



Emmanuel Star



Epiphany 2010

Emmanuel Church, Geneva

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FROM THE RECTOR

Praying for Haiti In the Aftermath of the Earthquake

In grateful memory of Lisa Mbele-Mbong, Port-au-Prince, January 12, 2010

Reading Mark 4: 35-41

On that day, when evening had come, Jesus said to them: "Let us go across to the other side." ... They took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. A great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" He woke up and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. Jesus said to them, "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?" And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?"

Litany

(after each section of the litany the leader says the response in Creole or English and then the people repeat it)

For the faith of the people of Haiti, singing their hymns even as their hearts are breaking:

Beni swa l'Eternel / Blessed be the Eternal One *(repeated by all present)*

For their selfless efforts to rescue loved ones and neighbors from the rubble: **Response**

For the assurance that the many who have died are not lost for ever but rest in the Lord: **Response**

For the God-given capacity to share the sufferings of others and to respond to their needs: **Response**

For the nations of the world putting aside their differences to unite in offering assistance: **Response**

For doctors and nurses, soldiers and relief workers, bringing help and hope to the needy: **Response**

For Episcopal and other relief agencies, gathering contributions and putting them to work: **Response**

For the healing and hope offered to all by Jesus Christ the Light of the World: **Response**

For "the love of God from which neither life, nor death, nor things present, nor things to come, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us:" **Response**

Free Prayer *(either spoken or silent)*

Concluding Prayer

Jesus, Savior in times of storm, when the waters of the deep are broken up and all the landmarks crumble before our eyes, come to our aid and hold us up. Support the people of Haiti at this time lest they sink in hopelessness and despair. Empower those who are responding to their need; uphold the bereaved in their grief; and let your light shine in the present darkness to lead us all to the city securely built on your love; In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

"Our Father..."

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all. **Amen.**

Bishop Jeffrey Rowthorn, Episcopalians for Global Reconciliation, January 15, 2010

By now, most of you will have heard that Lisa Anne Mbele-Mbong was among the many who were killed in the recent earthquake. Our thoughts and prayers go out to her parents, Helena and Samuel; to her sister, Leontyne; and to her son, Nady. The funeral has been scheduled for Thursday, February 11 at 13h00 at Emmanuel Church. There will be a fund established in Lisa's name to support relief and development work in Haiti. More information about this will be sent out shortly.

EMMANUEL NEWS

Contributions for Haitian Earthquake Victims

The Outreach Committee thanks you for your generosity in giving to Episcopal Relief and Development (ER&D) for its work helping the victims of the devastating earthquake in Haiti. The amount of \$2,339.00 was sent on January 18. A number of people also took *bulletins de versement* in order to make their contributions. Those will be sent to ER&D at the end of the month. Your response was overwhelming and is greatly appreciated!



A New Addition

Congratulations to Tanya and Raphael Jaquet on the birth of their son, Alexander, on January 4.

Alexander weighed in at 4.65 kg (over 10 pounds). Parents, siblings and baby are fine.

Christmas Baskets

More than 35 Christmas baskets were prepared and delivered as part of Emmanuel's outreach activities. Those receiving baskets were the sick and shut-in in our church family, as well as in Emmanuel's extended family. Families with babies born during the year received a Christmas ornament, which we hope they will hang each year as a reminder of the love and support of their church family. In addition, four food hampers were prepared for refugee families living in the Foyer Presinge. Cheryll Gerelle coordinated this effort, and was assisted by Marilyn Geiger, Holly Dinbergs, Richard Cole, Eric Gerelle, Kathryn Babul, Amy van den Dijssel, and Katherine, Alastair and Madeline McClintic. For others who donated food items and toys, these were graciously appreciated.

Kitchen Project

You have probably noticed the new stove and dishwasher in the kitchen. Well, this is just the beginning, for the Kitchen Committee (Catherine Kennedy, Cheryll Gerelle and Bill Bouldin) have been given the green light by the Vestry to proceed with the necessary actions for installing a new kitchen. This should be completed sometime in the spring. More information will become available as the project progresses.

