

*I was glad when they said to me, "let us go to the house of the Lord!"*

PSALM 122



# EMMANUEL CHURCH

*In The City of Boston*



*2024 ANNUAL REPORT*  
*February 9, 2025*

## **Annual Meeting Agenda**

**Sunday, February 9, 2025, 12:15 pm**

- **Call to Order**
- **Establishment of a quorum**
- **Approval of Minutes from the Annual Meeting in 2024**
- **Recognition of Commissions and Committees**
- **Warden remarks**
- **Treasurer Remarks (including budget discussion)**
- **Election of Vestry members, Clerk, Treasurer, Wardens, Delegates and Representatives**
- **Recognition of outgoing vestry member**
- **Courtesy resolutions**
- **Rector remarks**
- **Open Forum**
- **Closing Song**



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# Emmanuel Church

## Minutes of Annual Meeting

February 4, 2024 at 12:15 pm in the Sanctuary



### Emmanuel Church

#### CALL TO ORDER

Senior Warden Liz Levin called the meeting to order.

#### ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM

Clerk Mary Beth Clack certified that a quorum of parishioners was present, including our rector and senior warden.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE 2023 ANNUAL MEETING

Liz offered a motion to approve the meeting minutes of the 2023 Annual Meeting, which had been printed and distributed in the 2023 Annual Report. The congregation approved the motion.

#### RECOGNITION OF COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES

Liz expressed her heartfelt thanks to the many people who serve on Emmanuel's Commissions and Committees, including the task force on reparations.

#### WARDEN'S REMARKS

Liz began by saying that without the support of our office staff, Vaughan Sherrill and Robb Scholten, much of what we accomplished during 2023 would not have happened. She thanked them for being there to help us continue to function day to day. She gave profound thanks to all who work to bring the parish the blessing of music, both instrumental and vocal: to Emmanuel Music under the direction of Ryan Turner, and to John Dilworth, our organist and summer choir director. Our relationship with Central Reform Temple has grown ever stronger as we work side by-side and face-to-face with thanks to Rabbi Michael Shire.

Liz said that it was impossible to comprehend that her time as senior warden is ending. It has been an amazing four years. She said we thrived through the year that included the pandemic and Pam's most recent sabbatical; we have become an even stronger community. She thanked everyone for their support of her and the vestry in many ways. In closing, Liz encouraged us to read of the reports in this annual report.

#### TREASURER'S REMARKS

Mark said that he was completing his second year as Treasurer. His annual report this year includes a summary budget and three condensed reports. He appreciated the support from the financial team members Vaughan Sherrill, Parish Administrator, and Jim Maguire, Controller, whose attention to detail is most valuable. Mark also thanked Reverend Pam Wertz and the Executive Committee for their wise counsel. He expressed gratitude to Galen Gilbert for two important contributions: resuming the plate collection and stepping in to chair the Finance Committee.

Mark said that our audit was successful, and changes will be implemented where recommended and needed. Mark also said he has gained a greater understanding of our funds, educating the vestry periodically as questions arose.

Mark remarked that we had a good year financially. We had a surplus in our operating budget which he expects will be transferred to the Legacy Fund by vestry vote soon. On the expense side, there were four non-operating expenses this year: Pam's sabbatical balance after grants and budgeted expenses; the balance due after the

completion of the elevator repairs; monies for work on the replacement of the Angel window (in progress); and monies to cover the repair of the damage in the chancel/apse.

Mark commented on the 2024 budget which contains a \$20,520 deficit, a conservative estimate which may change if the line item for gifts increases. The vestry decided that it would be prudent to be conservative so that the true cost of our programs and salaries is made known. Finances overall are in good shape and Mark said it continues to be a pleasure and an honor to serve as Treasurer.



*Bishop Gallagher visits presides over a service.  
April 2024  
Photo: Julian Bullitt*

#### ELECTION OF VESTRY OFFICERS AND MEMBERS AND REPRESENTATIVES

Pam thanked all who serve in leadership in our parish and invited the nominations of officers, vestry members, and other representatives of Emmanuel who make up the slate for the coming year.

Pat Krol nominated Rebekah Shore for Senior Warden.  
Rebekah Shore nominated Pat Krol for Junior Warden.  
Mary Beth Clack nominated Mark Fernau for Treasurer.  
Mark Fernau nominated Mary Beth Clack for Clerk.

Christopher Connors nominated Karen King and Liz Levin for three-year terms on vestry.  
Jamie Shore nominated Kelly Hager for a three-year vestry term.

Liz Levin nominated Cindy Coldren for a two-year unfulfilled term. Mark Fernau nominated Brian McCaig for a two-year unfulfilled term.

Pam nominated the delegates and representatives to DioMass Convention, the Boston Harbor Deanery, Episcopal City Mission, and Episcopal Relief and Development.

#### RECOGNITION OF OUTGOING VESTRY MEMBERS & OFFICERS

Pam gave her heartfelt thanks for Lucas Boomsma's, Christopher Connors' and Galen Gilbert's service on vestry. She noted that Christopher, as member of the live streaming team, was especially helpful in the ministry of bringing the service to those outside our walls. She recognized Galen's efforts to create and plan for a



virtual meeting space at Emmanuel. Liz Levin was feted by Pam for bringing unparalleled stability during her four years as Senior Warden. During covid tide, Liz was constantly pivoting along with others in the community to adjust to conditions, whether it be setting Zoom meetings, or making logistics work so that services could be held in person, which happened without interruption during the pandemic. Pam also cited Liz's leadership in the past year while Pam was on sabbatical. Liz received a well-deserved standing ovation from parishioners.

## RECOGNITION OF SPECIAL CONTRIBUTORS

Pam continued the tradition of recognizing those who work quietly and behind the scenes to contribute to our ministries. This year, Peggy Bradley was thanked for her attention to hospitality after the weekly services. Pam expressed gratitude to Becky Lightcap, co-chair of the Worship Commission, who, as part of her leadership, is the scheduler of those who serve on Sundays and Holy Days.

## COURTESY RESOLUTIONS

Pam invited Jim Olesen, Peggy Bradley, Peter Johnson, Jenn Poole, and Mary Blocher to read the Courtesy Resolutions. Pam asked for additions and corrections, and some were offered. Pam then called for a vote to approve the Courtesy Resolutions as amended, and the approval was unanimous.

## RECTOR'S REMARKS

Pam's remarks this year focused on her sabbatical, during which she embarked on an investigation and pilgrimage to continue to study her family's ties to chattel slavery and the broader issues of racial justice and reparations. After recounting some of her family's history, Pam told the story of the family farm in Maryland and finding evidence of a slave cabin there. Her research led her to a meeting with the current owner of the property and their examination of records stored away for decades. Pam's deepening understanding of this history, through her research and on her pilgrimage to sites in the South, led her to a fuller commitment to the moral obligation for reparations. Pam will continue to learn more through her participation in the Maryland chapter of ["Coming to The Table."](#) This organization is dedicated to enhancing ties between descendants of enslavers and enslaved people.

Pam hoped that Emmanuel will continue its work on repair and reparations, emphasizing that it is very intentional work. Repair and restoration require movement over a long period of time; stating that we each must do whatever we are able to do to further this movement.

Pam concluded her talk by naming the enslaved people held by her family. It was powerful, moving, as the congregation listened in silence. The discussion that followed included questions about how to think about creating a liturgical and reflective space for our work. Others commented on the fact that Emmanuel has been at the forefront of important work; for example, changes in worship language, ordination of women, and same-sex marriage, so it is appropriate that we engage in this timely movement. Another parishioner said that if we listen and act together, we will be all the more ready to pursue reparative justice.

## CLOSING SONG

Ryan Turner led Emmanuelites in a rousing "God has done marvelous things!"

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Beth Clack, Clerk

## Rector's Report

הַנְּנִי עֹשֶׂה הַדָּשָׁה עִתָּהּ תִּצְמַח, הַלּוֹא תִדְעוּהָ; אֶף אֲשִׁים בַּמִּדְבָּר דָּרָךְ, בִּישְׁמוֹן נְהָרוֹת

BEHOLD I AM ABOUT TO DO A NEW THING: NOW IT SPRINGS FORTH, DO YOU NOT PERCEIVE IT?

I WILL MAKE A WAY IN THE WILDERNESS AND RIVERS IN THE DESERT! ISAIAH 43:19

Perhaps you know the banner that hangs in the Kershaw Lobby, a word cloud on the prayers of “Help, Thanks, and Wow!” from an annual meeting ten years ago. The word that comes most strongly to me when I reflect on 2024, is Wow! I think you’ll see what I mean when you read the reports for this past year. The year 2024 was a year of faith-filled events, accomplishments, and progress, long in the making, Soli Deo Gloria.

Worship at Emmanuel Church has deep integrity, and remains beautiful and dignified. I give great thanks for the liturgical and preaching gifts, wise counsel, and friendship offered by my clergy colleagues this past year: Bob Greiner, Martha Tucker, John Golenski, Isaac Everett, Clark Grew, and Michael Shire. Susan Ackley continues to preside over weekly 12-step Recovery services on Fridays via Zoom. I am also immensely grateful for all the lay leaders who generously offered their time and talents in music, spoken word, and silent witness, during services, as well as in planning, preparation, clean-up, and evaluation.

Emmanuel celebrated two baptisms in 2024. I had the honor of baptizing Leo Davis and James Ardente. Of the many marriage celebrations at Emmanuel last year, I presided over one: Glenn LaFountain and Natalie High, who live in England and were married in the Lindsey Chapel. Bob Greiner presided over four weddings: Skylar Sabbag & Vincent Torchia; Jason Williams & Shinor Aluko; Joseph Kofman & Maria Skrut (co-presiding with Rabbi Devon Lerner); and Chloe Maurice & Kyle Phillips. In June, at the Cathedral, we celebrated the ordination of new transitional deacons including Mandi Rice, who completed an internship with us.

We made some changes in our observance of Holy Week, holding our Maundy Thursday service at the Emmanuel House, and moving Tenebrae from Wednesday to Good Friday evening, for which it was originally developed. We also invited the congregations of the Cathedral Church of St. Paul to join us in offering our December 21 Blue Christmas on the Longest Night service.

In the spring, we consecrated the pulpit statue of Bishop Barbara C. Harris when Bishop Carol Gallagher made her episcopal visitation. On Pentecost, we consecrated the clerestory window, marking the completion of the repairs needed from damages sustained in a November 2000 fire. In September, we celebrated the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Consecration of Lindsey Chapel, Bishop Alan Gates, presiding and preaching.

We grieved the deaths of Henry Lussier, Robert Knox, and James Bartlett. Services for Henry and Robert were held. We also celebrated the remarkable life of Margaret Morgan Lawrence, who died at the end of 2019, and whose service was postponed twice due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The service for Jim Bartlett will be held in the spring of 2025.

Our average Sunday attendance (ASO) in-person was 94 in 2024, down a bit from 101 in 2023. However, that year Christmas Eve fell on a Sunday, inflating our ASO. Without that “inflation” our ASO would have been 85. We also track livestream views by checking the number at approximately 1 pm for every Sunday that we offer livestream (that was 33 Sundays in 2024). Some views are less than the whole service, and many views represent more than one person sharing the connection. In 2024, we averaged 91 views. This number is up from 83 in 2023. So, our reach expanded in 2024, both in person and via livestream. Thanks to Emmanuel Music (EMI) staff for their ongoing efforts to keep the livestream up and running for much of the year.

Our reach also expands through our many collaborations. I’ll name just a few: EMI’s Bach Institute, during which Professor Karen King and I offered a program on translating backwards and forwards; Emmanuel Center’s Shomrei Adamah (Guardians of the Earth), a week-long interfaith program about our moral responsibility to care for our planet; our bi-annual visit from Hilltop Montessori School to learn about various faith traditions; and numerous interviews conducted throughout the year by visiting scholars from middle-school to Ph.D. students.

With regard to our ongoing work of reparations, I participated in two large ecumenical gatherings that brought together faith leaders who customarily don't have opportunities to meet and talk together. The first was an opportunity for white clergy to sign a statement of atonement for the harms inflicted on the local Black community by largely white churches. The signing was witnessed by Black faith leaders from in and around Boston. The second was a meeting of Boston faith community leaders, hosted by Unite Boston, about "Church and Civic Engagement," which placed people with different theological and political viewpoints in discussion groups with one another as we looked to election day 2024. The goal of the evening was not to agree or change others' minds, but to better understand each other's perspectives and perhaps, in the process, to better understand our own. It's too soon to know what kind of impact these gatherings will have in the long run, but, seeds of relationship across significant differences have been planted.

Back at 15 Newbury Street, we completed another year without any major staff transitions, thanks be to God. And thanks to Ryan Turner, John Dilworth, Vaughan Sherrill, and Robb Scholten for generously sharing their talents, working hard, and maintaining their senses of humor! Thanks also to Bill Comer and Dennis Gaskell, employed by Operation Able and assigned to Emmanuel, who enhance our staff capacity immeasurably, particularly in the areas of communications and hospitality.

Two personal highlights for me were traveling with Emmanuel Music to Leipzig for BachFest in June, and traveling to Seattle to preach at Bishop Phil LaBelle's consecration in September. I took you all with me, dear readers. Please know that you are among those for whom I am most grateful. I am grateful as well for all the ways that get made out of no way in and through Emmanuel Church.

