

THE MOSAIC

Published monthly by
EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH
275 STATE STREET
ALBANY, NY 12210

Office: (518) 465-5161

emmanuelalbany@juno.com

March 2016

Volume XXXVII No. 3



By month's end, we will be entering into Eastertide, the 50 days between Easter Sunday and Pentecost where we particularly seek to live out Resurrection. But that is getting ahead of ourselves. As we enter March, we are halfway through the season of Lent. We are focused on the ways we practice our faith on a day in, day out basis. We have reflected together on saying yes and saying no, on hospitality and on contemplative prayer. Many of us are using Parker Palmer's 40 Day Journey as a tool to deepen our discipleship through prayer, reflection and journaling. We often speak of the journey of faith or the journey of Lent. The symbol of a labyrinth reminds us that the journey can be circular, going over the same ground again, but as different, perhaps wiser people, than we were on the previous circuit. As we anticipate another journey through Holy Week, here is a Blessing for Good Friday by Jan Richardson.

Blessing for Good Friday

You will know
this blessing
by how it
does not stay still,
by the way it
refuses to rest
in one place.

You will recognize it
by how it takes
first one form,
then another:

now running down
the face of the mother
who watches the breaking
of the child
she had borne,

now in the stance
of the woman
who followed him here
and will not leave him
bereft.

Now it twists in anguish
on the mouth of the friend
whom he loved;

now it bares itself
in the wound,
the cry,
the finishing and
final breath.

This blessing
is not in any one
of these alone.

It is what
binds them
together.

It is what dwells
in the space
between them,
though it be torn
and gaping.

It is what abides
in the tear
the rending makes.

paintedReaderbook.com

*Blessings,
Kathy*



Palm Sunday Worship

March 20, 10 am

Maundy Thursday Meal

& Worship

March 24

5:30 pm meal

6:30 worship

CACC Good Friday Noon Worship

(location TBA)

Easter Party

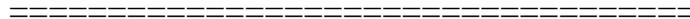
March 26, 10 to Noon

There will be games, craft activities, candy making, Easter egg hunts and more!

Lunch is included. Please sign up.

Easter Celebration:

- 6:30 am FOCUS Sunrise Service (steps of west Capitol Park)
- 7 am Breakfast at Emmanuel
- 10 am Worship
- 11 am Reception



A tradition at Emmanuel has been to decorate the sanctuary with lilies at Easter and to deliver them to our homebound and ill members. If you wish to purchase a plant, please check the appropriate box(s) below and indicate if the plant is in honor or in memory of a loved one. Cost is \$12 per plant. Please give the completed form to Karen Green or Gretchen Scheu along with your payment.

I would like the lily designated in memory/honor (circle one) of

I would like the plant donated to a church member.

I would like the plant for myself.



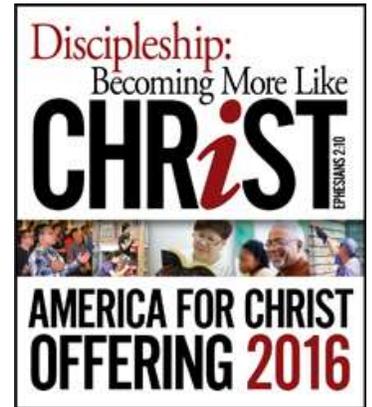
NAME: _____

From Service to Others...

America for Christ Offering to be Received

Dear Emmanuel:

God's desire for all who know Him is for us to become more like Christ. We become more like Christ by first growing in our knowledge of Him. The America for Christ Offering 2016 theme "*Discipleship: Becoming More Like Christ*" reminds us that, as American Baptists, we embody the love of our Lord in word and deed. The Apostle Paul reiterates this truth in *Ephesians 2:10*: "*For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.*"



The natural consequence of knowing and obeying God is that He becomes greater and greater, while we become less and less, as we yield control of our lives to Him. Just as John the Baptist knew that "He [Jesus] must increase, but I must decrease" ([John 3:30](#)), so the Christian grows to reflect more of Christ. Luke sums it up best when he describes what Jesus told His disciples: "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will save it" ([Luke 9:23-24](#)).

