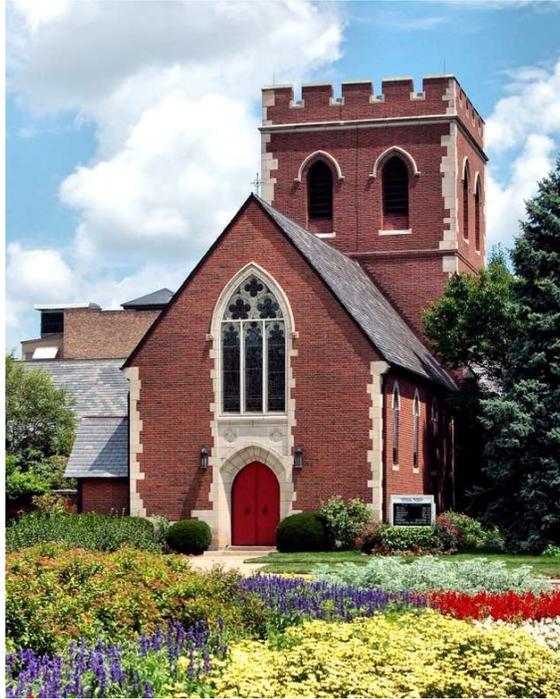


## EMMANUEL MEMORIAL EPISCOPAL CHURCH PARISH PROFILE



### MISSION

To know Christ, and to make Christ known.

### WORSHIP

Life at Emmanuel Memorial Episcopal Church revolves around our worship. We are blessed with clergy who follow the 1979 Book of Common Prayer in our celebration of communal faith. Sunday morning Mass forms the heart of our spiritual life with two services offered in traditional style. Holy Eucharist Rite I is used in an intimate spoken service offered at 8:00 a.m. At 10:15 a.m., Rite II is celebrated with a choral service that includes a procession of acolytes, crucifer, the choir, and clergy.



Prior to COVID, each Sunday service was followed by a coffee hour, providing an opportunity for parishioners to visit and welcome visitors and newcomers. While this has not been formally reinstated, parishioners do still linger after the service, visiting in our Great Hall – even without refreshments. Our sense of community remains strong.



**Daily Office and Weekday Mass:** Daily services are also offered. Mass is celebrated at 12:15 pm on Wednesday. The Daily Office is read each weekday with Morning Prayer at 8:00 a.m. and Evening Prayer at 5:15 pm. The services are led by laity and clergy.

## MUSIC

We are fortunate to have an exceptionally gifted music program, which draws from a community rich with musical talent drawn by the world-class program offered by the University of Illinois. Artists from within our parish family, as well as those who visit, provide musical variety to our worship and special events.



The choir sings every Sunday at the 10:15 a.m. Mass, Labor Day through June. They sing throughout Holy Week services, Christmas Eve, and for an occasional Evensong. They also sing, upon request, at weddings and funerals. Hymns from the 1982 hymnal are used during the 10:15 a.m. service. Music is chosen from the very traditional to early American to good contemporary composers.

In 1992, a pipe organ was constructed and installed by the Schlicker Organ Company. It is one of four organs of note to be found between Chicago and Springfield. Parishioners routinely remain following the 10:15 service to enjoy a postlude presented by our organist.

## STAFF

Emmanuel's staff consists of eight devoted people who work tirelessly to manage the operations of the parish, particularly through this transition period. The staff includes our interim rector, priest emeritus, now mostly retired, curate, deacon, parish administrator, organist, choirmaster, and our sexton.

## OUR MEMBERS

Generally, most of our members could be described as liturgically conservative, theologically moderate, and socially liberal.

On a typical Sunday morning, a visitor at one of Emmanuel's two services will find 20-30 worshippers attending our 8 a.m. Rite I service, and another 60-80 in attendance at the 10:15 a.m. Rite II service. According to a recent parish survey, the majority of persons present at Sunday services have been attending Emmanuel for more than 15 years, with approximately 45% of responders attending for more than 20 years.

We have about 250 members now and hope to attract more.

Sixty-three percent of survey responders are over the age of 60; 30% are between the ages of 31 and 60. Young adult responders (ages 19-30) and youth make up 7%. Many of our members have attended college; most have earned at least a four-year degree.

