

# THE MOSAIC

Published monthly by  
**EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH**  
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## *Pastoral Ponderings*

Like most of you, I have been appalled and deeply troubled by the news from our southern border. People fleeing violence and exploitation and grinding poverty have presented themselves to U.S. authorities as asylum seekers only to be treated like criminals and separated from their families and transported to prisons far from the border for indefinite periods of time while awaiting asylum hearings. In many cases, parents were given no information about where their children were or how to contact them.

In others, parents have been deported back to their countries of origin while the children remained in detention in the United States. These families, already traumatized by conditions in the countries they sought to leave, were further damaged by what they experienced here. I have learned about Adverse Childhood Experiences from Dr. Malone and I cringe when I think about how much harm has been dealt into those young lives.

Over the summer, I heard about various actions taking place at the border. I never knew about any of them in time to participate, and that was disappointing to me. I felt a sense of calling to go, to bear witness, to raise my own voice on behalf of these very vulnerable people. At the closing worship of the Wild Goose Festival, one speaker mentioned an upcoming trip to the border on September 6. I did everything I could to find more information on that trip, without success. And then I opened an e-mail from the Baptist Peace Fellowship ~ Bautistas por la Paz, and found an invitation to an Immigration Immersion Experience in Tijuana.

Guided by Ray Schellinger, International Ministry's Global Consultant for Immigrants and Refugees, about a dozen of us will spend September 18-26 in and around Tijuana. We will meet with faith and community leaders in the hopes of gaining a deeper understanding of the immigration system and the real people being affected. We will be hosted at Deborah's House, an American Baptist related ministry for survivors of domestic violence. The trip will include visits with

- Border Angels- an advocacy group for immigrant rights
- Dreamer Moms- An organization of deported mothers whose children remain in the US
- Deported Vets- An organization providing support and legal aid for deported US veterans
- Border Patrol- A tour given by the US Border patrol
- US Customs- A tour given at the port of entry by the US Customs and Border Protection
- Border Church- An ecumenical, binational, bilingual worship/communion service on the border at Friendship Park



*continued...*

- Casa del Migrante- A Catholic ministry for immigrants, mostly deported men
- Little Haiti- a new community of thousands of Haitian migrants
- Camino del Salvacion- A Baptist Church which is beginning a new shelter for migrants
- A road trip to the east to see the border in the desert, as well as to see the prototype border wall sections, which Mexico has not yet paid for.
- Meeting with a chaplain who works in the immigration detention facility in Mexicali.

I am very grateful for this opportunity. I would not have chosen to be away from Emmanuel in the month of September, but I do see this as both an answer to prayer and something to which I am feeling called. I am grateful for your support and prayers.

*Blessings,  
Kathy*



**AUTUMN GATHERING**  
**SEPTEMBER 9**  
**WORSHIP &**  
**“100 MILE” POTLUCK**



Summer is waning, fall is upon us, and our church-year programs are about to start. We will celebrate this new beginning with an *Autumn Gathering* for all ages on Sunday, Sept. 9, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., following our worship service at 10 a.m.

Our program will feature a 100-Mile Potluck Lunch, celebrating the bounty of the good earth around us. Please bring a dish to share—soup, salad, casserole, dessert. Make it a 100-mile dish by using main ingredients that are grown or made within 100 miles of Emmanuel.

During the program, we will enjoy photos, songs, and stories from four of the events that members of our congregation attended during the summer. They include our own Emmanuel Peace Retreat in August, youth and children’s camps at Pathfinder Lodge, the Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America Peace Camp in July, and the ABC-NYS Mission Trip to Niagara Falls in July.

We will launch our Sunday School by presenting Sunday School Certificates to the children and by introducing our teachers for the new year.

To continue our work toward peace, we will have a table where you can paint Peace Rocks, which you can then put somewhere in your neighborhood to offer God’s peace to others. We will also have a table of coloring pages for both adults and children. If you aren’t into crafts, please enjoy the opportunity for conversation and fellowship.

