needed. Work will continue to see whether our mission partners who rent space will be able to cover utilities expenses to a greater degree in 2023.

Parishioners are encouraged to email Mark with questions and comments. Pam added many thanks for Mark's work and acknowledged that the work at Emmanuel entails challenges, but is also rewarding. Mark said that it is a pleasure to work with everyone.

## **REPORT OF COLUMBARIUM COMMITTEE**

Edgar thanked committee members Mary Blocher, Paul Curtis, Marianne Iauco, Liz Levin, Michael Scanlon, Sarah Moyer, and our rector (ex officio). Work began in the summer of 2021 with Sarah Moyer chairing the committee. Sarah stepped down this year to spend more time with son, Edward, and family. This year, the committee has been gathering material, exploring options, receiving proposals from vendors, calculating costs, and gathering information on structural requirements and related challenges. The presentation that Edgar presented is the same one that was presented to the vestry at its January 2023 meeting.

The Committee continues to advocate for a columbarium for all who belong to the wider Emmanuel community. Financial realities as reflected in the Treasurer's and Finance Committee's reports prompted us to further assess committed interest and how the project might be funded without impact to our community's operating resources. We will evaluate the feasibility of building a columbarium in phases that allow us to right-size and prefund the columbarium. We remain confident in the policy, desirability, design, vendors, and construction project team.

At the last vestry meeting the committee received vestry approval for two things:

- to develop materials describing the columbarium to the community and to gauge the community's commitment and support
- to establish a columbarium fund to receive gifts and payments toward columbarium construction, administration, and stewardship.

The committee will continue its work and recommend that Emmanuel assess the feasibility, plan, and prefunding of the columbarium; ensure that the look and feel of the structure match the existing sanctuary; offer niches at a cost of \$5000 for a two-urn niche; fund the project in prefunded phases; and target installation in Spring 2024 and dedication in September 2024.

The Committee gathered important findings and documents related to permissions, location, look, and feel within the Emmanuel sanctuary (designs and drawings), and vendors' proposals. The columbarium policy, brochure, and niche purchase agreement are in place. Yet to be completed are the project overview, build approach and sequence, funding, and ongoing administration and stewardship. Emmanuel will honor the request of anyone wishing to be enriched in the columbarium, irrespective of the individual's ability to afford the purchase of a niche. The Committee is confident that funding will come together through niche purchases, along with donations to pastorally assist those in need. The columbarium will be an integral part of Emmanuel's ministry to the wider community, including Central Reform Temple and others in close relationship to Emmanuel.

Responding to the chat question about what columbarium is, Edgar quoted from the brochure. Columbarium is derived from the Latin word for dove (columba). A dovecote was a building with niches for housing doves, a universal symbol of peace. At Emmanuel, a peaceful house of rest for beautiful souls who have gone before us, will be a place where cremated remains will be enriched in a place of rest.

Pam added that the committee agreed early on that all niches will be priced at the same amount. There will be no hierarchy of niche locations in the structure (such as having lower-priced niches at the floor level, and higher-priced niches at eye level). Edgar added that there will be an opportunity for questions from those interested in the columbarium when an information table is set up for use after Emmanuel's services during Lent.

### **TALK OF THE PARISH**

We broke into small groups to discuss: "What is one way that Emmanuel has been a blessing in the past year? How has it affected you and those around you?" Or, alternatively, Pam suggested that folks respond to this Worship Commission question, "What one moment in our worship speaks to your heart and your soul?" After 15 minutes of discussion, Pam asked the groups to report back via the chat, placing brief comments so that this valuable feedback could be reviewed later.

### **ELECTION OF VESTRY, CLERK, TREASURER, WARDENS, DELEGATES & REPRESENTATIVES**

This year three vestry positions were open. The following nominations were made:

#### **Nominations for Vestry and Officers**

Rebekah Shore nominated Liz Levin for Sr. Warden.

Liz Levin nominated Rebekah Shore for Jr. Warden.

Mary Beth Clack nominated Mark Fernau for Treasurer.

Mark Fernau nominated Mary Beth Clack for Clerk.

Elizabeth Richardson nominated Cindy Coldren for a one-year term on Vestry.

Peter Dutilloy nominated Lucas Boomsma for a three-year term on Vestry.

Christopher Connors nominated Pat Krol for a three-year term on Vestry.

Pam Werntz nominated delegates and representatives to:

- DioMass Convention: Matt Griffing, Jamie Shore & Liz Levin (alternate)
- Boston Harbor Deanery: Mary Blocher & Jamie Shore
- Episcopal City Mission: Joy Howard & Mike Scanlon
- Episcopal Relief & Development: Dawn Dreisbach.

The motion to approve this slate for Vestry members, officers, and delegates was approved.

### **RECOGNITION OF OUTGOING VESTRY MEMBERS & OFFICERS**

Pam spoke about, and thanked, the departing vestry members: Sarah Moyer, Elizabeth Richardson, and Peter Johnson. Sarah joined the Vestry, serving two years, doing remote work from the Denver area, including amazing



work as chair of the Columbarium Committee. Elizabeth Richardson has served in various leadership roles in all but one year in Pam's 15 years here, and before that. Pam said she didn't know how vestry would function without Elizabeth, who will continue important work in the Archives and on the Communications Commission. Similarly, Peter Johnson will also be on "speed dial" with Elizabeth, when their expertise is needed. Peter Johnson, according to Elizabeth, has served in leadership since 1985, being a pillar of the congregation. His legacy is large. Peter said that he loved Emmanuel and being part of an amazing community. He will continue to serve as master gardener and as a member of the Building Commission. Great thanks were shared by all.

## **COURTESY RESOLUTIONS**

Pam asked for volunteers to read the Courtesy Resolutions. The following parishioners did so: Carolyn Roosevelt (1-5), Pavel Hradeky (6-10), Joy Howard (11-14), Ann Higgins (15-21), and Mary Blocher (22-28). A number of additional resolutions were suggested and thanks were expressed by those present. The resolutions were approved as written, nos. 1-28.

Additional resolutions and corrections were contributed. Corrections included: no. 19, Meg Abbey Joyce; no. 4 Peter Johnson.

Additions included:

- Thanks to the incredible gardeners and the Building Commission who made the garden so beautiful in all seasons of the year.
- Many thanks to Pam who held the ship together this past year and during the Covid years, as captain of the ship, Emmanuel. (Applause followed!)
- To commend all members of the Executive Committee for agreeing to serve another year as we are entering the year when our rector will be on sabbatical. (Pam added: "when you have an opportunity to row without the captain"). Liz said she was grateful to them for staying the course (Pam added that the Executive Committee is comprised of the Wardens, the Treasurer, the Clerk, and the Rector. Joy added that they will have the chance to row at ramming speed).
- Thanks to our sextons. Bill Comer, Joel Schenk, Jesse Kieffer, Dennis Gaskell and Steven Bailey.
- Thanks to the bread bakers.

Pam called for a vote to approve the Courtesy Resolutions as amended, and the approval was unanimous.

## **OPEN FORUM**

Pam asked for questions and comments. A question about recognizing our interns was posed. Pam said that there are three: Lisa Faber-Ginggen (seminarian), Emily Alex S. (a drama therapy intern with CRT, the first sharing of an intern between Emmanuel and CRT), and Wan-yi Huang (art intern who supports Common Art and the Ethos lunch program).

There was a question about how the Pauli Murray statue was coming along. Pam explained that the pulpit in the main sanctuary has spaces for six statues. All were stolen in the 1970s and there has been discussion about replacing them. While we do not have good photos of them, it is our understanding that all were depictions of Saint Paul at various stages in his ministry. When the parish started developing a better understanding and appreciation of Pauli Murray, it occurred to Pam that a statue of Saint Pauli would be a good addition to the pulpit. Ted Southwick has been working on a clay model, and the anticipated unveiling of July 2, 2023 (Pauli Murray's saint's day is July 1). Pauli Murray's niece has been in touch with us about being at Emmanuel for the unveiling.

Other people who might be honored are Bishop Barbara Harris, Bishop first woman bishop in the worldwide Anglican Communion and DioMass bishop suffragan. Ted has started work on Bishop Harris's statue. For the four other slots, Pam has thought that since Pam is the first woman rector of Emmanuel, it would be fitting to have four women in place, women who paved the way for her, and women's ministry. There may not be time for all statues to be completed, but Pam's list includes: Amy Beach, member of Emmanuel and the first woman





*Our rector The Rev. Pamela L. Werntz preaches in the Sanctuary.  
Photo: Julian Bullitt*

composer of symphonies in our country; Vida Scudder, social justice powerhouse who was based in Wellesley in the last century; Suzanne Hiatt, one of the Philadelphia Eleven, the organizer of women's ordination, and one of Pam's teachers; and an unnamed woman to represent all women in scripture and history whose names are not known. Pam feels that this proposal will be successful even if Pauli Murray and Barbara Harris are gracing the front of the pulpit.

### **CLOSING SONG**

Joy Howard played a YouTube recording of the Middle Community Chorus @MiddleChurch group singing "God has done marvelous things!"

The meeting was adjourned at 1pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Beth Clack, Clerk

## Rector's Report

### מה-ידידות משפנותיך " צבאות

HOW LOVELY IS YOUR DWELLING PLACE, O LORD OF HOSTS! PSALM 84:1

The year 2023 was a year that the vestry and I continued to study and discuss the sinful legacies of slavery and racial discrimination, and the moral obligation for reparations. That topic also informed my sabbatical in the fall, during which I embarked on an investigation and a pilgrimage having to do with the relationships with racial oppression in my family, my Church, and my government. Oh, and my own relationship with racial oppression is part of my investigation and pilgrimage too. Along the way, I focused on building relationships with others who are engaging in a racial reckoning in 2023, particularly in the form of reparations movement(s), by learning and practicing deeper restorative and reparative justice. I am so grateful for the gift of sabbatical, for the time and space and much-needed rest to explore and learn, and to spend wonderful time with my extended family and long-distance friends. Special thanks to all who so ably managing things while I was away. The timing of Martha Tucker's ability to serve as sabbatical priest was truly a gift from God.

Some reparations work is focused on descendants of formerly enslaved people, but we don't have to go back that far or focus our attention so narrowly. Reparations are due for financial and other injuries sustained by People of Color due to white supremacist laws, policies, and practices in our lifetime. In engaging this work, I am taking a clear stand against deep-seated and widely accepted immoral behaviors, looking at both the past and the future. I can tell you that the work is inspiring and energizing, even while it challenges us with more questions than answers.

Worship at Emmanuel Church remains beautiful and dignified, without being fussy. Our Sunday gathering is what I miss the most when I'm away. I am so grateful for the liturgical and preaching gifts and friendship offered by my clergy colleagues in this past year: Bob Greiner, Martha Tucker, John Golenski, Isaac Everett, Clark Grew, and Michael Shire. Susan Ackley continues to preside over weekly 12-step Recovery services on Fridays via Zoom. I am also immensely grateful for all of the lay leaders who generously offer their time and talents in music, spoken word, and in silent witness, during services, as well as in planning, preparation, clean-up, and evaluation.



*Deacon ordination ceremony at St. Paul's Cathedral, June 2023. L to R: Bishop Gates, Eva Ortiz, Kevin Vetiac, Paddy Cavanaugh, Keith Nelson, Katie Hoyer, Margaret Lias, Paul Keene, Lisa Faber Ginggen, Max Sklar, Michael Thompson*

*Photo: Julian Bullitt*

Emmanuel celebrated two baptisms in 2023. Amelia Ryan Rodophele was baptized by Martha Tucker, and I baptized Russell Robert Bennett. Of the many marriage celebrations at Emmanuel this year, I presided over three: Blair McFadden and John McGary, Emma Folkerts and Jethro Hall, and Mary Hanink and Mazen Kishtban. Bob Greiner presided over four weddings: Alexandra Howard and Alex Youngquist, Olivia Koenig and Bryce Fothergill, Rachel Mosakowski and Matthew Norton (co-presiding with The Rev. Dr. Katharine Black), and Victoria Marino & Benjamin Colbert. We celebrated the ordinations of new deacons in June at the Cathedral. Five out of ten of them spent considerable time at Emmanuel Church during their formation: Paddy Cavanaugh, Margaret Lias, Lisa Faber-Ginggen, Keith Nelson, and Kevin Vetiac. What a bountiful harvest!



