

Rebuild My Church

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WORSHIP WEEKLY

Emmanuel Episcopal Church
Annual Parish Meeting
December 6, 2009

Senior Warden

"I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ." (Philippians 1:3-11)

A good work has begun in us ... no, make that many good works. This year has been an exciting one for Emmanuel Church. The parish family is growing. Our ministries are expanding in exciting ways. Our formation program is spiritually grounded and engages people of all ages. Our staff is dedicated. Our worship together is rich and inspiring. God's love is everywhere, in every nook and cranny of this home and in every program and ministry undertaken in his name. Mission is at the core of everything we have done this year and are thinking about doing next year. A new church year has begun, and there is much to celebrate at Emmanuel both as we look back on the past year and as we contemplate the year that has begun to unfold before us.

Read through this Annual Report to discover the many programs and ministries of Emmanuel. Savor the good works begun and your part in making them happen. Think about new ways to get involved and to be God's hands and feet in this world. A good work has begun in us ... and it is good indeed.

The committees within the Parish Life and Pastoral Care commissions are active and creating new programs in response to ideas from parishioners and Vestry members. We have a full Common Room for Wednesday night suppers and for Adult Formation classes on Sunday mornings. Our catechesis program is flourishing. Club 45 is active and those children have challenged us with a special service project for Advent. And the youth program is as energetic as it has ever been. That is good work indeed.

The Thrift House and the other committees within the Extended Ministry commission are doing God's work here in Athens and elsewhere in the world. Another Habitat project is coming; a mission trip is being planned; more work with refugees and Jubilee Partners is on the horizon; and someday soon we will own an Emmanuel van (or maybe 2) to help with our programs and ministries. That is good work indeed.

Athens Land Trust has restored one of our cottages and is enjoying its new home there. Children First (formerly known as CASA) is working to restore the second cottage and (please, God) will be at home there by this time next year. That is good work indeed.

We have a new roof (finally) and expect that the leaks that have plagued us since December of 1892 (yes, you read that right—1892) are finally behind us. We conducted a structural audit of our campus and are hard at work to repair and refurbish our facilities. We have a solid foundation beneath us and a roof above to keep us dry. We aim to be good stewards of the Lord's blessings and of God's whole creation and so are conducting an assessment of our energy use and environmental impact under the guidance of our Creation Keeper team.

Good stewardship also means making sure that our life together is accessible to all and so a newly constituted ad hoc committee on accessibility is planning a Summit soon. That is good work indeed.

All of this ministry and hospitality are full of grace, but they are not free. The Stewardship Campaign continues, and the results so far are promising. We know that there is want and need in the world around us and there is pain and insecurity, but already many of us have responded by making Emmanuel and its ministry a priority for our financial treasure. That is a good work indeed.

This year we began anew discussions and deliberations on Emmanuel's future. The future is, at its core, about mission and ministry. But mission and ministry often require bricks and mortar. And bricks and mortar require dollars and cents. So this year we conducted a feasibility study to see how ready Emmanuel was for a capital campaign. As I write this, the Vestry is preparing to hire a consultant to help us mount a capital campaign. An ad hoc Planning Committee is meeting regularly to define our needs and to create a vision of Emmanuel's future. We need to refurbish our current facilities and to build new facilities to accommodate both our current programs and ministries as well as those that we have not yet dared to try. We need a capital campaign and, as the economy begins to turn around, we are preparing so that we will be ready to mount the campaign soon. A previous generation of Emmanuelites persevered through financial difficulties and other challenges and finally dedicated this grand sanctuary on the corner of Prince and Pope. It is now our turn. It will be a good work indeed.

So take a moment. Hear God in this space. Look around. See that the work is good. Celebrate. And look forward to what is on the horizon.

Naomi J. Norman

*And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.
(Philippians 1:9-11)*



Worship

The mission of the Worship/Liturgy committee is to assist and help make all church services flow smoothly so that the entire church community can benefit from our worship together. Many committees work together to accomplish this mission weekly, while others serve on special occasions, such as for weddings and baptismal banner making. Except for the Liturgy Committee that meets once a week, these committees meet on an as needed basis.

Our clergy and staff and the members of the various committees and guilds composing the Worship and Liturgy Commission labor faithfully week in and week out to lead us in rich, meaningful, inspiring worship. Our focus this year has been in inviting parishioners, both newcomers and veteran Emmanuelites, to participate actively in our liturgical ministries. These ministries have grown in size and talent, and the spiritual lives of so many parishioners and visitors have benefited.

Curt Collier and Matt Humphrey, Vestry Commission Co-Chairs

ACOLYTE MINISTRY

As of fall 2009 we have a robust group of around 28 young people and six adults offering themselves in service to God through the ministry of acolyting in worship. The youth acolytes serve on teams of 5-6 every Sunday at the 10:30 a.m. liturgy, while the adult acolytes serve alone, in a week-by-week rotation, at the 8:30 a.m. liturgy. Both groups also participated this year in special services, e.g. during Holy Week, at Christmas, and for offerings of Choral Evensong.

Each Sunday the youth acolyte team is led by a captain, usually a high school upperclassman, who serves as both crucifer and altar server. Boys and girls as young as 5th grade are welcome and encouraged to join this important ministry. In 2009 we held training sessions for both new and returning acolytes in February and October, including a separate session in October for captains-in-training.

Most notable in 2009 is how faithfully and effectively our youth acolytes have served, with only minimal organizational effort required on Sunday mornings from the supervising clergy, Assoc. Rector Fr. Edwin. All the youth involved are to be commended for providing such a clear – and too easily taken-for-granted – example of dedicated service to God at Emmanuel parish.

BAPTISMAL BANNERS

Over the years, we have made 301 banners. By late October, we have created 26 banners to present to the newly baptized. at Emmanuel. Those who serve on this committee are Betty Cofer, Leslie De Haseth, Mary Hutchinson, Jean Hunnicutt, Patty Jones, Betsy Turner, Beverly Sligh, Gene Weeks, Karen Salamone, JoAnn Yates

JoAnn Yates, Chair

LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS AND READERS

Report not submitted at time of printing

MUSIC

Having served as Emmanuel's organist since January 2008, it was both a privilege and a joy to become Director of Music in January 2009. This full-time opportunity allowed me to move to Athens bringing the commute from Atlanta to a close.

My central goal in 2008 was to improve congregational singing and I am pleased with progress in that area. My primary focus in 2009 was to create a marriage between music and liturgy. I worked toward achieving this end by selecting hymns and choral music that relate to the appointed texts of the day. Selection of music is based, in part, on my personal experiences. I also rely on four publications designed for Episcopal liturgy which list hymns and choral music that draw a parallel between the Collect of the Day and scripture readings from the Lectionary.

The most visible aspect of music at Emmanuel is the choir. At the present time the choir consists of 34 members with 34 "active" members. The Emmanuel Choir is a dedicated group of individuals who give freely of their time to glorify God through music and I look forward to seeing them on Wednesdays and Sundays. I am proud of the fact that the Emmanuel Choir is completely made up of volunteers with no paid singers! The time commitment between Wednesday night rehearsal and Sunday morning amounts to about four hours each week. Therefore, the Emmanuel Choir potentially volunteers 136 collective hours to the parish on a weekly basis! The growth of the choir over the past two years has presented issues with regard to seating and vestments...two wonderful problems to have!

