

The Lamplighter

Emmanuel United Methodist Church

July 2011



Pastor Daniel Mejia

Since summer is a time of trying new things, for my July article, I decided to share with you a poem by Ann Weems called, "God's Holy People."

She is the wife of a Presbyterian minister and lost her son to murder the day after his 21st birthday. Ann always does a great job of putting the Christian faith in a manner and language that we can all understand, relate, and enjoy. I hope you like it as much as I do.

God's Holy People

Here we are, you and I,
called to be God's Holy People.
You say you're not the holy type,
but I'm not talking about holier-than-thou.

I'm not talking about religious ritual,
and the last thing I mean is self-righteousness!

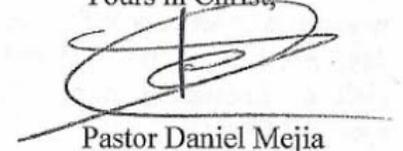
Jesus chastised the self-righteous,
the ones who spent their days doing religious things,
the ones who spent so much time in religious ritual
that they didn't have time for tenderheartedness.

I'm not talking about them;
I'm talking about us.
I'm talking about paying attention
to the things Jesus taught people,
ordinary people, people like you, people like me

Look at the disciples: ordinary people
called to follow,
called to be God's Holy People,
called to live in this world with tender hearts.
Live holy lives...impossible?
Is anything impossible to God?
That old woman Sarah thought it impossible
to have a child...
The lepers thought it impossible
to be healed...
The disciples thought it impossible
to feed five thousand with two loaves and
five fishes...
Mary and Martha thought it impossible
that their brother Lazarus was alive...
The lame thought it impossible to walk...
The blind thought it impossible to see...

Here we are, ordinary people,
called to be the Holy People of God.
If you have eyes to see and ears to hear,
see and hear God's holiness in your life.

Yours in Christ,



Pastor Daniel Mejia



Ann Weems

Meet Assistant Pastor Ben Sloan



Assistant Pastor Ben Sloan

I was raised in the Western part of South Carolina. I love the mountains, and I never would have imagined that I'd like city life as much as I do. My mother is a United Methodist minister, and I grew up in mostly small, rural churches. I went to Texas for college where I majored in World Religions and minored in Math and Studio Art at Southwestern University. After college I spent a year as a case worker in SE D.C. helping people find housing, employment, and work on other self-set goals. Currently, I attend Wesley Theological Seminary where I'm working on my M.Div. so that I can become a pastor in the United Methodist Church. I'm excited to begin working with and learning from the church community here at Emmanuel. I've never had the opportunity to worship with a deaf community. I've never been involved with an English for Speakers of Other Languages program. Even in areas like homeless ministry and youth ministry that I do have experience, I know Emmanuel UMC will be a safe, encouraging learning environment in which I can continue to grow. I enjoy playing guitar, creating art, baking bread, biking, running, and most any other outdoor activity.



The Scripture Garden

The scene from a bench in Scripture Garden on the south side of the church office.

The garden was established in memory of Jennie Doetsch Burgess by her parents, Janet and Raymond Doetsch.



Emory Grove Hymn Sing

By Kathy Mellott



Our Abundant Life Singers are the special musical guests for the Emory Grove Hymn Sing on Wednesday, July 13th. Come support our choir. We will leave the Emmanuel parking lot at 5:00 p.m. and travel to Emory Grove which is about 45 miles away. We will have a potluck at the historic Guest House/Hotel and attend the Hymn Sing at 7:30 p.m. You should be back home around 10:00 p.m. Drinks and fried chicken are provided by Family Life at the potluck.

Hymn Sing

Emory Grove is a 143-year-old Methodist Camp Meeting Ground. There are 46 100-year-old or more cottages which are privately owned. We own one of them, as did my grandparents and parents. The Guest Hotel is no longer used for sleeping, but is used for receptions, retreats, concerts, meetings and other functions. The outdoor Tabernacle was placed at Emory Grove in the 1860's and is rumored to be an old farmer's market from Pennsylvania. Coming to Emory Grove is like going back in time and a walk through history of the Methodist religion in Maryland.

Brochures of the whole summer schedule are in the Narthex. There is a Hymn Sing every Wednesday evening and a different church hosts the worship service on Sunday evenings. There is also a Choir Fest and Concert July 30th for anyone who like to sing or anyone who likes Christian music at its finest. See the information in the brochure or on the flyer in the Narthex. Plan to join us on Wednesday, July 13th. Bring a dish to share. The Emmanuel van may be available or we can carpool. If you have any questions, please contact Kathy or Pat Mellott at 301-706-4122.



