

Emmanuel Newsflash

www.emmanuelunitednorthbay.ca

A Message From Rev. Roni

Safety has been on everyone's hearts for a while. We want to be safe from Covid 19. It seems we also need safe places for conversations on racial differences. I was asked to preach on the Noah's Ark narrative this week and in my sermon I suggested that the ark was a safe place where relationships thrived.

Symbolically, we need a safe place where we can be together. We need a space where we can cohabit and relearn how to create a habitable land for all. We need spaces where we can deeply listen, where we can expect and accept discomfort, where we accept non-closure, speak from our experience and give others an opportunity to share their stories. When we create safe conditions, we can be

ourselves and give others an opportunity to be themselves. In safe places we behold each other as beloved, God's compassionate choice, with strengths and vulnerability. Time, in this safe place, can't be rushed. It is a place where hearts of stone break open and are transformed into hearts of flesh. It can take the form of a local Equity and Inclusion Committee right here in North Bay, a local book club has sought the endorsement of City Council for such an initiative. Whatever the form of this safe place, it is a place where we are being formed into a covenant people. It is a place where we begin to imagine a recommitment to a habitable land for all and where God enters into faithful relationship with us. My hope is that we commit to safe spaces.



During the month of July Rev. Roni will be providing mid-week Online Reflections.

Sunday Service – July and August, 2020

July: Sunday services will be produced on *YouTube*, with contributions from Rev. Roni and Tracy Davis, for the congregations of St. Andrews, Trinity and Emmanuel United Church.

(Note: the video is usually posted by the Saturday afternoon on the Emmanuel United YouTube Channel)

Rev. Ted Harrison is on vacation in July.

August: Rev. Ted Harrison, Trinity United Church, will be leading the online service for the congregations of St. Andrews, Trinity and Emmanuel United Church.

Rev. Roni and Tracy Davis will be on vacation in August.

PLEASE NOTE:

- As approved by the M&P committee, the **Church office will remain closed and the Secretary will continue to work from home.** In July the Secretary hours will be reduced to six hours a week and in August the hours will be further reduced to four hours a week.

Emails and Voice-mail will be checked regularly.

There will be a weekly Newsflash in July but not in August as Rev. Roni is on holiday.

- Rev. Roni and John Henderson are both on holiday for the month of August.
- During the month of August emergency pastoral care will be provided by Rev. Ted Harrison and Rev. Kathy McCallum.

Due to COVID-19 our CHURCH REMAINS CLOSED, however:

It's important to remember:
church doesn't close. Ever.
It's lived, around the world,
and in our homes;
it acts, when our hearts reach out;
it keeps going,
wherever there is one disciple of Jesus,
or two, or three -
living the Way we've been taught.
We are the church.

Always.

And all ways.

*Excerpt from Richard Bott the current
Moderator of the United Church of Canada.*

Dear fellow Council Members:

Our first ZOOM meeting for our Emmanuel Church Council is planned for July 15, 2020 at 7.00 pm. This meeting will need to meet quorum requirements, after which I will produce an agenda for this meeting which will be forwarded to you prior to the meeting. **Please advise me if you can attend our meeting-jpage@efni.com.**

Thank You; Jack Page, Council Chair



Join us for "Zoom at Two", Friday, by teleconferencing/ video conferencing. Please contact Rev. Roni if you wish to join our online conversation at: eucnbminister@gmail.com. Or leave a message at 705-472-1806.

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- ♦ **E-TRANSFER:** Just log into your online bank account and navigate to the *Interact* e-Transfer section. Then follow the instructions to set up the church as the recipient of your e-transfer using the email address euctreasurer@gmail.com. If you have any questions, please contact Brenda at euctreasurer@gmail.com

For more donation information: <http://www.emmanuelunitednorthbay.ca/donations.html>

"Known by Our Love"

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.

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