



## EMMANUEL FAMILY NEWSLETTER

395 Lakeshore Drive  
North Bay, Ontario P1A 2C5  
705-472-1806

**Minister:**

**Organist:** John Henderson

**Secretary:** Laura Martin

**Office Hours:** Tuesday—Friday

1:00 pm — 4:00 p.m.

**Chair of Council:** Bev Carmichael

**Envelope Secretary:** Ben Moulton

January 2017

From Our Minister's Desk

January 2017 ...

Happy New Year to you all.

Happy sesquicentennial to our country

2017 has started off at a gallop for we've already had 3 funerals within our community. Emmanuel Church has responded with a big heart to these moments of challenge in our faith family.

The Joint Search Committee continues to do the incredibly important work of looking for new ministerial leadership for the changed and changing times in which we live and are being faithful to the call of God in Christ.

These evolutionary change and growth moments take time. They happen in God's time and not ours, and this is often very frustrating to handle.

I know that I often offer up the prayer "God give me patience, but please hurry."

Jesus also had some very important advice for the people around him at all of the significant moments of his life: "Be not afraid." We were, and are, and I pray, will always be a community in partnership with God as we look upon the life of Christ, and Christ has always been the shepherd leading us from just slightly ahead of where we now find ourselves to be. We measure many processes by the passage of time on our watch. This is a process measured in the vitality of community life and the openness of the people to God.

Sunday February 26, will be my last Sunday as minister here at Emmanuel.

Thank you all for the privilege of being your minister for this time. I have been enriched by my time among you. I wish you all the very best in what lies ahead for you.

You have been through tough times before and were enhanced and strengthened by the experience. You will experience tough times ahead, and will grow as you come together and pull together to get God's work accomplished here at Emmanuel.

I came to you in September 2015 as a friend of Emmanuel Church. I leave in that same way.

Lillian and I have friends who live on PEI. A fair time ago he showed me a marvelous sentence that kind of captures the faith challenges and essences in which we live ...

"Good God where next".

Experiment with different punctuation to see what kind of affirmations and questions you can make from these words. Be as creative as you can. After you do the punctuation determine which of the groupings describes best where you see yourselves/ourselves to be.

In French, there are at least 2 different ways of saying "good bye". There's "au revoir" which conveys the definite sense of "Good bye..." There's also "à bientôt" which conveys the sense of "see you around".

Thank you all very much.

À bientôt.

Gord

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## OUR FAITH STORY IN STAINED GLASS .... THE WINDOWS OF EMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH

The stained glass art of the Emmanuel United Church sanctuary is the work of a Northern Ontario artist, David M. Morgan. The Official Board commissioned David to do this project in 1992. We asked him to follow a basic theme of our salvation history but using some contemporary and Northern Ontario imagery as well as traditional imagery. David describes his work as daytime art, and depending on the lighting and the mood, different images emerge from each window like revelation. The salvation history theme moves from left to right as you face the front of the sanctuary (looking easterly). We very much appreciate the beauty and inspiration these windows bring to our place of worship.



Window 8

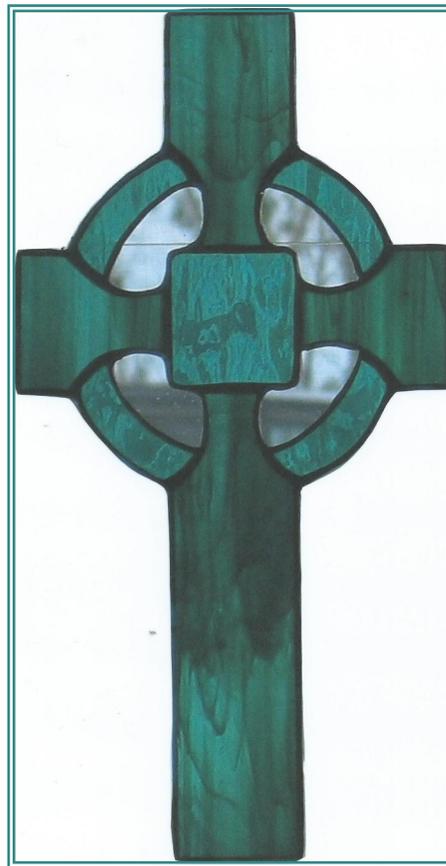
### THE EARLY FAITH COMMUNITY

The earliest Christian communities are symbolized by a tree of life, bearing fruit of great variety, for such are the fruit of the Spirit. A treble clef entwines the tree and a harp sits at its base to represent the praise and celebration of the communities. With the sunlight of Christ shining on the community its roots reach deep into fertile soil. The triangle at the bottom represents the solid and stable base of the Trinity. Notice also the hands of God and humanity reaching toward each other.

