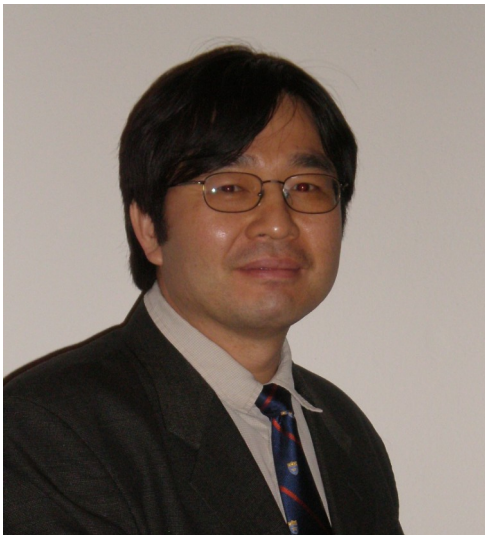


# The Lamplighter

Emmanuel United Methodist Church

August 2015

*A Vibrant Multi-Cultural Church: All God's Children Are Welcome!*



Halleluiah!

It is the peak of the summer season. We struggle with the sizzling weather nowadays. Summer is a time for relaxing and taking a vacation. I have just finished my summer vacation. I really enjoyed a week off. My family and I joined the conference of pastors in Boston and spent 2 days there. We went to Cape Cod. It was such a beautiful place that I hope to visit the area again someday. I relaxed and enjoyed the beach.

After that, we went up to Canada, visiting Quebec, Montreal, Toronto, and Niagara Falls. In particular, Niagara Falls was awesome. Although it was my third visit there, it still amazed me. I was mesmerized by the beauty and wonder of nature. It was another opportunity to sense the presence of God in nature.

My vacation was short, just a week long. But it was a very good time for me and my family. It was a good opportunity to sense what family is all

about. We could build a stronger family bond together.

I had been looking forward to going on vacation, because I felt kind of exhausted after completing the first year of my appointment to Emmanuel. I think I've done my best in the church. After putting a lot of effort and time into Emmanuel, I was feeling burned out. So I was looking forward to a chance to be free of all responsibilities and just relax. My vacation gave me time for that. I was able to relax and get refreshed. Because of it, I hope that I can manage myself well for the next year.

Anyhow, I have survived the first year of my appointment at Emmanuel. Wow, the first year was a good opportunity to get to know the church and the church members, as well as a challenge. I am very happy to be appointed to this church, and am grateful to the church members for supporting my ministry. I ask you to continue to support and pray for my ministry at Emmanuel.

Even though it's summer, the church is not inactive! Emmanuel was very active in July, especially, hosting Vacation Bible School and participating in Camp Hope. VBS was a success. I am really thankful for the teachers and volunteers who worked at VBS, particularly Sunday School Superintendent Dee Lewis, who led the planning and coordination. Then I was able to join our young people and their parents at Camp Hope for four days, sharing in their ministry as they helped the needy. I am pleased that our church is

geared toward outreach ministry and that we help the needy. I hope that this kind of ministry continues in the church.

In August, I will focus on discerning the direction God wants us to go in the next year. I will pray thoughtfully and plan prayerfully. I encourage you to join me in seeking God's guidance for our ministry together. I promise that I will try to do my best for Emmanuel UMC and the ministry of God in the year ahead.

I hope that each of you has a great summer, whether it includes going on vacation or staying at home. Please have a happy family time and make time for relaxation. Come back relaxed and refreshed, ready to join in Emmanuel's fall activities!

In His name,

Pastor Jacob



*To every thing there is a season;  
a time for every purpose under  
heaven.*

~ ~Ecclesiastes 3:1

## Providing Joy on Sunday Mornings

Joy is  
sunshine for  
your soul.

When you hear the word “worship,” what images do you get? According to Merriam Webster, worship is “the act of showing respect and love for a god, especially by praying with other people who believe in the same god.” But what really is worship? If we break down a service, we see that it is more than just “showing respect and love for a god.” There are many parts that make worship happen. Without these parts, worship would not happen. Worship is made up of greeters, communion stewards, ushers, acolytes, sound and computer technicians, singers, scripture readers and prayer readers. Each of these positions allows the person doing it to bring joy to those in worship.

Think about a greeter, for example. Have you ever been having a bad Sunday morning, and then you walk into the sanctuary building? The first person you see is the front door greeter. The first thing you get is a smile and a “How are you this morning?” Greeters are the persons responsible for welcoming you and making you feel good if you aren’t doing well. They are the face that says “I am so glad you came to church this morning!” Hopefully, they’ve made you feel better when you walked in the door.