Our residency pattern is surprisingly stable, considering the mobility of a university environment. Most of our parish members have lived in the Champaign-Urbana area for more than 10 years, with roughly two thirds of us living here for 20 years or more.

## PARISH MINISTRIES

Emmanuel is blessed to have many volunteers providing their time and talent on committees, guilds and in activities within the parish.

**Acolytes, Chalice Bearers, and Lectors:** These members play an active role in the various services throughout the year, either in the sanctuary or at the lectern.



**Sacred Spaces:** The Sacred Spaces Ministry, formerly known as Altar Guild, consists of a dozen parishioners who serve in teams throughout a month to prepare the Sanctuary and Lady Chapel for each service. For more than 70 years, though not since COVID, the members made and sold decorated Easter eggs. The “Egg Ladies” have retired but the funds they raised continue to purchase altar supplies and fund outreach projects.



**Parish Choir:** The choir is an important and highly visible source of music in the church. The choir, composed of volunteer singers and enhanced by Choral Scholars from the University of Illinois, leads the congregation in their participation in the liturgy. The choir performs a variety of musical literature, ranging from Renaissance works to contemporary writing. They also have participated in diocesan functions.

**Relaunching & Rebuilding Our Parish Community:** During COVID, we took advantage of the opportunity to transition out of the pandemic by taking a closer look at some of the areas of our life in order to relaunch and rebuild our parish community. Small groups of Vestry members, plus other parishioners and staff, reflected on the following three areas that showed the most promise for improvement by finding more effective models. Committees were formed and action plans were formulated and are now being implemented, (Sacred Spaces, Intergenerational Formation, Common Table, i.e.) The work of these three groups was distilled into a focus of Christian Belonging, Christian Tools, and Christian Truth.

1. Liturgical Environment – How do Emmanuel members invest in reliable and beautiful presentation of the physical aspects of the services?
2. Intergenerational Formation – How do Emmanuel members of all ages invest in growing in knowledge and love of Christ through spiritual education?
3. General Recruitment and Engagement – How do we ensure parishioners are engaged actively in a variety of stable ministries?

**Common Table:** (Started Summer 2019) Participating parishioners are invited nearly each month into the home or yard of an Emmanuelite who hosts about a dozen other Emmanuel members. Everyone brings a dish to share, and it is a true potluck. All ages are welcome. Everyone enjoys conversation and social time, and the host facilitates responses to a few discussion prompts designed to help us have a relaxed exchange about things that are important to us as Christians and Episcopalians.

**Bookstall:** When available, our bookstall provides books targeted toward Episcopal and Anglican topics and approaches to the faith.

**Hanging of the Greens:** During this preparation of the church for the Christmas season, the sanctuary, the Great Hall, and doors are decorated with greens, candles, and flowers.



**Holy Week:** This is a time of remembrance and celebration, and of great activity at Emmanuel. The week starts on Palm Sunday with both the 8 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. services beginning in the Great Hall and processing outside and entering the church through the red front doors. Both services also include an interactive reading of Christ's Passion. The Maundy Thursday evening service includes the stripping of the altar before the sacrament is carried to the Roberts Children's Chapel. The Watch Before the Sacrament begins there with parishioners volunteering an hour to watch and pray until the Solemn Liturgy of Good Friday at 7 p.m. On Good Friday, there is a Stations of the Cross service that commences at 12:15 p.m. Both Good Friday services include communion from the reserved sacrament. Immediately after the evening service, a volunteer work crew prepares the church for Easter. The Great Vigil on Saturday night includes the lighting of the Paschal candle, the Liturgy of the Word, and a Renewal of Baptismal Vows. These events precede the first Mass of the Resurrection, with a reception following the Mass. On Easter Sunday, two services of the Feast of the Resurrection are celebrated, each followed by a festive reception as well.

**Keck Library:** The library committee continues to add important new books as they are published. These publications are available to parishioners to check out and read at their leisure.

**Parish Social Events & Special Receptions:** The goal is to provide and enhance events and receptions that are meaningful, enjoyable, and promote fellowship for our parish family, such as receptions following the Eucharist on Christmas Eve and Easter.

