



The Messenger

January & February 2022

From Darcy+

It often seems that when we are in the midst of a challenging time, as these past two years have been, we feel like we are lost in the woods, walking in circles. Another analogy might be that we feel like we are spinning our wheels and getting nowhere fast. Yet, if we take a minute to see where we have been I think we will see that in reality, we have accomplished many things.

With that in mind, I'd like to offer you a look back over 2021 to see where we have been and what we have accomplished.

January: After continuing to meet virtually for worship from early December through the first two weeks of January 2021, we reopened for in-person worship Saturdays at 5 PM and Sundays at 10:30 AM with social distancing in place. Outdoor Sunday School classes were held weather-permitting. The Rector Search Committee launched the Congregational Assessment Tool survey and collected data about Emmanuel to help in preparing the Parish Portfolio and Parish Profile to be used in the search process and then conducted Zoom sessions with various groups of parishioners. At the hybrid Annual meeting we elected Jim Block, Ann Hedgepeth, and Phil Ticknor to Vestry.

February: Throughout January and early February, Steve Croker along with four other members of the Pastoral Care Team assisted in contacting all members of the parish to offer assistance with registering for a COVID vaccination. They also reached out to help members of the wider Kent County community who needed assistance. Our Saturday and Sunday worship services were held in-person with the Saturday evening service recorded and available for viewing each week on our YouTube channel. The parish website was updated and launched.

March: Director of Music Stephanie LaMotte and Organist Avis Wheatley prepared a piano and organ concert that was recorded and posted to our YouTube channel and our website. Worship services continued to be offered on Saturday evening and Sunday mornings. Four of our pre-teen and teen-aged members continued studying for Confirmation. The first of 9 baptisms in 2021 took place. A Mevo camera was purchased and put to good use upgrading our ability to record our worship services.

April: Easter Sunday morning dawned bright and beautiful as more than 100 parishioners gathered on Memorial Plaza Drive to celebrate a service of Holy Eucharist outdoors with the choir singing and organ music floating out the open church windows. Bishop San visited on April 18 and confirmed youth members Phoebe Kelly, Harrison Lavery, and Lexie Pawelchak, as well as adult member Phil Ticknor, in addition to Phoebe Fritz, from IU Worton.

May: Zierfuss Painting scraped and painted the exterior woodwork on the north side of the building. We added a new feature to *The Messenger* "Meet Your Neighbors" to begin introducing some of the new members of the parish. The 2nd baptism of 2021 took place.

June: With COVID positivity rates declining and the start of summer, we dropped the Saturday evening service and held a single 9:30 AM service of Holy Eucharist for the summer. We continued recording the service and making it available on Facebook and our website. Coffee hour was restarted and held outside. The 3rd baptism of 2021 was held.

Worship Schedule

Sundays

8 a.m.

Holy Eucharist, Rite I

10:30 a.m.

Holy Eucharist, Rite II,
with music &
Sunday School

Wednesdays

12 Noon

Holy Eucharist, with
Anointing for Healing

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July & August: Five more baptisms were held over the summer. Exterior painting continued. The Parish Profile and Parish Portfolio were published, officially opening the search for the 34th rector of Emmanuel. A series of articles “Looking Back at Our History” were published. The role of enslaved and free African Americans in the economy of colonial Eastern Shore Maryland was explored. Two COVID vaccination clinics were held in the Parish Hall.

September: We returned to Sunday services at 8 and 10:30 AM, live-streaming the 10:30 AM service to our Facebook page. Sunday School restarted with outdoor classes and the blessing of backpacks. The choir began singing regularly again at the 10:30 AM service and the Wednesday noon Eucharist was restarted. The Emmanuel Concert Series relaunched with an organ concert by Parker Ramsey. A prayer service of remembrance, attended by more than 50 and live-streamed to many others, was held on the 20th anniversary of 9/11. Planning for a modified Christmas Bazaar began. The Smith-Jackson wedding was held.

October: Creation Season kicked-off with an outdoor service of Holy Eucharist and the blessing of animals and continued through November. Andrew Sheranian presented the 2nd concert of the 28th Concert Season. Repointing of some of the brick on the bell tower was completed. Think Big completed the installation of our high-speed internet service. We had our 9th baptism of 2021. Wednesday Bible Study was restarted, and the updated pictorial directory was published.