A different window will be featured in future newsletters. Unfortunately these beautiful windows do not show well in black and white, but you are welcome to come to the church and see them for yourself.

# THE CELTIC CROSS

The Celtic cross item of stained glass shown in this picture was made by a former member of the congregation, Kathy Mack, about 25 years ago. She had a keen interest in learning this craft at the time and took lessons while she lived here in North Bay. This cross was one of her earlier projects. The Celtic cross traces its origins back to Ireland, where it appeared in the Middle Ages. No one knows exactly where the idea for the blending of a circle with a Christian cross originates. Some say it was a marriage of a pagan belief in a sun god with a Christian cross, others argue it was a cross that included a halo to show Christ's divinity. Still others say that Celtic crosses, most of which are made from stone, were built this way because crosses carved from stone were susceptible to breaking unless they were reinforced with the circle in the centre. Whatever their origin, Kathy liked the simplicity of the project, which matched her skill level with stained glass at the time, and she chose a green glass due to its affiliation with Ireland and things Celtic.



Kathy's interest in stained glass eventually blossomed into a desire to see the church windows at Emmanuel United decorated with full-sized inserts, and she was one of many who researched how this might be accomplished into the beautiful windows you see today in the sanctuary and chapel. Kathy herself credits her membership at Emmanuel as the first step in a long spiritual journey that eventually took her to Emmanuel College to obtain a Master Degree of Theological Studies. While she attended the university, she even completed a stained glass project as a substitute for writing a paper in one of her church history classes! Although she has little time for stained glass now that she is a high school chemistry, math, and religion teacher at St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic High School in Russell, ON, Kathy still loves glass and is glad to know that her simple project from years ago is remembered and appreciated by members at her former church home.

*You will find our beautiful Celtic Cross, which Kathy so graciously gifted to Emmanuel United Church, hanging on the large window in the Narthex.*

# UCW NEWS

First of all, we would like to thank everyone for their support for another successful Teddy Bear Tea and Bazaar on November 12. Everyone who contributed in any way helped us raise \$2,218.45 before expenses. We will miss

Juan Hernandez, our expert dishwasher operator, and wish him well in his new home in southern Ontario.



Ron Green got the ovens going at 7 am and helped until the end and several gentlemen set up for us and returned the sanctuary and hall to normal after the guests were gone. The Stars Tea and Bazaar has been booked for November 18, 2017.

We would like to thank those who donate and buy the books that are available in the hall for a donation. Your generous efforts have raised \$391.86 from the first of January to December 1.

On December 6, 10 women gathered for the last meeting of 2016 and to pack and deliver 17 tins of cookies left from the Cookie Walk. Thank you to the folks who baked cookies.

We decided to donate \$1,000.00 to Emmanuel Church and received a letter from the United Church of Canada thanking us for our donation to Mission & Services. Judy Thorne raised \$160.00 at the Bazaar for Mission & Service through the sale of furry "Worry Worts".

We received a letter from Judy Biondi, President of Manitou Conference UCW, with a newsy newsletter including information about the 55<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the UCW Celebration to be held in Vancouver July 10 to 14, 2017. I was able to attend the 50<sup>th</sup> Celebration in Ancaster and recommend the experience highly.

We also received greetings from the new President of National UCW. The letters are posted on the Committee Bulletin Board in the center hall for your perusal.

2017 Church calendar sales are lagging so we will order fewer in the future.

Upcoming events are the UCW General Meeting January 10 at 1 pm and catering to the Canadian Club on Wednesday, January 18, 2017.