**St. Luke's Guild:** Members of this guild pray daily for the needs of the parish, centered on the weekly intercessory prayer list.

**Greeters:** Our greeters are often the first contact visitors have with the parish community, and have a direct impact on our worship services. They greet people as they enter the church, distribute the bulletin, track attendance, deliver the gifts for communion at both services, and straighten up the Nave.



**Blessing of the Pets:** “Not a single sparrow falls to the ground without your heavenly Father’s knowledge,” said Jesus. A God who knows and cares this intimately about every piece of His Creation certainly appreciates our own love for those animals that



have become part of our families. Pets are in the spotlight at this 15-minute, casual outdoor service that is open to all and is usually held in October. Everyone meets just across the street in West Side Park. Emmanuel invites children and adults to bring all kinds of pets (on leashes or in carriers please!) for a celebration of Creation and all that our animals mean to us. Individual pet blessings are offered after the brief ceremony; stuffed animal friends and photos are always welcome.

## **OUTREACH MINISTRIES/PROGRAMS**

**Feeding The Hungry:** Feeding the hungry has been a central part of Christian ministry since Jesus multiplied the loaves and fishes. Each weekday at least two dozen lunches are handed out by parish volunteers. Emmanuel also carries out this mission not just by our daily (M-F) sack lunches for the homeless, but also by delivering groceries each week to a local family in need, in partnership with Empty Tomb. Parishioners donate canned goods and dry food for the church pantry or donate money for fresh food supplements.

**Lenten & Advent Projects:** We have raised money for a number of charities over the years during Advent and Lent. Previous recipients have been Episcopal Relief & Development Nets for Life, Toys for Tots, Thistle Farms/Magdalene House, Fill the Ark/Heifer International,

Marion Medical Mission, RIP Medical Debt, Diaper Drive, several ER&D disaster relief efforts and more.

**C-U Trauma & Resilience Initiative** We are honored to offer the important work of C-U's Trauma and Resilience Initiative a home. Five years ago, the old Rectory was severely damaged by fire. Restored and upgraded after the attic fire, this new wing is now beautiful and functional. We hoped to find a nonprofit partner or partners to whom we could rent below market rate. We



were thrilled to announce that, with the approval of the vestry in June 2022, Emmanuel concluded a lease for the space with the Trauma and Resilience Initiative. TRI will be using our space for work aligned with the City of Champaign's Gun Violence Reduction Blueprint: providing trauma-informed support and services to people harmed by violence, and helping build the collaborative capacity of providers to better support individuals who have been impacted by community trauma and adversity.

Pictured here, Mother Beth and Junior Warden John Aquino hand off the keys to Program Director Karen Simms.

Thanks to God, and to all the many Emmanuelites who have been part of this journey of discernment as we sought to be better stewards of the property and resources God has given us.

**The DREAM Program:** At its March 2021 meeting the Vestry approved forming a partnership with the DREAM program, one of the local groups supported by the Champaign blueprint to work on gun violence prevention. DREAM is a grass roots organization founded by Tracy Dace in 2015 with the goal of reaching, teaching, and empowering young African Americans, primarily in grades 3-12. While the letters stand for "Driven to Reach Excellence & Academic Achievement for Males", girls were included beginning in 2020. The program has sites in Champaign, Urbana, and Rantoul.



DREAM youth pack sack lunches

**Sack Lunch Program:** Each weekday at least two dozen lunches are given out from the EMEC office door to those who would otherwise not have any food. These lunches are distributed by parish volunteers.

**Meals on Wheels:** For two weeks every summer, Emmanuel is responsible for two MOW food delivery routes. Volunteers make these deliveries.

**Rides to Church:** Volunteers provide rides to church services and events to parishioners who need them.

**United Thank Offering:** The United Thank Offering supports many projects at the diocesan, national, and world-wide church levels. There are UTO in-gatherings twice a year.

**Walk To Defeat ALS:** Our Walk to Defeat ALS honors a beloved parishioner who succumbed to the disease. It has been so successful mini-walks are scheduled in addition to our main event each year in the Fall.

