



EMMANUEL NEWS

October / November 2019

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From Rev. Tom Sinning

As I did last fall, I will be traveling with Habitat for Humanity at the end of October and returning to Alexandria on All Saints Day. This year I will be working in Chiapas, Mexico. Since this is a big celebration in Mexico, I thought I'd share some of the history of All Saints Day in this newsletter.

What is All Saints Day?

All Saints Day, also known as All Hallows' Day, or Halloween, is a Christian celebration in honor of all the saints from Christian history.

The Christian festival of All Saints Day comes from a conviction that there is a spiritual connection between those in Heaven and on Earth. In Catholic tradition, the holiday honors all those who have passed on to the Kingdom of Heaven. It is a national holiday in numerous historically Catholic countries. In Anglican tradition, All Saints Day relates to giving gratitude for the lives and deaths of God's saints, remembering those who were well-known and those who were not. Individuals throughout Christian history are celebrated, such as Peter the Apostle, Thomas Cranmer, as well as groups of saints, such as The Ugandan Martyrs.

All Saints Day annually reminds us of our connectedness as Christians and human beings. It's commemorated every November 1st.

What is it's relation to Halloween?

"Halloween" started out as a holy Christian celebration.

Hallow, in Old English, means "holy" or "sacred." Therefore, "Hallows' Eve," or "Halloween" simply means "the evening of holy persons" and refers to the evening before All Saints Day. In Mexico, it is known as the Day of the Dead or Día de los Muertos and the three day celebration continues on All Saints and All Souls Day. The Disney animated film, *Coco*, is a depiction of this day which has its roots in a pre-Hispanic commemoration of deceased loved ones that is practiced by

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Alexandria, MN 56308
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Sunday Service: 10:30 a.m.

**Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
on the 1st and 3rd Sundays**

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

Support Staff
DeAnn Runge, email:
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Newsletter: DeAnn Runge
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Vestry:

JoEllen Doebbert, Sr. Warden ('21)
Sheila Stanton, Jr. Warden ('21)
Karen Reicks, Treasurer ('20)

Vestry Positions:

Tim Johnson ('22)
Farren Morical ('20)
Karen Reicks ('21)
Sheila Stanton ('20)

Delegates to Region and Convention:

Belvin Doebbert
Alternate: JoEllen Doebbert

some Latin American indigenous populations. The film draws its inspiration from several Mexican variations of this tradition, which also happen to be found in the United States on Halloween; All Hallows Eve.

Meaning and Origin of All Saints Day

In the early years when the Roman Empire persecuted Christians, so many martyrs died for their faith, that the Church set aside special days to honor them. For example, in 607 Emperor Phocas presented to the pope the beautiful Roman Pantheon temple. The pope removed the statues of Jupiter and the pagan gods and consecrated the Pantheon to "all saints" who had died from Roman persecution in the first three hundred years after Christ. Many bones were brought from other graves and placed in the re-dedicated Pantheon church. Since there were too many martyrs for each to be given a day, they were celebrated on this one day. In the next century, All Saints Day was changed by Pope Gregory III to today's date--November 1. People prepared for their celebration with a night of vigil on Hallows' Eve, Halloween.



**Share your heart, your home,
your country with a young person from abroad.**

Become a Host Family!

- Please consider opening your home and sharing your life with a boy or girl from abroad. International exchange students arrive in August with PAX - Program of Academic Exchange on an academic homestay program. Teens from Albania, Spain, Germany, Thailand, Korea, Brazil, Russia, and 30 different countries are interested in living with an American family and attending an American high school for the next academic year. All PAX students speak English, have full medical insurance, and come with their own spending money.
- Host families come in all shapes and sizes! All are welcome to apply including single parents, young couples and retirees. Families need only provide a place for the student to sleep and study, meals, and a warm, supportive environment.
- PAX Community Coordinator, Karen Johnson, is currently in need of host families in our area. For more information call her at 562-715-4207 or e-mail her at ksjervenjohnson@hotmail.com

PAX - Program of Academic Exchange
a non-profit educational organization
1-800-555-6211
www.PAX.org

Senior Warden Report

By JoEllen Doebbert

On a personal note, I would like to thank everyone for their patience and prayers since I was elected Sr. Warden, with Belvin recovering from two surgeries over the last year and my dad's passing in May.

Your Vestry begins each meeting with prayer, inviting God into our decisions and deliberations, asking God to help us do His will and not our will. As the lay leaders of Emmanuel, we pray that our work will be acceptable to Him. We ask for your prayers as we do the work of the church.

At our first Vestry meeting after becoming Sr. Warden, I asked your Vestry members the following questions: 1) If you had a dream about what Emmanuel would (or could) look like in 5 years, what would it be? and 2) If we could do one thing this year at Emmanuel, what would it be? I invite you to ponder those questions as well, and to share your hopes, your dreams, your wish list with us.

