

LIFE AND WORK OF EMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH JANUARY 2023



February Issue Submission Deadline:
Monday, January 23, 2023

WELCOME TO EMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH

Where the church is the body of Christ with each member having unique gifts to share and a ministry to offer. We invite you to come and visit, to worship, to join in our fellowship, to participate in our many activities, and to enrich your faith.

For information on any of our church activities, please call 613-733-0437 or email emmoffice@bellnet.ca or go to our website at www.emmanuelunited.ca

No Scents Makes Good Sense

Emmanuel United Church provides a scent-free environment.

Please avoid wearing or using scented products as some individuals have environmental sensitivities.

Note: The online version of the Packet has the personal phone numbers and email addresses of Emmanuel members removed. Contact the office (613-733-0437) for further information.



IN MEMORIAM

Joan Halliday, December 10, 2022
Joan Stevenson, December 23, 2022
Frank Kavcic, December 27, 2022



Thank you to those who made donations to the Memorial Fund, in
honour of a loved one or friend.

(Joan Halliday)
Betsi & Malcolm Collins
Leon & Nancy Page
Marg & Graham Kneen

(Joan Stevenson)
Ross & Joyce White

(Frank Kavcic)
Marg & Graham Kneen
Russell Smith & Areta Crowell
Ross & Joyce White
Keith, Nancy & Kirsten Jeacle
Phyllis MacRae & Richard Johnston

Blessed are those who mourn, For they shall be comforted.

Matthew 5:4

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Ottawa, ON K1G 1N7
Website: www.emmanuelunited.ca

Sunday Worship at 10:00 AM

Office Hours: Monday – Thursday
8:30am-4:00pm

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CHRISTIAN DEVELOPMENT



Nursery – Nursery is available every Sunday.

Sunday School

In person Sunday school activities for children, aged 4 to 12, are being held during Sunday services.



Book Club

The book club will meet on **Monday, January 9** at 7:00pm on Zoom to discuss “*Indian*” in the *Cabinet* by Jody Wilson-Raybould.

The Thursday Morning Discussion Group (‘Heretics’)

The Thursday Morning Discussion Group is now “between books”. On Jan 6 we will hold a planning meeting, and will consider various topics that have popped up during email discussions. We will draw from online educational resources, which many of us follow regularly, as well as the *Broadview* magazine which always has thought-provoking articles.



Regardless of the topic, we always have interesting and lively times. We meet at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday mornings on Zoom, and there's always room for more. Drop in whenever you can to enjoy a lively and interesting discussion; no preparation is required. Please contact Evelyn Perkins or any member of Heretics for further information or a Zoom invitation.

Teleos: Wednesday, January 25th at 7:00 pm via Zoom

“Art Journaling: A Lenten Practice” with Carol Scott. If you would like to join this meeting but are not on the regular Teleos distribution list, contact Joan Foster-Jones for the Zoom link.

Teleos Retreat – Save the Date

Teleos is planning an in-person retreat for **Saturday April 1st**. This will take place at the church. Further information in the February packet.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES & GROUPS

Men’s Club Breakfast – Saturday, **January 14** at 8:15am at Perkins Restaurant.

Coming Soon

The First Emmanuel Famous Film Series

Stay tuned for more announcements about the **First Emmanuel Famous Film Series** launching in the New Year. We are putting together a series of excellent, educational and entertaining films to be screened in the CE Hall on Friday nights throughout the winter and spring. The films will be selected to highlight different themes - Lent, Archbishop Romero, indigenous experiences, LGBTQ+ and experiences from other countries.

The films will be suitable for families and adults and age recommendations will be included. Admission will be free and free will offerings will be welcome. Popcorn will be served. Stay tuned for more news.

Phyllis MacRae and Russell Pastuch, Empresarios

Monday Night Christian Meditation Group

Jesus says, “When two or three pray together in my name, I am there among them.”

We live in a noisy world filled with ceaseless activity. We seek space to be quiet and be with God within ourselves. If you wish to learn how to meditate and find more quietness, you are welcome to join fellow meditators, who meet Mondays for an hour starting at **7:00pm** on Zoom.

