

# THE MOSAIC

Published monthly by  
**EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH**

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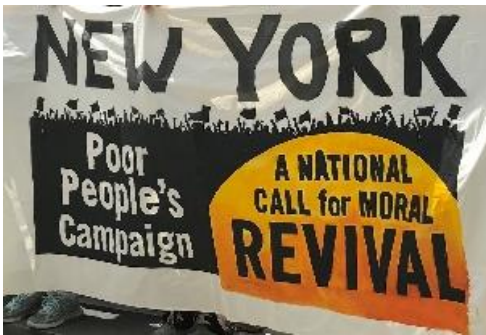
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Summer 2018

Volume XXXVI No. 7

## *Pastoral Ponderings*



For 6 weeks, the Poor People's Campaign staged actions in Albany and many other state capitals across the nation. For three of those weeks, they gathered at Emmanuel for a couple of hours of instruction and inspiration and interaction before heading out for the day's demonstration. They came on buses from Syracuse and New York City and by

other modes of transportation from all over the area. Every week, there was a faithful crew of volunteers who showed up hours ahead of time to make sandwiches and set out lunch and another crew who helped re-arrange our sanctuary, carefully filling the space with plastic chairs and tables. Some Emmanuelites were among the volunteers each week, but they were joined by others from across the capital district. The sustained energy and commitment contributed to this endeavor, often by people who had no previous connection to each other, was something to see.

On the last week that Emmanuel hosted, I took the stage for a few minutes to make a logistical announcement. I simply wanted to invite individuals to move their chairs to a certain location, to make it easier for the take-down crew to re-set the sanctuary. When the crowd of about 200 people understood that I was Emmanuel's pastor, they applauded in gratitude for our support. And then, as I moved among the people who were complying with my directions about the chairs, several individuals made a point to find me and offer a sincere thank you for sharing our space. It was my pleasure to receive all those thank you's, but you should know that they were expressed.

I am grateful for Emmanuel's concern for social justice, with support for the Poor People's Campaign being just one expression of that concern. Another expression is found in how some of us choose to spend summer vacation. While Nancy, Andrea, Edith, Marilyn, Jim and Jan are returning from the summer conference of the Baptist

*continued...*

Peace Fellowship, Jim and I will be packing up for the Wild Goose Festival. I mentioned the Goose in a sermon recently and a few of you expressed further interest. The Goose describes itself as “an art, music and story-driven transformational experience grounded in faith-inspired social justice.” Across four days, there are performances, lectures, interviews and interactive workshops. I count 278 separate activities on the schedule. Opportunities range from yoga to AA meetings to contemplative prayer at various hours to the ever popular Beer and Hymns (and a workshop on organizing your own Beer and Hymns chapter). My attention was caught by these titles, *Love in a Dangerous Time*, *Disruptive Worship: Liturgy for Justice*, *The Bible for Normal People*, *Immigration Dete* what that is, because it starts at 11 p.m., past my bedtime. If you’re thinking this sounds like a church nerd’s dream, you are right. Thank you for your generosity in providing time away to rest and recharge. I hope we all find our own opportunities to do that this summer.

*Blessings,  
Kathy*



*Poor People’s Campaign at Emmanuel*



### **Guest Preacher Announced**

We welcome the Rev. John Paarlberg to our pulpit on July 22 when Pastor Kathy is on vacation. Last year, Rev. Paarlberg retired after serving as pastor at the First Church in Albany for 14 years. In that capacity, he was also a member of the FOCUS Board of Directors and is known to many of us through that connection. He previously served congregations in Syracuse, NY and Holland, Michigan and was on the national staff for the Reformed Church in America.







## Sing a New Song... or an Old One!

July 15<sup>th</sup> will be the date of our traditional Summer Hymn Sing. This is an opportunity for the congregation to choose spontaneously nine or ten favorite hymns for us to sing together in service. Come share your choice and raise your voice in praise! Kathy Moore, a representative to the ABC-USA Creation Justice network, will share a mini-sermon on peace, justice and reconciliation with God's creation.

## Congregational Meeting and Vote on July 15<sup>th</sup>

Since March when our boiler cracked, our sanctuary finished out the winter heating season using our furnaces. Some Sundays were a bit chilly. Corporate Management is working hard to have a new system installed before snowflakes fly to keep us comfortable all winter.