The America for Christ Offering 2016 reminds us that service is a way of life for Christ's church. Extending the hope, love and compassion of our Lord to our neighbors and communities is a powerful demonstration that we have been transformed. We are reinvigorated by this year's theme to come alongside people as they journey through life.

Past offerings have supported development of Missional Church Learning Experience (MCLE) communities in Boston, Chicago and California, along with the Indiana/Kentucky and Greater Indianapolis regions. "DIY Missional Experience" seminars, a new feature in 2013, introduced 13 Maine American Baptist churches to MCLE resources—including "Mission from the Gospels." Also:

- Volunteer Ministries facilitated the placement of more than 800 volunteers who served more than 2,700 days around the United States. Including 40 students from five American Baptist-related colleges and universities, 225 of the volunteers worked in the Gulf Coast, still rebuilding from hurricanes Katrina and Rita.
- The Prisoner Reentry Practitioners Network added three new members in 2013 and served more than 10,000 individuals through prison chaplains who prepared the incarcerated and their families for release and supported those already back in their communities. Eight prisoner re-entry workshops were presented in seven regions, and more than 100 people participated in workshops focused on issues related to U.S. incarceration today.
- More than 2,400 refugees from 22 countries were resettled with support from ABHMS, bringing the total number sponsored since 1946—when the current resettlement process was initiated in partnership with Church World Service and the U.S. Department of State—close to 110,000.

I am asking you to join me in giving generously to this year's America for Christ Offering and in doing so, help us to reach our goal as a church of \$750 in support of home mission. We will receive the offering on **Sundays, March 6 & 13**. Envelopes will be provided.

Your Friend,
Joanna Nadeau

Deadline for the April issue of the MOSAIC is March 18

Upcoming Opportunities for Justice Action at the Capitol:



Interfaith Advocacy Day March 2

Right now our elected representatives in Albany are in the midst of negotiating whether to raise New York's minimum wage to \$15. They are expected to make a decision by April 1, which means the next 7 weeks are critical.

People of faith have an important role to play in making sure our leaders understand the impact of poverty and the moral significance of giving millions of low-wage workers a raise. That's why a diverse group of faith-based organizations are joining forces to meet with our representatives in Albany.

On March 2, join other New Yorkers of faith for an interfaith day of advocacy. Together we'll learn more about the issue from a multi-faith perspective and then meet with our lawmakers to share why this is so important to us. Please RSVP and then share this with other people of faith who share your concern for economic justice: <https://actionnetwork.org/events/faithfor15-interfaith-advocacy-day>

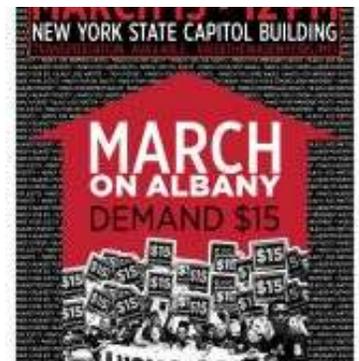
We look forward to a meaningful day of learning and advocating together!

Sponsored by Labor-Religion Coalition of NYS, NYS Council of Churches, Interfaith Impact of NYS, Reform Jewish Voice of NYS, Faith and Hunger Action, FOCUS Churches, Catholic Charities Commission on Peace with Justice-Albany Diocese, NYS Episcopal Public Policy Network

Fight for \$15/hr for all New Yorkers

March 15, 12 pm
New York State Capitol Building

Can everyone take a minute and invite EVERYONE you work with, go to school with, go to church with, go to the bar with!!! This march is for union members, union members to-be, workers of all kinds, food pantry workers, anyone looking to stop poverty, and everyone looking for work to support their family.



STO Delivers Dinner

Service to Others Commission will provide a meal for guests of the Overflow Shelter on Friday, March 18. Can you prepare a ziti casserole for the dinner? Contact Karen Kendall if you can help. Thank you!



