



The Emmanuel Epistle

Learn, Love, Serve

Volume 27, Issue 9

September 2021

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Rector: Rev. Holly Cardone

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Sunday Worship Service TBD

Trust and Community

Last month we had our first church town hall meeting. What a gift it was to be with you on this journey of change and growth. I heard from many of those who attended. They were so grateful for the time and space to share their thoughts and feelings. Senior Warden Loren Maxwell set the tone for the meeting with his gifts for pastoral care by creating a safe space with his calm presence.

It is no small feat to have 45 people in a room who have different perspectives and feelings come away from a meeting like that feeling like they were heard and seen. This is one of the ways Christ is calling us to be in community with one another, in relationship with one another. This is how feelings of connection and belonging are deepened. We don't need to agree with everything others say and we don't need to know exactly what's going to happen next. Being open and vulnerable with each other builds trust. Trust in each other, in the people who hold positions of leadership in the church, and trust in the Holy Spirit that we will continue to be guided by her wisdom. Thank you for being you and sharing yourselves with us!

Blessings,
Rev. Holly+

SAVE THE DATE! SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11 AT 2PM
REV. HOLLY'S INSTITUTION CELEBRATION

Senior Warden's Corner

Loren Maxwell, Senior Warden

By the time that you receive this Epistle, we will only be days away from Rev. Holly's Institution. We are looking forward to a time of celebration on this joyous occasion. If you wish to honor Rev. Holly with a gift and haven't yet done so, there are four areas where we are still receiving contributions: flowers for both the service and the reception, music for both, the catering cost of the reception, and Rev. Holly's discretionary fund. Envelopes for contributions have been included in the bulletin for the past several weeks. If you do not have an envelope you can contribute by check and designate on the memo line where you want the monies to go.

There are several changes that have been taking place on the campus over the past eighteen months. All four of the buildings have undergone some form of refurbishing and in some cases repurposing. Perhaps the most noticeable and somewhat controversial has been the changes to the sanctuary in conjunction with our recent lease with EKKO Church. Some feel that our worship space has been violated; some embrace the change; and to others it does not make a difference. I appreciate all of you who have come to me privately with your concerns and comments, as well as those of you who expressed your feelings at the town hall meeting. The Rector and the Vestry will be discussing your concerns and working on solutions that enhance the worship experience for both congregations. Your prayers for God's wisdom and the Spirit's guidance are much appreciated.

Junior Warden's Corner

Howard Minkley

In the August issue of the Epistle, I began listing all the work that has been done since January 2019 so that you know how much change has taken place. That list continues in this, the September issue. Next month, I will detail what still has to be done.

Many of you were not on the church property during the long months of the pandemic. And some of you have not been able to come back yet. These renovations have been funded mostly by private donations, with a small contribution from the church's capital

fund. We did not have to take out loans. Please ask for a tour of our renovated buildings. You'll be amazed!

Good Shepherd Building/Discovery Gardens Building

- Interior redesigned to accommodate the new Discovery Gardens Early Learning Center: two walls removed to create a large center classroom
- New tile plank flooring
- Water damage addressed and beams, studs, and drywall repaired
- New dual pane energy-efficient windows
- Interior and exterior, fascia boards and roof flashing painted
- New security system installed and entry door rekeyed
- Beautiful new fencing installed around the Discovery Gardens playground

Sanctuary / Sacristy

- Street side (south side) of the building repainted and damaged and leaking gutters replaced
- New locks installed on all doors
- Red doors repainted
- Church pews refinished
- Memorial garden renovated: removal of overgrown shrubs, new lattice fencing, new rose bushes, trees and vines. Watering system and path added.

