

EMMANUEL EPISCOPAL CHURCH

2014 ANNUAL REPORT

ANNUAL MEETING
JANUARY 25, 2015 – 9:00 AM



Emmanuel – A Vibrant Place to Worship,
Build Community, and Support

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The Mission of Emmanuel Church

The Mission of Emmanuel Episcopal Church is to worship and serve God so that all people may experience and grow in God's love, acceptance, and grace. We meet the needs of families and individuals, in our community and beyond, in the spirit of love, friendship, compassion, fellowship, and fun.

Our 10-Year Vision for Emmanuel

Emmanuel Episcopal Church is a thriving, engaged, and creative parish working to educate and meet the needs of children, youth, and adults; live and demonstrate our Christian values; and create a more humane and just world through community service and outreach.

Emmanuel Episcopal Church Values

The following five Core Values represent the shared beliefs of Emmanuel Episcopal Church. These tenets guide our individual lives and behavior and define the culture and character of our church. We are dedicated to expressing these values as we relate to one another and the communities we serve.

Faith. We believe in God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—as we confess our faith in the creeds and live the Gospel in our daily lives.

Family. We care for, nurture, and support individuals and families in every stage of life and circumstances.

Honesty. We earn trust through open, truthful communication and we act with integrity by aligning our behavior with our words and values.

Loyalty. We demonstrate allegiance to the people and ministry of Emmanuel.

Community. We enrich lives for our congregation, neighborhood, and beyond by building relationships through worship, fellowship, and service.

2014 ANNUAL MEETING REPORT

JANUARY 25, 2015

STAFF OF EMMANUEL EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Rector	The Rev. Charles C. McCoart, Jr.
Priest Associate	The Rev. Dr. Rosemari Sullivan
Priest Associate	The Rev. Joani Peacock
Seminarian	Alex Allain
Seminarian	Scott Steiner
Director of Music	Ryan Fitch
Director of Spiritual Formation for Children and Youth	Toni Buranen
Parish Administrator	Kelli Corts
Administrative Assistant/Receptionist	Heather Starek
Nursery Caregiver	Lilian Urrea
Nursery Caregiver	Rosa Alarcon
Preschool Director	Jeanna Reidy
Preschool Administrative Assistant	Bryn Baisley

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Preschool Office E-Mail	preschooladministrator@epsonhigh.org
Website	www.emmanuelonhigh.org

2014-2015 VESTRY

Senior Warden	Bob Carragher
Junior Warden	Michelle Vaughan, <i>Teaching Ministry</i>
Treasurer	Gene Lange
Clerk	Vonda Delawie
Vestry Members	Emily Buckman, <i>Worship Ministry</i>
	Leo Cruz, <i>Preschool Board Liaison</i>
	Bob Feden, <i>Outreach Ministry</i>
	Bryan Moore, <i>Communications Team</i>
	Adam Schildge, <i>Newcomers Team</i>
	Joe Scott, <i>Finance Team</i>
	Meredith Wade, <i>Fellowship Ministry</i>
	Doug Wheeler, <i>Stewardship Team</i>

AGENDA

Call to Order	Bob Carragher
Declare a Quorum	Bob Carragher
Appoint Secretary	Bob Carragher
Annual Report	Chuck McCoart
Thank Two Vestry Members For Their Years of Service Emily Buckman, Bob Feden	Chuck McCoart
Openings on Vestry Plus One New Vestry Position Added Patrick Adams, Lola Beggs, Katie Kelly	Chuck McCoart
Recognition of Continuing Vestry Members Bob Carragher, Michelle Vaughan, Leo Cruz, Bryan Moore, Adam Schildge, Joe Scott, Meredith Wade, Doug Wheeler	Chuck McCoart
Nominations from the Floor	Chuck McCoart
Election	Chuck McCoart
Treasurer's Report	Gene Lange
Adoption of 2015 Budget	Gene Lange
Questions/Comments/Answers	Chuck McCoart
Dismissal	Bob Carragher

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A MESSAGE FROM THE RECTOR

For those new to Episcopal Church Annual Reports, what you have in your hand is similar to a year-in-review summary of highlights from 2014. It's always dangerous to put something like this into writing because although every name of every parishioner whoever did anything at our parish should be remembered and thanked, I'm sure we'll unintentionally miss a few and that's regrettable. This said, it is our hope to appreciate the efforts of every single person who has contributed to EEC in 2014 and to celebrate their accomplishments. We'd also like to share some of our observations, dream a little bit and share our challenges. At this time please allow me to sincerely thank all who have done anything to help Emmanuel Episcopal Church continue to be a wonderful family parish.

What you're about to read are my observations. My take on what's transpired. I hope in many cases my observations sync with yours; but like all observations, I understand that your take on many of these things will be from your own perspective and I look forward to hearing your perspective and observations on any of the topics you're about to read.

Before you read further please know how optimistic I am about our future. I/we have been given a tremendous foundation upon which to build – a 106 year old foundation! The only thing keeping us from achieving our dreams would be a lack of creativity on our part. Let's be creative together in building a future of our own making. God expects nothing less from us.

A lot of credit for our current success goes directly to the lay leaders during this time of transition, and to those who worked day and night to ask difficult questions and challenge us to grow and stretch and dream. Lola Beggs comes to mind. Beth Tuttle. Jennifer, Sarah, Bob, Gene, Margaret, Stewart, Christina, John and all of you. Thank you all.

So, please take your time reading this. Mark your copies. Ask clarifying questions. Share observations of your own. Here we go!

THE CHOIR

Through a professional connection with Amy Schildge shortly after I arrived, we were introduced to Ryan Fitch and it was no time at all before he was our new organist and choir director. There is simply no way to accurately describe Ryan's raw talent and contribution to our parish ministry program. One of the best ways to understand Ryan's presence and contribution is to be at EEC when Ryan is *not* here to experience firsthand the loss of his talent and leadership when he is absent. The choir loves Ryan and I know he would love to work with a full range of choir members. Veteran choir members do a super job already and I know they look forward to working side by side with new members. I'm hoping 2015 will find a few new brave singers in our community willing to praise God by lifting their voices in song and in the process lead our congregation in singing. Come on, parishioners – join the choir – you're coming to church anyway! Be brave.

Full disclosure: I'm not a huge fan of many of the hymns in *The 1982 Hymnal*. Ryan has done a fantastic job expanding the selections from other sources and we have come to enjoy the variety. I

am eager to sing even more contemporary music in our services and will be talking with Ryan, the Worship Team, and the choir with this goal in mind.

SUNDAY SCHOOL DIRECTOR

With the announcement even before I arrived that the Sunday School Director would be leaving, we were fortunate to find a wonderful *interim* director by the name of Evelyn Hutton, who helped us for the remainder of the school year 2013-2014. Evelyn was so good at building relationships that she began to grow the number of Sunday school teachers and leave a solid foundation in place for the new director.

Thankfully, Michelle Vaughan stepped up big time to help create a new position description for the Sunday School Director, as well as a salary range, and led the interviewing process. After a broad search, we received interest from Toni Buranen. My third hire. Toni, as the Director of Spiritual Formation of Children and Youth, has already brought a sense of professionalism, appreciation and vision to the formation of our children. Evelyn and Toni together were able to get enough Sunday School and God & Donuts teachers to commit so that we were able to accomplish a team-approach to Sunday school and God & Donuts.

Regarding our youth ministry teams, teams of teachers teach every other week, rather than weekly, and we are able to rely on our teams for the entire school year, rather than a few weeks at a time. This has allowed Toni to focus on not only supporting the teams as needed, but also, she has been able to develop some big picture ideas. Under Evelyn's and Toni's direction we were also able to expand our classes to include one more "grade-grouping" of students. We **doubled** the number of Sunday school students in one year between 2013-2014. And, full disclosure, I have known Toni for over 30 years. I am hoping that over time Toni's responsibilities will increase as well as the number of hours she serves in the parish – and we should budget towards that goal.

Toni has already been a wonderful addition to our parish and she is open to exploring new models of Sunday school. We'll live into that discussion while at the same time asking ourselves if, in fact, we're doing all we can to actually form our children in faith as well as we should.

Let me say that another way: I believe that EEC should in fact embrace a model that other Episcopal churches embrace, and that is having two Sunday morning Eucharistic Services with age appropriate Sunday school taught in between for everyone (adults and children.) We're not doing our kids – or adults – any favor by holding Sunday school for kids during the beginning of the 10:30 a.m. service. Sunday school teachers only have 30 minutes each session, three weeks in a month (unless there is a holiday), a few months a year, to actually teach! We could do better! Our kids deserve better.

During one of our weekly staff meeting, Toni shared earlier in the year that, even though we have the blessing of twice as many students and literally, more than twice the number of teachers, that there have been some Sundays when our God & Donuts teachers are standing in their classrooms ready to teach and inspire our kids and not one student shows up. The good news is that we have since changed the model for God & Donuts; they now meet on the second and fourth Sunday of the month, from 4 – 5:30 p.m. and it seems to be a better fit for our middle school youth and their busy schedules. Thanks to Meredith Wade, Sarah and Aaron Hoffman, and Mandy and Tyler Dorn

who led the program through the spring term. A new teaching team, led by Janie Piemonte, and a new curriculum, was established last fall.

The fact is, too, that we want to be meeting the needs of our high school students as well. We see them rarely in church and we would like to figure out how we can best support them on their spiritual journey.

