

Emmanuel Anglican Church

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“All life is a journey, not a home; it is a road, not the countries and those transient enjoyments which you have in this life, lawful in their way – those incidental and evanescent pleasures you may sip – are not home; they are little inns only upon the roadside of life, where you are refreshed for a moment, that you may take again the pilgrim-staff and journey on, seeking what is still before you – the rest that remaineth for the people of God.”
Anonymous, c 1855

Message from the Rector

The journey of Lent is one part of life's journey we embark on every year. Each year we hear the story of the people of God of the First Covenant – the poems of creation, an understanding of how sin came in the world, the covenant of God with Noah and Abraham, the wandering of the Jews in the wilderness and lessons learned, and the words of the prophets. The Second Covenant is filled with the teachings of Jesus and the people coming to new understandings of God. The challenge for us is how to apply those stories and teachings in our own daily lives.

One thing we can always be certain of is that humanity is always tempted to the world order in which they find themselves. Today we are also attracted to fame, power and greed. Lotteries entice us with the lure of



HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICE SCHEDULE

Sunday, March 25th, Sunday of Passion (Palm Sunday)

8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
Blessing of Palms, Procession,
Reading of the Passion

Tuesday, March 27th

7:00 p.m. Service of Tenebrae
This service will be sung by the
Cygnet quintet

Maundy Thursday, March 29th

7:00 p.m. Liturgy of the Lord's
Supper

Good Friday, March 30th

10.30 a.m. Liturgy of the Lord's
Passion

Easter Sunday, April 1st, Sunday of Resurrection

6:00 a.m. Sunrise Service with
Eucharist
(followed by breakfast)

8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m. Holy
Eucharist

huge win falls. A governing party either abhors or ignores oppositions rather than trying to work together. People with money lord their ability to get advantages over those who don't.

We shouldn't forget the trials we undergo, trying to curb our anger at others when we feel we have been wronged, or our desire to be better than someone who challenges us. We cannot or will not forgive those people too easily, if at all. Perhaps the hardest teaching of all is that God loves our enemies as much as God loves us. There are no sides taken, for all people are God's children and God waits for every one of us to come to the light. God's justice, it seems, is more focused on something different than our own ideas.

All of this requires more than one Lenten series of readings to understand. It requires a lifetime to learn to live. These readings are seen as directions, signposts upon which we can measure how much we have moved to the light, or how far we are in the dark. These are not easy reflections.

The readings of Lent are about discipleship – about finding our own way to be living examples of the God of love and compassion in the world to build the kingdom here on Earth.

From Lent we move to the story of the Passion of Christ when we learn out of love Christ willingly died to teach us that death is not the end to life, that there is more.

Finally, we are presented with the resurrection of Christ, a sign that the living God journeys with us as we continue our own lives' joys and struggles.

The Resurrection of Christ provides us with the hope and promise of a God who cares about us and our own individual needs.

As you travel on your own life journey, may you and your family experience the hope and joy of the Resurrection this year.

Reverend Cathy



From the Wardens

To our Emmanuel family we wish a very peaceful and joyful 2018; may you find true joy in the blessings of our Lord.

On February 4th a special parish council was held. Its purpose was to determine the will of the parish on the direction of our future financial stewardship.

The meeting consisted of two parts, the first a brief financial history of;

1. Where we are today?
2. Why we are where we are? and
3. Where do we seem to be going?

The second, as an open discussion, dealt with what can we do about it?

