



EMMANUEL  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

WELCOME! Introducing...  
this month's issue of  
**HIGH NOTES!**



2016

Inside this issue:

The Giving Tree and Ste. Croix, Haiti	1
User-Friendly Dictionary	3
A Note from Our Senior Warden	4
Spiritual Formation for Children and Youth	5
Advent and Christmas	6
Christmas Flowers	7
Outreach Thank You Notes	8
Vestry HiLites	9
IRA Rollover	9
Inclement Weather Policy	9
Preschool News	10
Photos from Bishop Goff's Visit	11
Photos of Our Youth	11
Calendar	12

**High Notes Submissions**

Articles for the January High Notes must be submitted to [Kelli](#) by Friday, December 16.

## The Giving Tree and Ste. Croix, Haiti

One of Emmanuel's most well-loved traditions is back. This year the Giving Tree and the team from our Haiti partner parish are joining together to focus on assisting children in need at Ste. Croix, Léogâne, Haiti. The Giving Tree has been set up in the church foyer decorated with ornaments for you to select from through January 1. The tree's ornaments will have details about donations for items such as school supplies, musical recorders, ukuleles, soccer balls, library books. There are options for a wide range of cash donations to support needs such as school renovations and scholarships. Please consider taking an ornament home if you and your family would like to participate in this special way of loving others in need.



**Instructions:**

- Place gifts in the box near the tree and return cash donations in the envelope with your name on it to Kelli Corts in the parish office or during the offering collection at the 8:00 a.m. or 10:30 a.m. service. Checks should be made payable to *Emmanuel Church* with *Giving Tree* noted in the memo line.

Following is a list of the items provided by Fr. Sonley and some of his teachers that you will find on the Giving Tree:

Amount	Items	Number Needed
Donation	Donate a used projector for public speaking class	1
Donation	Donate a used laptop for public speaking class	1
\$1,200	Salary for music teacher for 6 months	1
\$600	Salary for music teacher for 3 months	1
\$500	Musical instruments for music program	1
\$500	Water tank for latrine renovation	1
\$250	Scholarship for elementary school student	8
\$200	Stove for kitchen renovation	1
\$200	Salary for music teacher for 1 month	3
\$100	2 Soccer goal nets	1

(Continued on page 2)

## 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.

**Diocesan Bishops**  
The Rt. Rev. Shannon Johnston  
The Rt. Rev. Susan Goff  
The Rt. Rev. Ted Gulick

### Emmanuel Church Staff

**Rector**  
[The Rev. Charles C. McCoart, Jr.](#)

**Associate for Worship and Spiritual Formation**  
[The Rev. Joani Peacock](#)

**Seminarians**  
[Gethin Wied](#)  
[Rick Bauer](#)

**Director of Spiritual Formation for Children and Youth**  
[Toni Buranen](#)

**Organist/Choir Director**  
[Ryan Fitch](#)

**Parish Administrator**  
[Kelli Corts](#)

**Administrative Assistant**  
[Karen O'Hern](#)

**Nursery Caregivers**  
Lillian Urrea  
Natalie De Leon Santizo  
Sara Guzman

**Sunday Services**  
8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

**Church Office Hours**  
Monday—Thursday  
10:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

**Emmanuel Episcopal Church**  
1608 Russell Road  
Alexandria, VA 22301  
703-683-0798 (phone)  
703-683-6158 (fax)  
[office@emmanuelonhigh.org](mailto:office@emmanuelonhigh.org)  
[www.emmanuelonhigh.org](http://www.emmanuelonhigh.org)

*(Continued from page 1)*

Amount	Items	Number Needed
\$100	Propane tank for kitchen renovation	1
\$100	Shipping cost to send a large box to Haiti	1
\$100	Instruments for music program	1
\$100	10 new books for library	3
\$50	Anatomy wall poster for biology class	1
\$50	5 new books for library	2
\$50	Instrument for music program	1
\$50	5 new books for library	2
\$50	Wall chart for science class	1
\$50	Wall map for geography class	1
\$50	Paint for new kindergarten walls	1
\$50	Paint for kitchen renovation	1
\$50	Shipping to send a small box to Haiti	1
\$50	Plumbing pipe to bring running water to kitchen	1
\$50	Sheet music for music program	1
\$50	Chalk for classrooms	2
\$50	Metronome for music program	1
\$30	Music stand for music program	1
\$50	Sports equipment	1
\$35	Ukelele for music program	6
\$30	Music stand for music program	5
\$25	Shipping to send a small box to Haiti	2
\$25	Towards kitchen renovation	4
\$25	1 month of propane fuel for school lunch program	5
\$25	Sheet music for music program	2
\$20	Soccer ball	4
\$15	English language flash cards	2
\$15	Air pump for soccer balls	1
\$10	Music book for music program	2
\$10	1 new book for library	10
\$5	Plastic recorder for music program	13

