



the *emmaus* MESSENGER



December 2016 | Winter Edition

Lost and Found

The people of God have always been a sojourning lot. Think Abraham leaving the land of Ur, think Moses leading Israel in the wilderness, think of the journey of Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem and then into exile in Egypt, think of that early apostolic community on the move, St. Paul and his companions covering swaths of land and sea around the Mediterranean. Now think of those two disciples, walking away from Jerusalem toward the village of Emmaus, heads hung low, hopes dashed, Jesus dead, future unknown and scary—one last journey back to normalcy, back to how things always were, ordinary, common.

“The point of the story and the point of the journey
is that there is One who is on the road,
One who walks with us.”

All of this only to be knocked around by the risen Christ breaking bread in their midst, awakened to the resurrection of the Lord, and sent where to but another journey back to Jerusalem, back with the anticipation that anything could happen!

We have been a sojourning lot here and we're in good company. We have journeyed together down that dusty road unsure of what lies ahead of us. Two disciples walking into some unknown future. Now some of us just want to get back to those good ol' days where people knew the place of the church and the pews were full and everything was back to normal. Others (rightly!) have the sneaking suspicion that those days, that world, is gone for good. If we haven't walked with our heads hung low like those disciples on the road to Emmaus it's probably because we're scared to look the reality in the face and be honest with ourselves! When I think about the future of the church, my head has often been hung low and I've been to the place where hope is all but lost. *continued on pg. 2*

Worship @ Emmaus

Sundays @ 8:30 a.m.
Traditional Holy Communion (BCP)

Sundays @ 10:30 a.m.
Communion Celebration (BAS)

Wednesdays @ 9:00 a.m.
Holy Communion (BCP)

Christmas @ Emmaus

Sat. December 24
Christmas Eve
7 p.m. – Family Friendly
Communion Service (BAS)
11 p.m. – Traditional Sung
Holy Eucharist (BCP)

Sun. December 25 @ 10:30 a.m.
Christmas Day
Communion Celebration (BAS)

Sun. January 1 @ 10:30 a.m.
Service of Lessons & Carols

Fri. January 6 @ 7 p.m.
Epiphany of the Lord Eucharist (BCP)

Regular service times resume
(including mid-week service)
Sunday, January 8, 2017



The Logo

Our logo was inspired by the Emmaus road story found in Luke's Gospel account (Luke 24:13-35).

The wheat represents the bread that was broken with the travelers on the road to Emmaus, which is when they recognized that their unexpected traveling companion who joined them on their way was actually the resurrected Jesus!

The circle represents that we are all bound together as the church – the body of Christ, through the Eucharist, where we are fed with the bread of heaven, Christ's body broken for us.

"Lost and Found" continued from pg. 1

But that's not the point of the story is it? That's not the point of the journey, of all that sojourning is it? The point of the story and the point of the journey is that there is One who is on the road, One who walks with us. The point of the journey is not to find something or someone. We often hear people talk this way: "I'm on a faith journey, just trying to find God." Rubbish! The whole radical point of the gospel is not that God is lost and we have to journey to discover and find him but rather that God has come looking for us and has found us floundering on the road, lost in our own hapless gazing, confused in our meanderings and broken in our despair to find our way home. That is the good news!

Being this Emmaus community together is about more than coming together as churches, strategizing to grow something bigger and better! Being Emmaus together is about gathering around the scriptures and the breaking of the bread where we meet the One who has found us, disoriented on the road as we are! He has come alongside us in our brokenness and has been revealed to us as the One who can lead us where we need to go! And he does, he sends us where we need to be, out into the world to find others along the road and to orient them to the One who can show them the way, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Brothers and sisters, we are called to go out with this message in word and deed. We are given to this ministry together and we are learning what this new life means for each and every one of us. Welcome to our first newsletter as this wonderful community that God has gathered together, Emmaus Anglican Church. Inside these pages you will hear what God is up to in our midst and find ways in which you can be involved.

Be blessed,

Pam+ & Patrick+

Former St. John's property to bless local MNO

As we move forward in faith as Emmaus Anglican Church, we give thanks for the exciting potential for the property of the previous St. John the Evangelist.