This is not the students' fault. We, as parents, as adults, can do better. Our kids deserve better.

I look forward to a dialogue with parish parents and leadership to determine the best path forward. Our Sunday school culture may, in fact not change, but I'm not afraid of the dialogue. We need to at least ask some tough questions. Those interested in this discussion please join us on February 1st for a Town Hall meeting following the 10:30 a.m. service.

NEWCOMERS

When I arrived there was no formal newcomer ministry process. Thankfully EEC is so warm and welcoming that that helped to *carry the day* until a more formal process could be established. Lola Beggs kindly accepted the call to lead this effort and this ministry has grown in number and purpose. Within 24 hours I personally reach out to every single person who visits our church. Soon after an individual or family visits – they are visited at home by one of our bread ministers who hand delivers a homemade loaf of bread to the visitor's home. Awesome extension of hospitality. It tells people who visit us that they have been seen, that they matter, and that we sincerely hope to see them again. Lola and her team of other volunteers have done a super job creating and managing a whole new ministry here at EEC. Special thanks to Lola, Sarah and Dave Kolo, Adam Schildge, and those who bake for the ministry.

NAME TAGS

Apparently name tags are not something EEC has ever had before. I'm told the name tags idea had been tossed around for more than a dozen years and sort of languished in the category of "good idea" but no one ever ran with it. Until one day a sainted new parishioner (who wishes to remain nameless!) offered to off-set the cost by \$1,000 and then thankfully Vonda Delawie ran with it. Vonda and Team Delawie made over 300 name tags based on the information we had in our 2014 Parish Directory. We simply asked people to wear the name tags and much to everyone's surprise – they do! How easy was that?! Thank you, Vonda, and Team Delawie. Vonda has since passed the making of name tags on to Heather Starek, our parish receptionist, but to be honest I'm hoping a volunteer will take over the name tag ministry so as to share the blessing of shared ministry. Anyone interested?

VISITORS – MEMBERS – MINISTERS

It remains my goal to help people evolve (mature) from being visitors to members to ministers. We've seen a tremendous growth and revitalization of many of our ministry teams. They are filling up with new members. New ones are being added to existing teams (ex: newcomers, adult spiritual formation, building & grounds, and a team of wedding planners have surfaced.) A long-dreamed-of fifth Altar Guild Team has been established.

I'm hoping 2015 will see a renewed emphasis on service. Our new Carpenter's Shelter dinner ministry is the result of one of our parishioners, Imelda Samaniego's, desire to serve individuals in our community who are homeless. Imelda passed the baton of management of this new ministry on to Marco Dkane, who, along with his dedicated team of volunteers serve 75 individuals each month. My goal to add an avenue in which people could see with their own eyes the other human beings they serve has been realized. No ministry accomplishes this goal better than feeding families at Carpenter's Shelter. Maybe after nine months or so of the CS ministry happening successfully, I'm hoping that we'll be ready for a second night of feeding the residents there.

We now also participate in the Free Physicals for School Age Children Program – a ministry which Bonnie Lilley brought to us during the summer of 2014!

Our mission is expanding.

ADMINISTRATION AT EMMANUEL

Kelli Corts has done an absolutely amazing job as office and financial administrator as well as property management at Emmanuel for nine+ years (her first 2 years at Emmanuel she worked from home solely doing the finances). Kelli is often the unsung hero behind many of our successes and an easy hit when things go south! As a matter of justice I lobbied hard to get Kelli the assistant support she needed and deserved. Hiring Heather Starek has been a Godsend and provides Kelli the back-up she needs to do her own job. Heather is perfect – and not only great at what she does administratively, but she's also a tremendous support to Kelli. Heather is my fourth hire and the **only new** position to the staff for all of 19 hours a week.

Michelle Vaughan helped craft Heather's position description and salary range. We owe Michelle a great debt, because Michelle has helped us stabilize a really overwhelming situation.

PERFORMANCE REVIEWS

EEC has no history or culture of consistent staff performance reviews and evaluations. In fact, Kelli, our Parish Administrator, though she has asked repeatedly for nine years, still has no Position Description. I hope to again lean upon Michelle Vaughan to help craft a Position Description for the Parish Administrator and to help draft a template which we can use to evaluate staff. The Vestry has tasked me with having mid-year and end-of-year evaluations and we're living into this goal in 2015.

TWO SEMINARIANS

EEC has a long relationship with Virginia Theological Seminary and it is a blessing to have two wonderful *volunteer* seminarians. Senior Alex Allain joined us in January 2014 and has, believe it or not, already completed his Field Education here. Alex promises to visit us as often as he can until he leaves VTS in late spring of this year. Middler Scott Steiner joined us in the fall of 2014. Scott is married to Katie and they have two children. Scott will remain with us through the remainder of 2015. Since I am so new in the Episcopal Church I can't tell you what a huge help it has been to have weekly conversations with Alex and Scott about their theological education and the many things they bring to us as a community. Alex and Scott have promised me they're looking for another wonderful seminarian to replace Alex when he leaves us.

TWO SEMINARIAN LAY COMMITTEES

Because we have two seminarians we also have two Seminarian Lay Committees, each with 5-7 members. Alex Allain's committee is comprised of Ted Sullivan (convener), Bob and Gudrun Callahan, Pat Hadley, Jennifer Jones, and James Kaelin. Scott Steiner's committee is comprised of Barbie Frank (convener), Chris Makris, Mandy and Tyler Dorn, Gail and Ron Eger, and Beth Boland. The commitment to each of the committees is 18 months and the role is largely to encourage the seminarian in their journey to the priesthood and to offer feedback on homilies and ministry provided. A huge thank you to each member of these committees.

TWO PRIEST ASSOCIATES

We also have two *volunteer* priest associates, The Rev. Dr. Rosemari Sullivan and The Rev. Joani Peacock. Both are incredibly talented women, both with many gifts to share. I embrace and applaud their many differences and the many gifts they each share with our parish. Rosemari has been called away from EEC by the Bishop – temporarily, three times – while her husband Ted continues to worship with us. Joani Peacock has also given so much to the parish in her short amount of time that it seems as if Joani has always been with us. Rosemari hopes to return [again] in May 2015 and we can't wait to have her back.

PAID AND UNPAID STAFF

With the inclusion of Jeanna, Ryan, Evelyn (who is no longer with us,) Toni, Heather, Alex, Scott, Rosemari and Joani ...we have seen a lot of new professional leadership at EEC and at an extremely reasonable rate of pay! We get far more than we actually pay out! I realize this is a lot of new faces and we continue to work on helping the parish to understand who all of these people are and what role they play in the broader parish. Please feel free at any time to introduce yourselves to any of these individuals. I know they would love to meet you and I'd love for you to meet them.

ADULT SPIRITUAL FAITH FORMATION TEAM

An enthusiastic team of adults, led by Beth Boland, now creates faith formation opportunities for adults. Interested in creating spiritual formation opportunities which feed the body, soul and spirit, this ministry team has already offered a huge number of events enjoyed by sometimes a few folks, to other times larger numbers. The teams' energy and enthusiasm is inspiring and at their request we now have a Tuesday evening Bible Study titled, "Tuesday's With Chuck" and The Rev Joani Peacock also leads many, many, many of the adult offerings. For more, please see the Adult Spiritual Formation report on page 13.

FRESH START – VTS SUPERVISION TRAINING – DIOCESAN CLERGY MEETINGS – REGION 4 MEETINGS

I participate in all of the monthly diocesan Fresh Start meetings for priests either newly ordained or new to the diocese. I also participate in monthly Supervision training for priests supervising seminarians at VTS. Thank you to Vonda Delawie and Barbie Frank for attending, contributing and continuing to be a presence from EEC at Region IV meetings.

VOLUNTEER CHILDREN'S CHOIR DIRECTOR

Amy Schildge has graciously offered to love and serve our Sunday School kids by growing them into a choir where they sing a song on the Sunday's when we have a Family Sunday. Thank you Amy – another unpaid staff person who is a blessing to our kids and parish. For more, please see the Music report on page 11.

STATISTICS AND INCREASED NUMBERS

We now regularly celebrate the 8:00 a.m. Eucharistic Service with 20-30 folks – sometimes as many as 35! When we no longer fit in the chapel pews I intend to add chairs to the back of the chapel. We'll never stop using the chapel – it's an integral part of our sacred tradition.

We now regularly celebrate the 10:30 a.m. service with over 100 folks, usually between 125-150 weekly. 2014 average Sunday attendance was 141 attendees. Along with the increase in attendance comes an increase in giving. Contributions and pledges are 'up' and support not only the budget, but our hopes and dreams. For more, please see the Stewardship report on page 21.

BAPTISMS

I'm pretty sure it's been a long, long time since EEC has seen this many children baptized in one year. In the past 18 months we've baptized more than 20 babies, six young children and one adult. When I share this at diocesan gatherings the look of envy on the faces of other priests is humbling. We've got a good thing going here at EEC and like you, I hope it continues. If you keep making those babies – we promise to keep on baptizing them!

SOME GOALS FOR 2015 (including those mentioned above):

Sunday School – We really need to address the Sunday School program in terms of how much time we actually spend in Sunday School. Offering children a Sunday School program for 35 minutes two to three Sunday's a month for eight months is, in my opinion, not serving our kids well. We could do better by them if, as parents, we would knuckle down and move the Sunday School to in between the two Sunday services. At the same time we should continue to offer the same top-notch Adult component we already offer Sunday's at 9:15 a.m.