Contact [Rachel Kliewer](#) with any questions.

Please consider including Emmanuel Church or Foundation  
in your will or living trust.  
For more information, contact [Jane Kolson](#).

## User-Friendly Dictionary—Advent

The first season of the church year, beginning with the fourth Sunday before Christmas and continuing through the day before Christmas, is called Advent. The name is derived from a Latin word for "coming." The season is a time of preparation and expectation for the coming celebration of our Lord's nativity, and for the final coming of Christ "in power and glory."

Two heralds of the season are in place at Emmanuel. First, the Advent wreath, a circle of greenery marked by four candles that represent the four Sundays of the season of Advent. An additional candle is lit as each new Sunday is celebrated in Advent. Advent wreaths are used both in churches and in homes for devotional purposes. The candles may be blue, purple, or lavender, depending on local custom. Some Advent wreaths include a white candle in the center known as the "Christ Candle," which is lit on Christmas Eve.

Second are the blue hangings on the altar and the lectern/pulpit (Hmmm, good words for another article!). Blue is the liturgical color for Advent. In years past it was purple, but the contemporary interpretation of the season's theme is one of contemplation, not repentance. Our altar hangings were made by former (now deceased) member Judy Carlton and they are a wonderful memorial of her and her years of service to Emmanuel. The advent banners were donated by Ryan Fitch, our organist/choir director.

Meredith Wade  
Clerk



## Fall Festival



## 2016 Vestry

Bob Carragher (Senior Warden)  
Adam Schildge (Junior Warden)  
Lola Beggs · Leo Cruz · Joe Dresen  
Katie Kelly · Emily McNaughton  
Bryan Moore · Joe Scott  
Margaret Wohler · Chris Yianilos  
Gene Lange (Treasurer)  
Meredith Wade (Clerk)

## Contacts for Ministry Teams

Communications: Leo Cruz

Fellowship : Lola Beggs, Chris Yianilos  
Coffee Hour Baristas: Elena Mazzeo  
Craft & Sewing Group: Gudrun Callahan  
Inreach/Compassionate Care: Nancy Dupree  
Intergenerational Events: Jennifer Jones  
Newcomers Welcome: Lola Beggs  
Prime Timers: Jim Bradley  
Shrine Mont Parish Retreat: Joe Scott  
Twenties & Thirties (TnT): Leo Cruz

Preschool: Adam Schildge

Service: Katie Kelly, Bryan Moore  
ALIVE!: Laura Macone; Sarah Orndorff  
Bag Lunch Program: Karen Coda  
Carpenter's Shelter Breakfast: Jennifer Jones  
Carpenter's Shelter: Dinner: Sean Ellis  
Community Lodgings: Barbara Harslem  
Free School Physical Program: Bonnie Lilley  
Giving Tree: Rachel Kliewer  
Haiti: John Maass  
Haitian Coffee Sales: Kim Scott  
Meals on Wheels: Katie Kelly  
Tutoring Consortium: Kelly Dresen  
United Thank Offering: Bonnie Fairbank

Stewardship: Joe Dresen, Emily McNaughton, Joe Scott

Annual Giving Campaign: Bob Carragher  
Building and Grounds: Dwayne Piepenburg  
Finance: Stewart Bartley  
Foundation: Jane Kolson  
Yard Sale: Tom and Taylor Craig

Teaching: Meredith Wade, Margaret Wohler

Adult Spiritual Formation: Beth Boland  
Sunday School: Toni Buranen  
Youth (Middle School): Janie Piemonte  
Youth (High School): Rachel Piemonte

Worship: Bob Carragher, Chuck McCoart

Acolytes: Kelly and Joe Dresen  
Altar Guild: Christina Bartley  
Counters: Jim Bradley  
Guitar Circle: Stewart Bartley  
Music : Ryan Fitch  
Readers (8:00): Suji Kelly  
Readers and Chalice (10:30): Jerry Boykin  
Ushers: Bob Callahan  
Worship: Nancy Dupree

## A Note from Our Senior Warden

Greetings all and I hope you all had a safe and happy Thanksgiving!