Earlier this year the decision was made to remove the two short pews next to the organ console. Three chairs replaced each pew where only two people could sit previously. By adding chairs and doing some shuffling during the service, it is possible to seat 34 without impeding the flow to the Altar rail. Additional chairs were purchased for the choir room to accommodate the growth of the choir.

It became apparent after the beginning of the year that every vestment we had was assigned to a choir member. This necessitated members sometimes wearing a vestment that did not fit. To address this problem I spoke with a representative from Almy, the company from which our vestments had been purchased. Emmanuel's vestments had been custom made, which takes five

weeks, and the problem still existed about what sizes to buy for "extras". The color and material of the Emmanuel vestments was still available even though our vestments were ten years old. I was advised by the Almy representative that our vestments would have faded over the years and would likely not match new vestments.

We began discussing alternatives and I learned that Almy offered pre-made vestments that were sitting on the shelf ready for immediate shipment. Measurements for these vestments were based simply upon height and chest size. They were also on sale...for every four vestments purchased you got one free. This reduced the cost considerably and made outfitting the entire choir with new vestments fiscally viable. A total of 40 vestments were purchased and many choir members gave money for their own so not to deplete the music budget. The blue vestment now worn by the choir is called a cassock and the white garment is called a surplice. The surplice is our baptismal garment and the choir continues to wear the surplice used with the previous vestments. In recent years blue has become the color most often used during Advent because this color is associated with Mary and her significance as the mother of Jesus.

Expanding Emmanuel's choral library is an ongoing project. New choral music is needed to continue the marriage of music and scripture. In addition to the purchase of new music, additional copies of existing music are needed to accommodate the growth of the choir.

In 2010 we will focus on expanding Emmanuel's music program to include activities for children. With 117 children in the parish, from preschool, three through fifth grade, it is our privilege and duty to teach music and how it relates to our Christian faith. In late 2009 two choir members began incorporating music into the Catechesis program on Sunday mornings. Rachel Veto is working with 3-5 year olds and Melanie Rowell is working with 6-8 year olds. When you see and hear the Emmanuel Choir, regardless of whether or not members are vocal or instrumental soloists, they are often the product of children's choirs. Music in Episcopal parishes of tomorrow depends upon the children of today!

On March 29, 2009 it was my privilege to represent Emmanuel by playing an organ recital at The Cathedral of St. Philip. I was grateful for this opportunity and for the choir members and parishioners who made the journey to Atlanta for the event.

My report for the 2008 Annual Meeting discussed the condition of Emmanuel's pipe organ. Since that time the organ has continued to deteriorate, not at all surprising for an instrument installed in 1975. In addition to the wiring being below Code standard (a fire hazard), the mechanical components of the organ are failing rapidly. An organ project must come to pass in the near future.

The music program at Emmanuel revolves around worship, and that will be evident more than ever on Christmas Eve. The service will begin at 10:30 pm and music has been planned to create a seamless worship experience. In addition to singing by the Emmanuel choir, vocal and instrumental soloists from the parish will be featured throughout the service. I encourage you to join us at 10:30 pm on December 24, 2009 as we celebrate, the Nativity of Our Lord.

Part of the Christmas tradition at Emmanuel is a congregational service of Lessons & Carols. Begun in 1918 at King's College, Cambridge, England, the Lessons & Carols service was revised in 1919 and the Bidding Prayer was added. To mark the 90th anniversary, the choir will sing descants composed by music directors of King's College for the Lessons & Carols service. This Christmas season Emmanuel's Lessons & Carols service will be held at 10:30 am on January 3, 2010.

Music has the capacity to evoke powerful emotions in human beings. It is through the medium of music that we seek to glorify God while ministering to and inspiring those who listen in the pew. I am grateful to the congregation of Emmanuel for allowing me to serve in this capacity.

Sam Polk, Director of Music

USHERS

Report not submitted at time of printing

8:30 Ushers

10:30 Ushers

WEDDINGS

Members of the Wedding Committee are: Patty Curtis, Jean Hunnicutt, Jane Kidd, Ann Joye McLeod, Gene Weeks, JoAnn Yates. We had three weddings this year, one in each of these months May, June, July.

JoAnn Yates, Chair

Pastoral Care

PASTORAL CARE COMMISSION

There are six active Pastoral Care groups at Emmanuel, each ready to welcome new volunteers into a loving and Spirit-filled ministry. The ongoing success of our efforts to comfort, nurture and serve in our congregation truly depend on everyone—please join us!

Anne Brightwell, Vestry Commission Chair

AGAPE MEALS

The Agape Meals committee is a wonderful ministry that comes to the need of a parishioner in crisis. We furnish meals to those who have had a death in the family, an illness or some other interruption in family life. Our 24 members are very generous with their time, cooking energy and prayers in helping ease the stress and worry of planning and cooking meals. You do not have to be a gourmet cook—all that is needed is an open heart to share God's love with those

in need. Please call (706.353.3411) or email me: bevsligh@charter.net, if you would like to join us or know of someone in need of our assistance.

Beverly Sligh, Chair

CHARIOTEERS

The Charioteers program is designed to provide transportation to any member of the congregation needing help with activities such as trips to the doctor, buying groceries and getting to church. These volunteers are willing to assist during a health crisis and are sensitive to the wishes of each person involved.

Bob and Jane Bowen, Hal and Betty Cofer, Leaders

INTERCESSORY PRAYER MINISTRY

The Intercessory Prayer group receives names on a regular basis to be held in prayer. Father Robert and Melissa Fulcher obtain the names—those names remain on the prayer list for three months. When other needs are brought to members' attention, they are also added to our list, without a time limit, usually via email contact. Every effort is made to keep updated about the progress of those for whom prayers are offered, and confidentiality is observed when requested. To join this ministry or to request the intercessions, contact Elaine Carleton at 706-353-8017 or email sbcarleton270@charter.net.

Elaine Carleton

PRAYER SHAWL

Since September 2007 when this ministry began, well over 100 shawls have been given on behalf of Emmanuel by these accomplished knitters. Sixteen knitters, typically 8-10 per monthly meeting, gather in the Parlor, quietly to knit "into the mystery." Please come share your skills with us!

Pat Hall, Leader

STEPHEN MINISTERS

This has been a busy year for the Stephen Ministry Program. All newly trained ministers have care receivers and visits are made at both hospitals during the weekends. Afterwards reports of these visits concerning patients' needs are submitted to both leaders and Father Robert. Monthly continuing education programs for Stephen Ministers are held. Our yearly retreat was held in October at Dev and Gene Weeks' country house whose support is greatly appreciated.

During the retreat we assessed the past years progress and set goals for the upcoming year. This was done through evaluation forms, discussion, and surveys. The Stephen Ministry Team wants to increase the awareness and comfort level of the congregation with our ministry by offering informational programs and literature. We believe this will lead to greater support of this vital ministry within the church and community.

