

THE MOSAIC

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EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH

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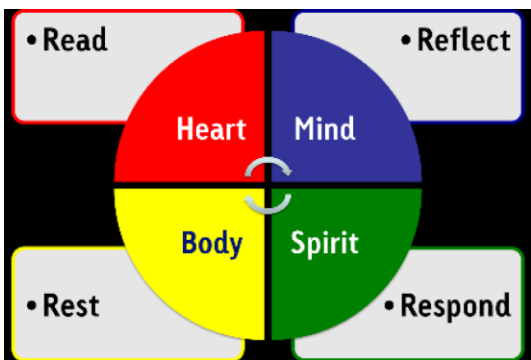
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May 2019

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Pastoral Ponderings



During Lent, we used the *lectio divina* method of reading Scripture on Sunday mornings. We heard the text read once and were invited to listen for words or phrases that stood out. Then there was a musical interlude during which we could continue to mull over those words or phrases, after which, we heard the text a second time. I wonder what that experience was like for you. I wonder what words we each might have heard with particular significance? One day, the reading was from Romans 12:1-12 in the Common English Bible translation. In verse 8, these words stood out for me “The leader should lead with passion.” My internal response was “yes, they should!”

I’m going on sabbatical to renew my passion. After 8 ½ years here, I fear that I’m slipping into some habits that are stagnant and unsustainable with the result that some of my passion is ebbing away. When all the passion is gone, it’s called burn-out. I am grateful to you for recognizing the wisdom of providing Sabbath time for me. I hope to return in August renewed with knowledge and insight from my planned reading, an expanded image of the forms of church from visiting urban churches in Boston and Chicago and a clearer understanding of God’s call on me for ministry with you now – all of those things will help re-shape me as a leader with passion, I hope!

As I said to the Executive Team: a) I am not going away mad. b) I am not looking for another job while I’m away. c) I am coming back. I have always told you the truth and I’m still doing so. It is also true that things might be different when I return. You might change. I might change. I hope we do. I hope the time apart is a time of growth for all of us. I trust that when sabbatical is over, we will have a good time getting caught up on what happened while we were apart and anticipating how God will work with all of us going forward together.

I am also keenly aware that the church is the congregation, not the pastor. Emmanuel is blessed with capable leadership in so many areas. And Pastor Heather will bring her own creative energy and experience. I believe you will benefit from her style and strengths which differ from my own. My one request for you is that you would show up -- be present for weekly worship and FOCUS services and events like Pride and the summer picnics and whatever else gets planned. Check in with each other and with Pastor Heather. Demonstrate to yourselves that you are the Body of Christ, because you are! Remember Hebrews 10:24-25a, “And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another”.

*Blessings,
Kathy*





Emmanuel is well represented at Baptist events around the world!

The Biennial meeting of the American Baptist Churches USA will be held in Virginia Beach in June. Our delegates at this Summit by the Sea are Judy Henningson, Kathy Moore, Andrea Carver, and Marilyn & Tony Malone. There will be stimulating speakers, worship opportunities, workshops and informational sessions. Marilyn has been nominated for a four-year position on the Board of General Ministries and the election and induction will take place at this Biennial. The General Secretary, Lee Spitzer, who was named two years ago has resigned, so there will be a search for his replacement. It is good to have EBC represented in the process of selecting new leadership and directions for our denomination. (You may remember that Marilyn is also currently serving as President of the American Baptist Churches of NY State).

In July, Jim Ketchem and Jan Curtis will be attending the Global Peace Conference in Cali, Colombia. This six-day event brings folks together from around the world to courageously struggle with issues of peace and justice.

Pray for these people as they travel and as they follow the call to serve God. Ask them about their experiences! In the fall, there will be an opportunity for a more detailed presentation. (MM)

Join Us...

May 5 - Potluck Luncheon

May 5 will be an unusual Sunday. The liturgy for the morning will include a temporary change of roles for Pastor Kathy Donley and Pastor Heather Kirk-Davidoff. This will be Pastor Kathy's last Sunday before sabbatical and Pastor Heather's introduction.



Join us for worship which will include communion. Bring a dish to share and stay for lunch where you may greet Heather and tell Kathy good-bye for a while.