In the first part attendees received two documents, a summary narrative budget use the 2017 figure and hard copies of a power point presentation that presented historical data to illustrate the tree points above. In a very brief summary the information presented was as follows;

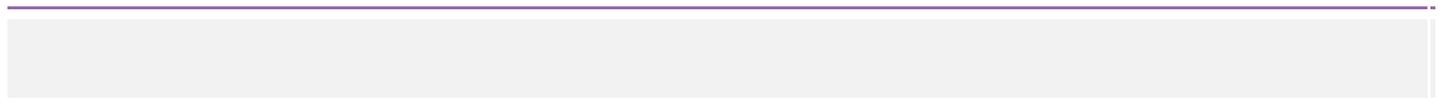
1. In 2017 to meet our commitments we have needed a near doubling in average giving's from 2005 to 2017 (\$753 to \$1,458), required extensive fundraising (\$7,787), a substantial contribution from the ACW (\$7,500), and an interest payment from the Consolidated Trust Fund of \$3,700
2. Why we have the need of additional monies to supplement our giving's is principally due to a decrease in identifiable givers from 160 in 2005 to 93 in 2017 even with the trend of a near flattening in the rise of expenditure since 2015
3. We appear to be heading in a direction where we will require ever greater amounts in addition to our offerings to meet our expenses if identifiable givers continue to decrease

A draft 2018 budget was presented provisionally showing a \$10,000 deficit with an explanation of the factors leading to this result. The principal factor was the assumption in the draft that offerings would not increase over those of 2017. The draft assumed similar contributions from the ACW, fundraising and the Consolidated Trust fund interest payment.

The second part was conducted as an open session to determine the will of the parish with respect to 'what can we do about it'. A number of thoughts and suggestions were put forward. These included ideas on increasing revenue, containing expenses, increasing attendance and scenarios for the future.

The thoughts, suggestions and ideas recorded during the meeting were;

1. How do/can we adjust to the drop in the number of identifiable givers
2. Hall Rentals how to increase?
 - a. Air condition Hall
 - b. Add a bar
3. What can we do to increase offerings in 2018
4. Associate with other parishes



5. Fundraising events that require less effort
6. We don't just have to support our church (nursing home, hospital, etc.)
7. A study on reasons for fewer numbers
8. Ask a neighbour to come to church
9. One service, all together in worship
10. Raffles 50/50 divided between Emmanuel & outreach

The way forward

- No magic bullet found
- Some sense that we would do what we could to increase offerings
- Explore opportunities to increase hall rental – air condition hall
- Explore fundraising activities that require less effort, i.e. fewer volunteer hours
- Make an effort to bring people to Sunday service –bring a neighbour
- Explore how association/cooperation with neighbouring parishes could reduce costs

The result was a balanced budget presented and approved at vestry. In preparation of this budget corporation had a choice between a deficit budget (an admission of defeat/failure) or constructing a balanced budget that showed a path to a successful result. We chose the latter. It will not be easily achieved. It will require a significant increase in giving's (\$10,000 or 7%), successful fundraising and again a generous contribution from the ACW.

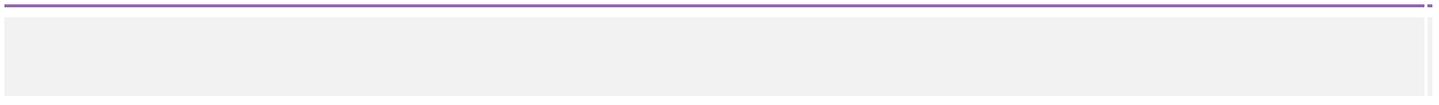
Following up on the ideas generated on February 4th Cec Goold and Geoff Booth are exploring the feasibility and cost of air conditioning the hall. Diane Bresson, Cec Goold and Rob Cross are looking at reasons for our declining attendance and ways of increasing it.

By the grace of God we are still a very healthy Church .We finished 2017 with a small deficit (\$105). In prayer and guidance we look forward to a prosperous 2018.

Thank you to the leaders and individuals who make Emmanuel what it is: the Alter guild, Readers, Intercessors, Lay assistants, Greeters, Servers, Anglican Church Women, Anglican Church Men, Organist, Secretary, Treasurer, Counters, Synod Members, PWRDF, Coffee Hour, Property Management and Maintenance, and those involved with the Refugee Committee who, without complaint and selfishness, offer their "time, talents and money". We hear the laughter and camaraderie of volunteers as they work at various functions and love to see the fellowship that goes on. We are truly a Church family. . We welcome anyone who wishes to become a new volunteer.

