

The Emmanuel Epistle

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*Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9 am-1 pm
Sunday Worship Services 8:15 am & 10 am Tuesday Eucharist 11 am Wednesday Eucharist 7 am*

The Season of Epiphany

I don't remember ever wondering what the journey was like for the three Magi who followed the star and found their Lord. I think my focus was always on the star and what it looked like and how the Magi distinguished it from all the other stars up there in the heavens, and what possessed them to follow it in the first place. I didn't think much about the trip itself. Until one year in seminary, my preaching professor preached this incredible sermon about the hardships the Magi must have endured and then read us the poem, "Journey of the Magi" by T.S. Eliot. I will never forget sitting in a darkened chapel in the candlelight as she read the words that have haunted me ever since. You see, as I heard them, I realized that all of us follow the Light in our lives trying to find Jesus in the midst of our sometimes challenging journeys. Life is not always easy, especially if we have committed ourselves to following the Light. But oh, the rewards! So I share Eliot's poem with you today in the hopes that it may resonate with you, the way it did with me all those years ago. May you continue to find the courage to follow the Light in your life knowing that at the end of the journey we will see our Lord face to face.

A Blessed Epiphany season to you!

Mo. Lyn+

Journey of the Magi - T.S. Eliot

A cold coming we had of it,
Just the worst time of the year
For a journey, and such a long journey:
The ways deep and the weather sharp,
The very dead of winter.
And the camels galled, sore-footed, refractory,
Lying down in the melting snow.
There were times when we regretted
The summer palaces on slopes, the terraces,
And the silken girls bringing sherbet.
Then the camel men cursing and grumbling
And running away, and wanting their liquor and women,
And the night-fires going out, and the lack of shelters,
And the cities dirty and the towns unfriendly

And the villages dirty and charging high prices:
A hard time we had of it.
At the end we preferred to travel all night,
Sleeping in snatches,
With the voices singing in our ears, saying
That this was all folly.

Then at dawn we came down to a temperate valley,
Wet, below the snow line, smelling of vegetation;
With a running stream and a water mill beating the darkness,
And three trees on the low sky,
And an old white horse galloped away in the meadow.
Then we came to a tavern with vine-leaves over the lintel,
Six hands at an open door dicing for pieces of silver,
And feet kicking the empty wineskins.
But there was no information, and so we continued
And arrived at evening, not a moment too soon
Finding the place; it was (you may say) satisfactory.

All this was a long time ago, I remember,
And I would do it again, but set down
This set down
This: were we led all that way for
Birth or Death? There was a Birth, certainly,
We had evidence and no doubt. I had seen birth and death,
But had thought they were different; this Birth was
Hard and bitter agony for us, like Death, our death.
We returned to our places, these Kingdoms,
But no longer at ease here, in the old dispensation,
With an alien people clutching their gods.
I should be glad of another death.

Mo. Lyn's Anglican Corner

What is Epiphany Anyway?

The feast of Epiphany is January 6th. The word "*epiphany*" means "revealing" or "showing forth". On the feast of Epiphany we celebrate the showing forth of Jesus to the Gentiles, specifically to the wise men of Matthew's Gospel who are the first to know of his divinity. Epiphany thus proclaims Jesus as Savior of the whole world. God's salvation applies to all the peoples of the earth!

From January 6th to Ash Wednesday (the beginning of Lent) we celebrate the season of Epiphany. The scripture lessons focus on events in which Jesus' divinity is revealed to Philip and Nathanael, Simon and Andrew, the people of Capernaum, and Peter, James and John at the Transfiguration. The color of the vestments and the altar are white from the feast of Epiphany until after the first Sunday of Epiphany at which time they are changed to green.

Emmanuel Episcopal Preschool



Dear Friends of the Emmanuel Episcopal Community,

Greetings! My name is Lisa Orellosa-Seggelke and I am the new Preschool Director. As you know, after many years of devoted work, Nancy Shively will be retiring and taking on a new vocation. She has worked assiduously to make this program a success. Nancy has graciously agreed to support me through this transition and will be assisting me once or twice a week. I ask for your prayers and blessings during this time.