Eating a delicious lunch, sharing special memories, encouraging our children’s faith development, exercising our creativity, and relaxing with good friends—what could be better? Please don’t miss our Autumn Gathering, and better yet, invite a friend to join in the fun. If you have questions, please contact our planners: Andrea Carver, Edith Leet, Nancy Horan, or Marilyn Malone. See you in September!



# IMAGINE THE PEOPLE OF GOD

What does community look like that is living out its call to be the “people of God?” Using readings from the Epistles to early Christians, we will imagine a people who care, share, believe, receive, seek, dream, and change together.

## **September 9**      **IMAGINATION**

“Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, to forever and ever. Amen.”

Ephesians 3:21-22

Made in the image of God, we are endowed with the ability to create, to dream, to re-form and form a new and right way of being with each other. In this first week of our series, we will affirm this beautiful gift and begin to “imagine the extravagant dimensions of Christ’s love” in our communities.

## **September 16**      **COMPASSION**

“Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,”

Philippians 2:5

From the early Hebrew practices of leaving the gleanings of harvest for the poor to Jesus’ commission to care for “the least of these,” compassion is the true measure of a community as the Body of Christ. The scriptures ask us, “is your heart tender and compassionate?” What will we answer?

## **September 23**      **TRANSFORMATION**

“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God.”

Romans 12:2

Just because we can imagine the people of God, does not mean that we are there yet! The good news is that we are not just endowed with imagination, but we can rely on the courage God gives us to be the change we want to see in the world. Preacher: The Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff

## **September 30**      **FRUITION**

“ . . . the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.”

