

December 2018

# Emmanuel Anglican Church

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## CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDULE

WITH CAROLS AND  
MUSIC

Advent Lessons and  
Carols

Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> 4:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve,  
December 24<sup>th</sup>

Worship with Carols and  
Candlelight

7:00 p.m. & 10:00 p.m.

Christmas Day,  
December 25<sup>th</sup>

Worship 10:00 a.m.



Take time in this busy season  
to remember the reason for the season

—  
the birth of Jesus

Catherine Pulsifer

## ***Message from the Rector***

**Rector's Writings.....**

**Advent 2018**

**Welcome to Advent! This is one of the shortest seasons that actually begins our church year. It seems to flow against our world outside the church, that which seems to control most of our lives - at least these days.**

**This is the season where we live in a time of preparation. We prepare for Christmas, in a Godly way, and in a secular way. As we get ready to patiently await the arrival of our Saviour through our worship and study, we are also busily getting ready to celebrate Christ's birth with friends and family. In liturgy we sing our favourite Advent hymns, we pray, we praise and we join together in faith at the Lord's Table renewing the stories to prepare for Christ's birth. Outside in the popular world, we shop, wrap presents, plan dinners and celebrations with others, and we bake. In both worlds, it's a busy time with one common theme: gathering together to prepare for the celebration of hope, of peace, joy and love that the promise that is to come.**

**As a people we are waiting for a promise of a world that one child's birth can bring. There is hope in new life, there is a promised peace for all who believe can live in their daily lives. All this can bring us an ongoing joy and love for others that can never end. The love that a new birth of a child of God creates can be contagious and everlasting. This love is only understood when it is shared with all other people in many other ways.**

**That is what waiting for the Christ event is all about: waiting in hope for all that is to come. It is waiting for the wonder. We relive the darkness of living only in our world today and the change that is to come as each week builds to the Christmas celebration. We as Christians may have journeys to make as we prepare and wait, but the result will be the same.**

**It is our mission now to behold that Christmas miracle all year long. Living out this faith we rejoice at that which is to come and seek out how it is God calls each of us to live out Christmas longer than the short season it is.**

**May you and your family have a special Christmas this year from our family to your.**

**Blessings!**

**Rev. Cathy**

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## ***From the Wardens***

We are thankful for this past summer for its plentiful sun and warmth and for a pleasant fall. We have had our first snowfall with a good accumulation on the ground. The season of advent starts December 2nd. To our Emmanuel family we wish a joyous advent Christmas season.

Since our last newsletter we have enjoyed:

- Medieval feast, April put on by the McNab and District Celtic Club
- Children's Day activities, "send a kid to camp" fundraiser in May, Emmanuel was able to support five children to Camp Wanago this past summer.
- Ham Dinner September
- Fashion show October

Upcoming event:

- ACW Holly Christmas Bazaar Dec 1st

**Cupcake campaign starting November 25th to April 30**

Sunday November 25 was "cupcake Sunday" to once again introduce you to our "cupcake" campaign.....let us explain how it works. Delicious cupcakes baked at Sweet and Sassy were handed out to all parishioners who chose to participate. Each cupcake comes in a little box (show box). The goal is that after you enjoy your scrumptious cupcake....you keep the box and over the next five months throw little bits of change or bills in the box.

The idea is to do something kind for someone which may also result in saving money. For example, if you are heading out to Tim Hortons, you might decide to invite someone over for tea instead. (a twoonie in the box).....feeling blue someday and heading out to "shop it off".....invite a friend for a visit instead (there goes another twoonie). A "reverse" of dropping money in your box would be perhaps to invite other members of our congregation over for dinner. Many of our parishioners live alone.....imagine how much they would appreciate a nice evening out....and could in turn add to their box. I might decide to "turn my heat down for the church"....by wearing a sweater around home.....that would save enough for \$5.00 a month in my box. Walking to church, wrapping presents in the Christmas wrap we have instead of buying new stuff, emptying the back of our cupboards and using stuff that we have (check the dates folks!) These are just a few ideas...I'm sure you can all come up with more.

