

EDMANUEL

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PASTOR'S REPORT

with Spiritual Director, Randy Phillips

Joshua set up twelve stones in the midst of the Jordan, in the place where the feet of the priests bearing the Ark of the Covenant had stood; and they are there to this day.

I kind of have this fixation with rocks these days... Perhaps you have noticed the piles of large landscaping stones in my front yard? Or maybe you are one of the friends to which I have handed a smooth stone and told you my story about the Valley of Elah. I carry smooth stones in my pocket every day – in case someone needs one.

“And those twelve stones, which they took out of the Jordan, Joshua set up at Gilgal. And he said to the people of Israel, ‘When your children ask their fathers in times to come, “What do these stones mean?” Then you shall let your children know, “Israel passed over this Jordan on dry ground.”’” (Joshua 4:20-22)

I think that God enjoys stones, too. We see that Joshua created a marker of sorts in response to Yahweh's instructions. This moment that is captured in the opening chapters of the book of Joshua is an historic event for God's people who have been living an entirely mobile/vagabond existence for as long as any of them could remember. This was the day when they would move into a new land – a place they hoped to call home. And in this moment God had directed his chosen people to create a pile of carefully selected rocks – each one holding symbolic meaning each of the 12 tribes that represented the whole of Israel.

These large stones are terribly important to God's people to remind them of their spiritual DNA as well as the faith that is required to build on that genetic material in their new land. Emmanuel has experienced more than one “Jordan River crossing” in the past 12 months. We are growing into our mission, our future and our community. We have worked hard to fine tune our organizational structure, our facilities and our sense of mission in the city of Seattle. Just like with Joshua, I want to make sure that we have put these big rocks in place so that future members of Emmanuel will know of the miracles that God has been doing in our midst.

Stone #1: Biblical Lessons

We have been privileged to walk through a number of formative and highly stimulating Biblical landscapes in the last 12 months.

The Parables of Jesus: last summer we were lead through an interactive view of the parables of Jesus by our teaching team and a number of guest speakers.

Esther: In the fall we explored the Old Testament lessons about a young orphan girl who God brought to a place of power. Esther was able to save her people from the threat of genocide and taught us lessons in courage and obedience.

Already & Not Yet was our series following the seven signs and discourses in the book of John.

“Thy Kingdom Come” gave us the script that Jesus taught us when he taught us to pray. This series was based on the Lord’s Prayer found in the Sermon on the Mount.

The Exodus Journey: Our studies of Jesus in the book of John lead us to understand that he molded his mission on earth to the historic event that had most significantly shaped the Jewish people – The Exodus. For this reason we have chosen to study the Exodus this summer as the backdrop for the work of Christ in the New Testament.

Stone #2: A Gifted Intern Team

We have continued to benefit from an influx of gifted, energetic and highly effective young leaders. Each year we post job descriptions online and receive applications for students who are interested in spending a year or two on our ministry team. Josh Phillips and Aaron McConkey worked together to support and guide this team over the past 12 months.

Kevin Engle – Custodial Services

Mimi Guarino – Information Technology

Lexie Hoffman – Port & Anchor Art Studio & Creative Design Coordinator

Emilee Moorehouse – Communications & Social Media

Josh Norquist – Worship Planning & Development

Clark Rhee – On-Site Facility Manager
Kristin Spencer – Leadership Development Program
Kirby White – Community Development
Trevor White – Counseling & Relational Ministries

Stone #3: Leadership Transition

This past year has been filled with three major projects from a leadership standpoint. Today we are in a very healthy place because of the hard work that brought all three projects to completion.

Review and revision of our Constitution: Last year's elder board formed a team to review the constitution and draft a document that would make it possible to become a member in the Evangelical Covenant denomination. Glenn Palmberg (former president of the denomination) worked with our leaders to create an updated document and this new version was affirmed by our membership.

