



Glad Tidings



Emmanuel Episcopal Church

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December 2021

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FROM OUR SENIOR WARDEN

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Advent is upon us! A time of reflection and anticipation. Already swept up in the hubbub of Thanksgiving, Black Friday, locating ornaments and stowed-away lights, worrying about appropriate gifts, this missive is MY opportunity to take a deep breath and remember what this season is really all about.

God sent his Son in the form and substance of humanity, with all the joys and travails of life. And He did it in the most unobtrusive way - to a young woman, in a cowshed, in a conquered country. God was reaching out to us to tell us how much He loves us. When I allow myself, I am in awe of this gentle love shown through the birth of a child.

May this season be for you one of adoration at the wonders of our Lord!

Todd Blomerth
Senior Warden

THIS MONTH'S EVENTS

- December 12 – Vestry Meeting
- December 23-27 – Office closed
- December 24 – Sing a long at 5:30pm
- December 24 – Christmas Eve Service at 6:00pm
- December 25 – Christmas Day Service at 10:30 – Blessing of the Toys

Wednesdays 10:30 – 12:00 Lockhart Ministerial Alliance

Worship/Fellowship Opportunities:

Sunday

- 08:30 – Holy Eucharist Rite II - - Lots of room for social distancing!!
- 09:30 – Sunday School, classes for adults and children
- 10:30 – Holy Eucharist Rite II
- 6:00pm - Wednesday Night service followed by potluck supper

Monday/Wednesday/Friday

- 08:00 – Morning Prayer on Zoom



FROM OUR PARISH PRIEST

Dear Emmanuel Family –

Happy New Year

On Nov 28th – the first Sunday of Advent the church entered a NEW YEAR! My prayer for this new year is a renewed excitement for the ministries of Emmanuel that have been shut down during the pandemic. Out of our great Love for our Lord who has walked with us through the valley and continues to walk with us daily, we will renew our strength and get busy walking the Way of Love and bringing others to walk with us. ***Let's DO this!!!***

Attached is a “ministry” sheet. Ministries we have, and ministries I would like to see... Please look them over and see where you might like to offer your time and talents to God. If you have ideas for other ministries – **PLEASE** let me know! Your vestry and I will be working on a budget this month based on the pledges that have come in – if we need funds for a new ministry - - we need to know NOW!! And if you have not turned in your pledge... please do so quickly! The more we receive – the more we can DO!!

Our Advent Great Give is in full swing. Please see the attached flyer for ways you can support those we are remembering this season.

Our Wednesday evening prayer and potluck starts December 1st.... (Or should have started, by the time you get this!). Our plan is to have a short evening prayer in the sanctuary at 6 PM followed by potluck meal and fellowship. Please join us!! On December 22nd (Wednesday) we can all help the Altar Guild with the “greening of the Church” to get ready for Christmas service.

CHRISTMAS.....

Christmas Eve – One service only at 6 PM. Christmas Carol sing along starting at 5:30. We will have a “telling of the Christmas story” assisted by the children who will set up our Nativity... **ALL** children are welcome to participate – no rehearsal or costumes needed!! We will end the service with a candlelight “Silent Night”.

Christmas Day – One service at 10:30 – short with a “blessing of the toys” children young and old are encouraged to bring “toys” to be blessed!

Sunday the 26th – We will return to our normal Sunday Schedule...whew....

Coming in January..... Remember the Open House at the Rectory on Jan 1 from 2-5! Come enjoy some fellowship and refreshments!! 900 Campbell St.

Jan 9th – ANNUAL PARISH MEETING after the service, with potluck and a bit of business. We will elect new vestry members and delegates to Council, get reports on 2021 from our Treasurer, Sr. Warden and Rector.

And then, we can all take a nap!

Blessings!!!!
Mother Karen+

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

01 Bobby Garcia	01 Devin Garcia	01 Arizel Rubio
05 Julie Michie	06 Todd Blomerth	08 Joshua Peyton-Mohle
10 James Dalton	10 Ashlee Kenney	10 Alice Romberg
16 Mariah Flores	16 Melodie Ramirez	17 William Neukam
18 Nathaniel VanHouten	19 Aaron Schuelke	20 Donna & Ricky Smith
21 Marcia/Arnold Proctor Jr	22 Jade Jacobson	28 Jacqueline King
29 Mattie Polaskey	31 Levi Putman	

Other Ministries

Lunch Ladies – group of women that provide a meal for parishioners that have had surgery or are ill.

Sunday School teachers – provide lessons to different age groups – curriculum must be approved by Rector. We use “Godly Play” curriculum for the youngest children. We now have older (elementary, middle and high school age) kids that do not currently have a class/teacher.

Greeters/Ushers – Sunday morning (10:30) serve to hand out service sheets, greet folks, and especially notice new folks and alert Rector. If the congregation is large, assist (especially new folks) in finding seating for everyone.

Lectors – Read the Scripture lessons appointed for the day. Vesting not required

Lay Eucharistic Minister – Serve at the Altar with Rector. Primary responsibility is to administer the chalice (wine) during communion and lead the Nicene Creed and Prayers of the People.

Right now they also assist with acolyte duties until we can resume having acolytes again (carrying the cross in procession, ringing the Sanctus bells, accepting the gifts (bread wine and collection plates).

Altar Guild – Prepare the Lord’s table for Eucharist services, care for the vessels, linens and hangings used in the Sanctuary; change hanging colors as appropriate for the season. Maintain supplies (wine, wafers, candle oil, votive candles, etc.) Work with Rector to prepare sanctuary for special services (Easter, Christmas, Baptisms, Funerals, Etc.) Work with a team assigned on a rotating basis.

