

THE MESSENGER



.....Sips 'n Tidbits

- **Sunday, December 4: Advent Intergenerational Workshop and Lunch for all ages at 11:15 am** (after worship service)
- **Sunday, December 11: Community Christmas Dinner at 5 pm**
- **Sunday, December 18: Christmas Joy offering**
- **Saturday, December 24: Christmas Eve service at 5 pm**

December 2022

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Sunday services at EPC ARE ALSO AVAILABLE ONLINE AT:
emmanuelpc.org

10:00am Worship
(Sundays)

7:30pm Bible Study
(Tuesdays)

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

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 Emmanuel Presbyterian;
Follow us on Instagram and Twitter:
 @EPCBedford





Letter to EPC Congregation

Dearest Members of EPC,

The Finance Committee and I would like to thank you for your generous pledges for 2023. This next year is going to be very exciting as we continue to look for an installed pastor and continue with our important community missions, such as Habitat for Humanity, NEED, and Meals on Wheels. Let us take time to celebrate that we are an exceptional congregation!

If you have not pledged yet, there is still time! Just drop off or email a pledge card to Becky, our Finance Administrator. Becky would also like to remind us that we need to get our 2022 pledges paid before January 1 , a Sunday this year, for them to be counted on your 2022 pledge statement.

We are a loving, caring congregation that is a beckon to this community and to each other. We do indeed seek justice, and love kindness and walk humbly and generously with our God.

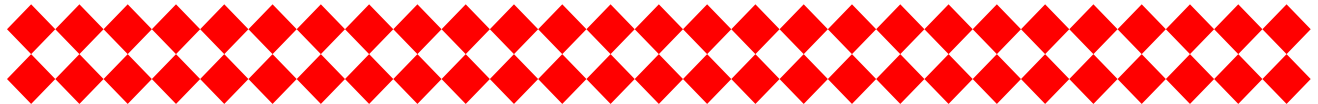
Agape,

Laura Mahon
Chair of the Finance and Stewardship Committee



POINSETTIAS

The sanctuary will be decorated with red poinsettias from December 11 through Christmas Day. Please sign up in the Narthex for a poinsettia: November 20, 27 or December 4. Poinsettias will be \$15 and available to take home after the Christmas Eve or Christmas Day services.



2023 FLOWER CALENDAR

The 2023 flower calendar will be posted in the narthex in December. Please sign up for a Sunday – include your name, phone number, and note if the flowers are in honor or in memory of a special person or occasion. Please pay the church for your flower arrangement; the flower arrangements are \$35. Our Florist, Cooper's, will bill the church monthly for flowers. Flowers may be taken to shut-ins on Monday if they are not taken home on Sunday.

EMMANUEL PRESBYTERIAN CURCH, BEDFORD TX



**MERRY
CHRISTMAS
& HAPPY
NEW YEAR**

From Our Family to Yours!



Christian Education News

Intergenerational Advent Workshop: December 4th

All ages are invited to a hands-on Advent session on Sunday, December 4th in SoRelle Hall at 11:15 AM. Brunch will be served and we will make decorations for both home and Emmanuel's outdoor tree, as well as engage with Scripture and prayer. We hope you will join us!

Gratitude at Home Project Recap & Thank You

The Christian Education committee and Deacons worked together to prepare Gratitude at Home kits with snacks and a Gratitude Jar to help congregants practice gratitude in the weeks leading up to Thanksgiving. Kits were given to in-person worshipers on November 13. Deacons and CE Committee members also delivered kits to thirty-six homes. Many thanks to the kit prep team of Barb Field, John Field, Claire Morris, Molly Park, Helen Sink, Tonia Thompson, and Leah Wyckoff, as well as to everyone who donated jars! Also to delivery drivers John Field, Linda Greenwell, Mary Jane Horr, Molly Park, Tonia Thompson, Linda Villarreal, and Leah Wyckoff!



Group Gatherings Schedule for December

Emmanuel group gatherings take place both in-person and online. Online meeting links are included each week in the Emmanuel Weekly Email and are also available by contacting the church office (office@emmanuelpc.org). The current weekly schedule for online gatherings is:

Sunday's

- **11:15 AM Keys to the Bible class** (in-person) meets for Bible study in Room 5 following worship. The class is studying the Gospel of Matthew using N.T. Wright's *Matthew for Everyone* resource.
- **4:00 PM: Children and Youth Check-in and Devotional** (virtual). Children and youth meet with two adults from the Christian Education committee for about 45 minutes to share how they are doing, read and reflect on scripture, and pray together.

Tuesday's

- **7:30-8:30 PM Advent Bible study** (virtual) will explore God's coming to earth in human form, the incarnation, through the Gospel of Mark. The book *Holy Disruption: Discovering Advent in the Gospel of Mark* by Tracy Daub will be used.

