

October 2020

Emmanuel Anglican Church

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**“Whatever you do in word or deed,
do all in the name of the Lord Jesus,
giving thanks through Him to God the father.”
*Colossians 3:17***



Daylight Savings time end
Sunday November 1st @
2:00 a.m.



“And we not only that, but we boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us” (Romans 5: 3-5)

Happy Thanksgiving!

This day signals that we have now been open six weeks for in-person worship. If we have anything to be grateful for, it is the fact that we have gathered together in the midst of our fears to celebrate and share the love of God in Jesus.

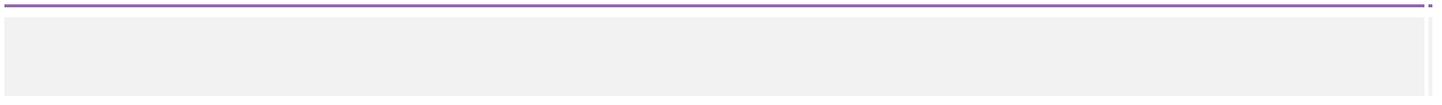
It may be a while before we can let go of masks and can actually touch one another to share the peace of Christ. In fact, we may have to go back to online worship. This we do know: as a community we can face each challenge as they come while still being safe.

I am happy to see so many of you at worship on Sundays. We are seated apart, our worship is quite different than usual, and we have new safe “friends”: hand sanitizing, 2 m distance, masks, and contact tracing. Nevertheless, together, we form community.

I am still unable to visit people personally (not until we reach yellow and green stages). I rely on the phone, which is a helpful substitute. This pandemic has been particularly hard on those who can not work and live twenty-four hours a day at home. It is also hard on anyone who relies on outside help to run errands for groceries, medicines, or other needed items. Food Banks and groups like Neighbourlink Fountain, and Seniors at Home are in desperate need of volunteers, helpers and financial donations. My hope is that soon we will be able to help them out as we, too, get back on our feet.

We are called to be in mission for others – to love and serve in any way we can. If you know of any in need or any just needing a call, please let me know. Perhaps you or I could help!

Even though our future is uncertain, and Dick and I are already thinking of Christmas services – finding ways of having song even though we cannot sing, we look and move in hope. We hope for better health in the world, for a return to a better “new normal”, for a chance to visit one another. This we know: hope will never disappoint.



May you and your family remember to always give thanks through all events and in all things. Help where possible, love others always. God is with us; God never leaves us in faith.

*Yours in the ministry we share,
Reverend Cathy McCaig*

From the Wardens

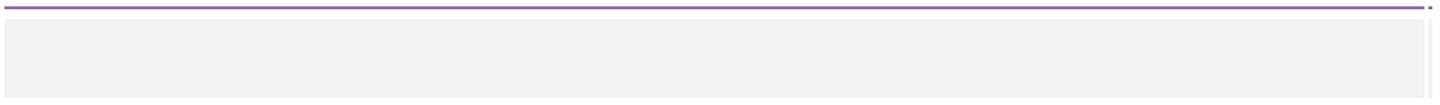
Despite a very challenging time since Covid -19 forced all churches in the diocese to close last March, we still have much to be thankful for. We have reopened, albeit under some limitation. Nevertheless the life of Emmanuel has started, we hope, to return to normal. After online services during closure we can now come together in worship although under constraint – masks, distancing. The hall is being used for music lessons and the Judo club plans to return when conditions permit. We have a new floor in the hall and choir/meeting room. We are thankful to those who during this time made the effort to drop their offerings in the office mail chute and those who continued to make pre-authorized remittances (PAR).

Going forward we face challenges returning to the way we were, not the least of which is financial. At closure (and suspension of the activities of the Way Forward Committee) we were actively exploring the formation of an Area Parish with our neighbours Pakenham and Fitzroy Harbour. This option is no longer viable with Pakenham deciding to continue as they are for now. The committee will resumed its work on other options.

Fundraising as it has traditionally been done at Emmanuel is no longer sustainable. We are looking at other fundraising options such as online auctions which have been successfully developed in other parishes. We would welcome new, creative ideas on how to do fundraising in the future. If you have knowledge of how to set up fundraising events virtually we could certainly use your expertise.

We especially want to thank Dan Perfitt for his commitment over the summer to record, edit and upload our online services to You tube. Thanks also to Cec Goold for managing the new floor installation, to Geoff Booth our treasurer and as always to our Rector Cathy for her support.