We also celebrated the feast day of The Rev. Dr. Pauli Murray in July, dedicating her statue in the pulpit, and welcoming her niece, Ms. Rosita Stevens-Holsey.

Sadly, we said goodbye to two pillars of the parish, Don Langbein and Walter Jonas. Don's funeral was in April and Walter's will be in the late spring of 2024.

In-person engagement in our community continues to be challenged by the effects of COVID-19. Average Sunday attendance dipped back to 85 from 88 in 2022. I am still missing "the olden days" before COVID, when serendipitous conversations and community meals helped to build deeper supportive and fun relationships.

Thanks to Emmanuel Music (EMI) staff and parish volunteers for their ongoing efforts to keep the livestream up and running for most of the year. Thanks too, for all who have increased their giving to EMI and Emmanuel Church to cover EMI musicians' stipends, which rightly double when we livestream their musical offerings, other increased expenses such as music copyright costs, etc.

Speaking of financial support of the parish, giving is strong, although the number of people pledging, that is, formally signaling their intent to give, has not recovered from pre-pandemic numbers. That concerns me because Emmanuel Church's ministry and staff are paid for by annual giving. In the Episcopal Church, the number of pledges made to a parish is a key indicator of the size and health of a congregation. When someone makes a pledge for a calendar year, they are indicating their commitment to the parish for the annual fund, which keeps our staff paid, the lights on and the seats warm! The commitment may be (and usually is) fulfilled in weekly or monthly installments. While the commitments are not binding, they are an indication of giving expectations and we use those commitment statements to create our budget. Of course, there are circumstances in which the pledger might not be able to give at the level expected, but any shortfall is usually made up by new pledgers who arrive and pledge mid-year. Other non-pledged giving to the annual fund helps a great deal, but it's much harder to budget! When giving is based solely on attending, we have no way to anticipate the frequency.

This year, the number of pledges received to date is 80, compared with an estimated 120 households which consider Emmanuel a spiritual home (no matter how often they get home or how far away they live). If you are reading this and have not made a pledge of financial support for 2024 in an amount that is meaningful for you, I urge you to do so by contacting Stewardship chair, Liz Levin, or Parish Administrator, Vaughan Sherrill ([parishadmin@emmanuelboston.org](mailto:parishadmin@emmanuelboston.org)). If you have already pledged to give in 2024, thank you very much.

We completed a year without any major staff transitions, thanks be to God. And thanks to Ryan Turner, John Dilworth, Vaughan Sherrill, and Robb Scholten for generously sharing their talents, working hard, and maintaining their senses of humor!

Please know that you, dear reader, are among those for whom I am most grateful. I am grateful as well for the lovely dwelling place that is Emmanuel Church.



*From left: Ted Southwick, Rosita Stevens-Holsey & Pamela Werntz. Photo: Bob Greiner*

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, Khalil and Rahmi; Laura and Tim, Elliott and Lawson; and Grace, who make my work among you possible and my days off so much fun!

Respectfully submitted,  
The Rev. Pamela L. Werntz

P.S. After ten years of problems, and five years of complete shutdown, the elevator was restored to service at the end of 2023. Hallelujah! You may read more in the Building Commission Report

## Wardens' Report

Dear Emmanuelites, Happy 2024! We are thrilled to be able to report on another successful year during 2023. As usual, it was filled with beautiful music, many work projects, attentive staff and volunteers, and continual support of those at the margins of society.

In January we said farewell to long-term members of the Vestry, Elizabeth Richardson and Peter Johnson. We also bid adieu to Sarah Moyer who had moved away to Arizona and had continued her term via Zoom. Then in February we welcomed two new members, Lucas Boomsma and Pat Krol. In June we bid farewell to our seminarian Lisa Faber Ginggen as she prepared for her ordination as a transitional deacon.

The discussions and voting of the Vestry during the year mirror the many activities within our building and community. Votes and approvals during 2023 included:

- approval to develop materials for presentation to our community related to a Columbarium to be constructed in the Sanctuary
- approval of a Columbarium Fund to receive gifts and payments toward Columbarium construction, administration, and stewardship
- a vote to approve Paddy Cavanaugh's candidacy for ordination as a transitional deacon and Margaret Lias' candidacy to the Diaconate of the Diocese of Massachusetts
- a vote to accept the annual Parochial Report
- approval of funds for the restoration of the angel window in apse (gift for restoration costs was gratefully received in 2022)
- approval for Emmanuel Church enter into a contractual agreement to proceed with work in the chancel for repair of the plaster and repainting (gifts for restoration costs were gratefully received in 2023)
- approval of the Treasurer's response to our annual audit
- approval of funds for repairs to the organ in the Sanctuary.
- approval of the Rector's annual housing resolution
- approval of staff salary increases

In early June we held our annual Vestry Retreat at Bethany House in Arlington, MA facilitated by The Rev. Doctor Dawna Wall, who was the Executive Director of Bethany House. During the day and a half we spent together, we looked at how we might compare our structure to a tree with its branches. It gave us an opportunity to view a role in a different light and to be able to get to know each other in a deeper way. Our summertime Chapel Camp was,



as usual, well received and attended. The session just prior to Pam's vacation and sabbatical was a discussion of reparations and the impact of slavery on those enslaved and the lasting effects of slavery. This session gave rise to an as-yet-small group of Vestry members who have researched this topic in light of our own Emmanuel Church history. We continue to study, read, and learn under their guidance to this day. All Vestry members have read *Reparations: A Plan for Churches* by Peter Jarrett-Schell. And several of us have attended various outside seminars. The Rev. Tamra Tucker joined us at the November Vestry meeting for a robust discussion of how our Diocese is proceeding with reparations.

In July our woodcarver in residence, Ted Southwick, unveiled the joyously awaited pulpit statue of The Rev. Dr. Pauli Murray. Rev. Murray's niece Rosita Stevens-Holsey was present at the unveiling, and she led a discussion with the parish about Rev. Murray's life. Ms. Stevens-Holsey had written a biography of Rev. Murray; copies were available for purchase and autograph during coffee hour. We look forward to more wood carvings to fill the empty pulpit niches, with the next being a statue of the beloved Bishop Barbra C. Harris, expected sometime this year in 2024.

During September, October and November our beloved Rector Pam was away on Sabbatical. The Rev. Dr. Martha Tucker (no relation to Tamra) stepped in as our Sabbatical Priest. We enjoyed her sermons and her support of Vestry and Warden's during some difficult times with the residents of our steps. Our role as Church of Radical Welcome was tested and found to be firm in its call to be open to all in need. In December, the Vestry welcomed Pam back during a one-day retreat at Bethany House. We spent that time learning about Pam's research and discoveries and filled her in on what we had accomplished during her absence.

Our covenantal relationship with Central Reform Temple was strengthened as the leadership of both communities came together following the start of a renewed war in Israel, Gaza, and the West Bank in October. We continue to hold each other dear and support each other through these difficult times.

Our relationship with Emmanuel Music Inc. (EMI) is stronger than ever. Aside from the glorious music they bring to us, we are reminded that everyone can sing during the annual Chorale Sing following a Sunday service. To confirm our close relationship with EMI, several members of the Vestry helped to support a table at the celebration of John Harbison's 85<sup>th</sup> birthday.

The Building Commission continues to steward our elderly infrastructure and our beautiful building. Some of the changes to the building are obvious, such as the beautiful updates to the ceiling in the Chancel. Others are not so obvious, such as rewiring and updating lighting. Mike Scanlon continues to lead the Building Commission, and he and Julian Bullitt continue to keep the building in working order and deal with outside suppliers. There is much more detail about the many projects they manage, both new and continuing in the Building Commission's Report.



*The Angel Doors display signs of our covenantal relationship with CRT on acrylic, designed by Mike Scanlon, and welcome all to worship.  
Photo: Bob Greiner*

Your dedicated Vestry members continue work to keep this parish thriving and running smoothly across many areas with the help of all of the commissions, committees, and individuals represented by the reports within this Annual Report. We give our sincere thanks to our clergy: The Very Rev. Pamela L. Werntz, Rector; The Rev. Robert Greiner, Deacon; and our associate clergy including The Rt. Rev. Clark Grew, The Rev. Isaac Everett, The Rev. Dr. John Golenski, The Rev. Dr. Martha Tucker, and The Rev. Susan Ackley. We are pleased to have been able to serve you as Senior and Junior Wardens.

Respectfully submitted,  
Liz Levin, Senior Warden and Rebekah Shore, Junior Warden

## **Deacon's Report**

I note this each year, but I continue to be blessed, a member of this wonderful community and its various ministries: serving as Deacon of the Word and Altar Table, occasional preaching, attending Vestry meetings, Worship Commission meetings, Building Commission meetings, attending Bible Study, and assisting members of the Altar Guild. And with Pam, mostly by Zoom, I continue to attend Deanery Clericus Meetings, Deanery Assembly Meetings, and Central Boston Interfaith Clergy Meetings.

Other activities include occasional on-site pastoral and hospital visits. And I have continued with wonderful phone calls and emails to keep us in touch.

Again, last summer, I joined a group from Emmanuel and Central Reform Temple as we prepared grocery bags for the B-LOVE Summer Program under Peggy Bradley's direction.

I was also happy once again to lead our Mass Exodus Chapel Camp luncheon over the Labor Day Weekend. We had a wonderful time together enjoying such a variety of food and great conversation.

As part of our covenanted family, I continue to regularly attend Shabbat services at Central Reform Temple as well as the Holy Days.

Once again Emmanuelites helped usher during the High Holy Days, and CRT members helped usher during the Easter and Christmas Eve services.

I continue to assist in the Formation Schooling for new deacons. It is a great blessing to share what I have to offer with others in the process as well as the opportunity to spread the good news of Emmanuel.

I end this way each year. But it still is so true: I continue to be so very grateful to Pam, who continues to guide me as I continue to grow in my diaconal ministry, both formally and in unexpected ways. And know that you all continue to make me joyful with your friendship and warmth!

Respectfully submitted,  
The Rev. Deacon Bob Greiner

## Organist's Report

Two years after beginning my role as organist at Emmanuel, I'm feeling increasingly at home here. Some of my early anxieties have been tempered by restrictions that have now become habitual: I know to never use the 4' Krummhorn on the Lindsey Chapel organ; I know to suppress any yawns during intercessions when the livestream is running; and I know to consume no liquids after 8:30 am on Sundays during the cantata season.

Of course, more important to my sense of belonging has been the gradual broadening and deepening of connections with the various people that make up Emmanuel Church, and a greater familiarity with how things are done, on various levels (liturgical, musical, administrative, social).

The most significant news to relate this year is the work undertaken on the Rodgers electronic organ at the end of 2023. Shortly after our worship returned to the Sanctuary in September, it became clear that the Rodgers needed some serious work. Some stops were almost silent, and others were producing distorted buzzing sounds. We approached David Ogletree from Rodgers Organs of New England to undertake repairs. Most urgent was the replacement of the instrument's original amplifiers with modern equivalents; since 4 of 8 of these had become defective, it was remarkable that our organ was working as well as it was. We also acquired new sub-woofers (providing the lowest sounds), to be placed in the chancel. When the console and speakers were moved to the chancel in 2015 from their original position in the West Gallery, the instrument's subwoofers had been left in the gallery, as they were too large and heavy to relocate. This had created odd balance effects between bass and treble at different parts of the Sanctuary, so our new setup will hopefully give a more balanced, realistic organ sound. At the time of writing there is still some experimentation and fine-tuning to do to get this as good as it can be, but it is undoubtedly a much-improved instrument.

The impaired disposition of the organ for the Fall somewhat limited repertoire choices for preludes, postludes, and offertory music. With a number of stops in the "Swell" division defective, much nineteenth-century repertoire was off-limits, and restricted choices in pedal registration meant the big Baroque "organo pleno" sound was thin and anemic. Apologies to any parishioners who felt the lack of varied diet in their organ music. Across the whole year, I enjoyed learning new works not only from old favorites of Bach, Mendelssohn, and Buxtehude, but also earlier choices, including a few Praetoriuses (Heironymus, Jakob and Johann), and some modern repertoire, including a few pieces from a 2022 collection from the UK, entitled *Gregoriana, of chant-based pieces commissioned from 12 women composers*.