On July 15<sup>th</sup>, after worship Corporate Management will present proposals for a heating system and the associated costs. Our insurance company has sent us a settlement, but there are several choices still before us such as replacing a steam heat system, switching to hot water heat, radiant heat, installing a hot air system, and/or air conditioning. The meeting will be brief but informative. Please mark your calendars to stay after worship on July 15<sup>th</sup>. Corporate Management will seek your approval for expending funds for this project.



MaKayla Smith was awarded the Mayor's Student Achievement Award in May, near the end of her fourth grade year. As she presented the award, Mayor Kathy Sheehan said that MaKayla is an honor roll student who, "works well with her peers and any student need of assistance. Outside of school, MaKayla attends church, plays soccer and is a Girl Scout." Congratulations MaKayla!



*Congratulations to Mushal Johnson  
who received a B.A. degree from SUNY Albany!*

## Johnson Din Completes Doctorate

Congratulations to Johnson Din, who has received a Ph.D. in Pastoral Ministry from Newburgh Theological Seminary in Indiana. His dissertation was on Breakthrough from God.

Johnson says his degree studies have supported his work as a Chaplain at a Correctional Facility in Greene County. He hopes to use his knowledge and experience for the wellbeing of the people of God.

At Emmanuel, Johnson is a member of the Membership and Evangelism Commission and the Pastoral Relations Committee.

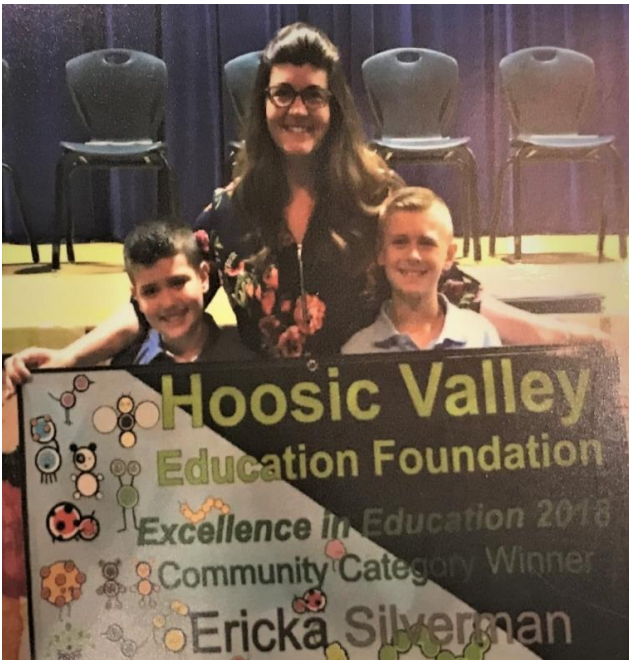


## Ericka Silverman Wins Award For Excellence in Education

Ericka Silverman, a third-grade teacher at Hoosic Valley Elementary School in Schaghticoke, NY, has received one of the first Excellence in Education awards from the Hoosic Valley Education Foundation. The new award recognizes “educators in our district who exceed expectations and make the classroom an exciting place for their students.” It honors “teachers who go above and beyond.”

Ericka was nominated by the community for her “knack for showcasing each student’s strengths” to “create a successful and happy learning environment.” Parents also praised her organizing of many programs at the school “like PARP (Parents as Reading Partners), STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math), and many more.”

Ericka offers those same talents at Emmanuel as a Sunday School teacher and member of the Christian Growth and Development Commission.



*Flanked by her sons Noah (l.) and Lucas (r.), Ericka accepts her Excellence in Education award at a program on June 6.*

## Good News!

**There is still time to sign up for the EBC retreat at Pathfinder, August 2-5.** So far we are expecting 20 people, which is enough to have some rousing campfire singing! Or some exciting canoe races!

We will be using Peace Lab VBS curriculum in the mornings, for all ages. Games, recreation, crafts, science experiments, etc. in the afternoon. Plus time for quiet reflection and worship. Meal planning is well underway and I heard that s’mores are a definite. You really don’t want to miss this retreat!

