



Emmanuel Newsflash

www.emmanuelunitednorthbay.ca

A Message From Rev. Roni

Trevor Noah (South African born, host of the Daily Show), clearly articulated that the social contract, that ensures rights, equal opportunity, freedoms and justice, has been ripped for the black Americans for a long time. No wonder, we experience the anger and frustration expressed in the protests. We have failed to provide a habitable land for all God's people. We have plundered the land and dehumanized its people. The contract has been shredded.

This Sunday, I will be preaching on the creation account found in Genesis 1: 1-2:4. I will be unpacking God's call to subdue the earth. The Hebrew word for subdue is *kabash*. You can't get around it, *kabash* translates as "subdue". However we have co-opted and weaponized the word without regard for its context. The creation story in Genesis came into circulation while the Israelites were in exile, when they were a displaced people and having to re-establish their homes and families. God is commanding humanity to subdue the wilderness to create a habitable land for themselves, their families and all peoples. We have weaponized the word to plunder the land and dehumanize blacks and other racialized persons.

I was saying to Lorne, that I only saw white depictions of Adam and Eve in my picture bible, when I was a child. I was socialized to believe that white is superior. If that is true for me, it may be true for you also. Colonialization reinforced the value of white superiority.

President Obama, recently described racism as America's original sin. The statement seems to be

true for Canada, as we have our own history of racism and racism expresses itself right here in North Bay. I have had personal brushes with racism in the wider community. I have experienced cold stares when I go to take photos of the sunset, I quickly try to be friendly and warm, establishing myself as neighbour. However I cannot dismiss, the alarming look that seems to question my right to belong there.

No one who is alive and breathing can deny the Holy Chaos in our world right now. Tomorrow we are having a peaceful "Black Lives Matter" protest and vigil right here in North Bay. I won't attend because I am trying to stay safe and healthy. The North Bay Area Mission Cluster will be providing safer opportunities for us to unlearn and begin dismantling racism (future book study and spaces for unlearning).

If we take God's call to subdue faithfully, then we will all commit to doing the excavation of our hearts and social structures so that we can create a habitable land for all. The Holy Spirit is hovering over all this chaos. God has created and is still creating. We are all in this together. Please love me enough to join me!

Join us for online worship on Sunday June 7th, the YouTube link will be circulated on Sunday morning and will be available at a later time, through our church's website. We will be celebrating an agape meal, you will need something like bread (cookie, cake, bread, cracker etc.), juice and a small regular or battery-operated candle.

Shalom, Rev. Roni

With heartfelt sadness we share the news that Susan Beemer, beloved mother to son Scott Beemer, passed away on June 3, 2020 at Guelph General Hospital. <http://www.wallcustance.com/notices2.aspx?notice=22573>

Join us Friday's for "Zoom at Two" 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.

Please keep John Gamble in your prayers as he is currently in palliative care at North Bay Regional Health Centre.

\$ and Sense, May 31, 2020

Week Ending	May 3	May 10	May 17	May 24	May 31
PAR				\$4,250	
Offerings	\$ 730	\$1,920	\$ 565	\$ 65	\$ 540
Rental/Services			\$ 50	\$ 75	\$ 100
Donations	\$ 200	\$ 837	\$ 199	\$ 55	\$ 80
Total	\$ 930	\$2,757	\$ 814	\$4,445	\$ 720

Sustaining Families: 45 PAR, 22 envelopes, 4 other

Your support of Emmanuel during these difficult times is truly appreciated. The efforts of families to get their offerings to the church or donate on-line (Canada Helps) or by e-transfer, is encouraging. Emmanuel needs your treasures more than usual at this time.

There were a variety of donations in May, providing \$229 to support local church expenses, our priority need. The Outreach food bank benefited from \$775 in donations and the Memorial Fund received \$246.

Avgen card sales in May generated \$81. Enjoy the convenience the cards offer and in the process support Emmanuel. The next order will be June 14th.

Your generous offerings and/or commitment through PAR are gratifying, and at this time, essential. Please continue with the concerted effort to sustain Emmanuel.

Thank you. Keep safe. Stay committed.

EUC Finance Committee



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

- ♦ **AVGEN GIFT CARDS** (Next order June 14th)
- ♦ **PAR** (Pre-Authorized Remittance)
- ♦ **ONLINE GIVING** (CanadaHelps)
- ♦ **E-TRANSFER** (From your personal bank account)

For full details visit our Donation Page at:

<http://www.emmanuelunitednorthbay.ca/donations.html>

The Food Cupboard appreciates your ongoing support!

Donations of cereal, pasta, oatmeal, powdered & canned milk, canned fruit and meat (ham, tuna, salmon) are still needed.

**Please drop off: Saturday 3:30-5:30pm
Thursday 10:00am-12noon**

Whether or not to reopen? The short answer is: "It depends, and it will change."

And when churches do reopen, it will be opening to a new normal. Moreover, let us not lose what has been gained by venturing into the online world. For many it will continue to be the way they connect with communities of faith. God's mission always finds a way to spring forth in a crisis.

Excerpt from <https://www.united-church.ca/news/reopening-new-normal>

"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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