Christian meditation is a form of silent contemplative prayer. Simple, continuous, repetition of a mantra or prayer word leads us from the mind to the heart. Silently repeating the word creates a

narrow path of silence we can follow through the noise, distractions, agitation, and turbulence of the mind. We are no longer talking to God or, worse, talking to ourselves. We are learning to be silent, to be with God, to be in God.

For further information, contact Bill Meek.

COMMUNICATIONS

From all of us, the very few on the committee, to all of you, A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

At the start of a new year, the same requests as before.

If you are at the Lectern:

- Remove your mask
- Smile
- Speak up
- Look at the congregation, not the screen over the Lounge
- Don't play with the microphone
- Don't hit the microphone with any papers you have

If you are using the wireless mike:

- Remove your mask
- Smile
- Speak up
- Don't wave it around
- Don't point it at the Congregation
- Speak directly into it

If you decide to suddenly make an announcement, please let the team at the rear know beforehand. Someone heading to the front with a pot and a spoon is someone to be tracked, not chased.

Make sure that anything you want advertised in the local newspapers is passed to Steve Taylor, advertising guru, WELL BEFORE the event.

Volunteers are needed for the sound and video boards. The current team is getting rather worn out after 3 years.

Otherwise, all is good.

Willie Selkirk, Chair, Communications Committee

COUNCIL

2022 Annual Report – deadline for submissions is **Monday, January 16**. A report is required from all committees and groups. Please send the final version to the office after having circulated it to your committee/group.

Council will meet on Tuesday, January 17 at 7:00pm in the C.E. Hall.

Emmanuel Covid Standards - Effective January 2023

We are encouraged that more people are finding it comfortable to attend Sunday services. It is also understandable that everyone is making their own decisions that fit their own comfort levels. We are also aware that other virus infections including the flu are becoming more common and that they can be prevented by wearing masks, maintaining safe distance and by being vaccinated.

1. For worship services, masks must continue to be worn.
2. For other activities in the church, wearing of masks is recommended. Keeping a safe distance from others and getting vaccinated is also recommended.
3. For gatherings, either as part of Emmanuel activities or by outside groups, leaders of such gatherings should be aware of these standards and encourage wearing masks when it is practical.
4. Serving of food and drink in the church is acceptable and, of course, wearing a mask while eating and drinking cannot apply.
5. These standards also apply to the kitchen.

