

# The Lamplighter

Emmanuel United Methodist Church

January 2015



*Pastor Jacob Young*

Happy New Year!

I greet each of you in the name of Jesus Christ!

I hope that you had a great time on Christmas and that you made New Year's resolutions well. The church had good Christmas Eve candlelight services. It was an opportunity to reflect on the coming of baby Jesus into the world. At that moment, our long wait during Advent was rewarded.

When I look back on December, I would like to share some impressive events the church was engaged in. On December 14, we had a new membership ceremony. Seven persons became new members. Out of the seven, three persons - **Judy**, **Sallie**, and **Joyce** - had been attending the church for more than a year and were looking for an opportunity to join the church. Finally, they were able to become members.

Among the other four, **Sadani** and **Melita** started attending Emmanuel in October and transferred their membership from a United Methodist church in New Mexico. The other two, Glendy and Emmanuel, began to worship at Emmanuel and made up their minds to join the church. This was the most impressive church event during December.

I also was very impressed by the choir's cantata. The selection of the songs was great. The songs were beautiful. The praise band played a part in the cantata. It was great to see the synergy coming from the cooperation between the praise band and the choir. I am pretty sure that all church members were very delighted to see and hear the beautiful songs of the choir.

During December, church members and I waited throughout Advent for the coming of baby Jesus. It was a time to reflect on the theological meaning of "waiting." Some families volunteered to do the Advent candle lighting and reading for each service, and church members lit candles on the sides of the sanctuary. I think it would be a good idea to continue to use candles during special times on the Christian calendar, such as Advent and Lent. I will discuss it with the Worship Committee and get feedback and opinions on it.

Now it is January. Emmanuel will introduce the new UMW officers on January 11 during the in-

stallation service and we will continue to worship our Lord. It is time to make New Year's resolutions and plan for the New Year carefully, sincerely, and prayerfully.

I took a brief vacation at the end of December and prayed, made goals, and planned for the New Year. I hope that God listens to my prayers and gives me strength, wisdom, and leadership for the church.

I promise that I will do my best for the church and its ministry throughout the year. I ask your support, love and prayer for my ministry here. I really thank you for all the church members who have served the Lord through this church throughout last year. I hope that you will keep serving the church with your passion, enthusiasm, love, and talent.

God is good, all the time. All the time, God is good.



## New Year's Poem

*Remember the laughter,  
the joy,  
the hard work,  
and the tears.  
And as you reflect on the past  
year,  
also think of the new one to come.  
Because most importantly,  
this is a time of new beginnings  
and the celebration of life.  
Happy New Year 2015*



## Everything I need to know about life, I learned from Noah's Ark



- 1 Don't miss the boat.
- 2 Remember that we are all in the same boat.
- 3 Plan ahead. It wasn't raining when Noah built the ark.
- 4 Stay fit. When you're really old, someone may ask you to do something really big.
- 5 Don't listen to the critics, just get on with the job that needs to be done.
- 6 Build your future on high ground.
- 7 For safety sake, travel in pairs.
- 8 Speed isn't always an advantage. The snails were on board with the cheetahs.
- 9 When you're stressed, float a while.
- 10 Remember, the Ark was built by amateurs, the Titanic by professionals.
- 11 No matter the storm, when you are with God, there's always a rainbow waiting.

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## 2015 Lenten Devotions

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the 2014 Advent Devotional booklet. There were a lot of wonderful stories, poems and pictures. I hope you enjoyed it as much as I enjoyed reading all the submissions and putting the booklet together.

It is already time to think about our Lenten Devotional. Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on February 18, 2015. We need 40 submissions, one for each day of Lent, not including Sundays. Please consider submitting your favorite Lent/Ash Wednesday/Easter/Palm Sunday story/remembrance or poem that you wrote or remember, or a photo or drawn picture. Sunday school classes are encouraged to submit items. So that there is enough time to have the booklets printed by the middle of February, the deadline is **Sunday, January 25, 2015**. Please email your submission(s) to [kpmellott@verizon.net](mailto:kpmellott@verizon.net) or send/give them to the office.

Thank you for making these booklets part of the life of Emmanuel.

*Kathy Mellott*

**2015 OFFERING  
ENVELOPES  
are in the Narthex**

If you do not see a box with your name on it, please contact the office.

Dear Church Friends,

Life is about change and so it is with sadness I want to share a joy. I have decided to downsize and try condo living. God has given me many blessings and I look forward with excitement to this change and the new adventure it holds for me. My hope is to rekindle friendships and discover what God has planned for me as I transition into retirement. I am not going far and hope you come for a visit.

New Address: 8390 Ice Crystal Drive L (after Dec. 1st)  
Laurel, MD 20723

God Bless You All,  
Ilene Forsbacka

## Notice From the Trustees

Happy New Year! Do you see better; are the hallways brighter? Well, it is not your eyes playing tricks on you. On December 9th and 10th, Emmanuel had 90% of our fluorescent and incandescent lights replaced with LEDs. This will provide a brighter and safer environment for everyone. The lighting change included all classrooms, bathrooms, the Fellowship Hall, hallways, offices, emergency lighting, exit lights and closets. Unfortunately, the Sanctuary was not upgraded due to current 500 Watt bulbs and specialized lights in the Pulpit & Choir areas. You might ask, what did this cost? Well, it was 100% free and includes a 5 year warranty on all light replacements. Emmanuel is now saving on replacement cost, ballast repair and general electric consumption.



