

The Emmanuel Epistle

Learn, Love, Serve

Volume 28, Issue 11

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Emmanuel Episcopal Church

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Rector: Rev. Holly Cardone

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Sunday Worship Service at 9 a.m.

Advent

We spend the weeks before Christmas in the season of Advent. We listen to stories that remind us to wake up and prepare for the coming of Christ. Stories about the end of the way things are, and opening ourselves up to the possibility of change so we can see Christ and experience his love and grace in our lives.

Sometimes we have to go through a wilderness experience. Sometimes God gives us direction and we say yes, as Mary did, even though we have no idea what we are saying yes to.

But it's Advent, and we are preparing for the light of God to break into our everyday lives and change us in ways we can't imagine. Awaken, prepare, wilderness, and faith, for change, light, love and grace.

Dates to watch for

Mondays at 7 pm Evening Bible Study
Tuesdays at 10 am Women's Bible Study

Saturdays at 9 am Men's Bible Study

Saturday, Dec 17 at 2 pm Greening of the church

Tuesday, Dec 20 at 7 pm Blue Christmas

Saturday, Dec 24 at 9 pm Christmas Eve Service

Sunday, Dec 25 at 10 am Christmas Day Service at

Blessed Sacrament or St. Andrews

Senior Warden's Corner

by Marian Corral

A Grateful Heart...

Giving thanks and being appreciative of the blessings in our lives is a good thing to do. One group to thank and appreciate would be you, our parishioners!

Because of the outpouring of support and your generosity all of our outreach projects have been huge successes. Your willingness to join in and be actively involved has allowed us to show Gods love to our brothers and sisters. We have a responsibility to help those most vulnerable through our support of organizations like Pathways of Hope, which is doing amazing work to help the homeless and those facing food insecurities.

Ann Stoddard, the Pathways Of Hope Volunteer and Outreach Coordinator, wanted me to let all of you know how thankful and grateful they are for all of our donations. The fresh produce from our garden is always appreciated and enjoyed by the families that visit the food pantry. Our food drives have been amazingly successful and very helpful to the food pantry when their food supplies had become extremely low.

Ann and the entire staff were so happy when we delivered 170 personal hygiene kits. It had been quite a while since they had the much needed kits to distribute at their family shelters.

The sock drive was another success with over 160 pairs of socks donated. I am so proud and beyond thankful that Emmanuel has had such an impact in helping others.

I am very excited for what the Holy Spirit has in store for us as we enter the new year. My prayer for all of you is that your Holidays be filled with blessings of Peace, Joy and Love.

With a grateful heart,

Marian Corral Senior Warden

From Your Treasurer

by Kimberly Nordstrom

Hello Emmanuel Friends!

For the month of October our combined Expenses were \$62,600 and our combined income was \$52,026. We are still operating at a loss of \$10,574, but the gap is closing. The Emmanuel Church community has stepped up and giving has increased, but we need to do more. The New Year is approaching, and it is time to think about our pledge and commitment in the upcoming year.

Later, we are going to send you a letter by Father Paul about stewardship. His words say it best, along with those of Senior Wardens Ben & Carryl Hardwick, Treasurer R.C. Lewis, and Finance Chairman Lew Lardie. As you will see, the people of Emmanuel Church have always been driven by Love of the Lord and our commitment to the church.

Because giving has been down across the board, we desperately need to replenish our General Operating Fund. So please designate any extra giving to that fund.

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 714-240-3655 KimberlyGurzi@hotmail.com

A Collect for December

Carolyn Cardamis

Dearest Heavenly Father,

We are learning to ask You into our lives when we awake in the morning. Every Good Morning spoken to you is teaching our minds and bodies a new way to greet the day. Our minds no longer dwell on threads of worries and anxieties that linger from the previous days in the pathways of our minds and the sinews of our bodies.

The ingrained messages of fear are replaced by the truest thought we will ever have, Your love for us. Your love becomes our sieve. We learn to wash the thoughts we have practiced over our life-times through your sieve. Your sieve will retain the parasites that eat away at our souls and what will remain is Your love.

With new eyes we will see the world around us. We will see the work of Your creation in the tiniest flower forgotten by the wayside, its beauty robed in Your light and love. Doubts and fears will exist, but they will not prevail. The Presence of Your love will prevail. The calamities of life will surely cross our paths, but Your love will give us the strength and will to "give thanks in all circumstances." Through Your sieve have passed "faith, hope and love. And the greatest of these is love."

Rejoice in the Lord always!



Discovery Gardens at Emmanuel

by Lorraine Duran

The children and staff at Discovery Gardens have been taking on more long-term classroom projects since our last check in.

In our Ash room (4-5 years old) the children have been exploring concepts such as self-identify and self-expression. Throughout fall the class has examined pictures and videos of themselves as well as created an array of self-portraits. This has led to rich conversation about what makes us all unique individuals.

