



# EMMANUEL NEWS

November 2017

[www.alexmnepiscopal.org](http://www.alexmnepiscopal.org)

[episcopal@centurylink.net](mailto:episcopal@centurylink.net)

## From Tom Sinning

Luke 17:11-19 (Gospel reading from the lectionary for Thanksgiving Day, 2017)

*On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, they called out, saying, 'Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!' When he saw them, he said to them, 'Go and show yourselves to the priests.' And as they went, they were made clean. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus asked, 'Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?' Then he said to him, 'Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well.'*

Consider this event in the life of Jesus. He was walking with his disciples along the border between Samaria and Galilee. They were entering a village when they came upon a band of ten lepers, both Jews and Samaritans. It's amazing, how misery can cut across social, religious and racial lines?

Jesus' whole reason for being was to reach out to marginalized and suffering, no matter who they were. So, when he encountered these lepers, he sought to minister to them. However, he took a most unusual approach. Instead of laying hands on them or speaking a word of healing to them, he said to them, "Go show yourselves to the priests."

The Old Testament required the cured leper to have his cure confirmed by a temple priest. But these men hadn't yet been healed. Jesus was requiring an act of faith out of them. They were to begin their pilgrimage to show themselves at the temple even before their healing was complete. That is faith.

### Contact us:

#### **Emmanuel Episcopal Church**

P O Box 231  
12<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Lake Street  
Alexandria, MN 56308  
320-763-3201

**Sunday Service: 10 a.m.**

**Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.**

**Adult Bible Study: 9 a.m.**

**Pastoral Care:** Contact Rev. Tom Sinning, Deacon at 612-720-0473

Support Staff

DeAnn Runge, email:

[episcopal@centurylink.net](mailto:episcopal@centurylink.net)

Newsletter: DeAnn Runge  
[drunge@embarqmail.com](mailto:drunge@embarqmail.com)

Godly Play Director/Teacher:

Verlie Sinning

[vsinning0707@gmail.com](mailto:vsinning0707@gmail.com)

### **Vestry:**

Tim Johnson, Co-Sr. Warden ('18)  
Sheila Stanton, Co-Sr. Warden ('18)  
Mark Reicks Jr. Warden ('19)  
Verlie Sinning Treasurer ('19)  
Mark Reicks ('19)  
Verlie Sinning ('19)  
Rachael Sinning ('18)  
Wendy Zander ('18)  
Farren Morical ('18)

### **Delegates to Region and Convention:**

Belvin Doebbert

Alternate: JoEllen Doebbert

But something wonderful happens as they start their journey, their skin began to show signs of healing. They were suddenly healed. They were clean. They must have been filled with joy, and yet only one of them went back to Jesus to say, "Thank you." It was a Samaritan who returned to give thanks.

Saying Thank you is a statement of our character, no matter who we are. Everyone may feel gratitude but to go to the trouble of expressing that gratitude is a sign of character. It says something about the kind of people we are.

Saying Thank you is also an acknowledgement of God's grace. I think the greatest barrier to saying Thank you for many of us is our pride. We don't like acknowledging our dependence on anybody, even God. We think of ourselves, especially in our society as self-made individuals. We like to believe that we have no one to thank but ourselves. Perhaps 9 out of 10 lepers would agree?

Saying Thank you is also a statement of worship. That is why we celebrate Thanksgiving. It is our offering to the Source of our being. It is our humble way of saying, Thanks for all with which we have been gifted. It isn't optional for us as people of God. It is what being a follower of Christ is about. It is part of our connectedness to and gratitude for all of God's creation, even if we are only 1 in 10.

I hope we will take time, not only on Thanksgiving Day, but every day to stand before God and simply say, Thank you.



### **Senior Warden Report November, 2017**



It's difficult to believe that yet another summer has passed! As I age, I notice more and more how quickly this season goes by in Minnesota! (Something rings a bell that I may have already said that in a previous report, but it bears repeating!) Although that time of year (summer) is my preference, I do have to say that as I write this we are having a very nice week for the month of October!

On that note, Sheila has departed for her winter home. I'm certain that all of you share my sentiment in appreciating all that she has done for us as Senior Warden during the past five months! However, she continues to be active by providing me with excellent advice and most importantly, a wonderful listening ear! Also, she remains active on the Vestry by way of telephone as well as other means. Thank you, Sheila!! We all hope that you have a wonderful fall, winter, and spring and eagerly await your return to our midst this next May!

Speaking of fall, one upcoming event that I would like to bring to your attention at this time is our traditional Great Thanksgiving Feast which will take place on November 15<sup>th</sup>. Fr. Nairn will be our Celebrant for the Service of Holy Eucharist which will begin at 5:30 p.m. Dinner will follow immediately afterward in the parish hall. As in the past, we will have the turkey, potatoes, and gravy catered and we will provide the side dishes ourselves in traditional pot-luck style. A sign-up sheet for this will be passed around in the very near future . . . In fact, this may already be in the works as you read this. We also ask that you let us know how many guests you will be bringing with you so that we have a good idea of how much food we will need. Please invite your friends and family to join us in what has become our much loved Thanksgiving tradition!

Finally, I would like to echo Sheila's sentiment from her October message and thank you for being an important part of our parish life and for being with us on Sunday mornings! Each week, I am thankful for having an Episcopal presence in Alexandria and for the blessing of being part of a close and loving church family. Please keep an eye out for opportunities to invite people to experience what we have to offer! No heavy witnessing is required. Simply tell them about something you find meaningful about our tradition . . . Our beautiful liturgy, our innovative Sunday school program, or anything else which may come to mind. You never know when you may encounter a person who has entered a place in their life where they are ready to begin attending worship! As we enter November, I would like to leave you all with warm wishes for a truly blessed Thanksgiving! May this holiday bring joy to you and your loved ones!