As always, I give thanks to God for the large and generous love and support of my wife, Joy, and our family, Sarah and Sarah Beth, Khalil and Rahmi; Laura and Tim, Elliott and Lawson; and Grace, who make my work among you possible and my days off so much fun!

Respectfully submitted,  
The Rev. Pamela L. Werntz

## Wardens' Report

2024 was a year of deepening at Emmanuel Church. Our relationship with Central Reform Temple was deepened and strengthened through the work of The Emmanuel Center (our programmatic partnership), our relationship with Emmanuel Music was deepened through the profound experience of Bachfest in Leipzig, and our Vestry deepened its relationship with each other through a new schedule of quarterly in person shared meals and conversation. In many different ways and at different times, we made a conscious effort to lead a life worthy of the calling to which we have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love.

In February we kicked off the year with our annual meeting, and welcomed a couple of new members to leadership - new vestry members Karen King, Kelly Hager, and Brian McCaig. We were elected for our first terms as Senior and Junior Wardens.

Bishop Carol J. Gallagher visited Emmanuel Church on April 28th, where she dedicated our newly finished pulpit statue, which was created by our Woodcarver in Residence Ted Southwick. The pulpit statue of The Right Reverend Barbara C. Harris was the second of six planned carvings to fill the empty niches in our pulpit (Rev. Dr. Pauli Murray was the first, installed in 2023). The remaining four, to be created over the next several years, will be those for The Rev. Dr. Suzanne Hiatt (currently underway), Vida Scudder, Amy Beach, and the "Unnamed Woman" (to represent unnamed women throughout time and space who, without recognition, have shaped our faith, history, and practice).

The project for the recreation of the clerestory stained glass window in the chancel was approved in 2023 and completed this year. In May, Jim Anderson Stained Glass Studio installed the beautiful recreation, completing the two sets of three angel windows on either side of the rearados. Two enhancements of the window include the image of the late Craig Smith, Founder of Emmanuel Music, and a butterfly representing new life. On Sunday, May 19, we welcomed Jim and thanked him in the service of dedication. Jim and his team were wonderful to work with, and the result of their labors is truly angelic. A huge thank you to our Building Commission for leading us through this process.



Also commencing in May, after much work from our skilled building commission, John Tiedemann Inc. brought in a lift and crew from Rhode Island to do a beautiful restoration and cleaning of our chancel plaster. The lift was in the chancel for several Sunday services, and it was quite a sight to behold! They did lovely work restoring damaged areas, and cleaning areas that had long been stained by water and time. We are so grateful for the special and substantial contributions of parishioners who made the restoration of the apse and chancel possible.

In early June, Emmanuel Music was honored to present a concert at the historic St. Thomas Church in Leipzig, Germany, for the annual international Bachfest. Many Emmanuelites, including our rector and her wife, were in attendance at what was reported to be a transcendent series of performances. Later in June the Vestry held its annual retreat at The Allston Abbey located next door to the Emmanuel House. The retreat took place from Friday evening through Saturday afternoon, and was filled with much shared food, games, and deep conversation aimed at getting to know each other better. We shared past life experiences and our hopes for Emmanuel Church.

The summer in our beloved Lindsay Chapel was delightful as always. We enjoyed deeper engagement with each other through our chapel camp offerings and summer chapel choir. In August we welcomed the Rev. Dr. John Golenski for a month of preaching and presiding while Pam was away on her annual vacation. He focused his preaching on the various resurrection narratives in the Gospels.

In September we celebrated the 100th anniversary of the Lindsey Chapel; Bishop Alan Gates presided and preached. We thoroughly enjoyed a surprise drop-in from Senator Ed Markey and his wife Dr. Susan Blumenthal! We hosted an open house that received many visitors.

In October Emmanuel Church and Central Reform temple shared a week of Sukkot events titled “Shomrei Adamah” which means “Guardians of the Earth”, planned and hosted by the Emmanuel Center Board. The content was focused on our shared sacred mandate to care for and preserve creation. It was a joy and a privilege to collaborate with CRT on this week of programming.

We would be remiss to not mention briefly the ways that our Building Commission deepened our relationship to 15 Newbury Street. What is the building without the congregation, and what is the congregation without the building? We are inextricably linked to this place, and we honor that relationship by being the best stewards we can be; honoring the past and preserving for the future. There was much diving into our archives and history by Julian Bullitt, as well as by Peter Johnson and Martha Mutrie, spurred by our 100th anniversary celebration of the dedication of Lindsey Chapel.

Throughout the year the vestry was hard at work, meeting 11 times for business, and twice over a weekend for our annual retreat. Votes and approvals during 2024 included:

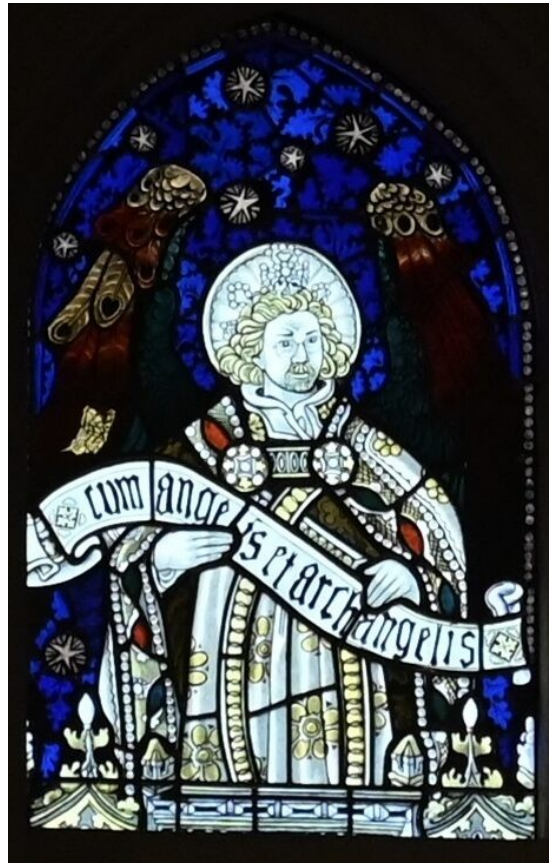
- \* Transferred much of our 2023 budget surplus to the Legacy Fund (unrestricted, generally for building related expenses/projects)
- \* Accepted a bequest, transferred into the Taylor Fund to support vocational development
- \* Approved the 2023 Parochial report
- \* Updated our Alcohol use policy, incorporating updated guidelines from the Diocese
- \* Approved a proposal to repair the electronic sanctuary organ, an effort lead by John Dilworth



*Pulpit statues by woodworker in residence  
Ted Southwick:  
Left: Rev. Dr. Pauli Murray, and Rt. Reverend  
Barbara Harris (added in 2024).*

- \* Approved funding and a contract for Tiedemann Inc. to perform chancel repairs
- \* Unanimous vote to endorse Jamie Shore for postulancy (Sr. Warden/wife abstaining)
- \* Approved funding and a contract for downspout repairs and upgrades as recommended by our Building Commission
- \* Approved Treasurer's annual Audit Response
- \* Approved staff salary increase and Rector's housing allowance for 2025

Your dedicated Vestry members and church staff continue work to keep this parish thriving and running smoothly across many areas with the help of all of the commissions, committees, and individuals represented by the reports within this Annual Report. We give our sincere thanks to our clergy: The Reverend Pamela L. Wertz, Rector; The Rev. Robert Greiner, Deacon; and our associate clergy including The Rt. Rev. Clark Grew, The Rev. Isaac Everett, The Rev. Dr. John Golenski, The Rev. Dr. Martha Tucker, and The Rev. Susan Ackley. We are pleased to have been able to serve you as Senior and Junior Wardens.



*Our beautiful new "Smith Angel Window" in the chancel, by Jim Anderson Stained Glass Studio. Installed May 2024. Photo: Julian Bullitt*

Respectfully submitted,  
Rebekah Shore, Senior Warden and Pat Krol, Junior Warden

### Deacon's Report

I continue to be blessed, a member of this wonderful community and its various ministries: serving as Deacon of the Word and Altar Table, occasional preaching, attending Vestry meetings, Worship Commission meetings, Building Commission meetings, attending Bible Study, and assisting members of the Altar Guild. And with Pam, mostly by Zoom, I continue to attend Deanery Clericus Meetings, Deanery Assembly Meetings, and Central Boston Clergy Meetings.

Other activities include occasional on-site pastoral and hospital visits. And I have continued with wonderful phone calls and emails to keep us in touch.

Again, last summer I joined a group from Emmanuel and Central Reform Temple as we prepared grocery bags for the B-LOVE Summer Program under Peggy Bradley's direction.

I was also happy once again to lead our Mass Exodus Luncheon over the Labor Day Weekend. We had a wonderful time together enjoying such a variety of food and great conversation.

As part of our covenanted family, I continue to regularly attend Shabbat Services at Central Reform Temple as well as the Holy Days.

Once again Emmanuelites helped usher during the High Holy Days, and CRT members helped usher during the Christmas Eve Service.

I continue to assist in the Formation Schooling for new deacons. It is a great blessing to share what I have to offer with others in the process as well as the opportunity to spread the good news of Emmanuel.

I end this way each year. But it still is so true: I continue to be so very grateful to Pam, who continues to guide me as I continue in my diaconal ministry, both formally and in unexpected ways. And know that you all continue to make me joyful with your friendship and warmth!

Respectfully submitted,  
The Rev. Deacon Bob Greiner

## Organist's Report

When friends ask what Emmanuel Church is like as an institution, I often find myself explaining that one of its most endearing qualities is a level of comfort with being a bit weird: parishioners sit down beside life-size fantastical-animalian puppets as if they were old friends; we regularly stop time after communion to listen to 300-year-old music that is often harmonically jarring or textually obscure; when this July I was forced to conduct chapel choir in cycling shorts (in packing my bag I'd assumed my suit trousers were at church), no-one batted an eyelid - it probably wasn't even the strangest thing that happened that week.

I continue to enjoy the tacit license I have at Emmanuel to explore some of the weirder corners of organ music repertory. Alongside some big Bach hits (Preludes and Fugues, Concerto arrangements and the Passacaglia in C minor), I've been delving into more obscure early German repertory (e.g, Homilius, Krebs, Scheidemann), and some modern pieces that provide a welcome contrast (I had multiple entries this year from Kenneth Leighton, Adolphus Hailstork, and Marianne Kim).

This year saw some more work to the Rodgers organ, this time replacing the speakers at the back of the Sanctuary, thus restoring a level of support for congregational singing that was sorely missed. Despite its hardware upgrades over the last 2 years, this instrument still retains some quite strange sounds; feel free to ask me some time to demonstrate its imitations of "harpsichord", "chimes" or "orchestral brass" [trucker horn]. Note that you will never hear me playing any of these during sacred liturgy.

We had a lot of fun this year in Chapel Choir, with 20 services, averaging around 10 singers a week (up from 8 in '23 and 7 in '22). Where in previous years occasions for SATB have been rare, it was the norm this year, and we sang some lovely anthems by Tallis, Mendelssohn, Gibbons, Shepherd, and just two weird Dilworthian STB / SAB arrangements. In September for our end-of-season collaboration with Emmanuel Music we presented Christoph Graupner's "Wie lieblich sind deine Wohnungen", perhaps its second ever public performance (the first was in 1742). Ryan conducted on this occasion and at the Lindsey centenary celebration on September 28, where chapel choir folks joined forces with Emmanuel Music alums for a choral feast. Warmest thanks go to all involved, and especially to the stalwart members of chapel choir who turn up week after week, no matter how sticky the weather.

Respectfully submitted,  
John Dilworth

## Worship Commission Report

In 2024, Emmanuel's Worship Commission continued to support Emmanuel Church's public worship. Many Emmanuelites devote time, energy, and thought by serving in one or more of the following ministries: Altar Guild; altar service as subdeacons, crucifers, and torchbearers; and lectors/readers and intercessors/prayer leaders.

Jamie Shore convenes and facilitates commission meetings and takes the lead in training those who assist at the altar. Thanks to Jamie's recruitment efforts, several new altar servers have received training in assisting during worship: William Fitzner, Kelly Hager, Jason McLin, and Jay Park.

Glenn Seberg leads the Altar Guild as they prepare the physical space for Eucharistic worship, clean up after services, and care for our liturgical implements. Outside of Sunday mornings, Glenn tracks our inventory of worship supplies such as Communion bread, wine, and candles; and he invites help as necessary. Jay Park, William Fitzner, and Tatiana Stridh joined the ranks of Altar Guild members in 2024. After 2 years of faithful service on Altar Guild, Carol Reiman has taken a break from this ministry and we are grateful for her assistance. We have recently welcomed two new bakers of Eucharistic bread: Pat Krol and Mary Beth Clack. Julian Bullitt has located the 2 chalices and paten that were given in memory of Leslie Lindsey Mason. These implements will be put into use on Easter Day.

Rebecca Lightcap records notes of Worship Commission meetings and oversees the monthly schedule of altar servers, Altar Guild, readers, and prayer leaders. Becky also recruits, trains, and supports our readers and prayer



leaders and compiles the weekly Prayers of the People.

Worship Commission is most grateful for the guidance and support of our deacon, Bob Greiner.

Emmanuel Music's Ryan Turner and our parish organist, John Dilworth, also serve as part of the Worship Commission. John, in addition to accompanying hymns and service music and offering weekly preludes and postludes, conducts Chapel Choir during the times when Emmanuel Music is on hiatus. We are grateful for Ryan and John's musical and liturgical leadership.