This past year we had nine care receivers at present six people receive care from these active Stephen Ministers. To serve Emmanuel and our community better

we are looking for new trainees for the classes which will begin the first part of next year. Members of Emmanuel who are interested in becoming Stephen Ministers and serving in this vital program are asked to contact Polly Connerat at (706) 769-5601 or Carol Jones at (706) 613-1948.

Polly Connerat and Carol Jones, Co-Leaders

HEALTH MINISTRY

The Health Ministry was initiated in 2008 to integrate Mind-Body-Spirit into Church efforts of wellness advocacy and health support. Our leaders have attended two National Episcopal Health Ministry Conferences, which have provided information and ideas for activities adaptable to individual parishes. An Advisory Board of parishioners and Staff advise and evaluate the HM activities. Nancy Jacobson and Bette McNeely (retired RNs, nurse practitioners) coordinate the HM efforts and enlist members of the congregation and community agencies as appropriate. Volunteers from within the parish have been and will continue to be incorporated into the HM as needs are identified and activities are initiated. Activities include: updates and information and action on H1N1 (use of the Common cup at Eucharist, hand sanitizers available at church events); a Domestic Violence Awareness month (October) observation; and note cards sent by Fran Thomas to parishioners when illness or health related situations occur. The HM provided information at Sunday Vestry Forums and at the Ministry Fair; health issues articles were published in the *Tower*; mats were purchased for the Spiritual yoga sessions offered by Robin Bewley (25 or so participants); regular weekly health-related notices were written for the e-bulletin and Sunday bulletins; a three-session Mind-Body-Spirit Wellness focus was presented at Faith Formation in the spring; Care Notes which spiritually address physical and mental health issues are now available in a rack in the alcove outside the Church office, and a brochure about the Emmanuel Health Ministry is available as well; a health and spiritual support book collection is available in the Parlor for all parishioners. Health Team members offer blood pressure screenings and a time to address individual health concerns and questions at the 1st and 3rd Wednesday night suppers as well as between the services on the 1st Sunday of each month. Health Ministry team members are available to accompany parishioners on doctor's visits to offer advocacy and support with complete confidentiality.

Faith Formation classes on End-of-Life issues are planned for next year and a new Liturgy, "Blue Christmas," will be introduced this December for those who find the holiday season difficult. The Health Ministry also plans to be a part of the Summer Vacation Bible School classes this coming year. Yoga classes will resume in 2010, also.

Bette McNeely and Nancy Jacobson, Co-Chairs



Spiritual Formation

ADULT EDUCATION

Adult Forum

The primary adult formation program continues to be the 9:30am "adult forum." We continue to use in-house presenters and occasional guest speakers. This year, we welcomed representatives from Emory's Youth Theological Initiative, and Jubilee Partners, as well as parenting expert, Dr. Avril Beckford.

In addition to space constraints, there is an increasing need to serve the spiritual lives of a diverse group of parishioners. On-going programs, such as Men of Emmanuel, Monday Bible Study, Companions in Christ, and Natural Spirituality offer some choices for parishioners. However, there seems to be a growing demand for more programs.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

This year witnessed a large increase in number of children in our programs. With nearly 140 children registered, it was necessary to add a second Level One Atrium. During the summer, three catechists were trained for the Level Two program, allowing for the addition of a Level Two Atrium.

The addition of two atria was costly. It is expensive to send catechists for training, and furnishing an atrium requires new tables, chairs, shelving, and materials. Fortunately, most of the start-up expenses are incurred one time. The Christian Connection was also painted and a few items (e.g., wall-mounted TV) were added.

While the description of the work that has been completed may be understated, there is a clear recognition in the parish that we are experiencing growth in the number of parishioners with young children. Certainly, the energy and commitment to faith formation programs has attracted new families to Emmanuel. However, like all churches, the number of families that we can properly serve is limited, by space, by the number of volunteers and by financial resources.

4th & 5th Grade Formation: Club 45

The 4th / 5th grade is the only remaining traditional Sunday school class, this group continues using the Episcopal Children's Curriculum.

The idea behind Club 45 was to provide Emmanuel's 4th and 5th graders with experiences to help bridge the gap between the children's programs and the youth group. The Club meets once a month, and is primarily social in nature.

Club 45ers have been seen around town at sporting events, movies, or enjoying a pizza dinner. The kids loved going rock climbing, and they kicked off the new school year with a sleepover at a lake house. Their enthusiasm for spearheading

a parish-wide service project is resulting in a very successful toy drive to benefit the families of Emmaus House.

The kids of Club 45 enjoy these activities as they keep God in our hearts and friendships close at hand. Lizzie Morrow of (4th grade) summed it up best by saying, "I like learning together, having fun together, and praying together. We make a great group!"

Men's First Tuesday Group

A new ministry for men began in the fall of 2009. The first Tuesday of each month, men from the parish come together for fellowship, to share a meal, and to hear a one-hour program.

LADIES IN FELOWSHIP AT EMMANUEL (LIFE) BOOK CLUB

Report not submitted at time of printing

Sunday Morning Bible Study (Men's Group)

Report not submitted at time of printing

NATURAL SPIRITUALITY

The eighteenth year of dream groups at Emmanuel began with the departure of Joyce Hudson, who originated the Natural Spirituality Program in the fall of 1991. Joyce and her husband retired to a comfortable home by the river in Frankfort, Kentucky, where they have relatives and old friends. Agnes Parker and Heidi Simmonds are the current co-leaders of Natural Spirituality, and Peggy Law of Watkinsville is the new editor of THE ROSE, our free, biannual, newsletter/magazine. This newsletter is mailed to over 2700 subscribers, all over the United States, Canada and abroad. Copies are also available at Emmanuel: in the vestibules, at "540", and in the hall outside the office and parlor.

As usual, during the second weekend in February, we convened our Natural Spirituality Regional Gathering at Mikell Conference Center in Toccoa, GA. More than 120 participants attended, "to learn practical inner work skills and for high level fellowship," as the ad reads. People came from the southeastern states and from farther afield, as did staff among whom are many who are nationally known. There is also a one day conference embedded within the weekend conference. See our information on Emmanuel's web site.

Seventeen men and women attended the annual fall seminar to introduce Natural Spirituality concepts. This year we offered a six-week seminar on Wednesday evenings led by Heidi, Agnes, and Lane Norton.

At least 30 regular members, scattered among three dream group/journey groups, continue year round at "540": Sundays (after the 10:30 service with light lunch), Tuesdays at 10:00 am and Fridays at 1:00 pm. We also tend the Altar of Thanksgiving in the west transept, which is used by adults and children alike.

We welcome any who are drawn to experiencing the divine in everyday life, who are interested in the meaning of their dreams, or who are just curious about the

latter two. Questions? You may contact Heidi Simmonds at heidihsimmonds@gmail.com or Agnes Parker at akbparker@earthlink.net.

