



# *The Emmanuel Epistle*

*Learn, Love, Serve*

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*Emmanuel Episcopal Church*  
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Sunday Worship Service 10 am on Zoom

## ***Becoming a Better Human***

Checking the number of new cases of Covid-19 from the OC Health Department is part of my morning routine now. Cases aren't going down. They are fluctuating between 130 and 300 new cases every day and 250 people have died in Orange County since the county started keeping track in March. Those are only the cases we know about. It has been reported that people of color and undocumented people are being hardest hit by Covid-19. Many of them do not go to the hospital, and many have died at home, without ever being tested. So, the numbers don't tell the whole story. The responsibility falls on me, in conversation with our Emmanuel reopening team, to make the best decision on how to move forward responsibly and safely.

We are taking our first step, though, and are happy to announce our first gathering at church on Sunday, July 12<sup>th</sup> at 5pm. The Parking Lot Pulpit will be a kind of tailgating worship event with dinner. Everyone will have a parking place that you will pull into. We'd like you to bring camping chairs or beach chairs and a picnic supper, and after the service we can eat and chat, with masks and respecting physical distance guidelines. This is what I feel comfortable doing right now. What will come next, we don't know.

By the time you read this, you will already know that there are two groups in which conversations around race, racism and anti-racism are taking place. I'm moved by the courage of you all to engage with me on the very difficult topic of racism in the United States. It's not easy, it's not fun, but it's crucial work. We have to start somewhere, and often the somewhere is in our own hearts and minds. This is important and necessary work if we are going to have a better understanding of ourselves as people raised in society built on the backs of systemic racism. Writer Austin Channing Brown said, "The work of anti-racism is the work of becoming a better human to other humans." We call it talking about racism but it's really just becoming a better human.

I'm looking forward to seeing you on the 12<sup>th</sup>.

Blessings, Rev. Holly

***Please Support the Edwards Hall Refresh Project***

Thanks to the generosity of several parishioners, we're painting the interior of Edwards Hall and installing new flooring throughout. So far we've raised about \$35,000 of the projected \$43,000 cost. Since the Preschool has been closed, the work has already started and will probably be done by the time you receive this Epistle. As of today we still need about \$8,000 more to be able to fully cover the total cost without tapping into our Capital Improvement Fund. It would be great if we didn't have to tap into that to complete the Edwards Hall Refresh as we really need to hold that fund in reserve in case we have an emergency of some kind (several of our A/C units are over 20 years old). 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 for your support!



***An Important Message from Your Treasurer***

As I mentioned in last month's Epistle, we did receive a Payroll Protection Plan (PPP) loan of just over \$53,000 on May 4<sup>th</sup> from the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of funding. According to the rules of the Payroll Protection Program, the funds we received can only be used for payroll and related expenses (plus utilities) going forward from the date we received the funds. The time frame for use of the PPP funds was recently extended from 60 days to 24 weeks. If we use the funds only for covered expenses (payroll, benefits, and utilities), then the "loan" will turn into a "grant" and we will not have to repay any of the \$53,000 we received.

During May we used funds from the PPP loan to cover the Preschool's payroll and benefit expenses and also the payroll and benefit expenses of the church. As of the end of May, we had used about \$25,500 of the \$53,000. The actual balance remaining was \$27,509.83. I would anticipate that we will use almost all of the remaining funds in June.

Considering that the church was essentially closed during May, we did pretty well financially thanks to your generous support and the funds from the PPP loan. We had Operating Income of \$17,020 from Tithes and Pledges, and we transferred in \$10,264.35 from the PPP loan account to cover the church's payroll and benefits expenses. We had a

total Operating Income of \$27,298.71 including a small donation from the Amazon Smile program.

Our Operating Expenses for May were \$23,270.63, including our quarterly Property and Liability Insurance cost of \$5,623.50. That resulted in a net gain of \$4,028.08. Not too bad!

Even though we did well financially in May, our financial situation will continue to be challenging in the coming 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 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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### ***Composting: The Resurrection of Dirt***

After a bit more than two months of work and instruction, I have successfully created DIRT! Smelly, nasty garbage became beautiful life-giving soil. I'm telling you this so you can do it if you want to and so that you can see the beauty in the creation of dirt. Here's the procedure:

First, you need a location and some time. This does not happen overnight. In Emmanuel's composting area it's pretty simple -- you start with an empty composting spot. Put in a layer of mulch or straw then add green stuff (kitchen scraps, pulled weeds, cut grass, etc.) something that hasn't broken down or dried up that much. CHOP! It helps to break down the green stuff by chopping into small pieces. Sprinkle on some compost starter (think of this as the yeast in bread). We've been using a molasses and alfalfa mixture but others are available. This is not necessary, but it moves the process along. Cover with some dirt. Hose it down with a decent amount of water. Compost won't break down as well without water (think of Egyptian mummies – VERY DRY). Now repeat that process. A heavy "brown" layer like mulch (about twice as much as green stuff or dirt), a light "green" layer, "yeast", a light layer of dirt, and water.