Acolytes & Children's Choir are both possible with a change of the timing of Sunday School. It'd be great to see a healthy number of acolytes rotating through our Sunday Services. By the way, acolytes are more than welcome at the 8:00 a.m. service too!

A Newsletter Reporter – We could really use a designated reporter or a small team of volunteer reporters to craft newsletter articles, take pictures and communicate after events have occurred with words and pictures.

Create a Culture of Healthy Evaluation – Determined to create a culture where we evaluate everything we do so that everything we do next builds upon the success of what has just happened. Example: New Gala being designed – Plan for it. Do it. Evaluate it. Plan for the next one. Example: Liturgical Season of Advent – Plan for it. Do it. Evaluate it. Plan for the next one. Example:

Fundraiser – Plan for it. Do it. Evaluate it. Plan for the next one. Example: Newcomer event – Plan for it. Do it. Evaluate it. Plan for the next one. Etc.

Loving and Serving – Continue increasing the number of volunteers serving in the wider community. Promote a model of *one hour a day, one day a week, one week a year of service somewhere*. Youth and adults work towards serving in another area of our diocese/country. It's life-changing, I promise. I have begun conversation for a student/child and family summer service project.

Passing the Baton – Creating a culture where the baton of shared leadership and shared responsibility is seamlessly passed from one generation to the next.

Finally, something funny! You've all probably heard this but it bears reading again:

The Perfect Rector

...The Perfect Rector preaches exactly 10 minutes. He condemns sin roundly, but never hurts anyone's feelings. He works from 8:00 a.m. until midnight, and is also the church janitor.

...The Perfect Rector makes \$40 a week, wears good clothes, drives a good car, buys good books, and donates \$300 a week to the parish. He is 29 years old and has 40 years' worth of experience. Above all, he is handsome.

...The Perfect Rector has a burning desire to work with teenagers, and he spends most of his time with the senior citizens. He smiles all the time with a straight face because he has a sense of humor that keeps him seriously dedicated to his parish. He makes 15 home visits a day and is always in his office to be handy when needed.

...The Perfect Rector always has time for the vestry and all of its committees. He never misses the meeting of any parish organization, and is always busy outside the church welcoming in the unchurched.

...The Perfect Rector is always in the next parish over!

If your Rector does not measure up, simply send this notice to six other parishes that are tired of their rector too. Then bundle up your rector and send him to the parish at the top of your list. If everyone cooperates, in one week you will receive 1,643 rectors. One of them should be perfect.

Have faith in this letter. One parish broke the chain and got its' old rector back in less than three months. *by Father McGinn*

As I said above, I am optimistic about our future. I'm optimistic because the success of our parish lies in many hands, not just mine. With God ever as our Guide we can continue to become the people and the parish God is calling us to be. It's an honor to be your rector. An honor to share leadership and share responsibility with you. Thank you for this privilege, I do not take it lightly, and appreciate all of you.

Peace friends, 

VESTRY NOMINEE BIOS

Patrick Adams graduated from the University of Washington, moved to Washington D.C., and worked on Capitol Hill with Senator Pete Wilson's staff. Patrick has lived in Alexandria since 1990 and worked in the financial services industry with Smith Barney, Inc. He joined UBS Financial Services, Inc. in 2004, and specializes in portfolio management and financial planning for families and individuals. Patrick and Kerry have been married since 1998 and have twin daughters, Ava and Samantha.

Lola Beggs was born in Wilmington, Delaware and lived there through graduation from the University of Delaware in 1968. Her first professional position was with Fairfax County Schools at West Springfield Elementary. Marriage in 1970 and the birth of two sons in 1972 and 1974 put her full focus on family, and she was the classic stay-at-home mom with brief part-time jobs until 1983, when Lola joined Xerox for a 30 year career in sales and sales management. Her hobbies include golf and gardening. Lola's retirement is still work in progress. In 1974, pregnant with son, Steve, Lola walked into the sanctuary and in short time decided this would be a great church home. She's been blessed many ways during all the years since 1974 with friendship and support from clergy, staff and fellow parishioners. Lola believes strongly in getting involved to help support the ministries of my church, and some of her involvement over the years has been the following: multiple vestry positions, Altar Guild, usher, bag lunch, and most recently Carpenter Shelter and Newcomer Committee chair. Last but certainly not least, Lola was co-chair on the rector search committee which culminated in Chuck coming on as our new rector in June 2013.

Katie Kelly had the fortune of joining the Emmanuel community in 2013. She was raised in a large Catholic family (current estimates are over 20 Kellys) and has been an active member of her church communities where she's lived in Virginia, Washington, D.C. and San Luis, Honduras (during her Peace Corps days). Over the past 15 years, Katie has provided program and financial management support to wildlife conservation and international development projects around the world. Katie currently lives with Alley cat in Arlington, but she is engaged the very lucky Suji Brown, also an Emmanuel parishioner.

This past year saw the first full year of our new rector's ministry at Emmanuel. Chuck has revitalized and grown the congregation to the point where the Vestry began considering new ways to think about ministry and church culture. At the July Vestry retreat the theme was "From Visitor to Member; From Member to Minister." The process agreed to was changing from 'Committees' to 'Ministry Teams'. The thought being that committees tend to create bureaucrats whereas teams create ministers (*Derek Gentle, Moving to Ministry Teams*). The Vestry identified four ministry areas: Worship, Teaching, Service and Fellowship. The following paragraphs describe their focus and the teams formed to support them.

WORSHIP MINISTRY TEAM

The Worship Ministry includes five principal teams: Readers and Prayers/Chalice Bearers, Altar Guild, Ushers, Music, and Acolytes. The teams are responsible for assisting the clergy in planning for and staffing all services at Emmanuel. This has become increasingly more demanding since our congregation is growing at a rapid pace. In addition to Sunday and holiday services, special services are also increasing; funerals, weddings, baptisms, concerts, healing and others. Each team plays an important role in engaging members of the congregation in our corporate worship. Their ministry is focused on welcoming all to a beautiful and well organized environment that will enhance each person's experience of the liturgy.

Thank you to Anne Seville for her leadership of the team early in the year. Also, many thanks to the wonderful volunteers who week in and week out show up and either behind the scenes and/or in front of the whole congregation do what they each individually do to create a meaningful worship experience. There are lots of events and activities happening all week long at EEC, but it is the Sunday services where we all come together to worship God and to be in fellowship with one another. We hope to build on the strength of the volunteers to create even more meaningful worship experiences. All individuals who call EEC their church home should feel especially called to participate either while sitting in the pew, or up front leading us in word and song and service, or behind the scenes to help make everything flow smoothly week after week.

READERS AND PRAYERS/CHALICE BEARERS

This past year has been very productive for the Readers and Prayers/Chalice Bearers ministry. A number of people have volunteered to assist in these very important ministries which are crucial to our worship experience. Many have been sharing their dynamic energy for years. We also have new parishioners every year whose efforts add to the richness and depth of our worship services. If you are new and are interested in participating in these important capacities, please let me know. There is no better way to become part of the fabric of our Church. A special thank you to Ted Sullivan for managing the schedule for the readers at the 8:00 a.m. service.

Jerry Boykin (Team Lead), Jennifer Adams, Alex Allain, Ham Beggs, Beth Boland, Lou Brown, Suji Brown, Bob Carragher, Marco Dkane, Vonda Delawie, Joe Dresen, Lee Edgar, Bonnie Fairbank, Barbie Frank, Barbara Huffman, Jennifer Jones, Katie Kelly, Allan Knutsen, Ken Kolson, Nancy Kuhn, Bonnie Lilley, Gareth Markel, Emily McNaughton, Sarah Orndorff, Anne Seville, Scott Steiner, Ted Sullivan, Meredith Wade, and Catherine Wheeler

USHERS

Thank you to the current roster of ushers for their help during the 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services. It is difficult to predict availability to usher several weeks in advance due to illness or other unexpected changes in schedules and as summer approaches vacations will have an impact on availability of members of the usher team. For these reasons, there is no limit on the size of the usher team. For those in the congregation that can help us out please contact me (703-836-5036 or rc54d@nih.gov). Again, I want to take this opportunity to express my thanks to the team who helped out this year.

Bob Callahan (Team Lead), Jennifer Adams, Lola Beggs, Beth Boland, Jerry Boykin, Bob Carragher, Doug Garthoff, Bonnie Fairbank, Oscar Fitzgerald, Phil Kasik, Nancy Kubn, Gene Lange, Bryan Moore, Pete Petersen, Adam Schildge, Don Simpson, and Larry Tinsley

ALTAR GUILD

The Altar Guild ran, in my opinion, very well, and we are truly lucky to have so many long-time members. Those very same members are very dedicated to the work that we do, and have been so gracious about training new members.

When it comes to training, “jumping right in,” is actually very hard for a newcomer to the Altar Guild. After a brief introduction how things work, and handing over a small but very good instruction book, I rely on each team’s captain to explain things further. For the most part, that has worked, but we need a more formal introduction to the “Episcopal way of things,” specifically geared towards the Altar Guild. Like a once a year, Saturday morning, reminder/training session for all members, old as well as new, together with clergy. I think it would be helpful for many members to learn why we do certain things a certain way, from a liturgical point of view. Perhaps they already have something like that at the seminary? Or perhaps this is something Joani would like to help us out with? Just a thought.

