

The Emmanuel Epistle

Learn, Love, Serve

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Emmanuel Episcopal Church

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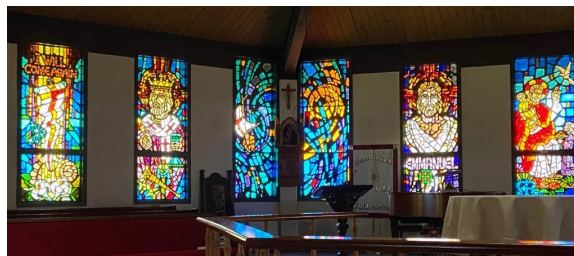
Sunday Worship Service at 9 a.m.

Thank you, God for everything.

Happy Anniversary, Emmanuel.

Every change and transition is challenging. On June 2, 2019, as I embraced my first year as rector of Emmanuel, I never expected that we would go through a pandemic, a racial reckoning that would fundamentally change the way I saw myself, the world, how I moved through the world as a white person, and what I believed the church's role to be in promoting inclusion and equality in the world. An insane political climate that culminated in the January 6, 2020 insurrection, and that my constitutional right to privacy regarding the choices I make about my body and my health as a woman would be demolished in my lifetime, with no regard to the inherent worth and dignity of women everywhere. I knew the change and transition for the people of Emmanuel would be challenging because of how long Fr. Rob and Mo. Lyn had been at Emmanuel, but no one could have predicted the changes we have lived through these past 3 years. Thank you, God for everything.

(Continued)



I couldn't have predicted the tears shed by someone when they came up to me after my sermon last 4th of July when I talked about the Pride Rainbow flag as a symbol of inclusion. They have two grandchildren, they said, who are gay. I couldn't have predicted the text messages after Sunday worship conveying thanks for saying something that touched them, or made them see the Gospel in a different way, or how much one of the books we've read over the last 3 years changed the way they experience the Bible. Thank you, God, for everything.

Somewhere along my spiritual journey, in the mid 90's, a wise woman suggested that I thank God for everything. Not just the good stuff, not just the blessings and gifts entrusted to me during this lifetime, but all the stuff that happens that I judge as terrible, awful, and painful. It's all a lesson in honesty, hope, surrender, courage, integrity, willingness, humility, love, responsibility, discipline, awareness and service. It's all a lesson in how much God loves us, and our potential to love God, ourselves and others right back.

Happy Anniversary, Emmanuel. I love you.

Thank you, God, for everything.

Love and Blessings, Rev. Holly

This Month's Happenings

Mondays at 7 pm	Evening Bible Study
Tuesdays at 10 am	Women's Bible Study
Saturdays at 9 am	Men's Bible Study
Wednesday, June 1 at 7 pm	Taizé Service
Wednesday, June 8 at 7 pm	Healing Service
Sunday, June 26 at 4 pm	New Wine Release

Senior Warden's Corner
"Hello Spring"

By Marian Corral

Spring has come with all its splendor, all its birds, blossoms, and its blessings. In the spring hope blooms. Spring is also the time for plans and projects. Spring is a lovely reminder of how beautiful change can be. The best time for new beginnings is now.

There are many new ways and opportunities for Emmanuel to walk in love and serve the Lord in our local community. Sharing some of our many blessings with our brothers and sisters in need is one of the best ways you can express your faith. Knowing that you've been able to help someone is the greatest reward.

As we find ways to bring God's love into our community, even small gestures can mean a great deal. Honoring God with our words and actions can inspire someone to do the same.

We sometimes need to choose to say "no" to many things we could do in favor of doing the one thing that we are called to do:

What are we about in this congregation?

What is the Holy Spirit calling us to do?

I ask that you please pray and reflect on this.

I look forward to hearing your thoughts and suggestions.

Many blessings,

Marian Corral

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From Your Treasurer

by Kimberly Nordstrom

Summer is around the corner and we are beginning to plan our summer vacations. It may be a small weekend getaway, or a staycation. Living in Orange County there are so many activities to take advantage of close to home. Or maybe that long vacation that you have had to put off for the past few years can finally be taken. Having something to plan and look forward to is very important.

We have all had to give up so much, looking forward to a getaway gives us a boost of excitement and something to help get us through difficult times. Whatever your vacation looks like, start planning! And while you are in the planning mode, please remember to make arrangements for your donation to the church as well. It is your support that keeps our beautiful church and community thriving.

Thank you for your continued support of Emmanuel Episcopal Church, we have an amazingly generous community that I am so thankful for.

Peace be with you!

Kimberly Nordstrom

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The SoCal Garden Connection

By Lorra Dickinson

“No dig” gardening was the way we decided to go in building our garden because it was important that our gardeners were successful.