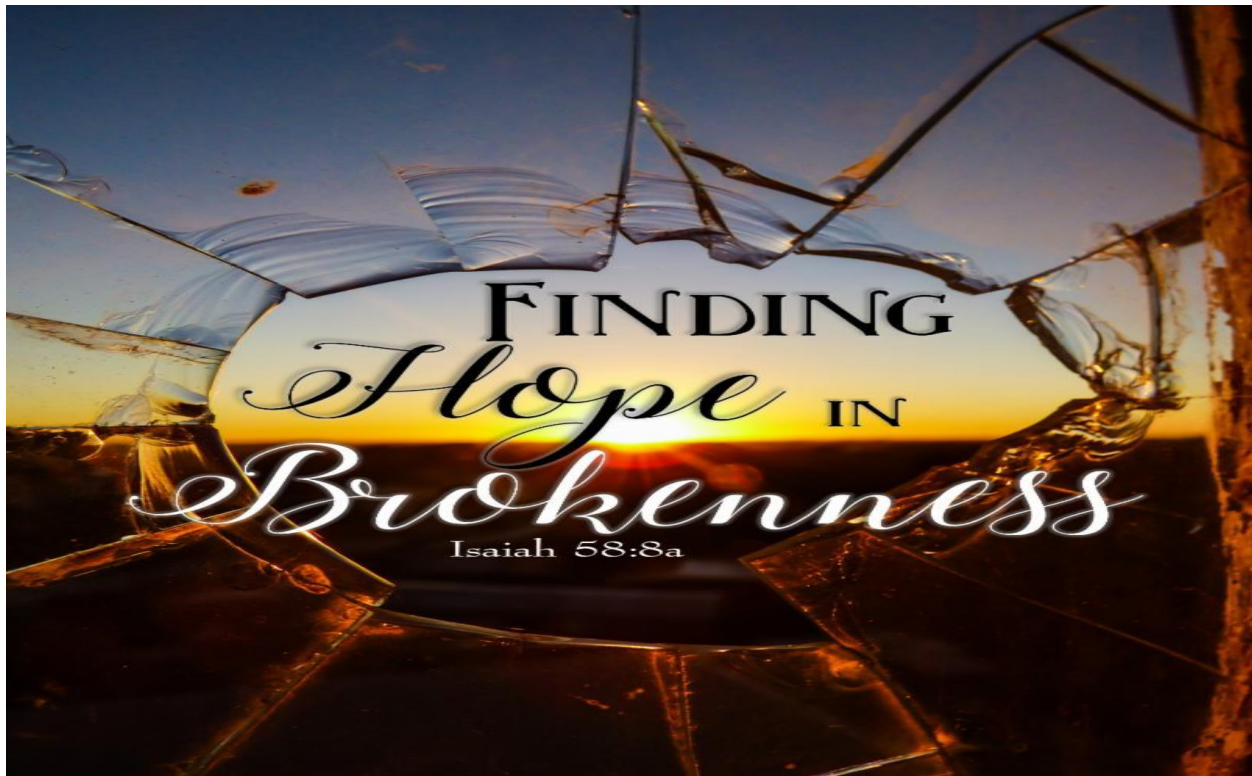
Galatians 5:22-23

Our last worship experience in this series invites us to imagine the “kin-dom of God in right relationships. What does it look like to be a community who is becoming God’s love in action? Worship today will include stories from Pastor Kathy’s time in Mexico.



We welcome the Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff back to Emmanuel on September 23. She also preached here in May. Heather and her husband Dan moved to Albany in June 2017. They live just around the corner, on Dove Street. Heather serves as the Wednesday Chaplain for the Winter Breakfast program. Heather was ordained in the United Church of Christ in 1994 and has served congregations in Massachusetts and Maryland as well as led an interfaith organization and a non-profit devoted to ending homelessness in Howard County, MD. She and Dan are the parents of three college students (twins Paul and Isaac and daughter Rosa) and an adult foster daughter (Kara).





**ABC/NYS Biennial  
September 28-30  
Bethany Baptist Church  
149 Beattie Street  
Syracuse, NY**

**Special Guests:**

- Rev. Dr. Tom Wiles, Executive Minister, American Baptist Churches of Rhode Island.
- Rev. Dr. Zina Jacque, pastor at The Community Church of Barrington, Illinois.
- Becky Mann, an International Ministries missionary that has been working with the Hmong, Lahu, Lisu and Karen tribal women.

**Registration information:** Fee \$45/person (includes Saturday lunch, Saturday dinner, refreshments, ice cream social & program costs)

Five or more people registering together for the Biennial from one church are eligible for a discount so that each registration is \$40. **Marilyn Malone is collecting EBC registrations.** Some financial assistance is available. Requests for assistance must be submitted as soon as possible, no later than September 9. Registration forms and payment in full, \$40, must be received by Tuesday, 9/11. After that date, people will be responsible for handling their own paperwork and payments. Scholarships are still possible as long as funds remain available.

**Pre-Biennial Training Workshop  
“Caring for Brick and Mortals”  
a church Safety & Risk Management Seminar  
September 28, 10 to 4  
\$20 per person**



**The Gethsemane Karen Baptist Church** began sharing space at Emmanuel in August 2013. In the past five years, our two congregations have continued to thrive and some of us have gotten to know a few members of the other church fairly well. We combined labor on Work Days and enjoyed worship services together on the occasions of visits by ABC missionaries, Dan Buttry and Duane Binkley and in celebration of the Karen tradition of Judson Day in 2016. EBC's sanctuary offered sacred space for baptisms, several weddings and a few funerals, and several of us took the opportunity to bear witness to the citizenship ceremony when our Karen friends gained that legal status. Last month, the GKBC church reached a milestone. From the beginning, they had been hoping for and saving money towards the purchase of their own church property. On August 12, they celebrated their first Sunday morning worship service in their new home at 2647 Brookview Road in Castleton-On-Hudson. We rejoice with them even as we know that we will miss their presence with us on State Street.







