



From the Rector's Desk

September 2018 marks two full years for this worshipping community! While not a 'milestone' anniversary, I think it is important to mark and celebrate these first few years of Emmaus' formation, remembering that we have been, and continue to journey with Jesus as faithful disciples seeking to love and serve Christ in all we do.

When I reflect on this past year, one of the things that stands out is the way people are participating in areas of ministry and faith growth, whether by taking on a new role or responsibility in an area that is familiar or even by trying something completely new! Faith in action – that is, being doers of the Word – is one of the ways that we are used to animate God's love in the world!

And I can see God's love at work in the worshipping life of Emmaus too! The willingness to engage in participatory activities during services: the Blessing of the Backpacks, lighting the way through Advent, ringing the bells at Christmas, playing in the dust on Ash Wednesday, laying our burdens at the cross during Lent and celebrating the Waters of Baptism throughout the season of Easter – participating in these activities together reminds us why we gather, whose we are and builds us up to live into the Gospel day in and day out. I pray that Emmaus always continues to embrace a spirit of joy-filled creativity and hope-filled possibility!

Speaking of creativity and possibility, some interesting information has been discovered about the building we worship in. When members of the Building Committee searched out a copy of the original architectural plans for the church, the name expected to be seen as the designer of record on the drawing – that of local architect Gordon Smedley – was not the name on the plans! After some investigation and a conversation with Mr. Smedley, it turns out the American born, award-winning, Canadian architect, Macy DuBois, is actually the designer of record.



Rolling River Rampage VBS at Emmaus was tons of fun this past July! Thanks to all who helped out and all who kept us in prayer the week of!



Top – Ontario Pavilion at EXPO '67. Bottom – A section of the New College complex. (photos from Wikipedia)

Some of his work includes buildings on the University of Toronto campus, Lakehead University in Thunder Bay and the Albert Campbell branch of the Toronto Public Library. However, his most notable building was the Ontario Pavilion at EXPO '67, reported to be the most photographed building at the EXPO. Mr. Smedley also shed some light on the design of this building, indicating that it is Scandinavian Modern – note the Nordic influences in the building – the roof lines, buried walls on three of the four sides, the gable windows and the steeple. All of this is helpful and important to keep in mind as updates to the building are imagined and implemented. One thing that would be interesting is to see pictures of the original building's interior and exterior design (between 1961-1981) so if you do have copies, please share them with us!

“Architects have the committed mission to bring people to see the miraculous world around them - to love the play of light on surfaces, the fall of rain on their surroundings, the whirl of snow coming down, the texture & heft of materials, the response of temperatures on skin & the sounds & smells of the world.”
 ~ Macy Dubois

One last item to mention... Since March, your Wardens, Advisory Board and I have been engaged in cultivating a Vision for Ministry for Emmaus that recalls and reviews who we are, who God is calling us to be and imagining how we might live into this vision. A Vision for Ministry is very much intended to be a living document that assists a worshipping community better articulate their participation in God's mission. It is meant to be document that grows and morphs over time, aiding in the discernment and focus of the ministries of the church. This work will continue over the next several months and will be shared broadly in due course, for review, prayer and input.

But for today, let us pause and give thanks for two years of ministry as Emmaus, trusting God will continue to bless this community now and well into the future.

In Christ,

@ Emmaus

Rev. Pamela Rayment – Rector
 Alison Weir – Rectors Warden
 Mary McDonald – Peoples Warden
 Judy Pratt – Deputy Warden
 Music Ministry– Tasha Ader
 Parish Admin – Mary McDonald

Advisory Board Members

Dan Fritz
 Deborah Kalinowski
 David Taylor
 Glen Thompson
 Phyllis Walls
 Bruce Yendell