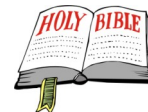
How about a time when you were sitting in the pew and something heavy was weighing on you? The scripture or prayer reader got up and read, and something in what he/she was reading just spoke to you. It helped lift that weight. It brought a little bit of joy to you that you didn’t have when you came in that morning.

The worship team is looking for volunteers to be the person who brings joy to someone on Sunday morning. Here are some ways that you could be that person. (Please note that none of these are gender-specific; both men and women can do them):

- **Greeters:** (9 am or 11:15 am) Greeters stand at the door and shake the hands of people as they enter. As a greeter, you would be the first person to see everyone who attends the service. You would be the warm and welcoming presence who makes someone think, “I am glad I came to Emmanuel this morning!” Persons who do this job need to be at church 20 minutes before the service starts.
- **Communion Stewards:** (9 am) Communion stewards are responsible for getting the communion table set up and taking it down at the end of service. As a communion steward, you would fill the chalices with juice, wrap the bread and place it in the basket, and set all the elements on the table. After the service, you would take the elements to the kitchen and clean up the chalices and basket. Persons who do this job should arrive 15 minutes before the service and get the table set up by 9:00.
- **Ushers:** (9 am and 11:15 am) Ushers are the glue of the worship service. As an usher, you would greet worshipers and hand them a bulletin as they come into the service; escort someone to a seat, if necessary; and collect the offering and return it to the front of the church. You also would be the leaders of the communion procession. Our current ushers at the 11:15 service, Karl Norris and Rogers Beasley, have been doing their job for 30 plus years and are in their 90’s. They would like to retire. So if you can help in this position, please let us know as soon as possible. There is a common misconception that this job is for men only. Not true! Gender does not matter. Both men and women can be ushers!
- **Acolytes:** (9 am and 11:15 am) Acolytes are responsible for lighting the altar candles and extinguishing them at the end of service. This is a wonderful opportunity for a child or teenager.
- **Sound and Audio Technicians:** (9 am and 11:15 am) Do you enjoy being able to see the lyrics and readings on the screen? Do you enjoy the music and readings that you hear? Then join these folks - they are the ones who are responsible for making it happen. You don’t need an advanced degree to work the equipment, and you don’t need to have any prior experience. You need to be able to have the highly technical skills of pushing the space bar and clicking a mouse on the computer or be able to push a button and slide a volume knob up and down on the sound board.



- **Singers:** (9 am and 11:15 am) We have two very different types of singing at Emmanuel: we have the praise band at 9 and the choir at 11:15. If you are interested, you can sing with one or both. All you need to do is talk to Patrick McGroarty if you would like to sing or play with the praise band, or Kathryn Griffin if you are interested in the choir.
- **Scripture/Prayer Readers:** (9 am and 11:15 am) If you can read, you can do this job. You can sign up for a week or for a month. If you are unsure, try signing up for a week and try it out. You receive all readings several days in advance so that you'll have time to practice, and we have excellent pros who are willing to help you.



It is said that in any group, 20% volunteer and the rest allow the 20% to do all of the work. The worship committee would like to change that number. Hymn 558 tells us "I am the church, you are the church, we are the church together!" Without the help of everyone, Emmanuel will no longer be. What can you do to bring a little joy to someone on Sundays? If you are able to help out in any of the areas above, sign up in the narthex today, contact Rick Bergmann at [rick.bergmann@eumcbeltsville.com](mailto:rick.bergmann@eumcbeltsville.com), or let the church office know.

Thank you for your support!

~ ~The Worship Committee

### From the FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Finance Committee thanks all of you for the faithfulness you have shown in maintaining your financial support of Emmanuel and its programs. We especially appreciate those who have mailed in their pledges and offerings when they were going out of town. Your steadfast giving has allowed us to pay the church's bills this summer.

By now, you should have received your Giving Statement for the 2nd Quarter. If you have any questions after reviewing your statement, please contact Frances Cruz, the Financial Secretary, at 301-572-2542, or via email at [cruising4@verizon.net](mailto:cruising4@verizon.net). Thank you.

### Blessing of the Backpacks on August 23

On Sunday, August 23, Emmanuel will celebrate the beginning of the new school year with our 2nd annual **Blessing of the Backpacks**. The ceremony will be part of both the 9 am and 11:15 am services. Students and families are encouraged to bring their backpacks and school supplies to church that Sunday to have them blessed by Pastor Young during the worship service.