With an updated constitution in place, a slate of leaders was nominated to stand for election to the Leadership Team of Emmanuel. This Leadership Team will continue the excellent work begun by the Elder Board. These are the leaders that you elected:

Patricia Kloster – Chair
Trevor White – Vice-chair
Aaron McConkey – Treasurer
Dave Martin – Secretary
Marilyn Moritz
Kristin Spencer
Josh Phillips
Randy Phillips – ex officio

Our membership voted to pursue affiliation with the Evangelical Covenant Church and to that end our congregation was brought into the initial stages of this membership in April of 2013. This affiliation will make extensive ministry resources available and bring mission-minded friends for the days ahead.

Stone #4: Facility Enhancements

Last summer our members voted to approve the work of a number of facility enhancements targeted at improving our facility and making it more useful for our work in the local community. We are grateful to have received several estate donations that covered the cost of all of these projects and enabled us to do so without adding any indebtedness to our balance sheet.

Keith Phillips actively managed this project and Josh Phillips carefully implemented the work that has made it possible for us to welcome the Port & Anchor as the portion of the building dedicated to hosting community-oriented functions. We now have the Café completed (with inspection approval by the city of Seattle). The counseling center, art studio and the boardroom are also in place.

Additional projects include:

Exterior signage (not yet complete)

Exterior painting

Brickwork cleaning

Front doors repaired & resealed.

Landscape design and installation (not yet complete)

Stone #5: A Clear & Compelling Mission

Over a period of 18 months we have worked our way through a strategic planning process. Many of us have participated in this opportunity to think and talk together about our God-given mission. This has produced a written plan that informs every decision that is made at Emmanuel. We have clarified our mission, core values, beliefs and commitments.

We have come to understand that God is calling us to actively neighbor with our community in such a way that abundant life is increasingly realized by each person we meet. Our mission: NEIGHBORING! We refer to ourselves as a Mission that happens to have a church as a part of it. Our facility is the Emmanuel Center – home to three churches and the Port & Anchor Community Center.

Stone #6: Teaching Team

Under Josh Norquist's leadership this past year, we have been building formal teams to provide leadership each of the elements of worship. We are fortunate to have a handful of gifted biblical teachers at Emmanuel. Each one has a unique perspective. And each one studies hard to bring the very best insights to our congregation each week. These are the members who are regular members of our teaching team:

Randy Phillips

Mike Nealy

Jeff Budke

DeAnza Spaulding

Craig Mathison

Stone #7: Emerging Partnerships

We are learning how to extend our work best through partners who share our values and mission. In each case we walk through a careful process of dialogue and discovery. This process enables us to mutually create a written agreement that enables each party to become more effective. These written agreements take the form of Memorandum of Understanding. By carefully creating written descriptions we are able to avoid misunderstandings and confusion. These partnerships are enabling Emmanuel to once again serve as a hub for the extension of God's kingdom in Seattle. We are adding new partnerships as rapidly as we find them. This may well be the most exciting development in our year.

Craig Mathison – urban ministry and leadership development

DeAnza Spaulding – biblical teaching & local outreach

Union Gospel Mission – Men's Shelter

Seattle Bank – financial services & community connections

Side out Seattle – Sports outreach via volleyball

Moorea Seal – Artist in Residence

Community Dinners – extending the Lord's Supper to our city

Stone #8: Our Ministry Team

Lexie Hoffman – Art Design & Port & Anchor Team

Aaron McConkey – Worship Leader & Intern Coordinator

Keith Phillips – Church Administrator (volunteer)

Josh Phillips – Port & Anchor & Intern Coordinator

Randy Philips – Spiritual Director

Tamura Turney – Project Manager/Administrative Support

Kirby White – Associate Administrator

I am exceptionally grateful for the hard work of each member of our ministry team. Given the unique commitments and schedules of each one of them, we have worked diligently during the times we have together and have made it a high priority to streamline our process as a team.

These are exciting days for Emmanuel. We are learning new lessons daily and finding ways to join God in the realization of His Kingdom here in this odd triangle between Fremont, Phinney Ridge and Woodland Park. Whenever people ask me about what I do – I tell them: “I am in the resurrection business!” I can’t imagine a better place to be!

