

Emmanuel United Church

# Emmanuel Newsflash

[www.emmanuelunitednorthbay.ca](http://www.emmanuelunitednorthbay.ca)

## A Note From Rev. Roni

I recently started watching the Netflix TV series "When Calls the Heart", and in episode two the widows of a group of miners, all men, had perished in a mine explosion. While grief is still fresh in their hearts, they receive eviction

notices. Along with their children, they must leave the company homes provided, in order to make room for the new miner families, because the work must go on. They are poor, they are afflicted, they have each Other and the thought of being further uprooted is distressing for everyone.

So they make a costly sacrifice. These widows offer up themselves to work in the mines! It is a daunting task, they are risking their lives and scared out of their minds but for the love of their children, and the desire to be community for each other, they are resolved to complete the task. In their weakest moment, when they waiver, all of

the townswomen join in, along with a few men and they are able to complete the work and stay in their homes. At great cost, they restore their households.

In this week's gospel, we once more encounter Mary, Martha, and Lazarus, who live in a town called Bethany, meaning the house of the afflicted; this is where Jesus and his disciples are feasting before entering Jerusalem, for the last time. Everyone senses that this is likely, Jesus's final visit and we can imagine, they are feeling gratitude and a sense of sadness. Followers are expressing devotion and dissent. Mary moved by emotion, expresses a costly action of devotion. Costly at so many levels, she breaks the seal on this bottle of essential oil, pure nard, which no one in Bethany can afford.

She pours the entire content on Jesus's feet, drenching his feet, massaging the oil into his skin, the sweet aroma filling the air, and as if she and Jesus is alone in the room, she wipes the excess with her hair. Her actions are off-putting.

Everyone is astounded. The disciples, question the practicality of this act. Jesus acknowledges her gift of costly sacrifice, as one that points to the outpouring of his costly sacrifice for the sake of the world.

At great cost, Jesus restores the household of God. The aroma of grace lingers, touching our lives, bringing healing. Mary's devotion is a sign of God's devotion toward us.

Join us for worship, this Sunday April 7th, 10:30 am as we mark the fifth Sunday of our Lenten Journey.

### **EMMANUEL'S BEEF SUPPER MAJOR 'FUN' RAISER IS HAPPENING APRIL 26TH.**

We need workers before, during, and after the dinner. We need our famous homemade pies baked, and there is also a list of items you can donate. Sponsor a cow for \$50 and we will display your donation on a cow on the donor wall. The fun sheet will be at the church each Sunday for your chance to sign up. Janie Clayton will be in the narthex to help, as will Jo McCulley with the pies and roasts. Call Janie or Merlin at 472-1182

**Tickets for Beef Supper!**

Please contact Evelyn Johnson for tickets: 705-478-7309. Evelyn and Zona Beeson will be at the church Wed.& Thurs. from 1:30 to 4pm to pick-up ordered tickets.

\*Adults \$17.00 \*Children (5-10) \$5.00 Under 5 years are free. \*Workers \$17.00 \*Takeouts \$17.00-Must be picked up at the church .

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
7 Worship Sunday Fifth Sunday of Lent "Costly Sacrifice" 10:30am Water's Edge 1:30pm	8	9 UCW Meeting 1pm	10	11 Choir Practice 7:30	12 Timmy's at Two!	13
14Worship Sunday Service 10:30 am	15	16	17	18 OM&S Luncheon 11:30am Choir Practice 7:30	19 Timmy's at Two!	20 West Ferris Brunch

**Services:**

- ♦ **April 14<sup>th</sup>** Journey from Palms to Passion Sunday, 10:30 am Emmanuel United Church. **A special service to begin Holy Week.**
- ♦ **April 18<sup>th</sup>** Maundy Thursday, Remembering Jesus sharing a special meal with his friends, soup and sandwich lunch at Emmanuel followed by a short communion service, 11:30am-1:30pm.  
**A joint initiative of the Outreach and Worship Committee.**
- ♦ **April 19<sup>th</sup>** North Bay city-wide Good Friday Service, with participation from all four United Church congregations, Omond Memorial United Church, 10:30 am.
- ♦ **April 21<sup>st</sup>** Easter Sunday Celebration Service with Holy Communion, 10:30 am.

**SCENT-SITIVE**

*These products  
can aggravate  
health  
problems for  
some people  
with medical  
conditions.*

\* UCW Meeting April 9 at 1pm  
\*Don't Forget - **Annual Church Picnic-  
Sunday June 30!** Everyone welcome!



**SAVE THE DATE**  
**~VISIONING WEEKEND~**  
**Saturday May 25 and Sunday May 26,**  
**-Worship Service 10:30am-**

**PLEASE HELP SUPPORT  
YOUR CHURCH**

~ Avgen "Gift Cards"  
Emmanuel benefits whether they are used for regular shopping or special Easter treats or gifts!  
~ PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittance) To provide consistent year-round financial support. For more information, please contact Envelope Secretary, Sherri Pinder.

**"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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