In regards to my education and experience, I attained my B.A. in Child Development with a multiple subject option at California State University, Los Angeles. This degree enables me to explore all facets of child development. Also, I am presently pursuing an M.A. in Early Childhood Education. I have a couple more classes to complete before I obtain this degree.

In terms of teaching, I have taught Preschool for a couple years, 5th grade and 6th grade for several years, and served as a junior high language arts teacher for 3 years. Most of my experience has been in the private sector, specifically at parochial schools. I am an advocate for educating the whole child through hands-on experiences and real world application. Thus, these modalities are mainstreamed into my project-based learning approach. Moreover, I firmly believe that a solid Christian education is one that incorporates both a traditional and progressive curriculum, even at the preschool level.

Aside from teaching, I have several years of experience as a Student Council Moderator. This additional responsibility has enabled me to devise and execute service projects for the community. I worked closely with the staff, parents, parishioners and junior high students in planning all events. Moreover, I managed a small staff as a Site Supervisor for a public school district. Under the direction of my former director, I assisted in the development and implementation of a childcare program at a new site. This position was challenging yet rewarding.

As the new director, I will continue to work collaboratively with the church and Mother Lyn so that we can build a strong sense of a faith community. Furthermore, I envision that our curriculum will be comprised of developmentally appropriate practices and will be play- and project-based, while aligning with common core standards. Hopefully this will make our program even stronger. Unfortunately we are competing with local Transitional Kindergarten classes so we must offer something different and unique. What we can provide children is a different experience -- one in which they receive personal attention and nurturing. We provide a quality Christian education that serves the community.

For the past few months, I was blessed with the opportunity to teach the Preschoolers. During this time, we focused on letters and numbers, days of the week, pre-reading skills such as letter recognition and rhymes and songs, phonics, pre-writing, pre-math skills, language, and some Science such as parts of a fish and parts of a plant. We were even fortunate enough to go on a fun and educational field trip to the Aquarium of the Pacific, thanks to John Gonzales, Emily, and family. Many thanks to Sally Wurtenberg for her marvelous donations of teaching materials, and to all those who participated in our See's Candy fundraiser, we appreciate your generosity.

As working in human services and education is my passion in life, this is my chance to utilize my analytical and organizational skills to contribute to the success of this program. Teaching and managing are vocations, and I am highly dedicated to my calling to serve God and others. I look forward to working with all of you. Thank you in advance for your support.

The Growing Connection
Guest Writer: Gordon Dickinson

What can I tell you about the garden? Not much, as there is not a lot growing right now. However, there is much work to be done.

We must sort out the compost area and get the six “bins” emptied and the compost in them removed so that we can use it and start the entire composting cycle all over again. Sounds easy when you say it fast, but it’s not so simple. We must dig out the existing compost and riddle it. The remaining large pieces of material will then be chipped/shredded. We have recently received the donation of a shredder, so we can now get this job accomplished. Watch for the announcement of the compost date.

The other all-important job to be done is pruning of the grape vines, a job I’m in charge of. Many of you came to help last year and the work was accomplished in a couple of hours. (Some people arrived late, and missed out as the pruning was done so quickly). So put Saturday, January 13 on your calendar as a provisional date for pruning the vines. Also we recently had the delivery of a large load of wood chips to spread throughout the vineyard. We will be working on that as well.

Talking of the vineyard, the harvest from this last September, our second vintage, is coming along well. It had its first “racking”, a process where the new wine is syphoned off the lees which have settled to the bottom of the glass container under gravity. This process is carried out 3 or 4 times before the wine is bottled. This gave me the opportunity to have my first taste, and my, what an improvement on last year. I think everybody will love it. I plan the next racking to take place in March with the intention of making it an event.