We're Invited...
African Spring Dinner
at
Westminster Presbyterian Church
March 19, 5 to 8:30 pm

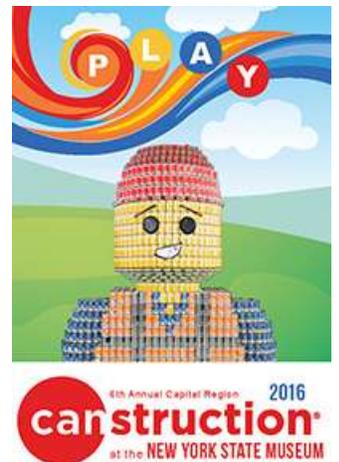
Free Pot-Luck Dinner; bring a dish to share
5:00 pm Immigration Issues, Children's Activities, Silent Auction
6:15 Keynote Speaker: Bishop Emeritus Howard Hubbard
Reply by March 15: 436-8544 or office@wpcalbany.org

Capital Region "Can-struction"
at the New York State Museum
March 15 to 31

4th Floor of the Museum – Free

Regional design teams have joined forces with The Food Pantries for the Capital District to fight hunger by creating playful sculptures made entirely out of canned goods. Fifteen teams will create giant structures using canned food items.

You can provide support by dropping canned goods into the bins next to your favorite sculptures to help them win the coveted People's Choice Award. Each and every can you donate will be given to The Food Pantries for The Capital District.



A group from Emmanuel is going to attend the event following worship on March 20th. We'll eat together before leaving the church so please bring a bag lunch; beverages will be provided. We'll walk down to the museum at 1:00. Questions? Contact Karen Kendall.

Family Promise of the Capital Region

Working with various congregations throughout the area, this organization provides temporary shelter and meals for families in search of affordable housing. Emmanuel is partnering with Delmar Reformed Church to provide this service during the week of March 13-20, and volunteers are needed. Karen Kendall has been in communication with Rebecca Clancy, the coordinator of the program at Delmar Reformed, and learned how the program works and what is expected of volunteers.

Families arrive at the church at 5:30, and dinner is served at 6:30. Dinner volunteers prepare and serve food and clean up until 8:30 pm. Families are in their rooms and settling in for the night by the time overnight people arrive. People are picked up at 7 am.

Besides preparing/serving food, overnight chaperones and volunteers to set up beds and clean up rooms after families leave are needed. If you would like to participate in this ministry, please speak with Karen Kendall.

*The following resolution was proposed at the annual meeting in January. We anticipate a vote on whether or not to adopt this as EBC policy at the **Quarterly Congregational Meeting on April 10**. An educational forum is planned for the adult education hour on March 20. Please prayerfully consider this effort and plan to be in attendance at the forum and the congregational meeting.*

RESOLUTION - EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH: A WEAPON-FREE ZONE

Whereas the building and property of Emmanuel Baptist Church is a sanctuary devoted to the worship of God and service to all members of the community;

Whereas the congregation is a body of believers who follow the non-violent ethic embodied by Jesus and taught to his disciples;

Whereas it is our purpose to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all children, women and men who use our sanctuary and meeting paces; and

Whereas it is therefore inconsistent with our mission and the principles of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to permit weapons and firearms while on the premises, except for representatives of law enforcement or authorized security personnel while on duty

Now, therefore be it *Resolved*,

Emmanuel Baptist Church and property shall be a weapon-free zone and that no weapons or firearms shall be permitted.



From Christian Growth & Development...

4th Annual Springbrook Invitational Basketball Tournament

March 12, 2016 at [The School at Springbrook](#) Gymnasium in Oneonta



The Springbrook Invitational Basketball Tournament has grown in popularity each year, with last year's tournament bringing 8 teams together for the event! Mark your 2016 calendars for what is sure to be another spectacular Springbrook Scorpions event!

This **Special Olympics** is a fun event for all ages! And Springbrook is an organization supported by our mission budget. For details and to arrange carpooling, call Marilyn Malone at 785-0022

Attention: Sunday School Teachers and Helpers

Our **Annual Early Spring Teachers' Meeting** will be on **Wednesday, March 16** (Note change in date) at 112 Greenleaf Drive, Latham (Beth's house), beginning with supper at 5:30. There will be time to talk about highlights of your class as well as any needs or concerns. We will also gather ideas for Children's Day (June 12). Please RSVP to bethamalone@gmail.com or call Marilyn, 785-0022.

More from CGD...