Next, WAIT! The pile should reduce in size (shrink to about half) over the next 1.5-2 weeks. When you dig into the pile it is often HOT! The first time I turned my pile it was steaming on a morning that was about 70 degrees outside.

When it has reduced in size you need to mix it and get it wet! Especially in the average SoCal summer, it's easy for the compost to dry out. It will eventually break down one way

or another but soggy is faster. There are a few ways to mix the pile. The one that I have been using is to load up every wheelbarrow I can find with compost. Then, when I get to the bottom, I just make sure I dump all the loads in a different order. Emmanuel's composting area is designed to be used by rotating the compost from one slot into the next slot. That way you clear out one slot to be used for new compost while putting your compost that's been cooking into the next slot (no need to use wheelbarrows). You can use the most basic technique: dump everything out on the ground and put it all back in. Be sure to add water at about every third of the pile. Please note you WILL see lots of bugs in your compost pile. Those are the "decomposers" of the ecosystem. Aren't they beautiful? Earthworms, earwigs, beetles, potato bugs, and even smaller micro-organisms! And that heat you feel in your pile? BACTERIA, lovely, yummy bacteria helping to break down all that stuff into dirt.

Next, WAIT! About one week should do it. Again, look for the pile to reduce in size. Then mix it again.

Finally, after about two or three months you should have DIRT! So there it is -- garbage that you want to get rid of is resurrected into healthy life-giving DIRT!

Composting rules and suggestions:

Bringing kitchen scraps to the composting area:

1. No dairy or meat.
2. No plastic or Styrofoam. There are A FEW plastic bags that are compostable. The average plastic bag is NOT compostable. If you aren't sure, DON'T bury it with your compost! A bag that has a recycling symbol on it is NOT compostable.
3. Dump your scraps in the designated spot. We have a sign on the composting slot which is being used right now.
4. Scoop up some dirt/mulch combo from the small wheelbarrow and cover your scraps. This will cut down on flies in the area.
5. If you are unable to scoop dirt to bury your scraps, it's okay to leave the bag on top of the pile and someone else will bury it for you.
6. If you see someone else's scraps in a bag on top of the pile, feel free to take care of it by opening the bag, dumping it out, and burying it with your scraps.
7. Yes, sometimes dumping the scraps is a bit icky. You can rinse your hands at the sink or from one of the hoses.
8. Consider using a bag that can be re-used. Rinse it out at the sink or with a hose and take it back home. If it can't be re-used dump it in one of the trash cans near the gate.
9. Consider keeping your scraps in a bag in the freezer. It helps to begin breaking down the scraps and eliminates smell. Just make sure you don't lose track of that bag!

## ***Emmanuel Episcopal Preschool***

Dear Emmanuel Family,

The preschool concluded the year in vastly different circumstances from when we started. No one could have predicted or imagined that our lives would be tremendously affected and changed due to the pandemic.

COVID-19 has affected us all as we adapt to this new “normal” way of life. Our Zoom meetings were held twice a week, on Tuesdays and Thursdays, from April-June. Sometimes we even had 2 or 3 lessons in one day to give our families multiple chances to participate in a meeting. These sessions with our students were very meaningful and precious to us. We miss the personal interactions, imaginary play, and the daily conversations we had with each of them, but viewing them on the screen in their homes, sharing their favorite toys, books, and art makes us feel like we are still part of their lives.

We had a wonderful seven months in the classroom with the children, during which we provided a variety of engaging learning experiences through play. They learned how to get along with others and form friendships, while the classroom set-up gave children many opportunities to make choices while maintaining optimum levels of freedom, creativity, care, independence, and safety. We also were able to observe how their creative thinking evolved and how their problem-solving skills were developed and transformed. The children devised great experiments through their play and learned a lot about their abilities. It was special to watch how proud they were of their artwork, or building the tallest tower, or finishing a difficult puzzle they struggled with initially. These experiences will serve them in the future, and especially those taking their next step into Kindergarten this Fall.

Special thanks to the generous benefactors who replaced the preschool’s carpeting with gorgeous planks, as well as for having the entire interior of Edwards Hall painted. It was a huge undertaking but now the preschool looks lovely. It has a calming vibe.

We are looking forward to seeing returning and new families in August. It will look slightly different, but we will work assiduously to provide a welcoming, safe, and happy environment for all our students. Protocols will be implemented to meet current health authority guidelines.

We wish you all a wonderful, safe, and healthy rest of the Summer.

Lots of Virtual Hugs,  
Mrs. Lisa Seggelke 😊

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, except for our July 12 Parking Lot Pulpit service this month.

The Editor

## July 2020

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

## This Month's Happenings

All in-person events except our July 12 Parking Lot Pulpit have been cancelled until further notice.

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

Evening Bible Study  
Women's Bible Study  
Men's Bible Study

Wednesday, July 1, 7pm  
Thursday, July 9, 6 pm  
Sunday, July 12, 5 pm  
Friday, July 24, 6:30 pm

Taizé on Zoom  
Early Birds Cocktail Hour on Zoom  
Parking Lot Pulpit in Emmanuel Parking Lot  
Movie Night on Zoom

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