

JANUARY - 2020

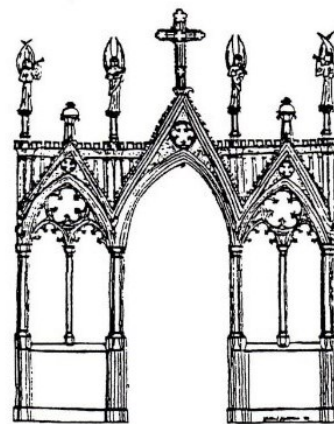
From the Rector

Waiting and expectation are difficult. We all have just finished one piece of waiting with the calling of me as your rector. I know from where I sit, it was well worth the wait, and I hope you all feel the same. We began Advent I with the advent of a new day in the history of Emmanuel. It has been a whirlwind, albeit an enjoyable one. EEC has so many meaningful and beautiful traditions that I feel honored to be invited to share them with you all. Thank you for welcoming us into your family.

I also thank you for your patience and good humor as I navigate the "Emmanuel Way." What I love about our tradition is we are all different yet similar. Our liturgy is like putting on a comfortable pair of shoes, which means wherever I am worshipping in any Episcopal church, I feel at home. So while it is a bit different for me here, I love the tradition, reverence, and beauty of the service. Immediately I feel at home, and I am incredibly grateful for all the assistance everyone has given me this past month. I could not do it without you. One of my philosophies about the Church is we don't work for one another; we work with one another, which is why I ask you to call me Diane. Jesus wasn't Mr. Jesus; he was equal with those he worked and ministered. It is how I prefer to be with you all.

You may or may not be a resolution maker, and I am ambivalent about them, but there is something about the turn of the calendar, which brings hope and possibility for what is to come. So as we begin another year, however, you meet it, I hope you will be able to stop and reflect on what you desire for 2020. One-piece you may consider adding to your spiritual life is taking part in the many groups which EEC is fortunate to have under its roof. Trying something new is a worthwhile spiritual practice, so please think about where the Holy Spirit is calling you to next. A quote from "The Universe is a Green Dragon" by Brian Swimme *"It was out of the dynamic of cosmic celebration that we were created in the first place. We are to become celebration and generosity, burst into self-awareness. What is human? The human is a space, an opening, where the universe celebrates its existence."* What is God calling you to celebrate in 2020? Join us and find out. Diane+

Evensong



Evensong

Sunday January 5 at 5:00 p.m. Emmanuel will host an Evensong for Peace. We're sharing this most Anglican of all services to sing and pray for peace in the world. The setting will be informal with string band music and new and ancient prayers. All are welcome.



Emmanuel Guild



Emmanuel Guild will once again be hosting a Ladies Tea. Join us Saturday, January 26 from 1-3pm for a high tea with delicious tea sandwiches and desserts. Hats are optional but encouraged. Tickets are \$15.00 each and will be available after both services for the next three Sundays. Contact churchoffice@emmanuelrockford.org for more information.

Annual Meeting Sunday, January 26th



According to our By-Laws, Emmanuel will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 26 immediately following a 9:00 am service. *(There will be no other services on this day.)* The main order of business will be the election of new Vestry officers.

Emmanuel Reads

Emmanuel Reads will not meet in January but will resume on February 6th.



Labyrinth Walk

Labyrinth Walk will be held on Wednesday, January 8th. From 5-6pm - Nicholas Center (3rd floor). As we honor the peregrination of the Three Kings and the season of Jesus' rebirth in our lives, let's walk into the growing light of longer days in the new year. With an open heart and lure for spiritual refreshment, the labyrinth offers a meditative experience on a singular walking path to a center rosette design, symbol of Mary and renewal. As always, candlelight and contemplative music set the mood.



Woman's Spirituality



Women's Spirituality Group will be meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 28, 2020. The meeting will be at Mary Dammann's at 7pm. Refreshments will be served. Call Mary at 815-520-2990 for directions or any questions.

Weather Policy

After a vestry discussion, the following inclement weather policy was agreed upon: when the Rockford City Schools are closed due to bad weather, weekday and evening activities at Emmanuel are cancelled.



Grief Support Group

Henri Nouwen, Catholic priest and founder of L'Arche wrote "The friend who can be silent with us in a moment of despair or confusion, who can stay with us in an hour of grief and bereavement, who can tolerate not knowing... not healing, not curing... that is a friend who cares." Loss is the physical loss of a loved one, but it is also the loss of a job, a way of life, or a dream.



Wednesday, January 15th, at 7 pm in the Janet James Room, we will meet to share our feelings and experiences with grief. Please join us as we navigate the terrain of pain and sadness together. If you have any questions please speak with Diane.



Lenten Booklet

The Aspire Committee invites you to join in Emmanuel's preparation of the 2020 Lenten Booklet, **Bountiful Spirit**. Would you write a paragraph on a daily scripture reading or perhaps a personal reflection around your spiritual journey? If your answer is "YES", please add your name to the booklet in the Narthex.

Bountiful Spirit has been an annual Lenten companion which explores small and large ways to grow in faith with offerings of personal reflections from our parishioners, church friends and families.

Signup sheets will be available at church on the first three Sundays of this new year. The deadline for written submissions is **February 10th** so the **Bountiful Spirit** Lenten Booklet can be made available Sunday February 23rd.

Shelter Care

Artalé Fundraiser for Shelter Care: Shelter Care Ministries will be holding a wine tasting at Artalé Wine Company on January 3, 2020, from 5:30-8:30pm. Join us to sample various wines and enjoy an evening of friendship and camaraderie. Tickets are \$15 and will be available at the door.



Birthday

Greg Cox	1/02	Judy Pike	1/14
Kyla Chapman-Neal	1/03	Olena Saenz	1/14
Tim Borden	1/05	Nancy Dale	1/16
Leo Saenz	1/05	Tom Beck	1/19
Tyler Hillman	1/07	Norma Cameron	1/25

Anniversary

Kyla Chapman-Neal & Scott Neal	1/03
Nancy Smith & Robert Crawford	1/16
Mendy & Dale Thomas	1/17



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January 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1  Parish Office Closed	2	3 5-8pm - Artalé Wine Tasting	4 10-12pm - Soup Kitchen
5 Epiphany 8am - Spoken Holy Eucharist 9:00am - Child at Heart Serv. 9:15am - No Adult Forum 9:30am - Sunday School 10:30am - Choral Holy Eucharist 5pm - Evensong	6 Parish Office Closed	7	8 5-6pm - Epiphany Labyrinth Walk	9 5pm - Aspire Meeting	10	11 4:30 - 6:30pm - Parent's Night Out
12 8am - Spoken Holy Eucharist 9:00am - Child at Heart Serv. 9:15am - Adult Forum 9:30am - Sunday School 10:30am - Choral Holy Eucharist	13 Parish Office Closed	14	15	16 11am - Emmanuel Guild 6pm - Vestry	17	18
19 8am - Spoken Holy Eucharist 9:00am - Child at Heart Serv. 9:15am - Adult Forum 9:30am - Sunday School 10:30am - Choral Holy Eucharist	20 Parish Office Closed	21	22 5:30pm - Shelter Care Board at 7th St.	23	24	25 1-3 - Ladies Tea
26 9am One Service Only Annual Meeting	27 Parish Office Closed	28 7pm - Women's Spirituality at Mary Dammann's	29	30	31	



Emmanuel
 EPISCOPAL CHURCH