Vaughan Sherrill, our parish administrator, produces our weekly worship leaflets. We give thanks for her persistent efforts.

We also give thanks for Mary Blocher, who again organized this year's greening of the church for Christmas; and Glenn Seberg, who continues to adorn our worship space with beautiful seasonal floral arrangements.

When we meet as a commission, we typically end with this beautiful prayer, slightly modified from The Book of Common Prayer, p. 819: "O God, whom saints and angels delight to worship in heaven: Be ever present with your servants who seek through Word and art and music to perfect the praises offered by your people on earth; and grant to us even now glimpses of your beauty, and make us worthy at length to behold it unveiled for evermore; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*"

Respectfully submitted,  
Rebecca Clark Lightcap

## Emmanuel Music Report

Overview: In 2024, Ryan Turner, Music Director of Emmanuel Church and Artistic Director of Emmanuel Music, marked his fourteenth season, and Pulitzer Prize-winning composer John Harbison continued as Principal Guest Conductor. John Williams assumed responsibility as Interim Executive Director after Jaclyn Dentino resigned as Executive Director in May 2024. 2024 continued to demonstrate Emmanuel Music's strong recovery from COVID-19.

During the transition to the next, permanent Executive Director, Emmanuel Music has benefited immeasurably by the support of the entire Emmanuel community, particularly including Emmanuel Music staff, officers of the Board of Directors, and Pat Krol.

### Activities and Operations

Artistic: The centerpiece of the 2023-24 year was our magical performance at the Bachfest in Leipzig this past June. We who made the pilgrimage were humbled to have performed in Bach's church. The result was moving and electric, imprinting our place in the international Bach world. The impact of this long-awaited trip will echo far beyond Leipzig--its galvanizing effect for the ensemble is palpable.

The 2024-2025 season opened with a celebration of and return to Emmanuel Music's roots in chamber music. Exploring a wide range of songs across time, we offered a journey through contemplative juxtaposition of works by living composers with classic vocal repertoire. **Songs of Lost Innocence** featured music for solo voice and string quartet, presenting works by Samuel Barber and Gabriel Fauré as well as female composers Clara Schumann, Kaija Saariaho, Florence Price and Elena Ruehr, and a new work by Emmanuel Music tenor Omar Najmi.

In December, Emmanuel Music celebrated the holiday season with the now-traditional holiday concert, **Christmas at Emmanuel**, in collaboration with Project STEP, who envisions a world in which the classical music profession reflects the racial and ethnic diversity of our communities. Bach cantatas BWV 91 and 147, set the stage for the New England premiere of Evan Williams' *Little Mass for Christmas* featuring Bach Institute alum Sam Higgins, countertenor. In May 2025, the Emmanuel Music ensemble will round out the performance season with Bach's towering work of vocal and orchestral mastery, the incomparable *Mass in B minor*.

Alongside our signature **Cantata Series**, we enter the fourth season of our **Emmanuel Motet Commissioning Project**, highlighting a broad cross-section of established and emerging composers. This season's impressive group boasts Peter Child, Nell Shaw Cohen, Philip Lasser, Trevor Weston and Evan Williams.

**Organizational:** We are fortunate that John Harbison continues to be involved as Principal Guest Conductor, and that Michael Beattie holds multiple roles as Artistic Administrator, vocal coach, and continuo player. John Williams became Interim Executive Director while Ryan Turner continues in his role as Artistic Director. Peter Smith and Dwight Porter continued in their roles of Bookkeeper and IT Consultant respectively.

In 2024, we lost the following staff due to resignation: Megan Bisceglia as Director of Engagement; Tess Plotkin as Institutional Giving Manager; and Sapphire Toth as Production and Media Manager. We retained the following staff: Makeysha Montgomery as Manager of Individual Giving; Pamela Dellal as the Bach Institute Director and Intellectual Resources Curator; Brad Dumont as Artistic Projects Manager; and Jensen Ling as Orchestra Personnel Manager. Nuri Héd was replaced by Anna Griffis as Manager of Marketing Communications; and Adam Williams was replaced by Alex Fowler as part-time WebFlow and Social Media Administrator. Finally, former intern James Scoville joined as part time Staff Administrator.

Our student employment and internship programs have grown and flourished in recent years. Emmanuel Music hosts college students who receive academic credit for their experiential learning with us. We continue partnering with Berklee College of Music to be an off-site student employer. Nate Bryant and Ayisha Luzia Penha (Student Assistants to the Artistic Team) have been work-study students. We will seek to re-engage and expand this worthwhile program once a permanent Executive Director is named.

Again, volunteers supported Operations, Development and Marketing efforts as well as offered general administrative support. We continue to be especially grateful for the extraordinary support of Julian Bullitt, in too many areas to list. Seth Torres, Thomas Stephenson and the recording engineer team continue to extend our operations and to continue to build the Emmanuel Music recording archive.

Dana Whiteside is president of the Emmanuel Music Board and serves along with vice-presidents Peter Libby and Kelly Reed, treasurer, Ed Leary and clerk Mary Beth Clack, as the current board officers.

**Engagement and Outreach:** Our existing engagement opportunities continue both in person and via Zoom and virtual technology. Ongoing programs this year include “Breathe with Bach” in partnership with six Boston Public Library branches (Dorchester (2), Lower Mills, Adams Street, East Boston, Jamaica Plain, and South Boston).

Musical Sanctuary and Cantata Conversations continue, as does our increasingly successful Bach Institute. We are in the process of renewing and establishing partnerships with the Boston Arts Academy, Project Step, Princess Day Boston, and Kwong Kow Chinese School.

Conversations continue about how the work of our Engagement, Marketing, and Development teams intersect to provide multiple “on-ramps” and options for community and audience members to interact with Emmanuel Music in the way that is most suitable for them.

**Budget and Fundraising:** We have been somewhat successful in engaging members of the Emmanuel Community to underwrite individual cantatas to cover the direct costs not covered by the Young Fund, and are deeply grateful for their critical support. In addition to significant support from individuals, Emmanuel Music has continued our institutional giving efforts, receiving funding from the Massachusetts Cultural Council, Boston Cultural Council, Cedar Tree Foundation, an anonymous foundation, and Liberty Mutual.

**Emmanuel Church:** Emmanuel Music is honored to be the Ensemble-in-Residence at Emmanuel Church, our home and the community that enables us to present the music of Bach and other great composers. We are especially appreciative of the ongoing, collaborative, and critical support of Pam Werntz, the Emmanuel Church vestry, the staff, and the congregation.

Respectfully submitted,

Ryan Turner, Artistic Director and John Williams, Interim Executive Director

## **Ushers' Report**

The collection ushers are Michael Scanlon, Paul Curtis, and Stephon Babcock, those three gentlemen being in church almost every Sunday. We also have had help from Elizabeth Richardson, Margaret Johnson, Lucille Heenan, and Carolyn Roosevelt. In 2024 we collected a total of \$22,868 in open plate offerings during Sunday collection. We also appreciate that the Altar Guild puts out and puts away the collection plates that the ushers use. Each Sunday after the service, the greeters count the money collected for the parish.

Respectfully submitted,  
Galen Gilbert, Head Usher

## **Finance Commission Report**

The members of the Finance Commission are Charles Felsenthal, George Mutrie, Mark Fernau and Galen Gilbert (Chair). After 27 years on the Finance Commission, Charles Felsenthal has resigned. We sincerely appreciate his good service. Our rector, Pam Werntz, usually attends our meetings ex officio. Jake Mutrie of Morgan Stanley, which manages our investments, reports at our meetings. The Committee meets quarterly via Zoom. Any member of the church is welcomed to attend.

As of December 31, 2024, we had \$4,677,700 invested. In 2024 we had a 9.9% return on our investment. The Commission hears reports, asks questions, and approves changes in the ratio of stocks and bonds. There are some ethical criteria for our church investments that are not believed to affect the rate of return. Each year a small portion of the investments, usually about five percent, is given to the church for its operating budget. We pay a fee to Morgan Stanley for their work.

Respectfully submitted,  
Galen Gilbert, Chair

## **Treasurer's Report**

I've now finished my third year as treasurer. As usual, I couldn't have done it without the team of parish administrator Vaughan Sherrill and controller Jim Maguire, with an assist by Events Coordinator Robb Scholten. Galen Gilbert again made a big contribution to financial operations as chair of the Finance Commission and by again overseeing the in-church open plate collection, the resumption of which has been a big boost to our income. I am continuing to consolidate and cull our stored financial records. Our outside auditor confirmed that our finances and procedures are sound and as usual suggested a few ways that we could make the procedures even more effective. Per recommendation of our auditor and Finance Commission and given our tax-exempt status, in 2024 we stopped tracking the cost basis/unrealized income of our investments and only report market value. In 2024, we converted both our accounting software and our parish database/donation-tracking software to internet-based "cloud" versions that will assure safe storage and easy updates, along with additional features such as a user interface for parishioners to track and make donations.

For 2024, the vestry approved an operations budget that predicted an annual deficit of over \$20,000. However, I am very happy to report that, at the end of the year and thanks to an outpouring of generous giving from you all along with sound management of our expenses, in actuality we finished with a slight surplus of \$238 in operations! This was offset by a relatively small non-operations deficit of \$5,129 from several unexpected one-time repair/improvement projects that were not covered by donations or reserve transfers. The resulting overall deficit of \$4,891 was covered by unrestricted Parish Funds left over from previous surpluses. In summary, what started out as a gloomy financial year ended up being bright, allowing us to carry out our wonderful mission of outreach and worship without undue worry. Thanks again to all!

In addition to the usual operations, projects completed in 2024 included finishing the replacement of the Angel window (we are thankful to parishioner Jill Zunshine for her support); completing the second phase of the



Chancel/Apse renovations, again covered by several generous donations; roof slate replacement and repair, covered by reserved funds; completion by Ted Southwick of the Barbara Harris sculpture for the pulpit, along with substantial progress on the next statue of Suzanne Hiatt, both funded by donations; and several other projects involving organ improvements, downspout and gutter improvement, keypad system improvement, and upgrades to allow better quality for the Bach livestreaming and other video presentations. These building-related projects were mostly funded by transfers from the Legacy Fund investment.

In 2024, our total investments continued their recovery, going from \$4.5 million to \$5 million, including our yearly draw. Around \$9,300 in donations to the Rector's Discretionary Fund from parishioners and others were passed through to that account, which is overseen by Pam. Over \$1,150 in donations were passed through to the B-SAFE program. The Prison Ministry Fund was reduced by \$368 in 2024. The cash portion of the Taylor Fund was decreased in 2023 by expenditures of \$1475, leaving a balance of \$1,201. A 2024 Good Friday Offering of \$100 will be passed through to the Diocese of Jerusalem. Parishioner donations of \$1,265 were passed through to Emmanuel Music. At the end of 2024, we had \$6,550 in place-use deposits for future ceremonies.

For 2025, the vestry approved a budget that contains a \$6 surplus (essentially a balanced budget) and, this year for the first time, projects both income and expenses to top 1 million dollars. Your extraordinary and grace-filled response to this year's justice-themed stewardship campaign resulted in an increase of over 20% in the amount of money pledged, which allows us in this budget to reduce our investment draw from 6% to the more fiscally prudent 5% that our Finance Commission recommends (Diocesan Investment Trust income is 4%, and Emmanuel Music receives 6% from the Young Fund per the recommendation of the joint EMI-EC committee that oversees it). In addition to the percent decrease, the Morgan Stanley draw is also lower because the 12-quarter running average, designed to smooth out the ups and downs of the market, this year includes some lower-performing quarters. Renewed tenant contracts with cost-of-living raises included in the rents have allowed us to increase our resident place-use budget.

Pam received a 4% raise per diocesan guidelines, and the remainder of the staff got 3% raises. The increase in expected pledge income allowed us to partially return our budgeted outreach levels to the pre-Covid percentages that our vestry has in the past recommended for the various beneficiaries. The music line item was able to be decreased because we are no longer contributing to a health plan for the music director. Conversely, the 5% increase in total staff expenses is from a large increase in the cost of health insurance. Although our volunteers on the building committee do a heroic job, it has become increasingly clear that Emmanuel needs to again have a building sexton dedicated to overseeing cleaning and maintaining of the church. In the past this position had been filled by contractors associated with our cleaning service, but for several years that position has been vacant. Again, your generous pledge commitments have allowed the vestry to approve the request of the Building Commission to add \$30,000 to the building sexton line item to, we hope, fill that part-time position.

Outside operations, for 2025 we have budgeted the remaining payment on the Hiatt project and the full cost of completing one more of the eventual six pulpit statues, along with an assumption that donations will be collected to cover that cost.

In summary, your generosity in 2024 and 2025 have allowed us to overcome a projected deficit in 2024 and to present a healthy mission-focused balanced budget for 2025, and I continue to be humbled by your trust in allowing me to serve God and Emmanuel as your treasurer.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark E. Fernau, Ph.D.

