



June 11, 2021

Emmanuel Newsflash

www.emmanuelunitednorthbay.ca

A Message From Rev. Roni

One of my favourite hymns from my childhood is “Let there Be Peace on Earth and Let it begin with Me.”

This week my heart was overwhelmed with pain for our humanity, when I learned about the hate-motivated killing of three generations of a Muslim family in London, Ontario. You see, like many of you, I chose to internalize the words of the hymn “Let there Be Peace on Earth and Let it begin with Me.” I have responded by choosing to know and deeply respecting my neighbours and friends of different faiths and I feel a very close connection to my Muslim sisters and brothers.

I attended a Muslim School during my childhood years, so I have life-long friends who are Muslims. I attended mosque with my friends and learned their teachings. My school had worship every morning and evening. I even learned some Arabic. We celebrated each other's religious holidays. We learned to appreciate what we believed in common and honoured our differences.

I acknowledge that my experience is unique, however, I understand that fourteen or fifteen years ago, Emmanuel United Church invited a representative from the local mosque and hosted an educational series on Islam. I think we need to resurrect those conversations. Once more we need to be curious about differences and engage them in

positive ways. I think God wants us to embrace our Muslim neighbours as partners in serving God's Shalom. We are richer when we choose to know each other.

My condolences go out to the Muslim community as we grieve the death of three generations of one family. Simultaneously, I invite you to ponder the opening words of that beautiful hymn:

“Let there Be Peace on Earth and Let it begin with Me.” Let's live into these words together.

If you are so moved, you may send cards to the North Bay Mosque, 423 Mc Phail Street, North Bay, ON, expressing your thoughts and prayers.

In addition, if you are able, please plan to attend any future community event as a sign of solidarity and commitment to peacebuilding. I hope that we might revisit interfaith engagement as part of our Outreach and Mission Ministry at Emmanuel UC, North Bay. Our individual actions done in the spirit of love creates ripples which create waves of love radiating out. Let peace begin with each one of us, through our small action.

We pray for those grieving Talat Afzaal, Salman Afzaal, Madiha Salman and Yumnah Afzaal. And we pray for the full recovery of Fayez Afzaal.

Shalom, Salaam,

In peace, Rev. Roni

**Rev. Roni invites you to a
Zoom Coffee Hour at 11:45 am
following the Sunday Service.**

The Scripture Readings for June 13, 2021:

1 Samuel 15:34-16:13

Psalms 20

Mark 4: 26-34

2 Corinthians 5: 6-17



CSRC Covid-19 Update - June 8, 2021

◆ Although the provincial government has eased restrictions for most places, it is important for communities of faith to assess for themselves whether they are able to offer in-person worship safely and have protocols in place to maintain capacity limits.

◆ We are mindful of all the ways communities of faith have continued to *be the church*, even while not being able to gather.



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

- *PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittance)
 - *ONLINE GIVING (CanadaHelps.org on our Website)
 - *E-TRANSFER (From your personal online bank account to Brenda at euctreasurer@gmail.com)
- Thank you!**



Sunday Services are available online:

YouTube: Emmanuel United YouTube Channel. *If you are a subscriber, you have the benefit of viewing the service as early as 6:00 am.*
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/EUCNorthBay/>
Website: <http://www.emmanuelunitednorthbay.ca/lineservices.html>
Twitter: https://twitter.com/emmanuel_united

**Donations to The United Church Healing Fund
for Residential School Survivors and their Indigenous Communities.**

Over more than a century, some 150,000 First Nations, Metis and Inuit children were forcibly sent to government-funded, church-operated schools, where many suffered abuse and even death. The recent tragic 'discovery' of 215 unidentified bodies of the residential school children in Kamloops, B.C. addresses a deep and ongoing need for healing, restoring, and honouring the children and families who have experienced so much pain that only they can truly understand.

To begin to redress some of the harms, many United Churches across the country are choosing to ask their congregations for donations to the United Church of Canada's 'Healing Fund' in memory of the 215 children recovered from the unmarked burials. We are hoping to raise at least \$215.

The Healing Fund, established in 1994, provides grants that supports healing initiatives in indigenous communities to address the ongoing impacts of the residential school system. Support for the Healing Fund is a movement towards living out the United church's apology to Indigenous peoples and to the Former students of The United Church residential schools and to their families and communities. Your donation to Mission and Service makes the Healing Fund possible. At this time, if you wish to make a special donation, you may ask that it be directed to the Healing Fund.

**Janie Clayton, CSRC Rep and Living in Right
Relations Rep. for Emmanuel United Church**

"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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