Ministries that I would like to have – but we don’t right now –

Church Historian – Help organize the documents that we do have on the history of the church. Document special occasions – Baptisms, Confirmations, Ministries with short descriptions and pictures as part of our history.

Web master – Someone with skills to update our Web page, post current events, monitor comments or requests that come in through the web site and coordinate with Rector to respond if necessary.

Prayer shawl ministry – Making prayer shawls to be blessed and given to those that are ill or having surgery. Crochet, Knit, Quilt – whatever....

Homebound ministry – willing to keep in touch with those in our parish that are homebound or cannot attend services. Make regular calls, visit occasionally, take the Altar flowers to them....



Merry Christmas from Laurie Bell, The Rev. Tom & Martha Bruns, The Rev. Karen Morris, Leslie Sanchez, Lala Yanez.

Emmanuel's Big Advent Give!!

Sundays in Advent from 9:30 to 10:20 in the Parish Hall

Advent is the first season of the new Church Year. In response to all that God has blessed us with, especially for the gift of the Christ child we celebrate at Christmas, let us bless others by giving!

Sunday, November 28th – 1st Sunday of Advent

We will decorate cookies for our heroes working the night shift at the hospital. While the rest of the world sleeps, these angels take care of the sick and injured. They have given their all in the last 2 years. Let us say "Thank You"!

We have the cookies and icing! – Bring "sprinkles" or other edible decorating items.

Sunday December 5th – 2nd Sunday of Advent

We will decorate cards and prepare gifts for our beloved elders that live at an Assisted Living facility. We will color cards and write notes in them to go to each resident with the gift bag.

Sunday December 12th – 3^d Sunday of Advent

We will gather items for the Food Bank clients – things that they do not generally get but need. **Items requested: Toothpaste, deodorant, hand lotion, chocolates, snacks like granola bars, cheese crackers, etc.** The Food Bank serves about 200 clients a week.... I have about 85 bags, we will fill as many as we can. If you would rather donate money for this project, we can do the shopping for you!

Sunday December 19th – 4th Sunday of Advent

We will gather a basket full of snacks to take to one of our Fire stations for our Super Hero Firefighters. **Items needed – anything you think a firefighter might like to snack on!!!**

And we will not forget our **Fur Friends!** We will collect items for the animal shelter, I will get a list of items needed and let you know.

Starting this Sunday – there will be a place for your donations in the Parish Hall. **Thank you for GIVING in this season when we receive so much!**

Merry Christmas



And she gave birth to her first-born son and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. And in that region, there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. And the angel said to them,

"Be not afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a babe wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men with whom he is pleased!"



KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS *“The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.” James 5:16*

Updates and new prayer requests will be sent out by email. If you have any corrections, please contact the office.

Anglican Prayer List: The Diocese of Ife East (The Church of Nigeria); The Diocese of Ifo (The Church of Nigeria); The Diocese of Igbomina (The Church of Nigeria); The Diocese of Igbomina - West (The Church of Nigeria); The Anglican Church of Burundi; The Diocese of Ihiala – The Church of Nigeria; The Diocese of Ijebu – The Church of Nigeria; The Diocese of Ijebu - North – The Church of Nigeria; The Diocese of Ijebu South West – The Church of Nigeria; The Diocese of Ijesa North East – The Church of Nigeria; The Missionary Diocese of Ijesha North – The Church of Nigeria; The Anglican Church of Canada; The Diocese of Ijumu – The Church of Nigeria; The Diocese of Ikara – The Church of Nigeria; The Diocese of Ikeduru – The Church of Nigeria; The Diocese of Ikka – The Church of Nigeria; The Diocese of Ikwerre – The Church of Nigeria; The Diocese of Ikwo – The Church of Nigeria; The Church of the Province of Central Africa; The Diocese of Ikwano – The Church of Nigeria; The Diocese of Ilaje – The Church of Nigeria; The Diocese of Ile - Oluji – The Church of Nigeria; The Diocese of Ilesa – The Church of Nigeria; The Diocese of Ilesa South West – The Church of Nigeria; The Diocese of North East India – The (united) Church of North India; Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de America; The Diocese of Northern Indiana; The Diocese of Indianapolis; The Diocese of Iowa; The Diocese of Iran – The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem & The Middle East; The Diocese of Irele - Eseodo – The Church of Nigeria; and the Episcopal Diocese of West Texas.

Diocesan Prayer List: St. Nicholas, Bulverde; and Church of the Advent, Alice; Church of the Annunciation, Luling; and Grace Church, Port Lavaca; St. Thomas’, San Antonio; Church of the Messiah, Gonzales; St. Stephen’s, Wimberley; and St. Stephen’s, San Antonio; and Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Lockhart.

Ministries: The Missionary Society of San Miguel; Jeanne Loving in Honduras; for Christian Education, Kairos, Love for the Least; Sisters of St. Margaret;

Healing: Clare Brice, Fr. Tom; Keith C; Maridean Stautzenberger,

Those in the Armed Forces & their families: Jake F; Ty H; Tyler Thomas R;

Other Needs: Rob; John & family; for our church family; for all celebrating special days this month; for our nation; for the persecuted church; for all those who put themselves in harm’s way in service of their fellowman; for the Girl Scout Troops that meet at Emmanuel, for teachers and those who work in education, students

WOULD YOU LIKE TO RECEIVE THE NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL?

If you would like to receive the monthly newsletter by email, just send an email to the church and you will be added to the list.

MISSION STATEMENT

“It is our mission to follow God’s commandments, to love God and our neighbors through worship, outreach, fellowship and community involvement.”