

# THE MESSENGER



## UPCOMING EVENTS EMMANUEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

We hope you will mark your calendars and plan to join us for the following:

**Advent Worship Service**, Sunday, December 1

**Advent Breakfast/Workshop**, Sunday, December 1, 8:30am and 9:00am

**Itasca Christmas Party**, Saturday, December 7, 12:00 p.m.

**Congregational Meeting**, Sunday, December 8, 9:45am

**Community Christmas Dinner**, Sunday, December 8, 5:00 p.m. - 7:00p.m.

**Wreaths Across America (Scouts)**, Saturday, December 14, 10:00 a.m.

**Christmas Cantata**, Sunday, December 15, during worship

**Cantata Reception**, Sunday, December 15, after worship

**Christmas Joy Offering**, Sunday, December 15, during worship

**Christmas Eve Services**, Tuesday, December 24, 5:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m.

**Church Office Closed**, Thursday, December 25 and Friday, December 26

**N.E.E.D.**, Monday and Tuesday, December 30 and 31, 10:00 am - 12:30pm and 12:30pm - 3:00pm

## December 2019

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## Winter Sundays at EPC

8:45am Church School

10:00am Worship

2701 Harwood Rd.  
Bedford, TX 76021  
817-545-0251  
emmanuelpc.org

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# MISSIONS HEADLINES

## Mission Committee News

Merry Christmas! Put it on your calendar now to join us delivering Christmas presents to the Itasca Children's Home on December 7<sup>th</sup>. Saturday around 12:30 pm we will carpool to Itasca and enjoy the fellowship (and home-made cookies) of the 20-40 children who live in the group homes. The children and youth are separated from family for various reasons, but the heart-warming smiles and belly laughter within the cottage home is a true blessing. If you have not been before, please try it once. You just might add it to your Christmas tradition list.



## ***POINSETTIAS***

*Our sanctuary at Emmanuel will be decorated with red poinsettias for the December 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, and Christmas Eve services. Sign-up for poinsettias will be in the Narthex before and after worship on December 1<sup>st</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. Poinsettias can be designated in honor or memory of someone. The cost per poinsettia is \$10 to be paid at sign-up. Poinsettias may be taken home any time after the 11 PM Christmas Eve service.*

*Thank you!*

Join us for our  
Community Christmas Dinner!  
Sunday, December 8  
5:00 P.M. - 7:00 P.M.

Free Christmas Dinner with all the trimmings, games, Christmas Crafts and Fun!! If you are able, come to the church with a side or dessert and enjoy some fellowship with your fellow members and community. Share what God has provided you with for our neighbors.



## *Christmas Cantata*



THE EMMANUEL CHANCEL CHOIR WILL PRESENT  
A CHRISTMAS CHORAL CANTATA

ON  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15  
10:00AM

**COME AND JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE THE  
BIRTH OF CHRIST OUR SAVIOR!**

THERE WILL BE A RECEPTION AFTER THE  
CANTATA.  
ALL ARE INVITED!!



Join us for  
Christmas Eve Services  
Tuesday, December 24 at

5:00 pm - Lessons & Carols Candlelight Service

And

11:00 pm - Candlelight Communion Service



**EVANGELISM WILL BE DOING A CHRISTMAS CRAFT DURING  
THE CHRISTMAS DINNER ON**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8**

**WE ARE LOOKING FOR:**

- **5 X 7 FRAMES - STANDING**
- **WHITE BUTTONS - ANY SIZE - ANY KIND**

PLEASE PLACE YOUR DONATIONS IN A CONTAINER IN THE NARTHEX  
MARKED

**“DONATIONS FOR XMAS DINNER CRAFT PROJECT”.**

THANK YOU!!!



### Ruth Fellowship

Monday, December 16, 7:00pm

Texas LIVE!  
1650 E. Randol Mill Rd.  
Arlington, TX 76011

For more information contact:  
Anni Wordell  
817-703-6237

### Lois Circle

Thursday, December 5, 1:00pm

Cheddar's  
1937 Airport Frwy.  
Bedford, TX 76021  
For more information contact:

Cheryl Dale  
817-223-6023

## Board and Committee Reports

### Deacons:

- \* On November 10th, the EPC Harvest Meal and Robin's 30th Anniversary of Ordination Celebration were held in Sorrelle Hall after worship. The festive group enjoyed Turkey, gravy, two kinds of dressing, mashed potatoes, and a number of side dishes. Scrumptious desserts were also enjoyed by all! Many thanks to all those who prepared the food, set-up, served, and assisted with clean-up!
- \* Robin was presented with videos of friends sending congratulations on her 30th Anniversary. Various church members related meaningful stories of Robin throughout her years of service at EPC.
- \* November 24, 2019. Soup and Salad Luncheon. Many thanks to all those who provided delicious soups, salads, and desserts for those who climbed ladders and worked to decorate the church Sanctuary with garlands, bows and lights for Christmas. A big thank you to those who cooked, set-up, served, and helped clean up!