**Outreach:** The agencies and programs below are supported by Emmanuel as a part of the regular operating budget:

LOCAL:

- Homeless lunches
- Empty Tomb, including food supplements
- Courage Connection
- Greater Community Aids Project
- Developmental Services
- Crisis Nursery
- Habitat for Humanity
- S.A.F.E (Substance Abuse Free Environment) House
- Salt and Light
- Eastern Illinois Foodbank
- Don Moyer Boys & Girls Club
- Daily Bread Soup Kitchen
- CU One to One Mentoring Scholarship
- MLK Scholarship
- CU at Home
- Downtown Farmers Market
- East Central Illinois Refugee Center
- Emergency Shelter for families
- Champaign County Bail Out Project
- Champaign County Christian Health Center
- United Way Diaper Fund
- The Agape Fund

INTERNATIONAL:

- Episcopal Relief and Development Women/Children
- Operation Rainbow

Total for 2022: \$25,500

## OUTREACH—ONE TIME GIFTS:

### Local Rental and Utility Assistance Programs:

Champaign County Housing Authority (Prevent Eviction)  
City of Champaign Township  
Cunningham Township

### RIP Medical Debt

### Refugee Center:

Refugees from Afghanistan and Ukraine assistance

### Churches of the Diocese outreach programs:

Rantoul St. Christophers  
Cairo Church of the Redeemer  
Danville Holy Trinity

### Youth for Christ:

Pizza lunches once a week for Central High School participants

### DREAAM:

Summer Program for children in K-2 to prepare for school

### TRI:

Part of the Champaign violence prevention program. (Rectory re-purposing)

## OUTREACH MINISTRIES THAT OFFER **VOLUNTEER** OPPORTUNITIES:

Empty Tomb: Once a week, Emmanuel receives from the empty tomb a referral of a local family in need of food. The volunteer who delivers the food gathers non-perishables from the church's food pantry and supplements it with fresh food purchased at a local grocery. Parishioners donate canned goods and dry food for the church pantry or donate money for the fresh food supplements. Other Emmanuel volunteers participate in the furniture delivery program and clothing room.

Meals on Wheels: Emmanuel is responsible for two MOW routes two weeks in the summer each year. Volunteers make these deliveries.

Rides to Church: Volunteers provide rides to church services and events to parishioners who need them.

Sack Lunch Program: Each weekday two dozen lunches are given out from the EMEC office door to those who would otherwise be hungry. These lunches are sacked and distributed by parish volunteers.

United Thank Offering: The United Thank Offering supports many projects at the diocesan, national, and world-wide church levels. UTO offerings are collected at the church once a year.

DREAAM: Volunteers work as tutors in the school year and in the summer with younger students to help prepare them for the upcoming school year.

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



**Adult Education:** For the past two years, the Sunday Adult Education program used the Lectio Divina model which is based on one of the Lectionary readings. The group meets at 9 a.m. between the two Sunday morning services. This is not a class or a typical Bible study, but rather a framework that can help anyone integrate Scripture into their life.

### **Bible Study Groups:**

Regularly encountering the Word of God is one of the simplest and most effective tools for spiritual growth. Doing so in community with some of your fellow Christians is even better! The women's group meets Tuesdays at noon and the men's group also meets early every Tuesday morning via Zoom.





**Intergenerational Formation:** A group of clergy and lay members prepare and present programs and activities about growing in the love of Christ through spiritual education that is appropriate for all ages. A recent example was a four-part series during the Advent season.



Intergenerational activity in the Roberts Children's Chapel

**Confirmation Preparation:** Each year, those interested in being confirmed or received are offered a number of classes prior to the bishop's visit.

**Youth Group:** Historically, we have had an active Youth Group. Due to low numbers of young people and COVID, we do not have a current program but hope to reintroduce it in the future.

## CHURCH HISTORY AND ARCHITECTURE



Designated as a Mission Church in 1870, Emmanuel Memorial progressed to being incorporated as a Parish Church in 1882. Growth of the congregation required building additions in 1894 and 1898 to accommodate parish needs. A fire in 1910 destroyed major portions of the church and its furnishings. Funds for a new church were provided by the Polk Family in memory of their three deceased sons. The Vestry retained the prominent

Boston architectural firm Cram and Ferguson to design the new structure. Other building commissions by this architectural firm include the Supreme Court Building, the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, Princeton University, the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, and the First Presbyterian Church on Michigan Avenue in Chicago.

