



EMMANUEL NEWS

October / November 2020

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From Rev. Fred Nairn

I sit before a blank screen, contemplating what I might write for my modest offering to the Newsletter; the screen is blank because it is a dangerous time for our world, our country and our particular democracy and I can't think there is anything more on the minds of people who are paying attention, but I don't want to write about these things. As you see, the page is no longer blank even though I haven't said anything or appear to be writing about something that I don't want to write about. That is only partially true.

The country seems to be bitterly divided between Conservatives and Liberals, at least for those who are paying attention. In case you missed it, last night was the first presidential debate in Cleveland, Ohio. For those who have already made up their minds which candidate they would cast their ballot for, the debate will have changed nothing. For those who are undecided there was little or nothing to excite or educate them. And for those who don't vote, which would be typically 40% of the voting population, they don't care much about the country which, they might say, has done nothing for them; why would they bother doing anything for this country?

My son, Alistair called me a few days ago (today is the last day of September). He was very anxious and wanted to talk about it because, as he understands it, I grew up and lived in a divided country, a country at war with itself; Sec-tarian strife, Catholics versus Protestants, had been in that country's DNA from its inception in 1921 with sporadic spikes, the most serious lasting thirty years, from 1967 until 1998. Why was he troubled? He was troubled by the state of the country, again, as he sees it, and fearful that civil strife would erupt around the time of the election in November. I did my best to "talk him off the ledge." Though it was not an expressed concern as we talked, he and his partner are expecting a child in November. Perhaps he is anxious about bringing a child into the world at this time.

Had I taken our conversation in this direction I might have suggested that, bad as our country is at the moment, there are many worse places to be, worse places to raise a

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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
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Vestry:

JoEllen Doebeert, Sr. Warden ('21)
Sheila Stanton, Jr. Warden ('21)
Karen Reicks, Treasurer ('22)

Vestry Positions:

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

Delegates to Region and Convention:

Belvin Doebeert
Alternate: JoEllen Doebeert

child than St. Paul, Minnesota. That would probably not have been a comfort and more likely an occasion for even more worry. He texted me last night that he had watched the first five minutes of the debate and then turned it off. Probably a wise decision.

I tuned in to the Presiding Bishop's address a few days or a week ago. As a part of that sermon or address, he cited the "What would Jesus Do?" question, rearranging it slightly and encouraging us - Christians/Episcopalians - to pose the question, *"What did Jesus Do?" I found that helpful and began thinking back to what the Gospels tell us Jesus **did**, most succinctly expressed as an answer to John the Baptizer's question, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?" Jesus replied, "Go back and report to John, what you hear or see, the blind receive their sight, the lame walk and those with leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear and the dead are raised up and the Good News is preached to the poor." That's what Jesus did.*

One more thought or reflection from the person who does not have a vote, (though I am an influencer in small ways amongst my students): the duty of Christian Citizenship is to vote and pray for the coming of God's Kingdom, and if our words and actions do not support that purpose then we are not performing as Christian Citizens should. Stand up for decency, stand up for generosity, stand up for those who fear for their safety, stand up for goodness and kindness in little ways. "Stand, stand up for Jesus."



Keeping Safe in the Time of Covid19.

We welcome you back to indoor worship! In addition to a complete cleaning of all high-touch surfaces weekly, here are some of the things we are doing to keep parishioners safe while at Emmanuel on Sunday mornings:

All participants wear a mask/face covering (masks available as needed)*

*an exception may be made for certain medical conditions

Seating every third pew (middle two pews roped off)

Seating at ends of pews with non-family groups 6 feet apart

Only family groups can sit together

No singing, although the organist will be playing hymns and sacred music

Communion: no wine; gluten-free wafers offered in a sealed-plastic package; parishioners line up 6 feet apart and take a wafer to their seat, removing their mask at their seat to consume the wafer

Offertory: parishioners alternately bring their offering to the offering plate at a central location

"No touch" passing of the peace (wave and greet others from your pew)