One rainy day some children in the Oak Room (3-4 years old) discovered spiders and the class has been fascinated with them ever since. They have learned the anatomy of a spider and even molded their own spiders out of clay. They have utilized the garden throughout this time to hunt for spiders and of course put them back after their observations!



Lastly our youngest class has been hard at work building their own robots out of recycled materials. Teachers have provided resources about engineering's and robotics. The children have been working on their robot and adding more "parts" once a week. We are so eager to see how these projects develop throughout the year.

We had a small and sweet Grateful Gathering this fall for all the families. Everyone enjoyed having that down time together to chat with one another and build connections. We received such great feedback from families and are excited to host a Winter gathering as well.

The SoCal Growing Connection

By Loren Maxwell

Part of the learning experience in Emmanuel's Community Garden has been the construction of six compost bins between the Community Plots and the Children's Garden. It does not supply all the compost needed for the garden plots, but it is a teaching tool and a way for people to dispose of their organic scraps in a responsible manner by keeping it out of the landfill where it produces methane gas.

For several months, Kathy Eppick put in many hours moving the compost from bin to bin and sifting the final product. When she moved to the Bay Area, Tim Parks was the primary keeper of the compost. He was very knowledgeable and taught us different things about composting. When Tim could no longer do it due to health issues and eventually moved out of the area, I took an interest in it and continued to move the dirt and keep it watered so that the decomposition process could continue. Recently, the Garden Committee decided to change to a different method of composting which does not require as much labor.

The new method of composting will use the corner bins for collecting kitchen and garden scraps and the middle bins for finished compost. Some bins will have chains across them indicating that they are either "cooking" or contain finished compost or are empty waiting to be opened for fresh waste.

Most of us are accustomed to the red bin being where we put our waste. The red bin is full, and we have switched over to the purple bin which backs up to the red one. When the decomposition process is completed, the soil in the bin will be sifted into one of the middle bins and be ready for use in the garden. The decomposition process will take longer, but the only movement of materials will be in the sifting process.

For those of you bringing organic waste to the composting bins, please keep in mind a few simple guidelines:

- 1. Fruit, vegetable, and plant scraps only. Coffee grounds are also ok. Do not put any meat, dairy products, or eggshells in the bins. Also, do not put weeds in the compost piles.
- 2. If you bring your kitchen scraps in a plastic bag, please empty the bag into the appropriate bin. There is a garbage can nearby where you can dispose of the bag. No one wants to empty your scraps after they have sat in the bag for a few days. I save my plastic soup containers and put my kitchen scraps in them and keep them in my freezer until I am ready to take them to the garden. Frozen scraps are easy to dump in the bin and you can reuse the containers several times.

3. Never put fresh kitchen scraps into one of the middle bins. They should be chained off, but even if they are not, the middle bins are for **finished** compost only.



- 4. There is a wheelbarrow with dirt in it near the bin on the right currently being used for fresh waste. It would be appreciated if you could throw a shovelfull of dirt on your scraps after dumping them into the bin. This helps keep the flies down. If you are unable to do that, don't worry about it. I will take care of it on my next visit.
- 5. If you are cleaning up your garden bed, small items can go into the compost bin. However, larger items such as tomato vines or zucchini plants should be put in the pile near the compost bins. They will need to be cut up into smaller pieces before going into the compost bins.

I do not claim to be an expert in composting like Tim was, but I am learning as I go along. If you have questions regarding our compost bins, please contact me.

My email address is: papabear 47@aol.com

My home phone number is: 714-672-0895

Emmanuel Calendar for December 2022

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|--|--|--|--------|---|
| | | | | 1 7-11pm EKKO Church | 2 | 3 9-10am Men's Bible Study |
| 9:00-10:30am Emmanuel Sunday Service 2:00-8:30pm EKKO Church (Whole Campus) | 5 7-8:30pm Evening Bible Study | 6 10:00am Women's Bible Study | 7 7:00pm Taizé Service | 8 7-11pm EKKO Church | 9 | 9-10am Men's Bible Study |
| 9:00-10:30am Emmanuel Sunday Service 2:00-8:30pm EKKO Church (Whole Campus) | 7-8:30pm Evening Bible Study | 13 10:00am Women's Bible Study | 7-8:30pm Prayer and Healing Service | 15 7-11pm EKKO Church | 16 | 17 9-10am Men's Bible Study |
| 9:00-10:30am Emmanuel Sunday Service 2:00-8:30pm EKKO Church (Whole Campus) | • | 20 10:00am Women's Bible 9:pm Blue Christmas | 21 6:30pm Vestry | 22 7-11pm EKKO Church | 23 | 9-10am Men's Bible Study 9:00pm Christmas Eve Service |
| No Emmanuel Service (visit Blessed Sacrament or St. Andrews at 10 am 2:00-8:30pm EKKO Church (Whole Campus) | 26 Dec 26-29 Office closed 7:00-8:30pm Evening Bible Study | 27 10:00am Women's Bible Study | 28 | 29 7-11pm EKKO Church | 30 | 31 9-10am Men's Bible Study |