



The Emmanuel Epistle

Learn, Love, Serve

Volume 28, Issue 5

May 2022

Emmanuel Episcopal Church

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Sunday Worship Service at 9 a.m.

Resurrection and Transformation

Jake Owensby, in his book, "The Resurrection Shaped Life," says Jesus wasn't just raised from the dead. That, he says, is resuscitation, not resurrection. Owensby writes, "Jesus passed through death, once and for all, to a radically new kind of life."

Jesus is drawing us into that new life, eternal life, little by little, one day at a time. Our job is to let him. Sometimes, that means rolling the rock away from the tomb and peering inside to see what's lying behind it. This is the time to allow the transformation of old stuff, whatever that might be to you, into something new and different.

This time in our church year is the time to embrace change, letting go of what is no longer serving and being open to the radical transformation of God's love and Christ's light. We don't have to know where we are going to allow this transformation to happen. We just need to be able to risk the stepping out into something new so that the transformation can take place.

But it's not fun, it's often not easy, and often it's messy and full of risk and uncertainty. And that is all ok because right around the corner is Pentecost when we will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit who will get right in the middle of the mess with us, changing us and our messes into something good.

Love and Blessings, Rev. Holly

Gospel Readings for May

May 1	John 21:1-149	Jesus appears at the Sea of Galilee
May 8	John 10:22-30	Jesus' works are his testimony
May 15	John 13:31-35	Jesus gives a new commandment
May 22	John 14:23-29 or John 5:1-9	God will send an Advocate Jesus heals a man by a pool
May 29	John 17:20-26	Jesus prays "that they may be one"

From the Senior Warden

The Emmanuel Altar Guild Ministry

by Marian Corral

I would like to say Thank You to all the members of Emmanuel's Altar Guild Ministry. A wonderful group made up of volunteer parishioners who serve God in his house by preparing the Sanctuary for worship. Their work is an offering of time and talents. It is a ministry of love in the name of Christ.

After attending this year's Annual Altar Guild luncheon, I now have a much deeper understanding of the immense responsibilities of this ministry. I was in awe as I watched and listened to the discussion of coordinating this upcoming Holy Week. The organization and the planning of every little detail were very inspiring to me. And all of this is done with pure love and grace.

It is so much more than the preparation of the altar for Sunday service.

From weekly Eucharist, special liturgical events such as weddings, funerals, baptisms, decorating the church at Christmas, Easter season which includes Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil, Easter Sunday, and other special occasions. The objective is the same for any weekly or special service: it is to make each service as perfect as possible.

Serving in the Altar guild is a privilege for which I am most grateful.

(Continued)

Many blessings to Serenity, Virginia, Grace, and Daniel Becerra as our newly baptized church members. And Thank You for allowing Emmanuel to be a part of your special day.

Peace and blessings,
Marian Corral

From Your Treasurer

Kimberly Nordstrom

Hello Emmanuel Friends!

As you prepare to do your Spring Cleaning this year, how about breaking out the financial dustpan too?

As you clean out your closets, give a fresh eye to things you can get rid of. Make three piles as you clean out your closet and corners: Keep, Sell, and Donate. For your Sell pile, there are websites for your old tech. Decluttr.com is one and Facebook Marketplace are a good option for larger items. For your Donations, the Buy Nothing group on Facebook is also a good option to give away items. When donating your items you can look up the organization on Give.org to make sure they use their donated items efficiently.

When it comes to subscriptions and recurring charges, it is very easy for those to slip through the cracks and go unnoticed. Sit down and make an actual list of all of your subscriptions and examine if they actually benefit you. I did this recently and realized I had a redundant subscription, I was paying for two music streaming services.

So as you are doing your spring cleaning, just be aware of small things you can do to clean up areas in your life as well.

Thank you for your continued support of Emmanuel Episcopal Church, we have an amazingly generous community that I am so thankful for.

Peace be with you!
Kimberly Nordstrom
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The SoCal Garden Connection

by Lorra Dickinson

Last month I talked a lot about Southern California and our wonderful Mediterranean climate. This month I would like to talk about how this actually affects our gardens – and some draw backs that we may face. Also, there are some requirements that we need to be aware of.