## **FOCUS VOLUNTEER POTLUCK PICNIC**

**SEPTEMBER 12TH  
4-7 P.M.  
@ HENRY HUDSON PARK  
SELKIRK, NY**



## **FOCUS CLASTIC MINISTRY**

**DONATE BAGS \* SORT, CUT AND PREPARE BAGS \* CROCHET BAGS**

Clastic: all classes of people (young, old, men and women) working with plastic bags to create comfort for the people we serve

**PLEASE CONTACT REV. RENEE HOLLINSHED, FOCUS INTERIM EXEC. DIR. TO  
LEARN MORE, SET UP A TUTORIAL SESSION AND DISCUSS HOW YOU CAN  
CREATE A CLASTIC MINISTRY WITHIN YOUR CHURCH OR ORGANIZATION:**

**518.443.0460    revrenee@focuschurches.net.**

The name, *Clastic Ministry*, means: different classes of people (young, old, men and women) working with plastic to create some mats for the comfort of the people we serve.

Even if you cannot crochet, much work is needed in collecting thin plastic bags, folding and cutting bags, tying them together and rolling them into balls that can be used to easily crochet together.



***You can make a  
difference. Breakfast  
cooks needed for the fall!***

*Wednesdays from 6-9:15 A.M.*

*Please contact Belinda at:  
518-443-0460 or  
belinda@focuschurches.net*

***The Journey of the Breakfast Club's Pantry Project***  
by Nancy Ost (Westminster), Renovation Project Coordinator

This project unfolded with such synchronicity, it truly had to have God's hand at the helm. We didn't attract a hoard of volunteers, but it became obvious that each one had his/her role divinely assigned. Even before the actual construction began, along came Judy Hartley, the great de-clutterer and organizer, to help me sort the donated clothes that are available for our guests when needed. When these were sorted and put in new bins, the room began to open up. (and the mouse-droppings more visible!)

Westminster's stalwart Trustee, Pete Wrede, found the time from his regular demanding job to go in and unhook the defunct hot water heater, whose former use is very vague.

Now God really showed up and sent in Tim Owens and a team of strong adults and eager children from his plant church in Colonie called Renew. From whence they heard about this project is all a bit of a mystery, but they lit the fire that burned through the next week into project completion. You see, this little group of devoted bright-eyed folks took on emptying the room of boxes and boxes of food, heavy shelves, and the hot water heater! They smiled and said, "what's next?" The condition of the space from years of mouse residence was beyond embarrassing, but no one batted an eye (hardly). And this all happened on a Sunday afternoon.

The next day, the room showed its sad face to me, Hank Woller and Mike Asbury, the construction crew. We planned, measured and made lists of supplies. Mike stayed and cleaned with his invaluable mighty shop vac, while Hank and I went to Home Depot to buy the materials we would need.

Each time I needed a person to do a job, someone would say, "can I help?" So on Tuesday morning Shirley Noble and Andrea Carver appeared and were happy to tackle the washing down of walls that was needed to prepare for new paint. No one ever winced at the job that I said needed doing next, no matter how distasteful.

While the ladies washed, Hank and Mike began the carpentry, cutting and installing paneling that would cover the gaping holes in the current walls. While this was happening, Dixon Southworth, began the painting of the upper wall portion of dark paneling, turning it into a bright sunny-feeling room. Dixon showed up three days with his quiet steady painting ability ever flowing.

Mike and Hank provided their construction skills for three days also. What a thrill it was to watch as each piece of new wallboard went into place creating a beautiful new space.

The next day Carolyn Smith came in and asked for a job. I put her to work scrubbing the grimy chrome shelves. We had to set up a system where we carried them out into an outside foyer to hose down from the soap residue. The next day, I was bemoaning that fact that I was alone and couldn't carry the final shelf unit out for rinsing when Carolyn showed up again. Imagine that!

Then there was the day when we realized the electrical wiring in the room was a problem. Oh no - Westminster's commonly-used electrician is notorious for not getting on board in a timely fashion. Well, I was told he responded if something was an emergency. I figured not having power to the four cooling/freezing units in the room was an emergency and, lo and behold, he was called and showed up. The next day, he sent his son in to rewire the room, removing unneeded outlets and installing new ones. I told you God was at the helm!

