



EMMANUEL EPISCOPAL CHURCH



The Newsletter of The Parish of Emmanuel Church | May ~ June, 2013 | The Reverend Robert Edson, Parish Priest

A Glorious Easter Sunday

Easter Sunday is always a joyful day at Emmanuel Church, as parishioners, visitors, and guests come together to celebrate the Good News of Christ's resurrection and our salvation. With a full choir and special activities for young and old, this year's services drew more than 60 people, including several visitors as well as former members returning to visit.

This year, children were given gift bags to help occupy them in the pews, and parishioners and guests were invited to stay after services for a special Coffee Hour and an Easter Egg Hunt on the lawn.



Max Gooley is happy with his bag of eggs

Children scrambled to line up for the hunt, carrying baskets they'd brought from home or, in some cases, ones we'd repurposed from food pantry duties. Once given the go-ahead, they raced to the back lawn, where they were greeted by the sight of more than 300 brightly colored eggs scattered across the yard, hidden in trees, and tucked into crevices. The older children willingly sought out the more challenging targets, leaving the grassy field for the youngest and their parents, happily snapping picture-perfect Easter photos.

Parents and others watched as the children quickly found each and every egg, then everyone went inside to enjoy the delicious cookies, candies, and even Janine Hollon's bunny cake, a family tradition she graciously shared with us. Children and adults tried their hands at Easter-themed crafts, and children exchanged their emptied-out eggs for additional gift bags and coloring books.

Reaction from parishioners and visitors was overwhelmingly positive, with many saying they appreciated the opportunity to stay after church and visit before moving on to their other commitments, as well as to share in the children's joy during the hunt. Based on this year's success, plans are already underway for a second Egg Hunt in 2014, which will be promoted to neighboring families.



Emily Lynch ponders her next move to find eggs

Special thanks are due to all those who were involved in preparing the church and grounds for Easter Sunday, the Vestry members who brought items for the Coffee Hour, Allison Griggs and Janine Hollon for preparing gift bags and filling hundreds of eggs and Diana Chaban Griffith for providing crafts.

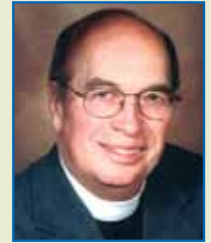


above: Tenley Benfer (left) and Ellie Bustamante manage to keep up with the big kids

right: Alexis Fredericks and Thomas Gooley go for the highest egg; Stuart Chaban Griffith proudly displays his take; Sam Feathers finds a few eggs to fill his bag



a message from
Father Robert



It's how you play the game

I am not much on playing board games, checkers, chess or cards, but when it comes to planning a strategy to reach a goal the expression to "play your cards right" means using what we have to our advantage. So much of life is learning strategies. Rather than wasting time complaining about our disadvantages, it is better to use our time and energy to make the best of our advantages and even discover new ones. When we have been dealt a poor hand, we have to know how to use what we have to our advantage.

If our goal is to come out ahead in any enterprise, forming a winning strategy depends on knowing as much about a situation as possible. That requires researching and developing a strategy for success. Working with what we have and using it to our best advantage prevents squandering what we have through poor judgment and lack of imagination and foresight. When facing a difficult task, often the worst part is in the anticipation. We may find that when we first tackle a challenge, it is not nearly so daunting as anticipated and it becomes an opportunity to meet a challenge rather than an obstacle. If we decide ahead of time how we will make the best use of what we have, the task becomes much more manageable. We must remember that the power behind us is greater than the task ahead. Just knowing that puts us ahead of the game.



AN INTERVIEW WITH Alexis Fredericks



Alexis has recently been selected to attend the Junior National Young Leadership Conference (JrNYLC). The JrNYLC offers mature, high-achieving middle school students the opportunity to learn about leadership by studying leaders of the past and focusing on social advocacy to make a positive impact in their homes and communities. Through an examination of both different historical time periods and characteristics of leadership, students will gain a better understanding of what it takes to become an effective leader.

She will travel to Washington DC in June to attend sessions that are designed to educate, inspire, and motivate students by giving them the confidence and leadership skills that will take them through high school and beyond.

Tell us what you enjoy most in school?

I enjoy English Language Arts (ELA). ELA is a great skill to have and I like it because I like to write books.

What do you like to do for activities outside of school?

I like to swim, play soccer, do gymnastics, play piano, and of course be an artist and author.

You are a really good artist. What are your favorite things to draw or make?

I like to sculpt because I like to get dirty!!!

What are your favorite things about Emmanuel?

I love how everyone who comes (or just stops by) is always respectful towards each other inside and out of Emmanuel. Also, I love how there are always extras! Such as the yard sale, pancake breakfast, Sunday school, etc.

Congratulations Alexis! Everyone at Emmanuel is proud of your achievements!

LaFarge Update

The restoration of the LaFarge window is coming along nicely with the pieces being dismantled and cleaned by hand. Please feel free to visit Serpentino Stained Glass in Needham to see the restoration work in action—they encourage all to come and watch this fascinating process.



Before



After



Emmanuel answers God's Urgent Call with gusto!

The vestry first met with the Diocese about Emmanuel's participation in the Together Now Campaign earlier this year. At this meeting we discussed the challenges of being a small congregation in relation to the need to be part of this campaign at a level that would work for us financially. The vestry voted to commit \$10,000 over the next five years—a goal we felt would be achievable with individuals coming together collectively as a parish.

On Commitment Sunday on April 28th, the parishioners of Emmanuel showed their true passion for the good works of this campaign and our current commitment level is over \$20,000!