In between services that day, there will be a **Sundae Sunday** where you can make your own ice cream sundae. If you have any questions, please contact the church office at 301-937-7114 or by email at [office@eumcbeltsville.com](mailto:office@eumcbeltsville.com).

### A Word From the Trustees About RECYCLING

Emmanuel Church recycles paper as well as plastic and aluminum.

The blue plastic trash cans scattered around the two buildings are for paper.

The trustees thank you for your cooperation!



### From the CHURCH COUNCIL

The Church Council is the "governing board" for Emmanuel. While only Council members have a vote, EVERYONE is invited to attend and participate in the discussion. At our next meeting on August 26, we will be discussing Emmanuel's budget for 2016. Plan to attend and make your voice heard!

*We are not physical beings having a spiritual experience; we are spiritual beings having a physical experience.*

~ ~Pierre Teilhard de Chardin

## SHARING AND CARING

**Eleese “Terry” Holman** has settled into her new home in Las Vegas and is enjoying life! She loves receiving cards and short notes from her old friends in Beltsville, too. Her new address is: Eleese Holman, 3150 E. Tropicana Avenue, #230, Las Vegas, NV 89121.

**Charlie and Bobbie Deegan** just returned from the World Council of Credit Unions annual meeting in Denver, CO. It was their first opportunity to mingle with credit union volunteers from all over the world. Charlie has some new buddies from Trinidad and Tobago who want him to look them up the next time a cruise ship drops him off in Tobago!

The Hillman Sisters had a chance to catch up recently when **Mandy (Hillman) Smith, her husband Mike, and sons Johnathan and Justin** came up from Texas for a week to visit **Jennifer (Hillman) Kresge, husband Doug, and sons Kevin, Jason and Ian**. The 5 cousins went to the Climbing Zone in Laurel and went hiking in Cunningham Falls, among other things. Former neighbors **Ernie and George Kilbourne** joined the two families for dinner several times before the Smiths returned home.

Speaking of out-of-town guests — **Ester and Mike Hatton** are hosting some of Ester’s family. Raul and Mariedith Peralta and their children are visiting from the Philippines. **Monica and Angela** are enjoying their cousins’ company.

**The Deegans** do get around! Did you read the article entitled “Hogan’s wife whips taste buds into a frenzy” in the Washington Post recently? Maryland First Lady Yumi Hogan prepared pork bulgogi as part of the annual Buy Local Cookout at the governor’s mansion in Annapolis, and the Deegans were there to sample it. It was delicious! If you’d like a copy of Yumi’s recipe, or any of the other recipes featured that day, see Bobbie Deegan!

**Last, but not least** — We are all very proud of our **young people who journeyed to Cumberland** to help those less fortunate. In the September Lamplighter, your cub reporter hopes to feature some photos of our tireless sojourners, as well as the adults who selflessly went with them. Let’s face it; if the adults hadn’t been willing to give up their vacation time to be hot, tired, mosquito-bitten and bee-stung away from home, the young people wouldn’t have been able to go. We are so glad you came home healthy and in one piece, Mike Hatton! On behalf of the entire group, I thank everyone in the congregation who contributed to the success of their trip, by buying baked goods, loaning tools, or donating money. Thank you, all!

## Not About My Pain

Why the pain, Lord?  
Only You know how much I can take.  
But it seems like You have over-pushed my limit.

Deep scars destroy my spirit.  
Scars that I have collected throughout my life  
Eventually leading me into insanity.  
The demons I feel have trapped me firmly in their grip.  
I’m terrified! God! Make them let go!

Why the pain, Lord?  
Only You know how much I can take.  
But it seems like You have over-pushed my limit

You know I have good intentions.  
"Forgive seventy times seven."  
But no matter how hard I try,  
I just can't dig deep enough in my spirit  
To scrounge up even an ounce.

Why the pain, Lord?  
Only You know how much I can take.  
But it seems like You have over-pushed my limit.

But now, You are showing me something special...  
As You tell me that knowing why the pain is not my purpose,  
I can see a multitude of blessings pour down from each heartache...

Oh Lord! How beautiful You are!  
When I am at my lowest,  
You are here...  
Teaching me to have trust in You  
Gradually building more and more faith.

Oh Lord! How loving You are!  
You shower me with many blessings.  
Even during my darkest turmoil,  
And my eyes are blinded...  
I will give You glory.

Oh Lord, I praise You!  
I don't need to know why the pain  
Because You do.  
I praise You for knowing how much I can take.  
And I trust You know my limits.

Oh Lord! I praise You!  
I thank You forever and ever  
Because it was by *You*, Lord - my *Savior* -  
*Your* pain...*Your* scars...and *Your* forgiveness,  
That purchased *my* life...