November: Wifi units were installed around the building. The Christmas Bazaar was held during the Farmers’ Market on two Saturday and earned almost \$10,000 in proceeds. The MD State Boy Choir presented a concert and Emmanuel’s choir presented a well-attended Service of Evensong for Thanksgiving.

December: The Bazaar Committee presented grants in the amount of \$5000 each to Meals on Wheels and Community Mediation Upper Shore. The Giving Tree donations made Christmas possible for 11 families with 18 children. A Service of Nine Lessons and Carols for Advent and Christmas was held, and Christmas Eve services celebrated the Nativity of Our Lord.

Throughout the year we kept in touch with parishioners by phone calls, notes, and weekly email newsletters filled with updates, reminders and photos. We welcomed new families and continued as many of our outreach efforts as we could safely accomplish. Emmanuel continues to be a parish that does not rest on its laurels but works to be God’s hands and feet in this community.

Faithfully,

Darcy+

Did You Know. . .

. . . that **Judie Willock** has been appointed and confirmed by Vestry vote as the new Chair of the Trustees for The Emmanuel Preservation Fund (aka Preservation Trust), and that **Bob Tyson** has been appointed and confirmed by Vestry vote as a Trustee?

. . . that **Meals On Wheels** and **Community Mediation** each received a check in the amount of \$5000 from the proceeds of the Emmanuel Bazaar 2021 which was held outdoors on two Saturdays in mid-November during the Farmers’ Market?

. . . that the **second pre-convention Convocation meeting** will be held via Zoom on Wednesday, February 2, 2022 at 7 PM?

. . . that as an outreach program of VTS, the Reverend Doctor Mark Jefferson will offer a **hybrid course in homiletics** through the Bishop’s Institute for those who wish to develop their skills in preaching? Laity who successfully complete the class will be licensed to write and deliver sermons in this diocese. If interested in this course, please contact Dee Rinehart at deerinehart43@gmail.com no later than January 15.

Senior Warden's Corner

In my perennial January clean up effort, I happened on the last Messenger. Looking at what I shared, it seems to have been overly optimistic, to say the least, in the assessment of living with COVID. In my defense, it was written at the end of October, and things did look more encouraging then.

Now, however, we are dealing with yet another surge and a more highly transmissible variant, leaving us once again unsure of what is sensible and safe to do. So, instead of optimism, I am filled with *ennui*, not simply boredom which is one of the definitions I learned in sophomore English, but the more all-encompassing one – world-weariness. My guess is that I am not alone. Like Job, I am wondering how much more and how much longer can this be borne.

I happened to meet a fellow parishioner in the grocery a few days ago who was busily trying to prepare for another challenge – snow. We chatted and commiserated about life as it currently is. Then that person said, “But we have each other!”. And indeed, we do! We are blessed with amazingly caring and supportive people at Emmanuel.

So, if we have to hunker down once again, it is winter after all. We can work through another disappointing time, stay strong and hopeful, and pray that this is one of the last times.

Blessings,

Sandy

Vestry Highlights from November and December

- At the November meeting, ratified the electronic vote to sign a new 5-year contract with Xerox for a new photocopier, and the electronic vote to edit Stewardship materials to reflect anticipated increased expenses.
- Received and approved the report from the Nominating Committee for Vestry and Delegates to Convention.
- Approved a request to The Preservation Fund (“Pres Trust”) Trustees to transfer \$6690 from the fund to General Operating Income for the repair of mortar joints on the bell tower in October.
- Discussed draft budget for 2022 with an eye to anticipated increases in expenses.
- Ratified the electronic vote to approve awarding grants of \$5000 each from the proceeds of the Christmas Bazaar 2021 to Meals on Wheels and Community Mediation Upper Shore, the two beneficiaries previously approved.
- Discussed plans to resume food at Coffee Hour in January following the 10:30 AM service, pending COVID data.
- Reviewed plans for Christmas worship services.
- Received reports from the Vestry liaisons to the various parish committees, including the Stewardship Committee. It was noted that to meet anticipated expenses for a new rector with a family, the parish needs \$30,000 - \$40,000 more in pledge income annually than was pledged for 2021.

