



The Messenger

April 2020

Emmanuel Episcopal Church
P. O. Box 1028
400 Highland Avenue
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Clergy Reflections: Christ is Risen!

I could not help but to post this declaration even though Easter will be quite different for us this year. The ban on gathering in community in response to the C-19 virus is for our own health and the health of others. Still, the central and most significant moment in the calendar year for Christians, the Paschal Mystery of Easter, the Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead cannot be quarantined! Though we cannot gather let us join our voices of praise with all the heavenly host in the spiritual realms to proclaim our triumphant joy that God has so loved this world so as to forgive our sins and break the power of death. This is our song! This is the cause of all our hope and rejoicing.

Frankly, the Easter proclamation is the source and summit of all Christian practice. God has first loved us and our love for God is a response to what God alone has accomplished and invites each of us to share. Our collective voices may be muted this season, but the resurrection song will never be silent. Be well assured, dear friends, that though we walk through the valley of the shadow of death... we fear no evil, for the Risen Lord is with us and with this world. God's love triumphs over every obstacle. Let us come to this strange Eastertide with the full faith and confidence in the love the God has and continues to pour out upon us all. In Christ's glad service, *Patti+*



Just a note to let you know that if you want to access the online videos for worship you can do so by going to YouTube and searching for "Emmanuel Parish Coos Bay", then click "Library". You will find the videos there!

Junior Warden's Report



I was reading an article from the Washington Post this morning. It was a collection of thoughts and comments about things that have lifted spirits during these anxiety-filled times. It made me think of a simple activity my wife and I did yesterday. We went for a walk. It lifted my spirits to be out in the sun, seeing all the signs of Spring showing through in flowers and shrubs. Even the "peepers" were getting in the act. God's presence coming through in nature.

Back to business – In case you're wondering what's been happening to the church building in the past few months and weeks here's a list from the perspective of the Junior Warden:



Exit Signs inside the church. Fire regulations require the signs to be illuminated 24/7. Our current signs date from the construction of the church which means they are almost as old as I am! They also use regular bulbs that cost nearly as much as replacing the signs with new LED signs. Our church Sexton Eric has installed the new LED exit signs.

One of the main lights in the undercroft needs replacing. Eric has worked on it but it needs an electrician. We've hired Cedar Electric to do the repair and track down some circuits that aren't working.

And still more light issues! Some of you, including me, may have wondered why the parish office and Rev. Patti's office are always so dark. Due to a frightening event we figured out why. Kerri was working away at her computer, and suddenly, with no warning, one of the can lights dropped out of the ceiling, swung back and forth on its wires and ended up shining at her like an interrogation light in a spy drama.



We discovered that all 14 lights in both offices were fluorescent 2 bulb fixtures with either a missing bulb or burnt out bulb. As it turns out, the cans are 20 years old and the ballasts are getting wonky.

Each fixture needs new ballasts in order to ensure the bulbs stay lit and don't burn out in short intervals. Our plan is to replace each fluorescent can with a LED fixture for roughly \$25 each - bulbs alone for each fluorescent unit cost \$15. Vestry approved replacing the old lights, so we'll soon start replacing them with the LED units. It should be a win/win - less \$ to operate, better light, longer life and no more drama in the office!



MOSS, and even a fern, growing on the roof! I'm rounding up a roofing contractor to remove the moss from our church roof as well as an estimate of how much life we have in our 25 year old roof.

The vestry approved hiring O'Neil's Overhead doors & Gutters to clean and update our gutters and downspouts. This should help with collection of water inside the courtyard.

Finally, our furnace is having some issues. We have 5 burners that make up the heating system. One of the burners is toast & might need to be replaced. Fortunately, we're heading into the warmer season, so our heat load is less. I've contacted a heating company to assess our situation.



In closing, I can't say enough about the parishioners of Emmanuel who over the years have donated and established endowment funds for the church that allow us the funds to keep our grounds and building in good shape. It's truly a blessing.

Respectfully, *Dave Laird*, Junior Warden



Join the Palm Sunday Processional

Though we will be a dispersed community this Holy Week, you are invited to a diocesan processional with fellow Episcopalians!

It's easy to participate:

1. Find a tree branch, fern frond, or whatever leafy thing you have handy
2. As an individual or household, make a short video waving your leafy thing and saying, **"Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest."**
3. Visit the following website to upload your video by **Thursday, April 2** for inclusion in a diocesan video that will be shared on Palm Sunday: https://www.diocese-oregon.org/join-the-palm-sunday-processional/?fbclid=IwAR1XxLtaaWZMtQBsvEcZ_qTdyQRkEAoXJ_PJ7LMppZdluMmDR8YTQdFA8dE



Church Financial Resources:

Emmanuel is blessed with wonderful members who help in so many ways during times of need. While we are utilizing social distancing and while public activities are banned, those of us that have pledged to our church may want to mail a "lump sum" monetary donation for the month (or even more than one month) at this time. Emmanuel still has ongoing expenses. Please help and be part of keeping the dollars flowing even without Sunday plate collections and our Easter plate income.

Thanking you in advance, *Nancylee Stewart*, Senior Warden

Food Cupboard needs your support!

During these stressful times, our food cupboard is receiving over a dozen calls each day asking for information as to how to access our food cupboard from folks who have never used it. The need is rising! You can donate to help others through the giving of your time (volunteers needed for Mondays, Wednesdays and/or Fridays 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM) or money (to buy more food for the food cupboard). We can help each other in this time of great need.

Contact: Brian Sullivan, (541) 297-0258





April Music

During this time of uncertainty and change I am providing a link to a recording of "Malu," a piece which I composed in 2000. Like many Hawaiian words, malu has many uses. Its meaning in this instance is "shelter, grace," and I offer it to you as a prayer for peace and protection.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N-Ruv0STCeY>

This recording is from a session at Capitol Studios, Hollywood. At about 8 minutes there is a wonderful moment with a solo violin :)

-Kate Moody

Preschool Update

Emmanuel Preschool is currently closed due to restrictions from Governor Kate Brown and Oregon's Department of Education, Early Learning Division surrounding the outbreak of Covid-19. During this time our teachers and board members have been reading stories, playing music, and reaching out through video to our students and striving to maintain connection with our students and families despite the physical distance. Please visit our Facebook page to follow our distance learning posts. <https://www.facebook.com/Emmanuel-Preschool-757816454400042/?ref=bookmarks>

We look forward to our eventual reopening of our facility and are remaining hopeful for what the future will bring for our valued staff, students and families.

~Submitted by Amanda Goodpasture, Preschool Co-Director

Dear Grateful Ones

Every three years the United Thank Offering assembles a small book of gratitude-related prayers, one of the most popular items we give out at each General Convention/Triennial and as long afterward as they last. We get these prayers from everywhere throughout the Episcopal Church, and it's time for you all to start working on prayers for the 2021 edition. We are looking for original prayers in the following categories: Gratitude, Guidance, Healing, Love of God & Creation, Sorrow or Fear, Prayers for Morning, Prayers for Midday, Prayers for Night, and Other.

All submissions need to go through this website:

https://dfms.formstack.com/forms/uto_book_of_prayers2020.



I look forward to reading and praying all of your prayers.

Gratefully, *Sherri Dietrich*, UTO Board President