The Chapel Choir sang at 21 services this year, with 21 singers taking part and an average attendance of 8. On paper this was modest increase in numbers over last year, but I felt more stability in attendance from a core of singers made the choir feel much more of a cohesive unit, making it much easier to plan repertoire. Thank you to all of the Chapel Choir singers for your cheerful dispositions, musicality and flexibility throughout the summer. For those weeks when SATB voicings weren't possible, we turned increasingly this year to nineteenth-century French repertoire, which provided some lovely STB/SB/SAB/SAT pieces from Franck, Fauré, and Gounod. I also found myself doing more arranging and composing – necessity being the mother of invention – to provide 5 of our anthems. On September 17 we collaborated with some musicians from Emmanuel Music to perform Francesco Durante's *Magnificat in B flat*. Thanks to all involved, especially Ryan, for bringing our chapel choir season to close in such exuberant fashion.

The Lindsey Chapel organ continues in "critical but stable" condition. I feared the worst one Sunday in October when I discovered some stops weren't working, but Jonathan Ortloff, the organ's primary care provider, quickly identified the problem as oxidation of some electrical contacts. A good scrub of these contacts (a minor procedure), and the stops worked again. It lives to fight another day.

Respectfully submitted,  
John Dilworth



## Worship Commission Report

In 2023, Emmanuel's Worship Commission has continued to support Emmanuel Church's communal worship. Emmanuelites devote time and energy to beautifying our common worship by their labor, presence, active participation, and prayerful reflection.

Jamie Shore convenes and facilitates commission meetings and oversees the training of those who assist at the altar (subdeacons, crucifers, and torchbearers). Thanks to Jamie's recruitment efforts, several new altar servers have received training in assisting during worship: Conner Cunningham, Kelly Hager, Matthew Lee, and Rebecca Lightcap. Rebekah Shore has become our newest subdeacon and has served often in recent months.

Glenn Seberg leads our Altar Guild as they prepare the physical space for eucharistic worship, clean up after services, and care for our liturgical implements. Outside of Sunday mornings, Glenn tracks our inventory of worship supplies such as Communion bread, wine, and candles; and he invites help as necessary. Rebecca Lightcap, Jamie Shore, and Rebekah Shore joined the ranks of Altar Guild members in 2023. Other altar servers have also expressed interest in receiving Altar Guild training; their help behind the scenes is most welcome.

Rebecca Lightcap records notes of Worship Commission meetings and oversees the monthly schedule of altar servers, Altar Guild, readers, and prayer leaders. Becky also recruits, trains, and supports our readers and prayer leaders and compiles the weekly Prayers of the People.

During rector Pam Werntz's sabbatical in the fall, Worship Commission leaned heavily on our supply priest, Martha Tucker, for guidance and insight. Our deacon, Bob Greiner, provided much-needed historical continuity and a cheerful willingness to help in any number of ways. The commission is most grateful for Martha and Bob's prayerful and practical support.

Our Music Director, Ryan Turner and our parish organist, John Dilworth, also serve as part of the Worship Commission. John, in addition to accompanying hymns and service music and offering weekly preludes and postludes, conducts Chapel Choir during the times when Emmanuel Music is on hiatus. We are grateful for Ryan and John's musical and liturgical leadership.

Vaughan Sherrill, our parish administrator, produces our weekly worship leaflets. We are grateful for her indefatigable efforts.

We give thanks for Mary Blocher, who again organized this year's greening of the church for Christmas; and Glenn Seberg, who continues to adorn our worship space with floral arrangements.

When we meet as a commission, we typically end with this beautiful prayer, slightly modified from *The Book of Common Prayer*, p. 819:



*From left: Joy Howard, Jamie Shore, Deacon Bob, & Peter Dutilloy Photo: Julian Bullitt*

“O God, whom saints and angels delight to worship in heaven:  
Be ever present with your servants who seek through Word and  
art and music to perfect the praises offered by your people on  
earth; and grant to us even now glimpses of your beauty, and  
make us worthy at length to behold it unveiled for evermore;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*”

Respectfully submitted,  
Rebecca Clark Lightcap

## Emmanuel Music Report

**Overview:** In 2023, Ryan Turner, Music Director of Emmanuel Church and Artistic Director of Emmanuel Music, marked his thirteenth season, and Pulitzer Prize-winning composer John Harbison continued as Principal Guest Conductor. Jaclyn Dentino completed her second season as the Executive Director. 2023 continued to demonstrate Emmanuel Music’s strong recovery from COVID-19.

### Activities and Operations

**Artistic:** The Sunday Cantata Series, the heart of Emmanuel Music, continued through the year, normally presenting weekly cantatas coordinating with the weekly liturgy. We no longer require proof of vaccination, and masking remains optional.

The cantatas continue to be live-streamed and greatly appreciated by our digital audiences, reaching over 20,000 views and counting. In our commitment to new works by broad representation of composers, we commissioned five motets for Emmanuel Music and Emmanuel Church.

We began our 2023-2024 mainstage season in September with Simone Dinnerstein, blending the music of Bach with Mozart and Philip Glass. With 260 audience members in-person and another 120 online, this performance continued our commitments to livestreaming all Emmanuel Music performances, and to exploring the music of living and infrequently heard composers.

Our season continued with Christmas at Emmanuel, consisting of music by Britten and Bach, featuring a commissioned motet by Jonathan Woody, and performed by the Orchestra and Chorus of Emmanuel Music, Cambridge Common Voices, and the Boston Children’s Chorus. This performance was preceded by a family event celebrating Three Kings Day. With 465 in-person audiences and an additional 125 views online, this performance surpassed our sales goal. We continue to see growth in audiences, and approximately 42% of our audiences at each major concert are new-to-file.

**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. Jaclyn and Ryan continue in their roles as Executive and Artistic Directors, respectively. Peter Smith and Dwight Porter continued in their roles of Bookkeeper and IT Consultant respectively.

In 2023, we maintained the following staff: Megan Bisceglia as Director of Engagement; Nuri Héd as Director of Marketing and Communications; Makeysha Montgomery and Tess Plotkin as full-time Individual and Institutional Giving Managers, respectively; Pamela Dellal as the Bach Institute Director and Intellectual Resources Curator; former intern Claudia Dorian as Podcast Host & Producer; Brad Dumont as Artistic Projects Manager; Jensen Ling as Orchestra Personnel Manager; and Sapphire Toth as Production and Media Manager. Robbie Flanagan and Inès Hamadi were replaced by Manda Amodia and Adam Williams as very part-time Graphic Designer and Website Administrator respectively.



*Emmanuel Music offers a motet during one of our Epiphany season services in 2023. Photo: Julian Bullitt*

Our student employment and internship programs continue to grow and flourish; Emmanuel Music hosts at least six students per semester who receive academic credit for their experiential learning with us. We also recently partnered with Berklee College of Music to be an off-site student employer; Nate Bryant and Aysha Luzia Penha (Student Assistants to the Artistic Team) and Bianca Castrillon (Student Assistant to the Executive Director) are work-study students, and receive payment from Berklee to work with us.

Again, volunteers supported Operations, Development and Marketing efforts as well as offered general administrative support. We are especially grateful for the extraordinary support of Julian Bullitt, in too many areas to list. Seth Torres, Thomas Stephenson and the recording engineer team continue to extend our operations and to continue to build the Emmanuel Music recording archive.

Dana Whiteside, president, with vice-president Peter Libby; and treasurer Ed Leary continue as officers of the Emmanuel Music Board. Our office of Clerk is currently vacant. John Coldren, John Golenski, Wes Kussmaul, and Eric Reustle have completed their terms on our board.

**Engagement and Outreach:** Director of Engagement Megan Bisceglia continues to grow upon our existing engagement opportunities, and to take advantage of the benefits Zoom and virtual technology have to offer. Ongoing programs this year include “Breathe with Bach” in partnership with four Boston Public Library branches (Lower Mills, Adams St., East Boston, Jamaica Plain, and South Boston), and “Coloring Bach”: a partnership that asks visual artists to listen to a cantata, create a coloring book page, and invite parishioners and cantata audiences to reflect and color while listening to our music.

Musical Sanctuary and Cantata Conversations continue, as does our increasingly successful Bach Institute. We are in the process of renewing and establishing partnerships with the Boston Arts Academy, Project Step, Princess Day Boston, and Kwong Kow Chinese School.

Conversations continue about how the work of our Engagement, Marketing, and Development teams intersect to provide multiple “on-ramps” and options for community and audience members to interact with Emmanuel Music in the way that is most suitable for them.

**Budget and Fundraising:** We have been somewhat 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 has greatly increased our institutional giving efforts, receiving funding from the Massachusetts Cultural Council, Boston Cultural Council, Cedar Tree Foundation, an anonymous foundation, and Liberty Mutual.

**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 Werntz, the Emmanuel Church vestry, the staff, and the congregation.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ryan Turner and Jaclyn Dentino

### **Ushers who Handle Collection Plates**

With the decline of COVID the Vestry decided to resume plate collections during the service. The collection ushers are Michael Scanlon, Paul Curtis, and Stephon Babcock, those three gentlemen being there almost every Sunday. We also have had help from Elizabeth Richardson, Margaret and Peter Johnson, and Carolyn Roosevelt. Since we started using the collection plates at the 2022 Christmas service through the Sunday morning service of December 24, 2023 we have collected \$12,525. We also appreciate that the Altar Guild puts out and puts away the collection plates that the ushers use. The greeters each Sunday after the service count the money collected in the plates for the parish.

Respectfully submitted,  
Galen Gilbert, Head Usher

### **Finance Commission Report**

The Commission meets quarterly on Zoom. Members are Jake Mutrie (invited), Charles Felsenthal, George Mutrie, Mark Fernau (treasurer), and Galen Gilbert (chair).

Our investments are managed in small part by the Diocesan Trustees of Donations and in large part by the investment firm Morgan Stanley, where Jake Mutrie is our investment broker and manager of our equity funds. Our bonds are managed by the John Hancock Company. As of last July, our endowment funds were \$4,141,812.63. Since Morgan Stanley started managing our funds in 2003, they have doubled the size of our endowment. This year we authorized the move of five percent of our equity funds to bond funds, which are getting a better return now.

Respectfully submitted,  
Galen Gilbert, Chair

## Treasurer's Report

After two years as your treasurer, I am starting to feel more comfortable in the role. I give a huge thanks to our team of parish administrator Vaughan Sherrill and controller Jim Maguire, who again made my job so much easier by their hard work, attention to detail, and timely inquiries about transactions that required action or more investigation. Also much appreciated is the wise council that I've gotten from the Executive Committee (EC) of rector Werntz, Sr. Warden Liz Levin, Jr. Warden Rebekah Shore, and Clerk Mary Beth Clack. Vestry member Galen Gilbert made a big contribution to the financial team this past year by lobbying for and overseeing the resumption of in-church open plate collection and by stepping up to fill the midyear unexpected vacancy in the Financial Commission chair position. I accomplished my goal of reconciling the physical Rector's Discretionary Fund bank account with its partner equity fund on the statement of financial position and, with Vaughan's able help, getting all RDF donations transferred from the main checking account to it. I have continued the work of removing dated financial material from the Archive Room if we are not required to retain it, and I plan to make major inroads on that task in 2024. I made progress on understanding our many Funds and how the money flows between them. We again had a successful outside audit, and I hope to devote more time to addressing the areas in which our auditor suggested improvements.

2023 ended up being a very good year from a financial point of view. Last year we presented a balanced 2023 budget, and we were flirting with a surplus in the operating budget all year as overall building operations, maintenance, and repair costs stayed ahead of budget. Then, thanks to some late-year pledge fulfillments and large unanticipated end-of-year gifts from parishioners, we actually finished with a very large operating surplus of \$97,925, consisting of an income surplus of ~\$102,000 (driven by the gifts along with a big surplus in ceremonies income) and an expense deficit of ~\$4,000 (slight surplus in building-related expenses counteracted by slight overruns in a number of operational areas). Expenses included \$10,000 in deferred maintenance on the organ-speaker setup that was mostly funded by a drawdown of the Organ Reserve Fund. The 2023 net surplus income (minus the amount needed to cover the nonoperating deficit) has been moved to the unrestricted, undesignated Parish Funds account. At its next meeting, the EC will draft a motion to recommend to vestry that a large portion of this surplus be transferred to the Legacy Fund for future building-related expenses.