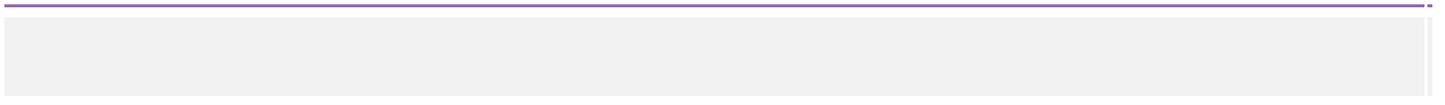
Leave your box in sight as a gentle reminder to do something kind....the slogan is "what have you done for your cupcake lately"?

At the end of our five month campaign, we will celebrate with "roll out the dough Sunday". There will be no public record of how much each person contributes. We will dump the boxes, roll the coins and see what we come up with. By writing your envelope number on your box, it will be included in your giving's and be part of your taxable receipt at the end of the year.

This year, we would like to distribute 72 cupcakes. There is no minimum or limit to how much you can contribute.....this is a five month campaign. \$ 2.50 per week or \$ 10.00 per month in each box would = \$ 3600.00 worth of random acts of kindness.....a little could go a long way!

But don't think about the money...think of the good deeds first....and the money will come!

We thank each and every one of you who chooses to participate. There is no fee.....you just need to be committed to giving it a try.



Thank you so much for participating again this year. A “little” from each of us goes a long way towards our joint efforts to make Emmanuel a wonderful place of worship and from this place we can go forth to do God’s work in our community and the broader world.

### **Emmanuel “A Year at a Glance**

On November 17th we held our “Year at a glance meeting”. The response from those who attended was great and many ideas flowed over the course of the evening. Save the date for events that we plan to schedule for 2019:

- **Roast Beef Dinner Feb 10 (or alternate date pending availability)**
- **Pancake Supper March 5**
- **Morning breakfast 9am between Sunday March 31 service.**
- **Spaghetti dinner April 26**
- **Combined church service & potluck lunch (Arnprior, Pakenham, Fitzroy & Antrim)**
- **Craft and bake sale May 4**
- **Valley Concert Band will perform May 23**
- **The Big Give June 1**
- **Chicken Dinner September 21**
- **Soup & sandwich lunch October 16**
- **Fashion Show October 23 (date to be confirmed)**
- **The ACW will be baking rhubarb pies in the spring and meat pies in the fall**
- **ACW Christmas Bazaar (date to be confirmed)**

### **Renovations**

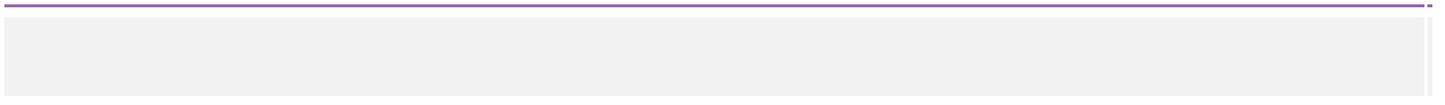
Our Porch has undergone a major refurbishment very capably directed by Cec Gould and Geoff Booth with valuable help from George Fournier. It was very largely financed by the very generous bequest from the estate of Marilyn Cavill. We now have a pleasant heated entry to Emmanuel. Thanks to all who contributed.

A parish meeting will be planned soon.

### **Outreach**

To expand our outreach in the our community Emmanuel plans to host a community breakfast to bring together as many service providers as we can from the Arnprior/ McNab/Braeside area. The purpose is to determine if there are areas where a coordination of effort can do more and specifically how and what Emmanuel can contribute.

Again we thank 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 honoured to serve Reverend Cathy and our Parish in 2018 and we thank her for her guidance, understanding and compassion.

Wishing all of you a Blessed Merry Christmas and all of the best for the New Year!  
Wardens, Geoff Barnes / Diane Bresson

## ***Treasurer's Notes***

Since the start of 2018 our revenue has not kept pace with our budget. As a result we have, by September 30th an accumulated deficit of \$15,300. Last year at this time the deficit was about \$9,000. As well the number of identifiable givers has dropped from 95 at the start of 2017 to 83 today.

