



The Messenger

February 2025

Emmanuel Episcopal Church
P. O. Box 1028
400 Highland Avenue
Coos Bay, OR 97420

Rector's Reflection

What is Love? Take a moment and think on how would you answer this? We do well as Valentine's Day rolls around this month to reflect on what Love actually is. Love is more than just mere emotion. Love is demonstrated by actions. Love is commitment. Love is sacrificial. Here are a few examples from Holy Scripture that help us define the nature of Love.

May these words stir within you:

"If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends." 1 Corinthians 13:1-8a

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him." John 3:16-17

"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another." John 15:12-17

"God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another." 1 John 4:9-11

"Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honour. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, make real friends with the poor; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Romans 12:9-18

Let true Love rise within us all! See you Sunday, Patti+



ANNUAL MEETING & potluck

Save the Date:

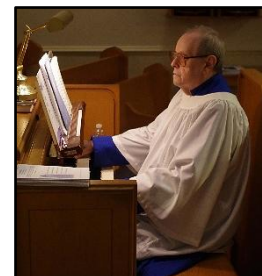
February 16, 2025 - Parish Annual Meeting and Potluck

Please plan to join us on Sunday, February 16, after the 9:00am service for our annual Parish Meeting. We will be having a potluck brunch so please consider bringing an item to share. There's a sign-up sheet in the church entryway or you can let Kerri in the parish office know.



Holiday Thank You from Music Director, Tom Collins

I greatly appreciate all the gift cards, Christmas cards, edible goodies and other expressions of appreciation so much. It is a pleasure to serve Emmanuel as music director, working with Rev. Sr. Patti and our wonderful choir, Wilbur and other musicians.



Your friend in Christ, *Tom Collins*

Missing Music

Three green, spiral bound large books containing the vocal parts for the green *Glory and Praise* hymnals used by the Contemporary Choir are missing! These books are long out of print and obtaining used copies is likely impossible. If you have any information about these three books, please contact the parish office or Kerry Oxford. Thank you!



To Jay Davidson and Grant Cable:

Thank you for the speedy installation of a much-needed shelf in a storage closet. It is already being used and makes retrieving holiday items and decorations so much easier. You and your talents are very appreciated!



Coos Food Cupboard

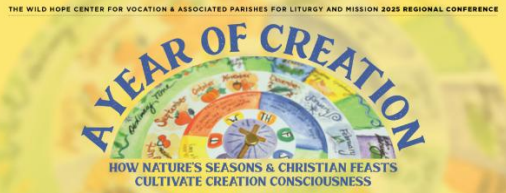
For the month of February, the food cupboard would appreciate donations of canned vegetables and fruit.

In 2024, the Coos Food Cupboard provided 4,322 household food allocations to feed 12,441 individuals. The Cupboard received significant financial support from members of the community: corporations and their employee/client benefit programs, grants, and individual donations. We value the generous donations of our supporters at Emmanuel, and we make every effort to maximize the services we can offer our clients using these funds.

Thank you for your generous and continued support of the Coos Food Cupboard!

~submitted by Rev. Doug Hale





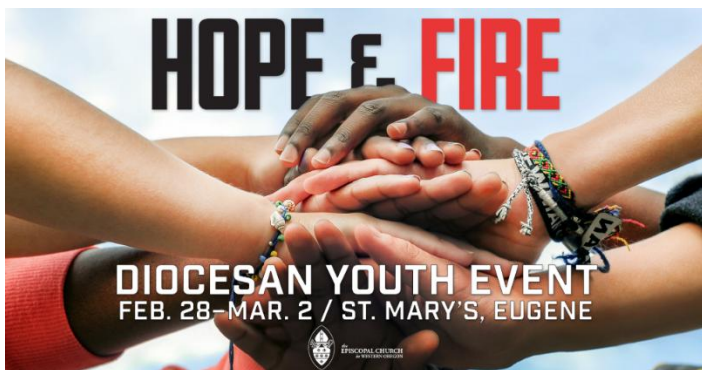
A Year of Creation: How nature's seasons and Christian feasts cultivate creation consciousness **Saturday, February 8, 2025**

The Diocese of Olympia, in partnership with Pacific Lutheran University, invites participants to *A Year of Creation*, a one-day conference exploring how congregations can integrate nature's seasons and Christian feasts into worship to inspire care for God's creation, **Saturday, Feb. 8** at Anderson University Center, Pacific Lutheran University.

