



# *The Messenger*

## *October 2025*

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

### **Rector Reflection**

I'M BACK!!!! First of all, thanks to one and all for the beautiful welcome home party after church on September 7! What a joyous gift! Thank you.

As you can imagine I have spent the first month digging in to all the things planned for the fall (or that need to be planned). There are two, in particular, that I want to mention. One is on November 5, 2025, a Wednesday from 10am-3pm. Emmanuel will be hosting the Anti-Racism Training called "Dismantling Racism". The program is free and is required for the clergy and mine was expired so I thought the South Shore Convocation could host one. It is a vital training to experience. If you have never taken such a course or if it has been a long while, I encourage you to bring your lunch and come along. It is designed to help participants listen to and see the world through different eyes and life experiences. Racism is holding a bias against people of different skin tones (*whether consciously or subconsciously*) combined with power which exerts control. I commend the training as an excellent spiritual practice of regarding all human beings as people of sacred worth and dignity (*which we confess in our Baptismal Covenant*) and checking the ways in which we hold bias over others and its effects.

The second planned event is the Stewardship Dinner, set for November 9, 2025. Our keynote speaker will be The Rev'd Brenden Barnicle, the Interim Dean of Trinity Cathedral in Portland. Brenden spent 20 years as a Financial Broker before becoming a priest. He has a deep connection and calling in the church in stewardship and financial well-being for the Body of Christ. Our Stewardship theme this year is "Fruits of the Spirit", taken from Galatians 5:22-23. This is also the theme for our ongoing, Wednesday noon Class on Difficult Conversations.

So many wonderful things continue to happen at Emmanuel! Thanks be to God! May the Holy Spirit bear more fruit in our lives than we have ever seen before so that it spills over into the lives of those in our community.

See you in Church! *Patti+*



### **Coos Food Cupboard**

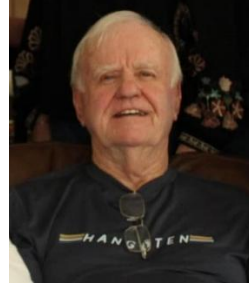
For the month of October, the food cupboard would appreciate donations of canned cranberry sauce in anticipation of providing Thanksgiving boxes in November. Toilet paper is also a much-requested item that our guests very much appreciate.

Please consider a monetary donation to the Coos Food Cupboard. Checks should be made out to "Coos Food Cupboard" and can be dropped off to the parish office or mailed to P.O. Box 1028, Coos Bay, 97420.

Thank you as always for your generosity and support of the Coos Food Cupboard!

*Brian Sullivan, CFC Board Member*





## Happy Retirement, Grant!

Grant Cable, our custodian of many years, retired on the 30<sup>th</sup> of September.

He didn't want any fuss about his retirement, but he's going to get some anyway.

We have all been so blessed by his quiet but essential work, and his willingness to always be the 'Fix-It Guy' we could count on.

If there was a leaky faucet, a light bulb to change, a ladder to climb, or even a volunteer project with the St. Eligius Guild, he was "The Man!"

His dedication has truly made Emmanuel a better place for everyone.

Grant has faithfully served our church for many years, and his hard work and dedication have not gone unnoticed; he's been a guardian of our church home.

On behalf of the entire congregation, I'd like to extend congratulations on his well-deserved retirement.

Grant will be greatly missed.

~Submitted by Dave Laird

## Autumn Blessings

As usual, my heart is filled with gratitude and blessings for all the wonderful things that happen at Emmanuel.

\*Watching the beaming smiles on the faces of new people as they receive their name badges! Wonderful! Thanks to all the people involved in the making, putting together, distribution, etc. of our name badges for folks.

\*Looking forward to the Blessing of the Animals! Always a wonder, and I feel blessed that Emmanuel continues this tradition. I have a lot of gratitude for all our animal companions that makes our lives more blessed.

\*The feeling of family at Emmanuel is very evident, especially around our worship and events/celebrations – like welcoming Rev. Patti back! Lots of people coming together, and sharing laughter, conversation, caring and support along with good food and a strong sense of community!

\*Gratitude a plenty to all those who help with the maintenance of Emmanuel – whether pulling weed, gardening, mowing, edging, painting, cleaning, putting away clean dishes, wiping tables and counters, cleaning the refrigerator, etc. Also, all those on the Altar Guild, whose work sometimes seems invisible, as well as the Ushers and Greeters! Many hands get the work done. Thank you.

