THE MOSAIC

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EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH

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Pastoral Ponderings

I missed worship at Emmanuel on May 18 to attend my grandmother's funeral in Western Illinois. Mary Jane Donley was 100 years and 2 months old when she died.

My grandmother grew up within 25 miles of where she died. She knew my grandfather from a young age, and I guess, there was never any doubt in her mind that she would marry him, even though it was completely opposed to her mother's plans for her life. They had five sons who lived to adulthood and a daughter who died in infancy. All five sons eventually settled down in some part of Illinois, although my father went to neighboring states and to West Africa before landing in the Chicago area. I am one of her twelve grandchildren; ten of us lived to adulthood. Unlike our parents, we did not all stay in Illinois. We grandchildren are scattered to places like Houston, Denver, Chapel Hill, Kansas City and Albany, but some of us still live in Illinois and one grandson lives within a few miles of my grandmother's old house.

My grandmother's church is a country church on the same road where she lived. For many years, there were three generations of Donleys in its pews. At her funeral, I heard about her contributions to that community of faith. Her strawberry patch provided gallons of berries for the church's ice cream social every June. She was credited as one of the people who kept challenging them to think and do mission. She organized the quilters who made quilts for senior citizens and foster children. She was active in United Methodist Women. She and my grandfather went to Alaska to provide disaster relief after the 1964 earthquake.

I think about my grandmother's church and Emmanuel. Several families within our midst are represented by more than one generation. We also represent families where the succeeding generation has scattered to other places, but comes back on special occasions. And in some cases, we are the church that receives those who are far from biological family. Even though many EBCers have been part of the

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church for a long time, it is important to remember that we may provide sanctuary and community for those newcomers, those like me and my cousins, whose lives are very different from the generations before us.

Ken Graham joined the great cloud of witnesses in May. Before him, Dr. Glenn Stassen, Christian Ethics teacher and peacemaker for generations of Baptist leaders, died in April. And now, my grandmother has also died. The deaths of these three people, all significant in my life for different reasons, lead me to reflect on legacy – what am I doing with my life that will last? What are we doing as a faith community that is life-giving for people now and in the future?

In the words of the psalmist:
Teach us to number our days,
that we may gain a heart of wisdom.
Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us,
and prosper for us the work of our hands.
O prosper the work of our hands!

Blessings,
Kathy

Worship & Picnic in the Park
June 1, 10:30 a.m.
at Colonie Town Park
Cost before the picnic is $5/person; $12/family
Cost the day of the picnic:$6/person; $15/family
Beverages and meat for the grill will be provided;
please bring a dish to share.
Speak with Amy Palmer re transportation and car pooling.

Ballgame
Join Emmanuel friends as we enjoy a baseball game together on Sunday,
July 20 at 5:00. Cost: If you purchase 4 tickets for $25, a hotdog and beverage are included.
Payment deadline is June 1 (at the church picnic)
If you have any questions, you may contact Andrea Carver or Frank Scheu.

Children's Day...Sunday, June 8

From Service to Others…

One Great Hour of Sharing Offering to be Received

"The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me" (John 17:22-23).

With his beloved disciples, Jesus prays for connection and unity. Perhaps he knew that understanding our oneness would be one of our greatest challenges as human beings, and that is why one of his very last acts was to pray for unity. When we understand that we are of God, created by none other than the Creator of all creation, and that we are thus beloved, we reconnect to ourselves, to one another, and to our Divine Parent.

For seven decades now, nine denominations in the U.S., united as one, have together been connecting people through One Great Hour of Sharing. Sisters and brothers living in poverty who would have been otherwise overlooked, or outright forgotten, have been empowered by our gifts to the offering. The woman who has been a victim of war, attempting on her own to raise her family without any access to long-term food security, education, or health care, is now self-sufficient because of assistance from One Great Hour of Sharing. Families across North America, still struggling to survive after a devastating storm took everything in its path, are accompanied for the long haul, thanks to funds from One Great Hour of Sharing.

Each time a gift is given, a connection is made. Every single offering builds another bridge and tears down another wall. Each donation to One Great Hour of Sharing, no matter how large or small, reveals our unity, that in Christ Jesus we are one family. When one of us—anywhere on earth—hurts, we all hurt. As long as there is need, we are all in need. One Great Hour of Sharing enables us to fulfill those needs, for they are our needs.