Work on the new structure began June 20, 1917; the cornerstone was laid on October 25, 1917; construction was completed the ensuing summer; and the new building was consecrated June 26, 1918. Construction cost was \$50,000.

Subsequent remodeling and additions over the years have included:



- Roberts Children's Chapel addition
- Jubilee Year restoration
- Lighting upgrades
- Carillon installation
- New pipe organ

The Norman Gothic Style Architecture of Emmanuel is enhanced with various symbolic highlights:

- the three stained glass windows at the west end of the Narthex in memory of the Polk sons,
- the stained-glass windows on each side of the church and in the Lady Chapel depicting the Life of Christ,
- the baptismal font and Christ child statue (the statue is a copy of an original statue in the National Cathedral and was given by the Noel family),
- the magnificently carved rood screen, pulpit, and lectern,
- the Lady Chapel with paintings from the Polk family collection,
- the altar with beautiful carvings of Christian symbols.



**RECENT BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS:**

**Rectory Restoration:** In January 2018 a major fire significantly damaged the former Rectory connected to the church and needed to be completely restored and remodeled. A process of discernment led us to a commitment to offer our former rectory space for community ministry. This addition was completed in the Spring of 2022. (See C-U Trauma & Resilience Initiative above)

**Replacement of Steam Boilers:** For the past several years, Emmanuel has been working on a complete replacement of our aging steam boilers to improve efficiency as well as have more reliable heat. In late 2015, the boiler serving the Mowry Building and offices was replaced; this Fall the boiler that serves the church and Great Hall was replaced. A Centennial Capital campaign in 2017 provided funds for improved signage (inside and out) and office renovations.



**Solar Power System:** Over the late summer and fall of 2022, thanks to a generous donor and a grant from Faith in Place, Emmanuel completed the installation of a solar power system. We now have an array of solar cells mounted on the flat roof of the Mowry building with a power inverter installed in the basement to integrate the solar power with the delivery line from Ameren, our utility provider.

Although Emmanuel is a building of bricks and mortar, the beauty and historic significance help to continue our tradition of strength in worship.

## THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

Emmanuel is located in Champaign, a city of 89,000 people, which stands in the midst of verdant east central Illinois farmlands, at the crossroads of three major highways – I-57, I-72, and I-74. The highways put Champaign within comfortable driving distance to Chicago, Indianapolis, and St. Louis. Champaign also is served by Amtrak train service, by Greyhound and other inter-city bus service, by air service at nearby Willard Airport, and by an award-winning local public mass transit bus service.

The many parks of the Champaign <[champaignparks.com](http://champaignparks.com)> and Urbana <[www.urbanaparks.org](http://www.urbanaparks.org)> park districts, tree-lined streets and streetscape floral gardens are among the distinguishing features of Champaign and its sister city, Urbana, whose population is 42,000. Beautiful Allerton Park <[allerton.illinois.edu](http://allerton.illinois.edu)> is located in Monticello, Illinois, a twenty-minute drive from Champaign. Lake of the Woods Forest Preserve, the Mabery Gelvin Botanical Garden, and the Museum of the Grand Prairie are in Mahomet, a short drive to the west. The Middle Fork Forest Preserve in Penfield offers a Dark Sky Park.

An Amish community lies just 30 minutes to the south of Champaign and Urbana. The area contains plenty to do for biking (country roads galore), boating (Lake Shelbyville to the south and Clinton Lake to the west), and camping, hiking, and canoeing (Kickapoo State Recreation Area and Turkey Run State Park to the east) enthusiasts. U.S. history buffs will find plenty to do in Springfield, Illinois' state capital, located 90 minutes to the west and home to the Abraham Lincoln home, tomb, museum, and presidential library <[visitlandoflincoln.com](http://visitlandoflincoln.com)>. Local instrumental and vocal music groups and community theaters offer opportunities for performers and for audiences; Roger Ebert's Film Festival attracts sellout crowds; and Illinois Marathon events draw thousands of runners annually. Ethnic diversity in dining and shopping abound in the Twin Cities.