Heidi Simmonds and Agnes Parker, Leaders

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Georgia Collier and Jackie Anderson led another successful VBS program in the summer. Approximately 100 children from Emmanuel and the Athens community were served by this week-long ministry.

With over 100 child participants and 60 adult and youth volunteers, Emmanuel's 2009 Vacation Bible School was a beautiful, multi-generational celebration of God's love. Our team of volunteers created a warm, loving, safe and happy environment. We transformed the Church into a low-country bayou setting, complete with murky waters, nets full of fish and our own *Crocodile Dock!* The kids enjoyed music & movement, games, movies, crafts, drama, munchies and fabulous fellowship.

The energy and excitement was contagious! We carried our love of God outside of VBS by contributing gifts of household items and handmade turtles to the people served by Interfaith Hospitality Network.

Plans for VBS 2010 are already underway. Join us for a High Seas Expedition as we *Explore the Mighty Love of God!*

Matthew Hicks, Director of Formation and Marty Kemp, Vestry Commission Chair

YOUTH

The fall of 2009 saw Emmanuel enter its approximately 9th year of employing the Journey to Adulthood curriculum in guiding faith formation for our 6th - 12th graders. The Journey program aims to integrate the physical and cultural experiences of maturation for 11-to-18 year olds with equally powerful experiences of Christian meaning and purpose in the context of Christ's Church and the community to be found there. Our use of Journey to guide our Sunday morning lessons and to structure our overall program (in a 2-year cycle) is supplemented by Sunday afternoon gatherings – at least twice per month – of our Episcopal Youth Community (EYC), when we gather for fellowship, or a service project, or a special worship opportunity, and always – always – a bite to eat. There's nothing like eating together to build community!

The winter and spring of 2009 flew by this year, as there was much going on with our young people. As it was the end of another 2-year Journey cycle, the older two groups spent some time in dreaming and planning, the 11th & 12th grade YAC group for a summer mission trip and the 9th & 10th grade J2A group for their Pilgrimage. Ultimately, on June 23-27, four Emmanuel upperclassmen joined other Episcopal teenagers from all over the Southeast at the Province IV Youth Event in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi, wielding hammers, saws, and paint brushes in the ongoing effort to help the Gulf Coast and New Orleans recover from Hurricanes Katrina & Rita in 2005. Then, July 5-11, five J2Aers and three leaders went on pilgrimage (the intended spiritual highlight of the entire Journey

curriculum) to Sapelo Island, Georgia and St. Augustine, Florida, "going back to God" in nature and in the earliest history of Christians in North America. The latter group presented their trip in photos, songs, and stories during the Adult Forum on Oct. 25, thanking the entire parish community for its support, through prayer and fundraising, in making such a rewarding trip possible.

The highlight of the conclusion of another program year for the youngest grouping of our youth was the Rite 13 ceremony on May 10. In the midst of the regular 10:30 a.m. liturgy, approximately eleven 7th- and 8th-graders and their parents read and prayed their way, with the support of the entire congregation, through a special ceremony marking the transition from childhood to adolescent/teenage years, from the shelter & guidance of parents to the community of mentors and peers, and from the default spiritual practices of family to those that are self-sought and forged in the Journey community. It was a powerful experience for all involved.

In addition to these key moments, Emmanuel youth enjoyed a variety of other community-building activities before the summer break, from the Sr. NYC retreat in January, to the end-of-season cookout at Memorial Park in May; from an Epiphany party complete with white-elephant gift exchange, to an insider's tour of the Athens Zoo; from a movie & discussion centered on the MLK Jr. holiday, to a Q&A session with a microbiologist and astrophysicist about science and faith; from assembling bag lunches for Our Daily Bread's feeding program, to cooking up a mess of pancakes and sausage for the entire parish for Shrove Tuesday supper; and from learning about security with online social networking, to walking a labyrinth to begin Holy Week meditations.

Associate Rector Father Edwin Beckham continued this year to coordinate and supervise youth formation. Our volunteer lay leaders, however, continue to be the key cogs in the wheel of Emmanuel's youth formation effort. We all owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to the following folks for their hard work finishing out 2008-09: Sharon Rockholt & Clara Herrin (6th-grade); Paul Anderson and Kate Plummer (Rite 13); Berkeley Boone (J2A); and Jamaica Miller, Matt Humphrey and Terri Tillman (YAC); and to the following crop of new leaders for stepping up to mentor our kids in 2009-10: Jennie Allison & Linda Dodson (Rite13); Rachel Veto & Darren Gaynor (J2A); Pete Brown (YAC); and Matt Humphrey & Jamaica Miller (EYC activities).

Already this fall there has been much good work and community-building done among our young people. We kicked off the new program year with a rainy-but-still-fun outing to Stone Mtn.; spent an evening in practice then sent six of us to the First Annual Diocese of Atlanta 4-Square Tournament at St. Paul's, Newnan (way-cool uniforms and a trophy are a sure thing next year!); enjoyed a Sunday lunch-n-learn presentation from pediatrician Dr. Avril Beckford; carved Jack-o-lanterns to auction off for Hallowe'en; mowed, weeded, and raked the Pauper's Field at Oconee Hill Cemetery to celebrate All Saints' Day; and sent several of our number to the Jr. NYC weekend retreat at Camp Mikell. We'll crown the season of Advent with some caroling to Emmanuel parishioners and their friends who aren't able to make it out to worship services very often.

Communication between the clergy & staff, the youth leaders, the kids and their

parents is absolutely crucial to keep the kids moving forward on their faith Journey. We continue in 2009 to rely on the "Youth e-News," created with the Constant Contact web application, to keep in touch with leaders, kids, and parents. In addition, we have increased our use of Facebook and even experimented with the mini-blogging application Twitter to multiply the ways folk can stay apprised of youth activities.

On a Sunday in mid-November 2009 a guest speaker (for a youth-leader workshop) arrived at the parish as folks filed into the 10:30 am liturgy. He asked the first adult he saw where he might find the youth room. "I'm not sure," she replied. "I'm not even sure we have one. We really don't have very many youth here at Emmanuel." Every human institution or program has its growing edges. Any attempt to name those for our Emmanuel youth program in 2009 would need to include the usual suspects for church youth programs: the need for more efficient, effective communications; for more consistent attendance & commitment from all involved; for finding more time to simply grow relationships between kids and their leader/mentors; and for forging more useful connections – among the kids and their parents – between what we do at church and the joys and struggles of our everyday lives. Perhaps at Emmanuel, however, in this moment in time, our biggest growing edge might be that of visibility, of simply seeing our young people, noticing their active presence among us such that we think of them not as "So-and-So's kid," or as another group in need of programming, but in baptismal terms. That is, can we strive to see them for who they are, full members of the Body of Christ and thus indispensable members of this parish community, each with a story to tell and Christian pilgrimage to walk, counting on the support and mentorship of all the faithful in this place?