*The Eccard-Mellott cottage
at Emory Grove*

Chicken Barbecue & Community Yard Sale

By Rick Bergmann

The 175th anniversary committee will be holding a community yard sale and chicken barbecue on Saturday July 16th from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. After much thought and consideration, the committee decided to change the date from June 18th to July 16th. Thank you, and we are sorry for any inconvenience this date change may cause.

You can rent a table for \$10. This is a great way to get to know some of our neighbors and maybe get rid of some stuff that you no longer need. If you would like to reserve a table e-mail Rick Bergmann at rick.bergmann@emmanuelumcbeltsville.net or call 301-785-7516.

All proceeds from the sale of food and rental of tables will go toward remodeling the kitchen.

Homeless Ministry Request

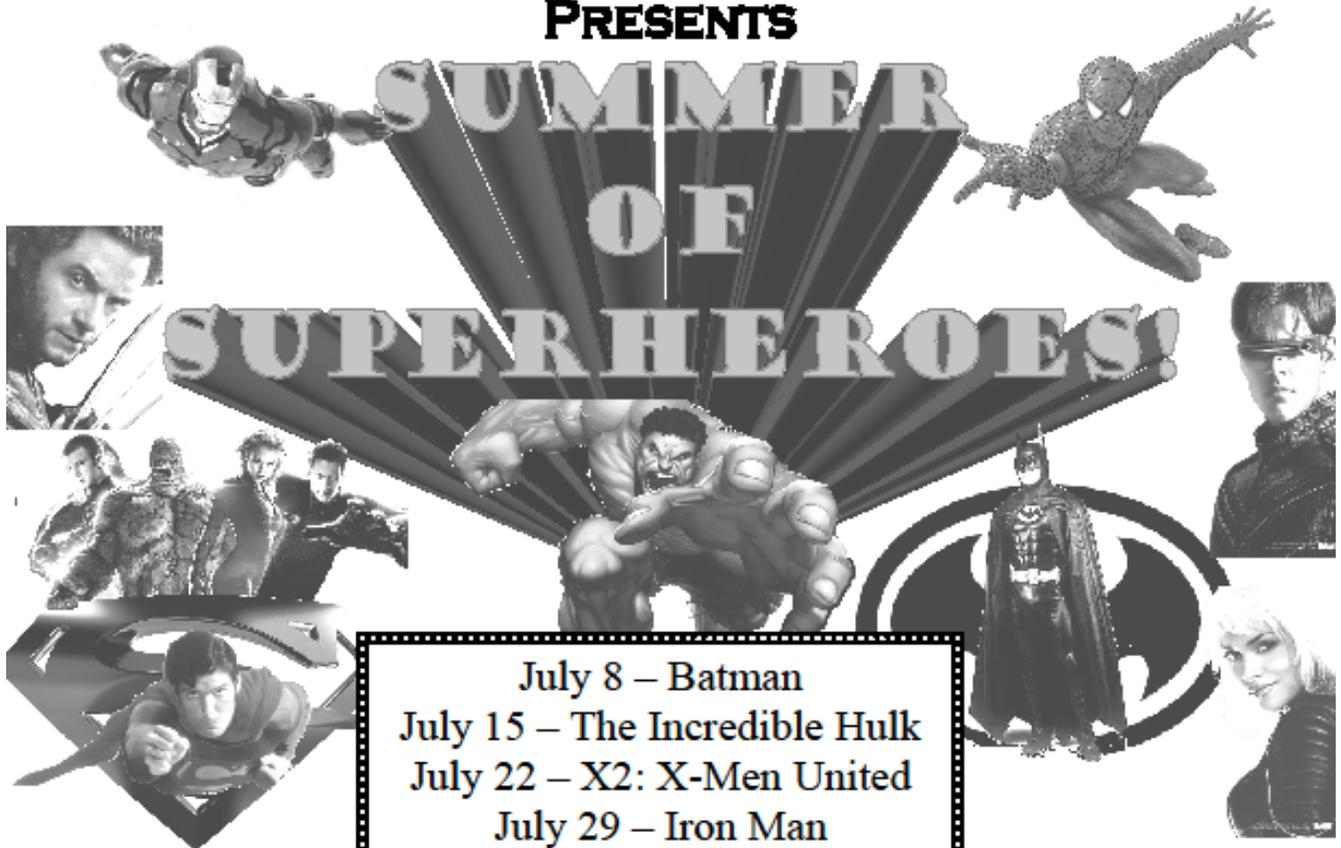
We would like to ask for donations of canned goods and dried goods continuously for our food pantry and monthly food distribution.

