

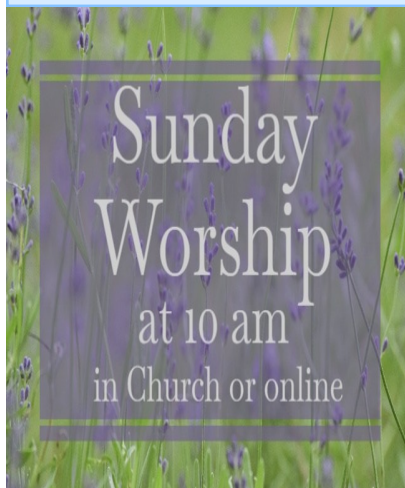


THE MESSENGER

MAY 2026

What's INSIDE

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- 3 Christian Education
- 4 Fellowships, Birthdays
- 5 Prayer requests, Volunteers needed



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

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

Pastor's Post



Julian of Norwich icon written through the hand of Kara Gillette. Julian is pictured with her beloved cat, and here also, with the tiny hazelnut.

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*And in this he showed me a little thing
the quantity of a hazelnut,
lying in the palm of my hand, as it seemed.
I looked upon it with the eye of my understanding,
and thought, 'What may this be?'
And it was answered generally thus,
"It is all that is made."
I marveled how it might last,
for I thought it might
suddenly have fallen to nothing
for littleness.
And I was answered in my understanding:
It lasts and ever shall, for God loves it.
And so have all things their beginning
by the love of God.
In this little thing I saw three properties.
The first is that God made it.
The second that God loves it.
And the third, that God keeps it.*

- Julian of Norwich

May 8 is the Feast Day of Julian of Norwich, and this incredible mother of our faith has been on my mind. She was an English anchoress – a woman who people would come to for spiritual direction and care – and in 1373 began receiving visions from God. She wrote those visions down in a book called *Shewings, or Revelations, of Divine Love*, and it is the earliest surviving book we have written by a woman in the English language.

A key idea of these revelations for Julian was what my doctoral advisor Dr. Amy Laura Hall has named *ominamity*: the love of God that encircled all things. Julian was going through an intense illness when she received her visions. But the word from God that carried her through, and has been carried through the centuries to us is love, love, love. A love as small and big as a hazelnut held in her palm.

I wonder if you need a reminder of omniamity today – of God's ever-present love encircling you. I wonder if God is calling you to be that reminder for someone else. When we open ourselves to God's ever-present love, something changes within us. The world changes around us. We are able to say, with Julian, her most famous line: "but all will be well, and all will be well, and every kind of thing will be well." We say this not from a place of detachment from suffering and pain, for these words of Julian came out of both of these. We say these words not as platitudes or an excuse to hide from our own God-given agency. We say these words because God made us. God loves us. God keeps us. Just as God made, loves, and keeps all of creation. Sit with Julian's words, and ask God for how you can practice omniamity – the love of all – with each breath. Things in your life or the world may not be well, but God does not leave us. All shall be well.

Peace,
Pastor Whitney

YOUR CALENDARS

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

MORANCH MEN'S CONFERENCE

May 1-3

BLUE & GOLD CUB SCOUT PACK 254

Saturday, May 2
3-8 pm

PCHAS Luncheon

Wednesday, May 6, Noon
Ridglea Country Club
Carpooling from EPC at
noon.

CONCERTS ON HARWOOD 2026

Flutissimo! Flute Choir
Saturday, May 9
at 4 pm

INTERGENERATIONAL WORKSHOP

(PENTECOST)

Sunday, May 24
after Worship

MORANCH WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

June 5-7

SIPS 'N TIDBITS



SUNDAY, MAY 24, 2026

At 10 am Worship

Join us as we celebrate the birthday of the Church with a
Jazz band!
You are encouraged to wear **red** on this day to celebrate the
Holy Spirit.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Habitat signups for workdays should be done by May 6 (link and
all other info at <https://emmanuelpc.org/habitat-for-humanity/>)

Habitat workdays: May 29, 30; June 3, 5, 6, 10, 12, 13, 19, 20;
times are 7 am to 1 pm.

CONCERTS ON HARWOOD 2026

A Classical Music Concert Series
Sharing the Joy of Classical Music with our Neighbors

- **Flutissimo! Flute Choir**
Saturday, May 9 at 4 pm

- **Piano Duet**
Michael Schneider and Tak Yan Yeung
Saturday, September 12 at 4 pm

- **Flute Recital**
Mary-Christine Stingley
Saturday, December 5 at 4 pm

These events will take place at 2701 Harwood Road, Bedford TX inside the sanc-
tuary. Admission is free to the public. Donations are appreciated.

Visit our website for more information.

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

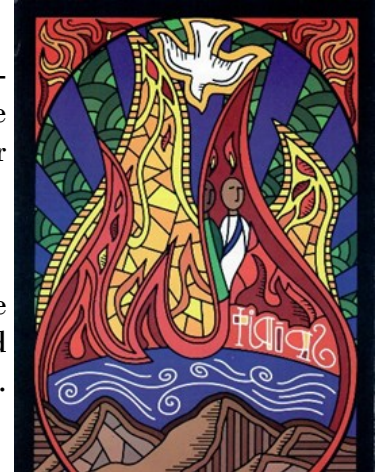
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS

May 24th Pentecost Sunday Gathering

Join us after worship on **Pentecost Sunday, May 24th**, for a Pentecost Gathering where we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit and the birthday of the Church! We'll gather in SoRelle Hall for food, fellowship, and activities for all ages.