And indeed it is a pleasure to finish this annual update by reporting that the visibility of our young people in December 2009 is already headed for an upswing! First, the parish vestry will soon vote on a by-laws change stipulating that one youth, at least 16 years old, be appointed annually to the Vestry, with full voice and vote (in accordance with Episcopal Church canons and where not prohibited by state law). What a wonderful recognition by our elected leadership of the value of young voices in the councils of the Church! Second, the Mission & Extended Ministries Committee, at its most recent meeting, approved the youth program's requested grant of \$8,600 for completing renovations to the Youth Center. What a wonderful holiday gift to our kids! Soon, with a hard-to-miss sign overhead, plus a host of new furniture, paint, decorations, A/V equipment, and classroom altar settings inside, our youth rooms will be even more welcoming to our kids and nearly impossible for anyone to miss. Keep an eye out for a wintertime open house for the entire parish!

YOUNG ADULTS

Looking back on 2009 it seems entirely appropriate to repeat the beginning of last year's report: "As we continue to see the church nearly full at the 10:30 Holy Eucharist each week, it has become clear that a number of those faces in the pews and those hands we are shaking at the bottom of the narthex steps belong to young people in their 20s and 30s. Whether these folk are partnered or single; confirmed Episcopalians or not; UGA or Piedmont College undergrads,

grad students, young professionals in Athens, parents or not, it's clear they are a significant component – if an atomized one – of this worshipping community. It's also clear that as a group they could stand some attention and encouragement. Research by reputable organizations such as The Barna Group and The Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life tells us that people now in their 20s and 30s are highly skeptical of organized religion, are much less likely than previous generations to identify themselves as 'church members,' and yet still see themselves as believers and as very 'spiritual.' The Episcopal Church, and certainly Emmanuel parish, is well-placed to offer a non-threatening place for folks of this 'emerging' generation to return to or explore Christianity."

Subsequently, since Advent 2008 we have attempted to reach out to young adults of all stripes by holding monthly social gatherings at a local restaurant and – twice now in fall 2009 – weeknight offerings of a simple meal followed by a contemplative setting of Compline (Night Prayer) by candlelight. Advertisements for these events emphasize their openness to all, regardless of status or formal church affiliation, etc. Our hope has been to reach out to all young adults around Athens seeking a deeper relationship with God and with their peers who have similar experiences and questions. Attendance at these gatherings has ranged from six to 14, month-in and month-out, so we are encouraged!

The organizing and communication required for this work has primarily been accomplished by Lay Coordinator Brian Freese, with supervision from Fr. Edwin and musical assistance from Rachel Veto. With those who are participating, and in cooperation with the diocesan Coordinator for Young Adult Ministry, the UGA Episcopal Campus Center, and St. Gregory the Great parish, we continue to dream and brainstorm about what this ministry should look like, continually discerning as a group what other ways – beyond socially – we want to be together, whether in worship, in ministry in the parish, in mission outside the parish, or something else entirely. We invite you to be a part of this 'emerging' ministry!

Extended Ministry

This year has been another exciting and productive one for the Extended Ministries Commission. We continue to implement the priorities for outreach that parishioners identified during the "Outreach Summit" held in 2007: ministering to children, the homeless, and others in need. The MEMC provides both monetary grants and "hands on" opportunities for ministry at local, national, and international levels.

Emmanuel's mission and extended ministries efforts are flourishing, thanks to the dollars pledged and the hours donated by Emmanuelites in response to Christ's call to us to honor our brothers and sisters, whoever and wherever they might be.

Vince Howard and Lisa Yarn, Vestry Commission Co-Chairs

The Missions and Extended Ministries Committee (MEMC), formed in January 2008, coordinates mission and outreach efforts at Emmanuel. The MEMC works in collaboration with the Rector and the Vestry, and reports to them. Committee members review grant applications and make funding recommendations to the Vestry. Final approval for grants, as per Canon, rests with the Vestry.

Terrie Seward, chairperson of the MEMC, and members Mary Moore, Jay Staines, Carol Bowles, Michele Lease, Sandy Jarrett, Bill Hicks, and Chrissy Marlowe have continued to fulfill the following charges from the Parish:

1) To discover, create and lead opportunities for hands on outreach. The MEMC schedules days for volunteers to sort donations at the **food bank**; this is an excellent way for children to participate in outreach. Parishioners help prepare and serve the **Community Thanksgiving Dinner**, which has, for over 10 years, provided Thanksgiving Dinner to hundreds of guests, serving meals at the church and delivering them to the homebound. Last year Emmanuel volunteers built our first **Habitat for Humanity** home for the Leonard family, and the MEMC has been making plans to build another one or two homes in 2010. A calendar on the Extended Ministries webpage makes available opportunities known to the parish.

2) To recommend allocations of outreach dollars to outside agencies / organizations through a formal grant application process. A few of the organizations for which Emmanuel has provided funding include: Ecole St. Etienne in Limonade, Haiti; Athens-Oconee CASA; The Ark; The Healing Place of Athens; Samaritan Counseling Center; Stonehenge Youth Association; Athens Urban Ministries. A complete list of grants appears on the Extended Ministries webpage.

3) To coordinate outreach and mission efforts with various partners in Athens and the wider world which support our outreach priorities. The MEMC has reached out to other local churches to involve them in building a "village" of six to seven Habitat for Humanity homes, beginning in 2010. Under the auspices of Athens Urban Ministries (Our Daily Bread), Emmanuel has a committed team of volunteers that has been purchasing, preparing, and serving meals for many years onsite at the Oconee Street Methodist Church, with additional volunteers helping with meals at Emmanuel Church.

4) To create and fund new outreach programs for the parish. This year the MEMC embraced a new theme for international outreach, contributing to Episcopal Relief and Development to build a well in a developing country.

5) To be careful but generous stewards of our financial resources dedicated to outreach and extended ministries.

Interfaith Hospitality Network: Emmanuel Parish has again had a successful year hosting homeless families with the Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN) of Athens. This year saw our largest support effort to date. We were involved in the hosting process four times at Emmanuel and once with five other congregations at Holy Cross Lutheran.

This ministry continues to provide a "hands on" opportunity for parishioners to touch the lives of families in need in the Athens area. In 2009 we hosted families and in excess of 30 individuals. The need for this ministry continues to grow and Emmanuel has continued to support this effort. Approximately 100 different parishioners were involved in this program during this past year. This support effort has been blessed with approximately 1000 hours of volunteer support during 2009 from Emmanuel Parish. Many new volunteers from the Parish have become involved this year yet we still welcome and need your involvement to ensure the ongoing success of this ministry.

There are too many "helping hands" to thank each one individually, but I must acknowledge the seemingly tireless support from our volunteer coordinators. They are: Matt Humphrey, Robin Bewley, Claire Gaus, Sharon Rockholt, Lee Gaby, Wren Howard and Cecelia Dry. I would also like to thank the support received from the Emmanuel Parish Staff and the Missions and Extended Ministry Committee. Without this support and coordination effort during 2009 this ministry of outreach could not have been successful accomplished.

A major improvement this year has been the use of the Youth Center located next to the Emmanuel Thrift House, as a new hosting site. This location has eliminated the need for physically challenged IHN guests to climb stairs to get to the previously used Christian Connection. Thanks to all the youth and their leaders for making this location possible to use.