The Diocese of Algoma is currently in negotiations to work out a transfer of ownership to the Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO) to be used by the local MNO branch for education & training, healing & wellness initiatives.

The MNO respects the unique heritage of this property, which includes the historical use of the site as a Hudson's Bay Trading Post, and as a burial site.

Furthermore, a unique partnership between the Diocese and the MNO is unfolding as the plan is to maintain the church proper as a spiritual centre, with the potential for special Anglican services to be held from time to time.

Moreover, the beautiful and cherished Ascension window will maintain its current home, and be a blessing to many for years to come! Thanks be to God!

new beginnings

Interdenominational Refugee Sponsorship Group

by Judith Yendell

New Beginnings is the name of a group sponsoring refugees here in Sault Ste. Marie. It was started by the people of Zion Lutheran Church in the fall of 2015. Many people from other denominations have joined the endeavor. The initial idea was to sponsor one family through Canadian Lutheran World Relief. Everyone worked diligently, so diligently that they are currently sponsoring three Syrian refugee families. All these families came to Canada from camps outside Syria. The family that I have gotten to know lived in a camp in Turkey for two years. Another had fled Aleppo and lived in a camp in Lebanon.

New Beginnings is in a cost sharing program with the Canadian government. They provide six months of settlement funds and the group provides for the other six. The group provides all the settlement support for the whole year. To provide all the support needed, committees were established to look after the ongoing needs of the arriving families, e.g. housing, transportation, education, food and clothing, health and translators. Fundraising was undertaken and finance committee formed.

"Everyone worked diligently, so diligently that they are currently sponsoring three Syrian refugee families."

Welcoming new friends to Sault Ste. Marie!

New Beginnings has provided furnishings for each family. The families have been given clothing suited to our weather. They are receiving medical care. All the children are in school and are learning English. The parents are in E.S.L. programs. When needed, translators and/or transport is provided.

The former St. Matthew's church was particularly involved in equipping the children of one of the families with their school supplies.

Several members of the church (Emmaus) are involved with one or more of the committees and have given generously of their time, finding it to be a very rewarding experience. These are, Bernie Heintzman, Charlotte Haldenby, Janet Arnold, Patrick McManus and myself.

If you would like to participate in any way, please let me know. Donations are also welcome. They can be made via your envelope offerings to *New Beginnings*. Thank you.

Women of prayer united in Christ

It seems to me that as time passes, there is a greater sense of comfort and developing friendship amongst the women of Emmaus. As I join an activity or group (read "pie making" and "luncheon"), our work parties have progressed from two distinct groups working in the same areas to a growing closeness. Women who had a passing knowledge of one another now share recipes and even confidences. We embody an awareness that we are praying women, committed to living the life of the readings that we share on Sunday mornings as well as when we break bread together at the communion rail or over egg salad sandwiches and cookies at coffee-tea time. All is not without bumps along the way, but we are able to look up more readily and catch the light of smiles on our faces.

In Christ,
Judy Pratt

“Let the little children come unto me.” ~ Jesus

Worshipping with children at Emmaus Anglican Church

It's hard not to notice the cozy beanbag chairs, mini-altar, complete with a brass cross and altar candles, and sweet little tables and chairs that have become an important part of the space at Emmaus. The integration of youth and children into the regular worshipping life of the community was a hopeful vision expressed in the proposal to form Emmaus, and this space (furnished in large part by donations from the after school program that took place at St. John's) is part of this emerging vision.

This sacred space is used primarily on Sunday's for the Children's Liturgy of the Word, an extension of the Proclamation of the Word that is age appropriate, however still very much a part of the overall Liturgy taking place. The children are commissioned and gather together to hear and engage with the scripture readings for the day, pray and reflect together.

