

Emmanuel Newsflash

www.emmanuelunitednorthbay.ca

A Message From Rev. Roni

Have you ever wondered what the Reign of Christ all about is? The gospel reading is fraught with images of sheep and goats, heaven and hell, and can be a preacher's nightmare.

In the gospel of Matthew, Jesus is very critical of the religious leadership for developing a religious system that had become oppressive, further marginalizing the vulnerable. He is pointing out their sins of preserving their own power and privilege and neglecting the work of showing mercy and compassion and seeking justice. He is saying seeking justice, showing mercy and kindness is the most important thing. The religious structure and the practice of worship is meaningless, if you neglect the very basics of building a peaceful world. Jesus is saying the kingdom of God is here among you, I am performing the works of God, this is what God's Kingdom is all about.

Jesus isn't trying to be a socialist or siding with the left, he is saying that God's kingdom is different, it is about love, it is about going about seeking peace in the world, and drawing nearer to God's goal of Shalom, one act of kindness and mercy at a time.

God's Kingdom is about affirming the person with the abuse issue, or the person who lives with chronic poverty as God's Beloved - God's compassionate choice. Choosing to show them love and caring. It's about looking at people lovingly in the eye.

The acts of mercy that Jesus names, are things that anyone of us can do: giving a hungry person a meal; or a thirsty person a drink; welcoming a stranger, bringing comfort to a sick person, visiting a prisoner or treating a former prisoner with respect and worth. The point isn't about securing our place in heaven, its about living God's love now.

What's different about the Reign of Christ is Jesus's passion to seek peace and love-one relationship at a time-one person at a time. Our readings this week are: Matthew 25: 31-46; Psalm 100 and Ezekiel 34: 11-16; 20-24

Our worship this week will feature a short video with the openly catholic Stephen Colbert, we strive to balance a little fun with faith!

Blessings,

Rev. Roni



Please remember: you must phone the Office at 705-472-1806, by 12noon on the Friday before the Sunday service, to be added to the list of those who intend to come to the Church Service. If leaving a message, or email, please be sure to leave your name, phone number, and how many people are in your "seating bubble".

Sunday Services are also available Sunday evening on:

YouTube: [Emmanuel United YouTube Channel](https://www.youtube.com/emmanuelunitednorthbay)

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

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

Twitter: https://twitter.com/emmanuel_united

Trustees Meeting

A regular meeting of the Trustees is being called for November 25 at 1.00pm in the Bert Passmore Hall. Please be reminded of the **Corona 19** Virus restrictions. The hall will be sanitized beforehand as in the past.

****ATTENTION ALL LOVERS OF GIFT CARDS****

Dropping you a friendly reminder about Christmas gift cards through the Avgen program. So gift cards arrive on time the December order date deadline is the first Sunday in December, **December 6**. Gift cards for Christmas are the perfect, socially distanced gift choice in the middle of a pandemic! No wandering in and out of stores risking contact with the Coronavirus. They mail easily to out of town relatives you may not be able to be physically present with this year. It hardly takes any time at all out of your day to order them, and they're a great support to Emmanuel United Church at the same time. Win! Win! Orders can be submitted by filling in an order form and dropping it in the box in the church lobby, or by email at gtwilcox96@gmail.com. **Merry Christmas to all!**

**ARTICLES WANTED BY 9am
WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 25!**

- ◆ Rev. Roni wants this weekly Newsletter expanded for next week to include all the Christmas season Service information *and*
 - ◆ Items of interest from any of the Committees who would like to highlight their activities and upcoming meetings.
 - ◆ **Please send your ARTICLES to emmanuelnited@cogeco.net or drop off at the church office, on or before 9am Wednesday November 25!**
 - ◆ Print copies will be circulated to those without email.
 - ◆ The expanded Newsletter will be a trial replacement for Karen Carmichael's wonderful Emmanuel Communicates Newsletter.
- Thank you in advance.**

**EMMANUEL
ANNUAL CHRISTMAS**



**November 28, 2020 10am-Noon
in the Bert Passmore Hall..**
**Cookies \$8/dozen;
Squares \$10/dozen**
**pre-order by the 1/2 dozen for
curbside pick-up 705-474-2116.**
COVID safety regulations apply.



***AVGEN GIFT CARDS: Next Order December 6th**
Contact-gtwilcox96@gmail.com or 705-303-4204.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: SURPRISE !!! Emmanuel's famous Cookie Walk will take place on **Saturday, November 28 from 10 a.m. 'til noon**. We are looking to our **wonderful BAKERS** for cookies or squares that can be dropped off at the church Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday morning (25th, 26th, 27th). We need more **PEOPLE TO HELP** as we are limiting the number of customers inside the hall at one time to the number of servers we have behind the tables.

If you could offer a couple of hours to help, please contact Elaine Simmens at 705-474-2116.

"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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