



Emmanuel Newsletter
Sunday, December 6, 2020

Dear Friends,

As I sit thinking about the Season of Advent, I find myself feeling like this is redundant! Waiting? The Season of Advent is the season of waiting. In past years I have stood my ground, waiting, not decorating for Christmas until Dec. 24th, not singing Christmas Carols. I was running against the mainstream - those who dump their dead trees on the garbage heap on Dec, 26th. I waited!

This year is different (an overused phrase for sure!). 2020 has been nearly an entire year of waiting. We are waiting for life to return to 'normal', children in school, working in an office, traveling to be with friends and family, going out for dinner, etc. We are suffering many depravations and have been since March. This Advent although it is supposed to be a 'new' season on the Christian calendar, the idea of waiting is not new. We have been living Advent for nine months.

This week our readings show us that waiting is not a passive action. We are to live out our hope. In waiting for the fullness of the Kingdom of God, we proclaim God's message of justice. We name sin. We turn toward justice. We stand in the wilderness, pointing to the one more powerful than us. As the psalmist writes, "Righteousness shall go before him, and peace shall be a pathway for his feet." Where righteousness and peace are actively enacted, God is there.

God is there and here and will bring us the peace we need to make it through whatever our future holds. **Join us on December 5th at 5:00 p.m. for our live Zoom service.**

May God bring us Hope and Peace this week,

The Rev. Joyce Caggiano, PhD

(See page 2 for the live Service Zoom link)



NOTE: LIVE ZOOM SERVICE IS AT 5:00 PM this Saturday, December 5, 2020.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/97117672428?pwd=R05wOG4rZDdtenArME5UUXRtcHJUUT09>

Meeting ID: 971 1767 2428

Passcode: 568015

After 7:00 pm on Saturday, view the TAPED service anytime via our YouTube site:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEQm5KH2wGB_XbZ8h9jldhA

Have a comment? Email us at: info@emmanuelwr.org



We have surpassed our goal of \$500 for Rose's Bounty Food Pantry!!!

We have surpassed our goal! Thank you, parishioners, and friends of Emmanuel Church for your generosity. We will let you know what the final tally is, as we continue to collect donations.

Again, a huge thank you, to those who have given so far.



Hymns for the Saturday, December 5, Virtual Coffee Hour

We sing informally during our Virtual Coffee Hour following our live Saturday Zoom service. It is not recorded. Hymns for Saturday, December 5 coffee hour:

- | | |
|----------|-------------------------------------|
| Hymns 67 | Comfort, comfort, ye my people |
| Hymn 68 | Rejoice, rejoice believers |
| Hymn 59 | Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding |

Anticipating the birth of Jesus, we have hung some Christmas joy on the church:





We are Leaving this List in the Newsletter for 1 More Week!

Suggestions for “Alternative giving” for the holidays and Your Christmas Tree Needs

The Neponset River Deanery, of which Emmanuel Church is a member, met on Nov. 18. Amidst the discussion of some of our blessings during this challenging time, a few members have shared a list of alternative giving opportunities for those who would like to gift to others who are in need. Below is a list of some of the projects and organizations in the Diocese and in the Boston community:

Rev. Mary Eaton of Ecclesia (Common Cathedral) reports there is a particular need for **long underwear** right now for those experiencing homelessness in Boston. You can purchase long underwear (L, XL, 2XL needed most, but other sizes good, too!) here:

- <https://www.campmor.com/collections/base-layer/mens>
- <https://www.sierra.com/mens-base-layer-pants~d~11328/>

If Emmanuel wants to participate as a parish, we can gather up these donations and deliver them to St. John’s Westwood before December 17, and St. John’s will take them downtown to Common Cathedral for distribution.

OR, parishioners can go to the *common cathedral* website, and scroll down to *Covid19 Update* and find the “wish list”:

<http://commoncathedral.org/>

OR, donate to your local food pantry in honor of someone you love for an alternative Christmas gift! Our local Food Pantry up the block from Emmanuel is, as we know, Rose’s Bounty:

<https://www.stratfordstreetunitedchurch.org/how-to-help.html>

OR, shop in person and deliver to Grace Episcopal Church, 150 Chapel St, Norwood, 02062 (Deliver Sunday – Thursday, behind the church, in front of garage. There is a large donation box.)

<https://www.norwoodpantry.org/donate-food>

Other helpful websites:

<https://www.doctorswithoutborders.org/>

<https://www.episcopalrelief.org/>

<https://www.gbfb.org/> (The Greater Boston Food Bank)

And finally, another cartoon, this one from John Gooley and approved wholeheartedly by Rev. Joyce:

