

THE MOSAIC

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EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH

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Pastoral Ponderings



Thank you to each person who took the time to complete a pastoral ministry survey last month. I value your input and sincerely appreciate your efforts in providing critical and thoughtful comments. The results have been compiled. The Pastoral Relations Committee and I will discuss them at our next meeting. Information relevant to particular commissions will be shared with them.

As a group, you offered the most feedback in the section on hospitality. Those questions were about how we reach out to first-time guests and visitors and how we assimilate newcomers into the life of the congregation. I am delighted that you see this as a priority. To answer one question that was asked a few times, I follow up with every newcomer in worship if they provide a way to do so. We try to make sure every newcomer receives a welcome packet with a contact information card. If they turn in a card, I send an e-mail or a handwritten note within the week after they attended worship. If they don't provide a way to contact them, I respect their privacy and hope that they will choose to provide that information at a future time. One way that you can help this process is to make sure that newcomers receive those welcome packets. The welcome packet comes with a pen that has Emmanuel's name on it. Make sure you let them know they can keep the pen!

We cannot follow up on newcomers, unless we have newcomers. More people come to church because of a personal invitation than for any other reason. If you haven't invited someone to church in 2015, set a goal to do so before the year ends. There are several opportunities to do that between now and Christmas Eve. Throw your regular preacher under the bus and invite someone to hear special guest preacher Rev. Peter Carman on November 8. Consider a non-worship event like the potluck on November 21. Or invite someone to share the First Sunday of Advent with worship and a family-friendly service project of packing cookie bags on November 29.

Before Advent begins, we will make available a film clip setting the mood for the season at EBC. You can share it with friends via e-mail and Facebook. One very special not-to-be-missed opportunity for inviting purposes is the series of Wednesday evening Advent services called Breathing Space. Those will be on Wednesday evenings, December 2, 9 and 16 at 6:00. Watch for more details coming soon.

Continued...

As I count Thanksgiving blessings this year, I am again grateful for the ministry of Emmanuel Baptist Church, for your strong leadership, your creative, adaptive spirit, your willingness to work together and your sincere desire to love God and neighbor. In the words of the apostle Paul, "I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you . . . for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline. (from 2 Timothy 1:6-7)

Blessings,
Kathy



Cabaret: Destination Europe The Grand Tour

Michael Clement Presents
The Emmanuel Baptist Choir
& Guest artists
"Grand Tour" of Europe

Saturday, November 7, 7:30 pm
Emmanuel Baptist Church

Admission Free; Delicious Home-made Desserts available for sale during performance to benefit church programs; complementary coffee/tea.

For Adults Only...

What nurtures your spirit? What challenges you to deepen your faith? What stretches you to be closer to Christ? How do you sense God's presence and calling at EBC?

In October, I attended a three-day symposium led by John Roberto, entitled "Seasons of Adult Faith Formation". We addressed these kind of questions as they relate to the various stages of adulthood: young adults (20s-30s) midlife adults (40s-50s), mature adults (mid 50s-mid 70s), and older adults (75+). I plan to share some of the insights from this experience during the adult Christian Contemporary Concerns Sunday School time on **November 22, 2015**. Additionally, there will be opportunity to share in the planning for future CCC classes, and perhaps other faith formation opportunities as well.

Who should attend on Sunday, November 22, 11:30-12:15?

^ People who usually attend the CCC class, to share your ideas for future sessions

^ Adults who don't usually attend Sunday School, to learn what EBC currently offers, and voice your opinions for future options (not limited to Sunday School!)

I look forward to sharing in this discussion with all of you!

Marilyn Malone

From Service to Others...



Capital Area Council of Churches Requests Donations

The Emergency Overflow Shelter will open in November, and this year grants will not cover all of the program's needs. You can help! Here is a list of food items that would be appreciated:

- Canned tuna, beef, chicken
- Canned vegetables
- Snack items (juice boxes, apple sauce, granola bars, crackers)
- Fruit juices, lemonade, Kool-aid mixes, coffee
- Sliced bread
- Canned soup, chili, beef stew
- Low sugar cereal
- Boxed meals that require only water
- Peanut butter
- Instant oatmeal
- Pasta/pasta sauce
- Powdered creamer/sugar

If you have questions about this appeal, you may contact Karen Kendall

Dinner Deliveries to Resume



During the winter months, Emmanuel supports both the Emergency Overflow Shelter at First Lutheran Church and the Shelter at Interfaith Partnership for the Homeless by occasionally providing home cooked dinners for their guests.

On November 20, we will deliver food to the Emergency Overflow Shelter. Can you help by preparing a pot of stew that will serve ten people? Karen Kendall is organizing the supper so please let her know. Guests are always sincerely grateful for these special meals.

9th Annual Day of SIMPLE GIVING

Volunteer-Community Service Day

Join us for a day of making thousands of practical homemade gifts to share with local organizations. Seniors, adults, and children are welcome. No skills necessary. Stop by the community café for delicious food and homemade Greek pastries made by St. Sophia's Philoptochos.



Hosted by Grassroot Givers

Saturday, November 14

10am-12pm create and assemble items 12pm- 1pm organize and deliver donations

St. Sophia Greek Church, 440 Whitehall Rd., Albany

ADMISSION: Suggested \$5 donation PARTICIPATION: PRICELESS!

Please RSVP Mary or Roberta, info@grassrootgivers.org

ACTIVITIES

A sample of Donation Station activities:

- Decorate cookies
- Make laundry detergent
- Layer dry soup in a jar
- Assemble personal care kits & book bags

VOLUNTEER

If your family, neighborhood, small group or business would like to sponsor a table, support a collection drive or volunteer at A Day of Simple Giving, please visit our website or call 518.542.1276.

DONATIONS BENEFIT

Programs which will receive homemade items From A Day of Simple Giving: Local food pantries, Albany City Schools, Albany Housing Coalition, Albany Boys and Girls Club...and many more!




Emmanuel-Friedens Church in Schenectady and Emmanuel Baptist Church are swapping preachers, just for one day, on Sunday, November 8. The Rev. Peter Carman will preach at Emmanuel Albany while Pastor Kathy preaches at Emmanuel-Friedens.

Peter is a lifelong American Baptist who spent much of his childhood in India. He is a graduate of Haverford College and Yale Divinity School. He currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America. Before coming to Schenectady, he was the pastor of the Binkley Memorial Baptist Church in Chapel Hill, North Carolina and prior to that he served as the pastor of the Lake Avenue Baptist Church in Rochester for many years.

Peter is married to the Rev. Lynn Carman Bodden, a minister of the United Church of Christ who specializes in intentional interim ministry. They are the parents of two grown sons, Luke and Benjamin, both of whom are urban school teachers in major midwestern cities.

Daylight Saving Time ends
"fall back"
November 1

<p>Potluck Supper Saturday, November 21 5:30 p.m. Emmanuel Baptist Church 275 State Street in Albany</p> <p><i>A chance for retreat-goers to share some of the day's insights with those who cannot attend. Another opportunity to deepen friendships between our two churches. Bring a dish to share.</i></p>	
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Capital Area Baptist Association
2015 Annual Meeting

Saturday, November 14
Latham Community Baptist Church
109 Forts Ferry Road, Latham
8:30 AM - 9:30 am Registration with Light Continental Breakfast
9:30 AM - 12:30 pm Worship Service and Annual Meeting
Remarks by Regional Staff
Lunch

COST: \$15.....Please RSVP by Tuesday, November 10
to Sandy Rogers at the CABA office by telephone 518-374-0288 or 518-269-1805 or



Autumn Recital III

Will Hayes, cello

Michael Clement, piano

Program:

Brahms E-minor Sonata for cello and piano

Bach Suite #4 for solo cello

Popular Songs for two cellos and the Piano Guys



FOCUS Invites You to...

Non-Violent Communication: The Basics

Mondays: November 9, 16 & 23

6:00-8:30 pm

First Church in Albany

Facilitator: Rev. Susan Vincent Cox

Sign up by calling Denise at 463-4449 or on the web at firstchurchinalbany.org



Advent begins on November 29. Our worship that morning will include placing the first ornaments on our Jesse Tree.

Jesse Trees are an old Christmas tradition. The ornaments tell the story of the Bible from creation to the first Christmas. Our children will be making those ornaments in Sunday School across the next few weeks. We will add them to the tree on each of the four Sundays of Advent.

Following worship on November 29, join us in the fellowship hall to pack gift bags of cookies to share with our neighbors who may enjoy a seasonal pick-up. We need several dozen batches of cookies for this outreach project. EBC bakers, please start cooking and freezing now! If you are contributing cookies, please inform Andrea Carver.

Deadline for the December issue of the MOSAIC is November 18.

Men's Gathering Scheduled

Emmanuel men are invited to meet for lunch at Normanside restaurant at 11:45 on Wednesday, Nov. 4. If you plan to attend, please contact Bob Hunziker or Roy Mallory so adequate seating can be arranged. Hope to see you there!

Join Me For Lunch



**Church Office Closed:
November 11**

**Remember the
Food Pantry...**

November:

toothpaste

Coming this Month...

- November** 2 ~ Finance Summit: 6 pm
 3 ~ Coordinating Council @ Lahut's: 5:30 pm
 6 ~ Youth Convention in Syracuse
 8 ~ Pulpit Exchange: Peter Carman from Emmanuel/Friedens will be our guest.
 15 ~ Diaconate
 29 ~ Advent I



Happy Birthday...

November



Elaine Bird	5 th
Judith Henningson	8 th
Jon Stroebel	13 th
Heather LaBarge	14 th
Deb Jameson	15 th
Roy Mallory	21 st
Pat Campbell	22 nd
Amy Palmer	26 th

If your birthday is not published in our monthly listing, please notify Dorothy at 465-5161.

Nursing Home Visits Continue

The Choir will share their gift of music at Clare Bridge on Saturday, November 14; rehearsal at 9:30, program at 10:00. This special ministry brings joy to residents and staff alike. If you have questions, you may contact Michael Clement or Pat Hunziker.

**Church Office Closed:
November 26 & 27**



**Remember to change your clocks:
fall back!**



Work Day Scheduled November 14

Mark your calendar and join us from 9 a.m. to Noon as we combine our energies to complete a variety of projects and tasks around the church building. There is a job for every skill level! Lunch will be served. If you have questions, contact Tom Lahut.





Non-Violent Communication: The Basics

- How do I live the values of love, understanding, peace or justice in my community, in my family, in my workplace, in my world?
- How do I put into practice loving my neighbor as myself?
- How can I find ways through conflict that are caring and connecting and feel authentic to who I am?



Mondays: November 9, 16, 23
6:00—8:30 pm

Facilitator: Rev. Susan Vincent Cox

This event is for all FOCUS Churches

Sign up : www.firstchurchinalbany.org or call Denise : 463-4449

First Church in Albany, Parlor
110 North Pearl Street (parking lot available)

***Nonviolent Communication: A Language of Life* (\$14.00) by Marshall Rosenberg can be ordered on Amazon.com or purchased at the workshop**

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