

THE MESSENGER



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If you missed our last Courtyard Café Jazz Music Festival, copy and paste the link into your browser to enjoy the playlist!

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL41za47YeGKZnqc0xFutiyAPtzMLxvpRh>

December 2020

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**Winter Sundays at EPC
ALL SERVICES ARE ONLINE
AT:
emmanuelpc.org**

10:00am Worship
(Sundays)

7:00pm Bible Study
(Tuesdays)

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

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UPcoming EVENTS

- ♦ **VIRTUAL ORNAMENT MAKING WORKSHOP**, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4, 4:00-5:00 P.M. (More details to follow.)
- ♦ **COMMUNION SUNDAY**, DECEMBER 6TH, 10:00AM, (CHANGED TO A VIRTUAL SERVICE)
- ♦ **COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER**, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20 (Pre-packaged meals; details to follow)
- ♦ **ITASCA CHRISTMAS PARTY**, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12TH, 2:00pm via Zoom
- ♦ **CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING**, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13TH
- ♦ **6:8 CHRISTMAS PARTY**, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19TH, 1:00 P.M.
- ♦ **CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE**, DECEMBER 24, 5:00 P.M.



Happy Hands donated to the Nursing Home 41 shawls (mostly from Stella), 9 hats and 6 lap quilts. Also sent 200 ornaments with handmade cards to the staff in appreciation for all they do.

Did a Christmas gift for a class of school kids consisting of a Christmas quilt, 2 ornaments, slippers, gloves, book and a handmade Christmas card-see picture. Also sent 38 stuffed autographed animals

Made a \$50 donation to Women's Haven as their costs and needs have skyrocketed during the pandemic.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS

Advent and Christmas Activities

Advent begins Sunday, November 29th. Advent 2020 will be different but no less special. The Christian Education Committee is offering several Advent opportunities:

An outdoor Christmas tree with weather-resistant tree decorations to make at home. **Pick up decoration kit(s) on Saturday, November 28th from 10 AM - Noon at Emmanuel or arrange for delivery by [completing this form](#).** We will also have a **virtual ornament-making workshop on Friday, December 4th from 4 PM - 5 PM.**

- The outdoor tree will be installed outside near the Sanctuary entrance in early December. You may bring your decorations to hang on it.

Daily Advent Devotionals will be available in the Weekly Email. A virtual weekly Advent prayer group will meet to reflect on the devotions and pray together. Contact [Leah Wyckoff](#) to participate.

Group Gatherings

Emmanuel's weekly group gatherings moved to online while Tarrant County COVID risk levels remain in the red level. You are welcome and encouraged to participate as you are able! Online meeting links and phone numbers are included each week in the Emmanuel Weekly Update email and are also available by contacting the church office (office@emmanuelpc.org).

Online: Keys to the Bible class meets **online Sunday's at 9:00 AM**. The class is studying 2 Peter. Please email Scott Keyes (cyrtina@verizon.net) for the meeting link.

Online: Sunday Fellowship Hour is open to everyone and takes place **online** at 11 AM on Sunday. Participants check in and share joys and concerns, which are included in the weekly prayer email.

Online: Weekday Evening Bible Study meets currently at 7 PM each Tuesday and discusses one of the Scripture passages from the previous Sunday's worship.

Online: Children and Youth Book Club meets on Saturday's at 11:00 AM and includes a mix of youth and adults. They start a new book on December 5th: *March: Book One*, by Andrew Aydin and John Lewis. Readers of all ages are welcome to participate; contact Leah Wyckoff (klh@sbcglobal.net) to be included.

Online: Current Issues/Events Discussion Groups: Racism. The Christian Education Committee and Social Justice Committee are partnering to provide multiple online opportunities to discuss racism and racial justice. See the detailed schedule below and find video, audio and meeting links in the Emmanuel Weekly Update email.



CURRENT EVENTS RESOURCES & DISCUSSION SCHEDULE NOVEMBER - DECEMBER, 2020

NOVEMBER 29: POLICING

Video/Audio Group (Nov 29): Throughline: "American Police"

WEEKS OF DEC 6 & 13: ANTIRACISM IN CHURCH

Book Group (Dec 7): *How to be an Antiracist* by Ibram X. Kendi (Ch 12 through Ch 14)

Video/Audio Group (Dec 13): Video from the Presbyterian Week of Action: 8/25 Town Hall with Rev. Denise Anderson, Samantha Davis, Rev. Kamal Hassan, Chanelle Helm, Christian Brooks, Rev. Dr. Carolyn Helsel, and Dr. William Yoo.