Everyone should be congratulated on this effort and the Diocese is thrilled with our commitment. We are still hoping for full participation from all the parishioners at Emmanuel, so if you have not filled out a pledge card please contact Courtney or Jonathan. They are also available on the table by the bulletins as you enter.

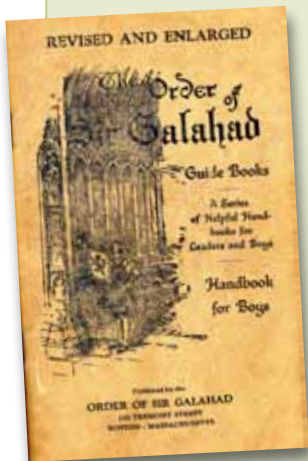


EXPLORING OUR HISTORY

Emmanuel Memories by Edward Barrett

Somewhere, in one of those drawers a person seldom opens, resides my official Order of Sir Galahad handbook. Until just a few years ago I knew exactly where it was, but apparently it has been moved and now it has temporarily disappeared. With a little help from Jonathan Cleveland I located another handbook deep in Emmanuel's historical files. It was published by the National Council of the Order in 1936 and may very well have been the effective edition when I became a Galahad member in 1945.

The Order of Sir Galahad was founded by Rev. Ernest J. Dennen in 1896. The germination of the Order began in St. Stephen's Church, Boston. It was seen as a way to teach Episcopal boys and young men the "manly values of Sir Galahad," a knight of King Arthur's round table. The Order was based loosely on the Court of King Arthur as depicted in Edwin A. Abbey's paintings of the Quest for the Holy Grail. The Abbey paintings hang today in the Boston Public Library. Monochromatic versions of these colorful, complex works are seen throughout the handbook.



The club was organized somewhat like the Masons with five degrees: Lad, Page, Esquire, Knight and Knight Counselor with values similar to the Boy Scouts with an emphasis on "chivalry." The Order of Sir Galahad eventually spread to all 48 states and even to Australia and China. Galahad chapters were known as Courts.

I joined the Emmanuel Court at age 9, the recommended age for the degree of Lad. It soon became clear to me Galahad would require a high level of commitment. Everyone had to know the words of the "The Galahad Song," which was sung to the tune of "Maryland, My Maryland." To advance to the next degree a boy had to pass an initiation and take a vow. The initiation for all degrees involved

familiarity with several of the Abbey paintings, answering in unison questions in the handbook on the Quest of the Holy Grail and completing prescribed handcrafts.

The Emmanuel Court was held in the basement level of the Parish Hall. Attending my first Court meeting was a scary, intimidating experience. There were only dim lights, possibly candles, with all Court members dressed in regalia appropriate to their degree. In the semi-darkness there appeared to be a king upon his throne. I was only a bit relieved to discover the "king" was one of my Sunday School teachers. Except for the singing of The Galahad Song, I don't recall what happened during the meeting, but everything was formal, scripted and rule-bound.

I attended Galahad for about a year as a Lad, but quit because I had a hard time dedicating myself to the dramatic, complex program. But to this day I can still recall the first lines of The Galahad Song: "*Valiant were the knights of old, strong and gentle, pure and bold*"— a high set of standards, indeed.



EMMANUEL CHURCH SUMMER PARTY THURSDAY, AUGUST 1ST AT 6:00 PM

Come join us on the lawn for our annual Summer Party! Burgers, hotdogs and chicken will be served hot off the grill. Please bring either an appetizer, a side dish or salad (chips, pasta salad, garden salad, vegetable, etc.) or a dessert. Water and soda will be available, but you are welcome to bring your favorite beverage to share. Please invite your family and friends!

There will be a sign-up sheet going up in the parish hall this July to write down what you are bringing, and how many people are coming with you.

Save the date and make sure to attend this fun, church-wide event.

Renovations to begin soon at Emmanuel

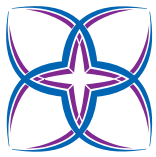
The Vestry is currently reviewing proposals for the project manager position to oversee the renovations planned for Emmanuel this summer. After a project manager is chosen, members of the vestry and the project manager will review bids for the work that needs to be done to ensure the long-term health of our beautiful building.

First up, we will be landscaping the backyard behind the former rectory to put in a new shed for lawn and garden equipment. The first renovations to the church and parish hall will include a new roof and masonry repairs to the entire building. In conjunction with these projects, we will be including repairs to gutters, dormers, and painting of exterior windows and trim. Additional projects are slated but the budget will decide what can be accomplished at this time. We are hoping to have this work start soon and be finished by early autumn.



welcome TO OUR NEW ORGANIST Gregory Lyons

Let's all give a warm welcome to our new organist at Emmanuel, Gregory Lyons. Gregory has many years of experience playing in Episcopal churches and currently teaches music at The Park School in Brookline.



EMMANUEL EPISCOPAL CHURCH

21 Stratford Street • West Roxbury, MA 02132

EMMANUEL EVENTS

EMMANUEL'S ANNUAL YARD AND BAKE SALE

June 29 at 9:00 am

EMMANUEL'S ANNUAL SUMMER PARTY

August 1 at 6:00 pm



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!

www.facebook.com/EmmanuelWestRoxbury



SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

Help us help others. Please be generous and bring a weekly donation of food for local food banks.

JOIN US EACH SUNDAY!

Sunday School at 9:45 am
Holy Eucharist at 10:00 am

CONTACT US AT:

email: info@emmanuelwr.org
phone: 617-323-1440
web: www.emmanuelwr.org

