



The Emmanuel Epistle

Learn, Love, Serve

Volume 26, Issue 4

April 2020

<i>(714) 879-8070</i>	<i>Emmanuel Episcopal Church 1145 Valencia Mesa Dr. Fullerton, CA 92833 Fax (714) 879-8680</i>	<i>www.emmanuelfullerton.org</i>
<i>Rector: Rev. Holly Cardone</i>		
<i>Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9 am-1 pm</i>		
<i>Sunday Worship Services 8:15 am & 10 am</i>	<i>Tuesday Eucharist 11 am</i>	<i>Wednesday Eucharist 7 am</i>

Philippians 4:6-7

When you read this, at the beginning of April, things will either be better, worse, or the same. We're in the middle of holy distancing, as Bishop Taylor refers to it, as well as stocking up on food and other necessities for who knows what and who knows for how long, amid the outbreak of the corona virus. In times of fear, anxiety and the unknown, we will respond in a myriad of ways. Our limbic system jumps to the fight or flight response. Hence the need to buy more toilet paper than we need and stock up on Top Ramen. My stockpile includes coffee, half and half and chocolate! We don't know when things will go back to whatever the new normal will be.

We don't know what the long-term consequences will be or how we will be changed from slowing down, staying home, and being more intentional about everything we do. Everything like getting creative with how we stay connected to the people we love, finding things to do that don't include going to malls, movies, eating out, traveling, straying too far from our homes. By the time you read this you will have watched movies you've been meaning to watch, taken more walks than you've probably taken in a long time, read books you've been meaning to get to, watching shows on tv that people have been recommending for months, taken up projects at home that you've been meaning to get to. Maybe you will have picked up a new skill or hobby to fill time and keep your mind stimulated, or actually tried some in-home exercise like yoga that you've been meaning to start for years. Maybe you have been joining us for morning and/or evening prayer on Facebook, or taken up a new spiritual practice to deepen your experience of the Divine in your daily life. During times of crisis, fear, and grief, the practice of seeking out, wanting and needing to experience God is an ancient practice.

The one thing I know is that God transforms all things and that out of this awful and devastating experience, something unexpected and beautiful will be born. In the

meantime, stay connected on social media, the phone, write letters, email, all ways possible and “. . . do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” *Philippians 4:6-7*

With tremendous love,
Rev. Holly

Troubled Waters but Opportunity

The pandemic of Coronavirus has changed the way we live! All our prayers go out to those folks whose lives have been affected in a serious way.

Rev. Holly has notified us as often as possible about the changes that Bishop Taylor has decreed. We will do our best to keep everybody informed in one way or another about the changes that seem to be going on almost daily. This digital age has given us the opportunity to have morning and evening prayer for those who wish to listen or join in via Facebook. For those that don't know how to join and wish to do so, please contact one of us that can assist (even remotely).

Your Vestry had its monthly meeting last night (3/18) by an internet Zoom meeting and for a first try, I think it went very well.

It is evident to all that there are troubled waters ahead for our Emmanuel family... and our financial health. Even our Spiritual health may be challenged. We may be a small Church, but we are strong Church, we have met challenges before and we will come through it! For every crisis there is an opportunity.

I have recently had a couple of those “nudges” you know about. One “nudge” even woke me up in the middle of the night. So my response to those nudges was a message to the Vestry and now to you. When we look ahead we will have financial difficulty with this year's budget. We must be proactive and act. In my experience in business, there are but four ways to meet a financial downturn - raise income, cut expenses, borrow, or a combination of the three. The good companies do that smartly: the poor ones fail.

However, as a Vestry and a congregation of faithful Christians we have one thing going for us that business does not have. We have the HOLY SPIRIT THAT CAN BE OUR GUIDE, OUR WISE COUNCILOR, OUR HELPER! Borrowing is not a realistic option for us. Often it is not smart to immediately cut expenses, particularly if it goes against our Mission. Your Vestry is committed to “thinking outside the box” in examining every line item of budget and to do their best to think about how to increase income. Are there ways we can even do routine things differently to save?

For example: Are there some things that we, the congregation, can do instead of hiring out? Can we more actively or differently engage people or methods to rent our space and raise income? Can we broaden our normal ways of getting income?

We are eliciting all ideas from all of you too. There is no such thing as a “silly” idea or question. All ideas are precious and any question is worthwhile. Your Vestry are your Ambassadors, so please talk to them, get all the knowledge you can about what is going on and make your suggestions.

With the help of all of you and the Holy Spirit we will not only get through these troubled waters but after meeting the challenge come out stronger on the other side!

Blessings to all,

Ted
Senior Warden



An Important Message from Your Treasurer

Thanks to a large donation from one of our families our Operating Fund ended up in the black in February. Operating Fund income was \$23,913 while Expenses were \$22,255 giving us a net gain of \$1,658 for the month. As of the end of February our Operating Fund is \$11,095 in the red. Last year at the same point in time our Operating Fund deficit was \$15,911.

The Memorial Walkway (Patio) project was completed in late February except that we still need to seal all the pavers. This work was scheduled to be done in early March but had to be put on hold because of the rain. It will be completed as weather permits.

As of Tuesday, March 17th, John Taylor, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles, sent out a letter suspending all in-person worship at all the churches in the Diocese through at least Easter, April 12th. Your Treasurer is getting out the kneepads because this is going to make our financial situation very challenging for at least the next several months. I encourage those of you who donate to Emmanuel to please continue to donate by sending checks to my attention at the church or by using our eGiving portal which you can access at <https://www.emmanuelfullerton.org>. Click the Donate link on the menu bar at the top of the screen to be directed to our secure eGving page. If you have any questions, please reach out to me and I'll be happy to help. We'll also be setting up a

“Give by Text” solution very shortly. Please watch for this in Rev. Holly’s weekly email message and on the Emmanuel Facebook page.