With 'Turkey Day' behind us, before you know it the Christmas holidays will be upon us. Holiday parties, shopping, wrapping up those house and garden chores along with holiday gifts will be just a few of the many 'to do' items to tackle between now and Christmas Day. But I wanted to add to your 'to do' list by urging you to give some thought to what EEC means to you, as well as your friends and family.

December 11 marks the 'official' close of our 2017 Annual Giving Campaign — ***Church of Dreams***. As you've probably been monitoring in our weekly bulletins, pledges are rolling in but not at the pace we would hope for by this time. For those of you who have submitted a pledge for 2017 — many, many thanks! For those of you who have yet to do so, please try to do so by Sunday, December 11, when the Annual Giving Team will present the pledge cards during the 10:30 a.m. service for a special blessing by Chuck and Joani.

We ask for your pledge by December 11 because by then the Emmanuel Finance Team will be hard at work banging out a 2017 budget that will need to be ratified by the Vestry by year end. Only until the Team has a good understanding of what we can expect in pledged giving can they accurately formulate next year's operating budget. Your planned giving commitment or pledge for 2017 will help us decide what outreach actions, staffing, and building improvements may be possible for next year.

But this year's campaign is not just about monetary giving. Rather, we challenged the congregation to consider pledging a gift of time and talent in 2017, also. One such way to do so is by committing 90 minutes a month to serve (along with 11 other members of the congregation) as a member of the EEC Vestry. We have vacancies for one 2-year term and three 3-year terms starting in February.

At that time, my term as Senior Warden will come to a close as I'm succeeded by our current Junior Warden, Adam Schildge. It's been an interesting and very rewarding ride which started off with my



selection as co-chair of the Search Committee (along with Lola Beggs) that resulted in Chuck's decision to accept our call to become the next rector of Emmanuel. In the nearly 4+ years since the Search Committee was convened, we've all witnessed remarkable growth in Emmanuel — not just in numbers, but in spirituality, mission and planned giving.

So this holiday season, please take a moment to contemplate what you could give back to God and Emmanuel, remembering the teachings of ***Hebrews 13:16***: "Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God."

*Bob Carragher*

*Senior Warden and Member of EEC's Annual Giving Team*

	2016	2017 (as of Nov. 29)
Annual gifts	\$395,181	\$249,221
Pledges	140	74
New pledges	26	5
<b>Goal</b>	<b>\$400,000</b>	<b>\$425,000</b>
	<b>148 pledges</b>	<b>20 new pledges</b>

## Prime Timers

The Prime Timers went to the Mosaic Center in Fairfax for an election day lunch at the French Bakery. The lunch was delicious but the desserts were even better.



# Spiritual Formation for Children and Youth

*"You keep us waiting. You, the God of all time, Want us to wait. For the right time in which to discover Who we are, where we are to go, Who will be with us, and what we must do. So thank you ...for the waiting time."*

- John Bell

## Advent Greetings!

Advent is such a wonderful season! While for most of us, it is about preparing for Christmas, I would ask us to also think about it as its own season requiring its own special attention. Advent is a waiting time. A time to slow down, to meet God in quiet spaces and remember that we remain in hopeful expectation for the coming of Christ. Not the baby Jesus — who has already come — but the Christ of Faith, on whom our salvation rests and who is coming again! And so as we wrap gifts and write cards and bake cookies — all some of my favorite things to do in preparation for Christmas! — we also light candles on our Advent wreaths, read from the book of Isaiah, remind ourselves of what it is to which Christ calls us as we await his coming again so that we may be united with God in a kingdom of justice, joy, peace, and powerful love. It is on this our salvation rests.

May we all seek the time and space to reflect, to be, and to wait. And may we give our children the gift of Advent as well.

