

THE MESSENGER



February 2021

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ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING/ LUNCHEON, Sunday, February 7, 10:30am, Congregational Meeting Link for February 7, 2021 10:30 AM Central Time

<https://zoom.us/j/92470365923>

or call in to: (346)248-7799; Use the meeting ID: 924 7036 5923

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED, PRESIDENT'S DAY, Monday, February 15

LUNCH BAGS ASSEMBLY for the Presbyterian Night Shelter will be Saturday, February 6

ASH WEDNESDAY, February 17
May your Ash Wednesday be a time of reflection and promise.

LOCAL BENEVOLENCE OFFERING, Sunday, February 21

BINGO IN THE EPC PARKING LOT, Saturday, February

**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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At-Home Project: Lunch Bags for Presbyterian Night Shelter

Emmanuel's Mission Committee will collect Lunch Bags curbside in Emmanuel's parking lot on Saturday, February 6th from 10 AM - Noon to deliver to Presbyterian Night Shelter in Fort Worth. Please make the lunch bags at home and bring them to Emmanuel February 6th or arrange with Melissa Durkee for delivery/pickup prior to February 6th.

Presbyterian Night Shelter will distribute these bags to people without permanent housing, many of whom are camping outside. They don't have access to kitchen tools, so canned items need to have pop-tops.

Many thanks for your help and support in caring for our neighbors through this project!

Lunch Bag Instructions:

Please use a 1-gallon resealable plastic freezer bag for the lunch items; the person receiving it can reuse the plastic bag as waterproof storage for their belongings. Include these items in each bag:

- *A water bottle
- *Plastic spoon rolled in a napkin or paper towel
- Plus four or five of the following:
 - *Fresh Fruit (small apple, orange or mandarin) or dried fruit (raisins, apricots, apples)
 - *Pop-top canned fruit
 - *Pudding cup
 - *Foil tuna pack or tuna & cracker kit
 - *Energy bars or protein bars
 - *Peanut butter crackers or cheese crackers
 - *Pop-top canned meat
- Optional items:
 - *A note of encouragement
 - *Travel/trial size hygiene items (soap, wipes, hand sanitizer)

COVID Vaccine Registration Underway



Tarrant County Public Health is currently providing initial vaccinations to those at most risk of exposure to COVID-19. Phase 1A and 1B groups include healthcare workers, first responders, as well as individuals 65 and older, and 18 and older with an underlying medical condition. Tarrant County is distributing the Moderna vaccine at this time, which is only available to individuals 18 and older. Please pre-register for an appointment at www.tarrantcounty.com/covidshot.

Once you register, you will receive confirmation via phone call, text, and/or email. Please note that registering only places you in the queue. The timeframe to receive the vaccine is dependent upon individual factors such as age, occupation, and underlying health conditions. You will receive a specific appointment time from Tarrant County when it is your time to receive the vaccine. The City will provide updated information on vaccine distribution as soon as it becomes available.



A Lenten Journey : Prayer Practices and Prayer Groups for Lent

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 17th. Emmanuel’s Christian Education Committee is providing *A Lenten Journey* resource for our community to use during Lent. This is a resource for people of all ages and stages to use at home during Lent. *A Lenten Journey* takes us through Lent with focus on a different prayer practice each week. Each prayer practice comes with suggestions for modifying/adapting the prayer practice for children, youth and adults.

We are also forming weekly prayer groups for Lent. Small groups of 3-5 people will meet online weekly prayer gathering during Lent using *A Lenten Journey*, we are forming prayer groups of 3-5 people. Prayer groups will begin meeting the week of February 22nd and will continue through Lent. **If you are interested in being in a Lenten prayer group, fill out [this brief survey](#) by February 8th.** You will be contacted with more information.

Group Gatherings Schedule for February

All Emmanuel’s weekly group gatherings remain 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). The current weekly schedule for online gatherings is:

Sunday’s

- 9 AM: Keys to the Bible class** meets for Bible study. The class is starting a study of Old Testament prophets.
- 11 AM: Fellowship Hour.** This time for checking in and sharing prayer concerns is open to everyone. Prayer concerns from this gathering are shared by email to congregants during the week.
- 4 PM: Children and Youth Check-in and Devotional.** 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 PM: Weekday Evening Bible Study** meets and explores one of the Scripture passages from the previous Sunday’s worship.

Thursday’s

- 7 PM: *Race in America***, a 5-part online series sponsored by Grace Presbytery to study systemic racism and the Black experience with the goal of cultivating anti-racists. Led by Rev. Dr. Michael Waters, the series meets each Thursday in February.

Saturday’s

- 11 AM: Children and Youth Book Club** meets to read and discuss books. The books are appropriate for ages 10+, and the group includes interested adults. The **book for February is *Swing it, Sunny***, by Jennifer and Matthew Holm. Contact Leah Wyckoff (klh@sbcglobal.net) to be included.



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 Christine 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.

Most importantly friends, hear the reassurance from Genesis 26: 24 which is echoed in the Gospel: "I am the God of your father Abraham. Do not be afraid, for I am with you; I will bless you and will increase the number of your dependents for the sake of my servant Abraham."



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:

- ⇒ Approved Interim Pastor contract between Emmanuel Presbyterian Church and the Reverend Dr. Kyle M. Walker, effective January 16, 2021 - January 15, 2022.
- ⇒ Rescheduled Annual Meeting from January 24th to February 7th.
- ⇒ Rescheduled January Session meeting from January 24th to January 31st.
- ⇒ Approved installation of new officers for February 7th as part of Annual Meeting; to be recorded and included in the worship service on February 14th.
- ⇒ Approved rental agreement of the CE building between Emmanuel Presbyterian Church and The Clubhouse For Special Needs, effective February 1, 2021 - January 31, 2023.

Finance:

December Income:	\$47,487.26
December Expense:	\$34,836.16

LECTIONARY

BIRTHDAYS

02/07: Isa. 40:21-31 and Ps. 147:1-11, 20c; 1 Cor. 9:16-23; Mark 1:29-39

02/14: 2 Kings 2:12, and Ps. 50:1-6; 2 Cor. 4:3-6; Mark 9:2-9

02/21: Gen. 9:8-17 and Ps. 25:1-10; 1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 19:9-15

02/28: Gen. 17:1-7, 15-16 and Ps. 22:23-31; Rom. 4:13-25; Mark 8:31-38

02/05 Ken Richardson

02/06 Helen Thompson

02/08 Ruth Stutts

02/10 Margaret Bonner

02/12 Brett Todd

02/14 Angella Takomana

02/16 Yvonne Turner

02/20 Ray Karriker

02/22 Louise McMillen

02/23 Barbara Edwards

02/24 Mary Ann Reed

02/25 Joyce Morris

CIRCLES

Lois Circle (SUSPENDED)

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

Ruth Fellowship's (Virtually)