Ruth Trottier

Secretary/Treasurer, Emmanuel UCW



**Happy New Year**



Some folks from Emmanuel Church decided to get together for New Years Eve. Great idea. Bud McMartin, Norma Deller and Ruth Trottier did organize a fun evening. So much better than staying home alone on New Years Eve!

The hall looked festive with the tables nicely decorated, candles, hats, balloons and noise makers, all there.

We had fruit punch and lots of nuts. We all chipped in for a very tasty Chinese meal, hot and delicious. I am afraid some of us, including me, ate a bit too much. Tomorrow, Jan. 1 we all can go on a diet again (for a few days).

Bud entertained us with fun games, Trivia Pursuit, we were good identifying the songs and singers. The names of the Councilmen, not so good.

Thanks guys for a fun evening, we all went home with a smile on our faces.

*Submitted by* Margie Mastellar



## WHY ATTEND THE CONGREGATIONAL MEETING .....

On Sunday February 26, following a lunch hosted by the CL&W Committee, we will share in the Annual meeting of our Congregation.. It is a time for everyone to hear where we have been; where we see ourselves as being, and almost most importantly where we see ourselves as going in the future. A couple of things:

1. You are a valued part of our church family.
2. Your 2 cents worth is as valued as everyone else's and without you there a piece of the Emmanuel family will be missing.
3. The best way I know to find out what's happening is to be there. Don't rely on getting the 'scuttle but' second or third hand a couple of weeks after the meeting from a friend.
4. Reports and minutes talk about the agenda items and the things that happened at a meeting. To see the heart of a congregation, is to see the people gathered for study, prayer, song and in our case to either serve or enjoy food and time together. Please come and be part of this gathering of our family.

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### Sunday Feb. 26, 2017 - The Annual Congregational Meeting

The Congregational Life & Work Committee will be providing food for the luncheon at this meeting. We will have egg, salmon & ham sandwiches, various squares & desserts & beverages. There will be a Free-will offering to hopefully cover the costs of the food & any profit from the luncheon will go to the General Fund. **This day is the last Sunday for Rev. Gord at Emmanuel** so we hope that there is a good turnout for the luncheon & the meeting.

Everyone is welcome so come & enjoy the food, fellowship & work of our church.



## WORSHIP COMMITTEE



The Advent season which began November 27, is always a season of great excitement and anticipation. This was enhanced by the excellent ministry of Rev. Gord Roberts and the choir music lead by John Henderson. As a result, you may have noticed that our services seemed faster and brighter as we approached Christmas. This was climaxed by a very well attended Christmas Eve birth of Christ Intinction Communion service led by Rev. Rick Thorne and children's time led by Judy Thorne. It was great to have Rick and Judy with us for this special service. Thank you.

Being that Christmas Eve was on a Saturday this year, it was decided by our Church Council that we would not hold a service on Sunday December 25. Trinity United Church offered a "come as you are" service on that day for those who wanted a church to go to.

To start us out on a new year on Sunday January 1, Rev. Rick Thorne returned to greet a somewhat smaller crowd and a microphone that needed a battery and no overhead projection. Sorry about that Rick, just one of those Sundays I guess. Thanks again for being with us.

As we look ahead, we have a Communion Service on February 5.

On February 26 Rev. Gord Roberts will be leaving us to resume his retirement after being with us from September 9, 2015. This will certainly be a sad day for Emmanuel, who have benefited so much from his ministry and leadership.

Thank you Gord.

From March 5 and onward, our Worship Committee, Joint Search Committee, Ministry and Personnel Committee, Church Council, North Bay Presbytery will be working together to assure you that there will be a minister in the Emmanuel Church pulpit each Sunday.

March 1 Ash Wednesday

March 5 Communion Service

April 2 Communion Service

April 14 Good Friday (Joint Service at Trinity United Church)

April 16 Easter Day

Special entertainment is being planned for our Sunday morning services throughout the coming year. Further details will be forthcoming as this develops.

### **Concern:**

We are experiencing a shortage of members for our Worship Committee and are appealing to anyone who feels that they can help out to give me a call and I can explain what we do. Thank you.

Jack Page

Chair

Worship Committee





HOW COME THE WAITRESS GETS 15% AND GOD ONLY GETS 10%?