WEEK OF DEC 20: SURVIVAL

Book Group (Dec 21): *How to be an Antiracist* by Ibram X. Kendi (Ch 15 through Ch 18)

Supporting Healthcare Workers at JPS and HEB:

Our new Churchwide Project!



1) Masks

Please continue wearing a mask over your nose and mouth in all public places.

2) Cards

Join us in writing motivational, supportive, and thankful cards to healthcare workers.

3) Posters

Join us in decorating posters to motivate and thank the workers who are caring for our sick community members.

4) Care Baskets

More information will come this week.

Love your neighbor; wear your mask.

Service Project: Encourage Local Health Care Workers

Doctors, nurses, and all health care workers in local hospitals need our support and encouragement as they deal with the challenges of surging COVID cases in our area. The Social Justice Committee invites you to **make a card or poster** to encourage them. You may drop off your cards or posters to the Church Office or mail them to Emmanuel with c/o: Health Care Workers in the address line. We will deliver them in early December to several area hospitals, including Texas Health Harris Methodist HEB and John Peter Smith.

We also plan to put together care baskets for health care workers after we talk with hospitals to find out what would be helpful to include in them. More information coming by early December!



Please remember to send your prayer requests to prayer@emmanuelpc.org. These requests are received by and prayed for by the pastors. If you so desire, these requests can also be included in the Prayers of the People and in the weekly ePrayer email. Be sure to designate in the email if the request is for the pastors only or if it can also be shared with the congregation.



Opportunities

Ruth Fellowship (Virtually)

Lois Circle (Cancelled)

Men's Dinner (Cancelled)

Board and Committee Reports

SESSION:

- * Received with joy Margaret Sunkel as a new member, by transfer of membership from First Presbyterian Church, Georgetown, Texas
- * Learned that Nominating Committee has suspended its search for one more elder and one more deacon for the Class of 2023 but that they welcome volunteers
- * Scheduled the Annual Meeting of the Congregation for Sunday, January 24, 2021, with a deadline for committee reports set for January 11th
- * Received a status report on 2021 pledges and a copy of the proposed 2021 budget, to date
- * Was informed that the Joy Offering will be received on December 13th.
- * Approved the 2021 Special Offering Schedule
- * Was informed that Rick Thompson will end his role as Treasurer on January 31, 2021.
- * Received an update on Boy Scouts of America bankruptcy and the Proof of Claim filed on behalf of Emmanuel as a host congregation, noting that EPC is in its 50th year of supporting scouting
- * Heard a report from the interim search committee regarding the salary range set for full-time interim and that the committee is currently considering four candidates
- * Voted to extend the pandemic fund through June, 2021 and to make sure congregation members are aware of its existence to help with financial needs
- * Was informed that Evangelism is checking with caterers who might provide a boxed Christmas dinner for parking lot distribution on Sunday, December 20th
- * Approved a temporary sublease for By The Grace child-care from Kids Kampus for December and a separate 8-month lease for By The Grace with Emmanuel for January - August, 2021.
- * Learned that the congregation will be using an on-line Advent devotional series from Presbyterian Outlook.
- * Was advised that virtual worship and Communion will continue as long as Covid numbers remain in the red category and that pulpit supply preachers are being secured for the month of January

Finance:

October Income:	\$19,614.50
October Expense:	\$34,288.34

LECTIONARY

12/06: Isa. 40:1-11 and Ps. 85:1-2, 8-13; 2 Peter 3:8-15a; Mark 1:1-8

12/13: Isa. 61:1-4, 8-11 and Ps. 126 or Luke 1:46b-55; 1 Thess. 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28

12/20: 2 Sam. 7:1-11, 16 and Luke 1:46b-55 or Ps. 89:1-4, 19-26; Rom. 16:25-27; Luke 1:26-38

12/27: Isa. 61:10-62:3 and Ps. 148; Gal. 4:4-7; Luke 2:22-40

BIRTHDAYS

12/01 Richard Law

12/11 Katie Phillips

12/19 Shirley Brady

12/21 Gabrielle Phillips

CIRCLES

Lois Circle (SUSPENDED)

Esther Circle (SUSPENDED).
(Second Tuesdays at 9:30am at the church.)

Ruth Fellowship's (Virtually)

DIRECTORY CORRECTIONS

New Email Address:
Mary Ann Reed
mareed8570@gmail.com

New Address:
Taylor Woods
1616 Brown Trail
Hurst, TX 76054