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](#).



May's weekly group gathering schedule is:

Sunday's

11:15 AM:

- **Keys to the Bible Class** (in-person). Meets weekly in Room 4. They are concluding their study of the Book of Acts and will soon begin studying the Book of Hebrews. Contact [John Stocking](#) for more information.

Youth Check-ins Sunday afternoons:

- **Sunday, May 10 at 4 PM (on-line)** Youth Check-in devotional and prayer.
- **Sunday, May 24, 3 PM - 5 PM.** In-person meeting; activity TBD.

6:45 PM: Book Mavens Youth and Adult Book Club (virtual) are reading *Black Birds in the Sky*, by Brandy Colbert, with Leah Wyckoff leading. To participate, contact [Leah Wyckoff](#).

Tuesday's

- **7:30-8:30 PM Worship Scripture Discussion (virtual).** Online discussion of the Scriptures for the next Sunday's worship. Contact Leah Wyckoff (<mailto:klh@sbcglobal.net>) to receive the study emails and meeting link.

BOARD AND COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS

Session Committee Report

- Session welcomed The Reverend Laura Walters, Coordinator of Community Engagement and Public Witness, who advised session on how to begin work on creating an Anti-Racism Policy for Emmanuel, as required by Book of Order.
- Learned that Linda Villareal will meet with Session in person at the May meeting, representing the Board of Deacons
- Was informed that the Facilities Committee is waiting for a third bid on the plumbing project while Treasurer Rick Thompson flagged some accounts which might be used to cover the \$20,000-\$30,000 cost of the project
- Heard that the Blessing of the Animals has been rescheduled for Saturday, October 3rd at 10 AM
- Learned that Whitney will be conducting a Lunchtime Prayer at the 6:8 House on Tuesday, May 5th, appropriate for caregivers and anyone experiencing grief
- Was reminded that two people need to count and label and sign any monies collected before giving them to the financial administrator
- Heard that the door code will be changing on May 18th
- Learned that Whitney will be on vacation June 4-12; Lucia Kremzar preaching on June 7th
- Rejoiced with Clerk Sheryl Taylor that the 2025 Session Minutes were approved without exceptions for the first time since Sheryl became Clerk
- Heard that the Manual of Organization task force will begin its work soon
- Learned that the art from Wanda Asire's estate might be set up for possible purchase by the congregation on May 17th
- Was told that information from the insurance company on which Praesidium courses are required this year has yet to be received
- Heard that the Personnel Committee is interested in resuming the former practice of recognizing staff work anniversary dates in worship
- Elected Frank LeCocq and (tentatively) Jude Langsdorf as commissioners to the Called Presbytery meeting Saturday, June 6th, at Central Presbyterian Church, Woodway (Waco)
- Learned that the current year-to-date deficit is \$15,761.31
- Was informed that liturgist and usher training will be scheduled soon and that the Worship Committee thought Holy Week was wonderful
- Heard that a nursery clean-up day is being scheduled and that an information form for regular nursery users will be created to check on possible allergies and special needs
- Learned that there will be Pentecost workshop on May 24th and that VBS will be scheduled for July 29th and 30th
- Heard that The Clubhouse for Special Needs has rescheduled their Spring Festival for Saturday, May 9th, from 10 AM - 2 PM in the parking lot
- Session voted to approve amending the Rental Schedule to include a \$25 fee for the use of EPC's Audio-Visual equipment in SoRelle Hall for non-church members
- Special Offering collections to date include:

* One Great Hour of Sharing	\$600
* Habitat for Humanity	\$4160
* Unrestricted Memorial Fund	\$3185
* Building Maintenance	\$3560
* Local Benevolence	\$1951
- Heard that current NEED focus in on toilet tissue, paper towels, Kleenex, bar soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste
- Anyone interested in attending the Presbyterian Children's Home and Service fundraising lunch should contact John Field
- Emmanuel provides breakfasts/snacks for Habitat workday on Friday, June 19th; contact Kirsten Smith or Joyce Morris
- Session voted to begin Church Breakfast tradition on the 5th Sundays, beginning on May 31st, with the Outreach Committee hosting and leadership to rotate to other committees or groups
- Next Concert on Harwood is scheduled for Saturday, May 9th, with Flutissimo! flute Choir and the Richardson family hosting refreshments in Memory of Elisabeth.



Lois Circle

(1st Thursday of each month, 12 pm)

**Thursday, May 7, 2026
12 pm**

**54th Street
2201 TX-121
Eules, TX 76039**

**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 18, 2026
6:30 pm**

**Big Fish Seafood Grill & Bar
414 S Main St.
Grapevine TX**

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

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stay-up-to date*



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
MONDAY, MAY 25
FOR MEMORIAL DAY.**

**Office will reopen on
Tuesday, May 26
at regular hours.**



We offer three ways to submit prayer requests at this time. Please choose one.

- ◆ You may scan the QR code on the right or on the church bulletin
- ◆ Write your prayers on the slips of paper provided in church service
- ◆ 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 B. Edwards 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. 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

2701 Harwood Road
Bedford TX 76021

**2701 HARWOOD RD, BEDFORD TX 76021 | 817-545-0251 | WWW.EMMANUELPC.ORG
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