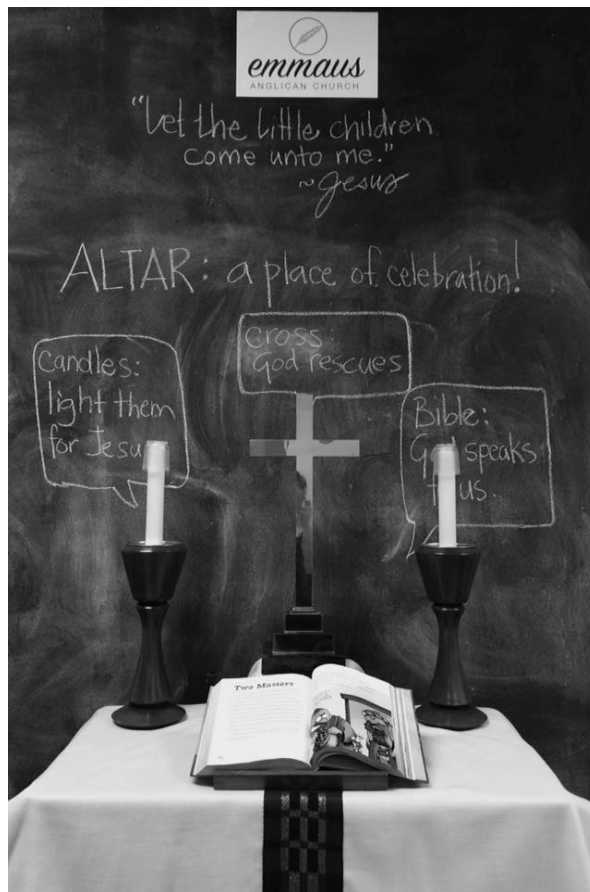
On occasion, Rev. Patrick or Rev. Pam will join in the Children's Liturgy of the Word, participating alongside the children, fostering a sense of importance and place for the children and respect for the teaching and of the leaders in this ministry.

After service, during our time of refreshment, the children are free to use the space to draw and play, or to eat their snack at a table just the right size for them. On more than one occasion, an adult in the congregation has joined one of our younger parishioners at their table to chat and get to know one another better. What a great opportunity to strengthen the importance of the intergenerational nature of the church! We give thanks for this space, for leaders of this ministry, and most of all for the children in our midst!

A note of gratitude...

The Lord looked down on our little flock and felt we needed to expand with the addition of more of His people. We were also blessed with the arrival of Reverend Pamela. Personally, I've been blessed with knowing many more friendly and prayerful people in our parish. In closing, in light of our expansion, under our Lord and Saviour, we will grow from strength to strength, bringing the Gospel to the greater community of Sault Ste. Marie.

Respectfully and with humility,
Patricia Thompson



The altar where the children gather has become an important part of the space at Emmaus (above).

Another look at the cozy space where the children engage with the Word (below).





Coming Together at Emmaus

by Mary McDonald

It was a long road but here we are!

St. John the Evangelist and St. Matthew's are lovingly kept in our hearts and memories but the best of both of them are joined together at Emmaus. Our long journey has been brought to fruition by the hard work of both the "old congregations" and we are still working hard to make a successful union.

There have been many changes so far that make the daily working of Emmaus unfamiliar in small ways for all, but we are trying hard to make things new and fresh for everyone. The outline of the services is different but we are ironing out the kinks and compromise on everyone's part works well.

Also, the pronunciation of our name is difficult for some. It is E-MAY-US. Simpler than it looks really. If you look in your bible you will see the name is perfectly logical in the circumstances. We were on the road and now we are here spreading the work and making disciples as Jesus asked.

Recently, the ladies group came together to organize a highly successful lunch, craft and bake sale. We were overwhelmed by the turn out of people at first but as we worked together and pitched in together the result was amazing. The men and women working at the affair and those who had organized it and set everything up the day before came away from the day with a feeling satisfaction and joy at the outcome. Both days started with everyone gathering for prayer and asking our Lord for his blessing and guidance. We got both in bucket loads!

We are getting there, slowly but surely and as we work together on a daily basis we will all feel more at home every day. God is with us all. When we know this we cannot help but know we are on the right path.

We will soon be celebrating our first Christmas together and I am so looking forward to that feeling of love and family that is even more prevalent at Christmas than any other time.

God will continue to bless us all as we continue our journey together and continue to make our new family a success.

An overwhelming success! Emmaus' first tea, bake and craft sale brought together traditions from two congregations which made for a creative and festive time of fellowship for all in attendance!

Radical Hospitality

What does hospitality, biblically speaking, look like?

by Rev'd Pam & Rev'd Patrick

What do we typically think about when we think of hospitality?

