



The Emmanuel Epistle

Learn, Love, Serve

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Sunday Worship Service 10 am on Zoom*

Gratitude

My physical body. Good health. Cooler weather. Roxie, my feisty, playful and cuddly dog. My mom and her health. My kids making their way in the world. The priesthood and that I get paid to do stuff like this. Woo hoo! For the many stories I get to listen to over the course of a week. For the Book of Common Prayer and all the prayers and services that guide us in our walk with Jesus and strengthen our relationship with God. God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit. Stuart and his very good brain and emotional support. A roof over my head, food in the fridge, and the ability to pay all my bills. My car that gets me where I'm going. Yoga. Walks in the Park. Hikes and tennis with Emmanuel friends. Coffee in the park with parishioners. The new people who drop into Emmanuel and stay. The wisdom of our Bishops. The love and friendships of my priest colleagues. The vestry and all they do in leadership at Emmanuel. Those who have shown up in the office week after week since COVID. All the people who worked to clean out and refresh Edwards Hall. All who have worked in the garden over the last 8 months, making compost and growing and distributing food to those who don't have enough, including one who drives to Fullerton from El Monte, to help make the Hub Garden happen. Books. Spiritual and wisdom teachers. Huntington Beach dog beach. Those who stand up for freedom and equality...

I could go on, but you get the point. Research has shown that keeping a gratitude journal, or incorporating a gratitude practice into your daily life can lead to "more intimate and connected relationships, less depression, more motivation and engagement and better overall mental well-being."*

What are you grateful for?

In love, peace and gratitude, Rev. Holly+

* <https://healthmatters.nyp.org/is-gratitude-good-for-your-health/>



An Important Message from Your Treasurer

Our Operating Fund had net income in September of \$2,284.57. Year to Date, donations to the Operating Fund (General Tithes and Offerings) are up about \$2,000 over 2019. As of September 30th, our Operating Fund is still running at a deficit of \$21,859.46. Last year at this time the deficit was \$34,944.89. October and November will be tough because our we will have to make our quarterly property and liability insurance payment of \$5,600.

We very much appreciate your continued financial support during this challenging time. Please continue to donate by mailing checks to the church, dropping off checks or cash in the mailbox near the church office door, 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.

Blessings!

Dave Dunlap, Treasurer
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Episcopal Social Enterprise Academy Update

A few months ago, Emmanuel was given the opportunity to participate in the Episcopal Social Enterprise Academy. The objective was to find ways to serve the community AND supplement our budget through the development of a project which fits our mission and vision as a church. A small group of parishioners and Holly have attended seven 3-hour sessions, most on Saturday mornings. They explored various options ranging from renting out our spaces to helping community college students experiencing housing insecurity to recovery programs. These are all long-range options, not something which will happen tomorrow. At this moment, after much discussion, the project which looks most promising is to reopen our preschool as a "green," nature-focused preschool. We are blessed to have a consultant on this, Chris Becerra, who is also our parishioner. Plans for surveys and discussions with various stakeholders are in

the works. The group will keep you informed about the outcomes as the months progress. Any questions should be directed to Holly.

Why Emmanuel? *Sharing Our Stories*

Beverly Simmons is a cradle Episcopalian; born into the faith, she has never wandered far. Her path to Emmanuel came about one Easter morning nearly fifty years ago. With three busy adolescents, her family, like many, had drifted away from regular church attendance, but it was Easter, and she dragged the kids out of bed for an 8:00 am service at Saint Andrew's. A teenage son had friends at East Side Christian, so she decided to attend the 9:30 service with him. Afterwards, however, Bev reported that she still didn't feel like she'd experienced Easter. Emmanuel had recently moved from the YMCA into their present church home. Bev, alone this time, attended the 11:00 service. Afterwards, she rushed in the front door elated, crying "I've found the Holy Spirit! He's alive and well and he lives at Emmanuel Church!"

That was the beginning of Bev's and her family's long and deep involvement at Emmanuel. When her first husband, Peter, died, Bev designed and donated the window in the Children's Chapel. The rock was for Peter's New Testament namesake, Simon Peter, the rock of salvation, and the tree was in honor of her husband's degree in forestry and his love of nature.

Bev's career in teaching eventually led her to her second husband, Bill. Bev had always loved the arts, and when she was offered a post teaching 4th and 5th grade GATE students at Acacia Elementary, she forgot about her planned retirement from Rolling Hills and excitedly took up the new challenge. In an effort to create a bond with the new teachers, Bev was assigned a secret pal. In answer to the question, "What do you most want?", she responded, "A man." It turned out that her unknown secret pal had just the man in mind: Bill was a widower with grown children, a Roman Catholic, and the Dean of Non-Curricular Programs at Pasadena College. Their first date was a hard-hat required tour of the newly constructed Segerstrom Center.

