

Emmanuel Church 21 Stratford Street West Roxbury, MA 02132



# THE PARISH OF EMMANUEL CHURCH

# **ANNUAL REPORT 2021**

# 129th ANNUAL MEETING - JANUARY 30, 2022

# The Parish of Emmanuel Church 129<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting Annual Report for Year 2021 • Budget for Year 2022 January 30, 2022

#### AGENDA

Opening Prayer	Terri Halliday
Quorum – Attendance	Anne Jackson
Reading of the Warrant	Anne Jackson
Clerk's Report	Anne Jackson
Reports	Terri Halliday and Ken Thelen
Proposals for the Good of the Parish	Terri Halliday
Adjournment	Terri Halliday

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## WARRANT

#### THE PARISH OF EMMANUEL CHURCH WEST ROXBURY, MASSACHUSETTS 129th ANNNUAL PARISH MEETING Sunday, January 30, 2022

The 129th Annual Meeting of the Parish of Emmanuel Church, 21 Stratford Street, West Roxbury Massachusetts, will be held via Zoom Video Conferencing on Sunday, January 30, 2022 at 10:00 am to act on the following:

- 1) The election of Officers of the Parish
- 2) The election of the persons to serve on the Vestry
- 3) The election of two Delegates and one Alternate Delegate to represent the Parish at the Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts
- 4) The election of five Delegates to represent the Parish in the Neponset River Deanery and such other delegates as may come before the meeting
- 5) The presentation and receipt of reports from all Parish Officers and organizations and the conducting of such business as may appropriately come before the assembly.

Ken Thelen and Terri Halliday, Wardens



### Minutes of the 128<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Parish of Emmanuel Church, West Roxbury Minutes February 28, 2021

The 128<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Parish of Emmanuel Church was held on February 28, 2021. The meeting opened with prayer. Gail Halpin-Evans, Clerk, noted that a quorum was confirmed. The Warrant announcing the Zoom meeting was read.

#### Priest in Residence Report - The Rev. Dr. Joyce Caggiano

Joyce opened the Zoom meeting and began her report with a story about living at 568 Columbus Avenue with her late husband back in the 1990s and having a beautiful cabinet custom built to house a TV, sound system, speakers, VCR, etc. The cabinet did not change but the technology did. When they moved again in 2007, the old cabinet moved too but it was repurposed. Like the original purpose of that cabinet, change has happened all around us. 2020 brought the biggest change of all. The biggest challenge to us as a community of faith is to try to re-invent ourselves:

- 1) Hold close to all we love
- 2) Let go of what is no longer necessary
- 3) Work together to re-shape or reinvent ourselves as a church community

The real task we have ahead is to work together. We need to listen to each other, to respect one another and to express our ideas in ways that are open. Can we do that? How do we do that? If we can, Joyce said she believes we can be successful.

#### Wardens' Report

Susan highlighted:

- 1) Emmanuel has been able to re-create our services live and posted to YouTube. It has been a way to worship and to become closer in ways we never imagined. We have a dialogue in the middle. It is meaningful and incredibly convenient. It is heartfelt. We had a wonderful Christmas service. We encourage you to attend if you haven't. as it is meaningful and fun
- 2) We were able, without a lot of effort, to raise \$1,600 for the food pantry down the street. They feed not only West Roxbury but also homebound veterans.

John reiterated what Susan said and added that this coming year probably won't get much better. He thanked all who have helped to keep the church afloat. By not meeting face to face, Emmanuel has gathered and learned ways to support each other. We've been able to come into people's homes and hear voices off the screen.

John and Susan thanked each other for a faithful partnership.

A motion was made, seconded, and accepted with no objections or abstentions to approve the Wardens' report.

#### **Finance Committee Report**

John reviewed the Finance Report Narrative, the 2020 Budget to Actual numbers and the proposed 2021 Budget. Details are in the 2020 Annual Report.