Likely, especially at this time of the year, we think of teas, bake sales and dinners. You could probably throw coffee time after church service into the mix too. Generally, we think of hospitality as a time when people gather with one another, catch up on the latest happenings, enjoy a meal and head out on their merry way.

And this isn't a new way of thinking of hospitality. In fact, in 1975 Henri Nouwen, Catholic Priest and author who worked closely with the L'Arche community wrote:

"At first the word "hospitality" might evoke the image of soft kindness, tea parties, bland conversations and a general atmosphere of coziness. Probably this has its good reasons since in our culture the concept of hospitality has lost much of its power and is often used in circles where we are most prone to expect a watered down piety than a serious search for an authentic Christian spirituality."¹

If this is true, if hospitality has lost much of its power, now is the time to reclaim it. And the only

way to reclaim it, is to recognize what the power of hospitality is.

A good place to start is to understand that hospitality, biblically speaking, is first and foremost relational. It's about creating space, opening the door and welcoming the stranger into our midst completely; where the stranger can enter and become a friend, without conditions and without expectations. Hospitality isn't about changing people. It's about entering a place with one another where, through mutual relationship and genuinely fostered friendship, transformation can transpire.

There are plenty of stories throughout Scripture that highlight such hospitality, however it's fitting for us to focus on the Emmaus narrative. When the two travelers on the road to Emmaus invited the stranger, who had joined them on the road, to stay with them for the night, he made himself known in the breaking of the bread as their Lord and Saviour (Luke 24:13-35). In this narrative the stranger is invited into the conversation with the two who were travelling from Jerusalem to Emmaus after the crucifixion of Jesus.

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Hard at work!

Members of Emmaus Anglican Church cook up a storm, making meat and veggie pies! The pies were in such high demand, more had to be whipped up late November!



“Radical Hospitality” continued from pg. 6

The stranger listened to the travellers as they talked about all that had gone on as they walked along together. Then when the natural time to part presented itself, the travellers invited the stranger to stay with them, and the stranger, surprisingly blessed them greatly!

So often what keeps us from the possibility of entering into true hospitality is fear. Fear of the other. Fear of the stranger. Fear of having what is comfortable and cozy shaken up a bit. Fear of having what we consider to be ‘ours’ taken from us. We will welcome people into our church, or make room at our table, but only on our terms. However, in the church, especially, we need to remember that it’s not *our* space that we invite people to. It’s not *our* table to which we welcome others. It’s God’s church, God’s table. God is the host and we are all guests of God’s grace. We may act as hosts in certain situations, but it is only to serve as an extension of God’s gracious welcome.ⁱⁱ

If the power of hospitality is tied to it’s relational nature and our role is to extend God’s gracious welcome to others, this has implications on how ‘we do’ hospitality. What’s more, if we have become so cut off that there are no strangers in our midst to welcome, perhaps it’s time for us to take a turn at being the stranger.

What might it mean for us to go to places in our city where we aren’t known? To go where we feel out of place? Where we look different from those around us?

Perhaps engaging in the power of hospitality in a culture that has confused hospitality with consumption means we might need to venture outside the walls of the church, entering into caring friendships with people wherever *they are* on their journey.

To engage in the practice of hospitality is the call of every Christian. Jesus tells us to love our neighbours as ourselves and hospitality is one of the ways that we do just this. This can be down right scary for some who think they don’t ‘have what it takes’ to be hospitable, however like most other things in life, hospitality takes practice.

“As a way of life, an act of love, an expression of faith, our hospitality reflects and anticipates God’s welcome... By God’s grace we can grow more willing, more eager, to open the door to a needy neighbour, a weary sister or brother, a stranger in distress. Perhaps as we open that door more regularly, we will grow increasingly sensitive to the quiet knock of angels. In the midst of a life-giving practice, we too might catch glimpses of Jesus who asks for our welcome and welcomes us home.”ⁱⁱⁱ

Let us take these words as balm as we at Emmaus seek to be more hospitable.

i) Nowen, Henri. *Reaching Out: The Three Movements of the Spiritual Life*. New York: DoubleDay, 1975. 47.

ii, iii) Pohl, Christine. *Making Room: Recovering Hospitality as a Christian Tradition*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1999. 157-158, 187.



