



THE MESSENGER

MAY 2025

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Pastor's Post



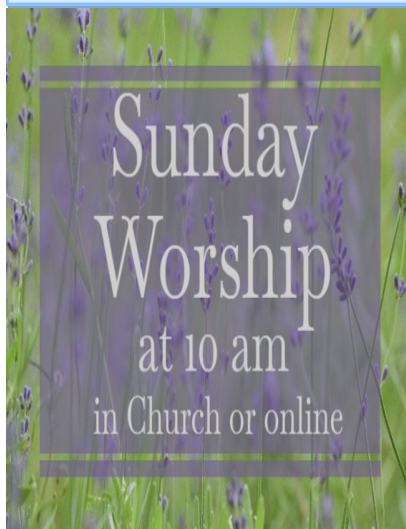
A Summer of Holy Curiosity

I do not think the most profound profession of faith is, "I believe."
I think it is, "I wonder."

Curiosity is a gift of the Holy Spirit that invites us to look beyond our well-worn patterns of belief and opinion and seek a path of wonder. This is not always an easy path; wonder asks much of us. It asks that we consider truths other than our own. It asks that we lay aside pride and ego to embrace all that we do not know. It asks that we de-center ourselves and see difference – in all its forms – as a gift. It asks that we make of God not a deity to be deduced, but a mystery to be in awe of. It asks that we look within ourselves at all the unresolved places, and hide from nothing.

This summer, we are embracing a Holy Curiosity theme in both Christian Education activities and in worship. As part of this, I am placing a Sermon Curiosity Box in the narthex, and you are invited during the month of May to contribute your own wonderings. These can be scriptures you'd like me to explore, or themes you are curious about, or topics you would like to go more deeply into. The only limit is your spiritual imagination! Your submissions are totally anonymous, so don't put your name on them.

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KEYS TO BIBLE CLASS
(in-person):
SUNDAY AT 11:15 AM

BIBLE STUDY (virtual):
TUESDAY AT 7:30 PM

YOUR CALENDARS

(visit our website
www.emmanuelpc.org for
more calendar listing)

SHRED DAY

Saturday, May 10

9-11 am

CONCERT ON HARWOOD 2025

*Concert Bells
of Fort Worth*

Saturday, May 10

4pm

BLESINGS OF THE ANIMALS

Saturday, May 17

10-11 am

SIPS 'N TIDBITS

Conti:



I will select topics to preach from on select Sundays in June and July (and perhaps into August if you suggest many ideas!). I will share the list of what's being preached upon when, so you can be sure you don't miss your topic.

What questions are keeping you awake in the middle of the night?

What topics do you believe are most urgent for the church to explore?

What scriptures spark more questions than answers in you?

How might you just want to stump your pastor?!

Add your ideas to the Sermon Curiosity Box as we embrace God's gift of holy wonder this summer. I can't wait to see what we discover together!

Peace,

Pastor Whitney



CONCERTS ON HARWOOD 2025

A Classical Music Concert Series

Sharing the Joy of Classical Music with our Neighbors

- **Concert Bells of Fort Worth** – Saturday, May 10th 4 PM
- **Mary-Christine Stingley, flute recital** – Saturday, September 27th 4 PM
- **Amy Faires and Swang Lin, violin recital** – Saturday, December 6th 4 PM

All these events will take place at 2701 Harwood Road, Bedford TX inside the sanctuary. Admission is free to the public. Donations are appreciated.

Visit our website for more information.

<https://emmanuelpc.org/concerts-on-harwood/>

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS

COMMUNITY ISSUES Discussions Sunday, May 11-Sunday, June 1: Immigration

The Christian Education Committee sponsors a three-session discussion on Immigration starting May 11th. The in-person discussions are from 11:15 AM – Noon in Room 5 (the Library) on Sunday's and will be led by Tonia Thompson. Join us for an exploration of immigration's history in the US, today's challenges, and how our Christian faith guides us as we seek solutions to those challenges.

Group Gatherings Schedule for May

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). For more information on how to participate, [contact the church office](#). February's weekly schedule for gatherings is:

Sunday's

11:15 AM:

- **Keys to the Bible Class** (in-person). Meets weekly in Room 4 and is studying the Book of Acts.
- **Community Issues: Immigration** (in-person). Meets May 11, May 18, and June 1 in Room 5 (Library). See above for more details.

May 11 (online at 4 PM) and TBD (in-person 3 PM-5 PM): Children and Youth Check-in. Children and youth meet with two adult sponsors to share how they are doing, read and reflect on scripture, and pray together.

7:00 PM: Book Mavens Youth and Adult Book Club (virtual) are reading and discussing the book *Voices from Chernobyl*, by Svetlana Alexievich in April/May, with John Ferrandino leading.

Tuesday's

7:30-8:30 PM Bible Study: Worship Scriptures (virtual). Online discussion of the Scripture and readings for Sunday's worship, with leadership rotating among participants. Contact Leah Wyckoff (<mailto:klh@sbcglobal.net>) to receive the study emails and meeting link.