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved to accept the Finance Report, 2020 Actual to Budget and to approve the 2021 Budget, including the projected deficit of \$16, 977.00. There we no objections or abstentions.

#### Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee Report was review. A motion was made to accept the Nominating Committee Report and to elect the recommended nominees. The motion passed unanimously with no abstentions or objections.

#### **Proposals for the Good of the Parish**

- 1. Suggestion that we do not do postcards for the major holidays
- 1) A good time to send them might be just as we regather
- 2) If we want to attract people, can we get our Zoom link out?
- 3) Good Shepherd Dedham does Zoom Live
- 4) Vestry can start to focus on plans for reopening

Joyce closed the meeting with a few comments. She thanked everyone for attending. She asked all to "hang in there" as we go forward. She thanked Cathy McCarthy, who made incredible contributions, Mark Skillman, Helen Lacouture as a stalwart supporter on Vestry and Altar Guild, Terri has been our Sexton, Gail has been faithful, Andy has donated all this time on the music program. It is incredibly important, Anne for hymns, Jonathan Cleveland, and all he has done for us. Susan and John have stuck with this parish for five years and done an incredible amount and we hope we can ask for help – work, service, dedication, faith. She noted that she was impressed with how they have filled out your faith and was witness to hours of work. She said she heard John's voice in the psalms.

The meeting adjourned at 11:21 am and ended with a prayer: Almighty God, compassionate and loving, you have gathered us together as a parish family, put far what draws us apart, knit together those whom you have brought into our church family. In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Submitted by Gail-Halpin-Evans, Clerk.



#### **PRIEST-IN-RESIDENCE REPORT 2021**

When the clock struck midnight on January 1, 2021, we all heaved a sigh of relief. A vaccine against COVID was on the way and we put the stressful and strange year 2020 behind us.

Or so we thought. We began 2021 with hope in our hearts. As a community Emmanuel Church and its leadership persevered in remarkable ways through 2020 with the spirit-crushing shutdown of all indoor services. Slowly, in 2021, we began to return to normalcy by moving online Zoom services towards in-person liturgy. We embellished the online "Dialogue Sermon" and turned it into a Saturday Scripture Study Group on Zoom.

By mid-June we were able to conduct our Sunday service on the lawn outside of the church. On rainy days we moved cautiously inside.

Through it all our church family stayed mostly in-tact. And what a joy it was to be visible to our neighbors by being outside on the lawn. Neighbors walked past as we prayed and preached and gathered. During this time, we put together a "Dream Team" – a group of parishioners who worked to enhance our visibility by showing up and helping us set up outside and gave important information about West Roxbury happenings. The Dream Team worked to develop new ways to use the building for future income.

There were three events that stand out as highlights in 2021, Music on the Lawn, the Blessing of the Animals and Christmas Eve. In September we invited neighbors to join us to listen to live music on the lawn and to get acquainted. Because Emmanuel sits in a quiet residential area, we have a responsibility to see to it that our activities enhance and improve our surroundings both physically and culturally. Gathering with live music on the lawn for a beautiful sunny afternoon made us all smile, dance, and even sing! It was a sweet-sounding handshake to our neighbors. I believe it was heard. I know it was felt by us.

Soon after Music on the Lawn we opened our hearts and welcomed our furry friends – again on the lawn, in public, and with smiles and prayers with the Blessing of the Animals. How wonderful it was to see and touch our friends both four-legged and two-legged. Members of the Dream Team were there, ready collecting names and emails and taking lots of pictures for the website and finding a way to reach out to new friends. It was a wonderful day.

Christmas Eve 2021 was full. Though we did not see 110 worshippers like in 2019, the church was full, the music was beautiful, and we were blessed with 14-year-old Seraiah Belfon, one of our newest parishioners, who played the violin.

There is no doubt that we had difficulties in 2021, that we struggled (even with one another), but we survived. In fact, I believe the parish has turned a corner in terms of identifying itself as a member of the wider West Roxbury neighborhood with many things to offer its neighbors.