The good Lord didn't  
create anything  
without a purpose,  
But mosquitoes come  
close.

People are funny;  
they want the  
Front of the bus,  
Middle of the  
road,  
And back of the  
church.

I wonder why we  
are so so obsessed  
with trying  
to find  
intelligent  
life on  
other planets,  
when we can't  
even find  
intelligent life here?



## \$ and Sense

Another year in Emmanuel's financial life has come and gone. Even though our givings were approximately \$7,000 below budget, thanks to the hard work of the many volunteers of our church community, we were able to finish the year with a small, but positive, surplus. We start 2017 with a very low bank balance.

A special thank you goes to all those who have designated givings to M&S. Your stewardship, kindness and generosity have resulted in our exceeding our target.

A thank you also goes to those who have contributed to the mortgage fund. This too has exceeded target with the result that we will be mortgage free approximately 2 months earlier.

Although our givings to the General Fund are declining, the hard work of our volunteers has brought us from deficit to surplus by year end. These efforts include \$8,535 from our 48<sup>th</sup> Turkey Supper, \$6,345 from our 32<sup>nd</sup> Beef Supper, \$2,200 from our 7<sup>th</sup> Non-supper Supper and a record \$1,620 from our 7<sup>th</sup> Cookie Walk.

The UCW continues to be a hardworking and generous group. Thank you ladies for your tireless hard work and financial contributions. Your efforts do not go unnoticed and are most appreciated.

For 7 of the 12 months of 2016, monthly expenses exceeded revenue. If you are not on PAR, can we ask that you seriously consider enrolling? This will spread out your annual givings more evenly over the whole of the year. It will allow the Treasurer to meet the monthly expense of Emmanuel without having to secure short term loans. PAR is a win-win for all program.



*Faith* ✦ *Hope* ✦ *Love*



Christ of the Breadlines (1953) by Fritz Eichenberg

The West Ferris Community Brunch has been serving the North Bay community with a breakfast twice a month since *June, 1996!*

There are those of you who have been on the volunteer list for many years and we want you to know you are most appreciated! Without your participation there wouldn't be this important Community Brunch Program in North Bay sponsored by 4 churches, Church of Christ, Emmanuel United, Holy Name of Christ Catholic, St. John's Anglican, The Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse, Feed North Bay and generous others.

It is very gratifying to see those we serve enjoying their meal and sharing fellowship with one another. The Brunch Folk regard us as caring friends. I believe this community outreach is what we as the church are all about.

*Perhaps you are familiar with one of the works by Fritz Eichenberg, "Christ of the Breadlines" (seen above). It was his hope that in a small way he had been able to contribute in his art works, to peace through compassion, to see God in everyone. I have been inspired by this art work. I am reminded again and again at each Brunch as our Brunch folk line up to be fed that what we do for each one of them we do in love and compassion.*

**We are happy to recognize very dedicated hard workers – Kitchen Conveners, Barb Johnson and Pam Handley as well as Dave Johnson at St. John's Anglican Church (Brunches held every 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday); Doreen McLuhan and Jo McCulley at Emmanuel United Church (Brunches held every 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday, generally); from September through June. All our volunteers are important to the Brunch.**

We are always interested in ways we can improve the Brunch. You are invited to attend our planning meetings held at Emmanuel Church between 1:30 p.m. –2:30 p.m. when required. **All are welcome!**

Are you aware that we have approximately **38 volunteers and many others that provide support?**

My sincere thanks for your commitment and dedication to this program.

***Have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!  
Wishing You Joy, Peace and Laughter***

Mary & Ken Soutar  
705-495-6147

## VISITATION COMMITTEE

I am pleased to report that it does pay to advertise around Emmanuel United Church.

The Visitation Committee asked for volunteers and has two new helpers. Mary Kilby, a recent transfer-in from Knox United, is a good listener who was once a telephone operator. She has been making phone calls on our behalf to keep in touch with those who can no longer get to the church services.

Anita Spalding is willing to be in touch with cancer patients who could use the support of someone who has herself been a cancer patient and long time volunteer with the Canadian Cancer Society. If you would like a phone call from either of these ladies, please contact us.

