

EMMANUEL EPISCOPAL CHURCH 137TH ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Annual Parish meeting for Emmanuel Episcopal Church, originally scheduled for Sunday, January 29, 2012, has been postponed. A new date will be announced later this week. The meeting date was changed because, for the first time in many years, there were more candidates than vacating Vestry positions, therefore resulting in a “contested election” situation. At least two of the candidates were unable to be at the meeting as originally scheduled so the Wardens and Rector thought it advisable to reschedule the meeting and allow parishioners time to get to know the candidates better through published information and a face-to-face “forum.” The Wardens are confirming the dates when all candidates can be present. Following is the text of the statement offered to the parish by the Wardens on Sunday, January 22, 2012:

The Holy Spirit is clearly among us and working through us at Emmanuel.

How do we know this?

For the first time in at least 10 years, we have 6 people running for 3 Vestry openings! You heard me right – rather than us having to go out and persuade some of our fellow parishioners to serve, Rob Ekroth, Beth Jacobs, Penny Longo, Louise Meyer, David Shallow and Laird Ueberroth have all put their names in the ring for the three open Vestry seats.

This is definitely good news for our parish as these are all excellent candidates with a history of serving this parish and other parishes in various roles.

Unfortunately, at least two of them are not able to attend the annual meeting scheduled for next week, and because this will be a contested election, the Wardens and Rev. Terri think it would be a good idea for the parish to have an opportunity and time to get to know these candidates who will spend the next three years on the Vestry and will take part in decisions that will shape the future of this parish.

For that reason, the Wardens and Rev. Terri have decided to postpone the annual meeting for a couple of weeks to allow us to schedule a “candidates forum” between Sunday services to allow interested parishioners to meet and get to better know these candidates and their reasons for wanting to serve on the Vestry.

As soon as new date for the annual meeting and the date for the candidate forum is finalized, we will get that info out to the parish.

PROPOSED SCHEDULE FOR THE MEETING

- 9:30am – Holy Eucharist (in the church)
10:45am – Parish Breakfast (in Deadman Hall) prepared and served by our Youth Confirmation Class as a fund-raiser for their 2013 mission trip
11:15am – 137th Annual Parish Meeting

PROPOSED AGENDA FOR THE MEETING

- Call to Order Ms. Jean Owen
- Opening Prayer Rev. Bill Rimkus
- Rector's Greeting Rev. Terri Brice
- Appointment of Clerk
- A few words from our Youth Confirmation Class...
- Minutes of January 30, 2011 Annual Meeting Ms. Ann Hileman
- Treasurer's Reports for 2011 Mr. Jeff Millikin
- Presentation of Budget for 2012 Mr. Jeff Millikin
- Endorsement of 2012 Budget
- Approval of Reports Rev. Terri Brice
- Questions & Comments from Parishioners
- Vestry Nominations / Election Ms. Jean Owen
- Recognition of Outgoing Vestry Members
- State of Parish – Outgoing Senior Warden Ms. Jean Owen
- Rector's Reflections Rev. Terri Brice
- Closing Reflections – Incoming Senior Warden Mr. Marc O'Brien
- Closing Prayer Rev. Dr. David Fisher

VESTRY CANDIDATES' STATEMENTS

Junior Warden

One-year term to be followed by one-year term as Senior Warden

Ms. Susan Cox

I have been a member of Emmanuel since 2000. I am married to Michael Bolton and mother to Amanda and Jane. I previously served on Vestry where (along with Vicki Roe) I helped to develop the church's website and worked on adult education programs.

I believe the youth of our parish are a constant inspiration to us all. For this reason, I have enjoyed serving as a Sunday School teacher, Confirmation teacher and mission trip leader. The mission trip with the 2011 Confirmation Class is a highlight of my time at Emmanuel. I love every one of my fellow companions from that trip – adults and kids! I also have been a four-time Christmas pageant co-director (with Susan Galletti) and enjoyed meeting the new families and their kids through this event. I serve as Youth Group Leader with Barbara Schwartz who really has led the group and kept it together. I also loved being co-chair of the 135th Anniversary Cookbook Committee (with Mary Kelly) and researching the rich history of Emmanuel for that book. I have volunteered for the Antique Show (Bistro Night) and the Sudan 5K Run under the leadership of Susan Galletti and Lori Allison.