**Emmanuel Church**  
**Summary of Parish Operations & Budget Projection 2024**

1/31/2025

	<b>Actual 2024</b>	<b>Budget 2024</b>	<b>Budget 2025</b>	<b>Percent Change Yr/Yr</b>
<b>Ministry Support</b>				
Pledges	435,907	392,000	474,000	20.9
Plate	23,504	20,000	23,500	17.5
Other Gifts	26,993	49,000	49,100	0.2
Ceremonies	44,910	26,000	35,500	36.5
Young Music Fund	96,264	96,264	91,452	-5.0
Rectory Fund	15,224	15,223	11,435	-24.9
Diocesan Investment Trust (DIT)	19,523	19,318	19,556	1.2
Other Investment Income	145,929	145,801	115,462	-20.8
Place Use Resident	104,327	82,000	109,750	33.8
Place Use Non Resident	61,103	80,000	80,000	0.0
<b>Total Ministry Support</b>	<b>973,684</b>	<b>925,606</b>	<b>1,009,755</b>	<b>9.1</b>
<b>Ministry Expenses</b>				
Clergy Salary & Benefits	183,461	184,750	192,606	4.3
Parish Programs	8,325	9,000	9,000	0.0
Outreach	23,912	24,202	39,345	62.6
Music Staff & Programs	98,770	109,064	99,033	-9.2
Cantata Program	96,264	96,264	91,452	-5.0
Parish Operations Staff	132,095	130,759	137,287	5.0
Parish Operating Expenses	44,541	40,200	40,750	1.4
Diocesan Assessment	53,568	53,614	55,811	4.1
Building & Facilities	328,954	299,083	314,765	5.2
Event/Building Sextons	14,436	12,190	42,000	244.5
Reimbursed Utility Expense	(2,466)	(3,000)	(2,400)	-20.0
Reimbursed Boston Warm Expenses	(8,414)	(10,000)	(9,900)	-1.0
<b>Total Ministry Expenses</b>	<b>973,446</b>	<b>946,126</b>	<b>1,009,749</b>	<b>6.7</b>
<b>Total Ministry Support less Ministry Expenses (Operating)</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>(20,520)</b>	<b>6</b>	

**Other Non Operating Income, Expenses, and Transfers**

Donations for Pulpit Statues	18,765	-	11,235
Chancel/Apse Plaster Repair Income	86,840	-	-
Transfer from Roof Reserve Fund	4,800	-	-
Transfers from Legacy Fund for Downspout/Organ Repair	17,620	-	-
Transfer from Hiatt Statue Unspent Fund	-	-	2,098
Transfer from Angel Window Unspent Fund	23,500	23,500	-
<b>Total Non Operating Income</b>	<b>151,525</b>	<b>23,500</b>	<b>13,333</b>
Wertz Sabbathical Expense (Refund)	(1,107)	-	-
Pulpit Statues Expense	17,227	-	13,333
Angel Window Expense	24,000	24,000	-
Chancel/Apse Plaster Repair Expense	86,830	-	-
Roof Slate Expense	4,800	-	-
Downspout/Organ Repair Expense	18,314	-	-
Keypad/Video Improvement Expenses	6,590	-	-
<b>Total Non Operating Expense</b>	<b>156,654</b>	<b>24,000</b>	<b>13,333</b>
<b>Net Non Operating Income/Loss/Transfer</b>	<b>(5,129)</b>	<b>(500)</b>	<b>-</b>

The 2024 actual overall deficit of \$4,891 will be covered from Parish Funds

<b>Ministry Support and Expense 2024 (Operating)</b>				
<b>Ministry Support</b>		<b>Ministry Expenses</b>		<b>Surp/(Def)</b>
Pledges	\$ 435,907	Clergy Salary & Benefits	\$ 183,461	
Plate	\$ 23,504	Parish Programs	\$ 8,325	
Other Gifts	\$ 26,993	Outreach	\$ 23,912	
Ceremonies	\$ 44,910	Music Staff & Program	\$ 98,770	
Young Music Fund	\$ 96,264	Cantata Program	\$ 96,264	
Rectory Fund	\$ 15,224	Parish Operations Staff	\$ 132,095	
Diocesan Investment Trust (DIT)	\$ 19,523	Parish Operating Expenses	\$ 44,541	
	\$ 662,325		\$ 587,368	\$ 74,957
Other Investment Income	\$ 145,929	Diocesan Assessment	\$ 53,568	\$ 92,361
Place Use Resident	\$ 104,327	Building & Facilities	\$ 328,954	
Place Use Non-Resident	\$ 61,103	Sextons	\$ 14,436	
		Reimbursed Utility Expenses	\$ (2,466)	
		Reimbursed BostonWarm Expenses	\$ (8,414)	
	\$ 165,430		\$ 332,510	\$ (167,080)
<b>Total Ministry Support</b>	<b>\$ 973,684</b>	<b>Total Ministry Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 973,446</b>	<b>238</b>

<b>Total Budget Summary 2024</b>				
<b>Ministry Support</b>		<b>Ministry Expenses</b>		<b>Surp/(Def)</b>
Pledges	\$ 392,000	Clergy Salary & Benefits	\$ 184,750	
Plate	\$ 20,000	Parish Programs	\$ 9,000	
Other Gifts	\$ 49,000	Outreach	\$ 24,202	
Ceremonies	\$ 26,000	Music Staff & Program	\$ 109,064	
Young Music Fund	\$ 96,264	Cantata Program	\$ 96,264	
Rectory Fund	\$ 15,223	Parish Operations Staff	\$ 130,759	
Diocesan Investment Trust (DIT)	\$ 19,318	Parish Operating Expenses	\$ 40,200	
	\$ 617,805		\$ 594,239	\$ 23,566
Other Investment Income	\$ 145,801	Diocesan Assessment	\$ 53,614	\$ 92,187
Place Use Resident	\$ 82,000	Building & Facilities	\$ 299,083	
Place Use Non-Resident	\$ 80,000	Sextons	\$ 12,190	
		Reimbursed Utility Expenses	\$ (3,000)	
		Reimbursed BostonWarm Expenses	\$ (10,000)	
	\$ 162,000		\$ 298,273	\$ (136,273)
<b>Total Ministry Support</b>	<b>\$ 925,606</b>	<b>Total Ministry Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 946,126</b>	<b>(20,520)</b>

**Emmanuel Church Condensed Statement of Financial Position**  
**December-31 -2024**

01/21/25

<b>Assets</b>		<b>Liabilities and Equity</b>	
<b>Checking/Savings/AR/Prepays</b>		<b>Liabilities</b>	
Checking	97,886.36	Accrued Expenses	8,513.80
Money Market	52,139.34	Deferred Revenue	79,080.00
Rector's Discretionary Fund	391.90	403B-Pension Liabilities	2,043.70
Pay Pal	7,580.06	Place Use Deposits	500.00
Cash App	2,463.00	Due to Others	2,884.59
Prepaid Expense	1,115.51	<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>93,022.09</b>
<b>Total Checking/Savings/AR/Prepays</b>	<b>161,576.17</b>		
<b>Morgan Stanley Funds</b>		<b>Equity</b>	
Unrestricted Investments Morgan Stanley	553,909.99	<b>Vestry-Designated Funds</b>	
Restricted Investments Morgan Stanley	4,122,543.11	Reserve for Rector's Sabbatical	1,000.00
<b>Total Morgan Stanley Funds</b>	<b>4,676,453.10</b>	Reserve for Roof Repairs	1,200.00
		Reserve for Organ Repairs	1,000.00
		<b>Total Vestry-Designated Funds</b>	<b>3,200.00</b>
<b>Restricted Investment Funds -DIT</b>		Donor Restricted Funds	2,994.68
Diocesan Investment Trust	287,180.87	Capital Funds	1,809.67
<b>Total Restricted Investment Funds-DIT</b>	<b>287,180.87</b>	Angel Window Unspent	0.00
		Columbarium Fund Receipts	500.00
<b>Total Investment Funds</b>	<b>4,963,633.97</b>	<b>Total Donor Restricted and Capital Funds</b>	<b>5,304.35</b>
<b>Note: The 2024 assessed value for 15 Newbury Street is \$32.8 Million of which \$20.3 Million is Building and 12.5 Million is Land</b>		<b>Restricted Endowment Funds-DIT</b>	
		DIT Endowment Funds	287,180.87
		Unrealized Gain/(Loss) on DIT Investments	0.00
		<b>Total DIT Funds</b>	<b>287,180.87</b>
		<b>Morgan Stanley Funds</b>	
		Morgan Stanley Investments-Restricted	4,122,543.11
		Unrealized Gain/(Loss) Restricted	0.00
		Morgan Stanley Investment Funds-Unrestricted	553,909.99
		Unrealized Gain/(Loss) Unrestricted	0.00
		<b>Total Morgan Stanley Funds</b>	<b>4,676,453.10</b>
		<b>Total Equity Funds</b>	<b>4,972,138.32</b>
		Parish Funds (Unrestricted)	64,940.98
		Net Operating Income/(Loss)	237.58
		Net Non Operating Building Income/(Loss)	-5,128.83
		<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>5,032,188.05</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>5,125,210.14</b>	<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	<b>5,125,210.14</b>

## Stewardship Report

“...justice is returning that which belongs to others to them.”

*Mary Jane “Kip” Tiernan (1926 – 2011),*

*Social Justice Activist & Founder of Rosie’s Place*

The annual stewardship pledge season for FY2024 was once again led by Liz Levin as Chair with Mary Beth Clack, Cindy Coldren, Mark and Melissa Fernau, Marianne Iauco, and Peter Dutilloy as committee members. We were ably assisted by our Rector, the Rev. Pamela Werntz and Parish Administrator Vaughan Sherrill. Our beautiful materials were designed by Meg Joyce and her associates and printed by Gina Ahtof. This year marks the final year that Meg Joyce is the graphic designer of our materials for Stewardship. We wish her well with her new business creating branding for small businesses and non-profits.

As a committee we felt it vital for us to highlight The Moral Imperative of Doing Justice in our materials distributed to the congregation. In recent years Emmanuel Church members have begun to focus on the repair of our relationship with African American and Afro-Caribbean communities within our Diocese. Some of the leaders of this congregation have been meeting, reading, and discussing the history of our Emmanuel community with regard to slavery and its aftermath. As stated in our letter to the congregation, “While no evidence has been found that there were slave-holders among the founders of Emmanuel Church, there is ample evidence that the finances needed to build and support this parish benefited from trades that depended upon slave labor for their success, cotton and sugar trades in particular.”

We are grateful for those who stepped up to offer a pledge pitch during a Sunday service this year. Those who did so are The Rev. Martha Tucker and her husband David Hargrove, William Fitzner, and Becky Lightcap. With their help, the clergy and lay leadership of Emmanuel Church have been buoyed by the response of our congregants to this year’s request for pledges in support of our staff and programs.

As of January 31, 2025, we have received 90 pledges from individuals and families for a total of \$501,385. Last year our final number of pledges was 81 and amounted to a total pledged of \$438,225.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Levin and the Stewardship Committee

## Building Commission Report

Hello my Emmanuel friends. As always your building commission has been busy and I want to start out thanking Vaughan Sherrill and Robb Scholten for their hard work managing our building’s financial, logistical, and rental tasks. I also want to thank the Vestry and Executive Committee for their support, especially Mark Fernau for his constant attention to the building accounts, and of course our commission members and all of you whose pledges support our work on this beautiful and historic building. We continue to meet weekly, Pat Krol, Julian Bullitt, Melissa Fernau, Vaughan Sherrill and Robb Scholten join me each Thursday to review building issues and accounts, and in addition we hold monthly meetings that include Peter Johnson, Bob Greiner, Paul Curtis, Rebekah Shore, and John Golenski. My heartfelt thanks to everyone!

It continues to be the case that the heating system is a focus of attention. This year, however, this subject is interesting for good reasons! First let me report that we end the year slightly under budget. 2024 was generally a bit warmer than expected, and we are getting a bit better at predicting, so cost overruns have recently not been the problem that they were in the past. We have had some repair expenses, mainly in the condensate lines and pumps, but repair is to be expected. This expense is, very roughly, .006 of replacement cost, so from a financial perspective repair is much more cost effective than replacement would be. Of course, were we to replace the system our objective would be to economize on operating expense and also and primarily to reduce our carbon footprint. This is where things get very interesting. Our system runs on district steam supplied by a utility that currently is named “Vicinity” (previously Viola, before that Trigen.) In 2024 we paid \$52,248.00 dollars for steam heat. We have explored the cost of replacing the system- in about 2015 quotes were over \$700,000.00 (I would guess well over



1,000,000.00 today) the return on investment doesn't really work out very well- remember a new system would still consume either gas or electric energy.

So, if the finances don't work, what about carbon?

We were very pleased and excited by the announcement that Vicinity is introducing what they call eSteam. (you can follow this project here: <https://www.vicinityenergy.us/products-services/esteam/>) If you imagine a heat pump- a mini-split heat and air conditioning unit is what we are most familiar with, but on such a large scale that it can produce steam for an entire city then you will start to grasp the idea. This all sounds wonderfully aspirational, but we were surprised this fall when we received notification that the first eSteam boiler had been installed at the facility in Kendall Square and brought online November 19th. Vicinity is an international corporation and has been working on these systems in Europe. They have a system in Glasgow that not only runs on renewable electricity but recovers heat from the river Clyde. They are using Boston/Cambridge as a pilot location to introduce these systems to the US market. Their facility will take water from the Charles River as the one in Scotland is doing from the Clyde. This will reduce our carbon footprint significantly without requiring us to change our heating system, or scrapping the pipe infrastructure in the city streets. In this respect it brings to mind the district Geothermal project that Audrey Schulman told us about during her Shomrei Adamah presentation last fall. (<https://www.crtboston.org/shomreiadamah.html>)

During the late spring we did another phase of our chancel restoration project with John Tiedemann Inc. We cleaned the stone walls, removing the stains from old roof leaks, cleaned the reredos and added a faux marble finish to wallboard that covers the space where the chancel organ was removed. While they were working with their lift we had some penetrations of the ceiling made in anticipation of installing a new suspension system for the recording microphones, which will allow us to remove the unsightly "clothes line" that currently holds the mics. The work on the walls and the reredos has been funded by Jim and Hanna Bartlett, with Paul Curtis also contributing. The improvement in the recording microphones is being funded through Emmanuel Music by a gift from Geoff Steadman and Danielle Maddon. Emmanuel is blessed by the generosity of supporters and congregants to whom much gratitude is due.