Cost is \$55 for adults, \$40 for children 6-12, \$15 for children 1-5 (includes programing and all meals). Cabins start at \$50 for up to 8 persons. Do you want to come for just one day? Cost is only \$25, \$20 for children, \$10 for little ones. Do you need scholarship help? We have funds available. Do you need transportation? People are coming and going at a variety of times, so we can connect you with someone. Worried about mobility and managing the rugged terrain? All activities are handicapped accessible. We can drive up and down the hill, and even out to the chapel. Several cabins are accessible. Do you have other questions? Just ask us! You really don’t want to miss this retreat! CGD: Marilyn, Gretchen, Ericka, Jim, Beth, Audrey







## Sunday School Teacher Recruitment

Do you like to be **creative, laugh and learn**? Do you want to **make a difference** in the lives of others? Do you want to **share God's love** to the youngest members of our congregation?

**If you answered YES to any of these questions, we need YOU!**

**We are looking for teachers** to help grow Emmanuel's Sunday School Program. If you are interested, please talk with one of the Christian Growth and Development members (Gretchen, Marilyn, Beth, Jim, Ericka or Audrey).

## Can you help our young families this summer?

We are looking for one adult to provide child care each Sunday morning, and a second person, youth or adult, to help. There are usually 2-8 children, ages 2-8, who meet in the preschool room. There are wonderful toys and craft supplies available, so you can let your imagination go wild. There is a sign up sheet at church, or you can call Beth (518-339-9152) to volunteer. Your gift of 45 minutes will truly be appreciated by parents, Sunday School teachers, and children!

## From Service to Others...

### ABC/NYS Regional Offering to be Received

#### *A Message from American Baptist Churches of New York State:*

The Region, like your congregation, cares about ministry. The Region wants to strengthen and equip churches by providing training and opportunities for mission, both participation and support. We train pastors and lay people for leadership in the church. We provide opportunities for mission experiences; we just completed the trip to Rwanda and are making preparations for the mission trip to Niagara Falls in July 2018. We provide pastoral care to pastors. We walk with churches through pastoral transition. We provide guidance as churches work through conflict and administrative and building issues. We support churches as they work on areas of mission, vision, and stewardship. These are a few of the ways we strengthen local congregations.



**The offering to support this important work will be received 3 Sundays in July – July 8, 15 and 22. Envelopes will be provided.**



## *FOCUS News...*

### **The Rev. Renee Hollinshed Appointed New FOCUS Interim Executive Director**

Rev. Renee recently moved 3,500 miles from Seattle to Albany where she was called as a part-time pastor to the Sojourner Truth AME Zion Church. In her spare time here, Rev. Renee came with her husband, Randolph, to FOCUS as a volunteer in the Breakfast Club where their gifts for justice and service were quickly put to work!



For most of her career, Rev. Renee was a respected Paralegal, working for various law firms, law schools and judges. In this capacity, she worked closely with an attorney who convinced her that her heart was to serve. So Rev. Renee became an active member of the University Rotary Club in Seattle helping to write grants and working on behalf of the homeless there. She also helped to raise money for those in need of clean water in Africa and equipment for the disabled in the Philippines. While in Seattle, Rev. Renee also pursued a Masters degree in Psychology and began work as a Mental Health Clinician. In 2016, she became the Alumni Director for the same organization she had worked for as a Clinician.

In addition to her husband of 30 years, Rev. Renee has three children, 6 adopted children and 10 grandchildren. The children have all left the nest, so Rev. Renee and her husband enjoy the freedom of living (and traveling) in their RV, now located in nearby Catskill. She loves the freedom of this lifestyle and is humbled by the favor of God in her life. Welcome, Rev. Renee!

**thank you!**

Enormous gratitude to everyone who responded so quickly and generously to the FOCUS Special Spring Appeal. We raised over \$12,721!

This includes 14 contributors who gave \$250 or more to help us meet the anonymous \$2,500 challenge grant.

Your steadfast support for those most in need is a beautiful thing!