We are honored to serve Reverend Cathy and our Parish in 2018 and we thank her for her guidance, understanding and compassion

Wardens,
Geoff Barnes / Diane Bresson



Treasurer's Notes

2017 ended on a very positive note by being able to report that at year end the deficit which had been present most of the year had been almost eliminated. It is therefore with regret that we must inform you that at the end of February Emmanuel's operating account showed a deficit of \$10,749. A review of previous year's accounts would show that offerings in the first two months are usually insufficient to cover expenses, but this year the deficit is exceptionally large. We look forward hopefully to better weather and the return of those parishioners who sought it in the South.

Tenebrae in Counterpoint

The Cygnet Sextet has been practicing and will be bringing some new music to the service of Tenebrae this year. It is also early music which may to some sound much the same as before but it is equally beautiful and meditative.

We will be singing music by Claudio Monteverdi, Michael Praetorius, Orlando Lassus, G. B. Palestrina and Thomas Tallis all composers in the 16th and 17th Century but we also have included a beautiful, modern piece by Pablo Casals who is far more famous for his Cello skills.

The music and readings in the darkening church, create a sense of calm and peace which is helpful for inward looking or just rest in the week preceding the services of Good Friday and Easter.

We invite you all to come and enjoy.

News from the ACW

Invitation to Fellowship...

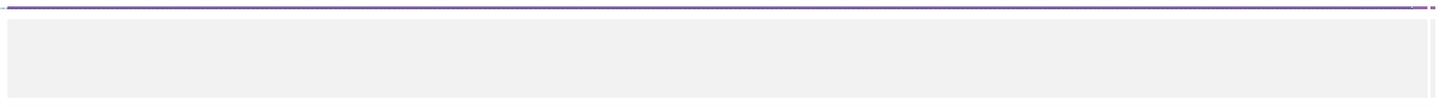
The current group of ladies attending the ACW meetings would like you to join us for fellowship, worship, song, laughter and lunch.

Every woman in the parish is a member of the ACW and your new ideas, energy, and presence would be welcomed.

Meetings are held on the first Thursday of every month. The meeting is at 11:00 a.m. and some women attend the 10:00 a.m. Eucharist, enjoy a sing song, and then attend the meeting. Everyone brings a bag lunch.

If you wish to attend but the time isn't suitable please let us know. The ACW meetings used to be held later in the day and if warranted the meeting time could be changed.

See you soon!



Pancake Supper

On Shrove Tuesday, February 13, 2018, the Emmanuel ACW and Parishioners held a very successful Pancake Supper in the Carlton Reid Hall. Judging by the number of people who attended, and the number who told me this was an event they would not want to miss, it is evident that this is very popular and looked forward to each year.

The final product appears to just run itself, everything goes so smoothly from the ticket takers at the door to the table clearing after the meals have been eaten. Its success is due to all the planning that goes into it before the date and the co-operation between all participants right up until the last table is put away.

Weeks before Shrove Tuesday, Lorna Affleck was creating posters, printing tickets, arranging publicity and making a list of items to buy. She is responsible for getting the maple syrup, pancake mix and sausages. And anything else we may be lacking. Also long before Shrove Tuesday, two great ticket sellers, Marion Murdoch and Doreen Hodder, were out and about selling tickets. Also, the Renfrew County Health Department has to be informed, and Doreen saw to it that we were legal and above board!

Monday morning before Shrove Tuesday, Cecil Goold and his crew were busy in the Hall, pulling out and setting up all the tables and chairs. I did ask that if more were needed on the day would he be there and able to do it. The answer was "No – every table we have is out on the floor"! And, of course, after the supper Cec and his crew were there to take them all down and put them away. No mean task. Others also came to set up for the next day.

And then there is Wayne Mossman –the pancake supper could not go on without him. He was there all Monday afternoon, pre-cooking sausages. On Tuesday he took charge of the tea and coffee, warmed up the sausages, made sure all the grills were working, cooked pancakes and kept the kitchen running smoothly. It would take at least 3 people to replace him.