Also individually funded was the recreation of the missing angel window in the clerestory to the left of the altar. This window was broken during the fire, and unlike the Burnham window we had no remains from it at all. That window was a Connick copy of the Kempe windows opposite. Now we have Jim Anderson's copy of Connick's copy of Kempe. Each layer of this creation contributing its own fact to the story- it is fascinating and amusing by turns! The current layer has one or two interesting surprises! Many thanks to Jill Zunshine. This is the second donation of windows she has made, and it completes the repairs of damage to the building that occurred during the fire in November of 2000.

While on the subject of restoration I want to bring to everyone's attention the very beautiful statue of Bishop Barbara Harris that has now joined Pauli Murray on the pulpit. Our wood carver in residence, Ted Southwick, is engaged with Pam in a project to replace the stolen pulpit statues. The new addition is superb and worthy of detailed examination! Ted has also contributed to the building's health in many ways, repairing doors and other items which while vital to our building are rather mundane compared to this beautiful work of art.

We can't have a building report without talking about the roof! It seems that after many tries over a number of years we have finally fixed the small, persistent but intermittent leak over the south balcony stairs. This is a leak that only occurs when the wind is blowing hard from the south. If there is enough wind pressure during a heavy rain the water can be forced up between the flashing and the counter flashing. As this is an unusual condition- usually bad weather comes from the Northwest or Northeast, it is very hard to find the compromised location. A storm in December provided the ultimate test, and we passed, so we are calling that matter closed.

Other work of significance concerns the gutters and downspouts. We have contracted with a very good company to clean the gutters. They proposed, and we accepted to have cleaning ports added to the downspouts so that they



*Our rector, along with members of our Building Commission and Vestry visit Jim Anderson Stained Glass Studio Back row, from left: Rev. Pam Wernitz, Melissa Fernau, and Jim Anderson Front row, from left: Sr. Warden Rebekah Shore, Liz Levin, Julian Bullitt, and Building Commission Chair Michael Scanlon.  
January 2024*

can be cleared and maintained from ground level. This copper work was completed in the fall. Going forward keeping the down spouts clear should help reduce water infiltration problems

As with the roof, so with the elevator- it seems to be working well, and our maintenance contract with 3Phase seems to be paying off!

Julian, as he always does, has been working hard for our benefit. He designed, fabricated and installed new lights to improve the lighting of the chancel. These are a big improvement in the experience for both viewers of the live stream and people attending services and concerts in person. While

doing this he has also been testing and improving the electrical plugs in various locations, ever vigilant about the possibility of electrical fire in our old building.

In addition to his work as a scientist Julian has also been researching the archives of photographic images, our own, other location, even including a visit to the archives housed at the Victoria and Albert Museum in London. Initially he was interested in documenting the craftspeople who produced the Lindsey Chapel light fixtures but this work expanded into documentation of the building in general and an understanding of the photographers who were employed by the parish and its architect. He prepared a presentation of a small part of his research for the Lindsey Chapel 100th Anniversary.

Looking forward to 2025 we have some plans.

First, and most conspicuously, we will be restoring the interior finish of the wall around the Emmanuel Land window. This is the area that was the focus of our exterior restoration about 10 years ago. At that time we were working with a grant that could only be used for exterior work. The roof, flashing and masonry problems were all resolved at that time. Now a generous donor has offered to fund the interior work- more on that to come.

Second, while our masonry crack monitors have remained very stable we will be investigating some movement of the floor at the front wall. This has been a very long standing issue that does not seem to be progressing. We benefit from having had a rather stable and quiet year, so we have the time to attend to some of these non urgent long standing projects.

Third, since Rob Yoeman's death in the spring of 2023 we have been without a regular building sexton. Now, thanks to the generosity of our congregation we are in discussion with a firm that will take responsibility for the monthly schedule of routine maintenance tasks. We feel fairly close to finalizing this arrangement. this will be a big step in preserving the work the building commission has done over the last 15 years. I, and the other members of the commission are very grateful for your support.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Michael Scanlon

## Garden Report

Working in a garden adjacent to a very busy sidewalk is not usually contemplative, but it can be interactive. Passersby pause to ask questions or give compliments. The most common reason people stop is to take photos of the twin sign boards for Emmanuel Church and Central Reform Temple on the center doors. Some are confused; many are surprised (in what most often seems to be a positive way.) I like to answer questions - horticultural as well as those bordering on religious practices. Do I scowl at people who regard the garden as a verdant restroom for their pets? Yes, I do that too.

The big event this past year was the summer drought - not an event, really, as much as a too-long condition, which continued through the fall. About half of the garden is irrigated automatically. However, the aging system was more troublesome than usual, and a bad summer for misbehavior it was. A stuck valve meant we had to turn off the underground irrigation for a portion of the garden until it could be repaired. The other above-ground components worked, but not in a way that is friendly to humans or garden design, since the emitters tend to wash the soil into places we don't want it.

Thanks to Dennis Gaskell, though, we pulled through. With hoses and buckets, Dennis watered when and where it was needed, sometimes every day. This was especially important after I expanded the seasonally planted areas farther west, that is, to the portion of the garden in front of the Lindsey Chapel. This was done in part at least in preparation for the Chapel's 100th anniversary in the fall of 2024. We don't know what was planted in front of Lindsey in 1924, so there's nothing to replicate. The now rather large trees planted both on the sidewalk and in the garden mean that the soil is crowded with tree roots, so much so that it's impossible without mechanical equipment to dig in the soil to add new plants. I've abandoned that methodology and am now experimenting with large above-ground planters in these areas. The first two went in this past fall - adjacent to the Lindsey Chapel entry doors. This seems to have been successful - enough so that I will now place low planters on the sparsely planted zones adjacent to the ramp up to the main doors.

The Back Bay's rodent population finds the garden conducive to eating and sleeping. We are not amused. This past summer Emmanuel hired a new pest control firm, and there is now a more aggressive effort to persuade the rabbits and rats to decamp to places less verdant than 15 Newbury Street. To date they have hesitated to abandon our little Eden.

I thank Dennis, Barbara DeVries, and Jill Silverstein for their good work and good humor when I request assistance with the ongoing chores that help a garden grow. There's nothing commercial to look at for a 200 foot-or-so stretch of the first block of Newbury Street, and we trust people find some beauty there.

Respectfully submitted,  
Peter Johnson, Gardener

## Parish Administrator's Report

Life goes on at Emmanuel, and 2024 was no different, with the atypical "never a dull moment" day in the life of the parish. I often joke that the daily events of the parish would make the perfect script for a British inspired sitcom, à la *Keeping up Appearances* (my personal favorite).

Thanks to an organization called Operation Able, the parish office gained strength and momentum with two new, yet veteran employees in 2024. Many of you know them as longtime sextons: Dennis Gaskell and Bill Comer.

Dennis' expertise and experience working with the unhoused community shone in 2024 with events like Thanksgiving at Emmanuel, along with the daily hospitality and operations support he provided and continues to provide to the church, our guests, and to our mission partners. Thanksgiving at Emmanuel was Dennis' creation, inspired by decades of working in the kitchen at Boston Rescue Mission. Together with friend, philanthropist, and radio personality Sue Brady, Thanksgiving at Emmanuel attracted media attention to the church and highlighted our mission of radical welcome to those living on the margins. It's this kind of service that exemplifies the meaning of the name Emmanuel: God is with us.

Bill Comer also joined the parish office team as administrative assistant and hospitality support. Together with Robb, he pursued new partnerships and leads for our offerings as a wedding venue. Thanks to our beautiful

building, Bill's enthusiasm, and Robb's event planning expertise, we continued to book more weddings than ever in 2024.

Bill's writing strengths took center stage as he took on the role as editor for our weekly e-newsletter. Our e-newsletters are a lifeline and resource for many, especially for those Emmanuelites far and wide who want to keep a pulse on the parish. Bill's e-newsletter compiles all the exciting happenings at Emmanuel and beyond, sharing community news and opportunities for engagement.

We welcome 2025 renewed and inspired! Onward!

Respectfully submitted,  
Vaughan Sherrill

## **Pastoral Care Commission Report**

"Each Sunday morning, during prayers, names are read by the lector, and names are said by members of the congregation. This too is part of the work of the Care Commission. This too is the mark of a healthy religious community, and especially, the mark of capable religious leadership. The murmured chorus of names is the hymn of the Care Commission." the late Walter Jonas, who led the Commission for a number of years

The commission, with new member, Pavel Hradecky, continues its work of connecting with those people who made their needs apparent, writing cards of condolence or congratulation, providing meals, and visits. Following the lead of our rector, we are devoted to all aspects of pastoral care. This year, we have begun to respond to the needs of parishioners who request rides to services if they wish to attend worship in person.

We invite you to join in this ministry which offers so much to our parishioners, in a responsive and caring way. Maybe you will be one of them, giving, receiving, perhaps both giving and receiving. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,  
Pavel Hradecky & The Rev. Deacon Bob Greiner  
[Pavel.hrx@gmail.com](mailto:Pavel.hrx@gmail.com) & [rgreiner210@gmail.com](mailto:rgreiner210@gmail.com)

## **Communications Commission Report**

Members: Mary Blocher, Mary Chitty, Bill Comer, Mary Beth Clack, Matt Griffing (chair), Jesse Kieffer, Elizabeth Richardson, with support from: Julian Bullitt, The Rev. Bob Greiner, Peter Johnson, Pat Krol, Vaughan Sherrill, Michael Scanlon, and our rector, Pam Wernitz

In 2024 the Commission helped share information about life at Emmanuel internally and to the wider world along the multiple channels listed below. The work of our commission is supplemented by many parishioners and members of our church staff. Thank you to all who have pitched in to spread the word about Emmanuel and to build our wonderful community, whether by posting on Facebook, commenting in our YouTube livestream, submitting photos, uploading worship bulletins to the website, or submitting art for the newsletter.

### **Weekly e-Newsletter**

Thank you to Bill Comer for taking over production of This Week @ Emmanuel Church, with its announcements of upcoming events, delivery of messages from various contributors, and latest news on happenings within the Parish and our diocese. It also includes artwork and photos contributed by Julian Bullitt, Joy Howard, Peter Johnson, Jesse Kieffer, Elizabeth Richardson, and other members of our community.

### **Google Platform**

Thanks to the generosity of Google, our staff, leadership, and commissions regularly used its cloud storage and Workspace applications to edit, store, and share information about our operations, finances, history, and mission. If you would like to join the 86 active users on our internal platform, send a request to [clerk@emmanuelboston.org](mailto:clerk@emmanuelboston.org). Please email as attachments to [photos@emmanuelboston.org](mailto:photos@emmanuelboston.org) any images of parish activities or history with suggestions for their captions.

## Google My Business

Via its links and interactive maps, the Knowledge Graph box entitled Emmanuel Episcopal Church of Boston directs searchers to our website, Wikipedia page, Facebook page, YouTube channel, office phone, and geographic location. On the results page of Google searches, this box appears with basic information about our mission, architectural history, and contact information. Its 145 reviews rate us favorably with a score of 4.4 out of 5. We appreciate all who have added to its growing collection of videos and images of our facade, windows, and interior spaces. Thanks to parishioners who have helped by answering questions people pose in the box.

## Facebook

Our page, which has 1097 followers, over the year shared with the public 46 posts and 110 captioned images. We linked to our YouTube channel and relevant web pages from many posts. Thanks to Bill Comer and others who created copy for posts and to all who contributed images or agreed to be photographed. We're especially grateful to Bob Greiner, Julian Bullitt, and Michael Scanlon for their images and sharing of posts. We hope that parishioners who have FB pages will like and share our posts as a form of evangelism.

## YouTube

Our channel gained 75 subscribers to reach a total of 793. We also registered 10,527 views (down 637 views, or 6% from last year) and reached 2898 watching-hours (down 91 hours, or 3% from last year). The dip in views and watching-hours could reflect more attendance in person. We are certainly pleased to see continued growth in subscriptions.

In descending order our most-watched services for 2024 were:

1. Easter Sunday: 389 views
2. The First Sunday of Epiphany: 379 views
3. Christmas Eve: 373 views
4. The Second Sunday of Lent: 350 views
5. The Third Sunday of Lent: 339 views
6. The First Sunday of Lent: 336 views
7. The Second Sunday of Epiphany: 334 views
8. Good Friday: 312 views
9. The Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost: 311 views
10. The Fourth Sunday of Epiphany: 303 views.

We are grateful to Emmanuel Music for providing professional video services during the Cantata Season. Thanks again to Vaughan Sherrill for adding worship information to both YouTube and our Live-streamed Services page, where recent services can also be viewed.

## Website

Our Racial Justice Working Group significantly improved our website with its new blog, We've Come This Far by Faith (<https://www.emmanuelboston.org/category/racialjustice/>). We continued to add to our site's History and Sermons sections, carried out regular updating of the homepage and other content, and maintained its backend Wordpress software.