Praise God from whom all Blessings flow. *Nancylee Stewart, Sr. Warden*

# *“He’s a handsome devil.”*

## Romance Scams



Meeting new people is difficult for many adults. Fortunately, there’s the internet. Dating sites like eHarmony and Match.com make it easier than ever to find other people who are looking for the same thing you seek. With advanced search features, you can focus on people who share your values, your sense of humor, and even your astrological sign. If you’re clear about what you’re looking for, they might even find you.

Unfortunately, that same ease of connection makes online dating sites a haven for scammers. Using the information you provide, they can craft a profile designed to win your trust. Once they’ve got you, they can string you along for months, damaging your pride and perhaps robbing you blind.

## Red Flags



The greatest warning sign is a request to send money. There are dozens of reasons why scammers might ask for a wire transfer, account details, or other financially sensitive information. Maybe they claim to have a sick relative who is desperate for medical attention or they want to come and see you but can’t afford a ticket.

Whatever the sob story, it will have three key elements. One, it will be based on love or relationship advancement. They may make a sudden confession of love first, or pressure you by saying you need to prove your love. Two, there will be a specific reason why the money must be transferred using an insecure method, like Western Union. The scammer may not have a checking account or may not have time to wait for a check to clear. Third, there will be significant urgency. You will have to decide right then whether to help and not helping will be the end of your budding romance.

**Whenever someone you don’t know offline asks for money via wire transfer or gift cards, run away!** No one with good intentions will want the anonymity and immediacy of a money transfer or gift card.



Your online  
**SWEETHEART**  
asks for  
**MONEY.**

No matter  
the reason:



Stop.

Don’t send cash or  
pay an online love  
interest with gift cards,  
wire transfers, or  
cryptocurrency.

You won’t get  
it back.

<https://www.trumarkonline.org/blog/how-to-avoid-catfishing/>

...Pass it ON

Report scams to  
the Federal Trade  
Commission at  
**ReportFraud.ftc.gov**  
or  
**1-877-382-4357**



[ftc.gov/PassItOn](https://ftc.gov/PassItOn)



FEDERAL TRADE  
COMMISSION



## SAVE THE DATE



This year's convention will take place Friday and Saturday, October 17–18, 2025, at the Salem Convention Center. Delegates, clergy, and visitors from across our diocese will come together to worship, learn, make decisions about our common life, and connect with ministry partners and fellow Episcopalians.

### Registration Closes Sunday, Oct. 5

Tickets are \$45 per person (plus a service fee), which helps cover essential costs such as venue rental, audiovisual support, printed materials, and other logistics that make this gathering possible.

**Register Here:** <https://ecwo.org/annual-meeting/>



# Dismantling Racism

Wednesday November 5, 2025

10:00am – 3:00pm

Emmanuel Episcopal Church in Coos Bay



Emmanuel, Coos Bay is hosting **"DISMANTLING RACISM"**

Which is a **free**, 1-day training, that seeks to increase "racial understanding, healing and reconciliation." It is offered by the Absalom Jones Center for Racial Healing and is open to all clergy and lay leaders in faith communities. More information, can be found at [centerforracialhealing.org](https://centerforracialhealing.org). The class will be led by The Rev'd Ernestine Flemister, Missioner for Racial Reconciliation on staff with the Diocese of Oregon.

Emmanuel located at 400 Highland St, Coos Bay OR

**Bring your lunch**, and join us for a day of reflection and deep learning.



## Library

Browse resources from Episcopal Church in Western Oregon.

### **Diocesan Formation Library - Explore Faith. Deepen Discipleship. Grow Together.**

Our diocese is excited to offer our Diocesan Formation Library through ChurchNext, a leading provider of online courses for Christian formation. Hosted on the *Pathwright* learning platform, this resource offers a wide variety of courses—designed for individuals, small groups, and congregations—to deepen faith and strengthen ministry. We have curated a number of courses from ChurchNext's offerings, but you may also find the entire ChurchNext library online, and if there is a course you would like us to add for diocesan use, simply make a request to Canon Derek Moyer.

Samples classes: "Make Me an Instrument of Peace: A Guide to Civil Discourse", "Praying the Stations of the Cross", "Spirituality and Gardening", and "Gleaning Today: Conserving Food for Hungry People".

To register, please visit <https://ecwo.pathwright.com/library/>.



**Eve Gederos Birthday - October 2**

**Kerri Coldren Birthday - October 9**

**Dedee Ousley Birthday - October 15**

**Jill Boyd Birthday - October 15**

**Nancy Cross Birthday - October 19**

**Carol Flaherty Birthday - October 19**

**Judy & John Knutson Anniversary – October 20**

**Fran Whitaker Birthday - October 21**

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!*

**\*\*November Newsletter Submissions Deadline is Friday, October 24th\*\***