*In peace and gratitude,  
Toni*

## Upcoming Events

### The Giving Tree

The Office of Faith Formation for Children and Youth will be supporting the parish Giving Tree project on behalf of Ste. Croix, Haiti by taking up a collection during Sunday school and God & Donuts on Sunday, December 18. Look for more information in the parish bulletin, e-news, pulpit announcements and EEC families' emails! Many thanks in advance for your support of this project.

### December Youth Sunday and Feast of St. Nicholas

Join us for Youth Sunday on December 4 at the 10:30 a.m. service! All children are invited and encouraged to arrive at 10:00 a.m. so that they may rehearse the children's song which occurs after the sermon. They are such a joyful addition to the service! Thank you for your assistance in helping them feel comfortable. Our very festive breakfast celebrating the Feast of St. Nicholas will be after the service. There is a \$10 suggested donation per family.



### Sunday School

Sunday school meets on December 11 and 18 this month. It begins at 10:00 a.m. and it is very important that families arrive on time as teachers work hard to plan a meaningful lesson for your children and want to be able to implement it in its entirety. The bonus is that parents get a little time to just be, chat with other parents, pray, etc. If there is an interest in a mini-coffee chat time for parents, let me know! I am happy to help get it off the ground. In the meantime, thank you for making a special effort to get your children to class on time!

### God & Donuts

God & Donuts meets on December 4 and December 18 this month from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. The middle and high school youth will be helping to rake leaves of parishioners on December 4. Please reach out to [Janie Piemonte](#) with questions and interest.

# 'Tis the Season—Advent and Christmas at Emmanuel

## Throughout Advent — Grab Bag Spirituality

**Dozens of Devotionals in the spirit of the Advent Season.** Themes vary: darkness & light, preparing the way, anticipation & waiting, prayer & scripture, tradition & history. Take your pick! Available in the narthex. A small voluntary donation is requested but not required.

## Advent II — This Sunday, December 4

### Breakfast on the Feast of Saint Nicholas

Youth Sunday is December 4, so plenty of opportunities for children to be involved.

Following the 10:30 a.m. service please join us in the Parish Hall where children will have the opportunity to celebrate the spirit of giving in honor of Saint Nicholas. A delicious brunch will be enjoyed by all. Children who leave their shoes in the parish hall during the service will find a special surprise when they return. Suggested contribution is \$10 per family.

## Advent III — Sunday, December 11

### Why We Go A'Caroling!

A fun family-friendly sing along talk about the history of famous carols of the season will be led by the Rev. Joani Peacock in the Parish Hall following the 10:30 a.m. service. **Christmas Card-Making** materials will also be available so you can color and craft while you learn and sing! The cards will be mailed to those who can't be with us on Sunday mornings.

## "Besties, Bromances & Soulmates: Stories About Pivotal Relationships"

[An anthology on friendship from Possibilities Publishing](#), with the opening chapter by the Rev. Joani Peacock! Come to the book launch at 4:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Meet the authors, get your book signed, and pick up gifts for the special friends in your life. And for our friends in need, please, bring new warm gloves, hats, and scarves for the residents at Carpenters' Shelter.



## Saturday, December 17

### Christmas Caroling & Cocoa — 4:00 PM

Join fellow parishioners of all ages in the Parish Hall at 4:00 p.m. We'll go Christmas caroling in the parish neighborhood. Bring the light and life of this holy season to all God's children in the Alexandria community. Afterwards we'll reconvene in the Parish Hall for cocoa, cookies, and refreshments. Dress warmly and wear comfortable shoes! All are welcome.

## Advent IV — Sunday, December 18

### Family Crèche Sunday

Do you have a nativity set associated with family traditions or one that holds special memories or meaning? Before or after the 10:30 a.m. service on Sunday, December 18, bring your family crèche to the Parish Hall for all to see during coffee hour. Share your stories, memories, and why it is special to you.

## Comfort & Healing Service — 5:00 PM

Please join us for this special seasonal service. Though the holiday season leading up to Christmas is filled with many blessings for many people, for others this season can also be a challenging time. This is especially true for those who have lost a loved one, might be dealing with an addiction, in poor health, or just want to celebrate Christmas in a quieter way. Join us for a special Meditative Service and healing Holy Eucharist and please consider bringing a friend.