We added several historical pages and these blog posts:

- 31 sermons (including one by the Rt. Rev. Alan M. Gates @ <https://www.emmanuelboston.org/mission/history/history-of-lindsey-chapel/centennial-of-the-leslie-lindsey-memorial-chapel/>)
- 7 posts to Musings from the Margins by Mary Swabenland, which were copied from This Week @ Emmanuel Church
- 35 posts to We've Come This Far by Faith by Mary Blocher
- 21 posts to Timeline of Emmanuel History by Elizabeth Richardson.

Although Google Analytics has implemented new metrics for website traffic, we can still make comparisons with last year's data in certain areas. Compared to rounded figures for last year, we received overall 18,735 active users



(up from 16.6K) and 64,198 pageviews (up from 43K). Our homepage received 31,171 pageviews, while our menu categories netted (in descending order) these pageviews:

- 1.Mission: 9,107
2. Worship: 8,779
- 3.About: 6,781
- 4.Community: 5,059
- 5.Giving: 1,090.

Most-visited sub-categories of pages garnered these totals:

1. Sermons: 3,227
2. History & building: 2,872
3. Livestream: 2,489
4. Music: 1,665
5. Staff biographies: 1,520.

Our goals for 2025 are to:

1. Refresh imagery throughout the site
- 2.Audit site content for outdated information
3. Identify areas for improvement
4. Embed some videos of musical offerings
5. Create slide shows of our visual arts and stained-glass windows
6. Create a sandbox (local copy of our site) for experimentation with new features.

Have an idea about how to improve our communications, or want to shout from the rooftop about Emmanuel? Reach out to one of our members to explore how we could work together. Thanks again to the many folks who contributed in 2024!

Respectfully submitted,  
Matt Griffing and Elizabeth Richardson

## History & Archives Commission Report

Mary Beth Clack, Elizabeth Richardson, and I continued our efforts to organize and inventory our archives and publicize aspects of our church history. We welcomed with pleasure Peter Dutilloy and Carol Reiman, who spent hours organizing our newsletters, annual reports, vestry minutes, and papers from the Kershaw years, among others. Mark & Melissa Fernau worked their way through boxes of financial papers. Parish Assistant Robb Scholten reorganized supply shelves and helped with our file cabinets. Thanks to all who helped free up considerable space in the Archives Room and make a dent in our backlog of print materials.

Parish Administrator Vaughan Sherrill helped by passing along questions, relocating materials, and starting to develop a policy for document retention. Much of our work has been done in conjunction with Communications Commission members Matt Griffing and Jesse Kieffer. Building Commission members Julian Bullitt, Mike Scanlon, and Galen Gilbert have researched and commenced projects,

### Our Responses to Various Inquiries

Research for the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Consecration of Lindsey Chapel.

- We found a number of *Boston Globe* articles about these services.
- Elizabeth created a webpage based on this research. It features a PDF of the Rt. Rev. Alan Gates sermon and Julian Bullitt's timeline of restoration projects and support: <https://www.emmanuelboston.org/mission/history/history-of-lindsey-chapel/centennial-of-the-leslie-lindsey-memorial-chapel/>

Visit of Kelly Bratkowski, PhD Candidate, Department of Theological Studies, Saint Louis University.

- ◇ She is researching a dissertation on the Rev. Dr. Elwood Worcester and the Emmanuel Movement.
- ◇ Mary Chitty had sent her suggestions of things available only in our archive (some yearbooks and his bound sermons).

- ◇ Mary also referred her to historian Robert Powell, MD, with whom she had met when he spoke about his work on the Movement at the AA history meeting held here in 2018 (see <https://www.amazon.com/Elwood-Worcester-Emmanuel-Movement-Physician/dp/1725554763>).
- ◇ Mary Beth met for three days in July with Kelly, who was also interested in learning more about the work of Courtenay Baylor and in Worcester's involvement with spiritualism/psychical research.
- ◇ For more about our research on these lines, please contact us.

We researched several requests for Emmanuel's baptismal records.

Thanks to Natalie Dykstra for recognizing our help with her research on the Gardners in her *Chasing Beauty: The Life of Isabella Stewart Gardner* (NY: Mariner, 2024).

### Ongoing Research & Web Content

We published these pages on our website:

#### 1. Centennial of the Lindsey Memorial Chapel

- a. With a link to the Rt. Rev. Alan Gates' sermon
- b. Julian Bullitt's timeline of Chapel restoration
- c. <https://www.emmanuelboston.org/mission/history/history-of-lindsey-chapel/centennial-of-the-leslie-lindsey-memorial-chapel/>

#### Index page for our Commission

- a. With links to our existing pages
- b. <https://www.emmanuelboston.org/about/commissions/history-archives-commission/>

#### Our Founding Rector

- a. Index of our pages and Timeline posts re: the Rev. Dr. F. Dan Huntington
- b. <https://www.emmanuelboston.org/mission/history/slavery-abolition-emmanuel-church/our-founding-rector/>

#### Timeline of Jazz at Emmanuel

- a. Compiled in collaboration with the Rev. Dr. Mark Harvey
- b. <https://www.emmanuelboston.org/mission/history/history-of-music-emmanuel-church/timeline-of-jazz-emmanuel/>

We revised several finding aids and expanded our collection to include:

1. Newsletter Index
2. Our Beloved Women
3. Our Benefactors & Donations
4. Our Electronic Files
5. Our Images
6. Pew-Holders Index
7. Shelf List (inventory of our print materials)

We continue to:

- Collect references to Emmanuel in the news media  
For instance, Mary Beth found a 2024 story about people listening to cantatas on our YouTube channel.  
<https://www.bostonglobe.com/2024/11/25/business/people-leaving-massachusetts-miss-politics-health-care-museums-sports-nature/?event=event12>
- Review and update our historical webpages

They can be browsed from links on our page under Mission and via links on its various pages.  
<https://www.emmanuelboston.org/mission/history/>

- Add to our Timeline of History @ Emmanuel  
Drawing on images in Year Books of Emmanuel Parish and other materials, Elizabeth created posts for these years:

- 1863, '81, '84, '90, '92, '95, '97

- 1900, '01, '22, '25, '26, '35

- 2001, '03, '06, '11, '14, '24

<https://www.emmanuelboston.org/category/timeline/>

- research and add material to our guide about Pauli Murray: <https://www.emmanuelboston.org/mission/history/pauli-murray/>
- revise and add to our building guide: <https://www.emmanuelboston.org/mission/history/guide-to-our-building-history/>

Our webpages showing increased usage include:

1. Emmanuel Movement
2. Guide to Our Building History
3. History of Music at Emmanuel
4. Slavery & Abolition
5. Social Justice

### Digitization Projects

- Alexander Etsy's chart of our 1861 pews. Galen Gilbert's daughter, Irene Gilbert, sent us a Boston Athenaeum catalog record for pews offered at auction, which solves a long-standing mystery by providing us with the arrangement and numbering of pews for the original church: <https://cdm.bostonathenaeum.org/digital/collection/p16057coll37/id/686/rec/4>
- Julian Bullitt's photo archive.
  - His digitization of our archival photos and compilation of a chronological, searchable record of them is a wonderful step forward.
  - He has created
  - A photo collage of the Lindsey Chapel's chandelier bronzes
  - A spreadsheet indexing the images he digitized.
  - He reports: "We have the scans of the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) prints in their Sir John Ninian Comper archive. These include pictures of most of the altar-screen saints...RIBA had a picture of Blandina of Lyons, Joan of Arc, Geneviève of Paris, and Gudule of Brussels, which shows a sword that is missing in our 1924 photos of the statues installed in the Chapel."
- *Voices and Emmanuel News*. Thanks to Galen Gilbert and Carol Reiman these newsletters are now available on the History & Archives Google drive's folder called Newsletter Scans @ <https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1AEBqTaA8oBbxa7JWdW87h13yt3IVAUR>.

### Goals for 2025 & Ways to Help

We are looking into archival material about Emmanuel Music and the late Rev. Alvin Kershaw. We plan to

1. create a web slideshow of our building, stained-glass windows, and historic photographs
2. create a physical display of historic images
3. learn more in order to write about the early history of our mission churches and work with historically-black colleges, Native Americans, and the Dakota League.
4. update our webpage History of Music @ Emmanuel

5. Oral-history interviews with parishioners would be a wonderful addition to our archives and could provide material for our website. Written memories of your Emmanuel experiences would also be of interest.
6. We would welcome help with identifying people in digitized/scanned photographs.
7. Although we maintain a digital archive of our Sunday bulletins, we welcome the donation of any paper copies, especially those from 2008-2016.
8. As our image collection is far from comprehensive, we would be interested in seeing what photos of parish history you might have tucked away. Even duplicate copies could prove useful.
9. We often meet in the Archives Room after coffee hour on Sundays to investigate what we have, can learn about from our archives, and brainstorm about what we might learn from other libraries, museums, and churches. Please let me know if you are interested in working with us.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Mary Chitty, Parish Historian [archivist@emmanuelboston.org](mailto:archivist@emmanuelboston.org)

## Racial Justice Working Group Report

“For inasmuch as faith is about partnering with God to mend an unjust earth, and thus to move us toward a more just future, then faith communities by definition are accountable to that future.”  
 --The Rev. Canon Kelly Brown Douglas, Canon Theologian, Washington National Cathedral, “A Christian Call for Reparations” Sojourners (July 2020)

<https://sojo.net/magazine/july-2020/christian-call-case-slavery-reparations-kelly-brown-douglas>

In July 2023, a group of Emmanuelites met in Chapel Camp to learn about our rector’s upcoming sabbatical. Inspired by Pam’s commitment to researching her family’s ties to chattel slavery in the U.S., and building on previous study and interest, we had a soft launch of our group, including members Mary Beth Clack, Cindy Coldren, Pat Krol, and Liz Levin (Mary Blocher joined us a few months later). Our discussions began informally by sharing our own experiences and what brought us to this work. The through line of our time together has been an exploration of racial justice, repair, and reparations, guided by our faith and our commitment to the moral imperative of doing justice. We adapted recommended models for doing this work which emphasize developing relationships and pursuing various paths of inquiry. For us, this meant researching our parish history, studying related issues and how they play out in practice, and engaging with people pursuing this work. This happens best when we pay attention to stories, history, and experiences, and reflect upon them personally and in community. Reading, attending lectures, book talks, workshops, exhibits, and tours, and appreciating sermons, are all part of the mix.

An important part of the journey is recognizing and celebrating our shared humanity. We come to this point in our work embracing humility, sometimes sharing uncertainty, and mindful that we benefit from enlarging our perspective by listening to other voices, known and less known.

Our parish history research began by consulting our archives and our website pages. We decided to focus on the first eight proprietors of Emmanuel Church:

- Dr. William R. Lawrence, who hosted the first meeting of the eight and later served as junior warden. He was a Board member of the Boston Dispensary Corporation, author of the *History of the Boston Dispensary, and founder of the Church of Our Savior, Brookline*;
- George P. Upham, dry goods merchant and sales agent for cotton mills;
- E. S. (Edward Sprague) Rand, attorney, horticulturalist, and first warden of Emmanuel;
- Henry Sigourney, director of the Boston and Lowell Railroad Company and of the Pepperell Manufacturing Company (a cotton textile firm in Maine);
- Henry Timmins, Gentleman, listed in American Aristocracy;

- B. F. (Benjamin Franklin) Burgess, West India goods merchant and owner of a sugar plantation in Cuba;
- John Jeffries, Jr., importer of silks in the importing house of Adams, Homer & Co. before engaging in real estate; and
- Foster Waterman, skillful ship builder in the firm of Waterman & Ewell, later engaged in commerce, navigation, and real estate, and director of the Home for Aged Men and of the Home for Orphans.

These proprietors, and the many who followed, were active with their wives and family members in local parishes; they were pew owners (often in more than one church) and liberal contributors to diocesan and other social justice causes. Many of their wives acted as generous benefactors of religious and civic institutions, engaging in all manner of community ministry.

Another line of inquiry has centered on our diocesan efforts and on becoming familiar with the DioMass [Reparations Toolkit](#). The Rev. Tamra Tucker spoke at our November 2023 vestry meeting, following other vestry discussions about enhancing a culture of repair in our church and in our local communities. This exploration built on our vestry's participation in [Sacred Ground](#), in 2022 (Sacred Ground is a year-long program sponsored by the Episcopal Church's "Becoming Beloved Community.")

Our blog, ["We've Come This Far by Faith,"](#) began in August 2023. Pieces appear regularly in our e-news, "This Week at Emmanuel." We continue to write this column, inviting occasional guest contributors. and we are committed to this effort to make resources available to parishioners and others who visit our site.

We appreciate the generosity and good will of our friends and fellow learners who greatly supported our working group:

- The Reverend Pamela Wertz for her wisdom, guidance, and encouragement for our study, research, and activities. Pam always has a good word or animating idea to inspire us.
- Emmanuel's vestry and parishioners for their conversations with us and curiosity about our work.
- Parishioner Dr. Sara Lawrence-Lightfoot, who gave a heartfelt, delightful, and informative talk, "Stories of Witness and Balm," at our June 2<sup>nd</sup> Chapel Camp. Based on her biography of her mother, Dr. Margaret Morgan-Lawrence, Sara's talk was followed by a lively discussion and a few surprises.
- The Reverend Dr. Martha Tucker, and Yale Divinity School Seminarian and DioMass postulant, Alden Fossett, who wrote wonderful inspirational meditations for our blog.
- Bill Comer, who posts and maintains our weekly blog with enthusiasm and joy.
- Elizabeth Richardson, archivist, and Mary Chitty, parish historian, for their countless writings on the history of Emmanuel Church, their generous responses to our queries, their gracious invitations to share in the archival mission, and their love of the truth as revealed in the archive. They enabled us to enrich our research and further our outreach via the website.