One of the additional ministry possibilities outlined in the agreement to move forward together in faith as a new community was the development of an alternative worship service along the lines of ‘dinner church’, that would focus on invitation within the wider community. *Table @ Emmaus* is the opportunity to live into this possibility.

A group from the congregation has had an initial gathering to pray, imagine, brainstorm and talk about the shape of this ministry and there was no shortage of ideas around the table. The group will meet again in early January. Stay tuned to find out more, or talk to Rev. Pam or Rev. Patrick if you’re interested in participating in shaping this ministry!

Money Matters

Stewardship. Finances. You know, all the things we don't like to talk about! Clearly, we are early in our life as Emmaus, and as such, it is challenging to forecast what our financial situation will look like as we live into this life as a new parish. The hope is that offerings will increase in support of Emmaus, recognizing the risk we have all taken to follow God's lead in forming this community.

At present, we are experiencing a monthly shortfall in offerings, however October's numbers were certainly better than September's. At our November Advisory Board meeting a team was assembled to review our financial situation and identify factors that may be contributing to the shortfall (deaths in the congregation, people moving, some worshipping elsewhere since the merger). This work will be important to consider as we prepare an annual budget to present to Vestry in 2017.

To assist with meeting our immediate and first year budgetary needs, and as outlined in the proposal that was adopted by St. John's and St. Matthew's (approved by the Executive Committee of the Diocese of Algoma in March 2016), the congregation requested the release of \$25,000 of the approximately \$50,000 rectory funds held in trust with the Diocese at Executive's meeting early November 2016.

As a reminder, the initial proposal stated, "The Rectory fund of St. Matthew's church will be transferred to the care of the new parish. The clergy, wardens, and advisory board will develop a proposal for how some or all of this fund might be repurposed to serve the mission of the new congregation and brought to the Executive Committee of the Diocese for consideration within the first year of the new congregation's existence."

Executive approved this request unanimously, illustrating once more the hope and trust they have with what God is doing at Emmaus Anglican Church.

We have taken a huge step in faith, heeding God's call among us and while we are at the moment seeing a shortfall in parochial offerings, we are experiencing a real renewal on the ground with our combined resources and with new and exciting outreach opportunities on the horizon. Please prayerfully consider your financial commitment to Emmaus. Talk to your wardens and pastors if you have questions. Consider an increased pledge to support this new endeavor that God has brought us to, living out and sharing the Gospel in this city together!



Secret Sisters is a ministry among the women of Emmaus Anglican Church. It is an opportunity to become a fellow sister's silent prayer partner and her secret encourager. She doesn't know who you are, but she will know you are praying for her needs, while another sister does the same for you. The first round of Secret Sisters began early November and will run through until Epiphany, when the big Secret Sister reveal will take place. So far there have been many notes of encouragements, tokens of friendship and plenty of prayer received... all anonymously of course! If you missed out this time around, be sure to get involved next time. And gentlemen, perhaps there will be 'Secret Sidekicks' for you.

Welcome to Bishop-presumptive, The Ven. Anne Germond

On October 14, 2016, delegates of the Episcopal Electoral Synod elected the Venerable Anne Germond as the 11th Bishop of Algoma. Bishop-elect Germond will be consecrated as Bishop on February 11, 2017 at St. Luke's Cathedral.



The following is an excerpt from Bishop-presumptive Germond's initial greeting to the Diocese.

"I am looking forward to getting to know you as I travel across the diocese in the coming years. This diocese in all its beauty and all its diversity is where I feel very much at home. Even though I've been part of Bishop's Council and the Diocesan Executive Committee for several years and have heard about the good things that are happening in your congregations, there is still so much for me to learn and discover about Algoma. In addition to the official parish visits I hope to work alongside you in your outreach projects. What impressed me so much when I read through the Diocesan profile prepared for the electoral synod was how the

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Life at Emmaus – There are many ways to get involved at Emmaus Anglican Church. Here are just a few of the various groups that work to glory of God and are happy to welcome newcomers! If you aren't sure who the group contact is, please ask Rev. Pam or Rev. Patrick.