Here are a few of the suggestions your Vestry members had in answer to #2: 1) work together to clean and take pride in our church; 2) invite people to come to church; 3) have an event that's fun! 4) go out and visit each parish family to talk about what they would like to see happen here at Emmanuel; 5) put some money into supporting local charities. Let us know what you think of these ideas or if you have ideas as well.

In October, we will be gathering on October 6th to celebrate the start of our Sunday School year with a hot dog roast after church and on October 19th to spruce up the church. Please join us!

We are in the beginning stages of putting together a plan to visit with each parish family, to seek your input about how we are doing at Emmanuel, what your hopes and dreams are for Emmanuel, and what we can do to meet your needs or the needs of your family. For more information, please contact me or Rev. Tom Sinning.

Have you ever thought about teaching Sunday School? Would you like to be a part of a team that teaches Sunday School? If so, please let me know, as we are actively looking for a teacher for the younger kids beginning January 1st (preschool through mid-elementary). This fall, we are blessed to have Verlie Sinning teach Godly Play to our young parishioners and Karen Reicks teach our older group. Thank you, Verlie and Karen, for all you have done for our young people! Beginning in January, the older children (upper elementary and middle school) will be co-taught by Rev. Tom Sinning, Belvin Doebbert and myself. With Avery in middle school, the curriculum will begin to introduce some elements of confirmation.



Sunday School Kick off and Picnic!

We begin our 2019-20 Sunday School year on October 6 at 9:30 a.m. Sunday School for children (preschool through middle school) will be held each month during the school year on the first and third Sundays: October 6th and 20th, November 3rd and 17th, and December 1st and 15th, 2019.

Help us celebrate the beginning of the Sunday School year with hot dogs (and s'mores, weather permitting) after church on Sunday, October 6th!

Spruce Up the Church Day

Join us on Saturday, October 19 from 9-1 to help us spruce up the church a bit. Do you see something either inside or outside the church that needs tidying or perhaps repaired? Annoyed at that cobweb in the corner that nobody seems to notice? Bring the tool or cleaning supply of your choice – or just your positive attitude and grit. Let's work together to make Emmanuel shine! Donuts, coffee and chili will be on hand to keep us energized.



2019 ECMN Convention Report

Belvin and JoEllen Doebbert, Rev. Tom Sinning and Rev. Linnae Grabner-Hegg represented Emmanuel at ECMN Convention in Bloomington on September 13-14. The search for a new Bishop was the predominate issue of this year's convention. Bishop Brian Prior will be leaving when a new Bishop, the tenth bishop of Minnesota or "Bishop X", is consecrated on June 6th next year. Later this year a slate of 3 – 5 candidates will be selected by the search committee and you will have the opportunity to meet the candidates during a tour of the state in January. Election of the new bishop will occur on January 25th.

This year's theme for convention, Beloved Community: The Way of Love, continues the work of Beloved Community by promoting practices which help us to follow the ways of Jesus. How do we live the Way of Love? "The Way of Love is a rule of life – a set of practices that we can engage in on a daily basis – meant to re-orient us towards God. As we are continually reminded to turn towards God, dwell in scripture and live a life of service, we are set along the track that leads us towards engaging God's mission by opening our eyes to God in us, in others, and in the world, and that leads us toward creating beloved community by acting on the movements, call, and promptings of the Holy Spirit." In the coming months, we will explore together the practices introduced by Arch Bishop Michael Curry (for more, go to: www.episcopalchurch.org/wayoflove):

Turn: pause, listen, and choose to follow Jesus. What practices help you to turn again and again to Jesus?

Learn: reflect on scripture each day, especially Jesus' life and teachings. Which are most life-giving for you?

Pray: dwell intentionally with God each day.

Worship: gather in community weekly to thank, praise, and draw near God.

Bless: share faith and unselfishly give and serve. What ways is the Spirit calling you to bless others?

Go: cross boundaries, listen deeply, and live like Jesus. Where is the Spirit sending you to witness to the love, justice, and truth of God?

Rest: receive the gift of God's grace, peace, and restoration. What practices restore your body, mind and soul?

And finally, a new group has been formed by ECMN, the Minnesota Council on Churches, and the Interfaith Coalition on Immigration to campaign for immigrant justice: What Would Whipple Do? (or WWWD?) The group will be gathering on Tuesday, October 29th at 8 a.m. for a prayer vigil, celebration of communion and a press conference to make its demands public, i.e. 1) to remove Bishop Henry Whipple's name from the federal building located at Fort Snelling which houses ICE's regional headquarters; and 2) to urge the Minnesota Legislature to make Minnesota a Sanctuary State, preventing state resources from being used to collaborate with ICE in the arrest, detention and/or deportation of immigrants. For more information, go to: the WWWD? Facebook page or see this article: <https://www.episcopalnewsservice.org/2019/09/13/minnesota-episcopalians-love-for-bishop-whipple-is-lost-on-federal-building-that-bears-his-name/>

1928 Service and Picnic - 2019

We held our annual 1928 service and picnic on Sunday, September 15. The service was at St. Paul's Episcopal church on the Pope County Museum grounds in Glenwood, MN. As we do every year, we used the 1928 Prayer Book and held an old-time service. Rev. Tom Sinning conducted the service. Karen Kirckof played the original antique organ, and we sang traditional hymns such as "Rock of Ages" and "Amazing Grace".