Last year we also struggled a little bit with only four teams. Being on call every four weeks became hard for many members. However, thanks to Vestry and Clergy we managed to recruit a few new members, so that we could reorganize. We have now been able to form a fifth team. That should work much better, and we are tremendously grateful for the extra help. Thank you!

The flower donations have been wonderful all throughout the year. It may seem unimportant to some, but to many it means a lot. We truly arrange these flowers with “Glory to God” in our minds. Arranging our own flowers has been a long tradition at Emmanuel, and it is indeed a tradition that we would like to keep. So we encourage everyone to help us keep this going.

Christina Bartley (Team Lead), Lola Beggs, Peggy Conner, Nancy Dupree, Jeanne and Bob Feden, Mary Ann Frank, Irène Harris, Barbara Helsing, Courtney Hines, Barbara Huffman, Jeanie Lange, Lee Larkin, Bonnie Lilley, Lucy Mustin, Robin Schumann, Kim Scott, Cappie Stiers, Michelle Vaughan, Molly Watson, and Rance Willis

ACOLYTES

Many thanks to our loyal acolytes for their service this year. In 2015 we plan to expand their ranks with training and practice for other youth and adults.

Dave Buckman (Team Lead), Andrew Buckman, Hannah Buckman, John Dresen, Torrence Delawie, Bob Carragher, and Rance Willis

MUSIC

The Children's Choir has a brand new start this year with Amy Schildge as director. Amy's expertise in children's music is a huge asset to our Emmanuel community and especially the Emmanuel children. With Amy as the director, ALL the children can be part of the singing, because rehearsal happens each week during Sunday School. The children have been singing each month for the Family Service and have developed a practice routine. This kind of consistency will surely prove to help in the growth of an even larger children's music program.

The Adult Choir sang at weekly services throughout the winter, fall, and spring. Thank you to our wonderful, loyal and devoted choir members who give time and energy into making worship more meaningful for others. This year we have given the choir a "day off" on Family Sundays and this has also alleviated the constant push to have new music ready. This allows us to focus more on making better music on the pieces we are learning. Our choir has been meeting at 9:30 a.m. each Sunday and for a longer rehearsal on the third Thursday evening each month during the school year.

During the summer, cantors (solo vocalists) helped lead the congregational hymn and psalm singing. We continue to use these professional singers on Family Sundays when the choir is on recess and also for other special services. Thank you to Marianne Palastro and Theresa Severin for leading us on those occasions.

Thank you to Vonda Delawie for again leading the way to bring the St. Petersburg Russian Men's Ensemble, a group of four talented male singers, who performed an hour-long concert in December during Advent. The concert raised \$200 to benefit our Outreach programs.

We are planning for a piano dedication concert in March 2015, to celebrate our new piano's "first birthday" at Emmanuel. Details coming soon.

Several special services enriched the passing of the liturgical year. Anne Seville coordinated and led seasonal Taize services based on the music, meditations, and prayers of the Taize Community in France. Also in 2014, a Christmas service of healing and comfort was offered to the Emmanuel community for the 2nd year. This service offered people the opportunity to acknowledge and grieve during a time that many see as filled with joy. Our attendance doubled this year. The service was held on the Sunday evening prior to Christmas.

There is quite a bit of hidden instrumental talent at Emmanuel that I have uncovered during the past year. In 2014 a small orchestra was developed and provided music for our Easter Sunday worship service as well as provided wonderful accompaniment for the lessons and carols service during Advent.

The Guitar Circle meets on Thursdays and has recently recruited a new vocalist and continues to

assist with worship and special events. (i.e., Advent Gala and Shrine Mont Retreat).

Continuing education funds have been used for the purchase of “The Organist” from Lorenz publishing. This provides articles, ideas, but mostly a variety of music from new and well-known composers that can be used in worship. During the summer of 2015, I am looking for choral reading workshops that will be geared toward the beginning choir and pieces that are “fast-learns” for the church choir!

This year we spent a great deal of time raising funds to purchase a new piano for the sanctuary. Due to the generosity of the Emmanuel congregation, the fundraising was a success and we exceeded our goal. A Baldwin 7' Grand piano, once at home on a Kennedy Center Stage, was purchased for our space from Jordan Kitt's. At 7' it is large, but not too large and can easily accompany congregational singing, choral singing, and even the quietest group of children. Baldwin pianos are known for their great color, sturdy build, and are typically a voice that can cut through a room full of people. The piano has proven to be a great instrument and when well-maintained can last for many years to come.

The organ at Emmanuel is working wonderfully. I expect to have it serviced in 2015, because I'm not sure when the last inspection was completed and it does need some light bulbs replaced.

Please know that I welcome all of you to be part of music at Emmanuel. Music is not a craft for some, but music is a part of all of our lives. Please know that there is a place for you in Emmanuel music programs, no matter your talent, skill, or time. My closest family, friends, and colleagues would tell you that my heart has always rooted for the people that are willing to learn and try, so I would love to have you involved and so would the current Emmanuel musicians!

Lastly, thank you are the only words that come to mind when summarizing my thoughts for 2014 Emmanuel music. What a great year of events and worship – please help to keep the energy and enthusiasm going.

Ryan Fitch, MM (Music Director, Organist, Countertenor)

Choir members: Ham Beggs, Karen Coda, Vonda Delawie, Chuck Devarics, Nancy Dupree, Barbie Frank, Lee Larkin, Chris Makris, Al Morton, and Meredith Wade

TEACHING MINISTRY TEAMS

The Teaching Ministry is focused on the care and nurture of faith in all persons – children, youth, and adults at Emmanuel. There are two principal teams in this area: Adult Spiritual Formation and Children and Youth Spiritual Formation. This entails planning, staffing, and carrying out Sunday School, God & Donuts, and adult education classes, events, programs and the popular Family Sunday service (first Sunday of each month at 10:30 a.m.). Adult programming is coordinated by clergy and supported by a group of dedicated volunteers.

ADULT SPIRITUAL FORMATION

Emmanuel's newly-created Adult Spiritual Formation Ministry Team presented a number of activities and resources for parishioners in 2014. Sunday morning classes continued, with participants considering "The Way of the Cross" in Lent, the history of the church through music in "Singing Our Faith," Celtic spirituality on the Celtic Eucharist Sunday, and "The History of the Church: The First 3,000 Years." Rosemari Sullivan guided us through the Lenten program and Joani Peacock led the others.

The Tuesday morning Bible Study group began the year watching and discussing the video series, "Walking the Bible." After completing that series, the group began an in-depth study of the Gospel of John. To accommodate those who can't attend the daytime study group, Chuck began a Tuesday evening study group based on *The Wired Word*, a contemporary study guide.

In addition to "The Way of the Cross" during Lent, members of our Emmanuel family wrote daily reflections for an online devotional organized and created by Anne Seville; clergy and lay people taught an Inquirers Gathering for those wishing to be confirmed or received; and various Alexandria churches hosted an evening lecture series on "Final Things." For Advent, the Spiritual Formation Team ordered the daily devotional, *Expecting Jesus*, and organized a Family Crèche Sunday for parishioners. For both Lent and Advent, and also for autumn programs and events, Jennifer Jones created beautiful pew cards as a compact reference for all of the resources available for each season.

The Adult Spiritual Formation Ministry Team worked with the organizers of our annual May Shrine Mont Retreat this year to develop the weekend's program. Jennifer Jones, a professional playwright and storyteller, led us through several "Know Your Neighbor" discussion sessions, helping us build on Emmanuel's transformational journey of the last several years. For more, please see the Shrine Mont Parish Weekend report on page 24.

Numerous specific education events for adults and families took place throughout the year. Spiritual Socials, designed as enriching and inspirational activities combined with fellowship, included a Zentangle Evening in April, in which Eileen O'Brien guided participants in pen-doodling as a form of meditation; a June evening with Alexandria's Poet Laureate, Tori Lane, organized by Margaret Wohler; and an October Sketching Hike through Huntley Meadows Park, led by Margaret Wohler. In September, Joani Peacock offered revealing insights into mental health in "Unorthodox and Unhinged: A Personal Conversation about Faith and Mental Health." October brought a World

Food Day Celebration Supper, where attendees dined on a simple Carpenter Shelter-style meal and listened to guest speaker Colleen Clark from Meals on Wheels America.

Alex Allain, Beth Boland, Jennifer Jones, Chuck McCoart, Joani Peacock, Adam Schildge, and Margaret Wohler

SPIRITUAL FORMATION FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

After a successful interim period with Evelyn Hutton serving in the role of Christian Education Director, Toni Buranen joined the Emmanuel staff at the end of April as the Director of Spiritual Formation for Children and Youth. She has been working hard to develop further the faith formation ministry for our children and youth.

The biggest task for the spring was to develop Sunday school and God & Donuts teams of volunteer teachers so that there would not only be continuity in the Sunday classes, but also so that we could create a wider web of support for our teachers to avoid burnout and allow for relationship building with their students. We added a Sunday school class and currently have 15 volunteers working with the preschool, K – 1st, 2nd – 3rd, and 4th – 5th grade classes. God & Donuts developed a 5-person team to work with the middle school youth.

Regarding curriculum, we made some changes. After unsuccessfully trying to work with the Mustard Seed curriculum, the preschool class is using a curriculum from Sparkhouse called Spark: Activate Faith. The K – 5th grades are using the Mustard Seed curriculum from Leader Resources. The God & Donuts class is using the Sparkhouse curriculum for youth ministry called re:form.

