



The Messenger

May 2024

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

Rector Reflection

*"Wind who makes all winds that blow
gusts that bend the saplings low,
gales that heave the sea in waves,
stirrings in the mind's deep caves
aim your breath with steady power
on your church this day, this hour.
Raise, renew the life we've lost,
Spirit God of Pentecost.*



*Fire who fuels all fires that burn
suns around which planets turn,
beacons marking reefs and shoals,
shining truth to guide our souls
come to us as once you came:
burst in tongues of sacred flame!
Light and Power, Might and Strength,
fill your church, its breadth and length.*

*Holy Spirit, Wind and Flame,
move within your mortal frame.
Make our hearts an altar pyre,
kindle them with your own fire.
Breathe and blow upon that blaze
till our lives, our deeds and ways,
speak that tongue which every land
by your grace shall understand."*

-Rev. Thomas H. Troeger, 1983



This hymn: *"Wind who makes all winds that blow"* is my favorite theological discourse on the 3rd person of the Trinity, God the Holy Spirit. On May 19th we celebrate the end of the Great 50 days of Easter with the pivotal event recorded in Acts Chapter 2 known as Pentecost. In this biblical account, the disciples are gathered together in Jerusalem and have been praying as Jesus asked them to do continually until they were 'clothed with power from on high'. (*Luke 24:49*) During this time of worship the Spirit of God, God's very own presence and power, descends upon them. It is described as a violent wind, a holy fire. The people are enraptured in praise! Miraculously understanding of all the foreign languages is given and all are made aware of the

mighty deeds of God in their native language. It is a stunning reversal of the scattering of God's pride-filled people in Genesis 11:1-9 when they attempted to build their own tower at Babel to get themselves up to where God was. God knocked the tower down and scattered the people. (There is, after all, only one God, and we are not God!)

But in this Pentecost event which follows the resurrection of the Lord Jesus and his ascension into heaven, the Spirit of the Living God comes DOWN to where humans are and brings supernatural unity. The Spirit is given to complete the work Jesus began by giving God's power and presence and heart and mind to humans. The short way of saying it... God comes to us instead of us building our own tower to climb to God and be where God is. (As if we really could!).

The words of the hymn masterfully hold together the many facets mystical person of God the Holy Spirit as well as asking for a fresh outpouring upon us all. For we still attempt to build our own towers of Babel, but they lead only to deeper hubris, pride, and division. We need to receive the good news.... Almighty God profoundly and generously comes to us! We confess him as the Lord- the giver of life, the giver of every good and perfect gift, a holy fire, a violent and powerful wind, the sustainer, and sanctifier of us all. The Holy Spirit is not an 'it' nor is the Spirit some mere 'tool' of God. The Spirit **IS** God's very presence and power. The Spirit was poured out upon the disciples on the day of Pentecost and every day hence for all those who would pray and open their hearts to the Author and Finisher of our faith. If you have prayed to the Father and if you have prayed to Jesus... try addressing God, the Holy Spirit. The hymn above is a GREAT prayer. Here is another for you to try:

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love.

Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created, and you shall renew the face of the earth.

O God, who have taught the hearts of the faithful by the light of the Holy Spirit,
grant that in the same Spirit we may be truly wise and ever rejoice in your consolations;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Don't forget to wear **Red**, **Yellow** and **Orange** on May 19th in honor of the Holy Spirit!

See you in Church! *Patti+*



Adult Education Class Resumes

Resuming on Wednesdays, beginning on May 8, the Adult Education Class will start again for our spring study. We are meeting from 12:00pm-1:30pm.

We will be considering the term "Spirituality". What does this word mean? What is Christian spirituality? Are you "spiritual" or are you "religious" or are you both? The topic for the class emerged from someone in the parish who had a conversation with a family member about coming to church and they replied they didn't need church because they were "spiritual and not religious". Sound familiar? Come join us for a 6-week exploration on the topic to sort it out. All are welcome. Bring a friend!

SPIRITUALITY



Coos Food Cupboard

For the month of May, we ask you to consider the furry clients of the Coos Food Cupboard. Dog & cat food are items that cannot be purchased with SNAP benefits by our clients with furry companions and is a vital need. Along with donations of pet food, we also need sealing plastic bags (like Ziploc) so we can portion and distribute the dry dog and/or cat food that is donated.

