



# THE TRUMPET

## EMMANUEL CHURCH, BEL AIR

### 8 FEBRUARY 2023



#### SCRIPTURE LESSONS FOR UPCOMING SUNDAYS

Can be found at the Satucket Lectionary [www.satucket.com/lectionary/](http://www.satucket.com/lectionary/)  
or at the Lectionary Page [www.lectionarypage.net](http://www.lectionarypage.net)

#### ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING 19 FEBRUARY 2023

Once a year, congregations in the Episcopal Church gather as a whole to do a little bit of business. Reports from ministries and church leadership are reviewed, financial reports from the previous year are made available, and the budget for the coming year is introduced. Occasionally we update our by-laws to reflect current church practice.

We will meet at 9:00ish on Sunday, 19 February 2023. Breakfast will be served that morning, so we may wait a bit to start until everyone has a plate and a seat. We will offer worship at 8:00 AM before and 10:15 AM after the meeting. There will be no Noon service, to encourage regular attenders at that time to join us for the meeting.

**This year we have five Vestry slots to fill.** Life in a congregation is fluid and folks come and go with some regularity. One will complete a one-year term, one will complete two years of a term, and three will be selected for regular three-year terms. We changed our selection procedure several years ago from voting for members (which felt a little too “zero sum” for the Church) to placing nominee names in a hat and drawing them – in much the same way as the Apostle Matthias was selected by drawing lots.

The qualifications required to be a member of the Vestry are specified in the Prayerbook: We look for people who “Work, Pray, and Give” in the furtherance of God’s Kingdom. We meet the Third Mondays of most months, and there are occasionally tasks that we ask members to participate in. A Description of Vestry Responsibilities is available and will be sent out separately.

Please consider whether you might be called to this important ministry, and let Sandy Cormack or Mark Gatza+ know if you’d like to help.

#### PRAYER FOR THE BISHOP SEARCH PROCESS

The slate of Candidates for the 15<sup>th</sup> Bishop of Maryland have been announced, and their short biographies are available at [episcopalmaryland.org](http://episcopalmaryland.org). The candidates will be in Maryland the week of 6 March 2023 to meet and engage with members of our Diocese, and most of these sessions will be available live streamed or as videos on the Diocesan website. David Parker and the Rector will vote in the electing convention, but both would love your input. Please take some time to review the candidates’ qualifications and personal statements and please continue to pray for this important transition in our Diocese.

***Almighty God, giver of every good gift, look graciously upon your church and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a bishop coadjutor for this diocese, and those who offer themselves as candidates, that we may receive a faithful pastor who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

## Sunday School Schedule Change

Coming out of the Pandemic, Emmanuel's Sunday School took a chance on a different schedule, moving classes to 9:00 AM. The hope was that children would have the opportunity for a full class and a full experience of Sunday worship. The attendance numbers for the past five months suggest that this schedule is not working as well as hoped.

On Sunday, 26 February 2023 – the First Sunday in Lent – **Sunday School will move to 10:00 AM.** Sunday school students will have about an hour for class and then join their families for Holy Communion. Parents (or grandparents or other family members) are encouraged to grab a quick cup of coffee and to share a little fellowship before worship begins.



## FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- Save the Date: A classic **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper** is slated for Tuesday, 21 February, from 5:30 to 7:00 PM. Get your fill of carbs before Lent starts the next day! Please call or email us if you plan to attend so we can prepare enough batter!
- Emmanuel has sponsored a number of Winter/Spring events in the past, including **Lenten Lunches**, **an Anglo-Irish Supper** around St. Patrick's Day, **a Thrift Shop Fashion Show** in April, and congregational picnics. If you are interested in helping us plan one of these, let the office know and we will connect you with the right folks.

## Lent 2023

The Ash Wednesday service in **The Book of Common Prayer** calls us to *"to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word."*

Here are the opportunities Emmanuel Church is offering to assist you along your journey to Easter.

- **Ash Wednesday:** Services at 7:00 AM, Noon, and 7:00 PM.
- **The Rector's Lenten Study:** "Why Episcopalians do what We Do," offered at 11:00 AM on Tuesdays and repeated at 11:00 AM on Saturdays. (No class on 7 or 11 March)
- **Lentmadness.org** – learn about the great saints of history and vote for your favorites in this long-running international program.
- **Bible studies** continue at 5:30 PM on Tuesdays and 9:30 AM on Fridays.
- **Compline** returns to our Facebook page and our YouTube Channel, dropping at about 8:00 AM each evening.

## Emmanuel Church Staff

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**The Rev'd Canon Dr. Mark Gatza,**  
Rector

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**The Rev'd Bill Smith,** Associate  
**Brent A. Pertusio,** Organist-Choirmaster  
**Heather Costantino,** Christian

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**Mary Miller,** Sexton

Church Phone

**410 838-7699**

Church Cell Phone for

Pastoral Emergencies

**443 752-0573**

[www.emmanuelbelair.org](http://www.emmanuelbelair.org)

### Services:

Sundays — 8 AM, 10:15 AM, Noon  
Fellowship & Sunday School 9 AM