

November 15, 2019

Emmanuel United Church

Emmanuel Newsflash

www.emmanuelunitednorthbay.ca

A Note From Rev. Roni

Have you ever felt like you are in the middle of a shaken snow globe? I am not talking about winter. I am talking about the feeling of being shaken to the core.

The things that unsettle us the most isn't always the evening news. Often the things that truly unsettle us are closer to our hearts, like the sudden death of a friend and her partner. My friend D'thea and partner Maureen died in a car accident on Sunday at 2:00 pm just outside Innisville. The shocking news rocked me to the core. I had recently been in contact with her. She and I prayed together last spring. As a young woman, I remember the news of a boyfriend being unfaithful to me, that news shook me to the core. A cancer diagnosis can shake us to the core.

In Luke 21: 5-19, Jesus talks about ends times and if you read the text more closely, he names trauma of betrayal of trust.

For Jesus, his words would have almost immediate resonance when one of his own friends would betray him to the authorities.

Jesus goes onto to predict unsettling times for his disciples: persecution and personal betrayal. His encouragement is to stand firm in faith and you would win life.

Too often we think that end time passages are meant to make us starry-eyed surveyors of distant horizons. Actually, they were meant to inspire discipleship and faithfulness for the whole journey and the chaos we experience before the End time. Jesus was not training short distance sprinters but long-distance marathon runners who could carry his message far and wide for a long while to come. What's more, in and through it all, we are being reassured: God will be faithful. Jesus by his Spirit will give us the words to say.

How ironic that a passage that makes some people unsettled is actually meant to *settle* us in our faith and re-assure us.

To some it may seem unsettling that being a Christian does not grant immunity from the things that rock us and shake us to the ground. Jesus encourages us to carry the intention of faith in our heart, into each experience. He will never leave us or forsake us. I hope we get to sing "Will Your Anchor Hold In the Storms of Life", this Sunday at 10:15 am, Hymn Sing. Please join us by adding your voice to ours. It's easier to stand firm when you don't feel alone.

Excerpts of this devotion are taken from Commentary on The Lectionary Gospel by Scott Hoezee, Luke 21: 5-19. https://cep.calvinseminary.edu/sermon-starters/proper-28c-2/?type=the_lectionary_gospel

Saturday November 16 (tomorrow) is the day of our E.U.C. Willing Workers Snowman Tea and Bazaar.

Come and enjoy our famous tea biscuits and perhaps find a few Christmas gifts. The "Tea" is held from 10 until Noon at the low cost of \$5 for adults.



Our next meeting will be Tuesday December 10 at 10am.

Coffee Fellowship really needs help -
 From about 10 a.m. to get things set up
 & for clean up until about 12:15pm-**if**
you can help please sign up.

We appreciate any help that we get.
 Bud McMartin,
 Chair of CL&W Committee

*Now accepting articles for the
 upcoming 'Emmanuel
 Communicates' newsletter. If you
 have an item of interest you would
 like placed in the newsletter, please
 send it to carmichl@efni.com or place
 in the Newsletter slot in the church
 office, on or before November 24th
 at **2:00 p.m.**
 Thank you in advance.*



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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Nov. 17 Sing Along 10:15am Sunday Service 10:30am "Standing Firm on Shaky Ground"	18	19	20	21 Choir Practice 7:30	22 Timmies at Two	23
24 Sunday Service 10:30am	25	26	27	28 Choir Practice 7:30	30 Timmies at Two	Dec. 1

Please join us at these Upcoming Events

Family Fun Afternoon Sat. Nov. 23 1:00-3:00pm

We are having a Christmas Social at Emmanuel, on November 23rd, 1-3 pm. Rev.

Roni will make up some hot chocolate. We will have games, snacks, crafts and carollers. This event is for the whole family, so bring the grandchildren and we will rock around the Christmas tree a little early. Store bought treats will do. You have been working hard, this is for you to kick back and enjoy!

EMMANUEL ANNUAL CHRISTMAS COOKIE WALK

Sat. Dec. 7; 10am. – Noon in the Bert Passmore Hall

Make sure you come early to get first pick of all the delicious cookies and squares. \$8.00 for a dozen cookies \$10.00 for a dozen squares!

Homemade Goodies Baked just for you Yum .. Yum .. Yum!

***AVGEN GIFT CARDS:** Please consider purchasing these cards for everyday use, to support family & friends or as gifts. **You may order cards on Dec. 8th** for use during the Christmas season. An easy way to financially support the church without hurting your wallet!

***PAR** (Pre-Authorized Remittance) an easy 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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