Since 2007, I have been a federal magistrate judge. I also am a member of the Board of Directors of Helping Hand Center, a not-for-profit agency dedicated to serving disabled adults and children, as well as several bar associations. My favorite thing to do for "bar groups" is to go to schools and teach students about the federal courts and Constitution. I also am a certified mediator who trained at the Center for Conflict Resolution.

Emmanuel is a community and a family. Like all families we have differences and even disagreements. These are painful, especially when most people in the pews come for peace, not conflict. But we are called to love and to put our own concerns aside for the good of the whole community. Continued calls for our Rector to resign or leave as a condition for commitment to the church (financial or otherwise) are unproductive. It is time to move forward together. We need to meet a bigger challenge: As a church we need to become more welcoming, more inclusive, more caring. If I am privileged to become one of your leaders, I promise to try my best to keep these goals at the forefront of my heart and mind and to work hard to make them a reality for all of our parishioners.

Vestry Members
Three-year terms (2012 – 2015)

Mr. Rob Ekroth

We want everyone to know that Rob has communicated to Rev Terri and the Wardens that he is uncomfortable with a contested election, and has decided to withdraw from the list of candidates for the Vestry. We feel saddened by this because, like the other candidates, he has many gifts to offer to the parish. We ask that you thank Rob for considering serving on the Vestry. We sincerely hope that he will share his many talents with the parish community in other ways.

Ms. Beth Jacobs

Though currently retired, Beth has over 18 years of experience in the actuarial and financial area of health and welfare and pension plans. During most of those years, she was responsible for pension plans with assets over \$2 billion and health and welfare plans that paid out more than \$60 million in benefits each year. Beth led multiple Boards of Trustees and senior management teams through the decision and administrative processes of strategies within the framework of the organizations' long-term goals, needs and compensation packages. She has managed staffs with the sole responsibility of hiring, firing, setting compensation levels and departmental goals.

Beth and her husband Mark, along with their children Charlie and Abby, have been members of Emmanuel Church since 2004. During that time Beth has served on the Vestry as the Christian Education Liaison and then Parish Life Coordinator. She worked with the Interim Rector in setting up a curriculum for the children's Christian Education, running the education program and then hiring a Christian Education Director. She also worked with the Rector in starting up an Adult Education program with an ongoing committee. Beth has also provided many other ministry services within our Parish including Altar Guild, Wedding Coordinator, Sunday School teacher, Local Outreach committee member and counter for the weekly offerings. She has been involved with the Antique Show each year preparing Saturday lunch, Friday night dinners and co-chairing Bistro Night.

Ms. Penny Longo

I have been an active member of Emmanuel for 20 years, and have been asked to join the vestry almost every year, and now feel the time is right for me to join this important church leadership team. My three children were all baptized and confirmed at Emmanuel. Over the course of the years, I have held many leadership positions including being President of ECW, Nursery coordinator for 3 years, a Sunday school teacher for 8 years and a Confirmation Class teacher for two years and one of the leaders of the mission trip to Alabama. I have chaired the "Fall Event" fundraiser and worked on most of the fundraising committees, including co-chairing the baker's shelf at the antique show for many years. I have been involved in both local and global outreach, helping with the many Sudan events as well as preparing baskets for St. Eulalia.

I hold a BA in Economics from Vassar College and an MBA from Columbia University. I believe I can bring the leadership and organizational skills that I have developed in my over 30 years of sales for IBM to my role on the vestry. As our church home, Emmanuel is very important to me, Matt and our children. As a lifelong Episcopalian, and having been an active member of other Episcopal churches, I feel a special connection to Emmanuel and the extended Emmanuel community that is like a family to us. I would be pleased to serve on the vestry for the next few years as we map out the future direction of this parish.

Ms. Louise Meyer

I have been a member of Emmanuel for the past 14 years, wandering in one Christmas Eve shortly after we moved here. I was immediately captivated and found a home at Emmanuel.