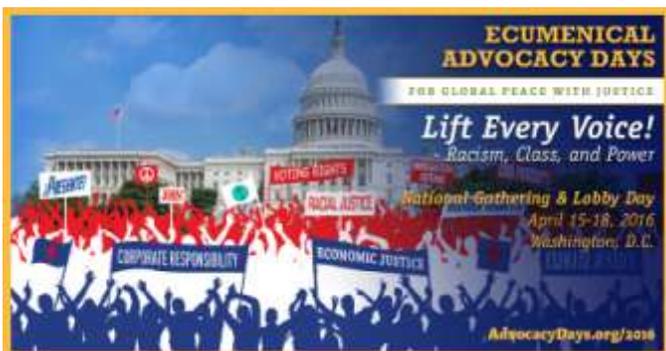
Special events this spring - Save the Dates! Volunteer to help!

- **Easter Party** - Saturday, March 26, 10:00-noon
Crafts, games, egg hunt, lunch (We are looking for adult help - can you give us a few hours?)
- **Pathfinder Open House** - Saturday, June 4
- **Children's Day** - Sunday, June 12

Celebrate the wonderful gifts of our children! We need a few adults to help plan a party. Watch for sign-up sheets! If you have questions, speak with Marilyn or another member of CGD.

Faith Formation and Spiritual Growth Opportunities

Below is information about a number of upcoming events for which scholarships are available. Please note the application and registration deadlines. Check the bulletin board or call the church for more information.



April 15-18: Ecumenical Advocacy Days in Washington DC.

Ecumenical Advocacy Days for Global Peace with Justice (EAD) is pleased to announce that “Moral Monday” founder, The Rev. Dr. William Barber, will join The Children’s Defense Fund founder, Marian Wright Edelman, and IMA Word Health executive, The Rev. Amy Gopp, as keynote speakers for EAD’s national gathering, April 15-18, 2016.

The title of the gathering is “Lift Every Voice: Racism, Class and Power.” Dr. Barber will serve as the Friday Opening Celebration keynote preacher, Wright Edelman will make a luncheon presentation on Saturday titled “The Cradle to Prison Pipeline,” and Rev. Gopp will serve as the Sunday Interdenominational Worship preacher. FOCUS Churches has scholarships available and would like to have representatives from each congregation in attendance. If you might be interested, you could speak with, Becca Leet, Edith Leet, or Joanna Nadeau about their previous trips to this event. Contact the FOCUS Office 443-0460 for more information.

April 19, 7-8:30: Online discussion of Michelle Alexander’s “The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness” using Daniel Hunter’s “Building a Movement to End the New Jim Crow”. Presented by Baptist Peace Fellowship. FREE

April 22-24: American Baptist Women of NYS Convention in Owego.

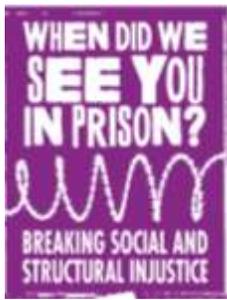
Spiritual Leader is Rev. Dr. Christine Roush. This convention is also for girls ages 8 & up.

Reservations and Registrations DUE BY April 3

Come and See...



May 7, 8:30-noon: CABA women’s meeting at Latham Community Baptist Church; Keynote Speaker, Trudy Pettibone Registration will begin at 8:30 with coffee and refreshments. The program will conclude at 11:30 followed by a covered dish luncheon.



June 27-July 2: Baptist Peace Fellowship 2016 Summer Conference in Cheyney, PA. “When Did We See You in Prison?: Breaking Social and Structural Injustice”

Why come to Summer Conference? BPFNA Summer Conference is an annual gathering for everyone who longs for the spirituality, inspiration,

skills, knowledge and community to support a life of peace rooted in justice. We hope you will join us!

- Excellent & challenging programs on many ways to practice peacemaking in your own communities.
- Connections to a progressive Baptist community.
- Stimulating peacemaking programming for children, youth, and adults of all ages
- A vibrant, active, and passionate young adult group

Also known as Peace Camp, Baptist Peace Fellowship’s summer conference is eagerly anticipated by peace and justice-lovers. This year’s location, in the greater Philadelphia area, makes travel more convenient for us. If you haven’t attended before and you’re interested, ask Becca Leet, Andrea Carver, Nancy Horan, Judy Henningson, Kathy Moore, Kathy Donley or Jim Wilkerson about their experiences. **Scholarship assistance is available from Baptist Peace Fellowship, but applications are due March 14.** Some assistance is also available through Emmanuel’s Christian Growth and Development Commission. For a list of speakers and/or to register, visit <http://www.bpfna.org/gather/summer-conference>

September 29-October 1: “Families at the Center of Faith Formation”, a symposium in Avon, CT



Summer Camping Opportunities

It’s time to register for Camp!!! Below is the Pathfinder schedule so that you can plan your summer. Remember that there are several scholarship sources, so every child can have the opportunity to attend Pathfinder. It’s an experience you will never forget!!

