

Emmanuel United Church

Emmanuel Newsflash

www.emmanuelunitednorthbay.ca

A Note From Rev. Roni

Tuesday, December 24,
6:30 p.m.
Christmas Eve
“A Child Is Born For Us.
Do You Have Room?”

A special thank you to all participants in our Christmas Eve Family Service.

Ushers: Bob and Judy
Pronovost

Advent Candle Lighters:

The Rogerson family

Dramatic Monologue:

Tiffany Vanmeer Anthem

Duet: Pat Piche and

Elizabeth Henderson

Communion Servers:

Josephine McCulley,

Doreen McLuhan,

JoAnne Livingstone,

Pam Zygmont



I met her over a year ago, when she visited our church. It was summer and she looked well-groomed, wearing an attractive black dress and giving off the energy of a person who was doing well.

Today, I could have easily misplaced her for someone else, her front tooth knocked off, her arm in a cast, wearing fleece pajamas and a sweatshirt to keep warm. She wanted to let me know that she was down on her luck and at the same time she was feeling God's love. Her mother had come to stay with her and her aunt had been sending her encouraging texts and letting her know how much she loved her. She has been feeling God's love and unfailing presence. Her story bears witness to Emmanuel, God with us. God being present for us, in the unpredictable seasons of life-high times and low times. God showing up in people who love us. Matthew's narrative on the birth of Jesus, reveals no details of the birth of Jesus: no mention of the manger, the shepherds. The angel appears to Joseph, after he had resolved to quietly divorce the pregnant Mary and reveals the identity and namesake of the child.

Joseph is encouraged to “do not be afraid, go ahead and take Mary as his wife”, a bold step as Mary was pregnant and possibly showing at three months. They both would be the subject of moral judgement and derision. Most of us have experienced times of uncertainty, dark days and sometimes life changing circumstances. We need the assurance of “God with us”. “God with Us” is good news when we are down on our luck. Our namesake is Emmanuel. How are we to live more fully into our namesake? We trust in God and his angel messengers to guide us. See you on Sunday December 22nd, 10:15 am for our Carol Sing, followed by worship. Christmas Eve Service is at 6:30 pm, featuring, your favourite Christmas carols, the Christmas story, a dramatic monologue (performed by Tiffany Vanmeer) and Communion.

May the blessings of hope, peace, joy and love be yours this Christmas and may the Christ child find room in your hearts!

Blessings,
Rev. Roni

PLEASE NOTE THIS UPDATE:

Rev. Roni is away December 25, 2019 to January 6, 2020.

PASTORAL CARE, while Rev. Roni away, will be provided by **Rev. Kathleen McCallum** until January 5, 2020.

WORSHIP LEADERS: Sunday December 29, 2019: Mary Way-White
Sunday January 5, 2020: Elizabeth Henderson

Sunday December 29, 2019

“First Sunday After Christmas”

Service 10:30am

Worship Leader

Mary Way-White

Sunday January 5, 2020

“Celebrating the Three Kings”

Service 10:30am

Worship Leader

Elizabeth Henderson

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
22 Advent 4: “A Sign of Emmanuel: God’s Expression of Love”	23	24 Christmas Eve Service 6:30pm	25 Merry Christmas	26	27 Office Open 9-1	28
29 Worship Leader Mary Way-White	30	31	January 1 Happy New Year!	2	3	4

**There will be no Newsflash
for the next two weeks.**

◆ **AVGEN PURCHASE CARDS:** Think of them as “pre-paid” cards. You can certainly use the cards as gifts but we encourage you to use them for everyday purchases. Groceries, hardware, gas and restaurants. An easy way to financially support the church without hurting your wallet!
***PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittance):** A convenient way to provide consistent year round financial support.
Please contact Tina Wilcox for more information.



“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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