Emergency Planning Committee

GLOBAL PARTNERS

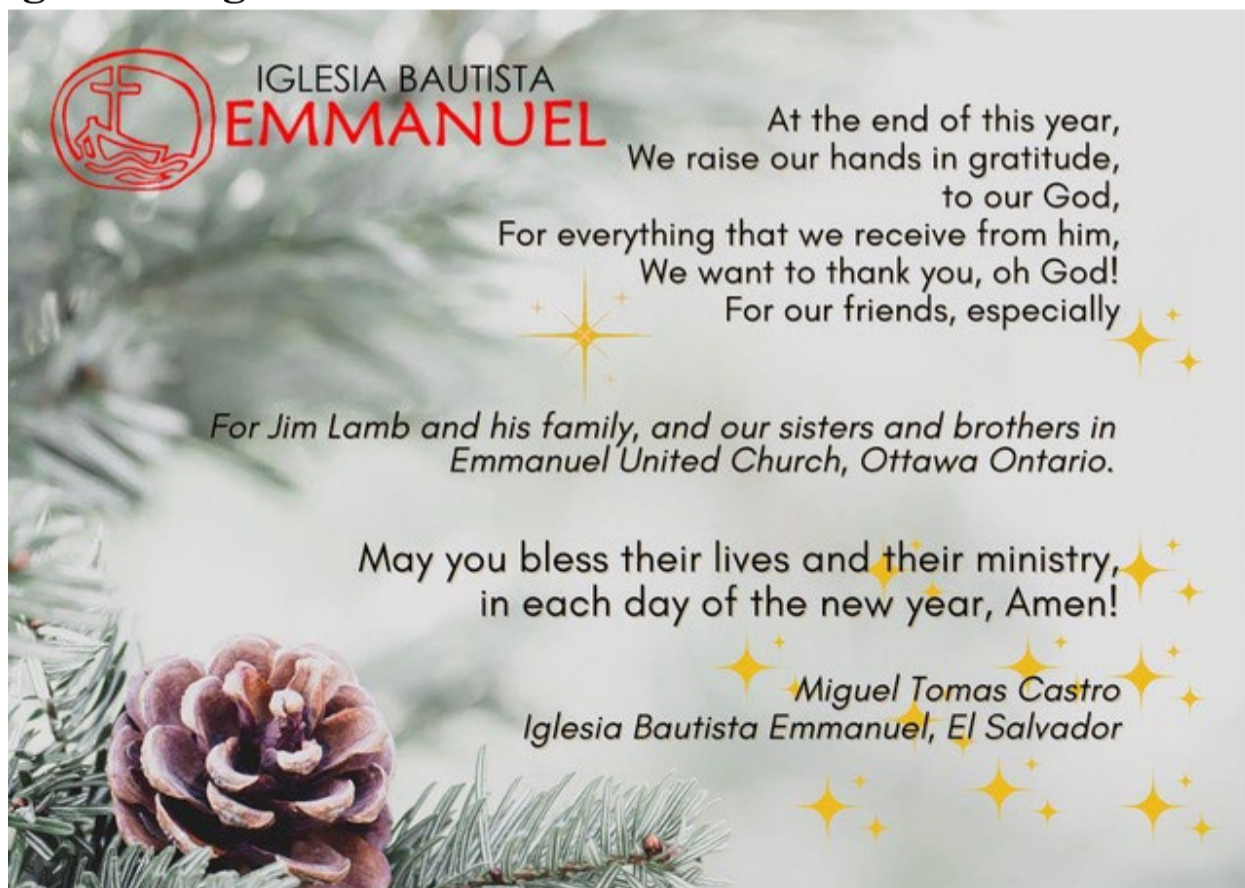
Just Gifts Christmas Markets

A great big **THANK YOU** to everyone who contributed to making our *Just Gifts Christmas Markets* overwhelming successes. This year we experimented with a hybrid version of *Just Gifts* holding both an on-line and in-person market. It was our first in-person market in three years, due to COVID, and the excitement and “buzz” in the Sanctuary on Saturday, December 3, 2022 was something special.

In addition to raising awareness of Fair Trade and buying local, the events netted almost \$6,500 which will be split between our two partners with 50% directed to IBE in El Salvador, and 50% to the United Church of Zambia, Chipembi Congregation, our Zambia partner.

The “Pie Factory” – Betsi, Christine, Carol and Jean - raised an additional \$2,500 for our Global Partners through the sale of almost 400 pies (over and above those sold through the on-line market) to members of the congregation and the larger community as well.

Message from Iglesia Bautista Emmanuel



KEEPING IN TOUCH

Re-opening Our Doors

There was much excitement on Christmas Eve when people were able to enter the church through the new front doors. As you enter, the space is welcoming, with lots of light. Many people expressed gratitude to the all those involved in the planning and construction for working right up until the day before Christmas to prepare the space.

Anniversary Sunday

Emmanuel's 64th Anniversary will be celebrated on Sunday, January 22. We are hoping that early members will be able to attend. If you require transportation, please call the church office or Joyce (see contact below).

Congregational Care

In happy times and in times of loss and sorrow, the Emmanuel community has a special way of looking after each other. During the season of Epiphany may we continue to bring light to someone through friendship and connection.

Keeping in Touch is looking for new volunteers to help with the work of reaching out to the congregation. Contact Joyce White for more information.

MINISTRY AND PERSONNEL

The highlight of this Life and Work Packet is an invitation for you to the Covenanting Service for Rev. Grant Stuckless. This important service will be held at 2PM on Sunday 29 January at the Church. The covenanting service marks the beginning of a new ministry at Emmanuel, with supportive commitments on the part of Rev. Grant, the Emmanuel congregation, and the Regional Council. The Guest Preacher attending the service will be Rev. Catherine Gutjahr, at the invitation of Rev. Grant. Rev. Ed Gratton, the Region's Pastoral Relations Supervisor, will be officiating.