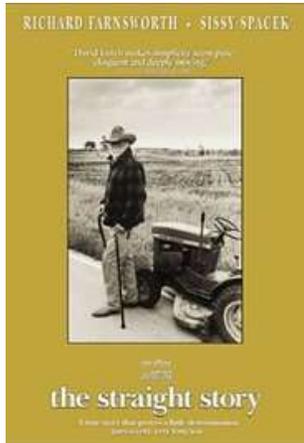
Early Registration deadline is May 10, for a \$25 reduction.

CHILDREN/TEEN WEEKS

June 23-26	Lifeguard Training	16 yrs. old and older	\$300
June 27-30	LIT Leadership Training	Grades 9-12	\$200
July 5-8	Beginners	Grades 1-4	\$250
July 5-9	Teen Mission Adventure	Grades 7-12	\$425
July 10-15	Fun & Games	Grades 4-8	\$395
	Terrain & Aquatic Adventure	Grades 7-12	\$425
July 17-22	Junior Arts	Grades 4-7	\$395
	Creative Arts	Grades 8-12	\$395
	Sailing Camp	Grades 8-12	\$395
July 24-29	Discovery	Grades 2-5	\$395
	Extreme Outdoors	Grades 5-10	\$395
July 31-Aug. 5	Fearless Factor	Grades 4-8	\$395
August 7-12	Exploration Challenge	Grades 4-7	\$395
	Water Adventure	Grades 8-12	\$425
August 14-19	REPLAY Week	Grades 3-9	\$395



Emmanuel Men are invited to meet for lunch at Normanside restaurant on Wednesday, March 2, at 11:30 a.m. If you plan to attend, please contact Bob Hunziker so that adequate seating can be arranged. We hope to see you there!



THE STRAIGHT STORY
Lenten Movie Night
March 18, 6:30 p.m.

Alvin Straight was a World War II veteran who lived with his daughter Rose in Laurens, Iowa. When he heard that his estranged brother Lyle had suffered a

stroke, Alvin made up his mind to visit him in the hopes of making amends while they are both still alive. To make the trip, he drove his lawn tractor at its maximum speed of 5 mph to his brother's residence in Mt. Zion, Wisconsin, a distance of 240 miles. The film tells the true story of the people Alvin met along the way and the reunion between the two brothers.

All ages are welcome to watch this G-rated movie and to participate in the conversation following about the practice of forgiveness. Pizza and popcorn will be provided. Donations requested to cover costs.

Remember the Food Pantry...

March:
toilet paper



Coordinating Council:
 March 7, 5:30 at Malone's
Diaconate:
 March 13, after worship



Support Our Singing Faith

As you may have noticed recently, our Clavinova electric piano is showing its age. Worship Commission would like to purchase a new electric piano that can be used a bit more flexibly this spring. We are hoping to collect one thousand dollars for this purpose by Easter. If you can contribute to this cause, please give the money to our Financial Secretary, Ruth Pushee, with a note that says it is for the electric piano fund. Every little bit helps, and thank you!

A Bouquet of Song:

*art songs, arias,
 popular songs
 the theme: flowers*

Bienvenida Baez, soprano
Michael Clement, piano

March 6 at 2 pm
 Bethlehem Library
 (451 Delaware Ave., Delmar)
 Admission is free



Daylight Saving Time
Begins March 13
Spring Forward!

Happy Birthday...
March

- | | | |
|-----------------|--|------------------|
| Betty Jordan | | 1 st |
| Sally Cole | | 2 nd |
| Jonathan Malone | | 10 th |
| Lucy Wong | | 22 nd |
| Olivia LaBarge | | 30 th |



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

Emmanuel Baptist Church
275 State St.
Albany, NY 12210