Garden

- Vineyard replanted with about 135 disease resistant vines.
- St. Francis garden upgraded (Project donated by Josh Oates for an Eagle Scout project).
- Children's garden for the new Early Learning Center reimagined
- Asphalt removed from playground and replaced with Outdoor Education project areas
- Community Garden planting beds and compost beds upgraded.
- Five large trees removed because of age and dry rot



An Important Message from Your Treasurer

Operating income for June was \$17,842.48 while expenses were \$26,074.36. This means we had a net operating fund loss of \$8,231.88 for the month. Year to date, the Operating Fund has a deficit of \$27,961.42. Last year at this point the deficit was \$43,254.29. Giving from the congregation so far this year is \$124,949 which is down significantly from last year which was \$137,832 at the same point in time.

We had expenses in July of about \$5,300.00 related to the reopening of the Emmanuel Environmental Early Learning Center (EEELC) to cover the salary of the new Director (plus about another \$1500 for related taxes, etc.) With the Early Learning Center opening in mid-August, the need for the Church to support the Early Learning Center should be coming to an end.

Our new playground fencing has been installed and it looks great! There's a little work left to do but that should be done well before you receive this newsletter. We're still about \$3,500 short of having enough donations to fund it so we could really use your help

to cover the remaining amount. If you'd like to help, please note "Playground Fence" on your check or make an eGiving online donation to the Preschool and send me an email to let me know that it's for the playground fencing project.

With much gratitude for your prayers and support!

Blessings!

Dave Dunlap, Treasurer

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Emmanuel Baptism Stories from Children

In 1995, 2-year-old Nicholas was in church when Fr. Paul was preaching. After the service, he disappeared in a crowd of people, dodging between the legs of the parishioners. He pulled on Fr. Paul's vestments, and said, "I want to be a part of my God!" His father had said that he didn't want to push Nick into religion, but Nick really wanted to be baptized so his parents arranged for the baptism. He was still only 2 when he was baptized. Fr. Paul sprinkled water on him and picked him up and did an airplane with him. Nick spread his arms and flew in the air, consumed with joy.

After Giselle was baptized, she took her cross from around her neck. She went all around the church, putting the cross around people's necks. She told them, "Put this on. It will make you happy!"

September 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 7:00 PM Taizé Service	2 7:00 PM EKKO Church	3	4 9:00 AM Men's Bible Study
5 Sunday Service in Sanctuary and online. Time TBD 2:30 PM EKKO Church	6 Labor Day	7	8	9 6:30 PM Early Birds 7:00 PM EKKO Church	10 7:00 PM EKKO Church	11 9:00 AM Men's Bible Study 2:00 PM Rev. Holly's Institution!!
12 Sunday Service in Sanctuary and online. Time TBD 2:30 PM EKKO Church	13 7:00 PM Evening Bible Study	14 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study	15 6:30 PM Vestry	16 7:00 PM EKKO Church	17 7:00 PM EKKO Church	18 9:00 AM Men's Bible Study 9:00 AM Plant Sale and Garden Work Day
19 Sunday Service in Sanctuary and online. Time TBD 2:30 PM EKKO Church	20 7:00 PM Evening Bible Study	21 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study	22	23 7:00 PM EKKO Church	24 6:30 PM Movie night 7:00 PM EKKO Church	25 9:00 AM Men's Bible Study
26 Sunday Service in Sanctuary and online. Time TBD 2:30 PM EKKO Church	27 7:00 PM Evening Bible Study	28 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study	29	30 7:00 PM EKKO Church		

This Month's Happenings

We returned to services in the Sanctuary at 9 am on May 23. Services are also online.

Mondays at 7 p.m.

Tuesdays at 10 a.m.

Saturdays at 9 a.m.

Evening Bible Study begins September 13

Women's Bible Study begins September 14

Men's Bible Study

Wednesday, September 1, 7pm

Thursday, September 9, 6:30pm

Saturday, September 11, 2pm

Saturday, September 18, 9-12

Friday, September 24, 6:30 pm

Taizé

Early Birds

Rev. Holly's Institution Ceremony

Plant Sale and Garden Work Day

Movie Night

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