Music

Music is part of the church's outreach to a larger community and this was widely demonstrated in 2009. In addition to the Christmas services at Emmanuel, the choir gave four concerts in other locations outside of the Church, starting with its participation in the 100th Anniversary Concert of the Chorale Municipale de Genève at Victoria Hall on October 10. As they sang one of two external Christmas carol concerts, Shauna and the choir wished they could have taken the wonderful acoustics from either the Roman Catholic Church, Notre Dame des Graces in Grand-Lancy or the Moulin En Clarens in Vaud, and transplanted them to Emmanuel. The photo below shows the choir in concert at Victoria Hall.



YOUTH GROUP NEWS

Schedule for Youth Fellowship Meetings, February-March 2010

February

7 - Session 4: Are we really that bad? @ 10h00
 14 - Session 5: Is Jesus really that great? @ 10h00
 21 - Session 6: Peace and joy @ 10h00; informal service at HTC @ 19h00 (optional)
 28 - All-age worship in church @ 10h00 followed by an outing to Starbucks

March

7 - Session 7: A mandate for life @ 10h00
 14 - Session 8: The strong and the weak @ 10h00
 21 - Session 9: Resurrection @ 10h00; informal service at HTC @ 19h00 (optional)
 28 - Palm Sunday service in church @ 10h00

Additional dates:

Saturday, January 30 – Pizza and movie night
 Friday, March 19 – Movie and games night/sleepover/sunrise worship

Please note:

- *All sessions take place in the youth room at Emmanuel Church, unless otherwise stated.*
- *All sessions begin with breakfast at 10h00 and finish by 11h30, so that our young people can share a time of fellowship after the service with the whole church.*

Here are a few more details to accompany the Youth Fellowship schedule ...

Youth Fellowship Sessions

We will continue to meet this term in Emmanuel Church youth room (unless otherwise stated) on the first three Sundays of each month for fellowship, fun, Bible study, and worship. We will start every session with breakfast, which will give us an opportunity to chat and catch up on any news. This term, we will be exploring the Letter to the Romans - which provides a thorough summary of Christian belief, but also shows how our faith affects everyday living. We will also have some sessions on relationships and current affairs.

All-age Services

We will continue to worship together with the wider church congregation during the All-age Services which take place on the 4th Sunday of each month - but please note the change in the pattern in January. Youth Fellowship members will be encouraged to read the lessons, lead the prayers, be involved on the welcome team, etc., during these services.

Confirmation 2010-2011

Confirmation for young people will run as a **2-year** programme:

1st year - sessions with the Youth Fellowship (as many of the topics we cover are confirmation style topics - e.g. creation, sin, prayer, the Bible, incarnation, resurrection).

2nd year - Episcopal Church program "Confirm not Conform" (CnC), which should follow smoothly from what we do during the Youth Fellowship - since it involves a lot of discussion rather than feeding the candidates with ready made answers. For an introduction to the course have a look at the You Tube link - www.youtube.com/watch?v=0gKJv7IKliE

The CnC sessions will be on a weekday (after a meal) and will run fortnightly, starting in September 2010. Every candidate will be assigned a mentor from the congregation who will support the candidate throughout the year and attend some of the sessions and field trips - plus the confirmation service itself.

We will also run a confirmation retreat for the candidates - probably in October 2010.

Future dates to bear in mind: Ascension 2010 - Youth Across Europe event in Paris.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us!

God bless,

Monika Taylor

Youth Ministry Coordinator

(anglicanyouth@rocketmail.com, 022 734 38 17 or 076 776 42 67)

PARISH AND COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Parish Hike in St. Cergue Sunday afternoon January 31. Interested persons are asked to reserve a space through the church office office@emmanuelchurch.ch

Shrove Tuesday pancake supper
February 16 from 18h00-19h30.
All are welcome.

The **Ash Wednesday service** with the imposition of ashes will take place February 17 at 18h00. A simple supper will follow the service.

We will have a **snowshoeing and fondue outing** on Saturday, February 6. We would meet at Emmanuel Church and carpool up to La Givrine above St. Cergue. We would snowshoe several kilometers to a restaurant and have a fondue lunch, then snowshoe back to the cars. Everyone would need their own snowshoes and poles and the reservation for lunch might require prior payment. If you are interested, please contact Catherine Kennedy at jtkennedy@bluewin.ch or by telephone at 022 752 05 55.



