



# *The Emmanuel Epistle*

*Learn, Love, Serve*

Volume 29, Issue 1

First Quarter, 2023

***Emmanuel Episcopal Church***

*1145 Valencia Mesa Dr.*

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*Sunday Worship Service at 9 a.m.*

## ***Thoughts for the Lenten Season***

“Christianity can help us realize that death and resurrection are part of the evolutionary path toward wholeness; letting go of isolated existence for the sake of deeper union. Something dies but something new is born—which is why the chaos of our times is, in a strange way, a sign of hope; something new is being born within. Out of chaos, a star is born. Breakdown can be break through if we recognize a new pattern of life struggling to emerge.”

This was written by Franciscan sister and scientist, Iliia Delio.

This Lenten season, I invite you to explore what in you might be ready to die. What behaviors and beliefs are keeping you from fully experiencing the transformational love of God? What are you holding onto so tightly that the light of Christ cannot permeate? What pattern of new life is struggling to emerge from within you? Can you find the willingness to surrender to being changed and renewed? Your resurrection experience is just around the corner. Don't leave 5 minutes before the miracle happens, because it will happen.

God's peace be with you,

Rev. Holly

*NOTE: Rev. Holly will be on retreat from February 23rd to March 5th.*

## **Senior Warden's Corner**

by Marian Corral

As we begin a new year, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to all of our Vestry members, especially for our new member for committing to three years of service, and to the all of the vestry members who are returning for another year. Your faithful service, hard work and dedication to the church and its people is a blessing to Emmanuel.

With heartfelt appreciation, I give thanks to our outgoing members, Sue Wilson and Chris Becerra, for their service to Emmanuel. I am grateful and would like to thank you all so much for all your love and support in my first year as senior Warden.

Serving on the vestry requires commitment, faithfulness, and openness to the movement of the Holy Spirit. These are challenging times in our church—and in our world—with a need for congregations to serve as beams of hope and inspiration to both our members and the wider community. Our future can be hopeful, diverse, and vibrant if we are open to change and new ways of being. It is essential for our congregation to seek, not merely to survive, but to thrive in the years to come.

With hope, gratitude and best wishes for a spirit filled new vestry year.

Blessings,

Marian Corral



## ***From Your Treasurer***

by Kimberly Nordstrom

Hello Emmanuel Friends!

At the Annual Meeting, we went over the actual figures from 2022. We had a combined income of \$593,886.43 and combined expenses of \$698,003.23. This leaves a net loss of \$104,116.80

We are a small church, with big church obligations. The weekly operating costs remain the same, no matter how many congregants we have in attendance. These expenses include the live streaming which is so important for our members that due to illness or traveling cannot be with us in person. I would like all of you to utilize the giving envelopes to make a pledge and strive to adhere to it. It helps us tremendously to be able to count on donations to cover these expenses, plus our many other obligations.

The budget we have put together is a Faith-based budget. I know I will be asking a lot of you all and our church and our preschool, but we are at a point where we all need to help as much as possible.

As many of you know, EKKO has moved on. They have outgrown this facility and we wish them all the best. Although we do not have a new tenant as of yet, I have faith that we will be able to find somebody soon. EKKO's rent was \$6,000/month. I put a conservative \$2,000/month in the budget for the new tenant, but I do have faith that we will be able to rent it for a higher amount. I have also been conservative on the tithes and offerings. We had some very generous year-end donations, including \$55,000 from John Voss Endowment. He also gifted us an additional \$30,000 in stock that is in cash reserve if we need to access it.

Our Mission Share fund contribution rate has been reduced to 8%. As Emmanuel Episcopal Church's situation improves I also have faith that we will be able to give more as the year progresses.

I have asked for cuts to as many of the expenses that we have control over. But, with rising utility costs and pretty much everything else, we just need to be more mindful and conserve where and when possible. We are still operating at a loss with all of these cuts.