This event will feature plenary sessions, interactive workshops, and presentations from esteemed speakers, including:

- **Sheila Bristow** – Composer, church musician, and collaborative keyboardist; Music Director at St. Barnabas Episcopal Church, Bainbridge Island; Affiliate Artist at Pacific Lutheran University.
- **The Rev. Ruth Meyers** – Professor of liturgy, former dean of academic affairs at the Church Divinity School of the Pacific, and author of *Missional Worship*, *Worshipful Mission: Gathering As God's People*, *Going Out in God's Name*.
- **The Rev. Jen Rude** – University Pastor at Pacific Lutheran University and advocate for LGBTQ pastors and seminarians; board member of the Wild Hope Center for Vocation.
- **Shari Shull** – Organist, choir director, and director of music ministry at Agnus Dei Lutheran Church; recitalist featured on NPR's *Pipedreams*.
- **The Rev. Benjamin Stewart** – Pastor and theologian with expertise in liturgy and ecology; author of *A Watered Garden: Christian Worship and Earth's Ecology*.
- **The Rev. Samuel Torvend** – Priest in the Diocese of Olympia, theologian, and author of *Monastic Ecological Wisdom: A Living Tradition* and the forthcoming *Jesus in Nature: A Monastic Christology*.

Registration is \$30 and includes morning coffee with PLU's famous scones, a vegetarian lunch buffet, and all conference materials. For details and registration, visit plu.edu/vocation/a-year-of-creation.



Hope & Fire Diocesan Youth Event **February 28 @ 6:00 pm - March 2 @ 12:00 pm**

We're thrilled to invite youth from across the diocese to Hope & Fire, a weekend of faith, service, and community at **St. Mary's, Eugene** from Friday, February 28 at 6 p.m. to Sunday, March 2 at 12 p.m.

This year, we're adding an extra night to make the experience even more meaningful!

Weekend Highlights:

- **Friday Evening:** Dinner together at 6:00 p.m. (late arrivals welcome—just let us know!)
- **Saturday Morning:** Service project—preparing meals for local feeding sites.
- **Saturday Afternoon:** Fun and fellowship (and showers!) at the local YMCA.
- **Sunday Morning:** Breakfast, worship at St. Mary's 9:30 a.m. service, followed by youth activities, brunch, and a send-off.

We hope this will be an unforgettable opportunity for youth to deepen their faith, build friendships, and make an impact in the local community.

To RSVP, youth (or their parents) can fill out our quick form **here**: <https://ecwo.org/event/hope-fire-diocesan-youth-event/>. A follow-up email will include permission forms and event details.

Please share this information with any youth in your congregation or community who may be interested.

For questions, contact the Rev. Canon Chris Craun at ccraun@ecwo.org.

We can't wait to gather in **Hope & Fire!**



February Birthdays & Anniversaries

Nat Jaeggli Birthday - February 1

Karen Pruhsmeier Birthday - February 8

Susan Foreman Birthday – February 10

Bob & Janet Huggins Anniversary - February 12

Freja Little-John Gardener Birthday - February 12

Pam Chaney Birthday - February 16

Eric Flaherty Birthday - February 17

Elizabeth Roman Birthday - February 19

Jason Davidson Birthday - February 22

Sarah Peterson Birthday - February 28

If you don't see your name(s) on the birthday and anniversaries list, please **let Kerri** in the office know so we can add you to our parish list. *Thank you!*

****March Newsletter Submissions Deadline is Friday, February 21st****