To address this very serious situation September's Parish Council formed a Way Forward committee. Its mandate is to

- Review the current financial position and probable short and long term forecasts.
- Explore possible solutions
- Propose immediate and long term actions to be taken.

Members of the committee are: Chair Geoff Booth, Donna Toole, Cec Goold. Geoff Barnes, Diane Bresson

## **Minutes of November 6, 2018 Way Forward Meeting**

The Way Forward – A committee of Parish Council

Notes of meeting held November 6, 2018.

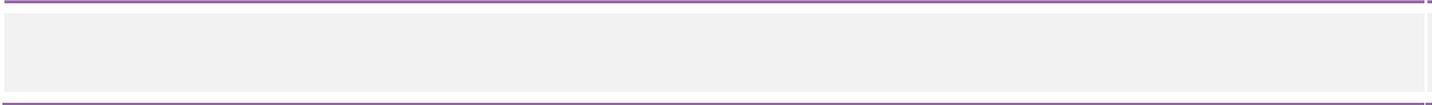
Present: Geoff Barnes, Diane Bresson, Cec Goold, Donna Toole, Geoff Booth

Current situation:

- Declining membership – now 83 regular contributors (probably about 120 individuals)
- Deficits for last 7 years. Average (\$2,400).
- Deficit projected for this year – probably c. \$4,000.
- Based on the above, our ability to meet commitments in a timely manner will disappear three or four years.
- Noted that ECOPS (2018 \$76,434) is our greatest expense.

Possible solutions:

- Regeneration – attract more people to make Emmanuel their place of worship and spiritual support.
- Reduce ECOPS by sharing priest with one or more parishes.
- A combination of the above (probably realistic)



- If two services on Sundays to be maintained with a shared priest, a greater involvement of lay persons will be needed.

**Action to be taken:**

- Arrange Congregational meeting to inform parishioners of the situation and our planned response to it. (Dec?)
- Hold Community Breakfast(s) in the New Year.
- Appeal to parishioners to use a planned giving schedule in order to assist in maintaining a consistent cash flow.
- Recruit more lay readers to lead worship on a regular basis.
- Hold collaboration meetings with other churches.
- Suggested that we check with Diocese re collaboration process.
- Check with Brian Kauk re any strategies that may be proposed.

Treasurer / Geoff Booth

## ***Buildings & Property***

### **Vestibule Project Update**

The major portion of the renovation is now complete and all municipal building standards, both on the exterior and interior have been achieved and approved.

With the new furnace now installed, only two items remain, blinds on the window and a door closure.

It is our intention to design an appropriate plaque to recognize those whose financial contributions made this much needed improvement to our Church entrance possible. We expect the vestibule will then be formally dedicated, likely during a Sunday service.

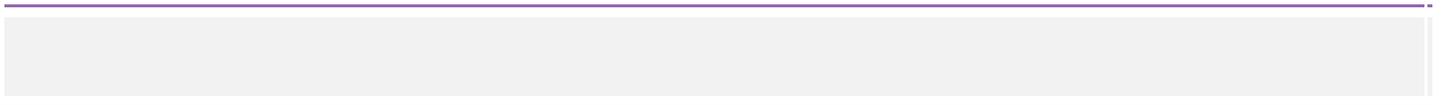
Many thanks to all who contributed time and effort to this project, in particular Geoff Booth who was responsible for the primary design of the entrance, George Fournier who acted as our Project Manager and to Ken Fields Const. for their excellent workmanship and overall cooperation on this project.

Buildings & Property Chair / Cec Goold

## ***News from the ACW***

Your ACW continues to meet on the first Thursday of the Month with an average of 19 members.

The September meeting noted the serving of 5 funeral luncheons in the past few months. Four of these were for 4 former ACW members: Pearl Greenhous, Gladys Crego, Doreen Heise and Ruth Chenier. Rest in Peace, Good and Faithful Servants.