Bev believes that the Holy Spirit brought Bill into her life. They had fifteen wonderful years together, marrying at Saint Paul's Inside The Wall, the "American" church in Rome (which required dealing with Italy's infamous civil service, a week's worth of paperwork, a translator, and the drumming up of witnesses), followed by a honeymoon of trailer camping all over Europe. After Bill's death and with MoLyn's assistance, the elements table in the church was found and donated in his honor.

No one passes through this life unscathed. When Peter died quite young and unexpectedly, Bev was alone for the first time and overcome with grief. When she came home from school

each afternoon, she would begin drinking, and this was the pattern until one evening when one of her sons, Guy, and his wife showed up unexpectedly and found her clearly inebriated. Guy handed Bev the card he'd brought, then they turned around and departed without a word. Inside, he had hand written the serenity prayer. Bev determined that she would stop drinking, and while she attended AA meetings, she remains certain that the Holy Spirit was with her all the way.

The Growing Connection

"I believe that there is a subtle magnetism in Nature, which, if we unconsciously yield to it, will direct us aright."

--Henry David Thoreau

The summer growing season is coming to a close. The nights are cooler and the days shorter. Plants are preparing to rest for the winter. We are cleaning up our beds and harvesting the last of our produce. We had a workday on October 10th to do the clean-up. We didn't get everything done but by the time you read this the beds should be clean; some will be planted with many of the vegetables we can grow in fall and winter because of our wonderful Mediterranean climate. If you would like a list of plants we can grow now, contact me and I will send you the list.

I have been talking about Gordon's fava beans, broad beans in true English. Well, I have been lying to you, we have had no beans. I don't understand why. They came up and grew beautifully. They flowered their lovely little white flowers. But the beans never appeared – not even one. A couple of the plants had some black aphids (I sprayed with soapy water). But that's it. We have grown fava beans before with great success. A puzzle.

We have joined the Temecula Valley Small Wine Growers Association and are learning a lot. We will be taking samples of our vines to Temecula on October 26th for testing. This testing is being done through the association. We have also attended a couple of Zoom meetings through this group. The one last week was about what to do for your vines in winter. Among the suggestions was to grow a cover crop between the rows and how to fertilize the vines. Gordon has always believed that grape vines do not need fertilizing, apparently that thought may be wrong. One way to fertilize and improve your soil is to grow a cover crop. This excited me. Before we planted the vineyard, we visited vineyards in New Zealand. One vineyard really caught my eye because they were growing California Poppies between their rows. Maybe I was a little homesick at this point (we had been traveling for 5 weeks) but the poppies thrilled me. I have wanted to do this since we planted the vines. Maybe this is the year.

We had our first covid-19 Plant Sale on Saturday, October 10th. We were social distancing and wearing our masks. We sat up in the parking lot and had a steady stream of customers. We have a customer base and they proved themselves to be loyal. If you are looking for something interesting to add to your plant collection contact either me or Charley. We both grow/propagate plants for the sale. Charley starts vegetable seeds and unusual landscape plants and I do mostly succulents and begonias. Now that I am not as mobile as I was or want to be, I am hoping to try my hand at growing from seed.

Two exciting things happened at the Plant Sale. The first was a plant I sold. Gordon did not like this plant and was convinced that no one would want to buy it. My neighbor gave me a cutting many years ago. I never cared for it much, it was too unruly for my tastes. I grew it back in a corner under the palm trees. It's an unusual epiphyllum (the same family as the Christmas cactus), the flowers are not as spectacular as other epis, but this one has a significant trait. It blooms large cream-colored flowers at night – usually between midnight and dawn. Its common name is night blooming cereus. I think it was the first plant we sold – and I priced it too low. Gordon couldn't believe it.

The second exciting thing that happened – we have new gardeners, Melissa and Alicia. They are young teachers – 2nd grade and music. They have taken bed number 19 and we are delighted to have them join us.

We seem to have active gophers in the garden again. I knew there were gophers in the area when we started the garden, but I was naive and ignored them. In about the second year they became a problem. They had new feeding grounds and the takings were tasty. We tried all the home remedies we heard about without success. In the end we hired a company to come in and take care of the problem – each gardener pitched in and paid for one month. Our 'man' was wonderful; he always came at the same time so I could meet with him and he would come any time I called him. In fact, we would probably still have him except he unexpectedly passed away. We never got rid of the gophers completely, but they were under control. We may have to bring in the big guns again.

Let us know if you have any questions.

Happy Growing,
Lorra and Gordon

November 2020

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

This Month's Happenings

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, November 4, 7pm
Thursday, November 12, 5 pm
Friday, November 27, 6:30 pm

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

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