SEASON OF LENT

There will be a **pre-Lenten quiet day** on the theme *Observing a Holy Lent* on Saturday, February 13 at Le Cenacle from 9h30-16h00. Our leader will be The Rev. Sarah Motley Fisher. We plan to share lunch and a closing Eucharist. The cost is CHF 20 and reservations are needed by January 28. If you are able to join us, please contact the Emmanuel Church office at office@emmanuelchurch.ch or 022 732 8078 so that we can plan accordingly.

It isn't too early to commit yourself to an ecumenical **Cursillo Retreat**. Save May 7-9, 2010 now!!!! Debbie Groby, Christine Housel, Patrice Hugué, Tony Thomas, Edith Tanner, and Marietta and Brad Dewey are just a few of our parishioners who can tell you what it is all about.

An **Ignatian Way retreat** will be held at Institut Œcuménique - Château de Bossey on Saturday, February 6 from 9h00 to 16h00. The cost for the day is CHF 45 including lunch. To register, please contact Simone Meyer at (0033) 450 70 46 07, (0033) 6 70 70 00 88 (mobile) or at simonemeyer@wanadoo.fr

February 28: A Musical and Theological Exploration of Handel's Messiah

Commonly known facts about Handel's *Messiah*:

- Handel wrote *Messiah* specifically for Christmas, and it was first given in Westminster Abbey.
- Like many masterpieces, the work was little appreciated during the composer's lifetime and performed relatively seldom.
- The powerful message conveyed through the score is all the more amazing in that Handel himself was not a practicing Christian.

Even if you already know that all of the above facts are wrong, do plan on attending our musical and theological exploration of this beautiful oratorio. Richard Cole will lead this study, which will feature excerpts performed by Shauna Beesley and the Emmanuel Church Choir. We begin in the Parish Hall after the 10h00 service. All are most welcome.

WORSHIP AT EMMANUEL CHURCH

Epiphany 2010 Worship Schedule

† Sunday, January 31 Eucharist 8h30 Joint service at Holy Trinity 10h30 With the congregations of Holy Trinity and St. Germain <i>Note: There will be no 10h00 service at Emmanuel this Sunday</i>	4 th Sunday after Epiphany
† Sunday, February 7 Eucharist 8h30 and 10h00 Anointing 10h00	5 th Sunday after Epiphany
† Sunday, February 14 Eucharist 8h30 Morning Prayer 10h00	Last Sunday after Epiphany
† Wednesday, February 17 Eucharist with imposition of ashes 18h00	Ash Wednesday
† Sunday, February 21 Eucharist 8h30 and 10h00	1 st Sunday in Lent
† Sunday, February 28 Eucharist 8h30 and 10h00	2 nd Sunday in Lent

