

# THE MOSAIC

Published monthly by  
**EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH**

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## Holy Week

### Maundy Thursday

March 29

Join us for a common meal at 5:30 p.m. in which we will remember the occasions of table fellowship and Jesus's last supper with his disciples. Stay for worship at 6:30 in celebration of God's wondrous, foolish love which Jesus demonstrated by obedience, even to death, even to death on a cross.

### CACC Good Friday Noon Worship

at St. Francis of Assisi Church, Delaware Ave., Albany

### Easter Celebration:

- 6:30 am FOCUS Sunrise Service  
The Rev. Lynn Carman Bodden, preaching  
(steps of west Capitol Park)
- 7 am Breakfast at Emmanuel
- 10 am Worship with communion
- 11 am Reception



Dear Marjory Stoneman Douglas Students,

Your country is watching you, and we could not be more proud. You are inspiring grandparents in farm communities, and Moms and Dads in the cities, and your peers in suburbs and small towns and downtowns. You are not hiding your outrage. Good for you! We should all be outraged at the kinds of violence and fear that you and so many students of your generation have had to deal with. You are not hiding your grief. Good for you! We are proud of your authenticity. Expressing that you are sad, or mad, or frightened, or heartbroken is one step towards healing. Healing can require bravery, but we know about the courage that has already been called out of you. We know you will make it. You are not hiding your love for each other, for your families, for the students who will come after you. Good for you! Love is the most powerful force in the world.



I am sorry beyond words that you had to endure this horrific trauma. The adults in America, who should have known better, who should have protected you, completely let you down. I let you down. I am sorry. The shooting at your school happened on Ash Wednesday. That is a day in my Christian tradition in which we remind ourselves of things in our lives that need to change. We talk about repentance, which is a church word for turning in another direction. Some things that need to change and take another direction in our country are our fascination with guns and our reliance on violence to solve our problems. I will never think of repentance or Ash Wednesday again without thinking of you.

One of the developmental tasks of people your age is figuring out who you are and what you want to do in life. This terrible thing that has happened to you may help you to see who you really are more clearly and sooner than you might have otherwise. I hate that you have been forced to grow up by this trauma, but I am confident that you are young people with promise and passion who will change your part of the world for the better. This might be your only moment on a national or international stage. That is OK. You will influence those who know you, and trust me, that will be enough.

I am a pastor. Part of my job is to speak hope into hard situations. I try to do that with authenticity and integrity. I try to mean what I say. Sometimes it is hard. It is not your job to give me hope, but you have and you are. See what I mean – you are already changing the world.

The times ahead are going to be hard. Hang in there. Be who you are. Do what you need to do to heal and be whole. Go with love over hate, peace over violence, every chance you get. We are so incredibly proud of you.

With grace and fury,

Kathy Donley

P.S. Ask your music teachers to teach you the South African freedom song “We Shall Not Give Up the Fight” if you don’t already know it.

# Join us for...

## Make-Your-Own Retreat Friday, March 2 3:00-7:00 p.m.



You are invited to pause, to consider your own spiritual journey, the state of your well-being, body, mind and spirit. Walk a canvas labyrinth. Write a prayer of praise or confession in the sand. Pray for the well-being of this planet which God loves so foolishly. These and other interactive meditation stations will be available in the sanctuary on March 2. Ideas and instructions will be provided. You are encouraged to use

the materials as you see fit, to meet your own needs. Spend a few minutes, or an hour, or two. Come and go on your own schedule.

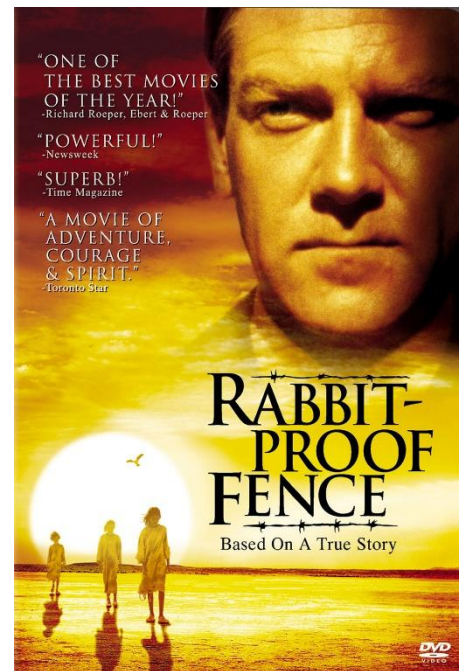
## LENTEN MOVIE NIGHT #2

*“RABBIT-PROOF FENCE”*

Friday, March 23

6:00 p.m.

Tells the true story of three aboriginal girls who are forcibly taken from their families in 1931 to be trained as domestic servants as part of an official Australian government policy. They make a daring escape and embark on an epic 1,500 mile journey to get back home, following the rabbit-proof fence that bisects the Australian continent, with the authorities in hot pursuit. Rated PG for emotional thematic material. Appropriate for ages 11-12 and up. Please come and bring a friend. Pizza and popcorn will be available. Please sign up to let us know how much pizza to order.