There were four nonoperating expense areas in 2023. Pam's sabbatical was covered almost entirely by a diocesan grant and a transfer from the vestry-designated set-aside Sabbatical Reserve Fund. The elevator project finally came to a successful close, and the final invoice was mostly covered by elevator funds that had been raised in previous years. Replacement of the Angel window commenced, and the first invoice was covered by a restricted donation. The water and other damage in the Chancel/Apse was repaired, and all but \$9,900 was covered by restricted donations. The vestry voted to cover the remainder with a transfer from the vestry-designated (for building-related projects) Legacy Fund.

In 2023, our total investments recovered a bit, going from \$4.3 million to \$4.5 million, including our yearly draw. Around \$6500 in donations to the Rector's Discretionary Fund from parishioners and others was passed through to that account, which is overseen by Pam. Over \$950 in donations was passed through to the B-SAFE program. The Prison Ministry Fund was reduced by \$162 in 2023. The small cash portion of the Taylor Fund was decreased in 2023 by an expenditure of \$1000, leaving a balance of \$2,676. A Good Friday Offering of \$363 was passed through to the Diocese of Jerusalem via the U.S. national Episcopal Church, as was another \$150 from Christmas-time donations. A large, earmarked donation of \$50K was passed through to Emmanuel Music, along with another \$400 or so in parishioner donations. We also received some generous donations that were used in our operating budget to offset our costs for EMI's musical offerings not included in their budget. We currently have about \$3000 in place-use deposits for future ceremonies. Our 2021 books were audited by a diocesan-approved independent auditor, and all was in order, with a few recommendations that the vestry will address.

For 2024, the vestry approved a budget that contains a \$20,520 deficit. The Executive Committee and vestry could have gotten the budget closer to being in balance by assuming that we would once again receive a few large gifts but felt that it was better to be conservative and leave the budget line item for gifts where it was. These gifts are not guaranteed in any given year, and it is better for the congregation to be aware of the true cost of maintaining our cherished missional outreach and activities while giving our staff salaries that reflect their hard work in supporting those missions. If there is a deficit, we all need to pray and reflect on how we can help to close the gap.

Our building commission has forecast that utility costs will be reduced somewhat in 2024. Office staff and the organist got 5.2% raises, which is also what federal employees received for 2024. Ryan and Pam received 3% raises. Having finally found a company that can repair and maintain our elevator, we signed a service contract with them. Outside operations, the Angel window project will be completed in 2024, and the cost will be almost entirely covered by the remaining funds from the parishioner-restricted donation. In summary, our finances are in good shape and it has once again been a pleasure and an honor to serve you as Emmanuel's treasurer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mark E. Fernau, Ph.D.



## Summary of Parish Operations for 2023 &amp; Approved Budget for 2024

	Actual 2023	Budget 2023	Budget 2024	Percent Change Yr/Yr
<b>Ministry Support</b>				
Pledges	370,887	375,000	392,000	4.5
Plate	17,249	20,000	20,000	0.0
Other Gifts	113,785	49,000	49,000	0.0
Ceremonies	55,570	26,000	26,000	0.0
Young Music Fund	98,548	98,548	96,264	-2.3
Rectory Fund	16,452	16,452	15,223	-7.5
Diocesan Investment Trust (DIT)	25,413	19,318	19,318	0.0
Other Investment Income	149,160	148,932	145,801	-2.1
Place Use Resident	96,895	82,000	82,000	0.0
Place Use Non Resident	73,187	80,000	80,000	0.0
<b>Total Ministry Support</b>	<b>1,017,146</b>	<b>915,250</b>	<b>925,606</b>	<b>1.1</b>
<b>Ministry Expenses</b>				
Clergy Salary & Benefits	182,050	173,569	184,750	6.4
Parish Programs	11,068	11,900	9,000	-24.4
Outreach	24,252	24,202	24,202	0.0
Music Staff & Programs	106,385	105,776	109,064	3.1
Cantata Program	98,548	98,548	96,264	-2.3
Parish Operations Staff	125,784	124,640	130,759	4.9
Parish Operating Expenses	42,947	42,670	40,200	-5.8
Diocesan Assessment	43,787	43,409	53,614	23.5
Building & Facilities	286,578	291,776	299,083	2.5
Building Sextons	13,914	11,760	12,190	3.7
Reimbursed Utility Expense	(2,671)	(3,000)	(3,000)	0.0
Reimbursed Boston Warm Expenses	(13,421)	(10,000)	(10,000)	0.0
<b>Total Ministry Expenses</b>	<b>919,221</b>	<b>915,250</b>	<b>946,126</b>	<b>3.4</b>
<b>Total Ministry Support less Ministry Expenses (Operating)</b>	<b>97,925</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(20,520)</b>	

**Other Non Operating Income, Expenses, and Transfers**

Sabbatical Grant	4,500	4,500	
Chancel/Apse Plaster Repair Income	88,000		
Transfer from Sabbatical Reserve Fund	2,000	2,000	
Transfer from Elevator Upgrade Fund	17,341		
Transfer from Angel Window Unspent Fund	16,500		23,500
<b>Total Non Operating Income</b>	<b>128,341</b>	<b>6,500</b>	<b>23,500</b>
Wertz Sabbatical Expense	6,617	6,500	
Angel Window Expense	16,500		24,000
Chancel/Apse Plaster Repair Expense	97,900		
Elevator Renovation Expense	19,153		
<b>Total Non Operating Expense</b>	<b>140,170</b>	<b>6,500</b>	<b>24,000</b>
<b>Net Non Operating Income/Loss/Transfer</b>	<b>(11,829)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(500)</b>

Per Vestry vote, \$9900 of Legacy Funds will be transferred in 2024 to cover Apse deficit, leaving a net surplus of \$95,996 that will be moved to Parish Funds (old Accumulated Surplus)



<b>Ministry Support and Expense 2023 (Operating)</b>				
<b>Ministry Support</b>		<b>Ministry Expenses</b>		<b>Surp/(Def)</b>
Pledges	\$ 370,887	Clergy Salary & Benefits	\$ 182,050	
Plate	\$ 17,249	Parish Programs	\$ 11,068	
Other Gifts	\$ 113,785	Outreach	\$ 24,252	
Ceremonies	\$ 55,570	Music Staff & Program	\$ 106,385	
Young Music Fund	\$ 98,548	Cantata Program	\$ 98,548	
Rectory Fund	\$ 16,452	Parish Operations Staff	\$ 125,784	
Diocesan Investment Trust (DIT)	\$ 25,413	Parish Operating Expenses	\$ 42,947	
	\$ 697,904		\$ 591,034	\$ 106,870
Other Investment Income	\$ 149,160	Diocesan Assessment	\$ 43,787	\$ 105,373
Place Use Resident	\$ 96,895	Building & Facilities	\$ 286,578	
Place Use Non-Resident	\$ 73,187	Building Sexton	\$ 13,914	
		Reimbursed Utility Expenses	\$ (2,671)	
		Reimbursed BostonWarm Expenses	\$ (13,421)	
	\$ 170,082		\$ 284,400	\$ (114,318)
<b>Total Ministry Support</b>	<b>\$ 1,017,146</b>	<b>Total Ministry Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 919,221</b>	<b>97,925</b>

<b>Total Budget Summary 2023</b>				
<b>Ministry Support</b>		<b>Ministry Expenses</b>		<b>Surp/(Def)</b>
Pledges	\$ 375,000	Clergy Salary & Benefits	\$ 173,569	
Plate	\$ 20,000	Parish Programs	\$ 11,900	
Other Gifts	\$ 49,000	Outreach	\$ 24,202	
Ceremonies	\$ 26,000	Music Staff & Program	\$ 105,776	
Young Music Fund	\$ 98,548	Cantata Program	\$ 98,548	
Rectory Fund	\$ 16,452	Parish Operations Staff	\$ 124,640	
Diocesan Investment Trust (DIT)	\$ 19,318	Parish Operating Expenses	\$ 42,670	
	\$ 604,318		\$ 581,305	\$ 23,013
Other Investment Income	\$ 148,932	Diocesan Assessment	\$ 43,409	\$ 105,523
Place Use Resident	\$ 82,000	Building & Facilities	\$ 291,776	
Place Use Non-Resident	\$ 80,000	Building Sexton	\$ 11,760	
		Reimbursed Utility Expenses	\$ (3,000)	
		Reimbursed BostonWarm Expenses	\$ (10,000)	
	\$ 162,000		\$ 290,536	\$ (128,536)
<b>Total Ministry Support</b>	<b>\$ 915,250</b>	<b>Total Ministry Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 915,250</b>	<b>0</b>

**Emmanuel Church Condensed Statement of Financial Position**  
**December 31-2023**

01/21/24

<b>Assets</b>		<b>Liabilities and Equity</b>		
<b>Checking/Savings/Receivables</b>		<b>Liabilities</b>		
Checking	180,281	Accrued Expenses	1,362	
Money Market	24,458	Deferred Revenue	81,825	
Rector's Discretionary Fund	4,371	403B-Pension Liabilities	1,997	
Pay Pal	2,809	Diocese Of Mass	-	
Prepaid Expense	23,628	Due to Others	1,570	
Cash App	6,932	<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>86,754</b>	<b>86,754</b>
Due from Legacy	6,850			
		<b>Equity</b>		
		<b>Vestry-Designated Funds</b>		
<b>Total Checking/Savings/Receivables</b>	<b>249,329</b>	Rector's Sabbatical Reserves	-	
		Reserve for Roof Repairs	3,000	
<b>Total Other Current Assets</b>	<b>249,329</b>	Reserve for Organ Repairs	-	
		<b>Total Vestry-Designated Funds</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>3,000</b>
<b>Morgan Stanley Funds</b>		Donor Restricted Funds	8,825	
		Capital Funds	1,809	
Unrestricted Investments Morgan Stanley	473,426	Building Renovation Funds	23,500	
Restricted Investments Morgan Stanley	3,800,917	Columbarium Fund Receipts	500	
		<b>Total Donor Restricted and Capital Funds</b>	<b>34,634</b>	<b>34,634</b>
<b>Total Morgan Stanley Funds</b>	<b>4,274,343</b>			
	-	<b>Restricted Endowment Funds-DIT</b>		
<b>Restricted Investment Funds -DIT</b>		DIT Endowment Funds	190,217	
Diocesan Investment Trust	268,068	Unrealized Gain/(Loss) on DIT Investments	77,851	
<b>Total Restricted Investment Funds-DIT</b>	<b>268,068</b>	<b>Total DIT Funds</b>	<b>268,068</b>	<b>268,068</b>
		<b>Morgan Stanley Funds</b>		
<b>Total Investment Funds</b>	<b>4,542,411</b>	Morgan Stanley Investments-Restricted	3,031,797	
		Unrealized Gain/(Loss) Restricted	769,122	
		Morgan Stanley Investment Funds-Unrestricted	412,227	
		Unrealized Gain/(Loss) Unrestricted	61,199	
		<b>Total Morgan Stanley Funds</b>	<b>4,274,343</b>	<b>4,274,343</b>
		<b>Total Equity Funds</b>		
				<b>4,580,045</b>
<b>Note: The 2023 assessed value for 15 Newbury Street is \$32.8 Million of which \$20.3 Million is Building and 12.5 Million is Land</b>		Parish Funds (Unrestricted)	124,938	
		Net Operating Income/(Loss)	-	
		Net Non Operating Building Income/(Loss)	-	<b>124,938</b>
		<b>Total Equity</b>		<b>4,704,986</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>4,791,740</b>	<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>		<b>4,791,740</b>

## Stewardship Report

As for those who...are rich, command them to do good, to be rich in good works, generous and ready to share."