We are still looking for the birth dates of those who are 80 or older, so that we don't miss sending them birthday cards and we also send cards for newborns, and sympathy – if someone lets us know. We also appreciate hearing about when hospital visits are wanted and if communion delivery at home during the week after the communion service at church is desired.

Ruth Trottier, Chair, Visitation Committee – 705-474-8843



### COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

It is quite obvious on Sundays after church that a lot of people are enjoying the coffee, goodies, etc. & fellowship. It's good to see people having a good chat with one another & in some cases giving some caring support. However, it would also be



nice if some of the regular folks would be willing to help prepare & clean up for Coffee fellowship. You don't need to provide food or coffee, you just need to be there to prepare the beverages, food & set things up & clean up

afterwards. You should arrive about 10:10 to get everything ready & there are sometimes a few folks willing to help with cleaning up afterwards. If you don't know what to do we can show the procedure & there is a list of things to do on the inside of the cupboard. If you are willing to help, contact either Jo McCulley or Bud McMartin or sign up on the sheet at the William Street entrance. Thanks for those that volunteer to help!

*Christ*  
is the center  
of our *Home*  
a guest at every *Meal*  
a silent *Listener*  
to every conversation

### Who likes doing the dishes?

We will soon be planning for the Beef Dinner. Since the dishwasher was installed, we have greatly appreciated Juan Hernandez who loved to operate the dishwasher and recently moved to southern Ontario. He was able to stand for long periods of time and was so strong that he lifted racks of 18 clean plates to drain over the sink to



speed up the process. Other dish cleaning team members will not be available at the end of April this year.

If you are able to help us out, please contact Ruth Trottier, 705-474-8843 for a tutorial on operating Emmanuel's dishwasher or addition to the 'clean' team.

## IS IT TIME TO COME TO PAR?

Why should I give? Because we are all stewards of God. What does stewardship mean? Stewardship is the responsible use of God's gifts in light of God's purpose as revealed in Jesus. Stewardship is not just our time attending a weekly service. It is so much more. It is using all of the talents God has given us to help our fellow creatures through prayer, charity, participation and support.

An important part of support is our financial giving. These help to sustain our local church, our Mission and Service projects and our greater church. All require time and, that dreaded word, money to succeed.

Real success can only be achieved through proper planning and effective dedication of our limited resources, be they time, budget or both. Managing a budget needs planning, or definition, and control of expenditures in line with our capacity to pay. And our capacity to pay relies on the timing of when money is received. This is where a Pre-Authorization Remittance, or PAR, can play such a powerful role.

What should I give? This is a question each must answer for themselves. Give what you feel comfortable with. We all know how our personal budgets are being taxed through ever increasing costs. Remember, your church community is not immune to these pressures either. No matter what you give, it will always be thankfully received and faithfully applied. Be happy with your givings to God's ministry. Set a goal, a target, you think you can meet and remember that goals are living things, they can be adjusted upwards and downwards as your financial circumstances change.

How should I give? You can give by depositing your gift in the collection plate or by using PAR. It is hard to guess what revenue will come in from the collection plate. PAR is a most convenient way of budgeting and controlling your costs. You are always in control. You can always change the amount or opt out should you find it is not for you. Consider a base amount. It can always be topped up at any time as you are able. PAR helps you and Emmanuel to better budget their resources.

Think of the added convenience of PAR – no more looking for cash or your cheque book at the last moment. You can show up for service relaxed knowing you are in control and doing your part at being the best steward you can be.



<b>PAR AUTHORIZATION CARD</b>	
I hereby request and authorize:	
<b>Emmanuel United Church</b>	
to cause a debit to be drawn on my account each month in the amount of \$ _____ as a contribution by me to Emmanuel United Church.	
Contributor's Name _____	
Distribution: Local _____ M&S _____ Other _____	
Financial Institution/Credit Card Information _____	
TO ENSURE ACCURACY A SAMPLE CHEQUE, MARKED "VOID", MUST ACCOMPANY THIS CARD.	
_____	_____
Signature of Contributor	Date
This Authorization may be changed by the donor at any time.	
<small>The use, retention and disclosure of personal information collected from this form is done in compliance with privacy legislation including, but not limited to, the <i>Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act (2000. c.5)</i>.</small>	

Needing more information, please contact **Ben Moulton** **705-474-0902.**

Ben is looking forward to hearing from you.

