

Today's Order of Service

***BOLD PRINT** denotes when to stand if it is comfortable to do so.

WELCOME & GREETING (2 Timothy 1:2)

PRAYER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 117)

SINGING

♪ #16 HB *"We Praise Thee, O God, Our Redeemer"*

♪ #567 HB *"Another Year is Dawning"*

♪ #568 HB *"God of the Ages"*

♪ #14 BB *"God of the Mountain"*

OFFERING & SPECIAL MUSIC

CHILDREN'S SONG & Dismissal to Sunday School

♪ #4 BB *"The River is Here"*

PRAYER & PRAISE

MESSAGE: *The Importance of Scripture*
(2 Timothy 3:10-16)

SONG OF RESPONSE:

♪ #21 BB *"Ancient Words"*

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

♪ *"Once Again"* (see lyrics in bulletin)

BLESSING (Numbers 6:24-26)

THE CHALLENGE: Read – Think – Pray – Apply – Talk



Wondering how you can contact Pastor Sweis?

In person: At his new office inside the church building

By phone: Call him at the church: 825-1777

By email: sweis.ubels@gmail.com

Emmanuel Congregational Christian Church

37 Gates Avenue, PO Box 1559, Middleton NS, B0S 1P0

Phone: (902) 825-1777

Welcome to Emmanuel Church

If you are new to the area or visiting our church please be sure to sign our guest book in the front entry. We hope you will join us for some fellowship and a cup of coffee following today's service.

Since our weekly bulletins are filled with important dates and information for the coming weeks, we encourage you to take them home and post them on your fridge before recycling them.

"Free" Worship

Emmanuel Church is a **"Scent-free and Nut-free Zone"** so that those with environmental sensitivities and allergies are able to worship in safety and without the distress of an allergic reaction.

Prayer Ministry

Following each worship service Elders are available at the front of the sanctuary for prayer. Please do not hesitate to come for prayer if you or a loved one is having difficulties. It would be appreciated if worshippers would try to keep noise at a minimum as people are being prayed for. The pastor will greet individuals at the entry of the Fellowship Room after service.

If you, a friend or a loved one needs prayer, please feel free to contact a member of our **Prayer Chain**. These people have committed to praying for all concerns that they receive:

Evelyn Fraser (825-6902) Pat MacDougall (835-0999)

Kim Muirhead (765-4978) Penny McGuigan (825-4368)

Mildred Spinney (825-4520)

Monthly Collections

The first Sunday of each month we refer to as *Food Bank Sunday*. We collect food items, as well as designated donations in the offering plate, in support of the Twelve Baskets Food Bank which serves our community.

The last Sunday of each month throughout the winter we collect spare change to contribute to our heating bills. This runs between October and April and is called *Minnie's Pennies*, named after the woman who began this initiative.

For more information about who we are and what we do, check out our NEW web site: www.emmanuelchurch.ca.

Song Lyrics

COMMUNION SONG: "Once Again" by Matt Redman

Jesus Christ, I think upon Your sacrifice
You became nothing, poured out to death
Many times, I've wondered at your gift of life
I'm in that place once again
I'm in that place once again

Chorus

And once again I look upon the cross where You died
I'm humbled by Your mercy and I'm broken inside
Once again I thank You,
Once again I pour out my life

Now You are exalted to the highest place
King of the Heavens, where one day I'll bow
But for now, I'll marvel at Your saving grace
I'm full of praise once again
Oh I'm full of praise once again

Chorus

Thank you for the cross
Thank you for the cross
Thank you for the cross, my friend

Chorus



Further Notices:

NEW web site: Check it out at www.emmanuelchurch.ca for pictures of the Christmas Pageant and the video shown on Christmas morning!

Offering Envelopes for 2012: With the start of a New Year, we have offering envelopes available for pick up in the Fellowship Room. If you do not have offering envelopes but would like to, please speak to either Pat Keith or Jaime Dennison.