Funds of \$2,000 has been forwarded to the wardens for Emmanuel expenses. Elva Brohart has been installed as Treasurer, following the resignation of Lorna Affleck (due to ill health) we wish Lorna much better health in the near and distant future.

Membership helped at the Ham Supper in September, the Fashion Show in October and is now busily preparing for the Bazaar Dec. 1, 2018

Cecil Goold and the men of Emmanuel had volunteered to set and take down tables, etc. for the ACW functions. Many thanks to you all, Gentlemen!

Fruit cakes are “aging” and an able and energetic group of ladies have made 111 (one hundred and eleven!) meat pies, for individual sale and at the Bazaar.

Assistance was also given to decorating the church for Harvest Thanksgiving. Many thanks from Altar Guild members, for you welcome extra help.

2018 will wrap up with our December meeting, December 6<sup>th</sup>, with the regular Eucharist, followed by a business meeting and adjourning then to Islandview Suites for a Christmas Dinner.

As our regular meetings conclude: “go now, in Peace” – to Love and serve the Lord, now and in 2019. God had blessed us all.

ACW President / Doreen Hodder

## ***A Reflection of Synod 2018***

While at Synod we heard a very inspirational talk from the Guest speaker Rev. Dr. Richard LaSeur, teacher, poet, pastor and recently Dean of St. Georges College in Jerusalem. He spoke to us of pilgrimages and the four Rules for the Desert Church.

The four rules being:

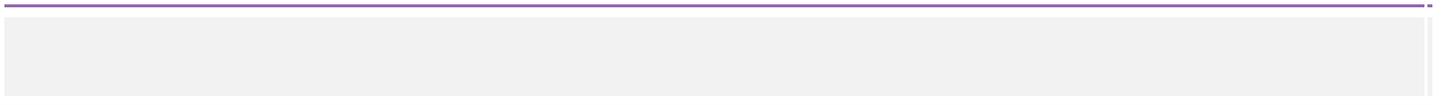
1. Never go alone
2. Take only what you can carry
3. Expect anxiety
4. Wait on the spirit of God

As you read further look to see where those four rules are applied.

Through the ages people have gone on pilgrimages out of devotion and in search of healing. Today's people go on pilgrimages for many different reasons.

Often they are at a crossroads in their life, looking for a change in life's direction or relationships , looking for a chance for renewal and to re-energize mentally, physically and spiritually and some just go for the adventure.

Journeying on a pilgrimage often allows people to re-connect with cultural heritage and nature; refreshing their faith and seeking spiritual direction.



**Going on a pilgrimage can be a transformative experience and perhaps life changing. Some have gained a new sense of awareness, getting a sense of life's purpose and focusing on what really matters; rediscovering the joys of giving, generosity and a greater appreciation of life's gifts.**

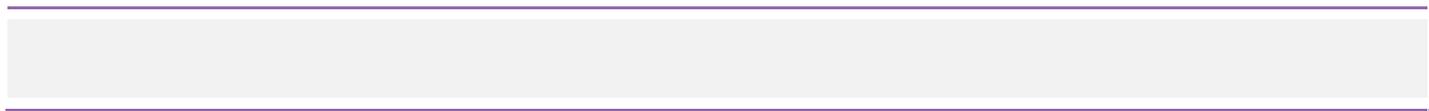
**Today you and I are going on a pilgrimage into the desert. Ours is a pilgrimage, taken together with a goal as to where we think we should be in our ministry in the years ahead of us. Like Abraham and Moses who were called out to make a pilgrimage to places unknown to them; theirs were journeys of faith. So, in faith, we too will embark on this pilgrimage into the unknown. We will leave behind us these stone walls that protect us and give us comfort. We will only take what necessities we can carry. The winds will carry the sands and change the landscape and obscure the path we follow but we will pray that God is leading us in the right direction. There will be times of sacrifice, suffering, hunger, pain and exhaustion. If we stay together we can help one another, we can listen and learn from one another, give comfort to each other, grow in our relationships and through it all still see the beauty of the nature that surrounds us. Going through these trials our very existence is tested and by working together we will build character, relationships and faith.**