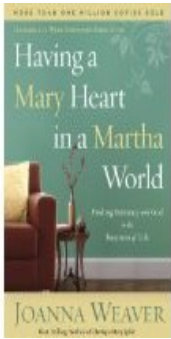
Oh Lord, I praise You!  
You stir my soul by Your captivating love.  
You give me healing,  
And You give me life everlasting...  
Life that nothing, and NO ONE could *ever...ever...steal!*

Oh Lord, I praise You forevermore -  
From the innermost being of my soul.  
You are my *Best Friend*,  
And by *Your* Blood,  
I am *Yours* forever.

Yes, it's not about *my* pain, but rather *Yours*...  
And I am forever grateful.  
Thank You, Jesus.

~ C.J.

## UMW TO HOST A SPIRITUAL RETREAT



Forgot to register for the spiritual retreat, or haven't had time yet? You're in luck. If you would like to register for the August 22 spiritual retreat to explore the book, *Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World—Finding Intimacy with God in the Busyness of Life*, contact Lorna Marselas by **August 14th**. Lorna may be reached by phone at 301-604-1792 or by email at [GMars95@aol.com](mailto:GMars95@aol.com).

The retreat will be held in the Fellowship Hall from 9 am to 3 pm. The \$20 registration fee includes a continental breakfast, lunch, and the study book. All are welcome — hope to see you there!

### *A Message from Bishop Marcus Matthews*

Friends:



I hope you will all join me in praying for Maryland Governor Larry Hogan, who has been diagnosed with cancer. As a political leader, Gov. Hogan has proven himself to be a man of strength, faith and conviction. Those traits will serve him well as he begins the 18 months of treatment.

Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma has been described as an aggressive form of cancer. However, I have no doubt the governor will address it with hope and courage. We pray for him and his family, that God will be present with them in the season ahead and that they will know, in a deep and abiding way, the empowering love of God.

In the name of our Lord and Savior, we pray for healing and wholeness for Gov. Hogan and all those in Maryland, Washington, D.C. and West Virginia who now struggle with cancer. May they each be encouraged by the mercy and grace of Christ.

God Bless You,

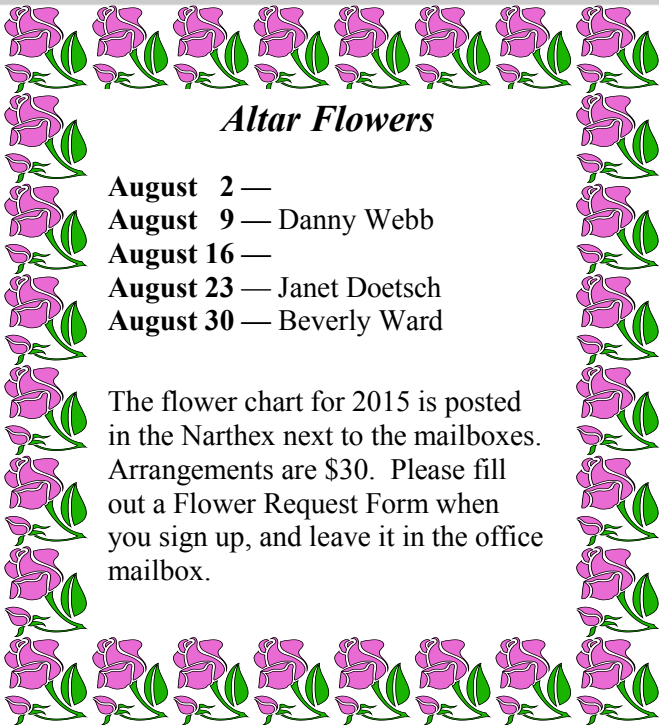
Bishop Marcus Matthews

## **PRAYER** *changes things*

### **A (Belated) Prayer for Independence Day**

Almighty God, who has given us this good land for our heritage, we humbly beseech you that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of your favor and glad to do your will. Bless our land with honorable industry, sound learning, and pure manners. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion; from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way. Defend our liberties, and fashion into one united people the multitudes brought hither out of many kindreds and tongues. Endow with thy spirit of wisdom those whom in your Name we entrust the authority of government, that there may be justice and peace at home, and that, through obedience to your law, we may show forth your praise among the nations of the earth. In the time of prosperity, fill our hearts with thankfulness and in the day of trouble, do not allow our trust in you to fail; all of this we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