We had numerous other decisions to make. How were we going to get rid of the weeds and the seedling trees? Our piece of land sloped to the north (back) and to the west – much more than we realized. Would we need to grade the property? Would we need retaining walls? Moving soil is hard work. How were we going to lay out the water lines? Digging trenches is hard work. Did we want or need electricity to the site? We also wanted compost bins, a fence around the property, a children's garden, fruit trees. The list became longer and longer. We did not have money for any of these projects! What were we going to do? We prayed, and one by one these challenges became doable.

I contacted an arborist that I knew. He offered to have his crew clear the property for us. Shortly thereafter I received a call from a longtime friend that I had not heard from in years. I first met Kathryn at a nursery when she was in college. She is now a very successful landscape architect. We made an exchange and, using her training, she drew a design for the garden. We now knew where we needed the retaining walls. One of our parishioner's son-in-law knew how to operate a back hoe. We borrowed one from a neighbor down the street and the levels of the garden were in place.

Gordon was still working. He made an appointment for us to visit the owner of his company. When we met with Steve, he was impressed with our plan, what we had accomplished, and what we wanted to do. He offered us in-kind donations for the garden, and within a few of months, we had retaining walls, electricity, and trenches for our watering lines. Another one of our parishioners designed the watering system – a rather complicated maze. We had received donations for the purchase of the pipe for the watering lines.

A former parishioner's grandson was working on his Eagle Scout badge and choose as his project the building of the beds that make up the wagon wheel and teepee in the children's garden. Early on in our planning/building stage we began to put down wood chips (donated by tree trimmers) on the walkways to keep our feet out of the clay soil and to keep the weeds down.

At about this time a young man named Tony came to work with us. He built the main entrance beds where we grow the amazing iceberg roses and blueberries. I wanted to define some of the other areas of the garden using broken concrete to define the lesser beds. These kinds of walls are known in the trade as bric-a-brac walls. Gordon was not in favor of this because he thought it would look ugly, and besides where would we find the broken concrete? As if by magic some concrete appeared.

I started laying out the herb garden, the cutting garden, the rose garden, a sunflower garden, a milkweed garden for Monarch butterflies, and the Biblical Garden around the labyrinth (not yet planted), and a few other areas. It looked good, defined the beds, and Gordon agreed.

We were well on our way to building an excellent community garden. Our beds were producing beautiful harvests, our gardeners were happy, the major work of building the garden was accomplished. At this point we were about 6 years into the project. From now on it was all frosting on the cake.



We had always said that we were building a garden for God. And, God agreed. He blessed the Emmanuel Community Demonstration Garden far more than we had dared to hope.

Blessings for you and your garden,
Lorra

It's time to CELEBRATE!

On June 26 we will have a **Wine Release** party!

We will meet under the pergola to share —
♥ wine ♥ cheese ♥ crackers ♥ fruit ♥
and good conversation!

Be sure to invite everyone you know —
the more the merrier!



Garden Photos



Grading in Progress



We Had a Lot of Help Moving Dirt



Retaining Walls Were Built



Our Raised Beds Were Built



Our Gardens Flourished



The Produce Was Abundant

Emmanuel Calendar for June 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 7:00 PM Taizé Service	2 7:00 - 11:00 PM EKKO Church	3 7:00 - 11:00 PM EKKO Church	4 9:00 - 10:00 AM Men's Bible Study
5 9:00 - 10:30 AM Emmanuel Sunday Service 2:00 - 8:30 PM EKKO Church (Whole Campus)	6 7:00 - 8:30 PM Evening Bible Study	7 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study	8 7:00 - 8:30 PM Healing Service	9 7:00 - 11:00 PM EKKO Church	10 7:00 - 11:00 PM EKKO Church	11 9:00 - 10:00 AM Men's Bible Study
12 9:00 - 10:30 AM Emmanuel Sunday Service 2:00 - 8:30 PM EKKO Church (Whole Campus)	13 7:00 - 8:30 PM Evening Bible Study	14 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study	15 6:30 PM Vestry	16 7:00 - 11:00 PM EKKO Church	17 7:00 - 11:00 PM EKKO Church	18 9:00 - 10:00 AM Men's Bible Study 9:00 AM – Noon Plant Sale and Garden Work Day 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM EKKO Church. Recess (Respite Ministry for Special Needs Families)
19 9:00 - 10:30 AM Emmanuel Sunday Service 2:00 - 8:30 PM EKKO Church (Whole Campus)	20 7:00 - 8:30 PM Evening Bible Study	21 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study	22	23 7:00 - 11:00 PM EKKO Church	24 7:00 - 11:00 PM EKKO Church	25 9:00 - 10:00 AM Men's Bible Study
26 9:00 - 10:30 AM Emmanuel Sunday Service 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM Daughters of the King Meeting 4:00 PM New Wine Release! 2:00 PM - 8:30 PM EKKO Church (Whole Campus)	27 7:00 - 8:30 PM Evening Bible Study	28 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study	29	30 7:00 - 11:00 PM EKKO Church		