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

with Leadership Team Chairman, Patricia Kloster

I have thought about this report/letter many times over the past weeks, and tried to think where to start. After my 30+ years at Emmanuel, we are rethinking our mission – not something new. I remember having many conversations with Pastor Scott Thielen about reaching our neighborhood and we made steps in this direction under Michael Stufflebeam. What is God's purpose for giving us new life on a hill called Phinney Ridge in Seattle. This past year has seen Emmanuel making in-roads into the community in many ways – we have new partners in ministry (Mosaic Community Church), a new/expanded partnership with Union Gospel Mission as well as a community-based school, Kapka. Our visibility within the neighborhood has grown. Our neighbors embraced our vision of the men's shelter during the winter months. While we may not have grown in numbers, we have grown deeper in our understanding of the community around us. As I think about the future, I see other churches facing the need for change around us as well – Community Dinners, born out of Westminster Community Church, a 90-year old north Seattle church and Gethsemane Lutheran in downtown Seattle which has adapted to the needs of downtown and created a community center as well as low-income housing. When I first came to Emmanuel, foreign missions was a focus; we now face a world that has come to us. We no longer live in a "Leave It to Beaver/Ozzie and Harriet" world – sorry, showing my baby boomer age!

As Emmanuel looks into its future, where is God leading us? We are at a critical point in time as God leads us to pursue membership in the Evangelical Covenant Church. Taking on the role of Chairman of the newly formed Leadership Team was a daunting task for someone who didn't grow up in church on Sunday mornings. And yet, God has formed a gifted team of leaders who have a heart for His ministry; a heart for His people. We are working diligently to put parameters around our ministry. We are blessed with a large facility which needs a lot of attention but has great potential!

As a congregation, I ask for your support and prayers as we seek to follow Jesus and see this ministry through His eyes. It's not our ministry, but the ministry of Christ which

He has entrusted us to carry out for Him. I pray that each of us will ask not “what would Jesus do” but what does Jesus want me to do?

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

with Church Administrator, Keith Phillips

This year has been one of stabilization, transition and growth. We have completed a number of renovation projects, effectively managed our finances, established new partnerships, and approved an exciting new affiliation. It has continued to be both a challenge and a joy to serve as the voluntary Church Administrator this year. Susie and I have experienced a wonderful sense of family along with the opportunity to serve the Emmanuel community.

Emmanuel has continued to grow and expand its ministry and community impact this past year in the following ways:

- Facilities Use - Along with the two lease groups, Kapka School and Mosaic Community Church, we have continued to have constant daily and nightly gym use by Seattle Academy, boys basketball 3 days a week, Seattle Transition-Hoops, girls basketball, 3 nights a week; Montessori School, PE 3 days a week; Reign (Greenlake Volleyball) 2 nights a week; and Emmanuel Hoops on Tuesday nights. In addition we have hosted Kapka Parents meetings, (gym & FH); Kapka Thanksgiving Soup lunch,; and the Wallingford Expo (gym)
- The Wallingford Expo was a highlight activity, sponsored by the Wallingford Chamber of Commerce, with over 200 participants coming to view displays by small eses and community agencies from Fremont, Phinney Ridge, as well as Wallingford.
- The Mosaic Community Church has continued holding Sunday worship services in the gymnasium and the Akichika Room.
- The church also hosted a nightly Union Gospel Mission Men’s Emergency Shelter in the Fellowship Hall from December 15, 2012 – April 15, 2013.
- Renovations – A number of major renovations projects have been completed this year including:
 - Exterior painting and repairing wood structures and trim
 - Refinishing Main Entrance doors
 - Cleaning and repairing exterior brick work
 - Power washing and cleaning sidewalks and entrances
 - Creating the Port & Anchor Community Center
 - Development of an Art Studio

- Maintenance & Operations – In addition to furnace repairs (gym), we have experienced periodic leaky roof systems and continued with lighting upgrades with LED light bulbs where possible.

