



# *The Messenger*

## *October 2023*

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

### **Rector Reflection**

As you may know, I was elected as the "Master of the Order" for the Anglican Order of Preachers... otherwise known as the "Anglican Dominicans". We are an Anglican expression of the Order of Preachers founded by St. Dominic de Guzman in the 13th Century. The Order is made of men and women, lay and clergy, married and unmarried who are specifically called to Preaching and Teaching the Word of God for the salvation of souls. It has been a great joy and grace to my life to have discovered the Order at the very end of my doctoral work based on the writings of a 13th Century Dominican, Humbert of Romans. I made my Life Profession in August of 2018 and was installed just this past August as Master of the Order. Sr. Amy would say "the Boss penguin".

Among the various duties I have as Master of the Order (referred to in shorthand has the MOTO) include receiving the Life Profession of those who are ready to make their vows to simplicity, purity, and obedience to Christ through this religious Order. This month I have the great honor of traveling to Cuba to receive the Profession of Life Vows from Br. Adreano Fuentes. Br. Adreano is an Episcopal Priest who serves three small parishes in the southern part of the island that is Cuba. He and his congregations are traveling to Havana for the service of Life Profession to take place in the Cathedral. Br. Adreano is the very first Episcopalian in Cuba to ever make life vows to a religious order within the Diocese of Cuba! He is a truly gifted pastor and preacher. I will be in Cuba October 12-15, returning home on the 16th.

Now, you may be scratching your head and saying to yourself: "I had no idea the Episcopal Church had a Diocese in Cuba." It is, after all, a Latin American country that has a communist government following the revolution in 1959. Here is a brief history of the Episcopal Diocese in Cuba:

"The Episcopal Church of Cuba traces its formal origins to 1901, when the House of Bishops of ECUSA established the Missionary District of Cuba under the jurisdiction of the Presiding Bishop.

In 1966 ECUSA's House of Bishops withdrew the Cuban diocese from ECUSA association in the wake of the 1959 Cuban Revolution, which had strained communication and travel between the churches. After 1966, as an extra-provincial diocese, the Cuban church was under the oversight of a Metropolitan Council of the Primates of the Anglican Church of Canada, and the Church in the Province of the West Indies, as delegated by Archbishop of Canterbury. The diocese remained in full communion with the worldwide Anglican Communion throughout the period."

Not surprisingly, from 1966-2018 the Diocese experienced significant conflict both internally and externally in terms of the socio-economic realities that have been the way of things in Cuba. But God will make a way where there seems to be no way! God's people in Cuba have remained steadfast and faithful.



At a meeting of the Diocesan Synod in March 2015, following the decision by the ECUSA and *Iglesia Episcopal de Cuba* to re-establish diplomatic relations, it was resolved to take steps to formally reincorporate the Cuban church within the Episcopal Church in the United States. A commission was formed to consider what processes would be needed to achieve reunification, and the General Convention was expected to consider the matter in 2018. In July 2018, at the 79th Episcopal General Convention, both the House of Bishops and the House of Deputies voted unanimously to re-admit the Episcopal Church of Cuba to ECUSA as a diocese of province II (also called the Atlantic Province), which includes dioceses from New York and New Jersey in the United States, Haiti, and the Virgin Islands. They currently have a "provisional" Bishop until an election can be held for a new Diocesan Bishop.

I am so looking forward to my adventure in Cuba! I am sure I will have all kinds of stories to tell when I return. Please pray for me as I go and also pray for Br. Adriano as he makes his Life Profession as well as for ALL the good people of the Episcopal Diocese of Cuba.

Sr. Amy Linder will be leading the service of Ante-Communion on October 15th. I will be back in the office on the 17th.

Blessings and peace, *Patti+*



### **Coos Food Cupboard**

For the month of September, the food cupboard would appreciate donations of canned fruit. Heavy duty, reusable grocery bags are also needed for our guests who arrive without their own.

If you prefer to make a monetary donation to the Coos Food Cupboard, please make your check out to "Coos Food Cupboard" and mail it to P.O. Box 1028, Coos Bay, OR 97420.