Still talking about work that needs to be carried out before the growing season starts, Lorra plans to remake the artichoke bed and a couple of other beds with a new design that we will be transitioning to. This design uses concrete block positioned and fixed in place with rebar hammered into the ground through the center of the concrete block. The concrete blocks have slots in them where a stronger 2” by 10” treated lumber plank is placed, creating the ends and sides of the beds. We built three such beds in the top of the garden, between the labyrinth and the vineyard. Go take a look at them and let us know if you are interested in moving to this type of bed. They are a much sturdier bed than the existing beds, which have served their purpose well, but are coming to the end of their useful life. **WE ARE ALSO PUTTING GOPHER WIRE IN AS WE BUILD THE NEW BEDS.**

Let me finish this newsletter by saying a new gardening year has begun. It is the time for a do-over garden. Gardening is one of the few things that you get to start new each year. May your garden this new year be your best ever!

A Few Words from Your Treasurer

During the month of November we almost broke even in the Operating Fund. Expenses only exceeded Income by \$550. As of November 30th we have a year to date deficit of \$50,550. We know that we’ll make up some of that in December, the only question is how much. Please join me in praying that God’s abundance will be poured out on all of us and that Emmanuel will begin the new year in good financial health.

We are going to have all our trees trimmed in January or February. They are way overdue for a major pruning and the ones near the Preschool have become a significant safety hazard. We had a large limb break off from one of them in October. We were very fortunate that the children were not outside at that time. We’ve obtained several bids and it looks like it’s going to be around \$5,800 to trim all the trees on our property. (They all really need to be trimmed and it will be less expensive if we do them all at the same time.) If you’d like to help fund this important project, please note on your donation that it’s for Tree Trimming.

Blessings,
Dave Dunlap, Treasurer

Parish Profile Update

The results of all 105 surveys have been transcribed into Excel and we've begun the process of analyzing the data and turning it into charts and graphs that will be used in our Parish Profile.

Members of the Profile Committee are reviewing the 75 videos that Gene Cantwell took during Story Day 1 and Story Day 2 to see how the thoughts and stories expressed in the videos can be used to flesh out the 18 Core Principles that Fr. Rob and Mo Lyn put together. Those Principles will serve as the foundation for our Parish Profile.

We'll be sharing the Survey results and much more at the Annual meeting at the end of January.

Blessings,
Dave Dunlap, Profile Committee Co-chair
Nancy Kent, Profile Committee Co-chair

Million Meals Ingathering was a Big Success

Thank you all for your generous support! We took in over \$1,100 which will be used by the non-profits we support to purchase over 7,800 pounds of food. That's well over 5,000 meals.

The Million Meals program doesn't receive any money from Emmanuel's operating budget. All funding for the Million Meals Program comes from our In-gatherings and the designated donations we receive throughout the year.

We have plastic containers available near the entrances to the sanctuary if you want to use one to save all your spare change for Million Meals. If you can't find one, please see me and I'll make sure you get one. You're welcome to take extra ones if you have friends or neighbors who might like to participate.

Thank you for your continued generosity and support!
Dave Dunlap
Million Meals Coordinator

Emmanuel Toy Drive Report!

On December 14th I delivered the toys from Emmanuel's Christmas Toy Drive to Project Dignity.



There were toys for over 40 children who live in motels here in Orange County. We also took in \$365 in monetary donations given to support the Toy Drive. That's enough for Project Dignity to be able buy toys for 20 or 25 more children.

But the toy box in the office filled up again early in the following week and I had to make another delivery of toys for 50 more children.

Emmanuel's Toy Drive provided toys for over 100 homeless children. A huge success!

On behalf of Project Dignity and the homeless children we serve, I would like to extend our deepest thanks to everyone at Emmanuel for their kindness and support. We are truly blessed.