Please plan to attend and mark this service on your 2023 calendars.

The remainder of this Life and Work item from M&P has items from November and December 2022.

We are pleased that Grant was able to attend the fall meeting of the Eastern Ontario Regional Council on Saturday 6 November. This was an excellent opportunity to get acquainted with the Region's leaders and to be introduced to the clergy attendees as one of several new ministers in the Region. Phyllis MacRae, Janice Péron, and Colleen Calvert attended and made introductions to the people of the Region.

Rev. Grant attended the *Day of Rest for Ministers* on Tuesday 15 November. This event was by invitation to ministers in the Region; 22 attended. The full day of conversations included an opening prayer/reflection, small group sharing, a time to engage in spiritual practice, wider group sharing, and it closed with Communion.

We are working on staffing the position of Leader of Children, Youth and Young Adults which was approved by the Emmanuel Council on 22 June. An advertisement is posted on the Emmanuel website, together with the Position Description, and also on the website of the Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council.

We are very pleased to have received a grant from the Region's Vision and Transformation Team to cover part of the salary costs for Youth Leader's position. The grant is for \$8,000 per year for three years following submission of annual progress reports. Other sources of funding are also being investigated.

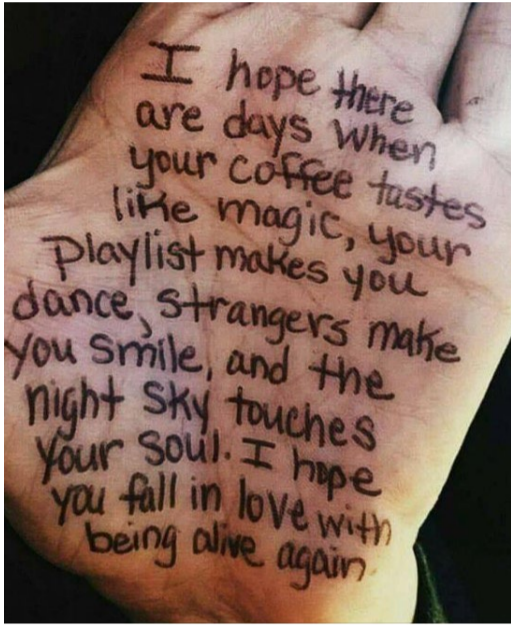
We completed the fall 2022 annual interviews with each of our staff in mid-November. The interviews are designed to hear about how things are going, to learn about any issues or concerns, which have arisen, to learn about their staff development plans in the year ahead, and their long-term plans at Emmanuel. We

circulate questions in advance to let them know what we would like to talk about.

Ministry and Personnel Committee

Graham Campbell, Shelley Ferrell, Val Lines, Jill MacLean, Chikwa Zahinda

PASTORAL CARE



January is a month when we begin again. It is an opportunity for change; gym memberships rely on this. Do you have traditions for New Year's Eve or Day? Some folks go through paperwork discarding items which are no longer needed. What would life in 2023 look like if we were to discard some of the narratives (stories we tell ourselves) in our lives which no longer serve us? If we gave up on worry, as

Scripture advises? If what others thought about us wasn't our business? If we pondered our own intentions when we act? If we put ourselves in other's shoes?

Pastoral Care continues to visit folks, both in person and via the telephone. Our Tuesday Coffee Zoom promises fellowship from 10-11 am (email Roxanne or the office for the link). Please let us know of any Pastoral concerns (we'd rather here twice than not at all), in our Emmanuel Church family, so we may be present to folks.

Prayer Circle

Emmanuel United Church has 8 people in its Prayer Circle. Email is our primary communication method, and confidentiality is paramount.

We pray for folks at Emmanuel, as well as realities in our world. These prayers are weekly and go to Rev Grant Stuckless at week's end, for sharing with the entire community. To share your

Prayer concerns, please reach out to either Rev. Grant or Roxanne (roxanne.delmage@gmail.com) in Pastoral Care. Wishing you all a Blessed 2023.