See you in church!  
Tim Johnson, Co-Senior Warden

***Great Thanksgiving Feast  
Wednesday, November 15, 2017***

***Holy Eucharist – 5:30 p.m.***

***Thanksgiving Dinner – 6:30 p.m.  
In the Basement of the Church***

*We will be having our annual Great Thanksgiving Feast on Wednesday, November 15. There will be Holy Eucharist at 5:30 followed by a delicious meal. We always have a good time, so mark the date on your calendar.*

*The turkey, gravy and potatoes will be catered. The rest of the food will be supplied by parishioners. So be thinking about what you would like to bring to share.*



**November Birthdays**

Gordon Ziegelman

**Anniversaries**

Belvin & JoEllen Doebbert

David & Nancy Anderson



## Lectionary Readings for November



### November 5

Twenty Second Sunday after Pentecost

Joshua 3:7-17  
Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37  
1 Thessalonians 2:9-13  
Matthew 23:1-12

### November 12

Twenty Third Sunday after Pentecost

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25  
Psalm 78:1-7  
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18  
Matthew 25:1-13

### November 15

Thanksgiving Feast

Deuteronomy 8:7-18  
Psalm 65  
2 Corinthians 9:6-15  
Luke 17:11-19

### November 19

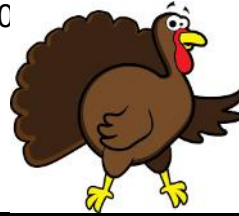
Twenty Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Judges 4:1-7  
Psalm 123  
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11  
Matthew 25:14-30

### November 26

Last Sunday after Pentecost

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24  
Psalm 100  
Ephesians 1:15-23  
Matthew 25:31-46



Position	November 5	November 12	November 15	November 19	November 26
			<i>Thanksgiving Feast</i>		
<b>Priest</b>	Steve Schaitberger	Dana Emery	Fred Nairn	Charles Preble	Fred Nairn
<b>Organist</b>	Margaret Kalina	Laurie Kruger	Nancy Anderson	JoNette Brogaard	Nancy Anderson
<b>Lector 1</b>	Belvin Doebbert	Mark Reicks	Mark Reicks	JoEllen Doebbert	Karen Reicks
<b>Lector 2</b>	JoEllen Doebbert	Farren Morical	Farren Morical	Belvin Doebbert	John Hull
<b>Altar</b>	Karen Reicks				
<b>S School</b>	Verlie & ?	No S School	No S School		No S School
<b>Coffee</b>	Verlie Sinning		<i>Thanksgiving Feast</i>	Belvin & JoEllen	

**Remember in Your Prayers:** All clergy serving Emmanuel - Bishop Brian Prior - Jana & Charles Preble - Don & Ann Hultstrand - Laird Barber - Hunter - Cleone Sherman - John - Al—Shirley — DeAnn—Mike & Lana - Jim - Dana - Al Weinmann Family - Law Enforcement Officers - Military Personnel - Peace in the World - The Food Shelf, Volunteers & all who use it - Total Ministry Team - Heartland Girls Ranch



### *Helping the Church Run Smoothly*

*Everyone's help is needed for the church to run smoothly. Please sign up today to lector, usher, provide coffee or help with Sunday school. We are looking for more members for Altar Guild. None of these things takes more than an hour a week if we have enough people willing to help. Please let Tim or Karen know what you can do to help. Thanks.*

## Weather Cancellations

In the last few years extremely poor weather has forced us to cancel services five times: December 29 in 2013, January 5 & 26 in 2014, and February 18 (Ash Wednesday) in 2015, and January 16 in 2016.

Services are not cancelled without a lot of thought. The supply priest, Tom, any available members of the Vestry, and the senior warden decide what is the best and safest choice. After making the decision, the next problem is to let everyone know.



We will try to make the decision to cancel late Saturday afternoon/evening rather than Sunday morning because it is very important to be sure that everyone is contacted. But weather is extremely changeable, and it may be necessary to cancel on Sunday morning.

These are the steps that will be followed:

1. Pay attention to the weather. If the weather forecast is predicting "no travel advised" or any kind of extreme weather for Saturday night and/or Sunday morning/afternoon, please check your email on Saturday evening and again on Sunday morning.
2. An email will be sent out on Saturday afternoon/evening stating there is a possibility that there will not be church and asking you to check your email before leaving for church.
3. An email will be sent out announcing cancellation of church. This will be done late Saturday night or early Sunday morning (before 7:00 am).

*Only people who do not have an email address will be called and a message left on their answering machine if no one answers. Other people will not be called. If you specifically want to be called, please let Tim know by early December. If you know of anyone who does not have or may not check their email, please call them and let them know.*

If possible local radio or TV stations will be asked to put a notice on the air and on their websites. We will call as many local stations as possible; but some stations do not staff their offices on Sunday morning.

The National Weather Service is predicting a winter with below-average temperatures and wetter-than-average conditions across most of the northern US. Hopefully the forecasters are wrong, and we have a relatively mild winter so that no services have to be cancelled. But it is always good to have a plan.

Tim Johnson

320-834-2032 or 320-808-0457

timj1961@hotmail.com



# November

Address service requested

Emmanuel Episcopal Church  
P O Box 231  
Alexandria, MN 56308