When Gordon and I told Father Rob that we would like to start a community garden on “the back forty,” he said something like, “That’s a great idea but it has been tried several times before and failed.” So, our first task was to find out why they failed the gardens failed and devise a way not to fail.

The soil in our garden is clay, hard as a rock when dry and slippery when wet – very difficult to work with. Other areas in SoCal have sandy soil.

However, it is good soil, if you don’t let it dry out or get it too wet. (The goodness was confirmed by every professional that looked at our soil. The people from Wilson Creek Winery were impressed with how good it is.) The problem is that it is hard to work. We decided that we would have to make our soil easier to work with.

The plot of land we were planning to use was a patch of weeds. We would have to control the weeds. No one wants to pull weeds. (Well almost no one – I actually like it, I find I very meditative. It may also have something to do with the fact that my kids would leave me alone when I started to pull weeds.)

Let’s face it, we live on the edge of a desert. We do not get enough rain to sustain our gardens without help. We would need an easy way to water. We are very busy people. We don’t have time to water our garden every day, nor do we want to be out in 90° temperatures to water.

Last of all and maybe most important – we needed to be successful.

These were the problems. (We would discover a couple more along the way. I will discuss these next month along with some other discoveries.) We knew that if we were not going to fail, we needed to address and solve these problems.

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After research and experimentation in our home garden we came up with 4 solutions that would make our gardeners successful:

1. **Use raised beds.** This would get our garden beds up and out of the clay soil so we would not have to dig into the clay.
2. **Water with drip irrigation** in each bed and with each on a timer. This would solve the water problem.
3. **Control the weeds.** We knew we could control weeds with some effort: wood chips and a good layer of compost.
4. Use a method of gardening called "**no dig.**"

Using these guidelines, we experimented in our front yard for a year. We were blown away by the results. This garden was better than any we had hoped for or had ever had before.

In October of 2010 we installed our first garden beds for the Emmanuel Community Demonstration Garden. Then the beds were planted for the 2011 growing season.

We had some very happy gardeners. And, we were successful!



Blessings and Happy Growing,

Lorra

Easter Sunday at Emmanuel

Photos by Gene Cantwell



Emmanuel Calendar for May, 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:00 - 10:30 AM Emmanuel Sunday Service 2:00 - 8:30 PM EKKO Church (Whole Campus)	2 7:00 - 8:30 PM Evening Bible Study	3 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study	4 7:00 PM Taizé Service	5 7:00 - 11:00 PM EKKO Church	6 7:00 - 11:00 PM EKKO Church	7 9:00 - 10:00 AM Men's Bible Study
8 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM Emmanuel Sunday Service 2:00 PM - 8:30 PM EKKO Church (Whole Campus)	9 7:00 - 8:30 PM Evening Bible Study	10 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study	11 7:00 - 8:30 PM Healing Service	12 7:00 - 11:00 PM EKKO Church	13 7:00 - 11:00 PM EKKO Church	14 9:00 - 10:00 AM Men's Bible Study
15 9:00 - 10:30 AM Emmanuel Sunday Service 2:00 - 8:30 PM EKKO Church (Whole Campus)	16 7:00 - 8:30 PM Evening Bible Study	17 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study	18 6:30 PM Vestry	19 7:00 - 11:00 PM EKKO Church	20 7:00 - 11:00 PM EKKO Church	21 9:00 - 10:00 AM Men's Bible Study 9:00 – Noon Plant Sale and Garden Work Day 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM EKKO Church. Recess (Respite Ministry for Special Needs Families)
22 9:00 - 10:30 AM Emmanuel Sunday Service 2:00 PM - 8:30 PM EKKO Church (Whole Campus)	23 7:00 - 8:30 PM Evening Bible Study	24 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study	25	26 7:00 - 11:00 PM EKKO Church	27 7:00 - 11:00 PM EKKO Church	28 9:00 - 10:00 AM Men's Bible Study
29 9:00 - 10:30 AM Emmanuel Sunday Service 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM Daughters of the King Meeting 2:00 - 8:30 PM EKKO Church (Whole Campus)	30 7:00 - 8:30 PM Evening Bible Study	31 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study				

This Month's Happenings

Mondays at 7 pm

Evening Bible Study

Tuesdays at 10 am

Women's Bible Study

Saturdays at 9 am

Men's Bible Study

Wednesday, May 4 at 7 pm

Taizé Service