### Session:

- \* Voted to call for a congregational meeting on Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, at 9:45 a.m. to receive the report from the Nominating Committee regarding the Class of 2022.
- \* Scheduled the following: 2020 session meetings; Officer Training for Saturday, January 11<sup>th</sup>; Ordination/installation of officers for Sunday, January 12<sup>th</sup>; Annual Congregational Meeting for Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup>.
- \* Elected Laura Mahon and Sheryl Taylor as commissioners to the Stated Meeting of Grace Presbytery on Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, at Trinity Presbyterian Church, McKinney.
- \* Learned that the Joy Offering will be collected on December 15<sup>th</sup>.
- \* Was informed that over 75 children attended the Trunk or Treat event, held inside.
- \* Received the information that the Family Promise program of HEB has been decommissioned due to a shortage of host churches.
- \* Was reminded that collections for Stockyard worker lunches will take place again after the first of the year.
- \* Learned that Craig Krueger from Grace Presbytery would like to meet with session in early December.

### Finance:

October Income:	\$21,660.76
October Expense:	\$28,316.71



## Christian Education News

### *Emmanuel Presbyterian's Advent Breakfast and Workshop Sunday, December 1st*

8:30 AM Breakfast  
9:00 AM Advent Stations

- Scripture
- Prayer
- Mission
- Art

All ages are welcome! Join us for this special time of preparation.



**Join us Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup> for our Advent Breakfast and Workshop!** Church School classes for all ages will gather in the Fellowship Hall for the following activities:

#### **8:30 AM Breakfast**

**9:00 – 9:45 AM Advent Stations**, including prayer, mission (making cards for Itasca staff and residents), and art (making Advent decorations for our CE Wing worship space).

#### **10:00 AM Worship** in the Sanctuary

Church School Class updates for December include:

**Children and Youth (K-12<sup>th</sup>) Classes.** The children and youth are taking a break from their course *Learning to Study the Bible* for an Advent study “Preparing the Way” that explores the themes of love, hope, joy, and peace in the context of Christ’s birth.

**Keys to the Bible.** This class continues their in-depth study of 2 Samuel using John Goldingay’s book *1 and 2 Samuel for Everyone*.

**Spiritual Journeys.** The Spiritual Journey class reads and discusses the lectionary scripture passages for Sunday morning’s worship. The schedule of lectionary passages can be found on the Spiritual Journeys class webpage at <https://epcspiritualjourneys.weebly.com>.

**The Thoughtful Christian Class.** This class begins a four-session Advent study on December 8<sup>th</sup>. The study “Finding Our Place at the Manger” looks beyond popular presentations of the nativity scene to examine what we know about those who witnessed the birth of Jesus, how they speak to us today, and where we fit in as we await the joy of Jesus’ birth.



**Children and Youth class paint a mural of problems facing the world and of God’s vision for the world.**

# Emmanuel Children and Youth December Activities

## Itasca Children's Home Christmas Party

**Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup>**

**12:30 PM – 5:00 PM**

Children and Youth are invited travel with the Emmanuel caravan to Itasca (one hour south) to deliver Christmas presents to the Children's Home residents and staff.

Meet at Emmanuel at 12:30 PM to carpool.

Contact: John Field (bjfield@tx.rr.com)

## Christmas Break Lunch & Fun

**Week of December 30<sup>th</sup>, TBD**

Children and Youth will choose a fun activity combined with lunch while school is out.

See Ms. Leah to give your input on the fun activity.

Contact: Leah Wyckoff (klh@sbcglobal.net)

Our thanks go to The 6:8 Project and the TCU Math and Engineering Departments for hosting Emmanuel and Greenway families for a TCU tour and men's basketball game in November! We had a great time.



LECTIONARY		BIRTHDAYS	
12/01:	Isaiah 2:1-5; Psalm 122; Rom. 13:1-14; Matt. 24:36-44	12/01	Richard Law
12/08:	Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19; Rom. 15:4-13; Matt. 3:1-12	12/11	Katie Phillips
12/15:	Isaiah 35:1-10; Psalm 146:5-10 or Luke 1:46b-55; James 5:7-10; Matt. 11:2-11	12/19	Shirley Brady
12/22:	Isaiah 7:10-16; Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; Rom. 1:1-7; Matt. 1:18-25	12/21	Gabrielle Phillips
12/29	Isaiah 63:7-9; Psalm 148; Heb. 2:10-18; Matt. 2:13-23		

CIRCLES
<p>Lois Circle will meet at 1:00pm on Thursday, December 5.</p> <p>Esther Circle will meet on December 10. (Second Tuesdays at 9:30am at the church.)</p> <p>Ruth Fellowship's meeting is at 7:00pm on Monday, December 16.</p>