



The Messenger

June 2020

Emmanuel Episcopal Church
P. O. Box 1028
400 Highland Avenue
Coos Bay, OR 97420

Clergy Reflections

"Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit."

John 12:24



This verse from the Gospel of John has been ringing in my ears for the last couple of months. In the context of John 12, Jesus is telling the disciples of his mission and how it will include suffering and death. But the death of a seed falling to the ground is not the end. Rather, it is the means by which a single grain transforms into the fullness of its purpose and new grain springs forth. It is an image of resurrection of which Jesus speaks. And perhaps, more broadly, the necessity of change in this life. What in you needs to die so that something new can be raised up and bear fruit? What seed at Emmanuel must fall to the ground that it might spring forth in new life?

The COVID-19 situation has necessitated we suspend public worship and move to online worship instead. This has been a creative endeavor that has born much fruit by reaching people outside our parish family with the Gospel. In addition, the COVID-19 situation required that the Preschool shut down. During this time of hiatus the leadership of Emmanuel has had to examine closely the administration of the Preschool in relation to the Parish. At our May Finance and Vestry meetings, we discussed possibility of restructuring the Preschool as a separate 501(c)3 non-profit. There are lots of good reasons to do this. It opens up financial resources in the way of grants that are currently not available because the Preschool is a ministry of the parish. It simplifies not only the finances of the parish but also of the Preschool and untangles them and reduces the financial risk to the parish. It creates an opportunity for a Preschool to continue to serve in our community which is greatly needed. But changing the structure of the Preschool administration requires risk and change. A grain of wheat must fall to the earth.

After much prayer and deliberation we decided at our May 21st meetings to move forward with a transition to a 501(c)3. Many interested persons will be helping to make this change in the hopes that the Preschool will reopen and when it does it will be stronger and more vital a force in our community as a result. As we approach the end of the Easter season, it is good to be reminded that we are, in fact, an Easter people. We are called to trust the Lord in all things and most especially in times of change. Let us work and watch with confidence how resurrection and new life will come forth. Be well and at peace, *Patti+*





A Prayer for the Transition Process

*"Do not fear, for I am with you,
do not be afraid, for I am your God;
I will strengthen you, I will help you,
I will uphold you with my victorious right hand." Isaiah 41:10*

Spirit of the living God, come among us and guide us as we seek to know your will for us in the Episcopal Diocese of Oregon. May we listen deeply to your voice as we meet and discern with those who have stepped up to identify themselves and their gifts in leadership among us. May we find in all the voices that we hear, that still small voice leading us to deeper understanding of your will in each of our lives and providing us with the power to carry that out in your Church and your World. Amen.

Everything you need to know about the nominees, election, and ordination of our next bishop is on the 11th Bishop of Oregon Search and Transition Committee website at <https://www.oregonbishopsearch.org/>.

Congregational Online Giving Form

From now through June 15, 2020 the Episcopal Diocese of Oregon is happy to assist churches by processing online donations for congregations.

Note: these donations are processed through PayPal, which charges 2.2%+\$0.30 for credit/debit card processing fees. The Episcopal Diocese of Oregon is paying these fees, so the amount you donate is the amount the church will receive. The Episcopal Diocese of Oregon does not take any fees for this service.

Please follow the following link to make a donation or submit your pledge payment to Emmanuel.
<https://www.diocese-oregon.org/resources/congregational-resources/congregational-online-giving/>

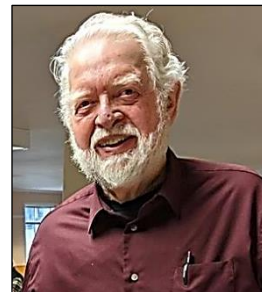
Meet Your Vestry - Fran Whitaker

I am "new" to the Vestry. New for the 10th or 15th time. By now I am what you might call an elder Statesman having been a part of Emmanuel since 1976.

I'm not a cradle Episcopalian; however I am a cradle Christian. My mother can take blame for that. I don't remember a time I wasn't in church, Sunday school or Vacation Bible School.