Financial Operations – Kristi Reisner continues to serve Emmanuel in her role as bookkeeper. Kristi is assisting with the accounts receivable (tracking donations and rental income), accounts payable (writing checks and paying the bills), and assisting in the development of financial reports. Kristi is a regular attendee at Westminster Chapel in Bellevue, and visits Emmanuel as often as she can.

We have moved our banking services from the US Bank to the Seattle Bank located in Wallingford. We believe this move, approved by the Emmanuel Board of Elders, will strengthen our ties to the community and enable us to develop an effective and responsive banking relationship

Communications – We are continuing to upgrade our copy and printing capabilities and explore ways to make our wireless services more compatible and effective throughout the building.

Affiliations & Governance- After exploring and researching possible denominational affiliations, the congregation voted to apply to the Evangelical Covenant Church denomination to become a member church. Along with the application, a constitutional committee was formed and prepared a proposal of the new constitution. This new constitution was approved by the congregation on March 24, 2013 and submitted to the North Pacific Conference along with our application for membership.

“The NPC Executive Committee approved the new constitution and voted to establish Emmanuel as a member Fellowship Group thus becoming subject to all of the rights, privileges and responsibilities of the Evangelical Covenant Church and its North Pacific Conference. And that the NPC Executive Board will recommend to the 124th Annual Meeting of the NPC, April 26, 2014 that Emmanuel Church to be recommended to the Evangelical Covenant Church for membership at its Annual Meeting June 26-29, 2014 in Chicago, IL.”

With the approval of the new constitution, a Leadership Team was elected to replace the existing Elder Board, and has voted in the following new Officers of the Church: Chair; Patricia Kloster, Vice Chair; Trevor White; Secretary, Dave Martin; and Treasurer, Aaron McConkey.

LISTEN

with Leadership Team Vice-Chair, Trevor White

What is it like to listen? It's a slowing down that must take place, a stance of openness and of seeing. To be heard is to be seen. The way that Emmanuel listens best to each person who enters the building it seems is by taking an open stance, where we as a mission are willing to hear the stories of our community, to look through a lens of Christ-like generosity and integrity, to see the needs of those around us and to partner with those who are also willing to take an open stance toward others.

To listen is to be aware of your surroundings, to acclimate yourself to the noises that are happening all around you. What is incredible about listening is how much of it we do without conscious thought. We hear the rain on our roof, our morning coffee brewing, cars driving by, and our internal dialogue planning for our day. We listen at our jobs, to instruction, friendly conversation, complaints, and praise. In actively listening we choose to participate in the life around us, and as individuals open ourselves to that life.

At Emmanuel, we are listening. We are attempting to hear our community, hear our congregation, and most importantly hear the Lord's calling on our body. Listening requires a core quality of patience. And here at Emmanuel this year we are continuing to listen, patiently and with faith.

Obviously, there is a point when we are called to respond to what we hear, to accept to call, to make the choice we must make. However, our action should never precede our thoughtful listening. We as a body must understand what the Lord is moving us toward. We can choose to do so many different things, we could choose to be so many different things, but before that moment we must patiently listen.

I pray that we may listen to each other and the Lord's voice in this upcoming year. May we spend many moments in sweet, silent serenity. And may we move forward with integrity knowing that when we listen, the Lord will speak.

HOSTING

with Church Staff-member, Josh Phillips

Hosting is a characteristic that often sums up Emmanuel in our neighbors' minds. During the week, Emmanuel is alive with the sounds of children singing and learning, the voices of church staff meeting together, and later in the evening, the sounds of basketballs echoing through the halls. On Sundays, depending on where you stand in the church you can hear two congregations worshipping. As a church, we, Emmanuel, host people so that they might feel at home in a place dedicated to God. Sometimes this means we open our doors and let the community in but increasingly it means that wherever Emmanuelites are, they host those around them.