Sunday School Schedule, January-February 2010

January

31 - Ecumenical service at Holy Trinity Church--**no Sunday School**

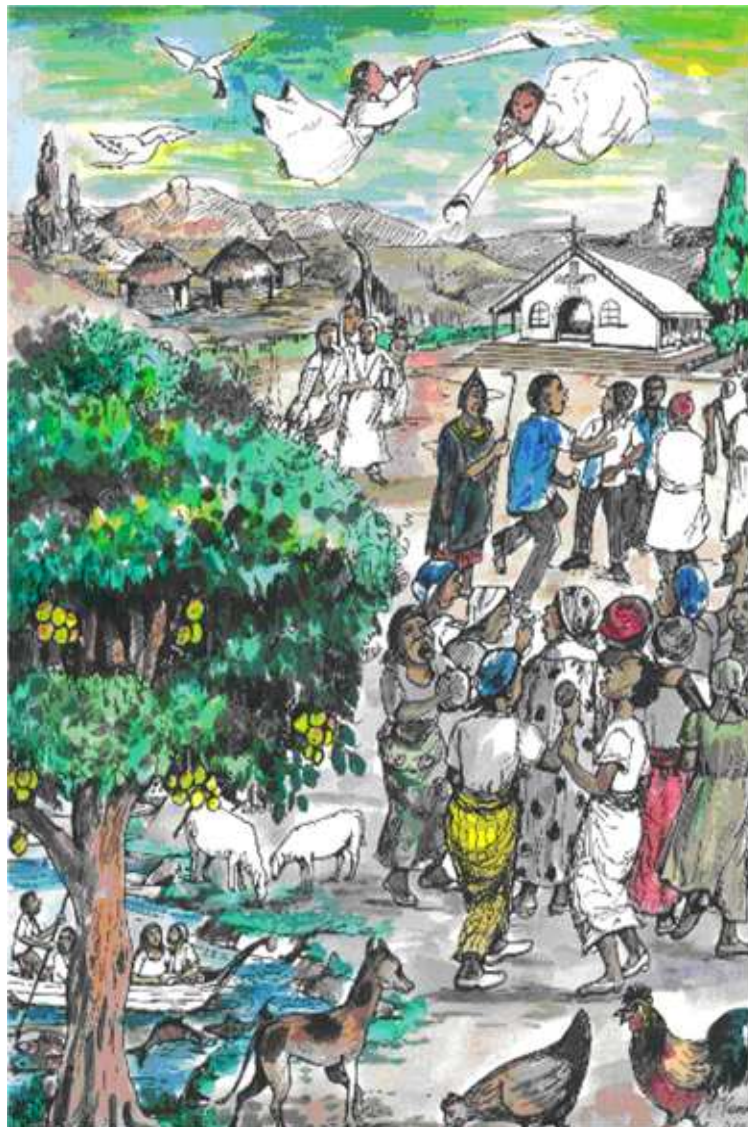
February

7- Sunday School - students go to class first

14 - Morning prayer and children's service - students go to the Sanctuary first, then to class

21 - Ski week - **no Sunday School**

World Day of Prayer 2010



Friday, 5 March 2010 - 12h30
Ecumenical Centre Chapel
150 Route de Ferney, Grand Saconnex
(Buses 5, 28 & F, Crêts-de-Morillons stop)

Come, worship and share in this service prepared by
the Cameroun World Day of Prayer Committee

Everybody is welcome

Refreshments and bake sale before and after the service

For more information contact Christine at 022 732 15 89 or Yvette at 022 791 63 13

My Blue Box

I received unexpected and touching gifts this Christmas. In June I wrote about my experience with guardian angels and how my late mother-in-law believed in them. With her passing in July this was our first Christmas without her and I was a bit melancholy. Two events happened though that helped me through. On Christmas Eve night, the lights in our house blinked off and then back on again. When I talked with one of Mike's sisters, Jean told me that the same thing happened to her at about the equivalent time in the US. We came to the conclusion that Mom was letting us know that she was with us on her favorite holiday. Then, on Christmas morning my son and daughter-in-law gave me an angel pin (my mother-in-law *always* wore one) with the words "Watch over me" engraved on the back. I still well up with tears when thinking of this and how thankful I am for having my mother-in-law in my life. So I dropped a few coins in my United Thank Offering Blue Box on Christmas Day.

My Blue Box has coins dropped in it throughout the year. After each Ingathering I take one of the empty used ones to use until the next year's Ingathering. This year the UTO Drive will begin during Lent, with the Ingathering on Sunday, May 9. The generosity of the members of Emmanuel Church has meant that over CHF 4,500 has been donated since 2007 to bring "gifts" to deserving groups that help improve the lives of those less fortunate. Emmanuel Church itself has been a recipient in 2009 of one of the UTO Grants for our kitchen remodelling project.

Please keep the Spirit of Christmas giving going throughout the year. When the UTO Drive begins, remember to be thankful for the gifts you've been given and drop a few coins in your Blue Box.

"From little acorns mighty oaks grow!"



UTO *Everyday*

Kristi Strzyzewski, Emmanuel UTO Coordinator

*We at Emmanuel Church are a gathered people of God
committed to sharing Jesus Christ's love through celebration
and works in our community and in the world.*

Contributions invited

This is **your** newsletter! The editors warmly invite all and anyone to contribute articles, information, ideas, requests, photos, ... to make the *Emmanuel Star* interesting, enlightening, fun and enjoyable to read, and, above all, to fully reflect life at Emmanuel and some of the church beyond.

Please send all correspondence and contributions to estar@emmanuelchurch.ch or contact the editors: Helena Mbele-Mbong (+33 4 50 41 93 45, helena.mbele-mbong@orange.fr and Laura Messenger, 022 731 34 16, messenger84@bluewin.ch .

Many thanks...

...to all contributors to the *Emmanuel Star* this month: John Beach, Richard Cole, Cheryll Gerelle, Debbie Groby, Catherine Kennedy, Kristi Strzyzewski, and Monika Taylor.

Emmanuel Church Info in a Nutshell

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*A parish of the Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe
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