Search Committee Update

by Libby Rice

The Search Committee is in the skiff! *

While we continue to work diligently and now meet together weekly, our process needs to be done in a manner that respects the confidentiality of those who are involved.

Please continue to pray for our clear minds and open hearts as we search for Emmanuel's new rector.

*(a secret room used to process sensitive, confidential information)

Church Initiatives Grant Applications

Do you have a good idea about a new project that Emmanuel might want to undertake in the coming year, if we had the money to do so? If so, talk to Darcy+ as soon as possible so that we can get our application submitted.

The Church Initiatives Grants Committee of the Diocese of Easton is accepting grant applications now through Monday, January 24, 2022. Grant recipients will be announced at the Diocesan Convention with grants awarded in March, 2022. Grants of up to \$5000 are available to churches as seed money for new projects. To read more about the Grants Initiatives go to <https://dioceseofeaston.org/application-process-opened-for-church-initiatives-grants-2/>.

Emmanuel received a grant of \$5000 in 2015 to jumpstart the afterschool program “Homework Depot” that operated successfully for more than 3 years helping local students in Grades 3 – 9 with homework assignments, improved study skills, and tutoring in specific subject areas. We received a second grant in 2019 to help offset the cost of bringing the Peoples Institute for Survival and Beyond to Chestertown to present the two-day “Undoing Racism” workshop for 50 members of the community.

ANNUAL MEETING OF CHESTER PARISH – January 30, 2022, 10:45 AM

The Annual Meeting of the parish will be held on Sunday, January 30, 2022, at 10:45 AM in the Parish Hall and on Zoom, following a single service of Holy Eucharist at 9:30 AM.

This is an important meeting at which time we will elect three new members to the Vestry (see their bios below), elect three delegates and three alternates to the Diocesan Convention, and receive reports from the Treasurer, the Wardens, and the chairs of our many committees, as well as a “state of the parish” report from Darcy+, our priest-in-charge.

Copies of the Annual Report will be available online prior to the Annual Meeting as well as at the meeting on the 30th. If you would like a printed copy, please contact the Parish Office (410-778-3477) by January 25, 2022. Copies of the 2022 Parish Budget will be available on or about Wednesday, January 20th. Contact the Parish Office if you would like a copy prior to the Annual Meeting. A copy will be in the Annual Report.

It is important for people to attend this meeting, as we need a quorum of at least 45 persons to conduct business. As has been the case since the start of the pandemic, we will continue to offer opportunities for our parishioners to participate in-person and virtually. A link for registration to attend by Zoom will be sent out in about one week. For those attending in-person, we remind you that masks are required indoors, and that social distancing should be observed as much as possible.

Nominees for Vestry, Class of 2025 (serving January 2022 – January 2025):

Anne Mountcastle Bainbridge

I and my two brothers were born and raised in Baltimore, where my father was a Hopkins neuroscientist, and my mother taught at Calvert School. I attended Vassar College before transferring to JHU where I earned my BA in the history of architecture, and then an MLS at U. of MD. Subsequently I worked at The Eisenhower Library at JHU.



In 1975 I married John Bainbridge, a reporter at The Sun. We had three sons and a daughter (finally!) in rapid succession. During their early years I was involved in a lot of volunteer activities including libraries, The Walters,

St. David’s Church, where I was the choir liaison to the Vestry, and school fundraising. I also co-owned a garden shop.

My husband and I divorced in 1995, but continue to share children and grandchildren. When the children were grown I moved to West Chester, PA, where I was renovating several houses, and served on the vestry at Holy Trinity Church. Three years ago I moved to Chestertown and as a cradle Episcopalian,

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I went to Emmanuel; the services were both familiar and inspiring. At that first Coffee Hour, I was given a warm welcome and began to make friends. No matter what the week has brought, I always feel both soothed and ready to be more generous after a service. The mission here is certainly a force for good, both in church and in its many outreach programs. I have enjoyed packing and delivering the Brown Bags for Hunger to Social Services.

