CHRISTY'S CORNER

My husband, Jack, spent a year in England in the late 80's. At the time in the Church of England (as an FYI: the Episcopal church is a direct descendant of the Church of England--both of us are part of the world-wide, Anglican Communion), 3% of the population attended church which is perhaps a product of having a church linked to the government. The Puritans, the Quakers, and others settled America for just this reason: they wanted the freedom to worship God in their own way. But I digress!

As we begin our program year, I'm struck by the energy the Street Faire is generating. It's the time of year when we come back together after vacation or spending time visiting relatives or just having a different schedule. We are returning to a tried and true schedule, a routine with which we are familiar, and yet we are involved in something new and exciting and fun! The Street Faire, a new vision and a way of doing church that seeks to remedy that bunker mentality where 3% of the population attends church.

As we return to an orderly schedule, it is great to have an inspiring model of what the church is meant to be. We exist for the people who are not members. We sacrifice our time, our hard earned cash, and our abilities in order to serve those beyond our walls.

Our son's godfather once noted that service and evangelism in the Episcopal Church seemed to be patterned after this idea: you build an aquarium that is incredibly attractive with just the right style or panache, place it down at the end of the pier, and pray that fish jump into the tank.

The Street Faire helps us kick off the program year in the spirit that started the Church, by getting out into the community at large and inviting them to come have fun with us.

We're journeying like the two disciples did on the Road to Emmaus, (Luke 24:13-35) and like them, our hearts burn within us in three different ways: encountering Jesus in the Bible, touching Jesus in breaking bread together (even if it's brauts, pizza and yummy desserts,) and seeing Jesus in the face of those with whom we serve (call it fellowship beyond our walls.) With the Street Faire, we intentionally offer our North Bend/Coos Bay community an opportunity to travel with us in order to be touched by the Spirit.

One of the things that impacted us so much in Kenya was the fellowship we had with the people there, both churched and un-churched. In stepping out into the community rather than waiting for "fish to jump into the aquarium," we were the ones who were changed the most. Like the little kid's song, we experienced "...love is something if you give it away, give it away, give it away; love is something if you give it away, you end up having more!" Good on us here at Emmanuel for giving our love away by reaching out to our community, we will "...end up having more." In touching others in fellowship, we are the ones who will be touched profoundly.

Thanks be to God and to Teri Whitty for the inspirational vision! Blessings and gratitude to our whole community for helping to make the vision a reality…and prayers for a beautiful day!

With gratitude!

Christy
Sunday, September 16th
11:30 AM
As our program year begins, Join Us for an opportunity to gather together as a community with so much to look forward to this year at Emmanuel! We’ll provide the hot dogs and hamburgers. Please bring a side dish or a dessert to help us celebrate.

Sunday School
Sunday school will be starting October 7th this fall, and we will need many volunteers to make it work. We’re hoping to have teams who commit for 2 different months throughout the program year. We will also be offering Godly Play during chapel time for the 3-5 year olds in the preschool. If you are interested in finding out more about our Sunday School and Chapel Program, Emmanuel will be hosting a Godly Play training the afternoon of Sept 14th and the 15th. The training retreat will be led by Caryl Creswell, who has taught Godly Play training all over the world and is an amazing facilitator. Registration forms are in the office. Cost will be $25/person and scholarships are available if needed. If interested, talk to Christy or Kerri for more information with questions or to reserve your spot (office-541-269-5829, Christy-541-728-7988)!

Music at Emmanuel
Emmanuel parish is supported by both a Choral Choir and a Contemporary Music group. The Choral Choir is directed by Tom Collins, who is also the organist. The Contemporary Music Group is directed by Dan Powell.

A little bit about Dan and the Contemporary Group… Dan has been interested in music and wanted a guitar “for as long as I can remember.” He did receive his guitar at age 9 and started “right off” with lessons on both the guitar and keyboard. After high school graduation, he attended Chabot College in Hayward, California majoring and receiving his Associates Degrees in Business, Machine Tooling, and Voice & Music Theory. He says “voice was my weakest area!” String instruments were also part of his studies.

Soon after graduation, he opened a machine tooling business in Tracy, California. In 1993, he moved to Coos Bay and opened another machine tooling business. He has since closed that business and retired.

