



The Emmanuel Epistle

Learn, Love, Serve

Volume 27, Issue 3

March 2021

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Rector: Rev. Holly Cardone

Office Hours: rector@emmanuelfullerton.org
Sunday Worship Service 10 am on Zoom

Help, Thanks, Wow

Anne Lamott is one of my favorite writers. She's funny and irreverent, honest and authentic, and she writes a lot about God and Jesus. But she doesn't write in a way that make us feel like we're not doing our Jesus journey right. Instead, she encourages us to do our Jesus journey real. Lent is a good time to practice getting really real with God, approaching each day as a beginner. In her book *Help, Thanks, Wow: The Three Essential Prayers*, Lamott writes, "If I were going to begin practicing the presence of God for the first time today, it would help to begin by admitting the three most terrible truths of our existence: that we are so ruined, and so loved, and in charge of so little." Praying like a beginner, with openness, honesty, and willingness can transform our experience of God. This is how I hope we are approaching our Lenten practice this year: accepting our humanity, that God loves us abundantly and unconditionally, and there is not much we can control in this life. With our beginner's mind approach to our Lenten practice of prayer, the miracle of redemption and reconciliation promised by the resurrection is not only possible but inevitable.

Blessings, Rev. Holly+

Senior Warden's Corner

Loren Maxwell

For those of you who were not at the annual meeting or may not have heard, Ted Jones has retired from being Senior Warden at Emmanuel. He was Senior Warden for the past five years. He served admirably during a time of transition from long-time rector Fr. Rob Bethancourt through the interim period with Mo. Lyn Crow while we were searching for a new priest to the present time when he agreed to stay on to support Rev. Holly Cardone for at least her first year. Also retiring is his

wife Joy who has faithfully served as the Clerk-Secretary for over 25 years. Jane Shellhouse has graciously volunteered to take her place. We are grateful to both Ted and Joy for their service to Emmanuel.

I have agreed to accept the position of Senior Warden. Ted has left some big shoes to fill, but I will do my best to continue to support our Rector and the Vestry in meeting the needs of the congregation. One of the obvious questions that I asked prior to accepting the position was, "What does a Senior Warden do?" I have received different answers from being a liaison between the Rector and the congregation to being the keeper of the keys. According to the Vestry Resource Guide the wardens work as lay partners with the rector to address the small and large concerns of the parish. The specific duties vary from congregation to congregation and the emphasis varies from one Senior Warden to the next within a congregation due to differences in personality and congregational needs. At Emmanuel, Ted Jones had a different emphasis from Walter Palmer who was different from Sue Daniels.

One of the things that I want to do as Senior Warden is to make sure you know who to ask if you have questions regarding the operation and ministry of the church. If you have questions regarding the church finances you can direct them to our Treasurer, Dave Dunlap. If you have questions regarding the buildings and grounds, our hard-working Junior Warden, Howard Minkley can field those. If you have administrative questions, I will be glad to try and address those. My email address is: papabear47@aol.com. My cell phone number is: 714-488-4584. And of course, you can also ask a Vestry member as well.



An Important Message from Your Treasurer

January is usually a very difficult month for us financially but thanks to several significant donations, our Operating Fund actually ended up in the black by \$1,023 for January. I can't remember the last time that happened. We are SO BLESSED! Operating income was \$26,866 and expenses were \$25,844. We also received \$15,060 for the Preschool. Part of that will go toward the new playground fence. We're very thankful for your support for the Preschool "reboot." The Good Shepherd renovations which are being done to revitalize the Preschool are well underway.

With much gratitude for your prayers and support!

Blessings!

Dave Dunlap, Treasurer

davidrdunlap@gmail.com Cell: 949-861-0694

How I Came to Emmanuel

Nancy J. Kent

February 1987: I stumbled into Emmanuel, physically, spiritually and emotionally bankrupt. I was divorced, a mother of two with one still at home. I wanted to end a relationship, and he spoke to a friend, saying "I'm going to lose her; what should I do?" The advice was, "Take her to Emmanuel."

From the moment I walked into the church, I felt I was home. Laughter, hugs, blessings abounded, and the service hadn't even started. It was like being in the middle of a giant, love-filled hug. Let the Healing Begin! Before I knew it, I was making new friends, getting involved in Stephens Ministry, picnics, Women's Retreats, Home Group and then I understood that the relationship that was saved was the one I was meant to have with Jesus Christ. The fellow who brought me to Emmanuel moved on.

I was baptized in July that same year. Fr. Paul performed the baptism. He said, "This will be the closest to full immersion you'll experience." Who would've thought that little bit of water in the font would produce that much wet! It was glorious! In August of the same year, I began going to an Alcoholics Anonymous meeting that met at Emmanuel on Friday nights. My sober birthday is July 1, 1987.

From 1991 to 1995, I lived, worked and worshipped in San Diego. However, I managed to come back to Emmanuel pretty much monthly. I met the love of my life at Emmanuel. In 2005, I heard a big, hearty laugh coming from the other side of the church. When my eyes followed that wonderful sound, behold, there he was, standing by the piano. I did some research, found out he was widowed and that he liked to laugh, read, sing and socialize. He attended the first service, and very soon so did I.