John Schratwieser

John Schratwieser is the Director of the Kent Cultural Alliance - Kent County's regional arts council. For more than 30 years he has worked in nonprofit arts administration and most recently served as the Director of Maryland Citizens for the Arts - the statewide arts advocacy group - securing public funding for the arts in Maryland. John is an avid singer and performer and sings with the Emmanuel Church Choir. He lives with his partner Mike Pugh, and their Golden Retriever Franklin, at the historic Quaker house "Friendship" in Worton, MD. John has been a member of Emmanuel since 2017.



D. Joe Smith

Vicky and I have been residents of Chestertown and members of Emmanuel Church since January 2020. During a long legal career with major Washington law firms (and a decade as a biotech entrepreneur in Chapel Hill), I have served on the vestry in the following churches: St. Mark's, Capitol Hill, Washington, DC.; St. Matthew's, Hillsborough, NC; Christ Church + Washington Parish, Capitol Hill.



At St. Mark's, I was on the vestry when the long-term Rector retired and the new Rector was hired. At Christ Church, in addition to serving on the vestry I was senior warden for two years, which included the Rector's six-month sabbatical and a major fund-raising drive for renovations and a new organ. The skills that I can bring to the vestry include a solid understanding of financial issues, experience with human resources and an even temperament in tempestuous times.

On a personal note, Vicky and I have two adult children: Tom is a Navy Flight Officer living in central California, and Hallie is a Paralympic rower living in Boston. My time in retirement is devoted to boat building, maintaining and improving an historic house, and advising a start-up company focused on advanced computing technology. Vicky loves to cook, and I enjoy finding the right wine to complement her cooking.

Nominees for Delegate to the 2022 Diocesan Convention



Sandra Bjork



Jim Block



Lynn McLain

Nominees for Alternate Delegate to the 2022 Diocesan Convention



Mary Grace (MG) Brosius



Nancy Dick



Darlene Housley

Welcome to Emmanuel's Newcomers!

by Elizabeth Riedel

Susan and Firoze Rao have a house in Washington, DC and come to Rock Hall most weekends. They stayed in Betterton this summer and loved the area so much they looked around and chose a house in Rock Hall.

Background:

Susan is from Mebane, NC. She majored in English at Duke University and studied at the Seton Hall School of Law. She currently works as a realtor and runs a property management business.

Firoze is originally from Bombay (now Mumbai), India. He majored in Economics at the University of Bombay and studied accounting at the University of Westminster in London. He now works at Leidos in Finance Management.



Interests:

Susan loves to read, knit and play the ukulele and piano. Her favorite play is *Our Town*.

Firoze likes photography and swimming (he swims about a mile a day when he has the chance). His favorite movie is "High Society".

They both like going to the theater and symphony and cheering for the Atlanta Braves and the Duke Blue Devils. They have 18 nieces and nephews and a wonderful cat named Chipper (named for the great Atlanta player Chipper Jones).

Getting Away:

Susan likes to vacation in France and England, while Firoze's favorite destination is Eleuthera in the Bahamas. And they both like to travel to India!

Hans Morsink and Nancy Snyder

Nancy and Hans moved here from Madison, New Jersey about a year ago and are living in Heron Point.

Background:

Nancy has lived in New Jersey most of her life. She earned a masters from Grand Valley State College in Michigan and worked many years in student services.

Hans was born in Friesland in the northern Netherlands. He notes that that flat terrain of Kent County reminds him of his native land. As his father was a pastor, he grew up in a parsonage. He studied at Calvin College near Grand Rapids, Michigan. He later earned a PhD in philosophy from the University of Wisconsin. He has taught continuously for over 43 years including many years at Drew University in Madison, NJ.

Interests:

Nancy loves animals and volunteers at the animal shelter and works at Coco's pet store on High Street. She has an adult son who lives in Pittsburgh.

Hans loves to read biographies. He keeps a photocopy of the book jackets of all those he had read. He recommends a recently published biography about the misunderstood reign of King George III, written by Andrew Roberts. Hans has an adult son who lives in Orlando, FL and another son and grandson who live in Pisa, Italy.

Getting away:

They love to travel around Delmarva and identify Amsterdam as one of their favorite places to visit.