I am so very grateful for the support I received especially from Terri Halliday who was there every Sunday, (and Monday through Saturday!) opening doors both physical and virtual. I am grateful for Cathy McCarthy, present behind the scenes in ways many couldn't see. Anne

Jackson bringing food and welcoming newcomers helped it all to happen. John Gooey, always faithful whenever needed. Ken Thelen and his faithful family putting up and buying the canopy and guiding the Vestry. Andy Castiglione selflessly playing the organ for many years and contributing in many other ways. Beth Gustin and Amy Fredricks and Mark Skillman, Ted Gilbert and Ed Fleming and his husband Frank, Ed Barrett and his lovely wife, Louise, all contributed mightily. Lesley Quinchia volunteered to take on the Confirmation class. We carried Gail Halpin-Evans in prayer knowing that she was there with us in every way possible. And we have Susan Kryczka to thank for laying the foundation for all the progress that has been made. Her diligence and knowledge about many aspects of our church life helped get us through the year. There are many others to thank for getting us to this new place with a bright future ahead.

Despite all the hardships of the pandemic, Emmanuel is alive and well and even growing!

My heart is full. I will not forget the two plus years I have spent at Emmanuel. I wish I could do more but alas that is not possible. I pray that God continues to bless you as he has blessed me having known you all. We began the year with hope; we begin the new year not only with hope but with faith that God will carry us forward and joy knowing what God has given us in 2021.

God's many blessings. The Rev. Dr. Joyce Caggiano

#### **CO-WARDENS REPORT**

What a time to be living! Many of us view the last year and a half through the prism of our immediate circumstances. Job/building shutdowns, working from home, standing in long lines, quarantines, etc. But the wider picture for us at Emmanuel is how this extended shut down decimated worship life throughout the country. In eastern Mass there are almost no parishes at 100% of pre-Covid attendance (Emmanuel has achieved that).

One has to believe that a silver lining exists if you are open enough to see it. In parting words with Rev. Joyce, I stated that this past year was a year that I had had more fun in church than in my 22-year history at Emmanuel....and beyond. It began by being one of 13 active members of Dialogue Sermon, a virtual program of worship centered on an interactive liturgical dialogue based on that week's readings (bible study) sandwiched in between the Sermon and the continuation of the service. When you realize it is a one-of-a-kind program of worship created by Rev. Joyce to keep her parish connected to worship and community, you start to realize just how dynamic the leadership at Emmanuel was. There were also many great virtual coffee hours following these services!

As 2020 finished out it became obvious that Emmanuel's parishioners were becoming restless with rigid lockdowns. Rev. Joyce addressed that by creating individual gift boxes containing consecrated Host for the Christmas Service. We could all tune into the service that Susan Kryczka uploaded to YouTube (Susan remained our digital master/coordinator).

By March 2021 we were meeting on Emmanuel's front steps for all the world to see as Rev Joyce held an impromptu service for the Blessing of the Palms. All totaled there were about 12 people who came to collect palms for Palm Sunday. During the week we all got to meet up again

to pick up another gift box containing Ashes and Consecrated Host. For those who could not collect these gifts personally, Terri brought them to their homes.

By Easter, six hearty souls stood in the Sanctuary of Emmanuel while a formal Easter service was performed and recorded for the parish. The Easter service 2021 is on YouTube for your viewing. This, more than anything, heralded the time that we realized that in person services had to resume. We started focusing on what was required by the Diocese to hold outside services. By June we re-opened Emmanuel as a church that offered in person services. A very popular Music Festival and Blessing of the Animals followed and was discussed by Rev Joyce. We have continued with normal services ever since. We have brought Esther Kwok back as our organist in January 2022.

This first year was focused on financial stability. We are pretty good in that right now. This coming year the focus will be on building the parish. We need all of you to support the work of the leadership by your presence and financial support. We hope to see the continued growth that began in 2021.