We acknowledge the commitment of The Reverend Stephen Bonsey and Dr. Constance Holmes, who, along with fellow participants in [The Stolen Beam Series](#), welcomed us to their fall 2024 program of study. Sponsored by Episcopal City Mission (ECM), this group's attention to contemplative reflection, study, and discussion broadened our perspective and enriched our relationship building, which continues. (The course follows a curriculum that was designed initially by the Jewish Community of Amherst (MA))

Lastly, we enjoyed our visits to The African Meeting House, 8 Smith Ct, Boston (a Chapel Camp offering); Old North Church; "Framing Freedom: The Harriet Hayden Albums" (at the Boston Athenaeum); The Royall House and Slave Quarters (Medford); the Harvard and the Legacy of Slavery tour, and our attendance at various book talks and lectures throughout the year. We are thankful for a growing community that fosters both local and global efforts to create and enliven cultures of understanding and repair.

Looking ahead, we are committed to this effort to make resources available to parishioners and others who visit



our site. We will continue our work, which will become more focused on Boston and our local environments. There are interfaith reparations discussions that include Emmanuel Church, and our rector is sponsoring one of their ongoing discussions in January 2025. We invite your thoughts, comments, and questions as we move into our next church year.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Beth Clack (Convener), Mary Blocher, Cindy Coldren, Pat Krol, Liz Levin

## **Episcopal Relief and Development Report**

The mission of the Episcopal Relief and Development Report Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD) is to be, "the compassionate response of The Episcopal Church to human suffering in the world." In 2024, among its many programs (too numerous to list in this short report!) ERD coordinated with affected Episcopal dioceses to support the health and education efforts in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank amidst ongoing violence. It served refugees impacted by the war in Ukraine, providing support both within Ukraine and throughout Europe. It also supported people affected by Hurricane Helene and Hurricane Milton, and responded to Hurricane Oscar, and the mid-October power grid failure in Cuba. The 2023 annual report (the most recent) stated that "your generosity enabled us to reach more than 4 million people in over 40 countries with our evidence-based approaches to reducing gender-based violence, adapting to climate change and providing nurturing care to children." It also reported that in 2023, 2,320,347 people worldwide benefited from its programs. The report also states that in 2023, \$2.7 million was provided in loans to people around the world. In total, in 2023, ERD spent more than \$24 million on programs around the world. The website states that, "Because we receive income from investments and contributed services from the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society to offset administrative expenses, over 90% of your donor dollar goes directly to programs in the field." The 2023 annual report states that "Episcopal Relief & Development meets all 20 Better Business Bureau Standards for Charity Accountability and earned a fourstar rating (the highest rating) from Charity Navigator and a Gold Seal of Transparency from Candid."

Emmanuel Church's relationship with ERD is a vital and long-reaching way that we engage globally with communities facing hunger, poverty, disaster, and disease.

If you want to get more connected to the valuable ministries of ERD, sign up for their newsletter at: [www.episcopalrelief.org/what-you-can-do/stay-informed/sign-up/](http://www.episcopalrelief.org/what-you-can-do/stay-informed/sign-up/). If you have other questions or would like to talk about this important work, please contact me.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dawn Dreisbach

## **B-SAFE Report** **The Bishop's Summer Academic and Fun Enrichment**

Last March 9th Peggy Bradley attended the annual organizational meeting for B-SAFE 2024. She met the new Executive Director Inés Palmarin, and several other new team members. It is quite wonderful that the St. Stephen's Youth Programs (SSYP) organization has been renewing and continuing its amazing work with kids, teens, and even young adults.

While elaborate plans were being organized for the several field trips, we signed up to fill 25 grocery bags for the families of the B-SAFE kids. Again, we partnered with our friends from Central Reform Temple (CRT). To make plans, Jill Silverstein, Bob Greiner and Peggy Bradley met to discuss our fund raising and the fill & delivery of the grocery bags in July.

In June we were blessed with a most wonderful violin concert by Jay Park accompanied by John Dilworth. You might have seen him last year serving as a crucifer, which is how Bob met him. Jay later left for the west coast to attend school, but I saw him recently at Emmanuel visiting his family. We are so thankful that he shared his glorious talent with us.

For another fund-raising event, Pam and Joy provided a dinner for the annual raffle. This is a big extra from them to us, and we thank them whole-heartedly. Peter Dutilloy held the winning ticket!

To fill the grocery bags, we set up a donation page online. A new approach was to ask people if they wished to fill one bag themselves or to provide a single item on the list for all bags. It got a bit confusing, but it all came out in the end. The day before delivery day we had many hands set up and fill the bags, followed up the next day by adding fresh foods, and then drove it all off to St. Stephen's in the Southend. Those bags were very full and heavy with basic stuff!

Thank you to all who donated funds and food, Robb, Bill, and Vaughan for their assistance, and to those who packed and delivered—Mark, Carol, Lisa, Barbara, Ben, Sandra, Cheryl, Doug, Josette, Rob, Elliot, Jacob, Brian, and others I might have left off this list.

It all counts as proof that we have a vibrant community that understands the word LOVE, as we have heard Pam say it.

Respectfully submitted,  
Peggy Bradley, Bob Greiner, & Jill Silverstein

## 239<sup>th</sup> Diocese of Massachusetts Annual Convention Report

The 239<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts was held on November 9, 2024. The theme for the convention was **One Body in Christ, Members One of Another: Reconciliation and Belonging in an Age of Division**. The morning started with the celebration of the Eucharist, with our Assistant Bishop, The Right Rev. Carol Gallagher presiding and was followed by the very first Bishop's Address given to us by the Right Rev. Julia E. Whitworth, our Bishop Diocesan. Bishop Julia's opening words to us were: "Grace and peace to you, Beloved Diocese of Massachusetts." She asked us to not be "...conformed to hopelessness, despair, division... Rather: Be transformed by the renewal that comes when we pull together as One Church..." Then she offered some "thoughts about new ways that we might try to Church together," based on some of the narratives that our diocese seems to hold about itself:

- Narrative Number One: "The Diocese of Massachusetts is a complex system." Instead, Bishop Julia believes that there might be ways to simplify and streamline working together. The Budget, Strategy and Governance Committee is beginning to explore this area.

- Narrative Number Two: "New Englanders are frugal, even a little stingy, very reserved, and not very welcoming." In fact, this is not what our Bishop has found to be true given the many ways some parishes have been very generous with hospitality and invitation to the Other. But she is concerned by "reports that our priests are struggling to make ends meet, that they're unable to afford to live anywhere near their ministry context, or even to remain in their ministries, or in this diocese, due to financial stress." We need to "think creatively and collaboratively about how we can provide livable wages and livable lives for our priests."

- Narrative Number Three: "We are really Congregationalist, you know. It's a New England thing. " No, we are Episcopalian. She concludes that "...we have real work to do – strategic work and spiritual work – in order to tell a new story, of a diocese with abundant belonging, collaboration, and interdependence, in order to participate fully in God's healing of the world."

Bishop Julia also highlighted the work we need to do in this diocese around trauma, truth-telling, and solidarity. We are working to heal past or on-going trauma through the Racial Justice Commission and newly formed Task Force for Women Clergy, which our Rector Pam Wertz will help co-lead.

In conclusion, Bishop Julia expressed gratitude to all who have brought her to Massachusetts and who worked and are working to help our mutual transition. She noted that Bishop Carol will retire in early 2025 and that she is asking the convention to pass a resolution allowing her to call a new Assistant Bishop.

The business of the day went very smoothly and the mood during the entire proceeding was one of joy. Reference was made to the Compensation and Benefits Committee actively working with the Collaborative Ministries Working Group the Congregation Consultants to develop templates for future use. This is, in part, to address the needs of part-time clergy and those who are also working in other jobs.

The Racial Justice Commission's subcommittee Forming Active Antiracist Episcopal Communities was charged with developing a theologically grounded antiracist training for the diocese. This subcommittee in early 2025 will focus on implementing both in-person and online training options as well as a book group and workshops on important topics such as microaggressions. The Reparations Subcommittee made significant progress with several projects including publication of a report exploring how chattel slavery impacted the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts from its origin and beyond. The next goal is development of an interactive online format that will articulate some of the historical connections to slavery found across the diocese in partnership with congregations exploring their histories. The subcommittee is also recording personal testimonies of African American and Afro-Caribbean members of our diocese. For a deeper dive into the work of the Racial Justice Commission I refer you to the report presented at Convention on Page H15 of the handbook.

All proposed resolutions were passed with a majority vote by clerical and lay delegates. These included:

- A Call for All leaders to Complete *Dismantling Racism through Racial Healing*, a program developed by and for the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts, as part of our commitment to being an antiracist diocese.
- Recognize and Commemorate the 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Boston Episcopal Charitable Society.
- Resolution in Response to Convention Address by The Rt. Rev. Julia E. Whitworth to Appoint an Assistant Bishop.
- Resolution in Thanksgiving for the Ministry of the Rt. Rev. Carol Joy Gallagher.
- Resolution in Response to Convention Address by The Rt. Rev. Julia E. Whitworth, Nov. 9, 2024.

Details of all materials can be found in the Convention Handbook at the link: <https://www.diomass.org/diocesan-convention-2024>

Respectfully submitted,  
Liz Levin and Jamie Shore, 2024 Lay Delegates to Convention

## **CRECHE Report** **Charles River Episcopal Co-housing Endeavor**

Dear Friends,

2024 has been an exciting and dynamic year for Creche! We've welcomed new partners, launched new intentional communities, embraced new housemates, and embarked on fresh endeavors. We even kicked off the year with a unique milestone—granting our Executive Director a three-month sabbatical. This experience proved to be a powerful opportunity for growth, as we developed new tools and processes to share the workload and strengthen our increasingly vibrant ministry. And that was just the beginning!

**The Emmanuel House:** Life at Emmanuel House is thriving with six amazing housemates—Avery, Jamie, Lisa, Peter, R, and Rebekah. This year, we're gearing up for our seventh growing season in the community garden, a beloved haven of beauty and rest in Allston. Thanks to our dedicated friends, neighbors, and volunteers, the garden continues to flourish.

We're thrilled to welcome our newest housemates: Peter, a longtime Emmanuelite and former steering committee member; R, a passionate disability rights advocate and Peter's partner; and Avery, whose journey with us began as a gardener, then a volunteer, then an organizer—and now, a proud Emmanuelite.

**The Allston Abbey:** Exciting things are happening next door to Emmanuel House. In partnership with the Diocese of Massachusetts, the Episcopal Community of Oscar Romero, and the Anglican/Episcopal Community of Learning at Boston University, we are renovating the historic church buildings into a vibrant hub of learning, worship, service, and community life. We've named this ambitious project "The Allston Abbey" to honor traditional monastic practices of learning, prayer, and communal living.

The first building has already been beautifully restored and is buzzing with worship, gatherings, and more. Now, we're fundraising to renovate the second building, which will house another intentional community! Want to learn

more? Reach out to Emmanuel’s own Michael Scanlon and Jamie Shore, who are serving on the executive committee.

**The Trinity House:** Trinity House is unique within Creche as it focuses on the support and formation of graduate students rather than fostering long-term vocational commitments. With no turnover in two years, Trinity House remains at full capacity with four dedicated members—Alison, Allison, Jess, and Troy—who are deeply engaged in the life of Trinity Parish (Newton Centre), contributing as lay leaders, vestry members, and preaching.

**The St Mary’s House:** With three wonderful housemates (Angel, Martyn, and Michaye) and their two feline friends (Lester and Stella), St Mary’s House is rediscovering its energy and vibrancy. Following a quieter phase during the rector transition at St Mary’s Church, the household is thriving with nearly daily shared meals, weekly common prayer, and joyful hospitality to their church and neighborhood. We’re delighted to welcome Martyn, who was already well known and loved by Angel, Michaye, and Mother Tucker from The Crossing.

**Seventy-Seven:** Founded in 2010, Seventy-Seven has been home to Isaac and his wife, Katie, since the very beginning. In many ways, this community was the inspiration for Creche, as demand far exceeded available space, sparking the vision to create more such spaces. At the end of 2024, the homeowner gifted the house to Creche in an incredible act of generosity. As Isaac and Katie transition to Cambridge, the community will embark on a five-year journey to fully integrate into the Creche covenant.

**The Jubilee House:** Exciting progress continues at Jubilee House in Dorchester. Our architects are set to finalize design and development documents by January, with construction bidding beginning in February. Jubilee House will be Creche’s first fully wheelchair-accessible community and our first net-zero carbon home! Plus, we’re collaborating with a nearby secular intentional community to create a lush community garden, inspired by Emmanuel House’s thriving gardening ministry. With our amazing partners at New Roots AME Church, we’re eager to see this vision come to life.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership in this incredible journey. We can't wait to see what 2025 brings!