We could especially use tuna, canned veggies, pasta, such as macaroni, spaghetti, noodles, mac and cheese as well as pasta sides, pasta sauce, cereal and powdered milk.

These and all other donations of food are welcome.

EMMANUEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH'S 4TH ANNUAL MOVIES UNDER THE STARS

PRESENTS



July 8 – Batman
July 15 – The Incredible Hulk
July 22 – X2: X-Men United
July 29 – Iron Man
Aug. 5 – Superman II
Aug. 12 – Spiderman
Aug. 19 – The Fantastic Four

This outdoor* movie series is free and open to the public. You may bring blankets, chairs, or anything else to sit on.

You can bring food and snacks to share (no alcoholic beverages please). Free popcorn is available most evenings. Movies begin at dusk (approximately 8:15-8:30).

We are located at 11416 Cedar Lane in Beltsville, MD 20705. Any question please feel free to call us at 301-937-7114

Or email us at office@emmanuelumcbeltsville.net

****If it rains, movies will be shown indoors on the big screen in the sanctuary***

July Birthdays



- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Jason Pavelka | 17. Lorna Marselas |
| 2. Bob Hiner,
Whitney Ademiluyi
Wendell Headley
Abraham Scotland | 19. Trudy Headley
21. Nancy Green
22. Steven
Cunningham |
| 5. Mildred Bladen,
Donald Galloway | 23. Crispin Wray
24. Dustin Storck |
| 7. Tobi Haufe,
Wanda Scotland | 28. Kemi Oluwafemi,
Temitope Oluwafemi |
| 8. Margaret Ward | 29. Sara Hunter |
| 9. Kevin Andrews
Teresa Dorsey | 30. Lenora Painter,
Kristin Fadely |
| 10. Andrew Onukwubiri | 31. Mary Anne Heath,
Amy Jo Harding,
Edward Mellott |
| 11. Gail Belshay | |
| 15. Charles Leatherman | |



- July 3 Charlene Frederick
- July 10
- July 17 Lorna Marselas
- July 24 Theresa Timity
- July 31 Mellott

July Anniversaries

- 4. Beverly & George Urick
- 6. Donna Horton & Todd Reitzel
- 7. Wanda & Abraham Scotland
- 12. Kathy & Pat Mellott
- 18. Lezlee & Jeff Kramer
- 23. Evelyn & Rogers Beasley
- 25. Diane & Vaughn Riffe
JoAnne & Donal Blakley
- 28. Elizabeth & Edward Mougey



Remove That Helium Tank

When your group uses a helium tank for a function, please remove it afterward.

The County does not allow them in the regular trash and the Church ends up with a disposal problem.

The Church Room Use Guidelines state this clearly.

Community Place Café (CPC)

By Ann Rowland

As you're cleaning out your linen closets this summer, please remember to set aside those bath towels and wash cloths you no longer want that are still in good condition. There is an ongoing need for towels, wash cloths and toiletries for the homeless folks who use the showers at CPC at First Methodist UMC in Hyattsville.

Thank you for supporting this ministry with your gifts of money, towels, toiletries, clothing, cakes and service.

Hunting for Videos & Photographs

The 175th anniversary committee is looking for videos and photographs of your time at Emmanuel.

If you have any old video or pictures of events that you would be willing to loan us that would be great. We are putting together a video to be shown at the 175th anniversary service on Sept. 18th. If you have these items digitally, that would be great but if not, we will get them transferred to a digital format and return them to you in mint condition. You can email Rick Bergmann at rick.bergmann@emmanuelumbeltonville.net or place them in the mailbox for the United Methodist Men.

Mellott's to Renew Vows

On July 9th, Kathy and Pat Mellott will be renewing their vows in celebration of their 25th wedding anniversary.

The ceremony will take place at Emory Grove, where they were married 25 years ago.

We would like to invite their Emmanuel church family to witness the ceremony at 5:00 p.m. in the Tabernacle at Emory Grove.

The address is 112 Waugh Ave. Glyndon, MD 21136 (or contact Erin for directions: 301-509-1680 or erinkmellott@gmail.com).

Come help us celebrate with them!

Erin and Eddie Mellott



Sisters in Spirit, a UMW Circle, are going to Renaissance Gardens (the assisted living building) at Riderwood to have the "Helping Hands" residents help stuff backpacks with school supplies.

