

THE MESSENGER



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>

January 2021

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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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Presbyterian](https://facebook.com/EmmanuelPresbyterian)**

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ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING/LUNCHEON, TBD

MLK DAY, MONDAY, JANUARY 18, CHURCH OFFICE IS CLOSED

“LIVE” in person Going Away Party will be held in the future for Pastor Robin and Pastor Chuck, once we are clear to go back to church...details will follow....

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



Service Project: Encourage Local Healthcare Workers

Thank you to everyone who wrote cards of encouragement and donated snacks for the Healthcare Worker project sponsored by the Social Justice Committee! **Phase 1** of the project was completed December 18th, when we delivered 85 snack bags and cards to John Peter Smith Hospital in Fort Worth, where they were given to the Psych Emergency Department staff.

Phase 2 of the project is underway now, as we are working on **cards of encouragement or posters** for Texas Health HEB staff and Parkland staff. 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 by the end of January to staff at the two hospitals.

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.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS



Thank you to everyone who made and/or brought an ornament to decorate Emmanuel's Outdoor Christmas Tree! The tree was a beautiful, hopeful sight for people in our community traveling up and down Harwood Road. It was fun to see the creative variety of ornaments shared on the tree, both in person and in our worship recordings.

The tree will remain up until January 9th. If you want your ornaments back, they will be available outside at Emmanuel from 10 AM – Noon on Saturday, January 9th or contact [Tonia Thompson](mailto:Tonia.Thompson@emmanuelpc.org) to arrange a different pickup time.

Group Gatherings

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).

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.

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.

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

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 January 2nd: *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind*, by William Kamkwamba. Readers of all ages are welcome to participate; contact Leah Wyckoff (klh@sbcglobal.net) to be included.

Current Issues/Events Discussion Groups: Racism and Racial Justice. The Christian Education Committee and Social Justice Committee encourage Emmanuel congregants to participate in one or both of two online presbytery-wide opportunities in January. These are sponsored by Grace Presbytery's Social Justice Task Force:

Register for and participate in the 21-Day Racial Equity Challenge beginning on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, **January 18th**. The 21-Day Racial Equity Challenge is a commitment to read, listen to, and watch at least one short piece of media each day and participate in a weekly small group videoconference during the 21 days.

Participate in Race in America, a 5-part online series, **beginning Thursday, January 28, 2021**, to study systemic racism and the Black experience with the goal of cultivating anti-racists. Led by Rev. Dr. Michael Waters, the series meets weekly on Thursdays at 7 PM.

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 Chuck or Christine to begin the process. (817-545-0251 and finance@emmanuelpc.org or pastorchuck@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)

Finance:

November Income:	\$16,154.94
November Expense:	\$21,883.29
Joy Offering	\$ 470.00

Board and Committee Reports

SESSION:

1. Welcomed newly elected session members for the Class of 2023 John Field and Scott Keyes (current member Nancy Cable will serve another 3-year term), granting John and Scott privilege of the floor.
2. Thanked outgoing members of the Class of 2020 Wanda Asire, Jayne Johnson, Jeremy Loy, and continuing member Nancy Cable for their fine work.
3. Expressed gratitude to the Richardson/Wyckoff family for their extraordinary efforts to keep the congregation connected and doing ministry throughout the pandemic and gave gift cards to Ken and Leah, as tokens of session's and the church's deep appreciation.
4. Approved the 2021 membership roll, which totals 94 members.
5. Received a report from the interim search committee that the committee will be contracting with a finalist during the holidays and determining an effective date of service.
6. Was informed that Emmanuel received a donation of \$20,000 from the Ruth Zavala estate for the unrestricted memorial fund.
7. Received an update on budget status and voted to approve the proposed 2021 budget which includes a projected deficit of \$50,381.
8. Learned that the Christmas Joy Gift special offering totaled \$470 thus far.
9. Received an update on CE building rental and utilities owed by Kids Kampus and was informed that Ms. Hodge will not begin usage of the facility until April, 2021.
10. Voted to approve the 2021 Communion dates, noting that method would be virtual, while under Covid restrictions.
11. Heard about reassignment of worship committee tasks related to liturgist procurement, children's sermon assignments, and pre-service announcements on Sundays where pulpit supply preachers lead worship.
12. Received report from Mission Committee that a check had been sent to Tarrant County to help residents with rental assistance and that Kristin Hartwell will assist office staff with the Pandemic Fund until the interim pastor is in place.
13. Learned from the Christian Education report that all are invited to join the Grace Presbytery 21-Day Racial Equity Challenge.
14. Heard that sack lunches will be assembled for the Presbyterian Night Shelter on February 6th.
15. Learned that distribution of 50 food boxes and 17 cases of 4-gallon milk jugs continue to be distributed on Fridays at the 6:8 project and that Christmas delivery of toys to families will occur the week of Christmas.
16. Care packages for front-line health workers were delivered to John Peter Smith Hospital and will be repeated at Harris Methodist HEB and Parkland Hospitals after Christmas.
17. Scheduled proposed session meeting dates for 2021 (fourth Sunday January - October; third Sunday for November and December) and agreed to retain current committee assignments and leadership until the interim pastor is in place.
18. Elected Sheryl Taylor as Clerk of Session for 2021 and agreed to elect a new Treasurer for service, beginning February 1, 2021, at the January Session meeting.
19. Session said goodbye to Chuck Schneider, with great thanks for his work as Temporary Pastor.

LECTIONARY

01/03: Jer. 31:7-14 and Ps. 147:12-20; Eph. 1:3-14; John 1 (1-9) 10-18

01/10: Gen. 1:1-5 and Ps. 29; Acts 19:1-7; Mark 1:4-11

01/17: 1 Sam. 3:1-10 (11-20) and Ps. 139:1-6, 13-18; 1 Cor. 6:12-20; John 1:43-51

01/24: Jonah 3:1-5, 10 and Ps. 62:5-12; 1 Cor. 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20

01/31: Deut. 18:15-20, 10 and Ps. 111; 1 Cor. 8:1-13; Mark 1:21-28

BIRTHDAYS

01/01 John Field

01/03 Susan Stevens

01/14 Courtney Loy

01/16 Jeremy Loy

01/27 Val Hannasch

01/27 Neal Morris

01/29 Barbara Field

01/29 Claire Morris

01/31 Aaron Walton

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