*1 Timothy 6:17-18*

The annual stewardship pledge season for FY2023 was led by Liz Levin as Chair with Mary Beth Clack, Cindy Coldren, Mark and Melissa Fernau, Marianne Iauco, and Peter Dutilloy as committee members. We were ably assisted by our Rector, the Rev. Pamela Wertz and Vaughan Sherrill. Our beautiful materials were designed by Meg Joyce and her associates and printed by Gina Ahtof.

This year we invited you to join us in meaningful bridge-building between those who have more and those who have less, as well as between our past and our future. Pam has preached, "Following Jesus means making the huge leap of faith to believe that, contrary to what the world teaches about scarcity, God is really about unimaginable abundance." Your abundance of love, grace, and support this year enabled us to continue to be responsible stewards of our parish as we contemplate the future of our community, our society, and our planet. And, as we steward our Emmanuel Community, we continue to build a covenantal bridge with Central Reform Temple.

We offer heartfelt thanks to those who contributed an in-person "pledge pitch": Carol Reiman, Conner Cunningham, Pat Krol, and Kelly Hager. And we are deeply grateful to all who have been so generous with their support of Emmanuel Church, our clergy, our staff, and the ministries we support.

As of January 25, 2024, we have received 80 pledges from individuals and families for a total of \$388,165. Last year our final number of pledges was 93 and amounted to a total pledged of \$376,300.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Levin and the Stewardship Committee

## Building Commission Report

As I sit to write this report at the beginning of January, I reflect on the issues that have so preoccupied us over the last few years, especially the winter-time rise in Covid cases, the cost of heating our building, the safety and welfare of our congregation, staff, and the users of the building—inside and outside. The Building Commission continues its rhythm of meeting weekly with the staff and monthly as a larger body. I want to acknowledge the hard, and often frustrating work of Vaughan Sherrill and Robb Scholten and thank them for these weekly meetings with Julian Bullitt, Melissa Fernau and me to review and troubleshoot the needs of the building fabric at 15 Newbury Street. I also want to thank our larger group for attending monthly meetings, especially Peter Johnson, Bob Greiner, Paul Curtis, Rebekah Shore and John Golenski

As is usually the case, particular thanks are due to Julian Bullitt for the many ways he devotes his intelligence and time to our needs. Some of these are obvious and some not so obvious. Here I will highlight in particular the very detailed reports that Julian continues to issue concerning Covid spread and the status of the air quality in our sanctuary. I want our congregation to be aware that more than any building I know of, ours is monitored and evaluated against a number of metrics for safety. This time of year, he is updating us weekly with detailed reports. You can feel safe at Emmanuel thanks to Julian!

We always think of heat at this time of year, and fortunately this year's report can be cautiously positive. There was an issue with the steam meter which I detailed in last year's report. Our supplier, Vicinity, agreed to our position regarding what we viewed as overcharges resulting from that meter malfunction, and has now finally removed those charges from our account. In addition, they have made repairs at their expense to the high-pressure valve and line, so we are now in quite good shape (for a 125-year-old system)! We continue to run the system in the "Once Through" manner as I have described in the past. The term means no recycling of air—we did this as a

Covid safety response. We continue to observe that the cost has not increased, in fact this year we came in well under budget. The heating system seems to like being run in the mode for which it was designed!

I am happy to be able to report that our elevator is finally running again! It has been a long and frustrating effort, complicated by many supply issues. Our original vendor has merged with a much larger company who has worked very efficiently to get things sorted out. The old shaft and car are now running and controlled with new equipment and electronic controls. There have been many difficulties in getting the old and the new parts matched up. In addition to the completion of the repair we have entered into a service contract with the new company which requires them to keep parts in inventory and maintain operating condition. We can finally put that behind us!

We have also installed a new fan and ventilation controls in the attic. These are crucial components in maintaining healthy air flow through the building. Other repairs include work on the roof and flashings last spring. Over the summer we eliminated a hot water heater; it was servicing only the dishwasher and was therefore very inefficient. The door from the lobby to the chancel needed major repairs which Ted Southwick was able to make. Julian has undertaken an extensive study of the electrical wiring and has spent many months sorting out the circuits and controls, eliminating unused wires and making sure the connections are safe and secure. While doing this he has been exploring ways to improve the light in the chancel by adding soft fill light from the sides, and has added small speakers to allow the altar party to hear speakers in the pulpit and lectern better.

We have changed our vendor for building cleaning services. The performance of the old service had been deteriorating, and our workers on site were getting very little supervisory support. Their administration- now called Fedcap, was not billing in a timely manner, and often when the bills arrived, they lacked the proper supporting documentation. This was causing considerable headache for our office staff. During the spring their on-site supervisor, Rob Yeomans, who had been our building sexton for a very long time, became ill and was hospitalized. Rob died in early summer so at that point we looked for a new service. Our friends at the Community Purchasing Alliance Co-op helped us form a very detailed request for proposal. After interviewing a number of companies, we selected RNS Facility Services, who have been doing a great job. They have many talents to offer, and we look forward to a long relationship with them!

I mentioned the electrical wiring above; it is a sensitive issue because the fire that occurred in November of 2000 started in electrical wiring. That fire resulted in major damage to the sacristy and other spaces to the left of the chancel- especially where the new rear fire stairs are now, but also smoke and other damage within the chancel and sanctuary, including the destruction of stained-glass windows. In 2017 the Marion Burnham window was restored through the generosity of the Henderson fund. More recently Jill Zunshine funded the restoration of two geometric windows in the chancel. Now Jill has stepped up again and is funding the re-creation of the missing angel window to the left of the altar. I can report that we have selected an artist, Jim Anderson, who has completed preliminary design work based on our photographic record and the lead lines in the other two windows of the set. In November we erected scaffolding so they could clean the other two windows and then match the glass colors as well as tracing the interior of the two mates to the new window. We are now ready to approve this all and expect the new window to be installed early this year. This is the last item to be replaced following the fire almost 24 years ago!

There is a story about these windows, which we discovered while researching in our archive. The three angels to the right of the altar were the only part of the original scheme that was executed. They were made by Charles Eamer Kempe, the artist who provided the clerestory windows in the sanctuary, and like those windows had grey backgrounds. In April of 1936 a Mrs. Hawley came forward to contract with Charles Connick to supply the 5 lancets above the altar, which would be, in fact as we know are, very richly colored! The following scheme was hatched: that to balance the 3 Kempe Angels, Connick would produce 3 matching angels. But Connick would use bright blue backgrounds so the backgrounds of the Kempe angels would need to be changed. "At no very great expense!" But apparently it was too much expense for Mrs. Hawley because she recruited the financial assistance of Mrs. Beebe, who would make them a memorial to her husband. So now, to complete the repairs of fire damage

we will have Anderson's version of Connick's version of Kempe's angel window!

Peter Johnson has been busy putting together the funding for this "chancel restoration project," and has enlisted the great generosity of several donors in order to do the work of repairing the plaster work and painting of the upper area of the chancel. In October we were able to have John Tiedemann, Inc. spend 3 weeks at Emmanuel repairing and repainting all the plaster surfaces from the frieze of arches up across the whole ceiling. It was a



*Chancel glow-up courtesy of John Tiedemann, October 2023. Photo: Julian Bullitt*

thrilling thing to watch them working from their bucket and they did a splendid job. Our hope is to continue

this work as funding can be found. The reredos and the stone wall panels need to be cleaned, and the paint job where the organ screen was removed can be improved and blended into the stone better than it currently is. Anyone who is interested in moving this forward can speak to Peter or me.

Another event in 2023 that is of great interest was the installation and dedication of Ted Southwick's beautiful statue of Pauli Murray on the pulpit. When the pulpit was designed by Henry Vaughan as part of the 1898 expansion of Emmanuel it was surrounded by 6 wooden statues of male saints. These were stolen many decades ago. Now, in consultation with Pam, Ted is engaged in creating new statues, this time of influential women who are connected with our parish. They may not all be saints, but they are some of *our* saints. Pauli Murray was sponsored for ordination by Emmanuel and is the first of these!

Finally, our columbarium! It is our intention to revise the design based on reasonable expectation of need. It is important that anyone interested in reserving a niche speak to me or one of the clergy so we can project the final size!

Respectfully Submitted,  
Michael Scanlon

## Parish Administrator's Report

Well folks, the parish office has survived yet another year, marked with a healthy balance of humorous and frustrating events. All without an in-house psychologist, no less!

We welcomed Robb Scholten in tandem with the new year, whose experience, expertise and conscientiousness facilitated an increase in space use and income in 2023. Thanks to Robb we welcomed *A Faith That Does Justice*, a Jesuit bilingual interfaith organization celebrating Mass every Saturday in the parish hall. Several new 12-Step groups also came into the fold, strengthening our historic connection to 12-Step programs. The church continues to be a popular and eye-catching destination for weddings, providing a gorgeous backdrop for the creative imaginings of wedding planners and photographers. Robb's eye for interior decorating and organization have also resulted in re-imagined spaces, most notably the reconfiguration of furniture, books and objet d'art in the mezzanine library.

As many who read this are aware, the administrative offices at Emmanuel Church are challenged on a daily basis. 2023 was no exception, during which the art of thwarting and defeating "wrenches" continued to be a mandatory skill. Holy Week in particular was a wrench from hell (sorry Holy Week) thanks to a rotten mixture of faulty technology and pitiless customer service. Our choice lay between two suitors: Sir Speedy or they-who-will-not-be-named photocopier-lessor from hell. Fortunately, Robb thought of a friend at the cathedral who could provide a more attractive solution: print at their offices, free of charge. To make things more fun, reams of tabloid paper were trucked across the Boston Common in Emmanuel's own humble and noisy red wagon. Print jobs were successfully completed and pores were fully detoxed in the efficiently heated basement of the cathedral. This continued well after Holy Week until we finally secured a new printer with the help of a wonderful new business partner, Community Purchasing Alliance, an independent member-owned cooperative where partnering with local BIPOC-owned businesses is a focus.

Things looked up as we welcomed Boston Early Music Festival for their biennial residency during the months of May and June. The parish enjoyed the anticipated siege of exotic instruments, colorful personalities and costumes. Our only casualties during this time were two vacuums who met their demise thanks to the dress pins from BEMF's costume department.

In the summer we mourned the loss of Robert Yeomans, long time facilities supervisor for Emmanuel Church and Community Work Services. May he rest in peace.

The greatest test of the year presented itself during Pam's sabbatical in our relationship with our garden residents. It was as if Jesus and the BeeGees together asked in response to our mission of radical acceptance, how deep is your love? We thank the patience and fortitude of the Vestry, Building Commission, and the team at common cathedral for working with us to create strategies to support everyone involved. We are also very thankful to Dennis Gaskell and Julian Bullitt, who truly embodied the fullness of Emmanuel's mission in working with our garden residents during this period of time.

Thank you to all members of the Emmanuel family and beyond for supporting us through the ups and downs of 2023.

Respectfully submitted,  
Vaughan Sherrill

## Pastoral Care Commission

It is with such sadness that I am writing this report and not Walter Jonas, who passed away this past November 10<sup>th</sup>. For many years he led the Care Commission. I joined him in late 2016 when I arrived at Emmanuel Church as deacon. Walter was so faithful in keeping in contact pastorally with so many. Walter emailed, made phone calls, and sent cards continually.

I smiled often when talking to or visiting someone who would remark, “Oh, yes, and I got a card from Walter!”

Below is what Walter wrote this past year and I think it is good to read how Walter saw the Care Commission’s ministry in his own words:

“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 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.”

With deep thanks for Walter,

Respectfully submitted,

The Rev. Deacon Bob Greiner

## Communications Commission

Members: Mary Chitty, Mary Beth Clark, Matt Griffing (chair), Jesse Kieffer, Elizabeth Richardson; with support from: Julian Bullitt, the Rev. Robert Greiner, Peter Johnson, Rebecca Lightcap, Vaughan Sherrill, Robb Scholten, and Michael Scanlon

In 2023 the Communications Commission helped to share information about life at Emmanuel internally and to the wider world along the multiple channels listed below. The work of our commission has been supplemented by many parishioners and staff. Thank you to all who have pitched in to spread the word about Emmanuel and to build our wonderful community, whether by posting on Facebook, updating YouTube, uploading worship bulletins to the website, commenting during the livestream, submitting images for Photos Emmanuel, or submitting artwork for our newsletter.

