



The Messenger

January 2024

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

Rector Reflection

“JANUARY”

***Happy New Year!!
May 2024 be Blessed!***

The month of January is full
of resentment towards December.

January seethes over
brightly sequined party dresses

and Dickens and the Christmas goose.

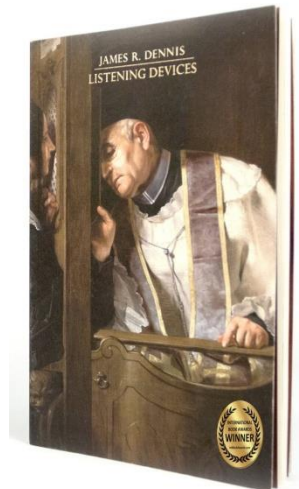
It rages at the thought
of merriment and charity
and the baby Jesus in the creche.

The calendar consigned January
to hangovers and bowl games,
scratched-out dates on checks,
and a few half-hearted resolutions.

January begrudges December
its bells and baubles, its tinsel
and brightly colored wrapping paper.
January is looking for retribution.

December is too self-absorbed
to notice January and the grudge it holds.
December has even managed to embezzle
the laughter and festive kiss of New Year’s Eve.

And implacable January is left
with nothing but a blank slate.
The first month, however, will take its revenge;
January has something up its sleeve.



~by Br. James Dennis, OPA from his book *Listening Devices*

James R. Dennis is a poet, a novelist, and a Dominican friar. Along with two friends, he is co-author of the Miles Arceneaux mystery series; he also writes and teaches on spiritual matters. He has written three collections of poetry, *Correspondence in D Minor*, *Listening Devices*, and *Songs of Seven Days*. In 2023, his collection *Listening Devices* won the International Book Award.

Happy New Year, Emmanuel! See you in Church! *Patti+*



Parish Annual Meeting

Sunday, January 28, 2024, following Worship

The Annual Meeting will begin with a Potluck Brunch in the undercroft. Please sign up to help with set-up, clean-up and/or for a food item you will bring. (This helps us avoid 38 desserts or a brunch of dinner rolls.) The sign up is next to the coffee bar in the undercroft. *Thank you!*

Called to Leadership?

This is an official invitation for you to pray about whether you are called to serve on the Vestry, the leadership council for the parish. Vestry members serve a 3-year term. Vestry obligations include an active faith and participation in the life of the congregation, attending monthly meetings on the third Sunday at 11:00am-12:30pm, and a desire to share in the leadership of Emmanuel Parish and someone who works well with others. If you think you want to volunteer, feel free to contact Rev. Patti at rev.patti.hale@gmail.com or 541-654-3758.



Emmanuel Clothing Drive for the ARK Project

The Women of Emmanuel challenge the Men of Emmanuel to a used clothing drive. The result of the drive will be to benefit The ARK (At Risk Kids) Project, a non-profit which assists the needy families of all the Coos County school districts.

Their mission: The ARK Project is a school-based program providing basic needs, crisis intervention and advocacy, and essential support services to homeless children and youth, ages 0-21, and their families throughout Coos County, Oregon.

Clean, used clothing is what we are looking for! The winner, either Team Men or Team Women, will be based on who collects the most pounds of clothing. The prize will be a special coffee hour served by members of the team that LOST on Sunday, February 11.

The dates for the drive will be January 8th to the 22nd. Clothes will be weighed, and the winning Team declared at the Annual Meeting the following Sunday, January 28th.

Any questions or further information, please call Patti Nichols at 541-252-1076 or email her at pnichols@gci.net



Coos Food Cupboard

Thank you to Emmanuel and our community for all their support in 2023. As you all know, it was a difficult year for many to make ends meet. Without your contributions, we would not have been able to meet those needs. Thank you, Emmanuel, for your generosity and blessings.

For the month of January, the food cupboard would appreciate donations of rice and/or oatmeal. Thank you for your continued support of the Coos Food Cupboard!

~submitted by Brian Sullivan

Dear Sir or Ms.:

Please find enclosed my check to help you continue to provide supplemental nutritious food to meet the growing needs of the Coos Bay/North Bend community.

Keep up the good work!

Processional Cross donated by Tom Collins to the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of his parents, Hildon & Jo Frieda Collins

History of the Russian Orthodox Processional Cross: In the Russian Orthodox Church, a processional cross is traditionally carried when the Patriarch or First Hierarch is serving. In the modern Greek tradition, the processional Cross can be carried during the Entrance at Vespers, and during the Lesser and Great Entrances of the Divine Liturgy, regardless of whether the celebrant is a primate. The cross is carried during outdoor processions at all festal occasions, such as Palm Sunday, Paschal Matins, during Bright Week, and the patron feast day. It can also be used at funerals. During an outdoor procession, the cross will usually be preceded by a large lantern and a deacon with a censer of fragrant incense. Following the cross will be religious banners and icons, then the chanters and clergy, and finally the parishioners. When not in use, the processional cross may be placed in the sanctuary behind the Holy Table.

The central icons, of Christ and St. Nicholas, the wonderworker, are just under 4 inches in diameter. Surrounding the icon of Christ are smaller icons of the Theotokos (the Mother of God); St. John, the Baptist; and the Archangels Michael and Gabriel. Circling St. Nicholas are: St. John, the merciful; St. George, the trophy-bearer; St. Demetrie; and St. Paraskeve (Pyatnitsa, in Russian).

A unique, fully painted and lacquered cross from Russia.

The cross was blessed right before the Christmas Eve service and used for the first time in that service.

Special Thanks to Tom Collins for his beautiful, thoughtful gift to Emmanuel and to Nat Jaeggli for fashioning by hand the pole with which the cross is carried and the stand in which it is held.



SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, January 27, 2024

**Holy Redeemer Church, Women's Retreat Day: The Many Faces of Women
Saturday, January 27, 2024, from 8:30 am-1:30 pm**

Our neighbors at Holy Redeemer Church, North Bend, invite the community and the Women of Emmanuel to their Women's Retreat. This year's theme is "The Many Faces of Women". It is a free seminar with registration at 8:30 am with coffee/tea and muffins and a free soup lunch. There will be four, 30-minute sessions until 2 pm. Come join them for one or all four sessions.

Sample of seminars being offered: "Women of the Bible", "Skin Care Tips for Mature Skin & Busy Moms", "Basic Estate Planning", "Folk Dancing", "Spiritual Opportunities for Women", "ARDC Accessing Senior & Disability Services", "History of Hymns", and "Change Your Year with Just One Word".

Registration forms are in the Emmanuel church entryway. Please turn in the registration forms to Holy Redeemer as directed on the registration form. Questions? Please contact Brenda Rioux at balanceot@charter.net.

The Power of an Invite:

Why people came to church:

- 6-8% Came by own initiative
- 8-10% Liked the clergy
- 3-4% Had a need met by the church
- 1-2% Were evangelized
- 75-85% Were invited by a friend

The average is that 83% of people came to church because a friend invited them to come.



JANUARY Birthdays & Anniversaries

Patti Nichols & Jerry White Anniversary - January 2

Ingrid Sullivan Birthday - January 5

Chuck Wall Birthday - January 5

Grant Cable Birthday - January 8

Brian Sullivan Birthday - January 15

John Whitty Birthday - January 18

Kathy Bennett Birthday - January 20

Fran & Wendy Whitaker Anniversary - January 24

Grace Hanson Birthday - January 25

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!*

****February Newsletter Submissions Deadline is Friday, January 26th****