During this year, we have developed a ministry team for the spiritual formation of children and youth. We have met 4 times and are actively pondering ways to continue to meet the needs of our children and youth. See “Looking Ahead” for more information.

After ending the 2013-2014 school year with a teacher meeting, we began to plan for the new school year. In September, we had a very well-attended teacher retreat at VTS. It was an opportunity for spiritual refreshment and community building as well as for teams to connect with each other and do some practical planning for the new year. Chuck, Joani, and Toni were in attendance as were 18 other members of the Emmanuel community.

Sunday school began on September 14 and currently meets three Sundays a month on a typical month.

God & Donuts began the year with a pool party. The plan was for this group to meet three Sundays a month as well and hopefully, include some service and social opportunities. They had a great start and participated in the PYM Day of Service working to set up a pumpkin patch at another local Episcopal church. In October, we saw very low to no attendance. This prompted the God & Donuts team to reconsider its approach. We sent out a letter to all families with middle school youth to garner feedback about the God & Donuts program. Unfortunately, very little feedback was offered. The team decided to try moving to twice a month on Sunday afternoons beginning December 14, 2014. We will be evaluating its effectiveness as we continue to adjust to make this program work for our middle-schoolers.

We have also instituted a more involved Family Service on the first Sunday of the month, from October through March for this 2014-2015 school year. (April is Easter. May is Shrine Mont.) We have children's sermons, youth are reading the scripture, children are carrying banners, families are bringing up the gifts, and parishioner Amy Schildge, a gifted music teacher for Arlington Public Schools, has been coming into the Sunday school classrooms and holding a 10 a.m. practice on the day of the Family service to teach our children a song that they sing during the service. It has been a joy to watch it all unfold and we look forward to developing more ways to make the liturgy accessible to our young parishioners.

In November, we held a very successful Friday night Family Spaghetti Dinner and Semi-potluck. We will be having another one of these in March (pizza and game night!).

We have begun a conversation about developing a Confirmation program for rising 9th graders.

Looking ahead, we are hoping to reach out to our high school students in some way and are pondering the best venue for doing so. As we rarely see high school students in church, it is difficult to determine what they need.

We will be holding a Parent Town Hall meeting in early February 2015 to discuss making changes to some of our programs, including how to meet the needs of our middle and high school youth as well as looking to meet the needs of our youngest parishioners. We are exploring bringing in Godly Play or Catechesis of the Good Shepherd into the curriculum. We also are looking to provide more time for Sunday school as 30 minutes, 3 times per month does not allow enough time to provide for the faith formation of our children. We will also introduce the Confirmation program in more detail at this time.

Toni is hoping to do some further professional development for herself as well as provide more training for the teachers.

Team: Michelle Vaughan (Vestry Liaison), Kathy Brown, Toni Buranen, Kelly Dresen, Holly Hartell, Janie Piemonte, and Catherine Wheeler

Teaching Staff: Marianne Bailey, Ruth Bilodeau, Emily Buckman, Susan Cruz, Joe Dresen, Lee Edgar, Bill Foote, Lauren Foote, Heather Hansson, Holly Hartell, Alicia Hosmer, Caroline Jarrard, Abi Linnington, Sally Marsi, Chris Piemonte, Janie Piemonte, Kimberly Scott, Michelle Vaughan, Meredith Wade, Catherine Wheeler, and Torra Yianilos

EMMANUEL PRESCHOOL

At the start of the 2014 school year, Emmanuel Preschool offered children and their families an enriching, nurturing, and play-based preschool experience. The preschool started to build some consistency and ease with the organizational structure, with the "typical" bumps in the road. We had mostly returning board members, with the addition of two new board members, Melissa Bennett (preschool parent and church parishioner) and Leo Cruz (Vestry liaison, former preschool parent, and church parishioner).

At the start of the 2014 school year, many existing teachers returned: Michelle Brayman, Mary Beth Conry, Amy Ernst, Christy Finn, Sarah Higgins, Anne Hubbard, Dana Mutscheller, Debbie Rumph,

Denise Stanley, Cappie Stiers, Sara Tiedemann, and Mary Anne Troxell. Nancy Palmer returned as our music and movement specialist. Bryn Baisley, Preschool Administrator, returned for her third year, and Kelli Cortis continued as the preschool bookkeeper. Some new and wonderful teachers also joined this amazing faculty: Mary Carol Gavin, Mollee Hansen, Alyce McLean, Alithea Price-Pearlstein, and Susan Stockton.

We finished out the 2013-2014 year fully enrolled in our 2s and 3s program, and with one vacancy in our 4/5s program due to a family move. We began the 2014-2015 school year fully enrolled in all classes, and we expect to finish out the year in the same manner, possibly a student over in the 4/5s class.

In covering the school year, 2013-2014, the collaboration with the church continued to deepen and prosper. The Preschool Board of Directors met monthly, or every other month, depending on needs that arose. Pastor Chuck met with the 4/5s classes every Wednesday morning for chapel time. Both the preschool and the church, shared upcoming news and announcements in one another's newsletters and messengers.

For the 2013-2014 school year, the preschool continued to maintain its financial health. We made wonderful strides in updating the material options in the block room, as well as the dramatic play choice room. Over the summer, the preschool focused its efforts on updating the building, including repainting most classrooms, doorways, the preschool office, as well as installing some updated aesthetics on the classroom walls intended to aid curricular experiences as well as for displaying children's work. In addition, professional development for teachers was and will continue to be an area of high importance for the preschool. In the fall, the faculty attended a one-day, annual NAEYC conference together, which yielded amazing and rich conversation among the faculty and then trickled into the classrooms, environment set up, equipment, curriculum, and planning for the year and beyond. Through the winter, the faculty visited another area preschool, and the school's director followed up at EPS for reflections and question/answer from our faculty. For our winter professional development in-service day, Wise Educational Consultants visited the preschool for a workshop on "open-ended" art explorations, focusing on paint/color mixing. Over the whole course of the year, the faculty focused on reflecting on their classroom curriculum, the goals in which are appropriate for their age levels and beyond to the next, how to approach curricular planning, and how to incorporate more "open-ended" art explorations to facilitate children's learning. For our opening faculty week in August, we had a full-day workshop run by Handwriting Without Tears highlighting literacy, numeracy, pre-reading and pre-writing skills. During the same opening week, we also took part in professional development facilitated by local art centers: UpCycle and Arts at the Center. In addition, in the fall, all teachers were brought up-to-date for CPR/First Aid, and then the Director, floating assistant teacher, and one teacher from each grade level was trained and certified in EMAT, allowing us to administer the Epi-Pen, Benedryl, and inhalers as needed.

On Friday, April 4, the preschool's annual spring gala fundraiser was held in the Parish Hall. The resource parents, Jenny Taylor and Brooke Stratford, oversaw the planning of our *Alice in Wonderland* themed party. With the tremendous commitment of their sub-chairs and committees comprised of dedicated EPS parents, Jenny and Brooke created an unforgettable evening! With their incredible positive energy, tireless efforts, and amazing planning, the night was a success and raised nearly \$22,000 for the preschool. Parents and supporters of Emmanuel dined on a whimsical menu of yummy savories and sweets. The room was transformed into "Wonderland," with six-foot

mushroom trees, eclectic teapots, Alice's furry friends, and floral arrangements festively and beautifully designed by Fleurelity floral company, owned by an EPS parent. The live auction featured amazing items such as tickets to sporting events, vacation homes, and door-to-door pick up of students in front of the school so parents did not have to park. The silent auction and raffle featured terrific items donated by parents, teachers, church members, and area businesses. *Alice in Wonderland* was a whimsical, creative, and fun evening providing a wonderful opportunity to bring the EPS community together while raising funds for preschool needs.

In addition to the major spring fundraising effort, the resource parents, in collaboration with the parents in the school, ran other, smaller, fundraising efforts. Through fundraiser donations that used to go toward baskets, the families raised over \$1,500 in support of the faculty's professional development focus, which helped cover much of the cost to attend the NAEYC conference in November 2013. Through social "sign-on" parties, such as moms' nights in, the parents raised over \$800, focused on a specific wish list created by the teachers, and they were so excited to receive a much desired die-cut machine, allowing the teachers to spend less time on cutting and designing letters and words for classroom aesthetics. In the fall of 2013, parent volunteers also offered wrapping paper and home gifts from Innisbrook and gifts showcasing their children's artwork through HandArts, both of which yielded healthy profit for the preschool's programs and initiatives. Families were also invited to show school spirit through the sale of school logo t-shirts and car magnets.

Emmanuel Preschool continues to strive to provide a welcoming, supportive and enriching environment and community for families, children, and faculty/staff alike. The preschool remains committed to providing children with a play-based preschool experience dedicated to inspiring children and enriching their lives: emotionally, socially, and academically.

The preschool financial report is on page 30.

Jeanna Reidy (Preschool Director)

SERVICE MINISTRY TEAMS

Our Service Ministry at Emmanuel has six principal teams: Outreach, Inreach, Buildings and Grounds, Communications, Stewardship, and Finance. The overarching goal of these teams is to respond to those in need both within our church community and to others: locally, domestically, and internationally. It entails being proactive in seeking areas that Emmanuel can make a difference by volunteering, providing goods or with financial support.