EMMANUEL CONCERT SERIES RESUMES MARCH 11, 2022, 7:30 PM

The Emmanuel Concert Committee is pleased to announce that Bruce Barber, II, will present an organ recital at Emmanuel on Friday evening, March 11, 2022 at 7:30 PM. Trained as a choral and orchestral conductor, an organist, and cellist, Barber holds a bachelor of arts degree from Rollins College, Winter Park, Florida, and a master of music degree from the Yale School of Music and the Institute of Sacred Music. His primary teachers include Alexander Anderson (Rollins), Robert S. Baker, and Gerre E. Hancock (Yale). Currently he is the organist/choirmaster of Christ Church, Christiana Hundred in Greenville, Delaware. Prior to this position, he served as Director of Cathedral Music of Saint James Cathedral, Chicago, Illinois. (<https://www.thediapason.com/news/bruce-j-barber-ii-christ-church-christiana-hundred-greenville-de>)



Sunday School

by Jenny Lee Freebery

What a great fall semester we had with our Sunday School! We have had up to 13 students per week ranging in ages from 1-12 throughout the year. Some highlights included making crowns like brave Queen Esther, piecing together the words of the Lord's Prayer like a puzzle, making turkeys for Thanksgiving, with feathers that say what we are thankful for, playing tag where "base" is saying what you pray for before getting tagged. Our lessons started outside, but as the weather got colder we moved back into the classroom. I have been trying to base the students' lessons on what their families will be learning in church on that day. Often the older students will actually read from the bulletins.

It was really nice to be able to start processing in at the beginning of the church services for the students to hear a great intro with Reverend Darcy. Our fall semester culminated in a wonderful pageant with over 20 kids (and some teens) looking amazing in their costumes, masks included, as they walked down the aisle to tell the story of Jesus' birth. The students worked on learning 'Go Tell it on a Mountain' to sing as part of the pageant this year, and we had fun singing many of the pageant songs in preparation. As our program continues to grow, I invite any interested members of our congregation to come help us out in the classroom! There is nothing more rewarding than seeing the joy on the faces of the students as they hear the stories from the Bible or watching their creativity at making crafts.





God doesn't want
you to go to
Church. God wants
you to
BE His Church





THE MARYLAND STATE BOYCHOIR

Concert

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2021
AT 7:30 PM

EMMANUEL EPISCOPAL CHURCH
401 S. CANON ST., CHESTERTOWN, MD 21620
410-728-3477
www.emmanuelmd.org




IN REMEMBRANCE

SEPTEMBER 11 2001




Emmanuel Episcopal Church
Christmas Bazaar
on Memorial Plaza, next to the Church
Saturdays: November 13 & 20
8 a.m. - noon



Love God. Love your neighbor. Change the world.
Amen.

Calendar Highlights

EVERY WEEK

KNIFTY KNITTERS—Meets each Monday at 1 p.m. in Dwyer Hall.

CHOIR REHEARSAL—Choir rehearses every Sunday morning, beginning at 9 a.m. (*subject to change*)

BIBLE STUDY—Each Wednesday at 11 a.m.

MID-DAY EUCHARIST WITH ANOINTING FOR HEALING—Each Wednesday at noon; the service lasts about 30 minutes

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS—Meets each Thursday evening, 8 p.m., in the Parish Hall.

Please Note: **Masks are required for all who are participating in indoor activities at Emmanuel, until further notice. Thank you for your cooperation.**

JANUARY

SUNDAY, JANUARY 16, 12 NOON—1:45 P.M.
Vestry meeting

MONDAY, JANUARY 17
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Office Closed

TUESDAY, JANUARY 18
Annual Reports due

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19, 8 A.M.
~~St. Andrew's Brotherhood Breakfast~~
Canceled for January

SUNDAY, JANUARY 30
SINGLE SERVICE AT 9:30 ONLY
Followed by Annual Meeting

FEBRUARY

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 7 P.M.
Northern Convocation meeting
via Zoom

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3
2 p.m.: Heron Point Eucharist,
Wesley Hall, Rev. Darcy Williams

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 4:30 P.M.
Emily Ticknor Baptism

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 8 A.M.
St. Andrew's Brotherhood Breakfast

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 12—1:45 P.M.
Vestry Meeting

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21
Presidents' Day
Office Closed

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, ASH WEDNESDAY
Services at 12 noon and 6 p.m.