This passion for hosting has been exercised a few exciting ways this year. During the colder months of the year, Savannah Stewart continued opening the gym for a Saturday morning each month to let kids nearby to come and play during Play Space. Kirby White, as our Invest intern, worked hard along with our lead pastor, Randy Phillips, to come up with a plan that would allow us to accommodate Union Gospel Mission and homeless men in our community. We did our best to host and house these men and some meaningful relationships have come out of those efforts. In the spring Emmanuel was able to host the Wallingford Chamber of Commerce's Business Expo and provide a common space for local business men and women to learn. We continue to be the best hosts we can to our tenants, Kapka and Mosaic, as well as our partners.

As a body of believers, we host people so that they know there is a place for them. We want everyone to know there is a place for him or her in Christ. For this reason, we think about how our building looks, how our services are, how we greet newcomers and how we treat our neighbors. In our building or out of it, we are always hosting. Thank you for all the ways each of you have worked to make other feel welcome at Emmanuel. We are excited to continue to put opportunities to host in front of this body who can make people feel so welcome.

INSPIRE

with Leadership Team Member, Aaron McConkey

I will never forget the new friendships I've made, the stories I've learned, and the ministry that I've seen done over the last year here at Emmanuel. I'm so thankful to be part of a faith community that is so committed to serving each other and our neighbors with just love and care. This alone is a continual inspiration to me, and I hope that you have also been able to take notice of the things happening around our little church that are making a big difference.

Each and every week, myself and a collection of volunteers get together to give our skills and time to serve Emmanuel by leading the congregation in praise music. Though it may not be the first thing you think of when you think "church", it is one core element of our congregational worship. This requires commitment and dedication, both of which are displayed on a regular basis amongst our amazing volunteers. I am inspired by the growing number of individuals who have come forward and expressed interest in serving in this way, all of whom are highly talented and extremely committed.

It has been an absolute pleasure serving Emmanuel as "worship director" for the last 3+ years. In accepting the congregation's call to join the Leadership Team, I am stepping out of worship direction and making room for other incredibly talented and inspired individuals to lead our congregation in worshiping God each week. I pray in thankfulness for these individuals and I know their inspiration will lead our church into more heartfelt and genuine worship on Sundays!

INVEST

with Church Staff-member, Tamura Turney

As is true with most parts of life, the more we know and the more we work together, the more possibilities are created to reach people and meet needs. This year, Emmanuel has spent a significant amount of time and energy becoming better acquainted with our neighborhood and the various people and businesses that call North Seattle home. We have introduced ourselves to neighbors who have geared their work toward supporting the community by creating space for neighborhood living rooms, like The Green Bean and Aurora Commons. Through hosting a Brown Bag Lunch for professionals from local churches and non-profits, we've identified ways to connect with others and share resources in serving. Our shared participation in organized service days has led us to spend time serving meals and hearing the stories of individuals without a home alongside Nickelsville and Homeless in Seattle. During the winter months, we connected with Union Gospel Mission to provide meals and a warm place to sleep, and witnessed the formation of a mini community in the process.

Closer to home, we have invested in the leadership of our church providing professional development tools for our team of ten interns each month. By utilizing the connections we have with professionals in the area, we have been able to provide our intern team with resources and networking opportunities as they set out on their own professional journeys. We are proud to see how this investment in the talent, energy and skillsets of our intern team has been a blessing within our own body as well as our wider community.

Our investments have also been focused toward developing partnerships with individuals and organizations from our community, both new and familiar, such as our Artist-in-Residence, Moorea Seal; Mosaic Church; DeAnza Spaulding; and Craig Mathison. Forming and deepening our relationships with each of these partners has allowed us to not only support each of their endeavors but also bring new energy through our doors on a regular basis. On the next page, our partners have taken time to reflect on the past year spent in collaboration with Emmanuel. We encourage you to take a minute to read these caring letters and feel the gratitude that our friends have for your support and investment.

It's this investment and relational mentality that will continue to fuel our ability to serve our community in years to come. We look for these opportunities to invest because we believe deeply that God will redeem this community through people of common missions meeting needs together. As we continue to learn more about our neighborhood and create connections focused on sharing resources, we hope to uncover new ways in which we can invest and meet the needs of our neighbors.