Additionally, the Service Ministry includes maintaining our church facility and its grounds. As our church family and preschool continues to grow there is more demand placed on property and services. Emphasis is put on optimizing usage for all activities and maintaining Emmanuel's physical plant.

Communications is important so that all communicants and potential communicants know what is happening at our church. As new initiatives, programs or events are planned, our newsletter and weekly reports should 'send out the news'. As a result, our social media sites have been constantly updated and improved. Also, we continue to mail copies to those who prefer printed media.

Finally, Stewardship and Finance provide the Vestry with guidelines on what may be planned and undertaken during our church fiscal year.

OUTREACH

"Love your neighbor!" The desire to follow that commandment is at the very heart of who we are at Emmanuel. The Outreach Team is honored to have a role in some of our organized efforts to love our neighbors, nearby and farther away. Our main function is to generate energy and enthusiasm for Emmanuel's ongoing outreach activities, to serve as a focal point for suggestions for new activities, and to support outreach-related special projects and events. A list of our activities – all of which fit under the umbrella of our ten-year vision – can be found below. Of particular note, in August we began a new monthly commitment, to prepare and serve dinner to over 70 residents of Carpenter's Shelter. The Outreach Team meets quarterly and welcomes new members.

- Bag Lunch: preparing over 2000 lunches each year to be served at Meade Memorial Church (70 lunches each day, seven weeks per year).
- Carpenter's Shelter dinner: each month, Emmanuel volunteers prepare and serve dinner to 70 shelter residents.
- Alive! Inc.'s (Alexandrians Involved Ecumenically) food collection and distribution: we contribute hundreds of items each month to Alive!'s food collection. Our volunteers help at the "Last Saturday Food Distribution" each month, where 600 families are given a week's worth of groceries, including fresh meat and produce.
- Alive! Furniture distribution: twice a year, Emmanuel volunteers devote a Saturday morning to picking up and delivering donated furniture to needy Alexandria residents.
- Meals on Wheels: Emmanuel volunteers deliver 40 meals a month to shut-ins.
- Community Lodging: Emmanuel donations provide backpacks and school supplies for 25 students whose families live in transitional housing.
- Haiti: with our help, ten Haitian children receive a good education at the school run by our sister parish, St. Martin de Tours. Sales of Haitian coffee also support this ministry.

- AA: three groups use our parish hall each week.
- Giving Tree: donating and delivering dozens of new toys and games so that underprivileged children in Alexandria will have Christmas gifts.
- Tutoring: through the Alexandria Tutoring Consortium, Emmanuel volunteers help 10-12 kindergarteners and first graders each year with reading skills; funds support the gift of books for each child.
- Assisting with or sponsoring events:
 - Annual Yard Sale: finding new homes for gently used household items, toys, and books, especially appreciated by our low-income neighbors.
 - Ministry Fair: co-sponsored with the Newcomers Team, this gives parishioners new and old a chance to find new ways to serve.
 - World Food Day: for the first time, Emmanuel commemorated WFD on October 16 with a dinner focused on Meals on Wheels.
 - Bake Table at TC Williams Holiday Fair: earned \$600 for Outreach.
 - Holiday Concert: the Outreach Team hosted the St. Petersburg Men's Ensemble in a concert open to the community, with donations accepted for Outreach.
 - Advent Gala: concert, buffet dinner, and silent auction benefiting Outreach.

Vonda Delawie (Team Lead), Bob Feden (Vestry Liaison), Pat Hadley (Ministry Fair), Kelly Dresen, John Maas, Bonnie Lilley, Doris Rudolph, and Kenneth Zoeller (Alexandria Tutoring Consortium), The Rev. Joani Peacock (World Food Day, winter clothing drive), Marco Dekane (Carpenter's Shelter dinners), John and Katherine Rider (Alive! Inc.), Karen Coda (Bag Lunch), Fred DeLuca (Meals on Wheels), Mary Beth and Lee Edgar (Haitian Coffee Sales), Kerry Adams and Rachel Kliwer (Giving Tree), Barbara Harslem (Community Lodging Backpack Appeal)

YARD SALE

The Emmanuel Yard Sale was held on August 30 in the parish hall. We accepted \$2,294.42 in sales over the weekend. We set up a schedule for drop-off donations with Kelli beginning in mid-July to the stage, and had an open drop-off, including large items, starting on July 28 when the parish hall was available for use. Help in accepting donations was provided by: Nancy Kuhn, Meredith Wade, and Torrence, Fred and Vonda Delawie. Many parishioners helped move, sort, and price the donated items during this drop off period: Barbara Harslem, the Kolo family, Nancy Dupree, Jennifer Adams, Chuck McCoart, Pat Hadley, Mary Ann Frank, the Delawie family, John and Katherine Rider, and others. Chuck helped transport large donations with his truck. Sellers and security personnel who helped during the day of the sale included those listed above and Joani Peacock, Meredith Wade, Sarah McEntee, the Dresen Family, the Buckman Family, the Bambara Family, Judi Brush, Kathy Brown, Mary Tinsley, Lee Larkin, Ruth Bilodeau, Judy Davis, Jim Bradley, Stewart Bartley, Doug Garthoff, Ralph Fairbank, and Doug Wheeler. Josh Buckman, John Dresen, and James Bambara were great helping people to their cars with loaded bags and boxes.

A donation of floor tiles was the only online item sold. Leftover donations were transported to Goodwill, Upcycle, the Alexandria City recycling center, the Alexandria Scholarship Fund, and also advertised for pick-up on local list serves. Most items were cleared away by the opening of the preschool on September 9.

Margaret Wohler (Team Lead)

ADVENT GALA

Many thanks to each and every one who contributed to a wonderful event on December 6, our first big fundraiser at Emmanuel for outreach. Because of your generous support and many helping hands, we were able to raise almost \$15,000! Indeed an amazing accomplishment. Special thanks to Mary Ann Frank and her team (Lee Larkin and Nancy Dupree) for putting together a great silent auction; Bob Carragher (with helper Alex and Beth) for stepping in as an outstanding auctioneer for the live auction; Katherine and John Rider, Kerri and Pat Adams, and the entire TNT group for taking care of the bar – loved your beer Adam! You all put a really fun spin on it, bow ties and all! Also to Sarah Orndorf, our amazing PR person, for putting the word out, and creating our announcements and invitations; Meredith, Vonda, Cappie, Pat, Judy, and Lee for gathering and making all the delicious food; Torrence, for filling in everywhere; Mary Ann, Nancy, Peggy and Chris, for helping out at the registration desk; Stewart, Bucky, Beth, and Jennifer, for providing us with some great entertainment; Kelli and Heather, for helping out in the office; Bob and Jeanne Feden for being our accountants at the end. And last but not least, Chuck, together with the Vestry, for being willing to try something new. Many other people were involved as well, by donating items and showing up as support. This event was successfully accomplished due to an amazing group of people here at Emmanuel. Team work at its best!

Christina Bartley (Team Lead)

INREACH

The main purpose of the Inreach Team is to keep in touch with members of the congregation in various ways – whether in a crisis, or an ongoing illness, checking on folks we have not seen in a while – generally letting our members know we are concerned about them and want to be available when needed. This may include sending notes, taking meals, visiting, keeping the prayer list active and up-to-date, and keeping the bulletin boards current and informational. There are many people at Emmanuel who are very involved in inreach without actually being on any team. We like to keep up with our members and friends at Goodwin House with two dinners there each year. This past year we have also been involved with helping with receptions after funerals.

Nancy Dupree (Team Lead), Barbara Harslem, Nancy Kuhn, and Mary Tinsley

BUILDING AND GROUNDS

The work of this team has been enthusiastically embraced by about 20 members of the congregation. A ‘Punch List’ Party on a fall Saturday morning was a big success – a long list of projects was accomplished or moved forward, both inside and outside of the building. Parishioners painted exterior doors, repaired gate and replaced floor of outdoor trash area, worked on kitchen and pantry storage improvements, planted bulbs and pruned perennials in gardens, to name a few projects. Other members met contractors and reviewed bids and supplemented our professional landscape service with ‘personal touch’ gardening.

A significant gift from members of the congregation funded the replacement of crumbling steps on the High St. side of the property. More user-friendly handrails were installed on the Russell Road steps. Gutters were aligned and reinforced, a large tree was professionally pruned, and mold was remediated in a classroom. The City replaced sections of broken sidewalk, curb, and gutters.

Projects for next year: improve run-off/drainage on High Street and Russell Road sides of the property through landscaping; refinish parish hall stage floor; replace aging kitchen range with a more energy efficient model; install more user-friendly handrails between the foyer and the Parish Hall; and maintain the HVAC system in good order (almost every year one of our 14 units needs attention or replacement).

We appreciate and thank the Edgar family for their donation of a maple tree on the High Street side of the property in memory of their nephew. On a sunny Sunday afternoon, several members of their family gathered to plant it.

Meredith Wade (Team Lead), Tom and Elizabeth Anderson, Jim Bradley, Judy and Tony Brush, Nancy Dupree, Barbara Helsing, Sarah and Dave Kolo, Leland Lambert, Sandy Morrison, Pete Petersen, Dwayne Piepenburg, Sandy Robbins, Beth Tuttle, and others who pitched in when asked.

COMMUNICATIONS

Thanks to Sarah Markel for posting pictures on the website. Thanks to Sarah Orndorff for posts on Facebook, many taken from the weekly e-news and monthly newsletter. Sarah also made the bookmark for Advent/Christmas last year. Kelli plays a major role as far as website content updates and, of course, the newsletter and weekly e-news.