Twenty years ago, he made Emmanuel his home church and joined the Contemporary Group, under the direction of Bob Peil, playing guitar. When Bob retired in 2006, Dan assumed the directorship of the group.

The Contemporary Group supports our 10:00 AM Sunday service once a month during the program year, usually on the first Sunday. For the past several years, the Glory and Praise Hymnal has been the source of their music. The Kyrie (O Lamb of God) and Doxology (Thank You Lord) that is used when the Contemporary Group sings were both written by Dan. He also has written a Sanctus (Holy, holy, holy Lord). Dan is an accomplished musician, and we are grateful to have him here at Emmanuel!

The Contemporary Group includes Kerry Oxford, Soprano; Pam Chaney, Alto; and Neville Cordell, Baritone. Instrumentalists are Jennifer Hancock, Bass Guitar; Nancy Clark, Piano; and Dan, Guitar.

They are looking for a drummer.

The Contemporary Group meets on Thursdays at 6:30 PM. Their first rehearsal for the “new” season will be Thursday, September 6th.

The Choral Choir's first rehearsal is Wednesday, September 5th at 6:00 PM.

Both groups meet in the church. The Choral Choir and the Contemporary Group are open to new instrumentalists and voices in all ranges! Contact for more information: Dan Powell phone: 541-982-0013 email: dan1528@hotmail.com or Tom Collins phone: 541-269-1082
European Street Faire

Don’t miss the Fun!

Sunday, September 9th, 3 to 7 p.m.
4th & Market Streets    Free Entry

Delicious foods at sidewalk cafés! Music with a polka band and more! Paddy’s Irish Pub! Auntie Em’s Attic Shoppe! Preschool fine art and landscapes! KinderFaire games for all ages! Lilliput Park! The Pied Piper! Raffle of Spot the Giraffe! And more…….

~submitted by Teri Whitty

Donations for the Street Faire need to be in by Thursday, September 6th. Thank you.

People and Pets Invited to the Blessing of our Animal Friends at Mingus Park

Sunday, October 7th, 1:00 PM

We will join with Gloria Dei Lutheran Church at the Mingus Park playground area on 10th Street in Coos Bay, rain or shine. Pet owners are invited to bring their dogs, cats, and other family pets to the outdoor services. They are requested to have dogs on a leash and to be certain that they are friendly with other animals. Small animals, such as cats and birds and rabbits, should be brought in a carrier. Photos of pets that are too difficult to transport may also be brought for a blessing.

Unable to Attend Mingus Park but Still Want your Pet Blessed?

If your pet is unable to attend the gathering at Mingus Park and it is well trained and in a cage or on a leash, they are also welcome to attend our 7:30 AM or 10:00 AM service at Emmanuel on October 7th to honor St. Francis and receive a special blessing. Questions? Talk to Christy or Kerri.

Also: Special Prayers of the People on October 7th for our Beloved Pets. Do you have a special pet who has died recently or is specially remembered by you and your family? Then send their info, preferably name and a picture, to the church office to be included in our prayers on October 7.
Special Thank You’s to Karen Pruhsmeier, Judy Jennings, Pat Cross, Nat Jaeggli, and Teri & John Whitty, who reframed the photos of Emmanuel’s past priests! Make sure to stop in the hallway outside the undercroft on your way to coffee hour and see what a wonderful wall of history we have here to share.

Name Tags - September is the season and the reason for Name Tags. Those of you that have neatly hung yours on the wood stands should retrieve them. Please wear your name tag for the service and the Coffee Hour. We have several new members, and every Sunday throughout the summer we have had visitors, some from out of the area, and some from Coos Bay/North Bend.

Our goal is to have everyone wear their name tag on September 16th for the gathering after the 10:00 o’clock service. This is a great time to meet 7:30 or 10:00 o’clock worshipers. If you do not have a name tag, or have misplaced yours, please let Carla Courtney know via her email carlacourtney294@gmail.com or call 541-266-9290. See you there - with a name tag!

~submitted by Carla Courtney

Summer Reflections - Last month we asked, “What has God been up to in your life this summer? What are some of your wonderings or spiritual reflections?” Thank you to John Sweet for sharing with us.