*Daylight Saving  
Time Begins March 11  
Spring Forward!*



**Commission Meetings:  
March 11 after worship**



## Selected Shorts for Lent

We like to read books and talk about them. They are usually books about serious topics like prayer or social justice. This year, in keeping with the foolish spirit of our season, we offer something a little different. Three conversations on three Tuesday evenings at 7:00 p.m.

### March 6 at the home of Tony and Marilyn Malone

A trio of short stories about fools and love by Isaac Bashevis Singer  
*Gimpel the Fool, Ole and Trufa, Reuben and Zlateh the Goat*



### March 13 at the home of Jim Wilkerson and Kathy Donley

*Letter from Birmingham Jail* by the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr  
*The Church Of The Washing Of The Feet*, by Alan Paton

A short-story from the South African author of *Cry, The Beloved Country*

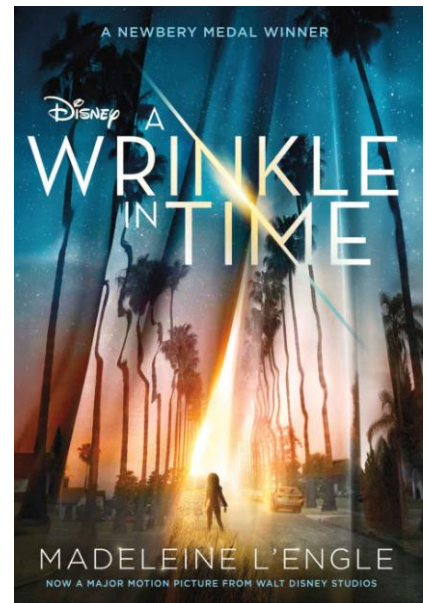
The selections for March 6 and 13 may be accessed on-line. The URL's for those selections are available upon request from Kathy Donley or Dorothy. Print-outs of those selections will be available on Sundays. Just ask a Lent committee member to make copies for you. Lent committee members are: Andrea Carver, Karen Green, Nancy Horan, Edith Leet, Tony Malone, Kathy Moore, and Jim Wilkerson.

### March 20 at the home of Jim Wilkerson and Kathy Donley

*A Wrinkle in Time* by Madeline L'Engle

The selection for March 20 is a book which we encourage you to find at a used bookstore or your local library. *A Wrinkle in Time* won the Newberry Medal in 1963. It is a science-fiction fantasy book, originally intended for a young adult audience. It deals with themes of good verse evil and conformity and the status quo.

L'Engle was one of the first authors to focus on difficult issues faced by young people, like death, social conformity and truth. This book was selected before the Ash Wednesday tragedy at Stoneman Douglas High School, but seems even more timely now. Readers of all ages, and particularly those under 18, are encouraged to join this conversation. An anonymous donor has provided money to purchase some copies. If you need a book, please speak with Pastor Kathy right away.



We are retiring the church's old paper cutter.  
Do you have use for it? If so, please let Dorothy know.

## Happy Birthday... March



Betty Jordan  
Sally Cole  
Jonathan Malone  
Lucy Wong  
Olivia LaBarge

1<sup>st</sup>  
2<sup>nd</sup>  
10<sup>th</sup>  
22<sup>nd</sup>  
30<sup>th</sup>

## *From Service to Others...*

### **America for Christ Offering to be Received**

For American Baptist Home Mission Societies (ABHMS), equipping disciples entails supporting and enabling highly motivated Christian disciple-makers who are delivering the Good News of Jesus Christ and producing life-saving and life-giving change in individuals and congregations across the United States and Puerto Rico.

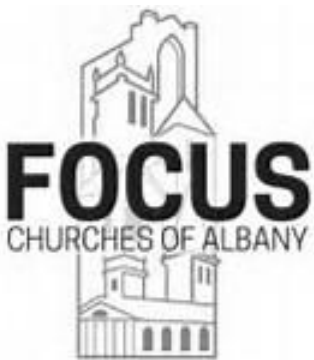


The theme for the America for Christ Offering is “Equipping Disciples”, informed by this biblical text: *“The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.”* (Ephesians 4:11-13, NRSV)

As you contribute to AFC, you enable ABHMS to provide high-quality Christian resources and encouragement to our network of disciple-makers, thereby improving their effectiveness in equipping other Christians. Our Equipping Disciples team facilitates virtual communities and networks of American Baptists engaged in discipleship for mutual support and enrichment.

Additional resources offered by the team support church transformation, evangelism, Workshops for Church Life and Leadership, the Discipleship & Christian Education Guide and The Christian Citizen magazine. Discipleship materials are available from Judson Press, ABHMS’ publishing ministry, on topics ranging from Christian living, Christian education, church leadership and Bible study to preaching, pastoral ministry and Baptist heritage.

