



The Emmanuel Epistle

Learn, Love, Serve

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Emmanuel Episcopal Church
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Sunday Worship Service 10 am on Zoom

Embracing Change

The world is changing, the country is changing, the church is changing. When the pandemic is over, and racial injustice has been righted and our Black siblings in Christ can move about our country free from fear of DWB (driving while black) and other discriminatory behavior, and we can take more responsibility for God's creation to ensure the earth survives our tenure on it, all things will be new. All things. "So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!" 2 Cor. 5:17

But often, new is not fun. Sometimes new upsets the apple cart. New rocks our foundation, creates disruption in our psyche because we are so comfortable with what is. We have faced a lot of disruption and upset these past five months. And it keeps on coming. At the end of June, in conversation with the Vestry and Lisa, our preschool director, we made the very difficult decision to shut the doors of the preschool indefinitely. There was too much uncertainty and there were too many unknowns regarding Covid-19 and caring for our students with social distancing protocols in place and remaining financially viable. After looking at a variety of budgets, from 10 students to 15 to 20, with minimal staffing, we could not afford to keep the school open. Parents, at the same time, were ambivalent about allowing their children to return to the preschool.

The thing about making decisions like this is that they are never easy. More often than not, we don't know if we're making the right decision, and all we can do is take a deep breath, do the next right indicated thing, and trust God.

At the same time we were making the decision to close the school, we had the opportunity to join the Episcopal Enterprises Academy (<https://www.episcopalenterprises.org/>). Bishop Taylor has come to see social enterprise

or social business, which is defined as a business that has a specific social objective and seeks to maximize profits while maximizing benefits to society and the environment, as a valuable tool for creating sustainability and funding ministry in our churches. Our participation in the academy over the next five months will give us the training we need to create an organizational climate that embraces entrepreneurship, giving us the time and space to explore ideas for programs that contribute to the long-term financial health of Emmanuel, which in turn, will keep our community and ministries flourishing and vibrant in the decades to come.

Everything is changing. We can make the choice to embrace this change as the miracle it is, happening at exactly the right time, change that moves us closer to the realization of the Kingdom of God on earth as it is in heaven. As we mourn the loss of what was, as we open our arms to embrace that which will be, let's enjoy the adventure. Let's savor the burgeoning newness that is aching to be born.

Blessings, Rev. Holly+

Parking Lot Pulpit

On July 12 at 5 pm, Emmanuel had its very first Parking Lot Pulpit service in the time of COVID-19. Those who attended had a wonderful time with music, prayer, Eucharist, and socially distanced picnics. See a few pictures below.



Please Support the Edwards Hall Refresh Project

We are still asking for donations for Edwards Hall. If you'd like to help with a donation, you can make an online donation through the Donate button on our website page. We've added a donation option called "Edwards Hall Refresh". Or, you can send a check to the church with "Edwards Hall Refresh" in the memo area. Thank you to all those who have already contributed!



An Important Message from Your Treasurer

Thanks to the PPP loan/grant we received in early May, the Operating Fund came out in the black for June, with Income exceeding Expenses by \$6,391. We ended up using all but \$2,088 of the PPP funds within the 8-week period, so we decided to go with that timeframe rather than the extended timeframe of 24 weeks. That fact that we were able to use the PPP loan to cover some of Rev Holly's salary, housing, and benefits for May and June allowed us to essentially recoup the funds that the church used to cover the Preschool salaries and expenses for the first two months of the shutdown. We also used the PPP funds to cover our utilities for May and June. We have started to fill out the paperwork to file for forgiveness of the loan and should have it completed by the end of July.

If it were not for the PPP funds we would have ended up with a deficit of around \$6,000 for the month of June. General Tithes & Offerings for June totaled \$14,768 which gives us Operating Income of \$116,509. That compares to \$115,063 at the same point last year.

Summer is always a challenging time for us financially so 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 through the Donate button on the homepage of our website - <https://www.emmanuelfullerton.org/>. When you reach the eGiving site, if you're on your phone or other mobile device please click the [View Mobile Site](#) link to be redirected to the mobile friendly version. If you have any questions please reach out to me and I'll be happy to help.

With much gratitude for your prayers and support!

Dave Dunlap, Treasurer

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The Growing Connection

After my last Epistle article, someone said to me that they were glad to hear that I also lost plants. Gardening comes with it all; we could call it a package. You are going to lose some plants. There are going to be some that you wish you had not planted. Some years are going to be better than others with no definable reason. Sometimes the bugs, or a worm is going to do real damage, or weeds may take over while you are on vacation. It might be a critter – gopher, squirrel, rabbit, raccoon, opossum. It is all a part of the gardening deal. When each happens, you try your best to learn from it and resolve to do better next year.

I have a weed growing in my home garden that I deliberately introduced back in 1996. (Remember a weed is any plant that is growing where you don't want it.) My weed is a beautiful heart shaped ground cover violet. It was a pride and joy of my mother and she struggled to keep it alive every year, so I brought some home with me when she passed. Its flower is rather a disappointment, lovely but small and mostly hidden beneath the leaves. When its seed pods ripen it spits them to all the corners of my garden. And its roots are very tenacious, they must be dug out rather than pulled. I dug one out of a pot of succulents just yesterday. I suspect they like my California climate better than my mother's northern New Mexico climate. It is not all bad because every time I take one out of where it should not be, I think of my mother and her garden.