Dave Dunlap
Project Dignity

JANUARY 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Happy New Year! Office Closed 5:00 AM Church on the Rock	2 5:00 AM Church on the Rock 10:00 AM Prayer/Study 11:00 AM Eucharist 1:00 PM Catechesis 3-6 y.o. 3:30 PM Girl Scouts troop 1999 4:00 PM Catechesis 6-12y.o 6:30 PM ELNO 7:00 PM Overeaters Anonymous 7:00 PM Visibility Committee	3 5:00 AM Church on the Rock 7:00 AM Eucharist 7:00 PM Taizé Service	4 5:00 AM Church on the Rock	5 5:00 AM Church on the Rock 8:00 PM Church on the Rock	6 5:00 AM Church on the Rock 9:00 AM "T-Party" Men's Bible Study 4:00 PM Nicotine Anonymous
7 Virtual Labyrinth w/Adv. reserv. 8:15 AM Eucharist 10:00 AM Eucharist 1:00 PM Church on the Rock	8 5:00 AM Church on the Rock	9 5:00 AM Church on the Rock 10:00 AM Prayer/Study 11:00 AM Eucharist 1:00 PM Catechesis 3-6 y.o. 4:00 PM Catechesis 6-12y.o 6:00 PM Girl Scout Leaders 7:00 PM Overeaters Anonymous	10 5:00 AM Church on the Rock 7:00 AM Eucharist	11 5:00 AM Church on the Rock 6:30 PM Early Birds	12 5:00 AM Church on the Rock 6:30 PM Emmanuel Book Club 8:00 PM Church on the Rock	13 5:00 AM Church on the Rock 9:00 AM "T-Party" Men's Bible Study 4:00 PM Nicotine Anonymous
14 8:15 AM Eucharist 10:00 AM Eucharist 1:00 PM Church on the Rock 6:00 PM Lomheim Home group	15 Office Closed - Martin Luther King Birthday 5:00 AM Church on the Rock	16 5:00 AM Church on the Rock 10:00 AM Prayer/Study 11:00 AM Eucharist 3:30 PM Girl Scouts troop 1999 7:00 PM Overeaters Anonymous	17 5:00 AM Church on the Rock 7:00 AM Eucharist 7:00 PM Finance 7:30 PM Vestry	18 5:00 AM Church on the Rock	19 5:00 AM Church on the Rock 8:00 PM Church on the Rock	20 5:00 AM Church on the Rock 8:30 AM "Bless Day" 9:00 AM "T-Party" Men's Bible Study 9:00 AM Plant Sale 4:00 PM Nicotine Anonymous
21 Virtual Labyrinth w/Adv. reserv. 8:15 AM Eucharist 10:00 AM Eucharist 1:00 PM Church on the Rock	22 5:00 AM Church on the Rock	23 5:00 AM Church on the Rock 10:00 AM Prayer/Study 11:00 AM Eucharist 7:00 PM Overeaters Anonymous	24 5:00 AM Church on the Rock 7:00 AM Eucharist	25 5:00 AM Church on the Rock	26 5:00 AM Church on the Rock 6:30 PM Movie night 8:00 PM Church on the Rock	27 5:00 AM Church on the Rock 9:00 AM "T-Party" Men's Bible Study 4:00 PM Nicotine Anonymous
28 ANNUAL MEETING 9:00 AM Eucharist 1:00 PM Church on the Rock	29 5:00 AM Church on the Rock	30 5:00 AM Church on the Rock 10:00 AM Prayer/Study 11:00 AM Eucharist 3:30 PM Girl Scouts troop 1999 7:00 PM Overeaters Anonymous	31 5:00 AM Church on the Rock 7:00 AM Eucharist			

This Month's Happenings

In addition to the usual services, here are more opportunities to gather together:

Tuesdays	Prayer Group, Bible Study, Eucharist	10am
Wednesdays	Eucharist and breakfast	7am
Saturdays	T-Party (Men's Bible Study)	9 am
1/2	Visibility Committee	7 pm
1/3	Taizé	7 pm
1/12	Emmanuel Book Club	6:30 pm
1/11	Early Birds	6:30 pm
1/20	Emmanuel Community Garden Plant Sale	9-12
1/22	Movie Night	6:30 pm

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED
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