After the service, we went to the Chalet at the Glenwood Park for a picnic. We grilled hot dogs and cooked corn-on-the-cob. Everyone brought a dish to share so there was a variety of wonderful food. The weather was beautiful, and everyone had a terrific time.



Here is just a little history about St. Paul's Episcopal Church.

The cornerstone of St. Paul's was laid September 17, 1897, by Arch Deacon Appleby; and the church was opened November 19, 1893. On April 1, 1894, the church was consecrated. St. Paul's was first located at Franklin Avenue & Oak Street in Glenwood. It was moved to Court Street in 1945, and was finally moved to the Pope County Museum grounds on July 19, 1971, when St. Paul's congregation combined with Emmanuel in Alexandria.

Lectionary Readings for October

October 6

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Lamentations 1:1-6
Lamentations 3:19-26
or Psalm 137
2 Timothy 1:1-14
Luke 17:5-10

October 13

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7
Psalm 66:1-11
2 Timothy 2:8-15
Luke 17:11-19

October 20

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 31:27-34
Psalm 119:97-104
2 Timothy 3:14-4:5
Luke 18:1-8

October 27

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Joel 2:23-32
Psalm 65
2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18
Luke 18:9-14



Lectionary Readings for November

November 3

All Saints Day

Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4
Psalm 119:137-144
2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12
Luke 19:1-10

November 10

Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

Haggai 1:15b-2:9
Psalm 145:1-5, 18-22
or Psalm 98
2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17
Luke 20:27-38

November 17

Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 65:17-25
Canticle 9
2 Thessalonians 3:6-13
Luke 21:5-19

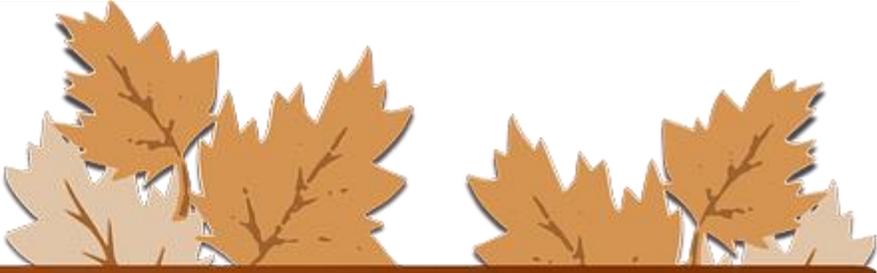
November 24

Last Sunday after Pentecost
Christ the King

Jeremiah 23:1-6
Canticle 16
Colossians 1:11-20
Luke 23:33-43

Position	October 6	October 13	October 20	October 27
Priest	Fred Nairn	Tom Sinning	Linnae Hegg	Randy Welsand
Organist	Margaret Kalina	Laurie Krueger	JoNette Brogaard	
Lector 1	Donna Ziegelman	JoEllen Doebbert	Mark Reicks	JoEllen Doebbert
Lector 2	Karen Sinotte	Belvin Doebbert	Tim Johnson	Belvin Doebbert
Altar	Donna Ziegelman	Tim & Karen S	Tim Johnson	Karen Reicks
Chalice		JoEllen Doebbert		Kay Welsand
S. School	Verlie & Karen	—————	Verlie & Karen	—————
Coffee	<i>S. School Picnic</i>	Doebberts	Karen Sinotte	Reicks

Remember in Your Prayers: (please take this list home and use as a prayer list): All clergy serving Emmanuel - Bishop Brian - Tom - Jana & Charles - Hultstrand Family - Kathleen - Karen - Edith - Cleone - The Families of Dana Christenson & Patty Den Hartog - Belvin - Trappier - Linda - Laird - Wendy - Jessie - Hunter - Tarz & Sandy - Law Enforcement Officers - Military Personnel - Peace in the World - The Food Shelf, volunteers & all who use it - Total Ministry Team - Those affected by recent wildfires & Hurricanes Florence & Michael



October Birthdays

Rachael Sinning
Gavin Doebbert
Fr. Charles Preble
Brad Parsons
Colin Parsons

Anniversaries

Linnae & Barry Grabner-Hegg

November Birthdays

Gordon Ziegelman

Anniversaries

Belvin & JoEllen Doebbert
David & Nancy Anderson





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