Hand sanitizer available at various locations

Clergy use hand sanitizer as part of the communion ritual

The basement is closed and is not available to parishioners

No food, beverages or coffee hour

The microphone for lay readers will be left on so there's no need to turn it on and off

Bathroom: users are asked to spray surfaces (doorknobs, handles) with Lysol spray or wipes after use

In addition, we are encouraging anyone who is not feeling well, or who has any cold or flu symptoms to stay home and for everyone to use good hygiene (wash hands or use hand sanitizer often, cover coughs/sneezes), stay 6 feet apart at all times, and no shaking hands or hugs. We hope to see you at an upcoming service. Please let us know if you have any concerns or questions. We want everyone to feel safe while at church.

Feeling Disconnected?

In these times of social isolation, are you feeling disconnected or lonely? Or are you feeling like you have some time to connect with someone else by phone who may need a friend or someone to talk to? Or would you like to participate in a group video chat, a bible study or book group? Please let us know if you have a need or feel you may be able to help meet a need by calling me or Tom or any member of the vestry.

ECMN Convention 2020

Tom, Belvin and I just attended the fall convention which was held "virtually" - all sessions were either on FaceBook Live or by Zoom. Find all sessions on the ECMN website here:

<https://episcopalmn.org/ecmn-convention>. I especially encourage you to listen to the address of our new Bishop, Craig Loya, and to his September 27, 2020 sermon.

As we - all 94 of Minnesota's Episcopal faith communities and our new Bishop, Craig Loya - begin this journey together, we are being asked to return to a 'basic discipleship' - a journey to practice the "Way of Jesus" through the daily practice of prayer, reading of scripture, gathering in worship and serving the poor and the marginalized. The 'fruits' of our discipleship will be the Holy Spirit working in us to find new ways to spread the Gospel, to becoming a Beloved Community and to enhance the vitality of all of our congregations across the state. These four priorities will be ECMN's focus in coming months: Discipleship - practicing the Way of Jesus; Faithful Innovation - boldly embracing a changing church; Justice - becoming beloved community; and Vitality - growing where we are planted. We will be learning together. Bishop Loya invites everyone to join in the conversation on Tuesdays at 2 p.m. via Zoom. Sign up here: <https://episcopalmn.org/sept-2-leading-beyond-the-blizzard>.

Let me share with you a meditation on Psalm 46:10 which we learned in the Discipleship workshop at convention:

Be still and know that I am God.
Be still and know that I am.
Be still and know.
Be still.
Be.

The work of Justice: Anti-Racism Covenant.

In August, I shared the Anti-Racism Covenant with you that has been adopted by our new bishop. At our September Vestry meeting, we decided that we as a Vestry should take some time over the next few months to learn, as a group, more of the history of racism and its impact. We are in the process of assembling some resources which we will use in our study. As the issue of Justice - Becoming a Beloved Community is a priority of both our state and national church, it is very likely that we will broaden our outreach and education on this issue to the whole congregation. If you have a particular interest in this topic or would like to be a part of future planning, please let me know.

Blessings to you - and stay safe!



1928 Service - 2020

We held our annual 1928 service on Sunday, September 13, 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.

Because of Covid-19, this year was dramatically different than any other year. The service was held outside the church with the altar set up on the church steps. People wore masks, maintained safe social distances and used lots of hand sanitizer. Instead of hearing the antique organ, John & Jeweliana Rutledge provided guitar and violin music. This year there was no delicious potluck picnic in the Chalet.

In spite of the all changes, the weather was beautiful; and we all enjoyed a meaningful service.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church was consecrated on April 1, 1894, and became part of the Diocese of Minnesota. 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.



