

# THE MOSAIC

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**EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH**

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## *Pastoral Ponderings*

If someone made me choose a favorite season, it would not be summer. I appreciate different things about every season and I especially enjoy living in a part of the world with four different seasons. If someone made me choose just one as a favorite, I would choose autumn, with its crisp days and changing leaves and apple-picking. But I am also learning the value of living in the now, and even though the calendar and the iris blooming in my yard say that it is spring, it certainly feels like summer.

I am excited about this summer. I have planned to travel more than I have in recent years. There's trip this month to California for a ceremony to mark the end of Molly's residency and to celebrate a thirty-fifth wedding anniversary for Jim and me. In July, we'll go to Kentucky to honor Jim's parents on their 80<sup>th</sup> birthdays. In late August, Jim and my brother and I are accompanying my father on a Rhine River cruise. I recently learned that this river cruise has been on my 87-year-old father's bucket list for about 30 years.

At the beginning of August, I will be at Central Seminary in Kansas City, participating in Conflict Transformation Training with Dan and Sharon Buttry. This intensive course uses experiential education methodologies developed by people's movements around the world to explore topics like conflict dynamics, mediation, dealing with difference and diversity, power dynamics, trauma and trauma healing, and reconciliation. Dan and Sharon are coming out of retirement to offer this course one more time. It has more than 300 graduates from 50 countries, including Ukraine, and I am very grateful for this opportunity.



It has been hard to live fully in the now of the last two years. Many days it felt like we were simply marking time until things could return to "normal" or what we were used to. How many milestones were celebrated remotely or in muted ways because of the coronavirus? So I am especially joyful to have the privilege to share important in-person celebrations this season. I fervently hope that you will also have similar opportunities.

Let me encourage us to live in the now with regard to our faith community. There will be extra in-person gatherings this summer – picnics, campfires, other outdoor events, as well as FOCUS worship services. As you are able, please be there. Your presence brings joy and builds up the Body of Christ. When you attend an event on Zoom, please consider keeping your camera on. Your presence brings joy and builds up the Body of Christ.

Peace,

**Kathy**

So teach us to number our days, that we may present to You a heart of wisdom.



## Come to the Campfire!

The Malone's campfire evenings have been so popular that we are planning to have them more often! Also, some other people have expressed an interest in hosting. So the schedule below has the dates for campfires, but the locations have not yet been determined. If you are interested in hosting, contact Marilyn:

Save these dates, and watch for more detailed announcements.

June 3, 17

July 1, 15, 29

August 12, 26

September 9, 23

### CAMPFIRE STRUCTURE (roughly)

6:30-7:00	Fellowship, play time
7:00-7:20	Singing, prayer sharing
7:20-7:40	S'mores
7:40-8:00	Story, goodbye



## It's June...Picnic Time!

*Please join us for the Annual  
Outdoor Worship & Picnic*

**Sunday, June 19, 10:00**

*Zoom worship at 10:30*

**NOTE: No service at Emmanuel that day**

**Where:** Colonie Mohawk River Park, Pavillion 1  
(no admission or parking fees)

Please bring an appetizer, side dish or dessert to share. Meat for the grill and beverages will be provided.

**NOTE: All food will be served by designated volunteers.**

Also, pack a chair for each member of your group and bring outdoor games if you wish. *If you have questions, you may contact Ellen Corcoran or Karen Green.*



All are Welcome...

We hope to  
there!

see you

# Worship this Month Worship this Month

## Date

June 5  
Pentecost

June 12  
Trinity Sunday and Pride

June 19  
Church Picnic

June 26  
Guest: The Rev. Dr. Jim Kelsey

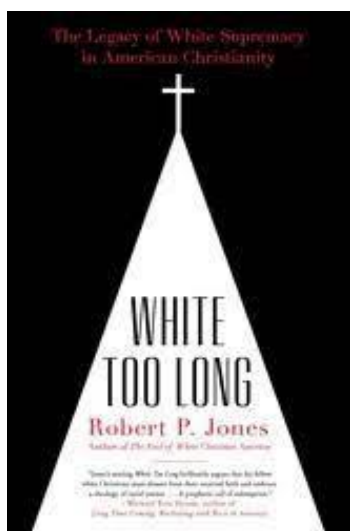
## Text

Acts 1:2-12  
John 4:7-26

Several readings in celebration  
of the gender-fullness of God

Amanda Gorman *Change Sings*

Psalms 118:14-19, Acts 5:27-32  
*What Part of No Did You Not Understand?*



## Thrive Book Study - June 5

In his book, *White Too Long: The Legacy of White Supremacy in American Christianity*, life-long Baptist Robert P Jones draws on history, public opinion surveys and personal experience to argue that American churches have been thoroughly structured by an interest in protecting white supremacy. One of his provocative findings is that “the more racist attitudes a person holds, the more likely he or she is to identify as a white Christian.”