Over time, I have served in many different capacities, sometimes in a leadership role and others as an active “doer”!

- First served as a member of the Vestry in 2003 and then as Senior Warden in 2005
- Participated in the Search Committee to select our new rector
- Actively involved in the Sudan mission from the original Benefit Dinners to the current day 5K
- My family is involved from Endowment to Antique Show, from Acolyte to reading, from painting the Swamp to our Mission trip
- Have created and maintained the Sudan 5k and Antique Show portion of the website to ensure constant and consistent communication
- Altar Guild and worked in the garden
- Always have been involved in the Antique Show from Decorations to Chair, from publicity to baker, from Friday night dinner to washing dishes

I also can offer the experience I have from a work perspective, not only my full time “day-job” but also my position on the Board of an industry organization, all volunteers where motivation definitely comes from within, not dissimilar to that of Emmanuel. I will bring my passion for Emmanuel and my faith in the community of Christ to this role.

No matter how lofty or lowly the activity, each of our efforts is so important in keeping our church thriving. At the end of the day, I’ve found it simply amounts to passion, a trait so apparent at Emmanuel. By harnessing this passion, we can accomplish anything we put our minds to.

And it is for that reason that I wish to run for the Vestry of Emmanuel.

The Vestry is an important part of our parish life, serving as the governing board of our parish. I want to focus on understanding God’s will for Emmanuel and in taking that forth to the community by fanning the spark of involvement in following this will. As Emmanuel is an important and central part of my life, it would be an honor to also serve Emmanuel in this capacity.

Mr. David Shallow

David Shallow has attended Emmanuel since 2004, and has been a member for about 4 or 5 years. He has worked in the dining room and kitchen for the Antique Show for the past 5 years, and coordinates the servers for the Friday dinner. David has assisted with both Sudan 5K runs as well as been a corporate sponsor in both years. David taught intermediate Sunday school classes in both the 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 school years. David has preached on stewardship and was the chair of the prior Welcoming/Invitational Ministry Committee. He is both a lector and a LEM for this Church Community. David lives in Naperville with his partner, Rev. Donald Frye, who served as a deacon and seminarian at Emmanuel in 2005. He has three adult children, Barbara, Max and Griffin, and 3 dogs. David is active in many social justice and community causes and is the Chair of the Naperville Fair Housing Advisory Commission, as well as a prior volunteer at Naperville's Community Career Center. "I would be blessed to be able to serve on the Vestry at Emmanuel, because I feel this is more than a volunteer position. I feel it is a ministry, and I take that very seriously. My gifts include organization, consensus creation and building, and the ability to see things from many different viewpoints. I believe that I 'think outside the box' due to my nearly 30 years of real estate sales experience."

Laird Ueberroth

Mr. Ueberroth was born and raised in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. He was married in 1974 and his children were baptized into the Moravian Church. He received training through a church-sponsored scholarship program in Lay Ministry at Moravian College in Bethlehem.

He is a 1978 graduate of Syracuse University's School of Architecture. In 1985 he was recruited by STV Engineers as a Project Manager for their Washington D.C. office. In 1987 his children were enrolled in St. Luke's Catholic School and in 1989 he and his wife converted to the Catholic Church and joined St. Luke's Catholic Church in McLean, Virginia. Laird led the St. Luke's Girls Softball team to two consecutive league championships in 1994 and 1995.

In 2004 Laird and his wife Barbara relocated to Key West, Florida, where they became active members of St. Paul's Episcopal Church. Laird served two terms on the Vestry and served as Junior Warden. Barbara led the Flower Guild and was a member of the Search Committee charged with calling a new Rector to St. Paul's. Both Laird and Barbara represented St. Paul's at the South Florida Diocesan convention.

In 2010 Laird and Barbara relocated to the Chicago area, and in 2011 became members of Emmanuel Episcopal Church.

As a man of Faith I believe it is our personal responsibility to make the world a better and safer place for those we share it with. Our religious community offers an organized and established society in which to energize ourselves and facilitate our performance of this responsibility. Serving in the Vestry provides a venue to more fully participate in the life of the Church and further its purpose.