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

~submitted by Brian Sullivan



### **Christmas Baskets**

Work on the Christmas Basket Outreach is starting. All volunteers are invited to an organizational meeting on Tuesday, October 10th at 1:00 PM at the church.

The Christmas Baskets are totally funded by contributions from the congregation, and we are requesting your help with cash donations. Shopping for individual children will start in November and household supplies to be included in each basket will also need to be purchased. Please designate Christmas Basket Fund on checks made out to Emmanuel, in collection plate or submitted to office.

~submitted by Susan Foreman





## Coastal Families Relief Nursery

The Coastal Family Relief Nursery (CFRN) had a wonderful Open House. Many thanks to Rev. Sr. Patti Hale and Emmanuel for the balloons which made the event more festive! About 35 people attended. The CFRN is now serving four families and continuing to grow!

One component required for a certified relief nursery is a clothes closet. We have started a "Care Closet" (renamed to be more family friendly) on site. We have some limited children's clothing, some personal hygiene products, cleaning products and some limited non-perishable food items. We are currently hoping for some donations of new children's clothing, sized 18 months through 5T. We will continue to inform families of the availability of the Coos Food Cupboard as well.

Emmanuel's continued support of the Coastal Family Relief Nursery is highly valued and greatly appreciated. To follow their progress, please like and follow their Facebook Page at "Coastal Families Relief Nursery", <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100085965323880>.

*Nancylee Stewart*, Emmanuel's liaison to CFRN

### "Welcome Back Packs"

The generosity of Patti Nichols and all who donated to the "Welcome Back Packs" for the Coastal Families Relief Nursery made it possible for Emmanuel to present 20 back packs each filled with a hygiene kit, coloring book and crayons, "Goodnight Moon", toothbrush and toothpaste, gentle shampoo, a cozy blanket, and a soft toy for the children. Thank you for making CFRN students feel welcomed, supported and loved!



THE ANNUAL MEETING OF  
THE CONVENTION OF THE EPISCOPAL  
CHURCH IN WESTERN OREGON

### ON THE DIOCESAN BLOG: "Participating in an Online Convention, Together"

With the Annual Meeting being held online again this fall, communities might be looking for ways for delegates to feel connected to one another, discuss ideas and communicate around topics of interest, and still participate fully in the business of the meeting. Last year, several faith communities found a way for their delegates to do just that.

The Revs. Ali and George Lufkin of St. Catherine's Episcopal Church in Manzanita gathered their delegates in the church for last year's annual meeting. "It was very clear [before the meeting] that our delegation wanted to be together and have that company," said the Rev. Ali Lufkin.

Each delegate brought their own device as they each were required to log into the meeting for voting and to speak; however, their individual cameras and microphones were off, unless they wanted to speak to



convention. A livestream of the meeting was projected on a television, which allowed the group to feel more cohesive and still have table conversations, something that is a norm at an in-person annual meeting.

Further south, another community, St. Martin's Episcopal Church in Shady Cove, gathered their delegates in the social hall and also invited members of the congregation who wanted to watch the livestream come to the church to watch in another room and offer prayers in the sanctuary.

"It was the best of both worlds," said the Rev. Laura Sheridan-Campbell, Vicar of St. Martin's, and Secretary of Convention. "This provided us a way of being our delegation in person. We were in our church, it is not one delegate at their home and another at theirs... it is us together. The person praying [in the sanctuary] is praying for the whole convention."

Read the full blog post on our website. <https://ecwo.org/participating-in-an-online-convention-together/>

Two important items noted at the end of the blog (but still go read the whole story!):

- In May 2024, the Diocese will have the opportunity to come together for a Renewal Gathering in Salem.
- The 136th Annual Meeting of Convention is scheduled to be in person in Salem in the fall of 2024.



**Eve Gederos Birthday - October 2**

**Caroline Stewart Birthday - October 3**

**Larry O'Neal Birthday - October 5**

**Patti Nichols Birthday - October 6**

**Kerri Coldren Birthday - October 9**

**Dedee Ousley Birthday - October 15**

**Jill Boyd Birthday - October 15**

**Virginia & Larry O'Neal Anniversary - October 18**

**Nancy Cross Birthday - October 19**

**Carol Flaherty Birthday - October 19**

**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 Thursday, October 26th\*\***