Respectfully submitted,  
The Rev. Isaac Everett, Executive Director



*Jamie Shore (far right) and friends at an Emmanuel House Tiny Gardeners event from 2022.*



## Central Reform Temple of Boston 2024 Report

This was an important year for the development and stability of Central Reform Temple as we improved our infrastructure and increased our congregational engagement. Our energy is high, as we continue to add new programs while strengthening existing relationships.

After many months of work, the board unanimously accepted a **new set of bylaws** for the temple, which reflects our practice and provides a contemporary, clearer approach to governance. We also installed a new banner and fresh sandwich board signs at 15 Newbury Street. We upgraded our social media postings and secured a listing on Jewish Boston.

We increased our presence in Boston when Rabbi Shire participated in the **Chanukah candle lighting at Boston City Hall**, a first. Our **Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur** services, free of charge to guests (unlike most synagogues that charge for tickets), attracted hundreds of worshippers who had the opportunity to pray with beautiful music and meaningful liturgy under the leadership of Rabbi Shire. Our community, second-night **Seder** was filled to capacity with joyous members and guests...not one more matzoh ball could have rolled into the vestry. We took a new approach to Sukkot this year. With Emmanuel Church, as Emmanuel Center, we celebrated for a week as ***Shomrei Adamah- Guardians of the Earth***, a series of events highlighting our environmental responsibility, collaborating with other Back Bay houses of worship and environmental leaders in the community. This week brought together a wide range of thinkers and doers in the interest of preserving our planet and in the spirit of Sukkot.

We started a new social justice project: helping at the **Women's Lunch Place**. We re-started our **volunteer choir**, and our members' voices raised the roof. We visited the new permanent Jewish exhibition room at the MFA with a private tour by the curator. Our avid **book group** and **movie night** (now Emmanuel Center) are flourishing. We brought back **in person** Torah study at 15 Newbury Street on Saturday mornings, now with bagels and coffee (zoom also available). We engage more members and guests for Friday night Shabbat services than ever before.

Our covenant relationship with Emmanuel Church makes us unique among synagogues in metro-Boston and we are so appreciative of the support of all of you. Thank you.

The Board of Central Reform Temple of Boston  
Lilli, Jill, Marty, Gail, Hal, Bob, Debbie, Dan, Dick, Diane





## Emmanuel Center Report

Emmanuel Center is in its 17<sup>th</sup> year of partnership and collaboration between Central Reform Temple and Emmanuel Church. We are grateful for the work that we continue to do and for the emerging opportunities that bring us together. In 2024 we engaged in both inward- and outward-facing programming, in-person and online.

In February, several of us joined the Curator of Judaica at Boston's Museum of Fine Arts for a private tour. In April, Rabbi Shire coordinated and led a 2-session series on "The Holy Lands and its Peoples." The Hebrew Reading Group continued to meet weekly, and the rabbi invited the group to read Jonah at the Yom Kippur afternoon Study session—many thanks to Peter Banos, our language guide week-to-week. We enjoyed the pulpit exchange between Michael and Pam for the d'var Torah/sermon, with Michael preaching at Emmanuel's service on April 21 and Pam preaching at Central Reform Temple's Shabbat on May 10.



*Above: JYC April 2024*

*Below left: Shomrei Adamah October 2024*

We also were involved in three outward-facing programs in 2024. From October 2023 to March 2024 several Emmanuel and CRT members participated in a 6-month learning program with Hebrew College – Face-to-Face and Side-by-Side. In April, a special highlight was sponsoring and hosting the Jerusalem Youth Chorus for a concert in our shared sanctuary at 15 Newbury Street. It was a joyous afternoon of music and celebration with a remarkable group of young people and their leaders dedicated to offering Palestinian and Israeli youth from Jerusalem an opportunity for music-making and creative conversation. An enthusiastic audience of more than 150 people attended.



We celebrated the Festival of Sukkot from October 15-23 with an ambitious, multi-day program called Shomrei Adamah: Guardians of the Earth. With daily events beginning or ending in the sukkah, we were joined by guests—Church of the Covenant, Gina Coplon Newfield, and Audrey Schulman—who hosted fascinating discussions about various ways to confront climate change. It was a significant effort for us, involving 18 months of planning. In 2026, we hope to continue with a scaled-down version.

Our mitzvah of ushering for each other's sacred holidays carries on. CRT members ushered and participated in the puppet parade on Easter Sunday and ushered and greeted on Christmas Eve. Emmanuel Church members ushered for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services. This inward expression of our covenantal work together is greatly appreciated by both communities.

Monthly Movie Night (meeting on Zoom) attracts members, friends, and family from both communities. This year, we had lively conversations about films that raised questions and dialog about spiritual, ethical, and moral issues of our time. Films we watched and discussed in 2024: Chariots of Fire; RBG; The Danish Girl; A Most Beautiful Thing; The American Society of Magical Negroes; Origin; David Attenborough: Life on Our Planet; The Janes; Boy Erased. If you haven't participated, please join us sometime!

We are grateful for our gifted, generous board: Mary Beth Clack, Jennifer Coplon, Liz Levin, Mike Scanlon, Rabbi Michael Shire, Rebekah Shore, The Rev. Pam Werntz, and Lilli Weigert. We also thank Susan Swan and Dick Daynard for their service. As we begin 2025, we are excited about the opportunities to explore more deeply what it means to walk together along the paths of Love.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joy Howard, Co-Chair  
Jill Silverstein, Co-Chair

## Courtesy Resolutions

WE EXPRESS OUR PROFOUND GRATITUDE TO:

1. Rebekah Shore, Senior Warden, and Pat Krol, Junior Warden, Mark Fernau, Treasurer, and Mary Beth Clack, Clerk, for their spirit-filled and steady leadership over the last year.
2. Edgar Brenninkmeyer for his completion of two three-year terms on vestry; Dawn Dreisbach and Peter Dutilloy for their completion of one three-year term on vestry.
3. **All** who serve on vestry, as delegates, and as representatives of Emmanuel Church.
4. Michael Scanlon, Chair of the Building Commission, Julian Bullitt engineer extraordinaire, Peter Johnson, master gardener, and all the members of the Building Commission and gardeners for their good and helpful deeds at 15 Newbury Street too numerous to list.
5. Ryan Turner, John Dilworth, John Harbison, Michael Beattie, Jensen Ling, all of the musicians of Emmanuel Music, all the singers of Chapel Choir, and all who have glorified God through music in the last year.
6. Vaughan Sherrill, Robb Scholten, Bill Comer, Dennis Gaskell, and the building and event sextons and volunteers of Emmanuel Church and Emmanuel Music for smoothing our way at every turn.
7. Michael Shire, Rabbi-in-Residence, Lillian Weigert, President, and all of the members of Central Reform Temple whose covenant relationship with Emmanuel Church is a blessing.
8. The Rev. Bob Greiner for serving as Deacon among us; The Rev. Dr. John Golenski and The Rev. Dr. Martha Tucker for their generosity in prayer and in person; and The Rev. Isaac Everett, Creche Executive Director for being with us once a month. The Rt. Rev. J. Clark Grew for his steady prayerful presence as Senior Pastoral Associate.
9. The Rev. Susan Ackley for faithfully continuing the weekly Recovery Healing Services via Zoom.
10. Becky Lightcap, Glenn Seberg, and Jamie Shore, for sharing leadership of Worship Commission, and for their gifts of administration and training, and for floral arrangements! Thanks to all who served on altar guild, as altar servers, and as bread bakers.
11. All who help lead Biblical Hebrew and Biblical Greek and Latin via Zoom.
12. Peggy Bradley for her faithfulness coordinating our after-worship refreshments.
13. Liz Levin, Chair, and all who have worked to build a meaningful pledge stewardship season.
14. Galen Gilbert, Chair, and all who work on the Finance Commission.
15. All who led Chapel Camp activities during the Summer.
16. Ted Southwick, artist-in-residence for his stunningly beautiful pulpit carving of The Rt. Rev. Barbara C. Harris..
17. Meg Abbey Joyce, Matthew Griffing, Elizabeth Richardson, and Michael Scanlon for superb graphic design and photo documentation of parish life and Brad Dumont and his team for beautiful livestreaming of our services.
18. Matthew Griffing, Elizabeth Richardson, and the members of the Web Committee for their fine management of Emmanuel Church's web pages and other social media.
19. Mary Chitty, archivist and historian, and all who volunteer in our archives.
20. Peggy Bradley and all from Emmanuel and Central Temple who planned, fund-raised, shopped, packed, and delivered grocery bags for the families of B-SAFE day campers at St. Stephen's Church in July.
21. All who help make dozens of sandwiches each week for BostonWarm guests, and all who volunteer their time and contribute to BostonWarm and *common art*.
22. Members of the Emmanuel House and its steering committee for all the ways they nourish our community and their neighborhood.

23. Emmanuel Center board members for implementing our vision of interfaith collaboration.
24. Sara Peattie, whose puppets and fabric creations have kept us company and added color, whimsy, and comfort.
25. All of the people of Emmanuel, known and unknown, who consistently show up and pitch in and give what they can to further the mission of Love within and beyond the walls of 15 Newbury Street, especially during ongoing covid-tide!
26. All who participated in the success of Thanksgiving at Emmanuel: guests, donors, volunteers and local news outlets.
27. All who prepared material for the 2024 Annual Report and today's Annual Meeting. Are there others?
28. \_\_\_\_\_
29. \_\_\_\_\_
30. \_\_\_\_\_

## Leadership Nominations for 2025

Nominating Committee for 2025: Rebekah Shore - Senior Warden, Pat Krol - Junior Warden, Liz Levin, Edgar Brenninkmeyer, Mary Beth Clack, Peter Dutilloy, Pam Werntz (*ex-officio*)

Office	Nominee (all have been asked and their willingness confirmed)
Senior Warden (1-year term)	Rebekah Shore (second term)
Junior Warden (1-year term)	Pat Krol (second term)
Treasurer (1-year term)	Mark Fernau (fourth term)
Assistant Treasurer (1-year term, vestry appointment)	Brian McCaig (first term)
Clerk (1-year term)	Mary Beth Clack (fourth term)
Vestry (3-year term)	Peter Dutilloy (second term)
Vestry (3-year term)	Dawn Dreisbach (second term)
Vestry (3-year term)	Diane Smith (first term)
DioMass Convention Delegates (1-year term)	Rebekah Shore, Liz Levin
DioMass Convention Alternate (1-year term)	Jamie Shore
Boston Harbor Deanery Delegates (1-year term)	Mary Blocher, William Fitzner, Liz Levin
Episcopal City Mission Delegates (1-year term)	Joy Howard, Mike Scanlon
Episcopal Relief and Development Rep (1-year term)	Dawn Dreisbach

Continuing on Vestry: Kelly Hager, Liz Levin, Karen King, Cindy Coldren, Brian McCaig

# Closing Song

## God has done marvelous things

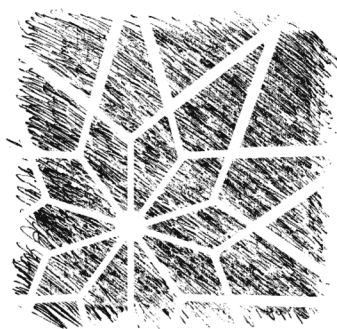
SOPRANO  
ALTO  
TENOR  
BASS

Mar - vel - ous, mar - vel - ous, mar - vel - ous  
God has done mar - vel - ous, God has done  
God has done  
God has done

4  
S.  
A.  
T.  
B.

mar - vel - ous things! Praise the Lord!  
mar - vel - ous things! Praise the Lord!  
mar - vel - ous things! Praise the Lord!  
mar - vel - ous things! Praise the Lord!





# EMMANUEL CHURCH

## **Emmanuel Church Staff**

The Rev. Pamela L. Werntz, Rector  
The Rt. Rev. J. Clark Grew, Senior Pastoral Assistant  
The Rev. Dr. John Golenski, Priest Associate  
The Rev. Dr. Martha Tucker, Priest Associate  
The Rev. Isaac Everett, Creche Executive Director  
The Rev. Susan Ackley, 12-Step Recovery Services  
The Rev. Robert Greiner, Deacon  
Ryan Turner, Music Director  
John Dilworth, Organist & Chapel Choir Director  
Vaughan Sherrill, Parish Administrator  
Robb Scholten, Events Administrator  
James Maguire, Controller  
Event Sextons: Bill Comer, Luke Colombero, Sue Earley,  
Dennis Gaskell, Colin McEllhenney,  
Joel Schenk & Evan Sneed

## **Emmanuel Church Vestry**

Rebekah Shore, Senior Warden  
Pat Krol, Junior Warden  
Mark Fernau, Treasurer  
Mary Beth Clack, Clerk  
Edgar Brenninkmeyer  
Cindy Coldren  
Dawn Dreisbach  
Peter Dutilloy  
Kelly Hager  
Liz Levin  
Brian McCaig

**Emmanuel Music** has been Ensemble-in-Residence in Emmanuel Church since 1970.

Craig Smith, Founder and Artistic Director (1947-2007)

Ryan Turner, Artistic Director

John Harbison, Principal Guest Conductor

[www.emmanuelmusic.org](http://www.emmanuelmusic.org) 617-536-3356

**Central Reform Temple of Boston**, a Progressive Jewish Congregation,  
makes its home in Emmanuel Church.

Rabbi Dr. Michael Shire

[info@centralreformtemple.org](mailto:info@centralreformtemple.org) 617-262-1202

## **Parish Office**

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Hours: Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

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