BOARD AND COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS

Session Committee Report

- Learned that Whitney will be on vacation May 18th - 19th with pulpit supply preaching on the 18th
- Was informed that Whitney will be attending the MoRanch Women's Conference, using continuing education, June 6th-8th (pulpit supply for 6/8)
- Voted to designated funds totaling \$375 to cover the cost of Brittney Axton's attendance at the Mo-Ranch Women's Conference, to come from the Special Music and Worship Fund
- Learned that a suggestion box will be placed in the narthex for summer sermon suggestions
- Whitney reported on the Stewardship and Generosity Listening Session she attended
- Was made aware that the Pastor Review took place last month and that Whitney will write a report of her goals, hopes and dreams for Emmanuel
- Elected Jude Langsdorf and Frank LeCocq to serve as commissioners to the Stated Meeting of Grace Presbytery at Grace First Presbyterian Church, Weatherford, on Saturday; May 31st
- Was informed that the Safety Task Force's Action plan will be laminated and posted soon
- Reminder that deadline for applications for the Brady-Ellis Scholarship fund is April 30th
- Voted to move \$380 from the MoRach Men's Scholarship Fund to the Women's MoRanch Fund to provide half the cost of the women's retreat for two individuals who requested assistance
- Named Tonia Thompson, Molly Bollles, and Frank LeCocq to serve as review team for scholarship requests for this year's women's retreat
- Voted to approve update to Aaron's contract to include his wife, Andrea, to assist in the cleaning of the church, pending a background check
- Voted to approve renewal of the contract between EPC and violin instructor Christina Leano for rental of church facilities for the 2025-2026 school year with a fee increase from \$15 to \$25/wk
- Learned that two CDs would be renewed and a third one's proceeds placed into the Money Market Fund for ready access to pay the parking lot contractor
- Was provided Emmanuel's insurance coverage; to be discussed at a later meeting, in accord with Book of Order
- Learned that Arbor Daze was highly attended and in a great new location
- Reminders of upcoming events:

May 10th	Shred Day	&	Concert on Harwood - Concert Bells of FTW
May 17th	Blessing of the Animal		





Lois Circle

(1st Thursday of each month, 1 pm)

Thursday, May 1, 2025
12:00 noon

Macarena Taco Shop and Margarita Bar
2113 Harwood Road, Ste 317,
Bedford TX 76021

For more information contact:
Donna R: xxx-xxx-5464 or
Denise K: xxx-xxx-8665



Ruth Fellowship

(3rd Monday of each month, 6:30 pm)

Monday, May 19, 2025
6:30 pm

Raven's Grille
1400 Texas Star Pkwy
Euless 76040

For more information contact:
Denise K: xxx-xxx-8665

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To submit newsletter articles, events or any other information,
please email office@emmanuelpc.org
by the fourth Sunday of the month.

BIRTHDAYS



Jane R: May 10

James F: May 11

Robin V: May 12

Molly B: May 15

Barbara W: May 19

Mary Ellen F:
May 28

Jessica P: May 29

Paul B: May 30

Jude L: May 31

CHURCH OFFICE **CLOSED**

on MEMORIAL DAY
Monday May 26, 2025.
Office will reopen on
Tuesday May 27
at regular hours.



We offer three ways to submit prayer requests at this time:

- ♦ You may scan the QR code right or on the church bulletin or
- ♦ Write your prayers on the slips of paper provided in church service, or
- ♦ Send via email to prayer@emmanuelpc.org.

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. All prayers received by Sunday evening will be included in the weekly prayer list. Prayers may be edited for clarity and brevity, but the essence will still be there.

****Prayer requests received through texts are not recommended. ****

Thank you for sharing prayer concerns and participating in the congregation's prayer life!

HOSPITALITY SUNDAYS

Do you have gifts for hospitality and welcoming people? Emmanuel's Deacons are looking for volunteers to host refreshments after worship on a Summer Sunday. Host by yourself or partner with a friend or family member, whatever works for you. Sunday Hospitality hosting involves about 20 minutes of setup before worship, then serving food after worship and cleaning up. We have some treats on-hand in the fellowship hall freezer and funds are available to reimburse you for food purchased.

To sign up, contact Helen S. or write your name on the Sunday Hospitality schedule in the narthex. Thank you for considering it!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

The Christian Education is asking for people to volunteer occasionally in the Nursery on Sundays. Kelly Balthrop is our nursery worker but our Child Protection Policy requires no less than 2 adults in the nursery with the children. This does not have to be on a regular basis but will give most of you a chance to enjoy being with the children.

There is a sign up sheet in the Narthex and the CE committee would appreciate the extra help. What a wonderful way to use your talents at Emmanuel!

AUDIO VISUAL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

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

SUNDAY OFFERING COUNTERS NEEDED!

For Sunday Offering Counters, sign up at [Sign Up Genius](#). One of the counters should be an ELDER and the other person a Volunteer. Thank you for volunteering!!

EMMANUEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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