Wayne Affleck was a floater first he was in the Guild Room, mixing pancake batter, the next time I saw him he was in the kitchen, cooking pancakes, or, as Doreen likes to say, 'flipping pancakes'. He also went out and purchased more cooking spray when we needed it! All the other pancake batter mixers and 'flippers', worked in shifts and we couldn't do without them.

Helen Hall organized an army of workers who were there for the whole evening clearing tables of dirty dishes, replenishing when needed, serving tea and coffee, helping those who had difficulty helping themselves, cleaning up, and always stopping with the smile and kind word that helps people feel at home and welcome. The servers offered that same hospitality. It got pretty busy at times, but they all kept smiling and relaxed and welcoming. In the Guild Room, ACW members looked after the dessert, making sure the table was always replenished and looking good.

Much of the food was donated. Many people baked beans, cupcakes, and butter tarts. Cans of fruit salad were brought in, margarine, and along with juice boxes. Diabetic syrup was donated. Thank you to those who being unable to attend gave monetary donations.

Another 82 tickets were sold at the door. Some spent the evening 'working the floor: listening to people, making sure they had everything they wanted, and generally making them feel welcome

We are thankful too for the assistance last year's ACW Executive members offered when asked, and helped continue the smooth operation of this event.

This was a great evening of good food, friendship and a parish working together. Kudos to all!



Holy Week and Easter Service Schedule

Sunday March 25th Sunday of Passion (Palm Sunday)

8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Blessing of the Palms, Procession, Reading of the Passion

Tuesday March 27th Service of Tenebrae

7:00 p.m.

This services will be sung by the Cygnet quintet

Maundy Thursday March 29th

7:00 p.m.

Foot Washing

Liturgy of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday March 30th

10:30 a.m.

Liturgy of the Lord's Passion

Followed by PWRDF "Hunger Lunch"

Sunday April 1st Easter Sunday (Sunday of Resurrection)

6:00 a.m. Sunrise Service with Eucharist (*followed by breakfast*)

8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

SPAGHETTI DINNER will be held on Friday April 6th at Emmanuel Anglican Church, in the Carleton Reid Hall. Doors will open at 6:00 p.m. for hors d'oeuvres, and dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. There will also be a cash bar. Tickets are available from Charlotte, Diane, and Marion to name a few. They will also be available at the church office and are \$15.00 per person, while children under 10 years of age will be \$5.00. There is a sign-up sheet at the back of the church regarding donations that will be required. Hope to see you there!



“Smiles from above...

Rose and Barb

Two 90-year old women, Rose and Barb had been friends all of their lives.

When it was clear that Rose was dying, Barb visited her every day.

One day Barb said, “Rose, we both loved playing women’s softball all our lives, and we played all through High School. Please do me one favour: when you get to Heaven; somehow you must let me know if there’s women’s softball there.”

Rose looked up at Barb from her deathbed and said, “Barb, you’ve been my best friend for many years. If it’s at all possible, I’ll do this favour for you”

Shortly after that, Rose passed on.

A few nights later, Barb was awakened from a sound sleep by a blinding flash of white light and a voice calling out to her, “Barb, Barb”

“Who is it, asked Barb, sitting up suddenly, who is it?”

“Barb, it’s me, Rose.”

“You’re not Rose. Rose just died.”

“I’m telling you, it’s me Rose, insisted the voice.

Rose! Where are you?”

“In Heaven,” replied Rose. “I have some really good news and a little bad news.”

“Tell me the good news first,” said Barb.

“The good news,” Rose said, “is that there’s softball in Heaven. Better yet all of our old buddies who died before us are here, too. Better than that, we’re all young again. Better still, it’s always springtime, and it never rains or snows. And the best of all, we can play softball all we want, and never get tired.

“That’s fantastic,” said Barb. “It’s beyond my wildest dreams! So what’s the bad news?”

“You’re pitching Tuesday.”