Saturday's

- **11:00 AM: Book Mavens Youth and Adult Book Club** meets online on December 3 and December 10 to discuss their November/December book *From the Desk of Zoe Washington*, by Janae Marks. For information on how to join, contact [Leah Wyckoff](#).



Please remember to send your prayer requests to prayer@emmanuelpc.org or complete the Prayer Request form in the Friendship Pad located in the sanctuary or scan using the QR code above. 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/form if the request is for the pastors only or if it can also be shared with the congregation.

AUDIO VISUAL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Would you like to help with the sound system and video streaming in worship? If so, please contact Ken Richardson to participate in a training session.

SUNDAY OFFERING COUNTERS NEEDED!

For Sunday Offering Counters, sign up at Sign Up Genius. Thank you for volunteering!!



Members and Friends of EPC

Have you or a family member been financially affected by the COVID-19 quarantine? The Mission Committee received approval from Session to create a Pandemic Fund for distributing money to members and family who need it during this quarantine. Members and friends of the congregation are eligible to receive payments, as are their parents, children and grandchildren. We are able to supplement payments of rent, utilities, insurance, car payments and repairs, medicine, and food. (Cable bills are excluded.) Funds will also be given to established local partners such as Mission Central and NEED.

The application process is simple and confidential. Please reach out to Pastor Kyle or Becky to begin the process. (817-545-0251 and finance@emmanuelpc.org or kyle@emmanuelpc.org) If you have questions on the fund itself, please reach out to Kristin (817-308-2670 and haveahartwell@gmail.com) who is the moderator of the fund's task force. If you are able to donate to the fund, prayerfully consider doing so by writing "Pandemic Fund" in the memo of your check or making the appropriate selection online.





Ruth Fellowship

Monday, December 19, 2022
6:30 pm

The Linda's House - Potluck
3701 Mulberry Ln.
Bedford TX

For more information contact:
Linda Villareal
817-545-7197

Lois Circle

Thursday, December 1, 2022
1:00 pm

Pappadeaux
600 TX - 114
Grapevine 76051

For more information contact:
Cheryl Dale 817-223-6023

Finance:

October Income: 19,481.59

October Expense: 29,553.32

Board and Committee Reports

(from November newsletter)

Reviewed the session's responsibility to elect a treasurer and voted to elect John Stocking and Molly Park to serve as search team/Nominating Committee for the 2023 Treasurer (and, possibly, Assistant Treasurer)

Learned that childcare worker Mackenzie Pappas has resigned and will be recognized for her good work on October 30th in worship

Elected John Stocking and Pat Wiegand to serve as commissioners to the Saturday, November 12th hybrid Stated Meeting of Grace Presbytery at NorthPark Presbyterian Church, Dallas

Reviewed proposed revisions to Emmanuel's Manual of Administrative Organization and Bylaws; voted to present the proposed Bylaws to the congregation for first reading at the next available congregational meeting, including a strike-through version of the existing Bylaws

Voted to combine the November and December meetings of session into one meeting on Sunday, December 11th, at 1:00 pm on Zoom (canceling November 23rd and December 18th previously scheduled meetings)

Was reminded of the policy that committee chairs are to authorize all expenditures before purchases are made

Was informed of a Peace Walk on November 5th in Colleyville; more info and registration available at <https://peacetogetherevents.com/>.

Learned that Christian Education Committee is planning a porch project for November 13th

Rejoiced that The Clubhouse for Special Needs has received its Temporary Certificate of Occupancy and is working on getting their Special Use Permit.

Learned that 1/4 (\$5,000) of the increased giving goal has been pledged for 2023 as tracked on the Giving Water Jug in the narthex.

Was informed that the Worship and Music Special Offering totaled \$850

Noted that Presbyterian Night Shelter sack lunch project, as well as Shred Day, will be rescheduled for a later date

Heard a report from the Nominating Committee that they are working on filling positions on session and board of deacons for next year

Learned from Worship Committee that Children's time presenters will be asked to either wear a head mic or use a handheld mic, for optimal sound

Requested that the Worship Committee determine and share worship plans for Sunday, December 25th



LECTIONARY

12/4 Matt 3:1-12
12/11 Matt 11:2-11
12/18 Matt 1:18-25
12/25 John 1:1-14

CIRCLES

Lois Circle (1st Thursday of each month,
1:00pm)

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

Ruth Fellowship
(3rd Monday of each month, 6:30 p.m.)

Happy Hands
(Will meet on an as-needed basis)

BIRTHDAYS



Richard Law 12/01
Katie Phillips 12/11
Shirley Brady 12/19
Gabrielle Phillips 12/21
Alice Thompson 12/30
Nalalie Edge 12/31

DIRECTORY CORRECTIONS