**So we have gone on this pilgrimage, seeking the next step, enduring hardships, at times finding joy, wondering at the beauty of nature but we were not able to complete our goal. We still don't have all the answers we sought but that's ok.**

**If our journey did one thing it enabled us to not be afraid, that it's okay to not know, and in fact it could be exciting... It's ok to let go of the fear, the possibility of our institutional form of religious tradition dying. We need to look at the more spiritual roots of Christianity and work towards exhibiting a true sense of community. By losing the fear of entering uncertainty we come to recognize there is a promise, a promise of hope with opportunities of learning and new growth. We will continue to pray and wait for the spirit of God to guide us.**

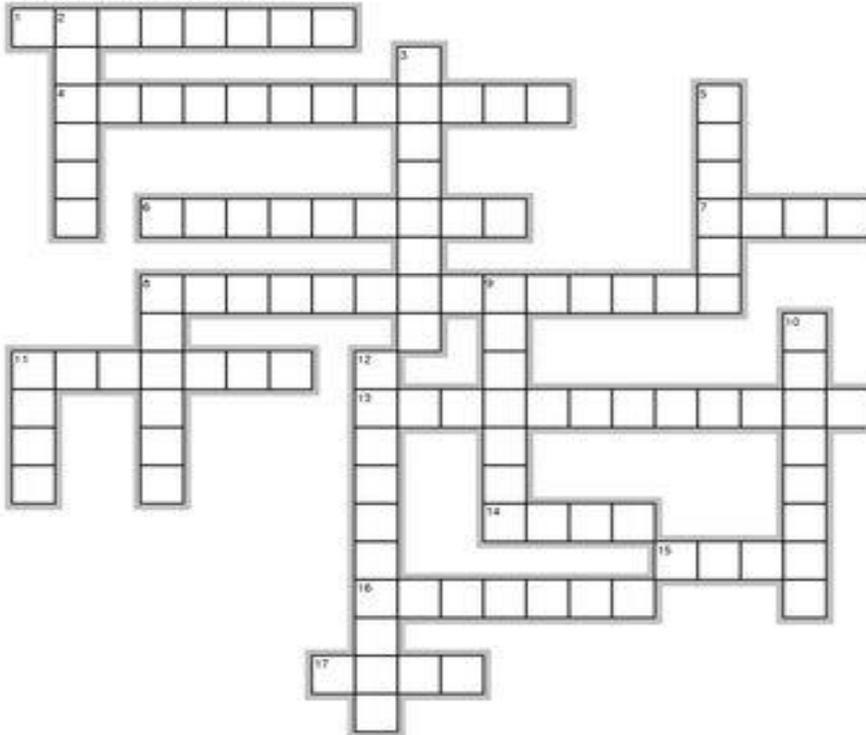
**God can be discovered in the midst of desert wandering.**

**If you would like a copy of Synod Highlights they are available at the back of the Church**



# Advent Crossword Puzzle

David Bennett, ChurchYear.Net



EclipseCrossword.com

## Across

1. Famous saint, who is associated with Christmas, whose feast is celebrated during Advent
4. Popular evergreen family devotion used during Advent (2 words)
6. Church holiday right after Advent
7. "Our \_\_\_\_\_ of Guadalupe," Catholic feast falling during Advent
8. Jesus' cousin who prepared the way for Jesus (3 words)
11. Title of Jesus, meaning "anointed one," and the name of an oratorio by Handel
13. Church season immediately before Advent (2 words)
14. Title of Jesus meaning "master"
15. Pinkish color used during the third Sunday of Advent
16. "Christ \_\_\_\_\_": Church holiday celebrated the Sunday before Advent (2 words)

17. Number of Sundays during the Advent season

## Down

2. One of the major Old Testament prophets
3. Month when Advent usually begins
5. Liturgical color of the Advent season
8. Foster-father of Jesus
9. What the word "Advent" means
10. Advent Hymn: "O come, O come \_\_\_\_\_"
11. Mother of Jesus
12. "The Immaculate \_\_\_\_\_": Marian holiday that falls during the Advent season