Debby Irving Interactive Workshop and Panel "Power, Privilege, and Anti-Racism"

May 2 & 3

YWCA of the Greater Capital Region, 21 1st Street, Troy, NY 12180

Register:

<https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg>



From Service to Others

CROP Hunger Walk

The 39th Annual Albany CROP Hunger Walk is scheduled for Sunday, May 5th. Registration begins at 12:30 pm at First Lutheran Church, and the walk steps off at 1:30 pm. Walkers can choose either a 3 mile loop with two rest stops, or the shorter Golden Mile loop.



The 2018 Albany CROP Hunger Walk ranked #6 in the nation in terms of funds raised with a total of \$104,897. 25% of all funds raised goes to local food pantries, soup kitchens and other meal programs in and near Albany County. The other 75% is used by Church World Service and its partner agencies for hunger relief and development projects. Please consider walking as part of the Emmanuel team, or sponsoring those who walk. Donations can also be made to the Emmanuel team online (www.crophungerwalk.org/albanyny). See Nancy Horan if you would like to sign up or if you have any questions.



Bring your appetite and join us for the 14th annual A Taste of Albany on Thursday, May 2nd at the New York State Museum.

Enjoy a culinary showcase of more than 30 Capital Region restaurants, craft beer, wine, music, entertainment, auction, and more.

This night of food, fun and fighting homelessness benefits our programs and services at Interfaith Partnership for the Homeless.

Deadline for the June MOSAIC:

May 18

Church Office Closed

May 27



Christian Education News...

The Adult Sunday School class on May 12 will be the final chapter of On the Brink of Everything by Parker Palmer. “*Over the Edge: Where We Go When We Die*” answers the age-old question, “What happens to us after death?” There is no need to have attended previous chapter discussions to enjoy the insights of this topic. Mark your calendar and join us!

Celebrating Our

Children

Sundays in May

It's spring, time to celebrate the children in our congregation!
Watch for their contributions in worship during May.

AND...

On Sunday, June 2, we will present Bibles to the first graders, honor graduates, and recognize the gifts of our teachers. Please plan to be present.

Save the Date...

Teacher's Meeting:

Tuesday evening, August 6.

Watch for details as the date draws closer.



Ladies, Let's have Lunch!

You are invited to meet for lunch at Diner Time in Latham on **Thursday, May 2** at 11:45 a.m.

If you plan to attend, please contact Pat Hunziker so that adequate seating can be arranged. We hope to see you there!

Emmanuel Men, We'll Gather too!

We will meet, same day, same place as the women – May 2. If you are coming, please let Bob Hunziker or Bob Green know so we can reserve a seat for you.

Remember the Food Pantry...

May: razors

Happy Birthday...

| | |
|------------------|------------------|
| Kaw Gay Hei | 1 st |
| Laeh Paw | 5 th |
| Sydney Klope | 10 th |
| Beth Malone | 11 th |
| Neeqa Din | 15 th |
| Lianne DeMieri | 17 th |
| Amy Garner | 18 th |
| Skylar Asala | 19 th |
| Ericka Silverman | 21 st |
| Noah Silverman | 22 nd |
| David Malone | 23 rd |



Executive Team Dreaming Meeting: May 6
Executive Team Business Meeting: May 13
in the church parlor, 6:15 pm



Rain or Shine
Pathfinder Lodge Open House & Launch Party
Free lunch, tours, crafts, campfire, fun and fellowship
June 1, 10 am to 3 pm
Pathfinder Lodge, Cooperstown, NY



SAVE THE DATE
for the celebration

**RAY AND GRETTA
LLOYD**

Celebrating:
Ray's 70th Year in Ministry
Ray's 90th Birthday
65 Years of Marriage

Tuesday - June 4, 2019

Longfellow's Restaurant
500 Union Ave
Saratoga Springs, NY
6 - 8 pm

Please - No Gifts

Price is \$30 per person for a buffet dinner. Price includes tax and gratitude.
Reserve your place by mailing your check no later than May 17 to
CABA

109 Forts Ferry Road Latham, NY 12110
Questions? Call George at (518) 928-2797



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