

March 20, 2020

Emmanuel United Church

Emmanuel Newsflash

www.emmanuelunitednorthbay.ca

A Note From Rev. Roni

Dear Friends,

In the past week and a half, I have had to lead our congregation through a pandemic. My courses at Emmanuel College did not prepare me for this task. We are walking a new path and it feels like darkness, it is a deep unknown valley. I am getting through this and we are getting through this because "God is with us", guiding and directing our steps through the wisdom of our health officials and our friends in the community. I am so grateful for my colleagues in ministry, Martyn's Funeral Home and Dennis Chippa at the Gathering Place. These kind folks were willing to share their strategies for serving the community, they are the guides that God provides. Psalm 23 reminds us "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me;

Your rod and staff (your implements for guiding), they comfort me." It never ceases to amaze me that the lectionary readings can be so relevant to our daily experiences. God is directing us on this novel path. At Emmanuel United Church, we are listening to the health unit and government officials and are practicing social distancing. Our church doors are closed and we have no worship services; however, we are continuing to be church by living out the norms of: caring, sharing love and spiritual nurture. We are still providing food to the community and welcome your donations at 9:00 am on Thursday morning. I have been posting reflections on Blessings, Rev. Roni Facebook Live through Emmanuel's Facebook page. If you have a Facebook account, please search for Emmanuel United Church, North Bay and like us!

This Sunday Mary Way-White and I will lead offer online worship on Facebook Live based on Psalm 23. We will be on at 10:30 am and you can join us live from the comfort of your home. The segment can also be viewed at your convenience and will be posted on you tube.

Please create opportunities for your physical and spiritual refreshment at this time. Go for walks at this time and breathe.

Read a good book or listen to some uplifting music. You may email me at

eucnbminister@gmail.com or call me if you need to talk 416-271-5313. Laugh!

The scripture readings for this week:

Psalm 23

1 Samuel 16: 1-13

John 9: 1-41

Thanks to Elizabeth Henderson's challenge in March we had 26 AVGEN Purchase Card orders (Elizabeth had to add \$26 to her regular offering). The result was 8 orders from people who have never ordered before and 6 orders from people who rarely order. **A HUGE success!** So we encourage people to keep it up, especially during this time when regular activities are impacted by Co-VID 19.

HOW TO GIVE TO THE CHURCH DURING THE COVID 19 PANDEMIC:

- PAR (Pre Authorized Remittance) a set amount is taken from your bank account monthly (can be changed at any time by you) Contact Sherri Pinder.
- Drop off envelope at church in finance mail slot.
- Regular Mail to the church.
- **A NEW OPTION** is to contribute electronically through CanadaHelps.org which is now available and will continue after the pandemic is over. The church can now accept these donations. There is a link ("**Donate Now**" button) on the EUC website on the Home Page as well as the in the new Donations page.

How Canada Helps donations work:

- Canada Helps takes a 4% administration fee from your donation (\$40 donation results in \$38.40 to the church)
 - You will receive a tax receipt from Canada Helps immediately at time of donation. You **will not** receive a tax receipt for this donation from EUC. The tax receipt will be for 100% of your donation.
 - Donations can be made with Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Visa Debit or PayPal.
 - You can direct your donation to the General Fund, Legacy Fund, Memorial Fund, Supper Fund, Non-Supper Supper Fund.
 - You can name the person your are contributing in memory of.
 - You can make notes to EUC Treasurer with your contribution.
 - Donations are deposited directly to the church bank account.
- If you have any questions please contact Brenda Cote or Greg Wilcox.

EUC FOOD CUPBOARD NEEDS HELP!

We would appreciate donations of non-perishable food items such as canned and powdered milk, canned soups and fruit, cereal and toiletries.

**Thank you for your ongoing support
to help those in need!**

At this time, the Food Cupboard will continue to operate Thursdays 10-12, procedures are being modified, to reduce risk and promote social distancing.

The Trinity A.O.T.S Men's Service Group
Easter Ham Fundraiser CANCELLED .
Contact Dalton Carmichael at 705-472-5444
for more information.



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"NON-SUPPER/SUPPER" Your support
of this refreshing fund-raising opportunity is
greatly appreciated.

West Ferris Brunch at EUC CANCELLED for March and April.

"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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