Please give generously to the America for Christ Offering 2018. **We will receive the offering on two Sundays, March 11 & 18.** Envelopes will be provided.



**Did you know you can support FOCUS Churches every time you make a purchase through AMAZON?** Plus, you use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Easy Breezy!

**AmazonSmile** is a simple and automatic way for you to support FOCUS Churches every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com), you’ll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization.

On your first visit to AmazonSmile, select FOCUS Churches as your charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. They will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) will result in a donation to FOCUS.

**To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and sign up with a click.** Thank you friends, and happy shopping!



## GO GREEN!!

### Celebrate St. Patrick's Day at Emmanuel!

A St. Patrick's Day Party for all ages will be held at Emmanuel on (what else?) St. Patrick's Day, Saturday, March 17. Festivities will begin at 4:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall with some games and activities. Dinner will feature corned beef and cabbage, Irish soda bread, a vegetarian option, salad, and dessert. After dinner, we'll have more games and some Irish songs.



Everyone's Irish  
On March 17th.

People of all ages—as well as leprechauns—are welcome. Please invite friends, neighbors, family, coworkers, and anyone who enjoys the “wearin’ o’ the green.” Let us know how many of you are coming by signing up at church, calling the Church Office at 518-465-5161, or e-mailing Edith at [edith.leet@outlook.com](mailto:edith.leet@outlook.com).

There is no charge for the party, but we will ask for donations to cover the cost of the meal.

### Program to Offer Christian Perspectives on Israeli-Palestinian Conflict March 15, 5:30 to 8:30

Dr. Joshua Vis, leader of the interfaith tour of Israel and Palestine that Edith and Ian Leet went on last year, and Dr. Mae Cannon, Executive Director of Churches for Middle East Peace (CMEP), will present a program on “Christian Perspectives on the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict” on March 15, 5:30-8:30 p.m., at the First Reformed Church of Scotia, 224 N Ballston Avenue, Scotia, NY.



Dr. Vis has a PhD. in Old Testament and serves as the Church Engagement Facilitator for Israel and Palestine in the Reformed Church. He has led many trips to the region. CMEP is a coalition of 27 national church denominations and organizations working to encourage U.S. policies that actively promote just, lasting, and comprehensive resolutions to conflicts in the Middle East. Dr. Cannon is the editor of *A Land Full of God: Christian Perspectives on the Holy Land* (Wipf and Stock Publishers, 2017).



Although the program will focus on Christian perspectives on the conflict, people of all faith traditions are welcome. A light supper will be served. The event is free, but reservations are requested. For more information or reservation: <https://joshvis.com/event-signup-mar-15-ny/>

Remember the  
Food Pantry...razors and shampoo

March:

Spring  
Begins March 20

Looking Ahead

FOCUS Pancake Breakfast  
Saturday, April 14 at Delmar Reformed Church

# Save the Date...



## Introducing: PEACE LAB: an EBC Retreat August 2 - 5 at Pathfinder Lodge

People who attended the retreat last summer found it to be fun and refreshing, so they recommended expanding it to include more days, more programming, and more participants. We are looking for folks, adults and youth, who would like to get in on the ground floor of planning.

We will meet on **Sunday evening, March 4, at 5:00** at the home of Marilyn Malone (17 Fireside Lane, Latham). We'll munch on pizza and bat around some ideas.

Note: Attending this meeting does not mean you have to be on a planning committee, or even necessarily attend the retreat. Just come to share your ideas and catch the excitement.

## Capital Area Baptist Association (CABA) Presents "Small Churches Can Leave Big Mission Footprints"

**When:** March 17, 2018; 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

**Where:** Latham Community Baptist Church, 109 Forts Ferry Road, Latham

**How Much:** Free including lunch

**Keynote Speaker:** Rev. Dr. Ron Carlson, Missiologist

**Sign Up By:** Sending an email to [abcnyseast@yahoo.com](mailto:abcnyseast@yahoo.com)

Or Leaving a message at (518) 374-0288

*You will learn how to put into practice action steps to address missional challenges of your neighboring community. CABA will also provide you applications for a new mission grant fund to help you start new missions to your neighborhood.*

# Mark your Calendar... Peace Camp

*(Summer Conference of the Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America)*

## "Decentering Power And Privilege: Becoming The Stranger"

**July 2-7, 2018 Keuka College**

### Reasons to come to Summer Conference:

*"This is my 'booster shot' to keep me going the rest of the year. Also I know you only get high caliber speakers and resource leaders." (2015 Summer Conference attendee)*

Excellent and challenging programs on a variety of ways to practice peacemaking in your own communities.

Connections to a progressive Baptist community.

Appropriate peacemaking programming for children and adults of all ages.

Peacemakers come from all over North America to attend.

(For young adults) a vibrant, active, and passionate young adult group.

*More information in the months to come, also at [www.bpfna.org](http://www.bpfna.org)*

*See Nancy Horan if you have questions.*



Deadline for the April  
**MOSAIC** is March 18

Emmanuel Baptist Church  
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