We are the hungry, the thirsty, the sick, the homeless, the hurting. We are one with our sisters and brothers, and we will answer Christ's call until we *all* are fed. Until all are fed.

We will receive the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering on two Sundays, June 15 & 22. Please give generously to this great connector of our shared faith, work, and witness in the world.

CROP WALK UP-DATE:
8 EBC Walkers raised approx.
$1200. Thanks to all!

Five children from the Junior Church School Class recently had the opportunity to visit the Interfaith Shelter. The kids and three adults from Emmanuel delivered a donation of laundry detergent to the Shelter and enjoyed a brief tour of the facility. Did you know that they run about 250 loads of wash a month at the Shelter? Thanks to all who made the day special.

If you haven't yet registered for the World Mission Conference, speak with Karen Kendall. The Conference will be held July 21 – 25 at Green Lake, Wisconsin

AFTER GLOW

The banners are put away, the dishes washed, the carpet swept, the tables broken down, the chairs returned to their usual places, but the smiles persist for those who attended the Medieval Feast. Storytellers, and troubadours entertained while delicious food was passed. Unexpected coverage which became the lead story on the evening news was video and interviews by Channel 13. (http://wnyt.com/article/stories/s3422457.shtml). Behind the scenes on Friday and Saturday and even weeks before was an army of volunteers that helped set up, sell tickets, sort candles, clean, cook, shop, organize, string banners, solicit ads and auction items, all to make everything run smoothly.

Working together on this fun event raised $4,000 towards Emmanuel's restoration. Thank you to everyone who helped. If in the clean up you lost track of dishes or other items you lent to the effort, please check the kitchen and/or speak with Jean. Thank you again. (JB)

From Christian Growth & Development…

The Christian Growth and Development Commission hosted an eggs-traodinary Easter party on April 19! We were seeking to replace the traditional Easter Egg Hunt with a more meaningful event. Children participated in games, candy making, egg decorating and craft activities. That was followed by a Resurrection Egg hunt and a Bible treasure hunt for older children. Then everyone enjoyed lunch together.

There were 30 adults and 30 children in attendance, including a dozen from the Karen Baptist Church, and several families who have been marginally connected to Emmanuel. What a joy for us to be able to celebrate together! Many thanks to everyone who helped to make this event a success! (MM, BM, AF, ES, JW)

Camping at Pathfinder is fast approaching, and we are gearing up for an arts and crafts program for all ages. If you can donate any of the following supplies, please bring them to Emmanuel in the coming weeks.

- acrylic paints
- baby food jars
- candle wicking
- colored sand
- disposable gloves
- large, round, plastic party platters
- leather pieces
- modeling compounds
- soft wood/balsa wood
- white t-shirts – new, all sizes youth and adult
- wax paper
- aluminum foil
- woodburning tools

If you have questions or other ideas for crafts, please contact Edith Leet at 482-6612 or by e-mail at edith.leet@outlook.com

Please note the longer list of supplies that Pathfinder requests. (on next page)

Open House at Pathfinder Lodge

June 7, 10:00 to 3:00

Rain or Shine

Free lunch, tours, crafts, campfire, fun and fellowship

We will leave from church at 9:00. Questions? Contact Marilyn Malone

Pathfinder Wish List 2014

Food Items
Cake & brownie mixes
Bisquick
Minute rice
Pasta
Peanut butter & jelly/Nutella
Peanuts
Chocolate chips
Raisins
Bottled water (Gallon)

PAPER GOODS
Paper towels
Toilet paper (white, singe ply)
Napkins
Paper plates (heavy duty)
Cups, hot & cold (7-9 oz)
Paper muffin cups
Plastic forks and spoons
Zip lock bags – all sizes

OTHER KITCHEN ITEMS

Liquid dish soap
Liquid hand soap
Disinfectant wipes (e.g. Clorox)

FURNITURE
Sturdy dressers
End tables/night stands
Door mats**
Card tables (folding)

HEALTH LODGE
Medical or sport tape
Shower curtains
Rubber or latex gloves
Hand sanitizer
4×4 gauze
large bandaids

SPORTS EQUIPMENT
Life jackets – vest style (any size)
Canoe paddles
Canoes, kayaks
Rope
Tent stakes
Volleyballs
Kick balls
Water shoes (all sizes)
Dive-quality masks & fins (adult sizes)