FRIDAY, MARCH 11, 7:30 P.M.
Organ Concert featuring Bruce Barber



FLOWER MEMORIALS, PARISH PRAYER CYCLE

Worship in January

January 2 (W) Christmas II

Flowers: Christmas Memorials

Parish Prayer Cycle: Pam & Ron Abler; Bunny & Frank Adams; Peggy Albertsen; and Anne Landon Allen

January 9 (W) Epiphany I

Flowers: Harriett V. Kratzer

Parish Prayer Cycle: Janie Ashley; Anne Bainbridge; Leslie Baldwin; and Frannie & Stu Baldwin

January 16 (G) Epiphany II

Flowers: A. Colclough (Cokely) & Dorothy Q. Dick

Parish Prayer Cycle: Norma Barberis; Bob Barnes; George Barnum; and Debra Donnelly-Barton

January 23 (G) Epiphany III

Flowers: Ann Wilmer & Alexander H. Hoon, and Isabel Perry & Philip George Wilmer

Parish Prayer Cycle: Barbara Belden; Marcia Bell; and Nancy & Ben Bennington

January 30 (G) Epiphany IV

Annual Meeting—Single Service at 9:30 a.m.

Flowers: Henry Barberis, Sr.

Parish Prayer Cycle: Helen Billings; Sally Bitter; Sandy Bjork; and Penny & Jim Block

Worship in February

February 6 (G) Epiphany V

Flowers: Henry Barberis, Jr., and Henry Barberis, III

Parish Prayer Cycle: Julie, Brent, Adele, Oliver, & Gardner Blyman; Ann & Michael Bourne; and Barbara Jorgenson & David Bowering

February 13 (G) Epiphany VI

Flowers: Dorothy Vickers Anthony

Parish Prayer Cycle: Bernadette & Paul Bowman; Ann Boyden; Janet Brandon; and Robyn & Neil Brayton

February 20 (G) Epiphany VII

Flowers: Anthony Gray Scott

Parish Prayer Cycle: Anne Bricker; Bonnie & Bill Brockschmidt; M.G. & Jack Brosius; and Carolyn Brown & Teijo Niemela

February 27 (G) Last Epiphany

Flowers: Betsy & Edward T. Tait

Parish Prayer Cycle: Phyllis Brown; John Buckley; and Anne Charles

March 6 (LA) Lent I

Flowers: No Altar Flowers during Lent

Parish Prayer Cycle: Melissa Clarke; Ginger & Tom Collier; and Sid Cooper

Notes: Uppercase letters in parentheses indicate liturgical colors:

B=black, BL=blue, G=green, R=red,
LA=Lenten array, P=purple, W=white

Directory Updates

Edward Maxcy—Remove the phone number

Ron & Tracy Walters—403 N. Commerce Street, Centreville, MD 21617

Megan Owings—e-mail address: mowings@davidabrambleinc.com

Rogers Smith—new cell number: 443-480-3577

David Durfee—Remove landline, add new cell number: 410-382-0891

Remember—The deadline for the March/April/May issue of *The Messenger* is **Wednesday, February 16**. Submit your hard-copy articles to the Parish Office, or e-mail them to either emmanuelchestertown@gmail.com, or drdarcy.williams@gmail.com. We would also love to have copies of any pictures of the Parish at work or play for inclusion in future articles.

Staff:

The Reverend Dr. F. Darcy Williams,
Priest-in-Charge

Stephanie LaMotte, *Director of Music
and Choirmaster*

G. Robert Tyson, *Choirmaster Emeritus*

Avis Wheatley, *Organist*

Laura Kaufmann, *Parish Secretary*

Sue Byerly, *Financial Assistant*

Melvin Thompson, *Sexton*

Parish Officers:

Sandra Bjork, *Senior Warden*

Thomas Mack, Jr., *Junior Warden*

Tim Lavery, *Treasurer*

Vestry:

Term end dates are in parentheses

Craig Jackson (2022)

Brianna Mayer (2022)

George Shivers (2022)

Nancy Dick (2023)

Earl McGimpsey (2023)

Betty Weller (2023)

Jim Block (2024)

Ann Hedgepeth (2024)

Phil Ticknor (2024)

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www.emmanuelchesterparish.org
410-778-3477