“As summer winds down, I look back on the time Michelle and I had with our family and especially our grandchildren. The pleasure and love we experienced with our family was repeated whenever we dropped by the church during Preschool hours. It is gratifying to see how many young lives Emmanuel is touching.”
~ John Sweet

Almighty God, heavenly Father, you have blessed us with the joy and care of children: Give us calm strength and patient wisdom as we bring them up, that we may teach them to love whatever is just and true and good, following the example of our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen. (Book of Common Prayer, page 829)
The Preschool has been state certified for our second year! Thank you for your prayers! Thank you to everyone who helped and supported us to be our best so we can continue to give our kids the best education and care possible. We are proud to be fostering the positive growth of an upcoming generation of our community’s citizens, and we couldn’t do what we do without all of you. Thank you!

Preschool Summer Camps
As our preschool summer camps come to a close tomorrow, here are a few of our favorite moments from the last few weeks...

“Born to Move” – Campers this week had special guest, Miss Alison from the Pacific School of Dance, each day to show them how to move their bodies through dance. They were also shown how to listen to their resting heart beats versus their heart beats after being active and had A LOT of silly and fun dance parties. We ended our week with showing off our very own dance/movement routine. A special thank you to Pam Chaney and the Pacific School of Dance!

“Blast Off to Space” - Campers blasted off to space to explore the sun and the planets! We had a special story time around our “campfire” with s’mores to learn about our most notable constellations, made “Martian Mud”, and our campers earned their Jr. Astronaut Certificates, along with being able to take home a sample of astronaut food.

“Fables and Folktales” - Campers delved into our favorite fables and folktales, especially "Three Billy Goats Gruff", and explored characters with important lessons about relationships and choices. We read and acted out various stories and wrote our own stories to share. It was our mini summer theater! PHOTO: Eli Davidson as “The Troll” and Eve Gederos as “The Medium Sized Goat”.

“It’s A Small World” - Campers went international this week and explored the continents. We "visited" other continents by exploring cultural food items, language and music and what makes each of us special on this planet. BIG thank you’s to Mr. Lorincz for coming by and sharing language and music from Mexico, the Bridges Family for providing us with a fresh, healthy snack for our campers to explore the Mediterranean and for sharing music from around the world, and to our own Teacher Faith for making crepes and exploring France with our campers.
The Coos Food Cupboard - Emmanuel Parish houses the Coos Food Cupboard, supported by the South Coast Food Share Program.

The Food Cupboard is open Monday, Wednesday and Fridays from noon until 2:00 PM. During this time, a daily average of anywhere from 22 to 57 families may be helped in one day, with each family identifying 2 to 3 to 5 to 8 family members. We also help just a single person who is perhaps newly working but needs some food for “now”, or those without homes or shelter. These people are never asked about circumstances or living conditions. We give food to all who come through our doors. Many will tell us that they do not have any way to keep food cold except maybe in an ice chest if they can afford the ice. And many do not have cooking surfaces and ask if we can give them something that does not have to be cooked.

The Coos Food Cupboard has an active board that includes names that are familiar. Brian Sullivan is the President; Diana Schab recently stepped in for our retiring Fran Whitaker. There is Pat Cross, Nancy Lane, Doris Wilson, and Jerry & Jeanette Stonebraker.

Keeping the Cupboard stocked requires lots of pickup trucks, and we have a fine crew consisting of Brian Sullivan, Pat Cross, Nat Jaeggli, Jeff Clark, Nick Furman (the produce guy), Tim Wall, Nova Cordell, and Bob Jacobson (the bread man). Nick also collects produce that might be beyond its prime and delivers to those who distribute to the deer and wildlife in the area.

MWF shifts of volunteers number from 6-7 per day, which means it takes 20-21 volunteers to man all the days open. There is a greeter, 2 cover the front desk, and 4-5 distribute the canned vegetables and fruit, cereal, crackers, peanut butter, shelf milk, sealed meals like stew and a host of other staples like rice, spaghetti and spaghetti sauce. A meat is offered each day. One day it could be a whole frozen chicken, another day pork or ground beef, and sometimes even cat fish or fish sticks. And often, we get donations of decorated cakes or cupcakes from Safeway. The families are thrilled to receive these!

What we also need and receive requests for: toilet paper, laundry detergent, dish washing soap, and bars of soap for baths/showers. You may donate food or care items by placing in the shopping cart that is in the Undercroft. Thank you from the Food Cupboard volunteers and those so in need!

**October Newsletter Submissions Deadline is Monday, September 24th**