### ***From Your Treasurer (continued)***

I have an ambitious goal for the preschool, and I have faith that we will be able to find 5 more full-time students

I have proposed a use fee for the preschool. This is an allocation of utilities, insurance, and maintenance. I have faith that this obligation can be met with the increased enrollment as well as eventually the preschool can be an income source for the church.

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

*NOTE: Don Pamula will be stepping in to be our new Treasurer.*

### ***The Order of the Daughters of the King "God With Us" Chapter***

by Judy Lieb

Our chapter assists with the Prayer and Healing services. This is a time of reflective prayer and healing: spiritual, emotional, relational and physical. Daughters pray for individuals and also for our church, clergy and the Emmanuel community.

During this winter and spring, the DOK Western Province is hosting Zoom Discernment sessions for women who would like to become Daughters and current members who would like to review the Rule of Prayer and the Rule of Service. We have three Emmanuelites attending the sessions which run through May.

Visitors are welcome to our chapter meetings which are held the 4th Sunday of the month from 11am to 1 pm. Our meetings center around various spiritual practices and prayer. Currently we are reading *The Healing Light* by Agnes Sanford. We continue to work on spiritual listening, which was the topic of our Fall Assembly last October. Emmanuel hosted a "watch party" for this event which was also attended by Daughters from St. Andrews parish.

Judy Lieb,  
President

## ***Emmanuel's Annual Meeting***

by Patty Bell

After the service on February 5, the Emmanuel congregation met our sanctuary where the Holy Spirit was definitely present and moving.

Our Sr. Warden, Marian Corral, recapped the many happenings at Emmanuel over the last year, and spoke about the many outreach services provided to Pathways of Hope such as hygiene kits, blankets, jackets, and food. Marian also expressed her gratitude for her parish family with a special "thank you" to Rev. Holly for being "a beam of light".

Our Treasurer, Kimberly Nordstrom, presented the 2023 budget. She crunched the numbers and said that there were many cuts that would be necessary. With EKKO Church leaving as our tenant, there was a big hit to our monthly income, but gave us her "faith based" budget.

Howard Minkley, our Junior Warden, has agreed to stay on for another year (making this his 6th year in this position).

Cynthia Greenspan, preschool director, attended the meeting via Zoom due to illness. She has a lot of plans in the works to increase the revenue of the preschool, and she is grateful to the church for our financial assistance during the start-up of the school.



## **A Collect**

By Carolyn Cardamis

Dearest Heavenly Father,

You are the wounded healer who has walked among us, who has worn our shoes, who has paid our debts. For many a year the sun brightened your days. The nights darkened your paths.

Humankind bears its own wounds. Buried deep within us are the wounds we have gathered over our life-times. Some have risen up from our deep unknowing. As our minds allowed us to see them, we asked You to help us bear the pain they brought. You healed each wound as we brought them to You.

You reminded us that we are the branches of Your vine. "If we remain in You, and You in us, we can bear much fruit. Apart from you we can do nothing."

In many ways, our deepest wounds have blinded us to Your love. Perplexed and confused, we hold ourselves in distain. Our wounds have ingrained themselves into patterns of alarming thoughts in our minds. Our own thoughts despise us. Our own thoughts persecute us. Our own thoughts desert us.

Let us learn Your eternal love from the wounds you bore for us. You loved us. You forgave us. You died for us. If you so loved us, we also must learn to love and forgive ourselves and our brothers and sisters.

Rejoice in the Lord always,  
Carolyn



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## Events at Emmanuel

Worship Service	Sundays at 9 am
Evening Bible Study	Mondays at 7:00 pm
Women's Bible Study	Tuesdays at 10 am
Men's Bible Study	Saturdays at 9 am
Taizé service	1st Wednesday of every month at 7 pm
Vestry meeting	3rd Wednesday of every month at 6:30 pm
Daughters of the King	4th Sunday of every month at 11 am

*For information about events during the month, go to the Emmanuel website: [www.emmanuelfullerton.org](http://www.emmanuelfullerton.org)*

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