When we pray for the Catholic Church I don't think Big C. I think Pentecostal, Quaker, Methodist, Baptist, Nazarene... We are all God's family, brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ. None having greater favor than the other.

God bless Emmanuel, the body of Jesus in our part of the world. *Fran Whitaker*



Music Ministry

We will miss the Contemporary Choir on June 7! A big thank you to Kerry Oxford, Neville Cordell, Pam Chaney, Nancy Clarke, and Jennifer Ortego for the uplifting music you bring to Emmanuel! May the Lord bless you and keep you, and may His light shine brightly on you this summer. ~ *Kate Moody*



Junior Warden Report

Those of you who have been by the church recently might have wondered where the Emmanuel Episcopal signs have gone. Not to worry, they weren't stolen. I have them in my garage.



What started as a project to replace the service times on the church signs evolved into almost a complete rebuild of our signs. The only pieces I could salvage were the Emmanuel Episcopal lettering. It turned out the sign boards themselves and the trim were rotted and coming apart. So off to the lumber store for material.

Following careful measurement, I cut the two 4x8 sheets of MDO plywood to size, primed them and painted them the final color. That was followed by two trips to Coos Head and Builders First Source to finally find acceptable lumber to build the trim.



I set up my dado blade on my table saw – which led me to discover I had forgotten how to set the dado! A couple of hours later, I was ready to start cutting a $\frac{3}{4}$ " deep & wide dado in my trim lumber. What a job! I had 8 pieces of lumber to finish and each dado cut took 2 passes through the dado blade.



For those of you new to woodworking, this is what a dado cut looks like...



After priming and painting the trim, I was ready to assemble the signs. Only to discover my dado cut was a hair too narrow and wouldn't fit the sign board. Back to the table saw with the 8 pieces of lumber. 2 more passes over the table saw finished the job. More priming & painting followed by final successful fitting of the trim lumber and caulking all the edges to prevent water creating issues.

At this point, I have a little touch up painting to do on the signs, mount the lettering and service times placards and it's time to mount the signs. So hopefully sometime next week our signs will be back in place, ready to present our best face to the world for quite a few more years.

Respectfully, *Dave Laird*



Congratulations to one of our own, Christina Geierman, for being awarded "Regional Teacher of the Year"! The North Bend School District shares, "Christina Geierman is a phenomenal teacher, regional leader, and a recognized scientist. She has been teaching science in the South Coast area since 2004 and has been a teacher for North Bend since 2013."

Congrats, Christina! We are very proud of you and your positive work in our parish and community.



What are you reading this summer? We want to know!

Please send Kerri in the office the name and title of a book you have enjoyed and a quick review of what you enjoyed about it for the July newsletter.

Newsletter Submissions are due by Tuesday, June 23rd.

Coos Food Cupboard and impact of Covid-19 Update

The numbers of clients served have remained somewhat typical (1502 persons served in March, 1205 in April), however the clientele and the food provided has changed significantly. Prior to the pandemic, about 12 percent of the clients were new. In April that number increased to 36 percent.

With increases to food stamp benefits, many of the repeat clientele are able to skip visits to the Coos Food Cupboard, but the newly unemployed and the homeless populations who are more greatly impacted are in need of more food. We are providing more food than we do in non-pandemic times to serve this impacted population and reduce visits to food banks and grocery stores. We increased the per client food allocation by 50% starting in April.

This increased food distribution has been possible by the generous contributions of individuals, grants, and other supporters. These increased donations are greatly appreciated by the Food Cupboard and the people we serve.

Donations of toilet paper, which cannot be purchased with food stamps, are needed for the month of June. Please feel free to email me if you have questions or need additional information at d.schab@gmail.com.

Thank you, *Diana Schab*



“God, help me to *focus on Truth*
instead of the trial.
Help me to *give thanks*
instead of giving into fear.
Help me to *choose joy*
instead of anger.
Help me to *trust in your power*
instead of my plan.
Help me to *elevate Your name*
instead of my own.”
-Whitney Daugherty



~Submitted by Terrye Laird