We will need your continued volunteer support as we enter the 6th year of this ministry to host homeless families at our church. We look forward to continued involvement with the IHN program of Athens in 2010. Future hosting dates in the year ahead are: *Feb. 21-28, May 16-23, Aug. 8-15 & Oct. 31-Nov. 7.* May God continue to bless this Ministry.

The Emmanuel Thrift House both honors referrals from local charities to provide clothing to people who have emergencies or are homeless, and sells merchandise to the general public. The Thrift House is staffed completely by volunteers. Each year they donate approximately \$25-30,000 to local non-profit organizations, Ecole St. Etienne in Limonade, Haiti, and Emmanuel projects. A list of Thrift House grants, approved by the Vestry, is available on the Extended Ministries webpage.

Priscilla Golley, Chair

Emmanuel Day School

Since our opening in 1982, we have touched the lives of thousands of children and families in Athens. We have grown from two classes to eight classes bustling with preschool activity. With our low child teacher ratio we are able to truly nurture and stimulate each child to develop socially, emotionally, intellectually, physically and spiritually. On Fridays our music teacher provides music education as well as beginning Spanish.

Director, Amy Wraga, has assembled an outstanding, highly qualified and loving staff. Many of our teachers hold a Masters in Education and we have two with Doctorates. We follow the Creative Curriculum and take continuing education classes at conferences each year.

Our parents participate in the school through PTO projects and as members on the Advisory Board. We have had a wonderful response to our family night celebrations. The church staff supports our programs so that we can continue this ministry of teaching children in an Episcopal setting.

Thanks to all who contribute to this ministry for God's precious children. We are grateful to be entering our 27th year of providing excellence in early childhood education.

Amy Wraga, Director and Amy Gaynor, Advisory Board Chair



Parish Life

The Parish Life Commission encompasses committees and activities related to the life of the Parish including groups with fellowship and service roles. We invite all those who are interested in promoting activities to involve parishioners in the life of the Parish to participate in any of the committees. Brief descriptions of the functions and activities of each group follow, along with the coordinator.

Dee Forester and Erwin Greene, Vestry Commission Co-Chairs

FAITHFUL SERVANT AWARD

This year, a committee appointed by Father Robert chose a parishioner to be honored with the first Faithful Servant Award. The recipient was Eileen Sisley. This will be an award given each year to an individual(s) in the Parish who has been a Faithful Servant to Emmanuel Episcopal Church.

BROTHERHOOD OF ST. ANDREW

The Brotherhood of St. Andrew was faithful during the past year in meeting each month and promoting the disciplines of prayer, study and service. These three disciplines are the basis for a rule of life - "for prayer, it is to pray daily for the spread of Christ's kingdom, especially among men and youth, and for God's blessings upon the labors of the Brotherhood; for Study, it is to study the Holy Scriptures regularly and the teachings of the Church, to attain a better understanding of how to follow Christ and bring others into his kingdom; and for Service, it is to make continuous efforts, week by week, to bring others nearer to Christ through his Church.

About 12 Emmanuel men were regular participants throughout the past year. A thoughtful review of the national organization objectives and local needs resulted in several extended discussions last winter-spring. Opportunities for revitalization and increasing participation were evaluated. Over the summer, the fellowship was expanded to include breakfast meetings in local restaurants. Brothers prepared sack lunches on two occasions for Our Daily Bread. Andy Simmonds served as Secretary/Treasurer, John Albright as Vice Director and Lee Gaby as Director.

The Brotherhood of St. Andrew is an international ministry to Christian men and boys. It was incorporated by an Act of the U. S. Congress, signed by President Theodore Roosevelt, on May 30, 1908. That Act states in part, "...the sole object of said corporation shall be the spread of Christ's Kingdom among men."

HOLY COOKERS

The "Holy Cookers" meet each Wednesday during the school year to prepare an evening meal. There are eight teams of cooks who share their cooking skills and great food with the Parish.

A huge thank you to Betty Cofer who has coordinated the "Holy Cookers" for years and has been such a presence in the running of the Emmanuel kitchen. A new freezer and cloth table clothes were purchased this year with "Holy Cooker" monies. If you enjoy cooking, fellowship and new friends please consider joining one of these teams.

OFFICE VOLUNTEERS

Led by our extraordinary parish administrator Melissa Fulcher, these volunteers helped enormously by answering the telephone at the Church and by performing office tasks. Our volunteers extended a personal touch for visitors and callers. We thank everyone who has taken the time to commit to this ministry and hope others will do so. For further information call Melissa at the parish office.

Coordinator: Melissa Fulcher

FOYER GROUPS

Report not submitted at time of printing

RECEPTION COMMITTEE

The Reception Committee comes together to celebrate the special events and people of Emmanuel Parish. This year the committee hosted a pot luck lunch for the Leonard family for whom we built a Habitat house, a youth luncheon, the Rite 13 luncheon, the Parish picnic, a reception for Bishop Whitmore, a Christian Education Appreciation luncheon and the Annual Meeting Brunch. The committee also provides light refreshments for family and friends following a funeral. Many hearts and hands come together to make these celebrations special. The committee thanks the Flower Guild for providing these celebrations with beautiful floral arrangements.

Coordinators: Erwin Greene and Dee Forester

SUPER'LITES

Report not submitted at time of printing

SUNDAY REFRESHMENTS

Members of this committee prepare the refreshments served before and/or after Sunday Worship Services by providing coffee and donuts during the school calendar year and lemonade and cookies on the terrace in the summer. A big thank you to Beverly Sligh who coordinated the summer lemonade volunteers. We need volunteers to support this ministry which so many in the Parish enjoy. Please sign up to help.

Coordinators: Erwin Greene and Dee Forester

WELCOME! COMMITTEE

The Welcome Committee strives to make our church more welcoming for everyone, but especially for our newcomers and visitors. This year various members and groups of committees have been serving as greeters on a rotating basis. The committee would like to invite all interested persons to serve as greeters at the 8:30 and 10:30 services. These can be friends, families or individuals who would like to greet. If you would like to participate, please email emmanuelgreeters@gmail.com or call Ann Joye McLeod (706-543-2320) and sign up for a couple of Sundays you would be available.

DUDE, WHAT'S FOR DINNER

Report not submitted at time of printing

Communication

The Communications commission is made up of some very talented and giving individuals. Committee members include; Keith Cowne & Phillip Cofer (Co-Chairs); Bob Wood, Blue Wood, Lee Albright, Carol Bowles, Clairelis Baxter, Donny Dicer, Erwin Greene, Mark Dodson, Horace Newcomb, Lee Gaby, Father Edwin, Melissa. Our goal is to assist the 41 different committees to spread the word regarding various church activities. As you can see from the chart below we attempt to reach out to the parish through different avenues in an effort to communicate with everyone. We strive to keep the parish up to date on the work of the Vestry through the "Vestry at Your Service". Some of our accomplishments for 2009 are the Parish Directory, use of social media, a parish wide online calendar and a new logo. Thanks to each of the committee members for their hard work and dedication!