Altar Guild ~ Edie LeBlanc

Being a member of our Altar Guild is truly a rewarding experience. It is an opportunity to serve our Lord by assisting clergy in preparing for worship. It is a great honour and a privilege to be a part of this behind the scenes lay service. New members are definitely welcome and training will be provided by working with a current team. If you feel an interest in being a part of the Altar Guild, we invite you to please contact Rev. Patrick, Rev. Pam or Edie LeBlanc.

Parish Visiting Ministry ~ Sue Key

The Parish Visiting Ministry team visits the members of the church at the request of the person or their family. We take communion and/or a listening ear to shut-ins, nursing homes, hospital, or where requested. We try to keep people informed as to what is happening at the church, and keep the clergy informed as to how these members are doing. Please prayerfully consider if this is a ministry you might feel called to and speak with Rev. Pam, Rev. Patrick or Sue Key.

Vincent Place ~ Judy Pratt

A ministry with Sault Ste. Marie's Vincent Place, providing meals for people in need of food, often for the body and the soul. This is an opportunity to share from our bounty with others who have less, either temporarily or in an ongoing situation. We are always looking for people to engage in this outreach ministry.

Sidespeople, Lay Readers, Lectors, PowerPoint Operators, Intercessors and Eucharistic Assistants ~ David Taylor

Our worship time together requires the service of many participants. People to usher, welcome, read scripture, work the technology, assist at the altar and lead prayer. All these roles are integral to our Sunday worship, along with other worship times throughout the year. If you are interested in getting involved, or would like more information on any of these roles, please speak with Rev. Pam, Rev. Patrick or David Taylor.

Pins 'N Needles ~ Judy Taylor & Betty Sim

The Pins 'N Needles sewing/craft group meets every 2nd Wednesday of the month. We produce items for sale at various times throughout the year, helping to raise funds for the church and are looking towards putting our efforts into other forms of charitable creations as opposed to making things to sell. Come craft with us!

Prayer Shawl Ministry ~ Judy Taylor

This knitting ministry group meets the last Thursday of each month, rotating meetings at members' homes. We make shawls and lap blankets that are given for personal use and also in larger quantities to nursing homes, ARCH, etc. The shawls represent a lasting, loving gift for anyone, whether at a time of bereavement, illness, birth or baptism or any other situation where someone could use a hug from God. We would love it if you'd join us for prayer and knitting.

ACW ~ Judy Pratt

Emmaus ACW meets on the first Tuesday of the month at noon. We are involved in various activities at the church such as rummage sales, dinners, etc. We provide luncheons for funerals and other meetings, activities at Emmaus and in the wider church community. At our monthly meetings there is a time of devotion and prayer.

Senior Men's Group ~ Ken Coulter

The primary goal of the group is fellowship. We meet weekly over the fall and winter months. We help out with minor repairs and improvements around the church and are involved assisting with major updates to the property. From time to time we are involved in various fundraising events.

Choir ~ Deborah Kalinowski

Sing a new song unto the Lord! If you are a singer, or musician, young or old, please consider joining choir. We rehearse weekly and sing at the 10:30am Sunday service and various other services throughout the year.

Rev. Patrick McManus – Rector
Rev. Pamela Rayment – Priest Associate
Alison Weir – Rectors Warden
Barbara Sherwood – Peoples Warden
Micheline Lablance – Deputy Warden
Vicki Fritz – Outgoing Treasurer
Sylvia Sherwood – Incoming Treasurer
Mary McDonald – Board Member
 & Parish Administrator
Dan Fritz – Board Member
Bruce Yendell – Board Member
Phyllis Walls – Board Member
Judy Pratt – Board Member
Deborah Kalinowski – Board Member
Joy Kaldma – Board Member
Nancy Cardiff – Board Member
David Taylor – Board Secretary

deanery pages focused on the missional work that is happening in each of them. Did you notice that the photographs in the profile were all of people engaged in those ministries instead of church buildings? Interestingly, none of the archdeacons had spoken to each other in preparing their deanery profile

I see my role and our life together over the next several years as continuing the good work that has been going on in Algoma for so many years. now. We give thanks for our history. We look to the horizon with hope. There is much for us to do in this present time, but we know that Christ is our foundation and it is His love that holds us safely in our joys and fears. I am reminded of the beautiful Taize song, “Ubi Caritas, Dues ibi est.” “Where love is, there is God.” Let love be our guide.”

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