## **Christmas Eve Pageant — With Holy Communion and Music — Saturday, December 24 — 4:00 PM**

Calling all youth! From toddlers to teenagers — all are invited to participate in the beautiful tradition that is Emmanuel's Christmas Pageant! If you or a young parishioner — or guest would like to have a part in this year's pageant, please sign up in the Parish Hall. Come see the Christmas Story as only our young "stars" can tell it, sing your favorite carols by candlelight, and rejoice in the wondrous gift of Jesus' birth. All are welcome, including our little out-of-town visitors — there will be parts and costumes for all.

## **Christmas Eve Vigil — With Holy Communion and Music — Saturday, December 24 — 9:00 PM**

This service will no doubt be a little quieter than the 4:00 p.m. Pageant — but we hope lots of folks will invite their neighbors and friends and together we'll celebrate the Savior's birth.

## **Christmas Day Service — With Holy Communion and Music — Sunday, December 25 — 10:30 AM**

As we all know and celebrate, Christmas is the sacred annual commemoration of the birth of Jesus Christ. Millions of believers around the world will gather this day to celebrate again the great gift Christ is in our lives. Come one — Come all.

## **1 Christmas, Holy Eucharist — Sunday, January 1 — 8:00 AM**

## **Christmas Festival of Lessons & Carols — Sunday, January 1 — 10:30 AM**

A traditional service of six scripture readings interwoven with the beloved carols of the season. No sermon and no communion. Come prepared to sing!

## **Epiphany / Baptism of the Lord — Sunday, January 8 — 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM**

Epiphany celebrates the manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles and the visit of the Wise Men to the Christ Child. The Baptism of the Lord is the feast day commemorating the baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River by John the Baptist.

Calling ALL Babies ... babies and anyone of any age desiring to be baptized on this special day. Contact [Chuck](#) or [Joani](#) for details.



## **Christmas Flower Donations**

Help adorn our church for Christmas and honor or remember a loved one by giving to our Holiday Flower Fund. All gifts, great and small, are appreciated, but we suggest \$60. Register on the list behind the back pew and drop off your check with instructions to Kelli in the office or [donate online through e-giving](#). To minimize any last minute confusion, we just ask you not to put cash in an envelope without any instructions or names. Please provide given names and indicate whether your dedication is "in honor of," or a memorial. The dedications will be printed in the Christmas service bulletin. While there is no deadline for giving, the deadline to submit dedications is Sunday, December 18 for printing purposes.

Many thanks — your Altar Guild is looking forward to a glorious Holiday Season!

*Christina Bartley*

## Thank You from Sonley

*"We give thanks to God at Ste. Croix for the wonderful people of Emmanuel Episcopal Church. We praise his name for the opportunity to start this week the feeding program at Ste. Croix school. The students were happy and joyful for the continuity of this nutritious activity. On their behalf, I thank you all.*

*May the loving God continue to bless you abundantly.*

*I attach some pictures of the students while they were eating spaghetti on Monday November 7.*

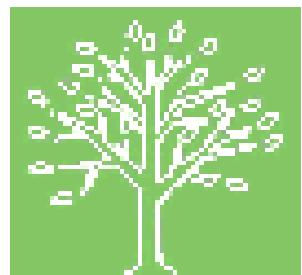
*As soon as I have the money you sent recently, I will work on the kitchen improvement."*



## Thank You from ALIVE! Executive Director Diane Charles

*"Thank you for your recent gift to ALIVE! Your donation will make an immediate difference in the life of someone you may not know, but who will benefit because of your help. With your help, ALIVE! is there for people in Alexandria who are struggling to make ends meet. Thanks to your financial support, we can dramatically improve our neighbor's lives through emergency food and financial assistance, shelter, low-cost early-childhood education, and donated furniture and housewares. Your gifts bring hope and much-needed help to many thousands of people each year who are living in poverty right here in Alexandria. Your contribution of \$2,000 is designated to the General Fund, where it will help someone who turns to ALIVE! in their time of need."*

*"When it comes to hunger in Alexandria, you are part of the solution. Thank you so much for stepping up to the plate for the 13,500 people in Alexandria who are living in poverty. Many more make nutritional sacrifices to make ends meet. Your contribution of \$500 to Empty Bowls Alexandria will provide emergency food assistance to people who need your help. As many as one in five people in Alexandria struggle to put food on the table, and you are helping to feed them through your generosity. By participating in Empty Bowls Alexandria, you are providing a safety net for people who turn to us for help. Thank you for your generosity."*



## Vestry HiLites

At its regular meeting on November 9, the Vestry...