Phillip Cofer, Vestry Commission Co-Chair

What	Who
Tower	Blue Wood
Web Site	Bob Wood
Sunday Bulletin	Melissa & Robert
Sunday Announcements at the Peace	Father Robert & Edwin
e-Letter	Melissa
Bulletin Boards	Each ministry has it's own
Annual Parish Report	Each Ministry Chair contributes
Newcomers Packet	Erwin Greene, Beverly Sligh
Youth e-News	Father Edwin
Advertizing	Horace Newcomb Lee Gaby Donny Dicer
Parish Calendar	Bob Wood
Parish Directory	Mark Dodson, Carol Bowles
Vestry at Your service	Phillip
Facebook & Twitter	Father Edwin

TOWER

The December 2009 issue of *The Tower* concludes the 42nd volume of Emmanuel's monthly news publication and continues the tradition of collaboration between parishioners, clergy, and staff to connect members of the community through news of ministries, vestry, individuals, special events, and regular features: Father Robert's column, columns from the Director of Music,

Director of Formation, and the Senior Warden, monthly calendar, usher and greeter schedules, birthdays, a listing of staff with email addresses, Vestry and their links with particular ministries, and Transitions (newcomers, baptisms, deaths). The creation of the *Emmanuel E-letter* and special e-announcements have enabled *The Tower* to include more extended articles about the parish and the wider church—Diocese of Atlanta, Episcopal Church, Anglican Communion—as well as an index to articles in most issues.

This year a third annual Special Edition on vestry nominations and elections was published in early November. Issues since 2007 have been enhanced by Clairelis Baxter's regular feature "Spotlight on Volunteers"—including this year the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, Mission and Extended Ministries Committee, Sunday School teachers and shepherds, Melissa and Karen, Journey to Adulthood Leaders, Worship and Liturgy, Stewardship, Our Daily Bread, and Super'Lites. Special thanks go to Clairelis and to the timely contributors from the Thrift House, Welcome Committee, MEMC, Stewardship, Health Ministry, Super'Lites, Day School, Club 45, Young Adults, news of children and youth (including articles by the youth themselves), and other ministries. Finally, without the monumental contribution of Melissa Fulcher—printer, addresser, and mailer—none of the more than 500 copies of *The Tower* would reach us every month.

Blue Wood, Editor

WEB SITE

Emmanuel's website evolves to keep up with the growth of the parish. There are roughly two thousand four hundred pages and pictures that let visitors know what's happening at Emmanuel. Over the past seven months, we have averaged about four thousand visitors per month. Most of those visitors did not linger long on the site, and did not go beyond the homepage. The visitors who did stay linked to pages deeper in the site. The most popular pages were the Day School, News, About Emmanuel, Worship, and the Archives. Each of these pages were accessed more than one hundred times per month.

One can argue about the numbers and what they mean, but it is clear that visitors, parishioners, and potential parishioners visit the site to see what's going on. That is a good thing. You can help keep the site up to date and accurate. Are you a ministry leader? Do you have a news story to post? Did you take some pictures of a parish event? Send corrections and updates to the webmaster (rwood38@earthlink.net)! Remember the address: www.emmanuelathens.org

Finance

Emmanuel Episcopal Church continues to grow its membership and programs. It is a thriving church community. These wonderful opportunities provide some financial challenges and the Finance Committee works to provide guidance and assistance to the Vestry on fiscal matters.

The Finance Committee is chaired by Vestry member, Nancy McDuff and includes several members of the Vestry, interested and informed church members and is supported by the attendance by Father Robert and Director of Finance for Emmanuel, Karen Holland.

The key focus of this group is to help establish the upcoming operating budget and monitor the monthly expenditures of funds and the receipt of income; specifically that from pledges and contributions and to respond to issues raised by the Vestry or the Emmanuel staff. The regular review provides information for the committee to assist in recommending any adjustments to the established budget to the Vestry and to make recommendations for future budgets. A goal of the committee is to project financially where the church will be at year end.

Highlights of the year include reviews of the auditor's 2008 Report on the Church, the Day School and the Thrift House. The auditor has made several suggestions for improved internal controls of these entities which have been implemented. Developing a consolidated look at all resources and assets of Emmanuel is an ongoing goal for the committee as well as training from the auditor on valuation of assets.

In 2008, the Vestry adopted a budget with a planned deficit of \$38,272 in order to accommodate the growing needs of the parish. As 2008 ended, the deficit was actually replaced with a surplus of \$38,792.

The vestry adopted a budget for 2009 in February with the following attributes:

Total expected revenue:	\$1,076,108
Total budgeted expenditures:	\$1,138,275
Approved year end deficit:	\$(62,166)

The budget represents an increase in the expected revenue of 21% and in budgeted expenditures of 23% with a planned deficit of \$62,166.

This deficit is to be covered from previous year's accumulated surpluses and the Finance Committee recommended that this be a one-time projected deficit with hopes to reduce it by year end. While expenses have grown so has the size of the congregation. **The need for program and services has grown but the increases in pledges and contributions have not correspondingly grown.** As we approach the end of 2009, our expenditures have been less than expected and although we did recover much of the deficit from our Evening of Chance and raffle, to date income from pledges has not met expectations.

The Finance Committee has developed a preliminary budget for 2010 which assumes increases in pledges and contributions to meet these needs of a growing congregation. The final budget for the year will be approved after the first of the year with a goal of it being a balanced budget.

Total expected revenue:	\$1,151,691
Total budgeted expenditures:	\$1,176,808
Approved year end:	\$(25,117)

Let me add my thanks and appreciation for the hard work of the committee: Bob Wood, Butch Bush, Bill Connerat, Cindy McAlister, Johnny Terrell, Betty Varnadore, Naomi Norman, Karen Holland and Father Robert. Our meetings are typically held at 6:00 p.m. in the parlor on the Thursday preceding the monthly Vestry meeting. Interested members of the congregation are welcome to join us.

Nancy G. McDuff, Vestry Commission Chair

Stewardship

Our life as a church based on God's teachings continues to change each year. With that change, we have seen growth in numbers and growth in understanding of those teachings. Our individual experiences and growth provides many avenues to enrich each other's lives. This enrichment depends on our willingness to share our stories with each other. That is why the Stewardship Committee has focused so much attention on the individual stories of all of you who comprise this wonderful church.

As you have learned from those who have stepped forward and spoken from the wealth of their experience, stewardship is a multifaceted component of life; it reaches far beyond the fall pledge campaign. As important as our pledges are to the health of our parish, stewardship is an important thread of the fabric which supports our collective life here at Emmanuel. As we have begun to address environmental stewardship, Vince Howard has taken a lead role in the Creation Keepers program for Emmanuel. Father Robert has taught us of the need to be intentional in our lives as followers of Christ. Mary Moore and I have begun a conversation with the youth and the role of stewardship in their lives. Several members of the vestry have shared their stories in the *Tower*. Robin Bewley and Paul Anderson both shared their thoughts and reflections during homilies this fall. The Vestry continues to work diligently to be good stewards of our resources as we look to the future. Stewardship truly is "everything we do after we say we believe."