Beth Boland is also an administrator of the Facebook page and has been providing a lot of content. Mandy Dorn has joined the committee and will be helping in the year to come. Toni Buranen is helping with updating Facebook with info/pictures regarding Emmanuel families and children.

The Team's focus has been mostly on electronic communication and supporting (through Kelli) paper communication that crosses the line with worship, newcomers and other committees.

Completed projects include updating the "meet our seminarians" section to the website with bios from the seminarians and a yearly review of the website.

On-going projects include updating website staff, clergy, seminarian, calendar, sermons, and testimonials; tweaking the newsletter and e-news to be possibly shorter and more user-friendly; and updating Facebook with photos and articles related to Emmanuel families and children. Several projects have been discussed but have yet to be implemented including podcasts of services/sermons and a password protected aspect for members for things like the church directory.

Bryan Moore (Vestry Liaison), Beth Boland, Toni Buranen, Kelli Cortis, Mandy Dorn, and Sarah Orndorff

STEWARDSHIP

'Growing Our Family of Faith!' was the theme for the 2015 Annual Giving Campaign which commenced on Sunday, October 19, and ran through Sunday, December 7. And, as you can see when looking around at the new faces in church on Sundays and from the results of this year's campaign, that appears to be exactly what's happening here at Emmanuel Episcopal Church. More and more new faces and families are showing up in the pews and they are committing to pledge in

furthering the good works other mission teams are doing here at Emmanuel.

The goals established by the Vestry for the 2015 Annual Giving Campaign were between 100 and 120 total pledges (20 of them to be new pledgers) for a total of \$325,000 in planned giving. As of January 21, we have received 111 total pledges (28 of them new pledgers) for a total of \$316,945 pledged for 2015 planned giving. And there are current members of the congregation who have yet to return pledge cards for next year.

Early in 2015, the Annual Giving Mission Team will convene to discuss opportunities available throughout the year to showcase the importance of pledging for new members of the congregation. However, we are extremely grateful of the responsiveness and level of commitment shown by the congregation towards pledging in this year's campaign. Our family of faith is growing here at Emmanuel and for that – we should all be thankful!

Bob Carragher (Team Lead), Vonda Delawie, Joe Dresen, Jane Kolson, Adam Schildge, and Doug Wheeler

FINANCE

The team works with Kelli to prepare the draft budget for the Vestry's approval. The 2015 budget is on page 29.

Stewart Bartley (Team Lead), Joe Scott (Vestry Liaison), Jennifer Adams, Tony Brush, Geoff Frank, and Bucky Mills

FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY TEAMS

The Fellowship Ministry is all about welcoming our visitors and newcomers and building an Emmanuel community. This area has seven principal teams: Coffee Hour Baristas, Hospitality, Newcomers, Prime Timers, Sewing/Craft, Shrine Mont Parish Weekend, and Twenties and Thirties (TnT). The teams provide numerous opportunities for people to meet at a variety of times and places to learn about Emmanuel and to build friendships. Periodic special events for the congregation: spring picnic, winter annual meeting, special receptions, are also under their direction and hosted by the different groups.

COFFEE HOUR BARISTAS

The Baristas continued to provide coffee and delicious snacks for a lively hour of fellowship after the 10:30 service on Sundays throughout the year, including special events, such as the Bishop's visit; multiple baptism Sundays; and holiday festivities. Attendance has been strong, and the coffee hour has continued to be a great place to socialize after church with new parishioners and longtime friends. We have several new volunteers this year, as well as a new coordinator, and things are running along smoothly. Anyone interested in joining this ministry can contact Adam Schildge at adamschildge@gmail.com for more information – training is simple, the schedule is flexible, and the rewards are many.

Adam Schildge (Team Lead), Jennifer Adams, Rebeckah Adcock, Marianne Bailey, Melissa and Barry Bennett, Emily Buckman, Gary Carroll, Kelly Dresen, Mary Beth Edgar, Bonnie Fairbank, Heather Hansson, Barbara Helsing, Courtney Hines, Elizabeth Johnson, Johanna Jones, Jane and Ken Kolson, Amy Schildge, Anne Seville, Catherine Wheeler, and Margaret Wobler

HOSPITALITY

The Hospitality Team had a lot of fun organizing the parish picnic and assisting the baristas with special coffee hours. We also are available to assist other team coordinators with events they organize. You can never have enough hands in the kitchen, right? Join this ministry which is perfect for short-term commitments.

Meredith Wade (Team Lead), Melissa Bennett, Suji Brown, Barbara Helsing, Alicia Hosmer, Katie Kelly, Sandy Robbins, Robin Schumann, Ted Sullivan, and a host of others who have setup/ taken down and cooked and baked and served and cleaned up!

NEWCOMERS

The major activities for the Newcomer Ministry in 2014 have been:

- February 9th Newcomer Welcome Luncheon following the Sunday 10:30 a.m. service. This was an event where 100+ individuals participated and enjoyed friendly social time.
- September 21st Newcomer Welcome/Ministry Fair event following the Sunday 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services. This event concentrated on giving all newcomers and current church members an opportunity to learn about the ways they can share time and talent within the parish. Everyone also enjoyed lunch and social time together.

- Bread Ministry: this initiative was launched in November. The goal is to visit the home of visitors shortly after their first service if they have filled out a pew card with contact information. At the time of the visit a loaf of homemade bread is given as a gift from the Newcomer committee with a message inviting them to come and share bread (communion) with us again soon. This program has been rewarding for folks participating and well received by recipients of the bread. Chuck and the team continue to brain storm on how to best meet the needs of Emmanuel's newcomers. It is an evolving ministry and one of utmost importance. By successfully engaging newcomers into Emmanuel's parish life, we can increase our service to God and to our community.

Lola Beggs (Team Lead), Leo Cruz, Bonnie Fairbank, and Sarah and Dave Kolo

PRIME TIMERS

Prime Timers, a seniors counterpoint to the Twenties and Thirties(TnT) Group, was loosely organized in January at which time on Tuesday afternoons the group typically numbering four to eight would take in a movie at AMC Shirlington and then meet at Busboys and Poets for coffee and discussion. This worked well until we got to the summer season at which point attendance fell off with vacations and so forth and was only restarted in late November. In the meantime there were two other functions organized by Bonnie and Ralph Fairbank and Linda Berg respectively. The first was a most enjoyable wine and cheese social in late May at the Fairbank's home with attendance of over twenty. The second was a June tour of Alexandria's Gadsby's Tavern, followed by lunch there and an afternoon tour of the Apothecary Museum. The Gadsby's Tour included a surprise appearance by Mrs. George Washington, who looked remarkably like our own Bonnie Fairbank!

Jim Bradley (Team Lead)

SEWING GROUP

Since Emmanuel did not hold a Holiday Bazaar in 2014, the Sewing/Crafts/Fellowship Group donated items to baskets that were given to senior citizens by the Fairfax County Koinonia Foundation. The Group meets on Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. in its 'hideaway,' a room near the preschool classrooms. If you are interested in or working on a craft or handwork project, bring it and a sandwich and join us.

Sheila Beattie, Gudrun Callaban, Nancy Dupree, Jeanne Feden, Dottie Gibson, Pat Hadley, Mary Kasik, Moina Ratliff, Susan Ruble, Mary Tinsley, and Meredith Wade

SHRINE MONT PARISH WEEKEND

The annual parish weekend was held at Shrine Mont on May 2-4. Shrine Mont is the diocesan camp and conference center located in Orkney Springs, VA, about 120 miles away. This past year Jennifer Jones walked us through a great adult program while the young children were kept busy with games and projects. In addition, we had plenty of free time for families and friends to relax and enjoy the community of our parish. The weather was once again beautiful and mild, allowing us to take full advantage of hiking, playing around the pond, a hayride, golf, a bonfire, painting, games (think Bingo!), and the opportunity to just sit on a porch and talk. The food was great, as usual, and our Shrine Mont hosts were very accommodating.

Continuing a long standing and much loved tradition, we have started to organize the May 1-3, 2015 weekend. Feel free to reach out to me if you like to help make this a great experience for all. We are looking forward to another great weekend with friends and family, so pencil in the date on your calendar. Full details will be announced very soon.

Note: This is a great opportunity to introduce children and youth, ages 8-15, to the setting of the wonderful diocesan summer camps.

Joe Scott, Dave Buckman, and Doug Wheeler (Team Leads), the Delamie Family, Joe Dresen, Nancy Dupree, Barbara Harslem, Jennifer Jones, Kim Scott, Beth Tuttle and the God & Donuts families

TnT (TWENTIES AND THIRTIES, OR THEREABOUTS)

With more young couples and families now attending Emmanuel, the “twenties and thirties group” has almost doubled in size. We have hosted a variety of activities throughout this year, ranging from a camping trip, visits to vineyards, brunch after church, and a girls’ film night, the latter which prompted deep and meaningful discussion. A ski trip is planned for February 2015, and with the possibility of weekends away in addition to the bimonthly events, we hope that friendships will blossom, and that we are able to provide support for one another through the difficult times. We also hope that over the coming years, the group will welcome more college-aged students in addition to young couples and families.

John and Katherine Rider (Team Lead)

EMMANUEL FOUNDATION

The Emmanuel Episcopal Church Foundation Board had a relatively quiet year in 2014, due in large part to the five-month absence of its president, who was living abroad from February through June.