In closing, we would like to take a moment to thank Gail Halpin-Evans for her many years of service and leadership. We keep her in our hearts and prayers as she travels the long journey back to health. We thank the Vestry for their perseverance and diligence as we navigated through an uncertain future. We reach out to thank those that retired from the vestry in 2020 but remained active leaders to help make sure we were always fulfilling our mission: Susan Kryczka, John Gooey, Cathy McCarthy, Helen Lacouture; to the wonderful Dream Team: Cathy McCarthy, Mark Skillman, Beth Gustin, and Amy Fredericks. To Andy Castiglione for all his many years of his musical leadership, participation, and friendship. To the Rev Dr Joyce Caggiano for her dynamic leadership these past 2 years. She has left us a wonderful blueprint to follow Thank you All.

Submitted by Terri Halliday, Ken Thelen Co-Wardens



#### FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

#### 2021 In Review

2021, the second pandemic year, continued to challenge the ongoing existence of the Parish of Emmanuel Church, West Roxbury. As other reports have discussed, we were forced to endure ongoing virtual worship on Zoom until the summer when we celebrated our first in-person outdoor worship service on June 13, 2021. Indoor services continued in the Fall as the weather became chillier, with Rev. Joyce's last Eucharist being celebrated on Christmas Day.

You will recall that last year's budget predicted a shortfall of nearly \$17,000; however, we received a one-time windfall from the Diocese of \$20,992 that was the result of arrears payments from the Roslindale Fund established when the Church of Our Savior, Roslindale, closed several decades ago. As a result, we had a net income of \$13,985 for the past fiscal year. We are grateful to those of you who have contributed through pledged or non-pledged giving; your generosity continues to help sustain our church.

We have had a substantial loss of rental income from non-use of the Parish Hall during weekdays, with long-term renters such as the yoga school and the Kingdom Movement Church abandoning in-person activities.

#### 2022 Budget

We continue to suffer from a reduction in pledged income for the coming year with just ten parishioners having returned pledge cards at the time of this report. Some assumptions made in drafting this budget include the likelihood that securing a part-time retired priest-in-charge will take several months, and that we will utilize the services of supply priests from the Diocese until after Easter.

We are fortunate to have secured the talents of Esther Kwok as organist for the remainder of the year and she will continue to play most weeks for the foreseeable future. The ongoing cost of building maintenance and infrastructure continues to consume a significant portion of the budget, especially with the predicted increase in utility costs. In our last strategic plan, we had intended by this stage to move "from maintenance to mission," but the stumbling blocks that the pandemic has placed threaten our survival. Unless we can establish additional income streams, it is difficult to see how Emmanuel Church can persevere in the face of an anticipated deficit of more than \$30,000.

We ask for your continued prayers to help discern where the Holy Spirit will lead our beloved parish community.

### **BUDGET FOR 2022**

	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	Difference	2022 Budget
Income				
Pledge				
Pledge	21,740.00	24,790.00	3,050.00	17,980.00
Non-Pledge Income	1,500.00	1,343.00	-157.00	1,300.00
Plate	200.00	506.00	306.00	400.00
Easter	200.00	1,420.00	1,220.00	750.00
Christmas	1,000.00	1,900.00	900.00	1,000.00
Faith in God	250.00	0.00	-250.00	250.00
Inti/Birthday	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Interest Income	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Investment Income	4,800.00	4,284.00	-516.00	4,200.00
Diocesan Grants	1,000.00	0.00	-1,000.00	0.00
Usage				
Yoga	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Irish Step Dance	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Kingdom Movement				
Church	3,300.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Parish Hall other	1,000.00	2,750.00	1,750.00	1,500.00
Special events	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Fundraising	1,500.00	0.00	-1,500.00	500.00
Gifts	250.00	830.00	580.00	500.00
Poland Fund	525.00	525.00	0.00	525.00
Diocesan Assistance (1)	0.00	20,992.00	20,992.00	0.00
<b>Operating Income</b>	37,265.00	59,340.00		28,905.00
Altar Guild Funds	500.00	80.00	-420.00	250.00
Memorial Funds	100.00	350.00	250.00	250.00
		120.00		
Non-Operating Income	600.00	430.00		500.00
<u>Total Income</u>	37,865.00	59,770.00		29,405.00
In-kind donations		300.00		300.00
		10		