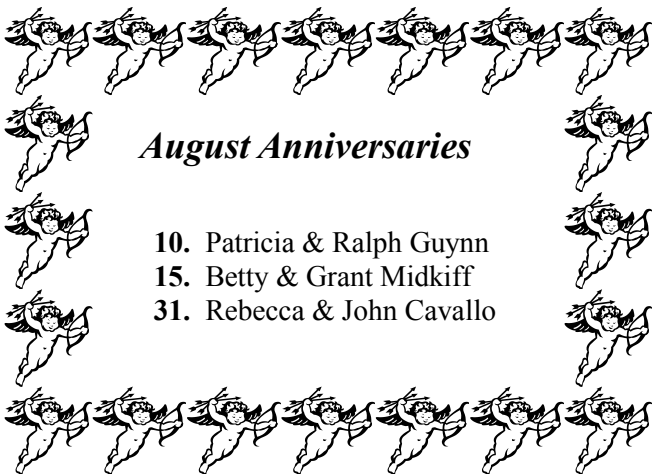
~ ~ Attributed to Thomas Jefferson



**Altar Flowers**

- August 2 —
- August 9 — Danny Webb
- August 16 —
- August 23 — Janet Doetsch
- August 30 — Beverly Ward

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.



**August Anniversaries**

- 10. Patricia & Ralph Guynn
- 15. Betty & Grant Midkiff
- 31. Rebecca & John Cavallo

**WELCOME, VISITORS!!**

The following guests visited Emmanuel on one or more Sundays in June. We welcome you, and invite you to worship with us again soon!

- Bebe Bache
- Kate vonRichthofen
- Shamshad & Libby Ali
- Randa Boakai
- Francine Lehuanani Kenyon
- Chloe Nagle
- Josh Geckle
- Jeanne Fahrner
- David & Jerry McClenon

**August Birthdays**

- 1. Chris Butcher, Preston Elliott II
- 3. Ciro Mejia
- 4. Jeanette Vannoy
- 7. Brennan McGlynn, Hannah Butcher
- 8. Michael Belshay, Jr., Mary Lou Galloway, Adam Levine
- 9. Carmen Amaya Barahona, Greg Stiggers, Jessie Marcus
- 10. Elmo Webb, Lynette Wray
- 13. Aidan Cruz
- 17. Doris Wray
- 18. Grant Midkiff
- 21. Kelsey Storck
- 22. Lynne Miller
- 23. Andrea Onukwubiri
- 24. Carol Clatterbuck
- 25. Christopher Pavelka
- 26. Katie Kaufmann, Alice Mabry
- 27. Terry Holman
- 28. Javalin Baird
- 29. Helen Akers, Cheryl McBride Hoch, Jean Rodeffer
- 31. Justin Huneycutt

**IN MEMORIAM**



Two members of our congregation passed away recently – **John Bouma**, on June 8th, and **Barbara Milam**, on June 10th. Two other congregants lost a parent: **Carmen Amaya Barahona's** mother, Leonor Barahona, passed away on June 29th, and **Olivia Heath's** father, Robert Allen, died on July 10th.

Our thoughts and prayers are with these families as they mourn for their loved ones.

*Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.*

~ ~Matthew 5:4



THANK YOU to everyone for the prayers, cards, calls and visits while I have been sick. I love being in touch with everyone.

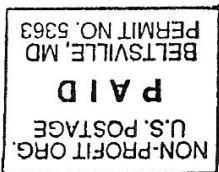
~ ~ Carolyn Scarcia

**AUGUST 2015**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<b>1</b>
<b>2</b> 9 & 11:15 am Worship Services 10:15 am Sunday School	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> 9 & 11:15 am Worship Services 10:15 am Sunday School 2nd Sunday Lunch 1 pm Youth Fellowship	<b>10</b> 7 pm Trustees 7 pm SPRC 7 pm Depression/ Bipolar Support Group	<b>11</b> 10 am Prayer Fellowship	<b>12</b> 7 pm Worship Committee	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> 9 & 11:15 am Worship Services 10:15 am Sunday School	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 11 am Community Place Café 7 pm Food Preparation	<b>22</b> 9 am Spiritual Retreat 10 am Food Distribution
<b>23</b> 9 & 11:15 am Worship Services 10:15 am Sunday School 12:30 pm Youth Fellowship 12:30 pm UMW Exec Meeting in Fellowship Hall	<b>24</b> 7 pm Depression/ Bipolar Support Group	<b>25</b> 10 am Prayer Fellowship	<b>26</b> 7 pm Church Council	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> 9 & 11:15 am Worship Services 10:15 am Sunday School	<b>31</b>					

Address Service Requested

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