

THE MESSENGER



SPECIAL OFFERING DAY! SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 *Worship and Music Program*

This offering is used to purchase worship items and supplies and also helps Emmanuel's music leadership offer special music programs not otherwise possible through the annual

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

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 pastor-chuck@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

September 2020

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**Summer 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

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**GET READY FOR PARKING LOT
BINGO!!**

Saturday, September 26, 2020

9:00 a.m.

EPC Parking Lot

Letter to the EPC Congregation:

Dear Friends and Members,

The COVID Task Force Committee has been meeting regularly to determine when we can reopen the church building for worship and activities. We are sure that many of you have been following the COVID – 19 developments across Texas and particularly in the DFW area. This is an unprecedented health situation that unfortunately is not subsiding very fast or at all. This is why it is essential that members and friends of Emmanuel continue to take precautions necessary to reduce your potential exposure to COVID – 19 and curb the spread of the virus. We will face this challenge together as a congregation. At this time, we have determined the following:

We have been closely monitoring the severity of the spread of the Coronavirus and have begun to make plans on what to do.

We will not be re-opening the church building until the virus has declined *significantly*. We are looking at County Health Dept. reports as well as looking at CDC recommendations.

We are working on a Phasing-in Plan and criteria for reopening that we will present at a later date. We are looking at other churches in the DFW area to see what plans they are presenting to their congregations.

We are discussing group activities both inside and out to determine the safest means to meet. There will be a follow-up letter with specific details.

We recommend that we continue online worship, fellowship, and meetings at this time. Please continue to practice mask wearing, social distancing, and hand sanitizing.

We will continue to monitor the situation and keep you informed. If you have any questions, feel free to contact one of us.

In the name of Jesus Christ,

Laura Mahon, Jayne Johnson, Sheryl Taylor, Mary Ann Reed, Ken Richardson,

Chuck Schneider



PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

The Personnel Committee met with Rev. Chuck to discuss the hours he will begin working in August. Robin is ramping up to work 25 hours a week in August and to start taking on more responsibilities. It was decided that Chuck will begin working 25 hours a week in August and slowly back down on hours again in September and October. By November Robin will be working full-time at 40 hours a week. We appreciate all of the hard work and hours that Rev. Chuck has given us in these trying times with COVID19 and the new online service we enjoy each week. Our hats go off to him and Robin for working through this transition so smoothly. We are blessed to have his leadership!



UPCOMING EVENTS (Details to follow)

STEWARDSHIP LUNCHEON, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2020 (THEME: ONLINE TOGETHER TO GIVE)

COURTYARD CAFÉ, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2020



Emmanuel's Christian Education Committee needs your input as we plan online Fall 2020 gatherings. A survey to assess online faith formation needs and interests for Christian Education is at <https://forms.gle/JvkahEWMC3cLw9VaA>. **Please complete it and give us your input!**

Weekly Virtual gatherings currently underway include:

Fellowship Hour is open to everyone and takes place at 11 AM on Sunday. Participants check in and share joys and concerns.

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

Children and Youth gather online with Pastor Chuck and an adult helper on Friday's at 3:30 PM to check in.

Children and Youth Book Club meets online on Saturday's at 11:00 AM. They are starting a new book on September 5th: *Brown Girl Dreaming*, by Jacqueline Woodson.

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).



**We pray for our students,
their families,
& their teachers
as the K-12th grade school year
gets underway**

Jesus said, "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love." — John 15:9



**Remember, you are loved
by Jesus and by us!**



Ruth Fellowship (Cancelled)

Lois Circle (Cancelled)

Men's Dinner (Cancelled)

Board and Committee Reports

SESSION:

Learned about plans for the 2021 Stewardship Campaign "Online Together to Give", that the Stewardship luncheon of pre-packaged boxed lunches would take place on October 11th with Dedication Sunday scheduled for November 15th.

Heard that the Building Fund special offering total was currently \$955, that the church has purchased a ZOOM account, and that Robin's office is getting a new computer.

It was reported that the Worship Committee is discussing a possible outdoor service and other ways to provide Robin with a "live audience".

Learned that the eprayer distribution list is in the process of being rerouted to the Deacons.

Heard that Robin's transition calendar has been updated by the team from Personnel.

It was reported that 35 responses have been received to the Christian Education survey and that back-to-school bags were assembled and delivered to six students.

Approved in concept the creation of a study hall for students, with adult supervision present in the building, once the Covid task group and Christian Education are in agreement on guidelines and protocol.

Learned that parking lot bingo is being planned for September 26th, following Covid protocol, and that Courtyard Cafe' is tentatively scheduled for the afternoon of October 25th.

Heard that the upstairs air conditioner has been replaced by the Facility Committee and that Social Justice is considering a possible book study or email discussion on race relations for the fall.

Received information that Habitat for Humanity is preparing for some volunteer days in the fall and that the Summer Lunch Program averaged 25-30 kids each day.

Voted to amend the Pandemic Fund guidelines to disburse up to 50% of past and future amounts given to Emmanuel staff, members and friends to a local organization that assists the community at large.

Was made aware that the Nominating Committee is forming and is almost complete.

Heard that the Covid-19 Reopening Task Force is sending a letter to the congregation, creating phases for re-entry based on statistical data, and creating guidelines for small groups for inside and outside gatherings, along with a questionnaire for participants.

Finance:

July Income: \$22,756.29

July Expense: \$40,307.49

LECTIONARY

09/06: Exod. 12:1-14; Ps. 149; Rom. 13:8-14; Matt. 18:15-20

09/13: Exod. 14:9-31; Ps. 114 or Exod. 15:1b-11, 20-21; Rom. 14:1-12; Matt. 18:21-35

09/20: Exod. 16:2-15; Ps. 105; 1-6, 37-45; Phil. 1:21-30; Matt. 20:1-16

09/27: Exod. 17:1-7; Ps. 78:1-4, 12-16; Phil. 2:1-13; Matt. 21:23-32

BIRTHDAYS

09/07 John Phillips

09/12 David Turner

09/22 Evelyn Schmedt

09/25 Linda Greenwell

09/25 Denise Karriker

09/28 Cheryl Dale

CIRCLES

Lois Circle (SUSPENDED)

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

Ruth Fellowship's (SUSPENDED)

DIRECTORY CORRECTIONS

New Address:
Angella Takomana
2708 Martin Dr.
Apt. #2064
Bedford, TX 76021
memory95@icloud.com

Katherine Mahon
1405 N. Locust St., #4
Denton, TX 76201

New Phone Number:
Estella Pryor
817-800-7078

New Email Address:
Jayne Johnson
Enyaj@me.com

Wanda Asire
wandaasire@twc.com