With much gratitude for your prayers and support!

Dave Dunlap, Treasurer
davidrdunlap@gmail.com
Cell: 949-861-0694

Emmanuel Episcopal Preschool

Dear Emmanuel Friends,

I am writing the column this month, because I had to make a very difficult decision to close the preschool after receiving the Bishop’s directive to cease all gatherings of more than 10 people. Working with the Preschool Director, I sent a message to all the parents and teachers that we would have to close the school temporarily until the danger of passing on the virus had receded. We are so blessed to have wonderful parents and children and devoted teachers. Please pray for all of them.

Blessings to all of the preschool families and teachers --
Rev. Holly

Why Emmanuel?

Loren Maxwell

My spiritual journey has led me to several churches and a wide variety of denominations across the Christian spectrum. In the early 80’s I parted ways with a church that I had poured my life into for over 10 years, much of that time as an associate pastor. It was a painful parting and I spent the next decade moving from church to church seeking healing and a place where I could feel at home. I enjoyed some tremendous preaching and teaching during that time but couldn’t seem to establish any significant relationships with people in the church. In some cases, it was due to the size of the congregation; in other cases, it was my reluctance to become vulnerable again.

In the early 90’s we were living in an apartment in La Habra and attending a growing church in east Whittier with another family. Then several things happened. The other family moved to the Sacramento area and a year later I was able to purchase a condo in east Fullerton. Shortly before my move, the early morning prayer meeting that I had been attending at the church was abruptly disbanded. While I still enjoyed the Sunday morning sermons, what little personal connection I had was gone and I did not want to make the longer drive to Whittier to continue attending the church. Around the same time, I was

listening to some tapes from a teacher that I highly respected. He was a charismatic evangelical but had become interested in liturgical worship and did a series of tapes on the sacraments and the liturgy.

We were friends with a couple who were Episcopalian. He was a lifelong Episcopalian and liked the more formal worship at Blessed Sacrament. She was new to liturgical worship and preferred the more informal, charismatic feel of Emmanuel. I had attended her baptism at Emmanuel several years prior because she had asked me to be her Godfather. When we moved to Fullerton in 1996 and told our friends that we were looking for another church, they suggested that we try Emmanuel.

I have heard many people say that when they walked into Emmanuel, they immediately felt at home. That was not my experience. It was an acquired taste. I was afraid that it was going to be another in a long string of churches where I just didn't seem to fit. I found healing in the first few years in the home group that I attended. I could be open there without being judged. Things that I have learned to treasure at Emmanuel are the friendships that I have made, the mystical power of the eucharist and the value of contemplative prayer.

General Information about the HUB of Hope (Pathways of Hope)

HUB of Hope is a food pantry which we at Emmanuel have been affiliated with. This information is from Anne Snyder, who has been delivering food to them. She is working on a system for getting our extra garden produce to them. You will hear more next month, but here is some information about this group:

They accept any nonperishable food on which has not reached its expiration date. Items in particular demand are:

- Fresh produce
- High-protein foods (peanut butter; hearty (meat) soups; beans (not green beans))
- Fruit (fresh and canned)
- Hygiene items (regular and travel size)
- **THEY DO NOT WANT CLOTHING ITEMS OTHER THAN SOCKS AND BEANIES.**

Distribution Hours (these are also the best times to deliver donations):

Monday-Friday 1p-4p

Saturday 9a-noon

Location:

611 S. Ford Ave, Fullerton

(behind Richman Park near Highland, north of Orangethorpe)

As of the printing date of this Epistle, the Bishop has cancelled all services and events through Easter Sunday. Therefore, Emmanuel services and events do not appear on this calendar. Things may change. After Easter Sunday, services, meetings, and events have been retained. Rev. Holly will update us in April.

The Editor

April 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3 5:30 PM Girl Scout Troop 101 Meeting	4 4:00 PM Nicotine Anonymous
5	6	7 3:30 PM Girl Scouts troop 1999 6:00 PM Girl Scout Leaders' Meeting 7:00 PM Overeaters Anonymous	8	9 1:00 PM OWLS (women of girl scouts)	10	11 4:00 PM Nicotine Anonymous
12	13 7:00 PM Evening Bible Study	14 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study 11:00 AM Eucharist 7:00 PM Overeaters Anonymous	15 7:00 AM Eucharist 6:00 PM Finance 6:30 PM Vestry	16	17	18 9:00 AM Men's Bible Study 9:00 AM Plant Sale 4:00 PM Nicotine Anonymous
19 8:15 AM Eucharist 10:00 AM Eucharist	20 7:00 PM Evening Bible Study	21 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study 11:00 AM Eucharist 3:30 PM Girl Scout Troop 1999 7:00 PM Overeaters Anonymous	22 7:00 AM Eucharist	23	24 6:30 PM Movie night	25 9:00 AM Men's Bible Study 4:00 PM Nicotine Anonymous
26 8:15 AM Eucharist 10:00 AM Eucharist	27 7:00 PM Evening Bible Study	28 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study 11:00 AM Eucharist 7:00 PM Overeaters Anonymous	29 7:00 AM Eucharist	30		

This Month's Happenings

All events have been cancelled until further notice.

Emmanuel Episcopal Church
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