*Geoff Barnes
Diane Bresson*



From the Treasurer

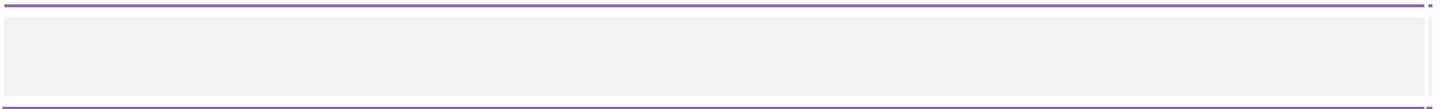
Thank you to all those who continued to support Emmanuel financially during the first wave of the pandemic by dropping their offerings in the mail chute. Despite these efforts and those of the parishioners whose offerings are made through pre-authorized remittances (PAR), income declined very significantly. The Diocese helped by declaring a Jubilee for the months of April and May. During this period the Diocese assumed the responsibility for the usual payments which include the cost of priestly services, Diocesan Fair Share, insurance and the salaries of the parish administrator, envelope secretary and custodian to a total of \$26,358.

The restrictions brought about by the counter measures to Covid 19 also precluded any fund raising and hall rental, both valuable sources of income. Consequently, it was not surprising that all the efforts and contributions described above proved to be insufficient to meet all Emmanuel's financial commitments. All payments due to suppliers and utilities have been made on time each month. However, the monthly payments to the Diocese have not always been made. At the end of September, the amount payable to the Diocese totaled \$19,537.52. There remains some \$15,000 cash in the bank account to cover the balances in all other funds such as the Memorial and Building Funds.

In normal (no Covid) times offerings usually increase during the last three months of the year. We can only hope that this will again be the case despite a threatened second wave of the pandemic.

Geoff Booth

Online Bible Study – we will be working with at least 6 other parishes in our diocese, and studying Brian Maclaren's book "The Great Migration". It begins October 21, so we need to know if you can participate as soon as possible. Please call the church 613-623-2554, or Reverend Cathy 613-725-7234 if you would like to join.



A Note about the Eucharist

Our lives are filled with rituals. Our mornings may consist of devotions, coffee, breakfast, and perhaps work or another daily routine. Throughout the day we find ourselves involved in other rituals: mealtimes, reading times, tee times – you name it, there's a ritual involved. Our rituals are so important to us that we do not enjoy having them disrupted.

Our church worship is completely filled with rituals, some we have developed and others that have been developed for us. Many of them began for very practical reasons. In fact the style of our liturgy is based on the practicality of space. Our church building is much too small to use incense; the smoke would be unbearable for almost everyone, let alone those with asthma-related illness or allergies.

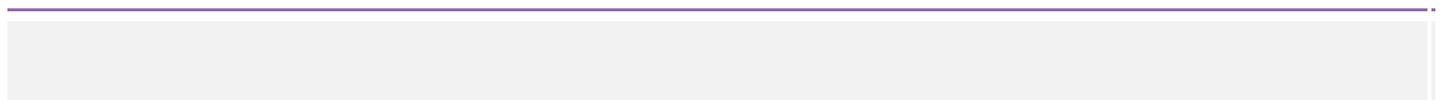
Now we find ourselves with new rituals. We no longer go up to the once practically designed altar rails. We no longer share side by side at that rail which may be our true sign of community. This again, was designed for practical reasons – if you can believe it to get as many people as possible in as little time as possible.

We sanitize our hands before receiving the Eucharist. We receive bread only, no wine. I move away two metres after dropping the host in your hand. We remove our masks, consume the bread, replace our masks, and then sanitize hands again. Purely practical, yet this is done for spiritual reasons – to receive the great gift of love God has given us. Together, as a community, so that we live in that love together. The love found in the gift of the life of Jesus, the Christ, and we are called to share that love in the world.

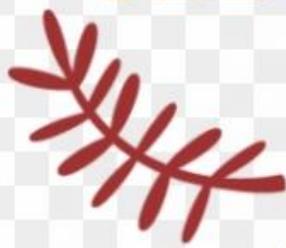
There are several people who do not receive the Eucharist at worship. As a community we still are able to share in that gift of love together. This is the holy and sacred part of worship, to gather, to pray together, to love and to be sent out to love and serve others. All this is because of the love of God among us, Jesus, gifted to us by the Holy Spirit.

There is nothing practical about this, but everything spiritual and holy. Our sacred space is still sacred, despite its new appearance.

For that we give thanks. Amen. Hallelujah!



thanksgiving

 gather
thankful family

blessed grateful

together 

  blessings

november