Please also consider a monetary donation to the Coos Food Cupboard. Please make checks out to "Coos Food Cupboard". Checks can be dropped off in the parish office or mailed to P.O. Box 1028, Coos Bay, OR 97420.

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

Brian Sullivan, CFC Board Member



Junior Warden's Report

Just as with our own homes and gardens, there are always projects in the works with the buildings and grounds at Emmanuel parish.

Earlier this month, the company that is installing our security system finished the installation of security cameras. Still to be completed is the installation of sensors and a "panic button" in the food cupboard, the partitioning of the arm/disarm functions between the church, preschool, and office areas, and the integration of the camera feeds with our existing Wi-Fi system.

To address the need for an organized group of volunteers to take care of maintenance and repairs that do not fall under the custodian's job description, a group of handy people met last week to establish The Eligius Guild at Emmanuel. With the motto "To Love and Heal the Broken....Stuff", they will take on projects that will keep our buildings and grounds in good order.

They say, "Many hands make light work!", For those who missed our last Yard Workday, another opportunity to enjoy pulling weeds and trimming hedges has been scheduled for Saturday, May 18th. I'm looking forward to seeing you there!

If you would like to participate or have questions about Buildings & Grounds, please drop me, Al Rumsch, a text (541-294-5989) or e-mail (oscar@jeffnet.org).

Special thanks for All who showed up for our last Yard Workday. Your help is appreciated!



Prayer Shawls – Knitters/Crocheters Needed

Knitting with Purpose:

"Shawls ... made for centuries, universal and embracing, symbolic of an inclusive, unconditionally loving God. They wrap, enfold, comfort, cover, give solace, mother, hug, shelter and beautify. Those who have received these shawls have been uplifted and affirmed, as if given wings to fly above their troubles..."

~Written in 1998 by Janet Severi Bristow

Do you love to knit or crochet? If so, put your talents to good use by getting involved with Emmanuel's Prayer Shawl Ministry. The shawl maker begins with prayers and blessings for the recipient and continues to pray and meditate as the shawl is created. Once completed, the shawls are returned, and Rev. Patti will then bless them before sending them out to comfort others.

Shawls can be used for: undergoing medical procedures, as a comfort after a loss or in times of stress, during bereavement, prayer or meditation, commitment or marriage ceremonies, birthing, bridal shower, or wedding gift, during an illness and recovery, ministering to others, graduation, birthday, anniversary, ordination, holiday gifts...there are endless possibilities! This is a "quiet" ministry. Please join us and put your needles and hooks to good use, bringing comfort and prayers to those in need.

Would you like to receive a Prayer Shawl?

If you are interested in receiving one of our Prayer Shawls, please let Rev. Patti know.

Prayer Shawl
Ministry





Coastal Families Relief Nursery: “Welcome Dinner”

Emmanuel will be providing a "welcome" dinner on Friday, May 31 from 5 PM -7 PM to the Coastal Families Relief Nursery families to extend our welcome to them. If you are interested in helping, please contact me.

541.404.7470 or nancylee.b.stewart@gmail.com.

Nancylee Stewart

Emmanuel liaison to CFRN Board of Directors, Sr. Warden



Senior Meal Kitchen

S&B Foods, LLC

(541) 217-6300

Space 146 at the Pony Village Mall
(next to the Buzz Restaurant)

Serving a free meal for individuals 60 and over on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 7:00 AM – 1:00 PM. Meals are \$5.00 for individuals under 60 years of age. The menu is posted outside daily.



**Photos are examples only, not actual menu items.*



Cindy Harper Birthday - May 5

Duke Davidson Birthday - May 6

Eli Davidson Birthday - May 6

Sarah Jennings Birthday - May 7

Troy Cribbins Birthday - May 9

Al Rumsch Birthday - May 12

Melissa Cribbins Birthday - May 12

Emmett Hale Birthday - May 14

Bob Huggins Birthday - May 14

Wilbur Jensen Birthday - May 19

Jeff Laird Birthday - May 23

Grace Laird Birthday - May 23

Shirley Culver Birthday – May 25

Dave Kronsteiner Birthday - May 26

Jill & Jason Davidson Anniversary - May 31

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!*

****June Newsletter Submissions Deadline is Friday, May 24th****