- heard a report by Ressa Jones, Director, on the status of the Preschool; 2 and 3 year-old classes are full, 1 vacancy in 4/5s class; priority applications open on November 30 and will be publicized to church members via bulletin, announcement at services, targeted e-blast; the school will be 50 years old next year; a visioning project regarding the playground will be initiated in January.
- made plans for Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 29. An updated photo directory will be available as well as a new Strategic Plan from the Vestry.
- heard a report from Kelli Corts, Administrator; she and the Finance Team are working on the 2017 budget which the Vestry will meet to review on December 7.
- heard a report from Senior Warden Bob Carragher on Stewardship Campaign status.

Meredith Wade  
Clerk



## IRA Rollover

For those aged 70 1/2 or older, it is possible to make tax-favored charitable gifts from traditional and Roth IRA accounts. A total of \$100,000 may be transferred directly from traditional or Roth IRAs each year to one or more qualified charities, including Emmanuel Church and Emmanuel Church Foundation, free from federal income taxes. Contributions given in this way count toward the donor's required IRA minimum withdrawal amount for the year of the gift. However, they do not entitle the donor to a charitable income tax deduction.

To make such a gift, it is important that you have the donated assets distributed directly from your IRA to Emmanuel. For those with check-writing privileges on their accounts, this may be the most efficient way to make a gift directly from your IRA to Emmanuel.

If you are interested in making a gift of IRA assets to Emmanuel Church or the Emmanuel Church Foundation, please contact your IRA administrator for instructions on making a charitable transfer or, as noted above, simply write a check to Emmanuel from your IRA account.

Should you have any questions about this giving opportunity, feel free to contact [Jane Kolson](#) at 202-994-9523.



## Inclement Weather Policy

Emmanuel Episcopal Church follows the Alexandria City Public School (ACPS) system regarding closings for inclement weather. If Alexandria Public Schools are closed, then Emmanuel Episcopal Church is closed. All day and evening activities and meetings are cancelled. This applies to weekdays and weekends.

If Alexandria Public Schools have a late opening or an early closing then we will follow their lead as well.



This inclement weather policy includes the 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Sunday services. If it is unsafe for the school system to be open, then it is unsafe for our church to be open. God will completely understand — yes, even applaud — your taking care of yourself and others by staying home.

In the event of a Sunday closing, an e-mail will be sent to all who currently receive the weekly e-news. The closure will be placed on the website as well.



EMMANUEL  
PRESCHOOL

#### Emmanuel Preschool Staff

Director  
Ressa Jones

Office Administrator  
Dawn Doucette

Financial Administrator  
Kelli Corts

Teachers  
Michelle Brayman  
Mary Beth Conry  
Nicole Crochet  
Amy Ernst  
Christy Finn  
Mollee Hansen  
Anne Hubbard  
Jacqueline Kittredge  
Dana Mutscheller  
Nancy Palmer  
Kate Schneider  
Cappie Stiers  
Susan Stockton  
Sara Tiedemann  
Mary Anne Troxell  
Sarah Watson

School Hours  
Monday—Friday  
9:00 a.m.—12:30 p.m.

Emmanuel Episcopal Preschool  
1608 Russell Road  
Alexandria, VA 22301  
703-683-0303 (phone)  
703-683-6158 (fax)  
[preschooladministrator@epsonhigh.org](mailto:preschooladministrator@epsonhigh.org)  
[www.emmanuelonhigh.org](http://www.emmanuelonhigh.org)

# Preschool News

The highlight of December in the Preschool is our Christmas Program put on by the 3's and 4/5's classes. The children and teachers spend several weeks practicing songs and creating decorations for our Christmas Tree backdrop. Then, on December 14, families and friends are invited to come and get into the holiday spirit while watching their little ones perform favorite Christmas music. The sincerity and enthusiasm of the children brings laughter and joy, making our program a wonderful way to kick off the Christmas season!