We'll talk about the book and how to reckon with what Jones calls the racism of our past and the willful amnesia of our present. Join us in person or on Zoom after coffee hour on June 5.



  
**SUMMER** Begins June 21!

Photo: D. Wilburn



## To Families with Children and Youth...

Ideas are brewing for faith formation programming in the fall! In the past, we have done in person Sunday School, online Bible Club and youth group meetings, and large group gatherings. We have a lively and exciting group of kids with a variety of gifts, talents, and needs. We have dedicated adults who enjoy interacting with them. We recognize how busy families are, and the limitations of our resources, and we trust in the Holy Spirit to guide us in fulfilling the plans God has for Emmanuel.



Looking ahead to the fall, we are excited about the possibilities for creative and different approaches. Here is a glimpse of what is brewing:

- ❖ There will be something special for children who worship in person on Sunday mornings;
- ❖ There will be activities and connections for children who participate via Zoom;
- ❖ There will be discussions, projects and other opportunities for youth to connect;
- ❖ There will be campfires and parties!

Watch for it! Join in! Be a part of the future of Emmanuel!



## Adult Faith Formation Planning Begins

It's time to begin planning Adult Faith Formation (AFF) programs and activities for the fall, and we need your help. A committee is being formed that will meet on Zoom. It will consider such questions as:

- What are the goals of AFF programs for the fall?
- What activities do adults in our congregation want? (study groups, discussions (of books, movies, current events, etc.), social events, sharing meals, movies, community involvement, trips, speakers, learning new skills, etc.)
- What are the best times for adults to meet?
- How often do adults want to meet?

If you want to be part of this committee, please contact the Church Office or Edith Leet.

If committee work isn't your thing, you can still help us by sharing your ideas. How would you answer the questions above? What activities are you most interested in? Do you have ideas for books, movies, speakers, or other resources you want the committee to consider? Please send any ideas and comments to the Church Office or Edith Leet. Thanks for your help!







**Wednesday, June 15 from 3-6 pm**  
**Delmar Reformed Church**  
*386 Delaware Ave, Delmar*

 <p><b>\$15 TO-GO CHICKEN DINNERS</b>          INCLUDES 1/2 CHICKEN, BAKED POTATO,          COLESLAW, ROLL &amp; DESSERT</p>	<p><b>TAKE-OUT ONLY!</b></p> <p>PRE-ORDER ON OUR WEBSITE:  <b>FOCUSCHURCHES.NET</b></p>  <p>SCAN ME</p> <p>OR CALL: 518-443-0460 EXT. 2</p>
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**PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT THE FOCUS FEEDING PROGRAMS:**  
 BREAKFAST PROGRAM / FOOD PANTRY / GARDENING PROGRAM



*Together we can feed the hungry in our community.*



***FOCUS Summer Worship Schedule:***

All services will be held at 10 a.m.  
**both in person and online**

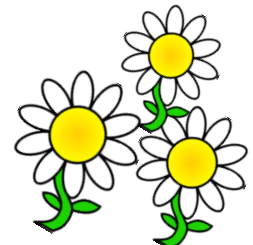
July 3 - at First Church in Albany  
*Drive-in worship at Sheridan Ave. Parking Lot (and via Zoom)*

Aug. 7 - at Delmar Reformed (and via YouTube)

Sept. 4 - at Westminster Presbyterian (and via Zoom)  
*All are Welcome!*

**Join us!**

**Remember the Food Pantry... bar soap**



# Celebrate Pride...

## Sunday, June 12



Emmanuel has been represented at the Capital PRIDE Parade and Festival for about 15 years, and our participation has grown every year. We need the following:

- Parade Walkers
  - Check in at 10 AM – need 1 or 2 specific people to do this
  - Parade Steps off at Noon – we need all the walkers we can get!
  - Carry the banner and/or rainbow flags, umbrellas, etc.
- Festival Booth
  - Set-up begins at 10 AM
  - Booth “sitters” from Noon – 5 PM
    - Hand out give-aways (water, magnets, bags, fliers, etc.)
    - Wave to people, say hello, welcome them!
    - Talk about Emmanuel and invite them to worship
  - Tear down – begins around 4:30
- People-watchers – as in just being amazed by the variety of God’s created people!

You are invited to participate in any and all of the above! This is a fantastic way to show true Emmanuel welcoming spirit! Contact Ruth Pushee for more information.



### Time to Think about Camping... Celebrating 75 Years!

Pathfinder brochures are available on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall and registration forms are available on the camp website – [www.vpccministries.org](http://www.vpccministries.org) As always, a variety of camping options are available for all ages.