The Community Garden is doing very well. It is wonderful to have the compost being worked and used. Thank you to Tim, Kathy, and Howard for their hard work. Next time you visit, be sure to stop by the compost area to see the new rainbow bins. As you are looking at the compost, also stop to look at all the squash that is growing along the north side of the Children's Garden – it is amazing. All of the harvest is going to the Fullerton HUB. The HUB is the food distribution center for Pathways of Hope, our local resource for people in need.

Charley and I are growing Giant White Mandevillas. We need replacements for the ones that died over the winter. Our new replacement plants were donated by a grower in Florida and sent to us in 3" pots – too small to plant out. So, Charley and I have transplanted them to 6" pots. When they are ready, we will plant them on the pergola trellis. This Florida grower has been most generous to our garden. He also donated all of our original plants.

Gordon is in the process of harvesting the onions, leeks, and shallots he planted at the Community Garden. It has been a good crop. As he harvests, he will be putting in cucumber, eggplant, fennel, and beets. We are going to try growing the fennel and beets from seed. The cobra pepper is still growing in one of my beds – it is three years old now. It is keeping company with Swiss chard, a banana pepper, cucumber, and zucchini. I have planted fava beans and bush green beans in my other bed; both from seed.

Blessings and Happy Growing,
Lorra and Gordon

Vineyard Update

I have very disappointing news to share.

Some of the vines in our vineyard have a disease called Pierce's Disease, which is incurable. Grapevines become infected when an insect called a sharp-shooter infects a vine with bacteria when it feeds on the tender tissues of a vine. This bacterium clogs the vascular tissue of the vine, causing the leaves to slowly die and the grapes to shrivel into raisins, eventually killing the vine.

Once a grapevine becomes infected, the bacteria multiply and colonize the xylem, (the water conducting tissue of the plant). This inhibits the movement of water through the vine. We saw this last year when some of our grape clusters shriveled up. This year it looks worse. I am seeking professional advice, but from what I have learned so far, the only solution is to take out the infected vines and replant with disease-tolerant vines.

Once we've replaced the diseased vines, it will be two years before we can harvest grapes from the new vines. We will probably lose some vines each year until they have all been replaced. By the time we are harvesting grapes from the vines we will replace this year I will be 80. Replanting the vineyard is a task for a younger person. Therefore, I am giving notice that after this year's harvest, which will be small again, I am looking for someone to hand the vineyard over to. I will continue as a consultant, teaching what I know of viticulture and winemaking, but I cannot continue in a physical capacity or as winemaker.

As for last year's vintage, we have about 50 bottles of a reasonable Merlot/Zinfandel blend to offer as our 2019 vintage at our next release party, whenever that may be. This is about one bottle per Guild member.

If you were part of the original vine planting and provided funds for a vine/vines, it is possible that your vine is one of the infected. We will be in touch with each of you in case you want to continue your support with a new disease-resistant vine, thus keeping vine(s) in your name or dedication.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at 714-525-5578 or gdickinsonsouth@gmail.com.

Sincerely, Gordon

We have services on Zoom every Sunday at 10 am. Bible study, Taizé, Early Birds, and Movie Night are available on Zoom, but all normal in-person events at Emmanuel have been cancelled.

The Editor

August 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 9:00 AM Men's Bible Study on Zoom
2 10:00 AM Online Service--Zoom and Facebook	3 7:00 PM Evening Bible Study on Zoom	4 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study on Zoom	5 7:00 PM Taizé Service	6	7	8 9:00 AM Men's Bible Study on Zoom
9 10:00 AM Online Service--Zoom and Facebook	10 7:00 PM Evening Bible Study on Zoom	11 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study on Zoom	12	13 5:00 PM Early Birds Cocktail Hour on Zoom	14	15 9:00 AM Men's Bible Study on Zoom
16 10:00 AM Online Service--Zoom and Facebook	17 7:00 PM Evening Bible Study on Zoom	18 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study on Zoom	19 6:30 PM Vestry on Zoom	20	21	22 9:00 AM Men's Bible Study on Zoom
23 10:00 AM Online Service--Zoom and Facebook	24 7:00 PM Evening Bible Study on Zoom	25 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study on Zoom	26	27	28 6:30 PM Movie night	29 9:00 AM Men's Bible Study on Zoom
30 10:00 AM Online Service--Zoom and Facebook	31 7:00 PM Evening Bible Study on Zoom					

This Month's Happenings

All in-person events have been cancelled until further notice.

Mondays at 7 p.m.
Tuesdays at 10 a.m.
Saturdays at 9 a.m.

Evening Bible Study on Zoom
Women's Bible Study on Zoom
Men's Bible Study on Zoom

Wednesday, August 5, 7pm
Thursday, August 13, 5 pm
Friday, August 28, 6:30 pm

Taizé on Zoom
Early Birds Cocktail Hour on Zoom
Movie Night on Zoom

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