I began going to breakfast after the service with the Early Birds and got better acquainted with new friends and with Dan. The entire Early Bird service watched as our relationship grew; we married in April 2006 and had nine plus years together. He contracted cancer and passed away in October, 2015. We loved each other, and it was the sweetest time. I will always remember the kindness, love, support and laughter from our Emmanuel family during this time.

I'm certain I've left out some of the wonderful things I've experienced but the highlights have been covered. A closing thought: Emmanuel is the Grace place with miracles in store. Ready or not!

Episcopal Social Enterprise Academy Update

Social Enterprise is an initiative of the national Episcopal Church. Social Enterprise projects have two purposes:

1. Do social good for the community consistent with our mission and the mission of the Episcopal Church.
2. Help the church remain solvent into the future. Many, many churches are struggling financially. Some have gone bankrupt. Social enterprise is a plan for sustainability. Relying solely on donations is no longer sustainable.

After five months of research and exploration, Emmanuel's Social Enterprise group decided that our project should be the Emmanuel Environmental Early Learning Center. It will be a re-imagined preschool with a child-centered, nature-based approach. Our project won a \$4,000 grant from the diocese for renovating the outside spaces!

Right now, our priorities are preparing the Good Shepherd building as additional classrooms for the Early Learning Center AND planning the natural outdoor spaces. The classrooms have been painted and new flooring has been installed. New dual-pane windows will go in the first week of March, followed by the painting of the exterior of both the Good Shepherd building and Havermale Hall. Some of the excellent quality wood classroom furniture from Edwards Hall will be brought to the new classrooms. We have everything we need except for about 10 wooden children's chairs.

We will start recruiting students for our nature-based early learning center in March, and the students and parents will participate in the decision making on the design of both the Children's Garden and the playground and making them natural spaces for exploration. We have already received donations that will cover some of this work – our heartfelt appreciation to those who have donated! If you would like to donate, please get in touch with Rev. Holly (rector@emmanuelfullerton.org) or our treasurer, Dave Dunlap (bookkeeper@emmanuelfullerton.org).

The Growing Connection

God Almighty first planted a garden.

And indeed, it is the purest of human pleasures. –Francis Bacon

The Garden is waking up. It is time to get ready for the excitement of planting a new spring garden. What do you want to try this year? Something completely unusual, like a purple cauliflower? (We actually had a gardener grow one a few years ago – I wish I could show the picture of it.) Or do you want to try some flowers this year? Beth Jahncke always plants flowers along with her vegetables and Howard only grows flowers.

This year I want to try a new way of growing. Gordon is not completely convinced but I want to build a trellis between two beds and arched over the path. I will plant squash to grow up and over them. Can you see butternut squash growing over the trellis? I can, along with spaghetti and acorn, and maybe even a small pumpkin. Stay tuned. We'll see what happens.

I know I have told you before, but I am the kind of gardener who gardens primarily just to watch the plants grow. Eating vegetables is great. I like it better all the time. But mostly I just want to see them grow. And I love trying something new. One of my biggest problems with vegetables is not picking them soon enough, because I am watching them grow. Gordon is much better at this. He is really not interested in flowers, he wants something to eat, and he is not happy when "someone else" eats them.

I have told you about the new beds we have at home. About 6 weeks ago we planted what old seed we had. Some came up, and "someone" feasted on them. Gordon was not happy. We ordered some fresh seeds but have not planted yet. I think it's a rabbit. Gordon has seen one across the street and he has set a have-a-heart trap but no luck so far. Gordon has all his shallots and onions planted at the garden and at home.

If you have a plot at the Community Garden (I also hope you have one at home even if it is a container.) It is time to rebuild your bed with hay, straw, and compost. We have plenty of straw on hand and by the time you read this we will have the hay and compost. Remember the way to do this is to put down a layer of straw, followed by a layer of hay, followed by a layer of compost – a minimum of 2" each. Remember to put a good sprinkling of fertilizer (about 1 cup full) in-between each layer and water it well. Let it sit for a few days, then plant your seeds or little plants. And try not to over plant. (If you need help with re-building your bed or anything else, give us a call.)

We recently ate the last spaghetti squash that Beth J gave us from her garden plot. We have found a couple of good recipes, other than putting marinara sauce on it. We also have an easy way to cook the squash. We would love to share all of this with you. Just let us know.

Happy Growing,

Lorra and Gordon – lalmstedt@gmail.com or 714-525-5578

March 2021

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

This Month's Happenings

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

Mondays at 7 p.m.

Tuesdays at 10 a.m.

Saturdays at 9 a.m.

Wednesday, March 3, 7pm

Thursday, March 11, 5 pm

Friday, March 26, 6:30 pm

Sunday, March 28

Evening Bible Study on Zoom

Women's Bible Study on Zoom

Men's Bible Study on Zoom

Taizé on Zoom

Early Birds Cocktail Hour on Zoom

Movie Night on Zoom

Palm Sunday

PLEASE HELP US OUT!

DO YOU STILL WANT "THE EPISTLE" IN PAPER FORM? OUR NEW PRINTING COMPANY WILL MAKE AN ELECTRONIC VERSION AVAILABLE TO ANYONE WHO WOULD PREFER ONE. IF YOU WOULD LIKE THE ELECTRONIC "EPISTLE," PLEASE SEND AN EMAIL TO office@emmanuelfullerton.org, AND WE WILL SWITCH YOU OVER IN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS.

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