As we move into the next year, we must keep the conversation going. Each of us has much to offer. Our primary goal...to be good caretakers of all that God has given us.

Peace.

Joe Clements, Stewardship Chairperson

Resources

FACILITIES

During 2009 the major concentration we have had on facilities has been to complete roofing repairs to the church proper and the office area. We began efforts on this in prior years by obtaining a roofing report from a moisture consultant and determining what items were critical and had to be addressed. Through this process and in obtaining accounts from previous parishioners, Junior Wardens, and Facilities members we determined that to repair the church and some of the problems that has plagued the roof since its inception we would have to locate extremely skilled craftsmen who were the tops in their fields. Once this was determined we began our search for firms with those traits.

During the course of interviewing roofing firms we located two craftsmen whose firms had the requisite knowledge, experience, and reference logs to do the job. We selected the firm that came out on the top of that list for the slate job (Zircon Roofing) and an equally good firm for the flat roof job (Kenner and Son) who has given us good service in the past and has very good credentials as well.

The slate we have on the roof is called Buckingham. It is from Virginia and is of the highest quality. It should last in situ for several hundred years and has about 100 on it now. We have reused all unbroken slates during the course of this work and used similar colored used slates for replacement so the job is about as "green" a job as can be obtained.

We used copper throughout the roof. The life span for this copper is rated to over 100 years. The installers also did the copper work for the capitol dome in Atlanta, they are some of the best copper guys available in the United States, and certainly the best in the south. Several things we have done differently that have given me confidence that this job will last for a very long time is the fact that we used high grade copper through the job. There are no dissimilar metals and the galvanic action that results from this relationship. In addition, the roof was counter flashed at all edges. This should have been done using lead or copper under the capstones when built and was not done therefore resulting in the leaks over the last 100 years. Finally, every aspect of this work has been done to a European craftsman level in workmanship and materials and we have not had that expertise available to us until most recently.

So, we should expect the slate roof to have some minor maintenance (replace a slate here and there) over the next 60-100 years, but should not have any real issues unless we have some major calamity. The joints at the capstones will need to be inspected every 10 years and possibly be reworked on a 15 to 20 year basis as the life of the grout used is variable and definitely not as long lasting as copper or slate. However, this should be a very inexpensive item.

The flat roof above the office is warranted for full repair cost and materials for 20 years, so again, we should be set for quite a while.

The only two things I request that we budget for the roof related to next year is to purchase screens from Zircon to keep the leaves out of the gutters.

Future Items for Facilities:

Exterior painting: This is very important and should be accomplished as soon as funds are available.

Refurbishing stained glass windows: There are two windows that should be removed and refurbished over the next two years. In addition, there are a couple of panels that should be refurbished. Once this work is completed we should use safety glass coverings to protect the windows.

Pews: We are quickly reaching a critical point on the interior of the church. In addition to the windows, the pews must be rebuilt and refurbished; The flooring needs to be refurbished or replaced as necessary; the ceiling needs to be cleaned thoroughly and stained and sealed; the woodwork needs repainting or stripping and sealing as appropriate; and most certainly the walls must be plastered in areas, sealed, and painted; the wainscoting on both walls has struggled from moisture related issues over the years and is due for replacement. So, while we have made a tremendous amount of progress over the last year, there still remains a job to do for future facilities people and Junior Wardens.

Thank you all for the opportunity to serve and to work with some real top notch folks on the vestry. It has been an honor to be found useful and productive and to be able to put those abilities to work for you the church. Thank you and God Bless!

John Becker, Vestry Commission Chair

Endowment Fund

Emmanuel Episcopal Endowment

Current Trustees:

Mike Fitzgerald, Chairman
Norman Wood, Vice-Chairman
Gene Weeks
Nancy McDuff
Jud Doherty, Secretary/Treasurer
Chris Lloyd
Father Robert Salamone, *ex officio*

CPA: Lon Rice

All monthly and quarterly statements are copied to Karen Holland at Emmanuel. She also processes the quarterly distributions.

The Investment Management Team from State Street Global Advisors (SSgA):

SSgA was hired by the Emmanuel Board of Trustees officially on October 31, 2007. They provide discretionary management services for the four separate Foundation accounts. The accounts are combined for economies of scale and SSgA furnishes sub-account reporting annually. The phoncon quarterly performance reviews are attended by the Emmanuel Trustees, Ken Quigley of the Episcopal Church Foundation (ECF), David Ely, Portfolio Manager SSgA, and George Minyayluk, account representative and administrator SSgA.

Review of the 2009 Performance Reports:

Much of the work the board conducted in 2009 was an extension of the due diligence performed in 2008. The continuation of the stock and bond market turmoil and the impact on the Foundation assets to historic proportions required that we adjust our thinking on how to manage risk. We consulted with the SSgA money managers regarding their Capital Market Assumptions (CMAs) and their opinions as it related to the Emmanuel Portfolio. Their assumptions of forward market performance definitely had a positive tone and they encouraged us to stay the course. Throughout the conference calls with SSgA money managers we solicited information on how other Foundations were dealing with the financial crisis. We found that the vast majority of Foundation relationships with SSgA had taken no action regarding the Asset Allocation of managed funds.

Nevertheless, in consideration of the erosion of the investment accounts, the board made the decision to lower the payout percentage from 5% to 4%. This meant that the distributions for 2009 [based on a slightly reduced payout percentage and a lower Annual Distribution Calculation (the ADC is based on the past three year end values of all accounts averaged and multiplied by the payout

percentage policy, 4%)] would total \$291,012 versus the \$394,516 for 2008. The MEMs committee and other vestry committees were aware of our decision prior to implementation. This \$291,012 provided funds for operations as well as outreach in the name of Emmanuel.

The trustees held special called meetings (3/18/09 & 5/5/09) to discuss the market and we took deliberate tactical measures as a result. During the months of April and May, we decided that due to the significant market rally from March 9 lows; an opportunity existed to lower the risk tolerance on the account. During a scheduled account rebalance (May 11), we instructed SSgA to adjust our Strategic Allocation FROM 70% stocks - 30% Fixed-Income TO 65% Stocks - 35% Fixed-Income. We also authorized SSgA to make a distribution of the balance of the yearly stipend in full, which occurred on May 27 (\$145,506 to complete the total 2009 distribution of \$291,012).

Through September 30, both bonds and stocks rallied and the trust accounts appreciated significantly. As of September 30th, the Foundation account had 2009 net profit of \$799,114.48, with an ending balance of \$6,119,607.64 (net return of 14.4% year to date). All four sub-accounts performed within an acceptable range of their respective benchmarks. The final accounting for 2009 will be posted to the website in January.

We do not profess to be market timers but we are willing to make adjustments in our investment posture to emphasize protection of principal. We have faith in the Conservative Growth Investment Philosophy that we have adopted and believe that it is the very best strategy to meet the objectives of the Emmanuel Foundation, both for today and into the future. We will stay diligent. Thank you for your trust.

Mike Fitzgerald for the Emmanuel Foundation Board of Trustees