*Sample LED Bulb*

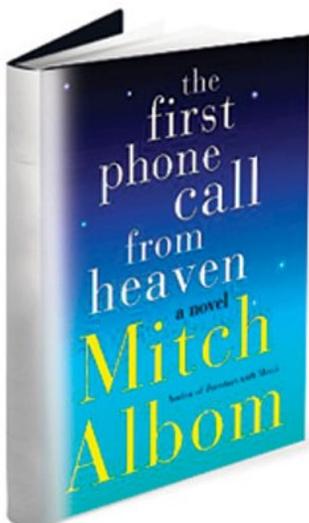


Our Call to Prayer and Self Denial meeting will be held on Saturday, January 24th, 2015 at 12 noon in the fellowship hall. Soup made by members of the Executive Committee will be served for lunch.

Ernie Kilbourne is the leader of this meeting. Our hope is that you will learn something NEW about UMW and Deaconess and Missionaries and our Call to Prayer and Self Denial program.

Let's have a good turnout. Lunch is provided and there may be a craft to do.

## Faithful Readers Book Group



On Saturday, January 17th, the Faithful Readers will be discussing "The First Phone Call from Heaven" by Mitch Albom, which tells the story of a small town on Lake Michigan that gets worldwide attention when its citizens start receiving phone calls from the afterlife.

Is it the greatest miracle ever or a massive hoax? Sully Harding, a grief stricken single father, is determined to find out. An allegory about the power of belief that will touch your soul.

Questions? Contact Bryant Davis or Carol Clatterbuck

Images from Breakfast with Santa at EUMC on Saturday, December 20





We had different weather on Dec. 20, 2009

### Altar Flowers



The flower chart for 2015 is posted in the Narthex next to the mailboxes. Arrangements are \$30. Please fill out a Flower Request Form when you sign up and leave it in the office mailbox.



### January Birthdays

- 1 Carrie White
- 3 Doug Galloway
- 7 Katherine Cavallo,  
Dan Kenyon
- 8 Michael Baker
- 9 Walt Schlegel
- 11 Jane Grays
- 12 Dare Hassan, Sabrina Painter
- 13 Geoffrey Kaufmann
- 14 Hazel Newell
- 19. Kimberly Beach
- 22 Kyrston West
- 25 Bonnie Bland, Todd Reitzel
- 26 Bobbie Deegan
- 28 Rebecca Vaughan
- 30 Darlene Norris, Grace Song,  
Eric Young
- 31 Rick Bergmann

*January Anniversaries*

14 Nancy & Rick Zerbe  
31 Maxine & Karl Norris

**Happy Anniversary**

12/10/14

To our friends at Emmanuel,

Just a note to let you know we're transferring our membership. We have joined St. John's UMC here in Sarasota. We've been attending St. John's for seven years, and since we now spend most of our time in Sarasota as Florida residents, we felt it was time to make the change. Emmanuel and long-time friends will be missed. We'll visit when we can.

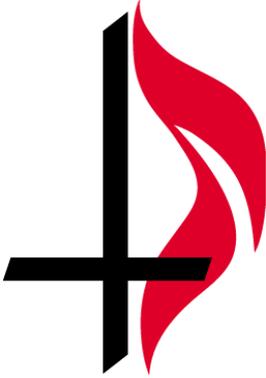
Our regards to all.  
Roy and Peggy Wells

# January 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1  <i>HAPPY NEW YEAR</i>	2	3
4 9 & 11:15 am Worship 10:15 am Sun- day School	5	6	7	8 7 pm Chancel Choir	9 7 pm Maranatha Choir	10 8:30 am Men's Breakfast
11 9 & 11:15 am Worship 10:15 am Sunday School Second Sunday Lunch 1 pm Youth Fellowship	12 7 pm Depression/ Bipolar Support Group  7 pm Trustee Meeting	13 10 am Prayer Fellowship	14 7 pm Worship Committee	15 7 pm Chancel Choir	16 11 am Community Place Café  7 pm Maranatha Choir	17
18 9 & 11:15 am Worship  10:15 am Sun- day School	19 12 Noon Ellen Hoover Circle	20 7 pm ESOL Registration	21 10 am Susanna Wesley Circle  12 noon Dorcas Circle  7 pm Sisters In Spirit	22 7 pm Chancel Choir	23 7 pm Maranatha Choir  7 pm Food Prep	24 10 am Food Distribution  12 noon UMW General Meeting
25 9 & 11:15 am Worship  10:15 am Sun- day School  12:30 pm Youth Fellowship	26 7 pm Depression/ Bipolar Support Group	27 10 am Prayer Fellowship  7 pm ESOL	28 7 pm Church Council	29 7 pm Chancel Choir	30 7 pm Maranatha Choir	31

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Address Service Requested

Emmanuel United Methodist Church  
11416 Cedar Lane  
Beltsville, MD 20705  
301-937-7114  
Web: [www.emmanuelumcbeltsville.net](http://www.emmanuelumcbeltsville.net)