Expenses	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	Difference	2022 Budget
Salaries				
Rector	18,000.00	18,000.00	0.00	13,500.00
Supply Priest	875.00	230.00	-645.00	2,280.00
Sexton	2,600.00	2,167.00	-433.00	2,600.00
Organist	2,600.00	1,950.00	-650.00	10,000.00
Church School	150.00	0.00	-150.00	150.00
Salary Totals	24,225.00	22,347.00		28,530.00
Benefits				
Rector's Medical/Dental	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Rector's Pension</b>	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Rector's Auto	100.00	0.00	-100.00	400.00
Rector's Dues	150.00	0.00	-150.00	150.00
Rector's Discretionary	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Benefits Total	250.00	0.00	-250.00	550.00
Utilities				
Gas - Church	9,000.00	3,706.00	-5,294.00	9,000.00
Electric - Church	1,500.00	1,609.00	109	1,700.00
Water & Sewer (Church)	80.00	25.00	-55.00	50.00
Utilities Total	10,580.00	5,340.00		10,750.00
Property				
Repairs - Church	1,800.00	1,142.00	-658.00	1,500.00
Property Insurance	8,800.00	8,992.00	192.00	9,000.00
Liability Insurance	150.00	137.00	-13.00	140.00
Supplies	120.00	176.00	56.00	150.00
Snow Removal	1,000.00	910.00	-90.00	1,000.00
Lawn	1,200.00	1,325.00	125.00	1,200.00
Church Alarms	290.00	508.00	218.00	300.00
Property Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Property Total	13,360.00	13,190.00		13,290.00

Other Expenses	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	Difference	2022 Budget
Postage	22.00	0.00	-22.00	88.00
Copier	100.00	0.00	-100.00	0.00
Telephone	2,040.00	2,186.00	146.00	2,200.00
Office Supplies	300.00	175.00	-125.00	200.00
Bank Charges	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Parish Life	400.00	0.00	-400.00	200.00
Organ Maintenance	600.00	611.00	11.00	1,200.00
Worship & Outreach	600.00	671.00	71.00	600.00
Communications	200.00	0.00	-200.00	200.00
Promotion	400.00	605.00	205.00	500.00
Mission/outreach				
committee	500.00	400.00	-100.00	500.00
Miscellaneous	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Parish Mission	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00
Altar Guild Expenses	400.00	210.00	-190.00	250.00
Grant Spending	500.00	0.00	-500.00	0.00
Total Other Expenses	6,062.00	4,858.00		6,938.00
Diocesan Assessment (2)	365.00	50.00	-315.00	250.00
Total				
Total Expense	54,842.00	45,785.00		60,308.00
Net Income	-16,977.00	13,985.00		-30,903.00
Footnotes (1) Disbursement arrears from Roslindale Fund				

(1) Disbursement areas from Rosindale Fund(2) Net after Roslindale Fund and misc. credits applied

Submitted by John Gooey



#### NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

#### THE PARISH OF EMMANUEL CHURCH - VESTRY FOR 2022

Officers of the Parish One-Year Term

Co-Wardens	Terri Halliday, Ken Thelen
Treasurer	(open)
Clerk	Anne Jackson

Vestry Members

Three-year term	(open)
Three-year term	(open)
Two-year term	(open)
Two-year term	Cathy McCarthy
One-year term	Ed Fleming
One-year term	Ed Barrett

To represent the Parish at Diocesan Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of MassachusettsDelegatesKen Thelen and Anne JacksonAlternateEd Fleming

To represent the Parish in the Neponset River Deanery Ed Fleming, Terri Halliday, Anne Jackson

Nominating Committee Terri Halliday, Ken Thelen, Ed Fleming, Anne Jackson, John Gooey, Andy Castiglione