MAINTENANCE
Paint brushes (including disposable)**
Brooms**
Rakes & shovels
Sponge mops**
Good working vacuum cleaners**
Dehumidifiers**
Tarps- esp. large **
Indoor Lightbubs

CRAFTS & PROGRAM
Markers
Construction paper, card stock
Beading thread or wire, esp. elastic cord
Glitter, sequins, ribbons, trims
Tape: masking, cellophane, duct **
Colored sand
Fabric paints
Fabric dye
Fun foam
White T-shirts
Clay
Boondoggle
Candle wicking
Ink pads
Old candles
Metal coffee cans with lids
Music stands
Tulip Tie Dye
Embroidery Thread

Unused birthday or note cards, with envelopes**

Join the M&E Commission at the PRIDE Parade and Festival

Saturday, June 14th
Washington Park, Albany

Emmanuel Baptist is a Welcoming and Affirming Congregation.
The Albany PRIDE Parade and Festival is an opportunity to put our message into motion!

Parade: *Check-in and Line-up 10:30 – 11:00 AM (location TBA)*
Step-off 12:00 Noon

Festival: *Set-up 10:30 – 11:00 AM*
Table-sitting 11:30 – 5:00 PM

- *Walk in the Parade with Emmanuel Banner and Emmanuel folk*
- *Assist in the booth set-up*
- *Sit at our booth table: answer questions, provide information, hand out give-aways*
- *attend the festival wearing an Emmanuel t-shirt*

Watch for a sign up sheet in Fellowship Hall and Invite your friends to walk with us.
See Ruth, Lori, Andrea or Danielle for more information. (RP)

Neighborly Invitation

Emmanuel is invited to participate in Westminster Presbyterian's Block Party on Sunday, June 15 following worship. This is an opportunity for fellowship with our neighbors across the street. We are asked to bring salads, appetizers, desserts, etc to share. Meat for the grill and beverages will be provided by Westminster.

To assist in the planning, please use the sign up sheet in Fellowship Hall. If you have any questions, you may contact Andrea Carver (486-2974).

Focus Summer Worship Schedule:

All services will be held at <u>10 a.m.</u>

July 6 - at First Church
Aug. 3 - at Delmar Reformed
Aug. 31 - at Westminster Pres.

Notice of Meetings…

June 3 ~ Coordinating Council: 5:30, Donley's
8 ~ Diaconate

We deeply appreciate the love and support that Emmanuel members showed us after the passing of our father, Ken Graham. The visits from parishioners, the participation by the choir, the playing by the accompanist, Beth Malone, and the frequent visits and kind words by Pastor Kathy all meant so much to us. Our dad would have been so touched by the love and concern poured out by his Emmanuel friends. Thank you all.

Sincerely,
The Graham Family

Dear Emmanuel Family:
Thank you so much for your prayers and good wishes as Becca was in the hospital. Her surgery was successful and uneventful, and we are grateful for all the caring and compassion that surrounded her.

Blessings,
Edith & Ian Leet

Deadline for the Summer issue of the *MOSAIC is June 18.*

Remember the Food Pantry Bar soap

Ladies Lunch Planned

Emmanuel ladies will go to Otis and Oliver restaurant for lunch on June 5. We'll meet at 11:45 a.m. Please let Gail Hill or Betty Mallory know if you plan to attend so that adequate seating can be arranged.

Housekeeping Notes

A number of miscellaneous items have accumulated in the fellowship hall. (jackets, hats, tablecloth ~ even a baby bottle!) Please claim your things. At the end of June, we will dispose of whatever is left.

Also, when you bring things for specific causes or organizations, make sure they are labeled. Items left without labels have sometimes been thrown away. Please remember that we are <u>not</u> collecting items for the Karen Baptist Church except to fulfill specific requests.

Happy Birthday…

Audrey Ford	3rd
Claudette Mink	5th
Natalie Johnson	7th
Elaine Spoor	8th
Donna Brown	8th
Danielle Johnson	9th
Barbara Lahut	9th
Bob Green	10th
Sarah Oziomiek (Malone)	13th
Edie Simpson	17th
Robin Bray	18th
Adele LaBarge	19th
Erin Wilkerson	19th
Ken Cole	19th
Edith Leet	29th
Kathy Landers-Wise	29th

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

Begins…June 21!

Summer Office Hours ~ 9:00 to 1:00 ~ begining June 23

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