### Weekly e-Newsletter

Thank you to Robb Scholten for ably taking over the production of *This Week @ Emmanuel Church*, which provides the latest news on happenings within the Parish, as well as beautiful artwork and photos contributed by Julian Bullitt, Bob Greiner, Peter Johnson, and other members of our community.

### Google Platform

Our staff, leadership, and commissions regularly use Google’s cloud storage and its Workspace applications to edit, store, and share information about our operations, finances, history, and mission. If you would like to join the 81



active users on our platform, send a request to [clerk@emmanuelboston.org](mailto:clerk@emmanuelboston.org). Please contribute images of parish activities or history to our growing archive of captioned photos on the platform by emailing them as attachments to [photos@emmanuelboston.org](mailto:photos@emmanuelboston.org).

Google My Business directs searchers to our website, Wikipedia page, Facebook page, YouTube channel, office phone, and geographic location via its maps and Knowledge Graph box entitled “Emmanuel Episcopal Church of Boston”. The latter gives basic information about our mission, architectural history, and contact information. Anyone can add to its growing collection of images of our facade, windows, and interior spaces. Its reviews rate us favorably with a score of 4.4 out of 5. Thanks to parishioners who have helped by answering questions people pose in its box.

## **Facebook**

Our page shared with the public many captioned images and stories, some of which were previously published for our email-distribution list in This Week @ Emmanuel Church. Thanks to our parish administrators and all who created copy for posts. We’re especially grateful to Bob Greiner, Julian Bullitt, Michael Scanlon, Peter Johnson, and all who contributed images.

## **YouTube**

Our channel gained 99 subscribers to reach a total of 729 and registered 11,164 views (down 3,760 from last year) and 2989 watching-hours (down 884). The dip in views and watching-hours most likely reflects more attendance in person. We are pleased to see continued growth in subscriptions. The peak number of concurrent viewers was 62 (same as last year) and the average number of concurrent viewers was 27 (down 1). The average-view duration of videos was 16:12 (up a bit from last year).

Our most-watched services from 2023 were:

1. Easter Sunday: 360 views
2. Palm Sunday: 331 views
3. Christmas Eve & The Feast of All Saints: both 323 views
4. Good Friday: 315 views.

We are grateful to Emmanuel Music for providing professional video services during Cantata Season. Thanks again to Vaughan Sherrill for adding worship information to both YouTube and our Livestreamed Services webpage, where recent services can also be viewed.

## **Website**

We carried out regular updating of our website and maintained its Wordpress platform. We added content to its arts, music, and history sections, specifically: 8 Timeline posts, 22 sermons, 10 Musings from the Margins, and 2 pages for our composers and organists:

- <https://www.emmanuelboston.org/mission/history/history-of-music-emmanuel-church/our-organists-conductors-music-directors/>
- <https://www.emmanuelboston.org/mission/history/history-of-music-emmanuel-church/our-composers/> .

We successfully transitioned to Google’s latest version of usage statistics. Key GA4 metrics showed that our numbers of visitors (16,600) and sessions (23,000) held steady for the year. The number of page views decreased by 1% to 43,000, but these areas (among others) showed increased page views: About, Community, Giving, Social Justice, and Visual Arts. A decline in use of our livestream page accounted for half of the decrease in page views. Average engagement time for the site was 1 minute 16 seconds with an average engagement time per session of 56 seconds.

In 2024 we have the following objectives for our website:

1. To refresh imagery throughout
2. To survey its content for outdated information and areas needing improvement
3. To add embedded videos of musical offerings and slideshows of visual arts and stained-glass windows
4. To consider the technical challenges involved in switching to another Wordpress visual theme.

A sincere thank-you to all Commission members and the wider Emmanuel community who made contributions in 2023. If you are interested in joining us in this rewarding mission, please reach out to one of our members.

Respectfully submitted,  
Matt Griffing and Elizabeth Richardson

## **History & Archives Commission Report**

Mary Beth Clack and Elizabeth Richardson have continued to be hard-working members of the History and Archives Commission. We welcomed with pleasure Peter Dutilloy and Carol Reiman, who have spent hours helping in the Archives Room, which is finally looking much tidier. With their help we have made considerable progress sorting, organizing, and inventorying our backlog of paper archival material. Elizabeth continues to add to our online archives and finding aids, stored in folders on our internal Google drive.

Many thanks to Mark & Melissa Fernau for working their way through boxes of old financial papers and to Robb Scholten for reorganizing supply shelves and helping with our file cabinets. Although this has freed up considerable space in the Archives Room, we still have boxes to examine. Central Reform Temple graciously gave us a large wooden desk, which has provided us with an expanded work surface with drawers beneath for supplies. This desk must have served rectors before rabbis.

Many thanks to parish administrator Vaughan Sherrill, who has passed along questions, helped relocate materials, and started to develop a policy for document retention. Much of the work of our Commission has been done in conjunction with Communications Commission members Matt Griffing and Jesse Kieffer.

### **Our Responses to Various Inquiries**

An Emerson College student requested information about Emmanuel's large and historic collection of stained-glass windows. She is writing about the history of stained-glass production and how its religious uses and connotations have changed over time, particularly how stained-glass shifted into the domestic sphere from its former containment in religious spaces. Mike Scanlon was very helpful with the latter aspect.

Another request came from a doctoral student in the Department of Theological Studies at Saint Louis University, who is formulating a dissertation proposal on the late Rev. Dr. Elwood Worcester and the Emmanuel Movement. We also fielded questions from parishioners about Emmanuel history, vestry members, and other subjects. We found some documents addressed to Vaughan Sherrill's grandfather, who was Bishop of Massachusetts (1930-1947) and Presiding Bishop of The Episcopal Church (1947-1958): [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry\\_Knox\\_Sherrill](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry_Knox_Sherrill). Vaughan was excited to see these letters, and we are proud to note this historical connection on our website: <https://www.emmanuelboston.org/about/staff-listing/>.

### **Ongoing Research and Creation of Web Content**

- We continue to review and update our historical webpages, which can be browsed from links on <https://www.emmanuelboston.org/mission/history/>.
- We continue to revise and add to our building guide: <https://www.emmanuelboston.org/mission/history/guide-to-our-building-history/>. We thank Mike Scanlon, Julian Bullitt, The Rev. Robert Greiner, and other members of our Building Commission for their advice, expertise, and photographs of our facilities and artifacts.

- We continue to research and add material on Pauli Murray to our Timeline posts and webpages about her: <https://www.emmanuelboston.org/mission/history/pauli-murray/>
- Mary Beth Clack spent time with Pauli Murray's papers at Harvard's Schlesinger Library and continues to add to our knowledge of her and her time at Emmanuel. She and Bill Margraf presented "The Story of Pauli Murray" as a Chapel Camp session.
- We continue to record Emmanuel clergy who were not rectors and to add them to our internal records and Timeline of Emmanuel History.
- Elizabeth added to our documentation about the Rotch family, who gave the reredos in our sanctuary and are relatives of our parishioner Mary Eliot Jackson. We also maintain documentation on many other parishioners and their families. Our parish registers go back to 1861 and a spreadsheet of pew holders can be searched. Elizabeth and Mary Beth have also created a spreadsheet of our benefactors and their contributions from 1861.

## **New Research & Webpages**

Thanks to Carol Reiman for beginning to research the officers of what was our Business & Professional Women's Guild and changed its name to Club early in its 2-decade existence. She investigated the family and accomplishments of the Walker sisters, Lydia (President in 1959) & Mary (an illustrator, who had a studio on Newbury St.). We now have its 1959 directory digitized on our Google Drive. Elizabeth created Timeline posts for it and its founding in 1949. We've also created a spreadsheet to collect details about its officers and members of interest.

Mary Beth researched the biographies of the officers of our first vestry and proprietors of the corporation, which registered Emmanuel Church with the Commonwealth of MA in 1860. Their names and dates have been added to our Timeline for 1860.

Elizabeth also created posts to the Timeline of Emmanuel History for these topics:

- Priscilla Rawson Young
- same-sex marriage
- Pam's ordination
- installation of Ted Southwick's statue of Pauli Murray
- years: 1882, 1942, 1949, 1959, 1971, 1983, 2003 & 2023.

We created two new pages and are working on a third page about the history of music.

- Our Organists & Conductors (including music directors): <https://www.emmanuelboston.org/mission/history/history-of-music-emmanuel-church/our-organists-conductors-music-directors/>
- Our Composers <https://www.emmanuelboston.org/mission/history/history-of-music-emmanuel-church/our-composers/>

## **History of Jazz at Emmanuel**

Mary Chitty has been documenting the history of jazz at Emmanuel in preparation for another page. She was inspired by the memorial service here for JB Kassajarian on Sept 31, 2023, with a program leaflet asking "Why are we at Emmanuel Church?" His daughter Sevanne welcomed people to the memorial by quoting her father as saying, "This is where you should hear the music!"

Speaking with Sevanne before the service, Mary was told that her parents JB and Mary Catherine [Bateson] had met Doris and the Rev. Al Kershaw in 1961, when he was serving at All Saints Episcopal Church in Peterborough, NH. JB and Catherine stayed in touch with him when he became rector of Emmanuel in 1963. She remembered looking through Al's collection of Charles Addams cartoons while he and her parents enjoyed provocative conversations over long dinners. JB was attracted to Emmanuel by Al and Doris's fellowship, our architecture, and the music. Catherine also came to worship. Since he appreciated "how the music moved in the space," JB encouraged Al to have more live music at Emmanuel and do more with jazz. We knew that JB had been on the vestry in the late 1960s, and about Al Kershaw's interest in jazz. While we've investigated the archives and

elsewhere for Emmanuel Music (founded in 1970) and cantata history, we haven't done much with the earlier Kershaaw years.

## 2023 Webpage Analytics

Page views for historical subjects represented a significant portion of those pages listed under our website's Mission tab. Although Google's upgrade of its Analytics has posed problems in comparing years of data, we can report that our most-viewed pages were:

- building guide: <https://www.emmanuelboston.org/mission/history/guide-to-our-building-history/>
- timeline from 1860 to the present: <https://www.emmanuelboston.org/category/timeline/>
- expanded History of Music at Emmanuel: <https://www.emmanuelboston.org/mission/history/history-of-music-emmanuel-church/>
- guide to Pauli Murray: <https://www.emmanuelboston.org/mission/history/pauli-murray/>
- Emmanuel Movement: <https://www.emmanuelboston.org/mission/history/emmanuel-movement/> .

## • Goals for 2024 & Ways to Help

1. We are still working on these pages: History of Music @ Emmanuel, Our Organists & Conductors, and Our Composers.
2. We are researching and writing a history of jazz at Emmanuel.
3. We are looking more into archival material about Emmanuel Music and the late Rev. Al Kershaw.
4. We are slowly working on a web slideshow of our building, stained-glass windows, and other historic photographs.
5. At some point, we'd very much like to create a physical display of historic images as temporary displays have always attracted a great deal of interest.
6. We'd like to learn more and write about the early history of Emmanuel's mission churches and work with Historically-Black Colleges, Native Americans, and the Dakota League.
7. Oral history interviews with parishioners would be a wonderful addition to our archives and could provide material for our website. Written memories of your Emmanuel experiences would also be of interest.
8. We would welcome help with digitizing/scanning photographs. We have many images with people in them. We'd appreciate help identifying who they are.
9. Although we maintain a digital archive of our Sunday bulletins, we welcome the donation of any paper copies, especially those from 2008-2016.
10. While we have some photos of people and events, we know that our collection is far from comprehensive.
11. We would be interested in knowing what you might have tucked away that might add to what we have of Emmanuel's history. Duplicate copies can be useful.
12. We often meet in the Archives Room after coffee hour on Sundays to collaborate on investigating what we have and can learn about from our Archives, and to brainstorm about where we might learn more from other libraries, museums and churches. Please let me know if you are interested in working with us.

Respectfully submitted, Mary Chitty, Archivist [archivist@emmanuelboston.org](mailto:archivist@emmanuelboston.org)



## Episcopal Relief and Development Report

The mandate of the Episcopal Relief and Development Report Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD) is a tangible expression of our values.