**Priority applications for the 2017-2018 school year are now available. Church families who wish to receive an application packet should contact the [preschool office](#) or 703-683-0303. Priority applications are due at 12:00 p.m. on December 14.**

*Ressa Jones, Director*

## Red 2's Class

The Red 2's represent the youngest group of students at EPS. On Thursday and Friday mornings, ten tiny two-year-olds march bravely and confidently into their classroom carrying their lunch boxes ready to play and learn. They have been working hard to learn classroom routines and how to contribute to the care of our classroom materials and equipment. The children are given daily opportunities to explore and learn through age appropriate toys and projects. They are encouraged to use their words to express their needs and wants. The activities in the Red 2's classroom are developed to create learning experiences and social experiences through play, projects and activities.



In December, we will work on printing and stamping with the guidance of artist-in-residence Kathryn Coneway. The children use various loose parts, including bottle tops, toy shoes, spools, combs and much more, to dip into paint

and then stamp onto paper. Our little Red 2's will use clothespins, cotton balls and their own hands to create Christmas-themed art to decorate our classroom and to take home for keepsakes. We will continue to stretch our creative and fine-motor muscles by creating individual and group collages sticking with our Christmas theme. In addition, the Red 2's will spend time in the Art, Dramatic Play and Activities Choice Rooms in December, as well as sing and dance with our Music and Movement teacher, Mrs. Nancy Palmer. The Red 2's love spending time on special projects in the Art Room, dressing up and grocery shopping in Dramatic Play and spending time observing our school pet, Boris the Tortoise, while playing in the Activities Room.

*Mollee Hansen and Susan Stockton*

## A Visit from Bishop Goff



## Our Youth

At Cox Farms.



The God and Donuts crew gave Marion and Richard Meeks a Thanksgiving gift by cleaning up the leaves they were unable to rake. Battling the wind was no match for these kids who were happy to be of





4 Advent 2 / Youth Sunday

4 Festival of St. Nicholas (11:30 AM)

4 God & Donuts (4:00 PM)

5 Meals on Wheels Deliveries

7 [Carpenter's Shelter Dinner](#)

7 Vestry Budget Meeting (7:30 PM)

11 Advent 3 / Card-Making and History of Christmas Carols (11:45 AM)

11 Book Launch (4:00 PM)

14 Vestry Meeting (7:30 PM)

15 Adult Spiritual Formation Meeting (9:30 AM)

16 Habitat for Humanity Build Day (8:45 AM)

17 Christmas Caroling (4:00 PM)

18 Advent 4 / Creche Sunday

18 God & Donuts (4:00 PM)

18 Comfort Service (5:00 PM)

24 [Carpenter's Shelter Breakfast](#)

24 Christmas Pageant (4:00 PM)

24 Christmas Eve Vigil (9:00 PM)

25 Christmas Day (10:30 AM)

26-30 Christmas Holiday — Office Closed

26-30 Bag Lunch Week

\*\*Please note that the Church Office will be closed from December 26 to January 2. However, staff will be available December 27-30. Please call the office (703-683-0798) or e-mail [Chuck](#), [Kelli](#), or [Karen](#) if you need to get in touch with any of us or to ensure someone is at the church if you need to stop by.\*\*



1 Service of Lessons & Carols (10:30 AM)

2 New Year's Day Holiday—Office Closed

2 Meals on Wheels Deliveries

4 [Carpenter's Shelter Dinner](#)

8 God & Donuts (4:00 PM)

11 Vestry Meeting (7:30 PM)

16 MLK Day — Church Office Closed

20 Hymn Sing

22 God & Donuts (4:00 PM)

26-28 Diocesan Annual Convention (Reston)

28 [Carpenter's Shelter Breakfast](#)

29 Annual Meeting



1 [Carpenter's Shelter Dinner](#)

5 God & Donuts (4:00 PM)

5 Super Bowl Party

6 Meals on Wheels Deliveries

8 Vestry Meeting (7:30 PM)

14 Valentine's Day

19 God & Donuts (4:00 PM)

20 President's Day — Office Closed

25 [Carpenter's Shelter Breakfast](#)

28 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper (6:00 PM)



For a look at our continually-updated church calendar, click on the calendar to the left.