Lectionary Readings for October

October 4

Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost
Proper 22

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20
Psalm 19
Philippians 3:4b-14
Matthew 21:33-46

October 11

Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost
Proper 23

Exodus 32:1-14
Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23
Philippians 4:1-9
Matthew 22:1-14

October 18

Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost
Proper 24

Exodus 33:12-23
Psalm 99
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10
Matthew 22:15-22

October 19

Twenty-First Sunday After Pentecost
Proper 25

Deuteronomy 34:1-12
Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17
1 Thessalonians 2:1-8
Matthew 22:34-46

Because of Covid-19, only the priests and organists are currently being scheduled.					
Lectors are selected from people in church. There is no coffee hour or Sunday School at this time.					
Position	October 4	October 11	October 18	October 25	
Priest	Fred Nairn	Tom Sinning	Tom Sinning	Randy Welsand	
Organist	JoNette Brogaard	Laurie Krueger	JoNette Brogaard	Laurie Krueger	

Lectionary Readings for November

November 1

All Saints

Revelation 7:9-17
Psalm 34:1-10, 22
1 John 3:1-3
Matthew 5:1-12

November 8

Twenty-Third Sunday After Pentecost
Proper 27

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

November 15

Twenty-Fourth Sunday After Pentecost
Proper 28

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

November 22

Last Sunday After Pentecost
Christ the King

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

November 29

First Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 64:1-9
1 Corinthians 1:3-9
Mark 13:24-37
Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18



BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

October

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

November

Gordon Ziegelman



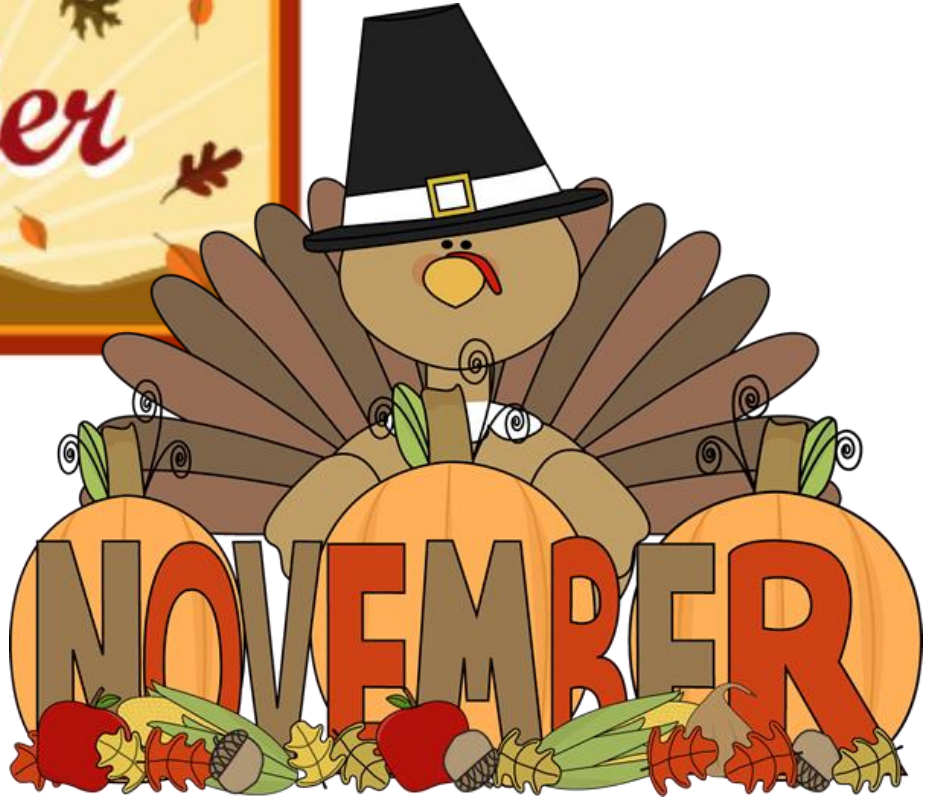
Anniversaries

Belvin & JoEllen Doebbert
David & Nancy Anderson



Remember in Your Prayers: (please take this list home and use as a prayer list): All clergy serving Emmanuel - Bishop Brian - Bishop Elect, Craig Loya - 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 - All of those who are affected by the COVID19 virus and those who are bravely on the front lines of service - Jason and Deb - Guide us in the way of peace





Address service requested

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