*Lord, when was it that*

*We saw you hungry and gave you food?*

*We saw you thirsty and gave you something to drink?*

*We saw you a stranger and welcomed you?*

*We saw you sick and took care of you?*

*We saw you in prison and visited you?*

*'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.'*

—Matthew 25: 37-40 (NRSV)

In 2023, some of ERD's many initiatives were: supporting Al Ahli Hospital in northern Gaza to perform life-saving emergency procedures and providing first aid and sheltering displaced people; in partnership with the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina and St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, ERD distributed food packages to survivors of the July tornado. Further, ERD partners with the Angola Mothers' Union to promote savings groups that increase women's access to financial resources, supporting the health and nutrition needs of their households. ERD's annual report states that it reached 4.3 million people that year, with income exceeding its expenditure. Its revenue was \$34,857,821 and expenditures were \$27,894,707. The One Thousand Days of Love campaign, which supports children worldwide, surpassed its goal of raising \$3 million.

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/). If you have other questions or would like to talk about this important work, please contact Dawn Dreisbach.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Dreisbach



*Photo from Episcopal Relief and Development*

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

Last March Bob Greiner and I attended the annual organizational meeting for B-SAFE 2023 where we met with the new administrators of the St. Stephen's Youth Programs—executive officer Chris Summer and development officer Tracey Merrill. Both of them were very impressive, and they are quite engaged and ready to maintain and update long-running and beloved programs. We have had a long association with many other dedicated people including Liz, Betsy, Tim, Kasey, and others.

At this time, there is a serious effort to upgrade the kitchens at church sites to accommodate the requirements for feeding children. The only updated kitchens were at St. Stephens and at St. Augustine and St. Martin, therefore the B-SAFE program was requesting parents and volunteers to assist with the cooking and program teams at those sites during the week. Alternately, the associated organizations, such as Emmanuel, were encouraged to lead field days and/or fill grocery bags for the B-SAFE families (aka B-LOVE). We signed up to fill 50 bags to be delivered on Thursday July 13 to St. Stephens with our marvelous partner Central Reform Temple (CRT).

To raise funds for this endeavor we had two young artists Kendra Comstock and Angie Tyler perform for us in Lindsey Chapel on Sunday June 11. Those who attended gave generous donations toward the project. There was also a raffle for dinner with our rector, which Paul Curtis won! Many others donated to this worthy cause.

Bob Greiner, Jill Silverstein from Central Reform Temple (CRT), and I set up a donation page for the contents of the grocery bags. The day before the groceries were due, a team of volunteers from Emmanuel and CRT gathered and lined up to fill the bags. Last minute fresh items were added on the due date, and volunteer drivers delivered it all to St. Stephens on Shawmut Avenue in the Southend. WOW—We did it again and had a wonderful time together packing and visiting.

Thank you to all who donated funds and food, Robb and Vaughan for their assistance in all parts, and to those who donated funds, goods, packed and delivered. So many thanks to Liz, Joy, Barbara, Pat, Rob, Didi, Mary Beth, Brian, Edgar, David, Doug, Cheryl, Jim, and others we might have inadvertently left off this list.

Respectfully submitted,  
Peggy Bradley, Bob Greiner, & Jill Silverstein



*B-SAFE 2023 provisions  
Photo: Bob Greiner*

## 238<sup>th</sup> Diocese of Massachusetts Annual Convention Report

The 238th Annual Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts convened Oct. 27-28, 2023, under the theme, “In Christ, Called to Collaborate.” Saturday kicked off with a celebration of Eucharist that included Bishop Alan Gates 10th and final Convention Address as Bishop. Bishop Gates focused on events in the Middle East as well as a reminder to be kind to each other as we strive to collaborate in our many endeavors. He caught our attention by starting his address by citing Emmanuel Church’s relationship with Central Reform Temple as a beacon of hope amidst the horror of the armed conflict in Israel and Gaza. Bishop Gates said:

“Last Friday morning I passed by Emmanuel Church on Newbury Street, and was struck by two signs on the large old doorways of that church. One says, ‘Central Reform Temple of Boston, a Progressive Jewish Congregation, meets here. Welcome!’ And right next to it hangs a parallel sign which says, ‘Emmanuel Episcopal Church, a progressive Christian congregation, meets here. Welcome!’ My heart was filled with gratitude for that witness, in this moment of all moments.”

Bishop Gates also referenced the holding of Friday Jumma prayers at our Cathedral Church of St. Paul. Bishop Gates’ moving and often optimistic address was a reminder that we are in the midst of the process of transitioning to a new Bishop, and we have been put in good stead by Bishop Gates’ decade of leadership. One area of great progress has been the commitment to work towards being a Diocese that proactively counteracts the forces of racism.

Much of the business of the day went smoothly with small amounts of debate here and there. The different committees delivered reports on topics such as racial justice, youth outreach activities, establishing right relations with our indigenous neighbors, the budget, and clergy compensation. The 2024 Diocesan Budget was passed, along with the Clergy Compensation and Benefits. There was one contested election for Lay Member of Standing Committee and 13 uncontested elections for various positions.

One sobering development was suspension of the Life Together Program after this year. Numbers of applicants have gone down since 2015. Our Diocese will discern a new structure for the program and relaunch it in August of 2025.

All the proposed resolutions, the details of which can be found in the link at the end of this report, passed with a majority vote of all lay and clergy delegates. These resolutions include:

- Honoring The Rt. Rev. Alan M. Gates’s 10th and Final Diocesan Annual Convention
- Standing Committee Resolution Enabling Election of Bishop Diocesan
- Continued Commitment to Racial Justice Work in the Diocesan and Cathedral Staff
- Establish a Healthy Congregations Task Force
- On the Intent, Purpose, Governance, and Accountability of the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts Reparations Fund
- Resolution in Response to the Convention Address by The Rt. Rev. Alan M. Gates, Oct. 28, 2023

Then came the proposal to amend Canon 14 to create a new canonical category of Intentional Episcopal Communities (IECs) to open the way for groups that do not fit the category of parishes or missions to formally join the Diocese and become in union with Convention. (Canon 14 sets guidelines for the organization of parishes and missions). This proposal led to heated debate on the issues of property ownership and whether more deliberation and research was warranted before changing the Canon. One contingent proposed requiring the property of IECs to be held in trust by the Diocese. Jamie Shore, a Lay Delegate for Emmanuel Church and a member of the intentional community, Emmanuel House, along with The Rev. Isaac Everett, Executive Director of CRECHE, argued passionately for the new canonical category without this contingent. Everett stated that transferring ownership and negotiating power to the Diocese would imperil current and future agreements with landlords. After the debate and a few close procedural votes, the proposal to add Intentional Episcopal Communities to Canon 14 passed, unamended, allowing groups to apply to the Bishop for canonical status as IECs.



This report is a snapshot of a historic Diocesan Convention. More details and video of Bishop Gates's address can be found on the convention webpage <https://www.diomass.org/diocesan-convention-2023>

Respectfully submitted,  
Matt Griffing and Jamie Shore, 2023 Lay Delegates to Convention

## **CRECHE Report**

Note: during the production of Emmanuel Church's annual report, The Rev. Isaac Everett was on sabbatical. We are including general information about CRECHE. For more information and beautiful videos see <https://www.creche.community>.

CRECHE (the Charles River Episcopal Co-Housing Endeavor) is a 501c3 nonprofit organization that creates and supports a network of mixed-income, inter-generational co-housing communities in partnership with The Episcopal Church. Emmanuel Church was a co-founder, and the Emmanuel House is a constituent member of CRECHE.

Our mission is to create a community-focused alternative to the for-profit housing market that is rooted in relationship and mutuality: co-housing communities in which people live like families, sharing meals, common spaces, and the rhythms of home care. We've planted communities all over the Boston area, and there are currently Creche houses in Allston, Dorchester, and Newton.

### *Why?*

Because soaring rents and plummeting owner-occupancy rates have made Boston an increasingly hostile market for low and middle-income households; rent is increasing at nearly twice the rate of wages. Further, the increasing cost of purchasing a home has resulted in a 11.7% decline in home sales over the last decade.

Together, these trends make it difficult for Bostonians to live in the communities they love. The prevalence of short-term leases (particularly for students) have priced working families out of many areas, encouraged resident turnover and neighborhood instability, and accelerated gentrification. Today's Boston housing market alienates people from their communities and stunts the development of long-lasting relationships vital to our well-being.

### *How?*

CRECHE was founded in cooperation with four Episcopal churches with a desire to use the resources of The Episcopal Church to confront these housing needs head on. We do this not only by acquiring and renovating property but also by supporting the household communities directly and equipping them with the tools they need to live healthily with one another, including trainings in communication and conflict resolution. We have a long-term commitment to each household, partnering with them as they develop their own identity, grow in their capacity for self-governance, and cultivate a positive presence in their local neighborhoods.

Respectfully submitted,  
The Rev. Pamela L. Werntz

## Candidate Report: William Margraf

Dear Emmanuelites, This past year has definitely been filled with grace... which I have learned can be wonderful and challenging and, all the while, it is still grace. Either way, upon reflection, I am grateful for it and am humbled by it. 2023 began with my mother in the care of hospice. She greeted the last days of her life with her typical optimism and perhaps a little relief that the past eight years of diminished bodily health would give way to a new life for which she had hoped probably during the whole of her life here. While she would never claim to be a theologian or a saint, my mother's life of silent, constant prayer and similarly quiet, perpetual community service were the fruits of her deep love and trust in the Divine. She saw the hungry, the lonely, and the vulnerable and she used her gifts of warmth, kindness, and gracious hospitality to make sure they were filled, touched, and protected. I am convinced her faith was not so much a practice, but a celebration of a friendship, an abiding manifestation of joy that had to be shared generously. From her death in January 2023, I have deeply grieved and also have been profoundly grateful for how she shared her friendship with the Divine. This unexpected year away from theological studies was God's gracious way of inviting me to be with my mother in her last months and last moments.

As one light of my life was quenched, another light was offered. In August, I resumed my theological studies, this time at Yale Divinity School. At Yale, new and wonderful vistas of understanding God's working in the world have been opened up to me. The faculty and students share a certain joy that reminds me of Emmanuel. While living amidst uncertainty in our world, the assurance of faith and fellowship sustains us. As I make my way through the halls of the Divinity School, I am greeted and held by folks just as you have always greeted and held me at Emmanuel. And come to think of it, the music, the preaching, the embrace of all God's people, the emphasis on beauty and justice at Yale resonate with Emmanuelness. Another light was offered by you last Spring. Because of your support, the Diocese invited me to become a candidate for Holy Orders. It is sometimes difficult for me to tell the difference between a dream and a call. Thank you for offering me this amazing gift to advance in my priestly formation.

Last fall, I received an unexpected invitation by a former BBC correspondent to discuss racial reconciliation and reparations. A few years ago, the correspondent and her family discovered the vast enslavement of Africans by their ancestor in the eighteenth century in the Caribbean. The family resolved to address this criminal past by atoning and repairing the violence and degradation their ancestor had caused. Through intentional listening, dialogue, collaboration, and reconciliation the family offered reparations to the government and people of Grenada. Now we are developing a conference on how families and communities can undertake their own reparations. We are hoping to have Yale Divinity collaborate with Yale Law and Yale School of Management so as to offer a "how-to" legally, fiscally, and morally/ethically effect meaningful reparations. It is still early days of this project, but as Bishop Alan preached in his Christmas Eve sermon, the work of repair compels even "[i]n our weakness, in our loneliness, in our sadness, in our helplessness, precisely because it is not a good time, it is the right time."

Thank you for being an anchor in my life. The spirit of our community of Emmanuel is with me so much as I learn how the Source of Love and the Bread of Life sustain us. And I won't mention this at the Divinity School, but I learned it first from the two graces of my life: you and my dear mother.

Respectfully submitted,  
William Margraf

## Central Reform Temple of Boston 2023 Report

The world of 2023 seemed a bit more like “old times,” pre-Covid. We are grateful for the opportunities to be in person as a community, though we appreciate the ability to continue multicast and online programming and services. We are delighted to have Rabbi Michael Shire guiding us forward and CRT is growing and thriving under his leadership.