Situated on some three square miles between Champaign and Urbana is the main campus of the University of Illinois, whose 42,000 students come from around the globe. The University is the area's top employer. Champaign also is home to Parkland College, whose enrollment is roughly 10,000. These two institutions' academic, cultural arts and sports programs play major roles in defining and giving our community its vibrancy and uniqueness. The University's renowned Krannert Center for the Performing Arts, for example, draws the best musical and theatrical talent from around the globe <[krannertcenter.com](http://krannertcenter.com)>. Parkland's Staerkel Planetarium is the second largest in the state and is celebrated for its weekend evening shows <[parkland.edu/planetarium](http://parkland.edu/planetarium)>.

Champaign and Urbana's public schools, which include three high schools, four middle schools, and 18 elementary schools, serve over 13,000 students. The twin cities are also home to an array of secular and parochial private schools. Health services are available locally at numerous medical clinics and two hospitals, one of which is ranked among America's 50 Best Hospitals by Healthgrades.

Our community is served by a local, award-winning newspaper and by three local television and several radio stations. The twin cities are also blessed with three remarkable libraries: The Urbana Free Library, the new Champaign Public Library (ranked nationally in the top 10 among cities of comparable size), and the University of Illinois Library, which houses the second largest university collection in the United States.

## **THE DIOCESE OF SPRINGFIELD**

Three early nineteenth-century Episcopal priests helped establish the Diocese of Springfield. The Rev. John Batchelder, the Rector of Trinity parish in Jacksonville, Illinois, the Rev. Palmer Dyer, the Rector of St. Jude's in Peoria, and Rev. James Richmond, who began work in Rushville and Beardstown, met in Peoria in 1835 to form a new Diocese. It started with 28 communicants in congregations in Jacksonville, Peoria, Rushville, Beardstown, Chicago, and Galena. Philander Chase, the retired Bishop of Ohio, was chosen to be the first bishop of the new Diocese. He organized St. Paul's in Springfield.

Today, there are 33 churches in 31 communities that make up the Diocese.

## **THE RIGHT REVEREND BRIAN KENDALL BURGESS**

A native of Southwest Florida, The Right Reverend Brian K. Burgess grew up attending Episcopal day schools and public schools while singing in an Anglican choir of men and boys.



He attended Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana, as a Music Education major (B.S.) where he studied Applied Percussion and served as Drum Major of the Ball State Pride of Mid-America Marching Band. Bishop Burgess began his career as band and choral director at high schools in Indiana and Florida.

Bishop Burgess attended seminary at The University of the South in Sewanee, Tennessee, (M.Div., cum laude). As priest, he has served parishes within the Episcopal dioceses of Southwest Florida, Louisiana, and New Jersey.

On December 11, 2021, while in his seventeenth year as rector of Christ Church Woodbury, New Jersey, Bishop Burgess was elected the XII Diocesan of Springfield on the second ballot. He was ordained and consecrated a bishop and seated within the Cathedral Church of St. Paul the Apostle in Springfield on May 21, 2022, by the Most Reverend Michael B. Curry, Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church USA.

Bishop Burgess is married to his college sweetheart, Denise Lee (née Swing), and together, they have two grown children, Robert Kendall and Catherine Marian.

## **OTHER THINGS TO KNOW**

**2022 Annual Stewardship Campaign:** This year Emmanuel's theme was More Than Enough. Despite COVID impacting our attendance the last couple of years, the total amount pledged by our members remains consistent with past giving.

**Noel & Herbst Scholarships:** Each year members are encouraged to apply for the Noel and Herbst Scholarships to assist Emmanuel members with the cost of college, seminary, or graduate education.

## **SURVEY FEEDBACK**

(Out of 250 members, 76 responded to the survey.)

Our parish survey indicates that the following attributes are most important to us. Our new Rector should:

- *seek to build the parish into a loving pastoral community,*
- *be warm and friendly,*
- *foster lay leadership and ministries by nourishing relationships,*
- *provide spiritual and moral direction for the congregation,*
- *challenge people to examine their faith,*
- *provide stability in worship style in the Anglican tradition.*

In addition, the survey reflects a strong desire for our new Rector to:

- *preach Biblical sermons that apply the Word to our lives,*
- *use a team approach to worship planning,*
- *have stable family, peer and community relationships,*
- *foster a strong Christian Education program,*
- *call regularly on shut-ins.*