This year marks the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Baptist camping in NY state! There will be a **special celebration at Pathfinder August 26-28**. You can rent a cabin or tent site and stay the weekend, or you can join for a full day of fun and memories on Saturday, August 26. You will need to register for the day’s activities (including lunch) and/or the Brooks Barbeque Dinner. See the website - [www.vpccministries.org/pathfinder-lodge/pathfinder75](http://www.vpccministries.org/pathfinder-lodge/pathfinder75)

One of the events at the anniversary celebration will be a Silent Auction. Are you interested in putting together an EBC gift basket for the auction? Or, do you have other ideas about how to support Pathfinder? Please contact Marilyn Malone: [malonehome@aol.com](mailto:malonehome@aol.com).





## Creative Arts Enhance Bible Study

The Wednesday Bible Study group often has a creative arts component that encourages people to use various media and processes in response to the Bible passages being studied that week. At the May 11 class, the Psalm was #148, a psalm urging all creatures to praise their creator. Ian Leet had just been to his younger brother's funeral. James was a man who loved to walk and who delighted in the natural world. He also had a deep faith in God and Jesus. Ian wrote the following poem in response to Psalm 148.

### My Brother Walks

My brother walks. O how he walks.  
As he lifts his eyes to the hills, he  
 marvels at the Sparrows,  
 Tanagers,  
 Orioles,  
 Robins,  
 Swallows of all types and Finches.  
 The Arctic Three-toed Woodpecker.  
 Ptarmigans and Pheasants.  
 Birds above the Earth and on it.  
 And thinks  
 How great is the Lord.

My brother walks. O how he walks.  
 He walks among the  
 Philodendra,  
 Devil's Paintbrush,  
 Wood Asters and Trillium.  
 Dutchman's Breaches.  
 Lady Slippers,  
 Especially the Lady Slippers.  
 And thinks  
 How great is the Lord.

My brother walks. O how he walks.  
 He walks with his family and  
 Among the  
 Indigenous People.  
 Argentinians.  
 Bullies.  
 The needed and the needy.  
 The sick and the well.  
 He carries young ones on his back  
 who can't walk by themselves.  
 And thinks  
 How great is the Lord.

My brother walks. O how he walks.  
 But sometimes he stands.  
 Stands admiring the stars  
 Or the sea or the mountains  
 The snapping turtle.  
 The chipmunks.  
 And thinks  
 How great is the Lord. How wondrous  
 are the works of the Lord.

My brother walks. O how he walks.



# CROP HUNGER WALK

ENDING HUNGER ONE STEP AT A TIME



This year Team Emmanuel raised \$965, with a few more donations expected. Thanks to those who walked (Jean Burton, Edith Leet, Tony and Marilyn Malone, Judah Appe, Elizabeth Scheu and Nancy Horan) and to those who supported us.

25% of funds raised supports local food pantries and soup kitchens and the remainder goes to hunger relief programs around the world. The income from the John U. Miller Memorial CROP Walk in Albany has just reached...and surpassed...its goal of \$100,000!

## Happy Birthday...

Donna Brown  
Danielle Johnson  
Barbara Lahut  
Bob Green  
Sarah Malone  
Edie Simpson  
Robin Bray  
Adele LaBarge  
Erin Wilkerson  
Ken Cole  
Edith Leet



8<sup>th</sup>  
9<sup>th</sup>  
9<sup>th</sup>  
10<sup>th</sup>  
13<sup>th</sup>  
17<sup>th</sup>  
18<sup>th</sup>  
19<sup>th</sup>  
19<sup>th</sup>  
19<sup>th</sup>  
29<sup>th</sup>

**Deadline for July MOSAIC:  
June 18**



***She is going to have a baby!*** Come help us celebrate the anticipated arrival of Baby Girl Covington due in August to Maria Townes-Covington and Rodney Covington. We will gather shortly after the service on Sunday, July 10 in Fellowship Hall and the parlor.

Light fare (finger foods, salads, appetizers) will be served, and we encourage donations of yummy edibles from attendees. Please let Barbara Lahut know if you plan to attend, and what you will bring so she can coordinate.

Maria has registries at the following links, search for Maria and Rodney Covington, due 8/8/22 : Target <https://www.target.com/gift-registry/gift/baby-covington-ny>

Buy Buy Baby:

<https://www.buybuybaby.com/store/giftregistry/viewregistryguest/551491552?eventType=Baby>

If you are unsure what to get, or wish to go in with others on a group gift, Barbara is happy to help coordinate that as well. Contact her by phone or email at or connect with her at church.

We hope you can come join the fun of welcoming a new little one to our fellowship! (BL)





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