# MORE UCW NEWS

All ladies of Emmanuel United Church are invited to join us when we treat ourselves to lunch at East Side Mario's restaurant on February 7, 2017.

Pre-ordered menu includes salad, choice of chicken parmesan, linguine with Alfredo sauce, sausage with penne OR spaghetti with meatballs, plus tea/coffee and ice cream OR brownie for dessert for \$15.00 including tip and taxes.

Please contact Doreen McLuhan, at 705-476-0051, to put yourself on the reservation list and to let us know if you need a ride.



We spent some time at our January meeting looking forward to upcoming events. So far, we know that Emmanuel UCW will be hosting North Bay Presbyterian UCW for their Annual Spring Meeting in April or May and that Manitou Conference UCW will be meeting at Powassan United Church in April of 2017. Ruth Trottier has the discount code for West Jet group travel to Vancouver for the 55<sup>th</sup> UCW celebration from July 10 – 14, 2017.

Ruth Trottier, Secretary/Treasurer

Emmanuel United Church Women



## Lakeshore Entrance Greeter

Special thanks to Myrna Bennison who has volunteered to be the greeter at this entrance on Sundays. I am hoping that there are a few other people who would be willing to volunteer to help when Myrna can't be there. It's a simple job of welcoming people starting at 10:10 a.m. & giving them directions to the coat racks & sanctuary if you think that they are new. Please contact Bud McMartin at 705-474-8725 if you are willing to help.



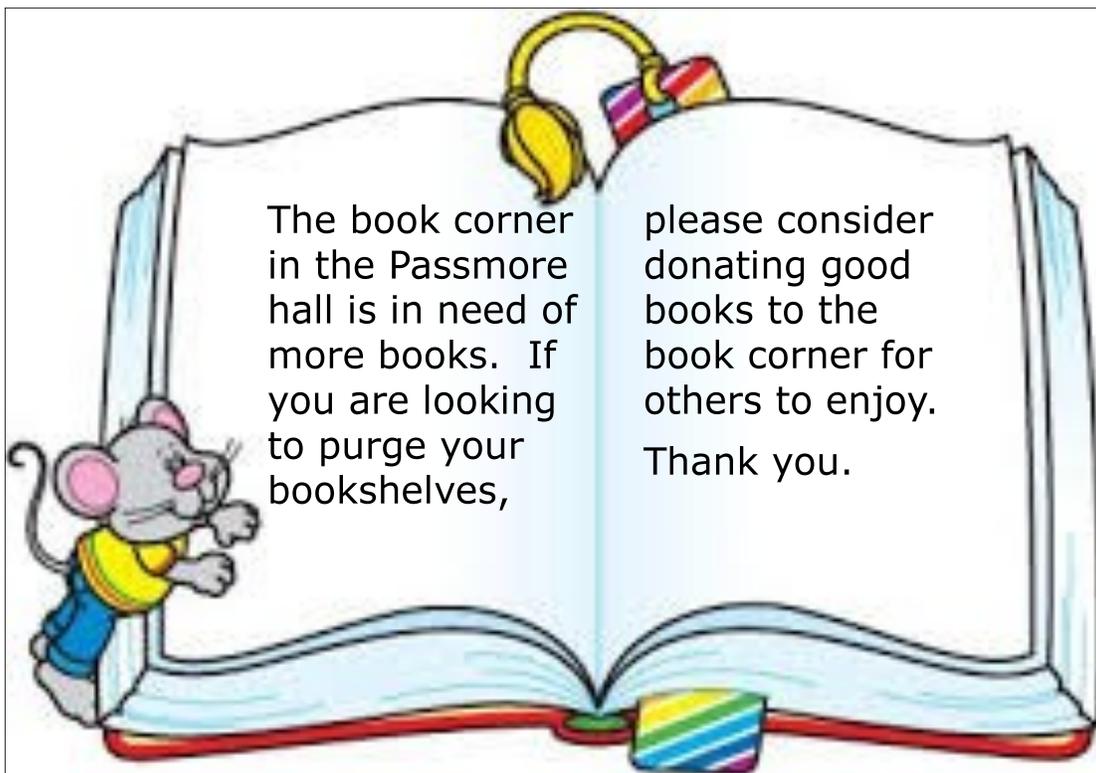
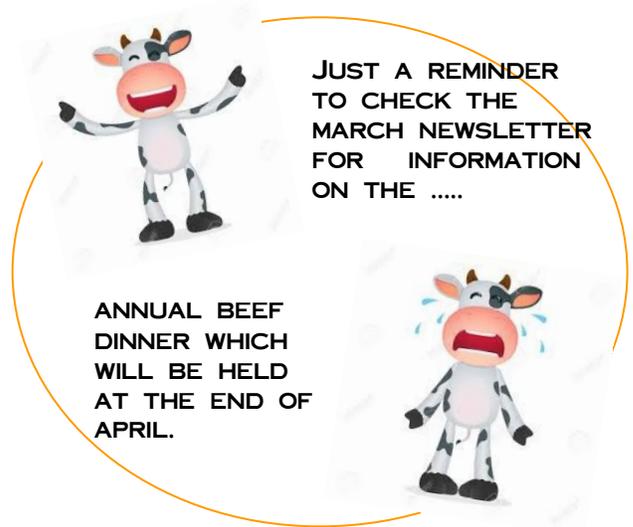
**EMMANUEL'S  
FANTASTIC  
NON-SUPPER  
SUPPER IS  
HERE! WE**