**Are you growing veggies this year?** Won't you share some of your bounty with the Food Pantry? Contact the FOCUS office. (443-0460)





## ***Focus Summer Worship Schedule:***

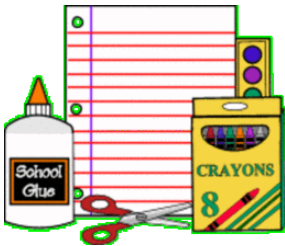
**All services will be held at 10:00 a.m.**

- July 1 - at First Church of Albany,  
The Rev. Lynn Carman Bodden preaching
- Aug. 5 - at Delmar Reformed  
The Rev. Chris Vande Bunte preaching
- Sept. 3 - at Westminster Presbyterian  
The Rev. Bill Schram preaching

**Following each service everyone is invited to a structured conversation about FOCUS, strengthening relationships and our future direction as we step into the next 50 years together.**

*All are Welcome!*

***There is no service at Emmanuel on those dates.***



**The FOCUS School Supply Program** is fast approaching! This year FOCUS and First Church are joining forces for this popular program and with your help, will be supplying much needed school supplies to over 100 Albany children on August 21<sup>st</sup>. Are you able to donate any of the items listed below? Please drop off all contributions to the FOCUS office by Friday, August 17<sup>th</sup>. Thank you!

- 1, 2,3,5 Subject Notebooks
- Post it notes
- Index cards
- Highlighters
- Pens-Pencils (#2) – Pencil
- Sharpeners – Pencil Erasers – Pencil Boxes
- Crayons
- Markers –Dry Erase Markers
- Colored pencils - Highlighters
- Rulers
- Loose Notebook paper
- 2 pocket Folders – All colors
- Composition Notebooks – All Colors
- Back Packs
- 3 Ring Binders

***School Supply Set-up and Distribution Volunteers Needed!***

**Monday, August 20, 10am until?? (Set-up)**

**Tuesday, August 21 - 9am, 1pm-ish (Distribution)**

**Please contact Lorraine / Belinda: 518-443-0460**

***July 30 to August 9:***

***Rehab of FOCUS Breakfast Program Storage Room at Westminster***

Can you help? Cleaning, repairing, painting, reorganizing... a variety of tasks.

Contact Belinda at 443-0460 for more details and to sign up.

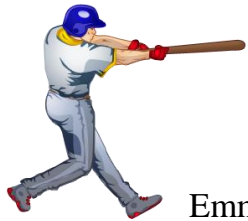


*Thank You*

*Thank you for the kind words and condolences on the death of my mom. We also want to*

*express our sincere appreciation to everyone who helped make Jennie's memorial service such a wonderful celebration of her life. I'm sure she was smiling down on us.*

*With gratitude and love,  
Marilyn & Tony Malone and family*



## “Take me Out to the Ballgame”

Emmanuel friends will be going to a Tri City Valley Cats Game vs. Staten Island Yankees on **Sunday July 29<sup>th</sup>** (game time is 5:00 p.m.). Tickets are \$6.25 per person and that includes a voucher for a hot dog and a soft drink. There is a sign-up sheet in fellowship hall; last day to sign up is Sunday July 15<sup>th</sup>. Money for tickets is due by that date as well. Please see Frank Scheu or Andrea Carver with questions.

**Remember the Food Pantry...**

*razors, shampoo, conditioner, tooth brushes*

**Summer**

**Summer Office Hours:  
9:00 to 1:00**

**Deadline for the September issue of *the MOSAIC* is August 18**

## Happy Birthday...

MaKayla Smith  
Amanda Gibson  
Kevin Cole  
Bessie Gibson  
Nancy Horan  
Tracy Collins  
Andrea Carver  
Kendra Lahut  
Silas Klope  
Rebecca Malone  
Jim Wilkerson  
Paw E Kler  
Dah Blut Soe  
Esther Moore  
Curtis Klope  
Elaine Clark  
Amber Collins  
Randolph Franklin



1<sup>st</sup>  
4<sup>th</sup>  
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29<sup>th</sup>  
31<sup>st</sup>  
31<sup>st</sup>

## AUGUST

Elisabeth Scheu  
Bill Silverman  
Kimberly Norwood  
Sam Hill  
Michael Green  
Beverly Norwood  
Becky Klope  
Parmilla Allen  
Shamaal Ford  
Liselle LaFrance  
Karen Kendall



1<sup>st</sup>  
2<sup>nd</sup>  
5<sup>th</sup>  
8<sup>th</sup>  
11<sup>th</sup>  
22<sup>nd</sup>  
22<sup>nd</sup>  
23<sup>rd</sup>  
26<sup>th</sup>  
28<sup>th</sup>  
30<sup>th</sup>

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

**Happy July 4th**  
**Office Closed!**