Emmanuel's Homeless Ministry is collecting the school supplies and supplying the backpacks. The Sisters in Spirit will take them to Renaissance Gardens on Sunday, August 14th, and the Homeless Ministry will pass out the backpacks during the monthly food distribution on August 27th.

So many people will benefit from this collaborative project. It is a blessing for the Sisters in Spirit to be a part of this ministry.

ESOL Update Spring, 2011

By Pat Allen

This year, we conducted our free spring tutoring session from May 24 through June 28. We welcomed 20 students from many places including El Salvador, Ecuador, Brazil, Nicaragua, Honduras, Russia, China, Thailand, and South Korea. In addition to our regular teachers, Olivia Heath, Bryant Davis, Bobbi Meyers, Jennie Owens and Bobbie Deegan, we were lucky to have guest volunteers Jackson Davis and Ben Sloan. Our weekly hour-long sessions were less structured than our regular classes, and emphasized conversation, reading, and comprehension. In the fall we will begin our fifth year of

weekly two-hour classes, starting with registration on Tuesday, August 30. The cost of attending this session will be \$20.00. We feel very fortunate that with the initial installations of computers in a newly designed media center by September we will have available increased and innovative teaching resources for our students.

EMERGE (Mental Health Ministry) By Ann Rowland

Have you laughed today? They say that laughter is the best medicine. I have heard that all my life. People used to say that and you know what? They were right. What was known all along is now backed up with scientific evidence. Laughter releases the feel good chemical known as endorphins. Endorphins give us a natural feeling of euphoria, well-being. So lighten up and laugh a little. Even a smile, the experts say, will start the process of releasing some of those feel good chemicals.

Some years ago the Human Resources Dept. at my workplace arranged for a Humorist to give a presentation on laughter for the employees during Employee Appreciation Week. By the way, that Humorist was Steve Allen, Jr., the son of the late Steve Allen, the first host of the first Tonight Show and star of the Steve Allen Show "back in the day."

EMERGE
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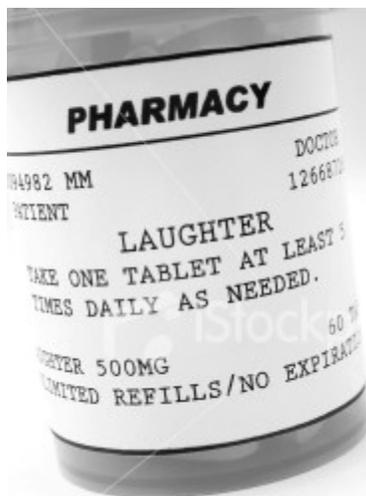
EMERGE

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I found it odd that someone was hired to teach people the value of laughter in their lives. I thought it came naturally, but have learned over the years that some people just don't laugh very much.

I grew up in a family where laughter was the norm. Perhaps you did too. Are you still laughing? Not much, you say? Well, the experts say that we should put the laughter back into our lives. Why? Because laughter really is the best medicine. It's scientifically documented now, so go ahead and laugh for your health. It's good for your mental and physical well-being.

The mental health benefits of laughter abound. Some of the benefits include adding joy to your life, lessening fear and anxiety, relief from stress, and improvement of mood. Some of the physical benefits include boosting the immune system, protecting the heart by improving the functioning of blood vessels, increasing blood flow and triggering the release of, you guessed it, *endorphins*.



When my mother was terminally ill with cancer, under hospice care, I recall hearing laughter echoing from a patient's room. I was told that laughter was encouraged for cancer patients for its physical and psychological benefits. Did I say it's also a natural pain reliever? Well, it is thanks to the release of endorphins.

Let us all find some humor in our lives, something to laugh about, but never at the expense of others. If you've forgotten how to laugh start looking for ways to bring that component back into your life. Watch children at play and learn from them. Their laughter is so spontaneous and

contagious. Surround yourselves with people who like to laugh and don't always take themselves too seriously. Try to capture some of that for yourselves. Allow that place deep within your being to burst out in laughter because, "laughter is (and always has been) the best medicine."

Christian Education

By Todd Reitzel

Summer is a great time to try out Sunday classes. The adult summer study class is using the study guide *Who Is Jesus? 13 Answers That Can Change Your Life*. Drop in to check it out! The teen Sunday class is continuing throughout the summer, and the One-Room Schoolhouse is giving volunteer teachers the chance to share their talents or interests with our young people. Sign up in the narthex to take one Sunday and help out our young people!