PARTNER TESTIMONIES (IN QUOTES)

“The gracious welcome, the encouragement and the willingness to embrace God's new future for Emmanuel all touch me deeply. And for me as a missionary, Emmanuel is wonderful place where I get to observe, listen, connect, reflect and in a new way understand dimensions of God's Great Rescue Story that would otherwise never enter my life. For all of that I am a debtor.”

–Craig Mathison

“The partnership with Emmanuel has allowed me to continue to dream and strategize the shape and trajectory of Renew. Emmanuel has lent me a place to bounce ideas off of like-minded people who desire to be an extension of village to our neighbors. ...you keep leading and teaching all of us to push back a little more so that we can be sure to be smack dab in the middle of God's spirit and kingdom!”

-DeAnza Spaulding

“I love getting to work away in a space that is filled with a positive spirit. I've been given the opportunity to meet so many wonderful people who have come in and out of the building who are working towards causes I truly care about, like DeAnza's Renew project. ...I'm thankful that this community has been here to support me in my goals and efforts in using my own talents and drive to do something great for others.”

-Moorea Seal

“The stability that we have at Emmanuel has allowed us to more effectively live out the vision of our church. Our vision is to Love God, Love People, and Change the World. Our vision may sound "too big" to some people, but we are seeing it happen more and more than we have in the past, and our partnership and friendship with Emmanuel has been a big part of that... The willingness of each of the members of Emmanuel to be obedient to Jesus and where he is leading the church is a great thing. Thank You!”

-Paul Jackson

FULL PARTNER TESTIMONIES

My wife, Dana, & I are gearing up to move to Brussels, Belgium, probably this fall or early next year. Dana will serve as the Transition Coach with our mission for all new missionaries arriving in Europe. I will be leading a multi denominational, multi national effort that is reaching out to the 28+ million immigrants who have come from Muslim majority nations but now live in Europe's great cities. In fact, I just returned from Europe where I heard from so many people stories of great things that God is beginning to do among these immigrants. We know that when we see God "stir up the waters" [cf John 5:4 NIV note b], great things are about to happen. Just when the world shouts, "It's all hopeless," the voice of the Holy Spirit is whispering, " Oh, no it's not!" And that's pretty cool!

Reconnecting with Emmanuel has been a real joy for me. I view what is happening at Emmanuel as one of the great stories of redemption that God is writing in our times. The people of Emmanuel are what has touched me the most. The gracious welcome, the encouragement and the willingness to embrace God's new future for Emmanuel all touch me deeply. And for me as a missionary, Emmanuel is wonderful place where I get to observe, listen, connect, reflect and in a new way understand dimensions of God's Great Rescue Story that would otherwise never enter my life. For all of that I am a debtor.

Emmanuel, you are doing well! You've taken on some big challenges and there are more to come. But it's clear to me that you can raise your heads, hearts and voices in gratitude and acclamation for Jesus, who, in my view, is crafting an amazing future of an Emmanuel that is so important to its neighborhood and Seattle in general that it will be others who say, "We can't imagine what life would be like without Emmanuel here."

Craig Mathison

Dear Emmanuel,

Now the Lord is the Spirit and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.
(2 Corinthians 3:17-18)

These words of the gift of God's spirit keep coming to me because it captures a glimpse of freedom to which we are called—the freedom to live into the unique gifts and callings God has placed on us individually and as a community. What a blessing to be given this gift!! This is the spirit I've encountered at Emmanuel. Y'all are some trail blazing, risk taking visionaries of God's kingdom. I recognize that this comes with various challenges, which makes it all the more important to note. This spirit has been a breath of fresh air—it has quickened my own spirit and inspired me to step out and take some risks of my own.

For the past 10 years of ministry I have been particularly dedicated and passionate about the issues of homelessness and displacement. Even more specifically I care very deeply for the plight of women who find themselves displaced from their homes as a result of domestic violence and other traumas in intimate relationships. In each of the ministry contexts I've been apart of I've identified these needs and sought ways in which we could provide outreach and care. Currently, I am seeking to build a non-profit arm of the therapy practice to provide therapeutic services to homeless women suffering from trauma as a result of domestic violence called Renew.