We prayed with our feet. We began 2023 with a gathering of more than 100 Jews, Christians, and Muslims for a service of prayer and a procession to the Boston Common to witness the dedication of the Dr. Martin Luther & Coretta Scott King sculpture – The Embrace Boston. We hope that this might be the beginning of a renewed relationship between the Black and Jewish communities a la MLK and Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel during the Civil Rights movement in the 1960s.



We celebrated with our community. In April, we marked the installation of Rabbi Michael Shire as CRT's rabbi. While he had been with us since July of 2022, this occasion offered the opportunity to gather with friends, family, clergy, laity, and civic leaders to highlight this joyous moment in our life as a community of faith, and to raise the visibility of all the things that make CRT a remarkable place.

We dedicated our new Ark. The commissioning, designing, building, and arrival of a new Aaron Kodesh (Holy Ark) was celebrated at the Rosh Hashanah eve and morning services. It was Rabbi Shire's first High Holy Day season with us, and a time of renewal and great rejoicing.



We traveled together. Rabbi Shire led 16 intrepid souls on an eight-day trip to Oxford, England in October. It was a time of learning about Anglo-Jewry, then and now, seeing remarkable manuscripts and Judaica, and making new friends with the Jewish community “across the pond”.

We prayed with all our hearts. With the terrorist attack on and killings on October 7th in Israel and the ongoing war in Gaza, our Emmanuel Church family came together in support of CRT and the wider community. Our times together talking, sharing feelings, pondering ways we can deepen our understanding while continuing to learn and grow, and continue to learn, grow, along with and demonstrating our support of one another and all those suffering at this time of unrest and rising antisemitism, led to a unique opportunity. In December, we were honored to host/sponsor an evening of conversation and song with the Jerusalem Youth Chorus directors. We were uplifted by this committed organization working with Palestinian and Israeli youth, Jews, Muslims, and Christians - a stirring reminder of what can happen when people of differing (and sometimes opposing) ethnicities, backgrounds, and traditions work together toward building a world of peace.



Our covenantal relationship with Emmanuel Church remains a profound blessing and makes CRT unique among synagogues in the region. How good it is to live together with our dear family and friends at Emmanuel. May 2024 find us going from strength to strength.

Respectfully submitted,  
CRT Board (Dick, Lilli, Jill, Marty, Gail, Bob, Leslie, Diane, and Hal)

## Emmanuel Center Report

Emmanuel Center is finishing its 15<sup>th</sup> year of partnership and collaboration. We are grateful for the work that we have been able to do and for the emerging opportunities that continue to bring us together.

This year, we were able to engage in both inward and outward-facing programming, in-person and online. In February, Rabbi Shire presented an online program, *Torah Godly Play*, for members of Central Reform Temple (CRT) and Emmanuel. In March, a reinvigorated online Hebrew Reading group kicked off, with the rabbi leading us in our first session. We are especially grateful to Peter Banos, who continues as our language guide week-to-week. The Latin and Greek groups continue their weekly meetings as well.

The ongoing *mitzvah* program of ushering for each others' sacred holidays carries on. Several CRT members ushered and participated in the puppet parade on Easter Sunday and ushering and greeting for Christmas Eve. Emmanuel Church members ushered for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services. This inward expression of our covenantal work together is greatly appreciated by both communities.

Our monthly Movie Night attracts members from both communities, along with friends and family. This year we had lively conversations about films that raised questions and dialog about spiritual, ethical, and moral issues of our time. Films we watched and discussed in 2023: *Loving*, *Crip Camp*, *Happening*, *Descendant*, *Music Triumphs*, *Homophobia*, *13<sup>th</sup>*, *Period. End of Sentence*, *The Joy Luck Club*, and *Brave Blue World*.

In June, our Emmanuel and CRT clergy, Reverend Pam and Rabbi Michael, were invited to speak at the annual conference of the International Council of Christians and Jews (ICCJ) about our work together as covenant partners. The ICCJ was founded in 1946 in the aftermath of the Holocaust as a way to encourage interfaith dialogue and understanding between Jews and Christians. This year conference was hosted by Hebrew College and Boston College. It was truly inspiring to hear Pam and Michael in dialog about our remarkable relationship, and their fielding of dozens of questions raised by attendees from around the globe.

Also in June, the Emmanuel Center Board began planning a significant program. In October of 2024, during the week of the Jewish festival of Sukkot (Oct 16-23, 2024), we will engage in programming with progressive religious voices using sacred texts as our framework in order to embrace our environmental responsibilities toward the diversity and well-being of all life. We look to engage in conversations and actions at the intersections of faith, climate, and inequality, as we seek to be repairers of the breach and restorers of streets to live in (Isaiah 51:12). Stay tuned!

The Hamas attacks in Israel on October 7<sup>th</sup> and the subsequent war in the Middle East have shaken many of us to our core. The covenant relationship between CRT and Emmanuel has been the foundation for deep conversations between CRT Board and Emmanuel Vestry about antisemitism, and its impact on all of us. We seek to deepen our search for understanding and to be beacons of peace and hope. In late October when Bishop Alan Gates highlighted the signage on our front doors in his address to the annual diocesan convention, we were reminded again of our visible, public commitment to interfaith and interreligious dialog, understanding, and peace.

In December, we were able to sponsor and host the directors of the Jerusalem Youth Chorus for an evening of song and conversation. Their work is an example of organizations working hard for peace across religious, cultural, and national divides. It was a profoundly uplifting evening.

We are so grateful for this year's remarkable, gifted, generous board: Mary Beth Clack, Jennifer Coplon, Dick Daynard, Liz Levin, Mike Scanlon, Michael Shire, Susan Swan, and Pam Wernitz. As we begin 2024, we are excited about the opportunities to explore more deeply what it means to walk together along the paths of Love.

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

## Courtesy Resolutions

WE EXPRESS OUR PROFOUND GRATITUDE TO:

1. Liz Levin, Senior Warden, and Rebekah Shore, Junior Warden, Mark Fernau, Treasurer, and Mary Beth Clack, Clerk, for their spirit-filled and steady leadership over the last year.
2. Christopher Connors and Galen Gilbert for their completion of three-year terms on vestry; Cindy Coldren and Pat Krol for their completions of one-year terms, and Lucas Boomsma for his year of service.
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, Peter Johnson, master gardener, and all the members of the Building Commission and gardeners for their good and helpful deeds at 15 Newbury Street too numerous to list.
5. Ryan Turner, John Dilworth, John Harbison, Michael Beattie, Jensen Ling, all of the musicians of Emmanuel Music, and all who have glorified God through music in the last year.
6. Vaughan Sherrill, Robb Scholten and the building and event sextons and volunteers of Emmanuel Church and Emmanuel Music for smoothing our way at every turn.
7. Michael Shire, Rabbi-in-Residence, Richard Daynard, President, and all of the members of Central Reform Temple whose covenant relationship with Emmanuel Church is a blessing.
8. The Rev. Dr. Martha Tucker for her fine service as Sabbatical Priest, and ongoing Priest Associate.
9. The Rev. Bob Greiner for serving as Deacon among us; The Rev. Dr. John Golenski, Priest Associate, for his generosity in prayer and in person; and The Rev. Isaac Everett, Creche Executive Director for being with us once a month. The Rt. Rev. J. Clark Grew for his steady prayerful presence as Senior Pastoral Associate.
10. The Rev. Susan Ackley for faithfully continuing the weekly Recovery Healing Services via Zoom.
11. Becky Lightcap, Glenn Seberg, and Jamie Shore, for sharing leadership of Worship Commission, and for their gifts of administration and training, and for floral arrangements! Thanks to all who served on altar guild, as altar servers, and as bread bakers.
12. Peter Banos, Andy Cabell, and the late Walter Jonas, who led classes in Biblical Hebrew and Biblical Greek and Latin via Zoom.
13. Peggy Bradley for her faithfulness coordinating our after-worship refreshments.
14. Liz Levin, Chair, and all who have worked to build a meaningful pledge stewardship season.
15. Edgar Brenninkmeyer, former Chair, and Galen Gilbert, Chair, and all who work on the Finance Commission.
16. All who led Chapel Camp activities during the Summer.
17. Ted Southwick, artist-in-residence for his stunningly beautiful pulpit carving of The Rev. Dr. Pauli Murray, and for reaching out to Murray's niece, Rosita Stevens-Holsey, encouraging her to join us for the dedication.
18. Meg Abbey Joyce, Matthew Griffing, Elizabeth Richardson, and Michael Scanlon for superb graphic design and photo documentation of parish life and Brad Dumont, Sapphire Toth, Edgar Brenninkmeyer, Christopher Connors, and Matthew Griffing for videography for livestreaming.
19. Matthew Griffing, Elizabeth Richardson, and the members of the Web Committee for their fine management of Emmanuel Church's web pages and other social media.
20. Mary Chitty, archivist and historian, and all who volunteer in our archives.
21. Peggy Bradley and all from Emmanuel and Central Temple who planned, fund-raised, shopped, packed, and delivered grocery bags for the families of B-SAFE day campers at St. Stephen's Church in July.

22. Ann Higgins, Coordinator, and all who help make dozens of sandwiches each week for BostonWarm guests, and all who volunteer their time and contribute to BostonWarm and *common art*.
23. Members of the Emmanuel House and its steering committee for all the ways they nourish our community and their neighborhood.
24. Emmanuel Center board members for implementing our vision of interfaith collaboration.
25. Sara Peattie, whose puppets and fabric creations have kept us company and added color, whimsey, and comfort.
26. 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, especially during ongoing covid-tide!
27. All who prepared material for the 2023 Annual Report and today's Annual Meeting. Are there others?
28. \_\_\_\_\_
29. \_\_\_\_\_
30. \_\_\_\_\_

### Leadership Nominations for 2024

Office	Nominee (all have been asked and their willingness confirmed)
Senior Warden (1-year term)	Rebekah Shore (first term)
Junior Warden (1-year term)	Pat Krol (first term)
Treasurer (1-year term)	Mark Fernau (third term)
Clerk (1-year term)	Mary Beth Clack (third term)
Vestry (3-year term)	Karen King (first term)
Vestry (3-year term)	Liz Levin (first term)
Vestry (3-year term)	Kelly Hager (first term)
Vestry (2-year completion of unfulfilled term)	Cindy Coldren
Vestry (2-year completion of unfulfilled term)	Brian McCaig
DioMass Convention Delegates (1-year term)	Jamie Shore and Liz Levin
DioMass Convention Alternate (1-year term)	Rebekah Shore
Boston Harbor Deanery Delegates (1-year term)	Mary Blocher and Jamie Shore
Episcopal City Mission Delegates (1-year term)	Joy Howard and Mike Scanlon
Episcopal Relief and Development Rep (1-year term)	Dawn Dreisbach

Nominating Committee for 2023: Cindy Coldren, Christopher Connors, Liz Levin, Jamie Shore, Rebekah Shore, Pam Werntz (ex-officio)

# God has done marvelous things

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# EMMANUEL CHURCH

## **Emmanuel Church Staff**

The Rev. Pamela L. Werntz, Rector  
The Rt. Rev. J. Clark Grew, Senior Pastoral Assistant  
The Rev. Dr. John Golenski, Priest Associate  
The Rev. Dr. Martha Tucker, Priest Associate  
The Rev. Isaac Everett, Creche Executive Director  
The Rev. Susan Ackley, 12-Step Recovery Services  
The Rev. Robert Greiner, Deacon  
Ryan Turner, Music Director  
John Dilworth, Organist & Chapel Choir Director  
Vaughan Sherrill, Parish Administrator  
Robb Scholten, Parish Administrative Assistant  
James Maguire, Controller  
Event Sextons: Bill Comer, Luke Colombero, Sue Earley,  
Dennis Gaskell, Colin McEllhenney,  
Joel Schenk & Evan Sneed

## **Emmanuel Church Vestry**

Elizabeth Levin, Senior Warden  
Rebekah Shore, Junior Warden  
Mark Fernau, Treasurer  
Mary Beth Clack, Clerk  
Lucas Boomsma  
Edgar Brenninkmeyer  
Cindy Coldren  
Christopher Connors  
Dawn Dreisbach  
Peter Dutilloy  
Galen Gilbert  
Pat Krol  
Jaclyn Dentino, 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

Jaclyn Dentino, 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 Dr. Michael Shire

[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.

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