

Emmanuel United Church

Emmanuel Newsflash

www.emmanuelunitednorthbay.ca

Upcoming Events

- ◆ **Worship Committee Meeting**
Sun. Jan. 20 after the Sunday Service.
- ◆ **Council Meeting** Wed. Jan. 23,
7:00pm
- ◆ **Timmies at Two:** Fri. 2pm at the
Tim Hortons/Wendy's with Rev. Roni
and Lorne for conversations about our
faith and how it intersects with our
lives and culture.
- ◆ **Choir Practice:** Thurs. at 7:30pm.

- The **Outreach, Mission and Service Committee** are pleased to announce that they will be hosting a **Winterlude Luncheon on February 21st** for participants of the Food Cupboard program.
- In addition they will be **staffing the Food Cupboard on Thursday morning** and offering free coffee!
- Volunteers willing to help out are asked to please contact Pam Zygmunt.

The Annual General Meeting will be held after the Sunday Service on February 24th. All Committee Reports are to be submitted to the Church Secretary ASAP and no later than January 29.
Thank you.

A Note From Rev. Roni

January 2019 has been particularly difficult for us here at Emmanuel, we have had three deaths: Bill Taylor, Vivian Pentland and Joan Pearce. All three of these individuals, served their church selflessly, with passion and firm commitment, for as long as humanly possible. We hardly see the likes of their commitment to service today. My mother, slightly younger than these saints, at age 75, says that serving others requires little effort, because we are created for service. Why do we serve and when might be the right time?

Our gospel reading, is the first of seven signs that author of the Gospel of John records that reveal Jesus's identity. Oddly, Jesus seems reluctant to act at first, fearing that his time has not yet come. The wedding hosts are embarrassed because the wine has run out during the wedding feast. The nudge of a mother, a prodding to help in some way, prompts Jesus to have the servants fill the ceremonial jars with water. I imagine the servants did as they were told, putting aside their own questions and going

along with a request that they did not totally grasp. Water into wine, witnesses to God's presence, God doing something extraordinary with the seemingly ordinary. A few lessons can be learned from this sign, we give of ourselves for the sake of a greater good. The good we do, the steps of faith we take, are meant to serve God's world. Like the author of the Gospel of John, our focus needs to be the revelation of the Christ. Serving is about saying "yes" to the need that confronts us. It seems that mothers can be wise. It's not about us, it's about the greater good. God is up to something new and God will bless our selfless acts of service. Listen, be in conversation, and act when you feel the prompting. The God of mission, prompts each one of us to participate in small and transformative ways! See you on Sunday January 20th, 10:15 am for our monthly Hymn Sing, followed by worship at 10:30 am.



NEWSLETTER ARTICLES WANTED

Last chance to submit articles for the November newsletter! If you have an interesting article for inclusion, please send to carmichl@efni.com or place in the Newsletter slot in the church office, on or before 2:00 p.m. today. Thank you in advance.

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Please come and worship with us Sunday January 20th at 2pm at Trinity United Church with Rev. Elizabeth Frazer as the preacher. The theme this year, was chosen by the churches in Indonesia: "Justice, and only justice, you shall pursue." *Contact tedharrison@hotmail.com for more information.*

At a Glance

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|-----|-----|------------------------------------|------------------------------|--|---|
| 20 Worship Committee Meeting after 10:30am Service | 21 | 22 | 23 Council Meeting 7:00pm | 24 Choir Practice 7:30 | 25 Timmies at Two | 26 *West Ferris Brunch 8-12 *Memorial Service 2pm for Joan Pearce. |
| 27 Worship Sunday 10:30 am | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 Choir Practice 7:30 | February 1 Timmies at Two | 2 |

- ♦ We will offer a prayer of thanksgiving for the life of Vivian Pentland on Sunday January 20th. A service of interment will follow at a future date. Please share your stories with Rev. Roni.
 - ♦ A Memorial Service for Joan Pearce will be held on Saturday January 26th at 2:00 pm.
 - ♦ Our thoughts and prayers are with each family as they continue to grieve their loved one's death.
- Rev. Roni**

"New Year's Resolution-2019"

PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittance) is a direct debit program that allows church members to manage their financial support and giving's through an automatic monthly withdrawal from their bank account. It's a simple and convenient way for church members to provide consistent year-round financial support. You pick the monthly amount and where you wish the financial contribution to go (e.g. local expenses, M&S, mortgage etc.)

Make a New Year's Resolution to simplify your life & routines. It's free and easy!

Stop worrying about church envelopes, cheques or money & sign up for PAR today!

For more information, please contact Envelope Secretary, Sherri Pinder (705-476-7050) or by email @: sherri1998@hotmail.com

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"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.

