



Emmanuel United Church

April 30, 2021

Emmanuel Newsflash

35TH ANNIVERSARY OF EMMANUEL ON THE LAKESHORE!

www.emmanuelunitednorthbay.ca

A Message From Rev. Roni

This Sunday we celebrate Emmanuel's 35th Anniversary of relocation to 395 Lakeshore Drive. I imagine that there was great joy and excitement about the possibility of being a village. We have weathered many storms and achieved many goals. It has been a hard year, as we were forced to close our doors due to the pandemic. We can't gather in the building to celebrate this milestone. The original context of today's gospel reading, John 15: 1-8, is the end of Jesus' earthly ministry. The cross is at hand. Yet, Jesus offers a hopeful message.

Jesus employs the metaphor of a grape vine. He says that he is like that well-weathered vine that produces sap over the years and from which every vine finds its source. The most productive vines are those closest to the central vine.



My family home had a grape vine in the backyard and in the late fall we would remove the dead branches from the central vine. The pruning is necessary for a good crop of grapes.

The central vine wasn't much of a sight to behold, the outer bark looked withered and worn and yet new shoots came forth each spring and the ones closest to central vine produced the juiciest and most delicious grapes. We would have likely gotten more grapes if we had removed the unproductive branches, thereby forcing the more productive branches to produce more fruit. The purpose is to bear fruit. Branches that abide closest to the central vine are most productive.

On this 35th Anniversary, even as we view this service remotely, Jesus is still sending us a positive and hopeful message. May we be rooted once more in God's love and may we be empowered to bear the fruits of love. Being with Christ and responding in faith is essential to bearing the fruits of love.

Join us for online worship on Sunday May 2nd 2021. Please secure a candle or battery-operated candle, a piece of bread, rice cracker or bread like substance and juice or wine. We will celebrate virtually the sacrament of Holy Communion.

Following the service, at 11:30 am, we will be hosting a zoom coffee hour. Grab a cup of coffee or your favourite beverage and join us online for a chat.

Blessings everyone,
Rev. Roni

Readings for the Fifth Sunday of Easter May 2, 2021

John 15: 1-8
Psalm 22: 25-31
1 John 4: 7-21
Acts 8:26-40



Sunday Services are available online:

YouTube: Emmanuel United YouTube Channel

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/EUCNorthBay/>

Website: <http://www.emmanuelunitednorthbay.ca/online-services.html>

Twitter: https://twitter.com/emmanuel_united

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE ON CHURCH COUNCIL

This weekend we celebrate Emmanuel's 35th anniversary since relocating from Charles Street to 395 Lakeshore. I have been humbled to be your minister for the past four years and I have come to appreciate your dedication to ministry and mission. Emmanuel United Church has a very clear Christ-centered mission statement "Emmanuel United Church shall be a caring, welcoming faith community, nurturing spiritual life and sharing God's love and grace as experienced in Jesus Christ." Our church council and members serve this mission faithfully, God being their helper.

In the last year we have had excellent Council chair persons on a rotational basis. Thank you to all of our members of Church Council. We are actively building consensus and striving to work as a team. We have a lot more clarity and commitment around the table. We have space for a few good women and men.

Pending the relaxation of the COVID 19 guidelines, we are hoping to have our congregational meeting on Sunday May 30th and we have a number of opportunities for our good women and men to serve on our church council:

1. Chair of Congregation
2. Secretary of Congregation
3. Chair of Council
4. Vice Chair of Council

Most of you have copies of Emmanuel's Constitution and Bylaws. Kindly refer to Section 3.4.0 of the Constitution for the job descriptions. Mr. Bob Pronovost or any current member of Church Council would be happy to respond to your questions. Emmanuel is seeking lay leadership and we are blessed with your competency. Please consider where God maybe directing you to serve the church over the next year. Join the good energy and faithful conversations around the table.

Blessings,

Rev. Roni Beharry

Annual Congregational Meeting Sunday May 30,2021-11:30am
immediately following the in-person Sunday Service, *COVID permitting.*



**Prior to voting at the Annual meeting, on May 30, 2021
please be sure to review the Constitution and
Bylaws, that were emailed to you on April 9, 2021.**



**AVENUES FOR FINANCIALLY
SUPPORTING EMMANUEL'S
MINISTRY AND MISSION:**

***PAR**

(Pre-Authorized Remittance)

***ONLINE GIVING**

(CanadaHelps.org from our Website)

***E-TRANSFER**

(From your personal online bank account
to Brenda at euctreasurer@gmail.com)

Thank you!

Please remember that:

- *Although the Church building remains closed, we are checking messages regularly. You can contact the office by email at emmanuelunited@cogeco.net or leave a phone message at 705-472-1806.
- * Please wear a face mask, complete a sign-in form & use the hand sanitizer when entering the Church.



ANNUAL REPORT 2020

- ♦ If you or someone you know is **not able to access a digital copy of the Annual Report**, or did not receive an email copy of the Annual Report or the Constitution and Bylaws please e-mail emmanuelunited@cogeco.net or phone the church at 705-472-1806 to arrange a time for pick up.
- ♦ The Annual Report will soon be posted on our website: www.emmanuelunitednorthbay.ca.

TP North Bay May 1-31, 2021

- ~ An annual fundraiser to collect toilet paper for local food banks is looking to surpass its previous year's total for the fourth time in a row.
- ~ TP North Bay will be kicking off its eighth campaign this weekend, May 1 and will run until May 31.
- ~ There will be **specially-marked boxes** at participating grocery stores and pharmacies in the city where donations for toilet paper will be accepted.
- ~ Business partnerships and e-transfer donations are also being accepted.
- ~ **For more information on where to donate, or to arrange pick-up please visit [TP North Bay's Facebook page](#).**



TP North Bay is an initiative to bring friends and neighbours together to collect toilet paper for North Bay Food Banks and OUR FOOD CUPBOARD IS INCLUDED!

"Known by Our Love"

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