The partnership with Emmanuel has allowed me to continue to dream and strategize the shape and trajectory of Renew. Emmanuel has lent me a place to bounce ideas off of like-minded people who desire to be an extension of village to our neighbors. The tangible extension of shared space for office use and counseling has provided room to work in community.

Through coaching, encouragement and vision casting I've received at Emmanuel I entered an enterprise challenge at The Inhabit Conference in Seattle. At this challenge I was asked to present on Renew to a committee of entrepreneurs. I am grateful to share that I won the challenge and received 15 hours of consultation with the committee, as well as a \$1000 cash prize to go towards seeding the planting of Renew.

This is a highlight of ministry I share with you because I believe that this has been a community effort and you have been a part of each step. Thank you.

God's spirit is alive and well and moving amongst each and every one of us. This is indeed a testament to God's glory. We can either get in the way of that or we can step out of the way and join in the flow of that Spirit. Thank you, friends, for being a part of that Spirit and that vision. You have taken courageous risks in building models of ministry and outreach that are not conventional, traditional or safe, but that respond to the relevant needs that our neighbors face at this present time. Thank you for leading the way and for coming alongside fledgling folks like me. Keep doing what you do! It is inspiring and in a climate where complacency can be enticing and safe you keep leading and teaching all of us to push back a little more so that we can be sure to be smack dab in the middle of God's spirit and kingdom!

Blessings to you!

DeAnza Spaulding

Hello Everyone!

It has been such a huge blessing for me to be the artist in resident this past year not only because of the space to work that has been provided for me but also the community I have become a part of and the opportunities that have been opened up to me. I love getting to work away in a space that is filled with a positive spirit. I've been given the opportunity to meet so many wonderful people who have come in and out of the building who are working towards causes I truly care about, like DeAnza's Renew project.

Because I have had this year as an artist in resident, I have had time to really think about what I can do as an entrepreneur and a creative to better my community and causes that I care about. As I enter into a new year here as a partner with Emmanuel, I have so many exciting projects planned to invest in this space and to do great things with what I have been blessed with.

Right now, I have been working hard away at developing a new online retail site. What makes the site really unique is that we are partnering with various non-profits to promote their good work. I want to be a platform through which really wonderful and worthy causes can get their needed promotion, donations, and support. And I'm thankful that this community has been here to support me in my goals and efforts in using my own talents and drive to do something great for others. I have plans for the year ahead to hold some events in the new community center area to highlight the non-profits I am connected to and to bring new friends into this community space.

Thank you all for your support in encouraging the community here in the building to do something powerful for both the community we live in, in Seattle, and our community of the world. I'm excited for all the new ways that I will be doing great things for others through my talents and because of the support I have here in this building!

Moorea Seal | Former Artist-in-Residence at Emmanuel

Having office and Sunday morning space at Emmanuel over the last twenty months has been a huge blessing for our community. Mosaic started 7 years ago as a small group meeting in an apartment, and since that time we have been in over 10 different locations! The stability that we have at Emmanuel has allowed us to more effectively live out the vision of our church. Our vision is to Love God, Love People, and Change the World. Our vision may sound "too big" to some people, but we are seeing it happen more and more than we have in the past, and our partnership and friendship with Emmanuel has been a big part of that.

The three main pieces of Mosaic are our Sunday celebration services (held in the gym), lifegroups (small group communities that meet in homes throughout the week--based on Acts 2:42-47), and discipleship. One of the most exciting ministry highlights of the year is that we have seen people who had no previous background with Jesus or church make decisions to follow Jesus for the first time in all three of these different settings.

Mosaic is so thankful to partner with Emmanuel. Emmanuel has an incredibly rich history and it has been inspiring to learn about all of the different things God has done through Emmanuel over the years. The willingness of each of the members of Emmanuel to be obedient to Jesus and where he is leading the church is a great thing. Thank You! It will be exciting to see how God moves in this place in the coming years!

-Paul Jackson, Executive Pastor, Mosaic Community Church