On Friday afternoon, Hank and I admired the week's work, a true miracle, a clean beautiful, mouse-free storage space. One of those projects where you say, "what took us so long?" Everything in its own time.



When volunteers were arranging for available work days, one couple signed up for the Monday of the following week of construction, as we had assigned eight days for the project. I initially told them that I had no doubts we would be done by then, but would keep them in mind. Light bulb moment – as I was painting and pondering the fact that we still needed to put all the food items back into the store room and the week was ending, I remembered Linda and Bob who said they were only available on that Monday. Guess what? Of course, Linda and Bob said they would love to help with that, as would Hank. So now Monday is here and I am happily anxious to watch this project come to its beautiful completion, returning shelving to the room, organizing items with the staff of the food program. This has truly been a miraculous transformation and an inspiring project which embodies the mantra of FOCUS – doing together what we cannot do alone.

My heart is forever grateful to all those who came when tapped on the shoulder by the Divine.



*Becca Leet and Judy Henningson*



*Hank Woller and Mike Ausbury*



*members of Renew Church,  
a small “church planter” in Colonie*



***Focus Worship:*** at 10:00 a.m.

Sept. 3 - at Westminster Presbyterian

The Rev. Bill Schram preaching

*All are Welcome*

***No service at Emmanuel on that day.***

*Following the service everyone is invited to a structured conversation about FOCUS, strengthening relationships and our future together.*



*trimonious*

P R E S E N T S

# Echoes and Reflections

A program of works by Schubert, Schumann, Panzeron, Ravel, Head, Argento and Bernstein

Amanda Boyd, *voice*

Joseph Rutkowski, *clarinet*

Michael Clement, *piano*

Emmanuel Baptist Church  
275 State St. Albany, NY 12210  
(518) 465-5161

Saturday, September 15th at 5:00 pm

*Admission free; donations accepted*



**Coordinating Council:**  
September 11, 5:30 pm  
**Congregational Meeting:**  
September 16

**Remember the  
Food Pantry...**

***deodorant and shampoo***

## Message from the Albany CROP Hunger Walk Committee



We surpassed our goal! Our final total is \$103,947, over \$8000 more than last year. The funds raised help feed people at home and abroad: one quarter of the money comes back to support feeding programs in our area, while the rest is used for hunger relief and development projects around the world.

The Albany CROP Committee is seeking new members to help plan the 2019 CROP Walk (May 5, 2019) and Recruiters Rally in March. If interested, please call Kitt Jackson at (518) 439-9771 or email [kitt82@verizon.net](mailto:kitt82@verizon.net).

**(Note: Emmanuel's contribution was \$1742. Thanks to all walkers and sponsors.)**

**Deadline for the October issue  
of the MOSAIC  
is September 18  
Church Office Closed  
September 3**

## Happy Birthday...

Ruth Pushee  
Dorothy Wilburn  
Judah Appe  
Ariana Paul  
Gillian Horan  
Pickett Tait Simpson  
Madison Stroebel  
Nathan LaBarge  
Veronica Smith  
Marion Dickinson  
Julianna Palm  
Pat Hunziker  
Frank Scheu  
Mark Chaffin  
Marion Dickinson



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29<sup>th</sup>  
29<sup>th</sup>

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

Emmanuel Baptist Church  
275 State St.  
Albany, NY 12210







Emmanuel Women are invited to meet for lunch at the Pointe restaurant on Thursday, September 6 at 11:45 a.m. If you plan to attend, please contact Pat Hunziker or Betty Mallory so that adequate seating can be arranged. We hope to see you there!

**Emmanuel Men...** We'll gather too! Same time, same place as the ladies. Please RSVP to Bob Hunziker or Bob Green.



Mid-week Bible study will resume on Wednesday, September 12. We meet in the church parlor at noon. Bring a bag lunch if you wish; beverages will be provided. If you have questions, you may contact Marilyn Malone.