Don't forget to sign up for VBS! For only \$10, you get a week of meals, fellowship, and learning. The dates are Monday, July 18, through July 22. Dinner is at 5:00 p.m. and classes and activities are 6:00 p.m. to 8:00

CHURCH OFFICE SUMMER HOURS

Beginning the week of June 27th the office staff will have new summer hours. This year, the office staff will be in Monday through Thursday, from 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Volunteers will cover the office on Fridays from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon. Please remember to get all announcements and prayer requests into the office before noon on Wednesdays.

Campership Fund

By Kathy Mellott

This year we were able to give six kids from Emmanuel \$100 each to go to summer camp at one of the Baltimore Washington Conference Camps. Thank you to all who contributed, especially the UMW for their generous donation.

Homeless Ministry Project

By Julie Pavelka

The homeless ministry is requesting donations of school supplies (i.e., pencils, pens, erasers, glue, scissors, notebook paper, spiral notebooks, 3 ring binders, marble composition notebooks and folders).

A box with a sign on it will be in the hallway for donations. We will be collecting from now until the end of August to distribute on the 4th Saturday in August alongside our monthly food distribution. The homeless committee will be purchasing approx 40 to 50 backpacks and would like to fill the packs with school supplies.



Library/Media Center Upgrade on the Way

By Todd Reitzel

Emmanuel UMC's library and media center is getting an upgrade! At the June Church Council meeting, a proposal to upgrade the media center with computers and Internet access was approved. The proposal was the culmination of discussions over a couple of years that were recently brought to fruition by the Media Center Upgrade Steering Committee. The Committee consists of church members with relevant computer and Internet expertise, representatives of church ministries that will benefit from the upgrade, persons from the Trustees, and persons involved in the church library and the church archives.

The upgrade will occur this summer and is targeted to be completed by September. The new resources are expected initially to benefit education programs such as Sunday School, English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL), and the Tuesday evening Youth Learning Fellowship, but the resources will be available to any church ministry that would benefit from them. The new resources include desktop and laptop computers, basic office software, and fiber-optic Internet service. Funding for the upgrade will come from donations and grant money, not from the church's regular budget.

As part of the upgrade, the Committee's project team will be inventorying the media center's

book collection and identifying how the various books might best be organized and used in order to optimize space usage in the room. Alternative storage configurations for the church archival records will be identified and arranged.

Once the summer work is completed, the library and media center will offer both books and Internet resources. There is a project website at <http://goo.gl/k5L9v>, which anyone may visit to get details about progress on the project. Details will be posted as work progresses throughout the summer.

Over the summer the Committee will develop some guidelines for access to and use of the upgraded library and media center. And later the Committee will explore additional project phases that would expand media resources to other areas of the Education Building.

Donations to the media center upgrade effort are welcome. If you would like to donate, make your donation to "Emmanuel UMC" with memo "Media Center Upgrade."



JULY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 9 & 11:15 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m. Sunday School Homeless Ministry	4 Office Closed 	5	6 7:00 p.m. Church Council	7	8 Movie under the stars: Batman	9 8:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast
10 9 & 11:15 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m. Sunday School 2nd Sunday Potluck Lunch 12:30 p.m. Youth Meeting	11 7:00 p.m. Depression/ Bipolar Support Group	12 10:00 a.m. Prayer Fellowship	13 Emory Grove Hymn Sing See item on page 3	14	15 11:00 a.m. Community Place Café Movie under the stars: The Incredible Hulk	16 Chicken Barbecue and Yard Sale 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
17 9 & 11:15 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m. Sunday School 12:30 p.m. 175th Anniversary Committee	18 6:00-8:00 p.m. Vacation Bible School-Dinner at 5:00 p.m.	19 6:00-8:00 p.m. Vacation Bible School-Dinner at 5:00 p.m.	20 6:00-8:00 p.m. Vacation Bible School-Dinner at 5:00 p.m.	21 6:00-8:00 p.m. Vacation Bible School-Dinner at 5:00 p.m.	22 6:00-8:00 p.m. Vacation Bible School-Dinner at 5:00 p.m. Movie under the stars: X2: X- Men United	23 Youth Spy Mission trip begins
24 9 & 11:15 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m. Sunday School Homeless Ministry	25 7:00 p.m. Depression/ Bipolar Support Group	26 10:00 a.m. Prayer Fellowship	27	28	29 Movie under the stars: Iron Man	30
31 9 & 11:15 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m. Sunday School						

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