FINANCES

In September 2014, the EEC Preschool turned over reserve fund assets of \$130,000 to the Foundation; as of November 30, these funds, which are kept in a segregated account, had a market value of \$128,344.74. At the direction of the Vestry, the Foundation allocated a total of \$60,648.55 for the following expenditures: \$40,000 for the rector's housing allowance; \$20,481 from the Lois Knox bequest for prior year music program expenses and toward the purchase of a grand piano for the sanctuary; and \$167.55 for expenses associated with a gift of a burial plot. As of November 30, 2014, the Foundation's assets had decreased by 4.6%, to \$734,877.56 (not including the preschool reserve fund assets).

MEMBERSHIP

There were no changes in the Board's membership, which includes Jane Kolson, Jennifer Adams, Stewart Bartley, Jerry Boykin, Tony Brush, Douglas Garthoff, Donald Simpson, and Rance Willis. Stewart Bartley assumed the role of Foundation Treasurer in September.

PROGRAMMING

The Board did not offer any programming during 2014.

BEQUESTS, BEQUEST COMMITMENTS, AND PLANNED GIFTS

The Foundation received no bequests, bequest commitments, or planned gifts during 2014.

1910 SOCIETY

The *1910 Society* recognizes individuals who have included Emmanuel in their estate plan. Membership in the *1910 Society* remained steady, at 13.

The Foundation's goals are:

- Steward Emmanuel's quasi-endowment prudently.
- Offer Emmanuel's parishioners occasional opportunities to learn about estate planning strategies and planned giving arrangements that can benefit both them and Emmanuel.

Jane Kolson (President), Jennifer Adams, Stewart Bartley, Jerry Boykin, Tony Brush, Douglas Garthoff, Donald Simpson, and Rance Willis

EMMANUEL EPISCOPAL CHURCH FOUNDATION AND RELATED ASSETS

Held at the Diocese by the Trustees of the Funds (TOTF)

	TOTF Fund #	1-Jan-14 thru					30-Nov-14	
		Beginning Market Value	Notes	Contributions	Withdrawals	Notes	Net Change in Market Value	Ending Market Value
EEC Foundation Unrestricted Fund:								
Undesignated		\$ 754,077.98		\$ -	\$ (40,167.55)	(1)	\$ 25,213.13	\$ 739,123.56
Designated : Lois Knox Music Funds		\$ 16,235.00		\$ -	\$ (20,481.00)	(2)	\$ -	\$ (4,246.00)
Total EEC Foundation Unrestricted Fund	402-001	\$ 770,312.98		\$ -	\$ (60,648.55)		\$ 25,213.13	\$ 734,877.56
Stafford & Olive Fox-Thomas Endowment Fund	89	\$ 321,056.03		\$ -	\$ (12,822.24)	(3)	\$ 10,037.74	\$ 318,271.53
EEC Pre-school Reserve Fund	402-003	\$ -		\$ 130,000.00	\$ -		\$ (1,655.26)	\$ 128,344.74
Total EEC Foundation & Related Reserve Funds		\$ 1,091,369.01		\$ 130,000.00	\$ (73,470.79)		\$ 33,595.61	\$ 1,181,493.83

Note (1) - Withdrawal Detail - Unrestricted:

1st Quarter Housing Allowance to EEC (Feb)	\$ 10,000.00
2nd Quarter Housing Allowance to EEC (May)	\$ 10,000.00
Expenses for Burial Plot Gift (May)	\$ 167.55
3rd Quarter Housing Allowance to EEC (Aug)	\$ 10,000.00
4th Quarter Housing Allowance to EEC (Nov)	\$ 10,000.00
Totals YTD	\$ 40,167.55

Note (2) - Withdrawal Detail - Knox Music:

Prior year expenses paid in 2014	\$ 1,465.00
Piano Acquisition to Jordan Kitts	\$ 19,016.00
Totals YTD	\$ 20,481.00

Note (3) - Annual payout of income per TOTF \$ 12,822.24

**CHURCH BALANCE SHEET
AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2013 AND 2014**

	December 31 2013	December 31 2014
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Checking/Savings		
Petty Cash in Office	100	80
Checking Account (BB&T)	70,814	47,380
Interest Bearing Account (BB&T)	26,958	51,398
Total Checking/Savings	<u>97,872</u>	<u>98,858</u>
Accounts Receivable	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total Current Assets	97,872	98,858
Other Assets		
Investments at Fox-Thomas	247,635	247,635
Land & Building	2,091,496	2,091,496
Furniture & Equipment	73,411	73,411
Total Other Assets	<u>2,412,542</u>	<u>2,412,542</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u><u>2,510,414</u></u>	<u><u>2,511,400</u></u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY		
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Prepaid Pledges	47,300	41,625
Rector Search Campaign	11,504	10,118
General Outreach	774	1,061
* UTO	33	33
Haiti	332	613
* Mission Trip	9,573	9,573
* Fundraiser For Our Future	2,135	2,135
* Sewing Group	69	69
* Altar Guild	1,100	74
Music Program (funded by Foundation)	(1,265)	8,350
Capital Reserves	3,000	3,000
Other Funds Due/Owed	(430)	0
Total Current Liabilities	<u>74,125</u>	<u>76,651</u>
Long-Term Liabilities	0	0
Total Liabilities	<u>74,125</u>	<u>76,651</u>
Total Equity	<u>2,436,289</u>	<u>2,434,749</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u><u>2,510,414</u></u>	<u><u>2,511,400</u></u>

CHURCH STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSES
2013 AND 2014 ACTUAL / 2015 BUDGET

	2013 Actual	2014 Actual	2015 Budget
Annual Giving			
Plate	28,952	35,429	25,000
Current Year Pledge	241,280	278,358	330,000
Prior Year Pledge	2,160	890	1,500
Subtotal Giving	268,781	314,677	356,500
Other Income			
Investment Income	53,026	52,906	53,100
Fundraising	12,653	16,724	19,500
Offerings, Memorials, Flowers, Other	24,106	21,168	17,825
Building Use Fees	13,586	16,416	17,500
Preschool Reimbursements	30,500	5,500	0
Preschool Annual Contribution	9,409	44,000	44,000
Shrine Mont Registration Fees	13,140	13,933	15,000
Subtotal Other Income	156,420	170,647	166,925
Total Income	428,812	485,324	523,425
Administrative			
Utilities (Gas, Electric, Water)	26,638	26,747	27,900
Phone (incl ADT)	4,789	5,785	6,000
Copier	9,565	14,332	16,100
Other Admin Expenses	11,530	20,333	16,800
Subtotal Administrative	52,522	67,197	66,800
Property			
Maintenance, Repairs, & Landscaping	28,141	50,891	51,255
Building Cleaning	14,742	16,476	18,200
Property Insurance	7,315	7,817	7,800
Capital Account	3,000	0	0
Subtotal Property	53,198	75,184	77,255
Clergy & Staff			
Clergy & Staff Compensation, Expenses, & Benefits (2 full-time, 5 part-time employees)	258,981	276,056	294,728
Subtotal Clergy & Staff	258,981	276,056	294,728
Other Expenses			
Worship	6,558	6,327	6,750
Christian Education (incl confs)	4,197	5,362	12,800
Section Leaders & Guest Musicians	0	2,180	3,300
Parish Activities	713	1,651	2,900
Shrinemont	13,443	13,426	15,000
Diocesan Pledge	26,000	26,000	30,000
Region IV / Virginia Episcopalian	300	350	700
Outreach	17,593	13,061	13,500
Subtotal Other Expenses	68,804	68,358	84,950
Total Expenses	433,503	486,795	523,734
Net Income	(4,691)	(1,471)	(309)

PRESCHOOL BALANCE SHEET AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2014

Assets	
Current Assets	
Checking Account (BB&T)	43,506
Interest Bearing Account (TOTF)	130,000
Petty Cash	<u>103</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>173,609</u>
Total Assets	<u>173,609</u>
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Advance Tuition	2,575
Advance May Deposits	44,585
Advance Registration Fees	<u>5,375</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>52,535</u>
Equity	
Total Equity	<u>121,074</u>
Total Liabilities and Equity	<u>173,609</u>

PRESCHOOL STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSES
2013-2014 SCHOOL YEAR

Income	
Tuition (including summer camp)	401,764
Spring Fundraiser (net of expenses)	21,768
Miscellaneous Fundraisers (net of expenses)	7,681
Supply Fees	15,000
Registration Fees**	325
Other Income	<u>211</u>
Total Income	446,749
 Expenses	
Salaries (including summer camp)	330,095
Contributions to Emmanuel Church	35,500
Scholarships	3,863
Permanent Equipment & Supplies	18,948
School Supplies, Snacks, Hospitality	9,762
Office Supplies	1,553
Building Maintenance, Repairs, Cleaning	31,533
Trips, Assemblies, Parent Resources	4,252
Substitutes	6,908
Professional Development	5,711
Professional Dues, Fees, Licenses, Services, Advertising	1,163
Books	1,059
Preschool Board Expenses	<u>279</u>
Total Expenses	450,626
 Net Income	 (3,877)

** An accounting decision was made at the end of the 2013-2014 school year to account for registration fees during the school year they are for, not the year they are received. Therefore the actual amount received in 2013-2014 is not recorded and is accounted for in the 2014-2015 school year.