SOCIAL ACTION

Food Bank Sunday, Monday



Christmas has passed. But let's continue to help our friends and neighbours who are no less food insecure. With COVID-19 and inflation pressures, that task became much harder. Please support our local food banks.

There are two ways to help:

- **Drive-Thru Drop Off** - On Monday, **January 30th** **between 2 to 3:30M**, bring your donation of non-perishable food and unscented baby wipes, pull ups 2T, 3T and 4T, toddler supplies: cookies, cereals, and shampoos (feminine supplies also appreciated) to the front entrance of the church. Please no candy. Pierre, Janice, and Colleen will be waiting to accept your donations.
- **Drop at Sunday Morning Worship**— you may also drop in your contributions to the collections box in the narthex on January 29th .
- **Gifts** of reusable cloth grocery bags would be most welcome.

If you are unable to deliver in person, you can still participate. We will have **drivers available to pick-up** your donations. Please arrange for pick-up no later than **9:00 am on Monday, January 30th** so that the necessary arrangements can be made. Please call Janice to arrange.

- **Make a donation** to the local food banks (in this case Rideau Rockcliffe Community Resource Centre Food Bank) **via e-transfer** to the church at envelope.secretary@emmanuelunited.ca and indicate for food banks in the memo field. Donations will be gathered into one payment to the food bank.

WORSHIP

Welcome to the Season of Epiphany, which begins with the visit of the Magi to Jesus and his family. The Magi were told in a dream not to report back to Herod, but to go home by a different route.

Author, pastor, and process theologian Bruce Epperly, says these words capture the spirituality of Epiphany, “going home by another road”. He says Epiphany is about the unexpected: unexpected joys, synchronicities, unexpected challenges, and tragedies. Epiphany is filled with unexpected revelations that change our minds and ways. 2023 is full of possibilities. Where is the Holy Spirit leading you?

Thank you to Rev. Grant and all who led our midweek Advent Services, participated in lighting the Advent candles, read scripture on Christmas Eve and provided special music throughout Advent and Christmas. It was wonderful to have two services on Christmas Eve again (inside), and Christmas morning as well.

Special thanks to Sue Longstreet who has been decorating the sanctuary and to Property and Grounds for putting up the angels and the wreath.

January will be a month of celebrations at Emmanuel. On January 22nd we will celebrate our 64th Anniversary, and on January 29th at 2:00 pm, there will be a covenanting service for Rev. Grant Stuckless.

Faith Study will resume on ZOOM on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. beginning January 11th. All are welcome any time you can make it. Watch for the link from the office each week.

“And now let us believe in a long year that is given to us, new, untouched, full of things that have never been...”

Rainer Maria Rilke - Letter to Clara Rilke, 1 Jan 1907.

Epiphany Blessings, Jeannie Taylor, Chair of Worship



Simplify your Celebrations

We would like to thank those who have made contributions in the month of December to the Emmanuel United Church as part of the *Simplify your Celebrations* project. Donations were received as follows:



In celebration of the life of Joan Halliday,
a beloved member of many Emmanuel groups
and, to us, a lively contributor to the Heretics discussion
by Areta & Russ

In memory of Joan Halliday
by Hilde Reynolds and Sharon Noonan

With appreciation for the life of Joan Halliday,
wise teacher, cheerful friend and knitter of the best socks
by Ross & Joyce White



Special thanks to all the elves and angels at Emmanuel
during the Christmas season and always.

Donations may be made by cheque
payable to “Emmanuel United Church”,
or through the CanadaHelps.org “Donate Now” button
on our website at www.emmanuelunited.ca



Simplify your Celebrations
(Form to accompany donation)

Donation to:
Emmanuel United Church
691 Smyth Road, Ottawa ON K1G 1N7

General Fund

Capital Fund

From: (Name) _____

(Address) _____

In recognition of:

(Please provide a statement that could go into the next monthly packet, along the lines of those on the previous page.)

If you do not wish for this to be published, please check here _____

Please send acknowledgment to:

If you wish this to be an anonymous donation, please check here _____

Amount: \$ _____

Thank You