Missing Pictures: Harriet Barkhouse is looking for photos from the 2010 Christmas Eve Pageant, 2011 Valentine's Day Supper, as well as other early evenings in 2011, to update the church album. If you have photos from any of these events, please contact her: 825-6291 or email: harriet.barkhouse@gmail.com.

News from the Elders...

In an effort to better communicate the highlights of Elders' meetings with the congregation we will give a brief overview in the bulletins following these meetings. Here is the latest...

- **Next Elders and Deacons Meeting** – Elders and Deacons will meet on Monday, January 9th at 6:30pm at the church.
- **Annual Meeting** - The annual meeting is scheduled for the afternoon of Sunday, January 29. In the case winter weather makes this impossible, the meeting will be held a week later on February 5. Also, in preparation for the annual meeting, a membership list will be posted. The elders would like your help in making sure this list is correct.
- **Missions** - At the joint session of the elders and deacons we discussed goals for our mission allocation. One idea is to build deeper ongoing partnerships with one or more mission projects. More information will follow as we continue to work out the details.
- **Nominations for Elders and Deacons** - The Elders are asking members of the church to submit names for the office of Elder and Deacon. Individuals for these offices are to be men or women who are spiritually mature members in good standing of Emmanuel and who exhibit the qualities of leadership. The offices of Elder and Deacon are such that those who are called by the congregation to serve in this capacity are servants of the church. Those who offer these ministries to the Lord do so as men and women of faith who see themselves as servants of the servants of God. Please pray for them as they carry out these vital ministries within our congregation. This year we are in need of one (1) Elder and three (3) deacons. The Elders are requesting that members of the church submit nominations for either position to the elders' board. Please refrain from telling the person about your intentions to nominate them as the elders will, after prayer and discussion, approach those individual nominees they believe will fit the role best at this time. They will explain to the nominees what the position involves and offer their help and prayers in discerning whether the nominees should let their name stand. The period for nominations will be from today, and continue for two weeks. Please give this prayerful consideration over the next weeks as we seek those whom God would have in leadership in His church.

What's Happening

January 2012 (DV)

SMALL GROUPS UPDATE: Preparations are being made to launch several small groups in January. To accommodate different needs within the congregation, each group may have a unique focus. What follows is the beginning of a list of options - we hope to add more options as time goes on. Please prayerfully consider where you need to be involved. More details regarding the individual groups will be made available soon.

* **Albany Group** - The study material for this group will be chosen by group members once the group begins meeting

* **Youth!** - This group, led by Caroline, will meet on a weekly basis at the Ubels home. This group is open to Jr/Sr High-ish students. The focus will be on applying faith principles to real-life issues.

* **Holy Conversation** - This group, led by Pastor Sweis, will work through the book *Holy Conversation* by meeting weekly to learn to talk about issues like forgiveness, believing sin, etc. Participants are required to find a 'conversation partner' to practice their new found skills with. Ideally, this partner will be an unbeliever, but could be someone who does not attend church.

* **Monday Morning Beacons** - This group, led by Kim Muirhead, is studying through the book of Ephesians and meets at the church on Monday mornings at 10 am. They'd love to have anyone with a desire for learning to be part of this group!

* **The Truth Project** - This group will be facilitated by Kim Muirhead and may meet in the Kingston area to work through *The Truth Project* video curriculum. This is a 13 week course that will challenge participants to refine their Christian worldview in areas like work, media, arts, politics, etc. perfect for people who have been Christians for a while and passionate about Jesus.

In addition, realizing that the book "The Purpose Driven Life" has been of tremendous value to many of us, the Elders encourage everyone to read this devotional book during the season of Lent. Pastor Sweis is planning on focusing his sermons around the themes discussed in that book during Lent, and will lead a small group for those who have never read the book. Lent this year will begin on February 22 and end on March 31.

Emmanuel Congregational Christian Church

"Honouring Jesus by Sharing His Love"



January 1, 2012

Our Pastor: Sweis Ubels
Duty Deacon: John Harrison