**HOPE YOU WILL JOIN THE FUN AND SUPPORT  
YOUR CHURCH WHILE ENJOYING YOUR FAVOURITE  
DINING EXPERIENCE. YOU ARE LIMITED ONLY BY  
YOUR IMAGINATION: WORLD CLASS FINE DINING OR  
FAMILY GETAWAY. LOOK FOR YOUR PERSONAL  
INVITATION THAT WILL BE ARRIVING SOON WITH  
YOUR 2016 TAX RECEIPT.**

**BON APPETIT !**



Peace  
starts  
with a  
smile.



**If** you missed the notice re the **Non-Supper Supper**, remember, it might be in the envelope with your tax receipt, or call the office at 705-472-1806, and we will deliver one to you.

This is the 8th year, and previous events have averaged over \$2,000.00 year. That is comparable to our monthly hydro bill during the winter months. All proceeds go to sustaining the warmth you experience spiritually and physically at Emmanuel. Snowbirds may “pay forward” or make a last minute reservation on their return; however preferred seating goes to those who book ear

Treat yourself, family and friends ,

Upcoming Events and Dates to note on your 2017 calendar .....

February 26 .... Rev. Gord's last service at Emmanuel / Annual Congregational Meeting

March 1 ... Ash Wednesday

March 5 ... Communion Service

April 2 ... Communion Service

April 14 ... Good Friday (Joint Service at Trinity United Church)

April 16 ... Easter Sunday



HAVE YOU  
TALKED  
TO GOD  
TODAY?



WE ARE LOOKING FOR YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS. THIS WILL ENABLE US TO SEND THE NEWSLETTER DIRECTLY TO YOU AND THUS CUT DOWN ON THE COST OF PAPER, PRINTING, ETC.

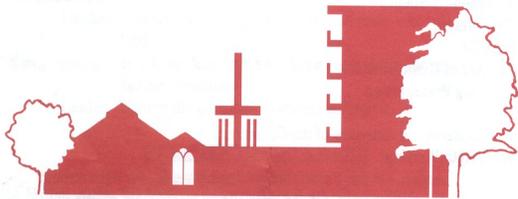
CONTACT KAREN AT [CARMICHL@EFNI.COM](mailto:CARMICHL@EFNI.COM)

If you no longer wish to receive the Emmanuel Newsletter, please contact either the church office at 705-472-1806..or.. Karen Carmichael at 705-472-5444 or by e-mail at [carmichl@efni.com](mailto:carmichl@efni.com)

Thank you in advance.

More information? Visit our website at [www.emmanuelunited.net](http://www.emmanuelunited.net)

Comments, concerns and suggestions are always welcome.



## **Emmanuel United Church**

395 Lakeshore Drive

North Bay, ON. P1A 2C5