

# The Lamplighter

Emmanuel United Methodist Church

April 2017

*A Vibrant Multi-Cultural Church*

*Our Mission: To share the light of Christ with all people*



Hallelujah! Greetings! I greet all of you in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ!

March was a special and meaningful month, in the sense that it was a month of Lent. Lent started on March 1 as we observed Ash Wednesday with a joint service with Queens Chapel UMC. We are still in the process of going through Lent until Easter.

I still miss two church members who have returned to their permanent home, heaven: Sam Shiplett (memorial service on February 26) and Bill Robertson (memorial service on March 3). Please remember them, and support and pray for their families.

One of the impressive events I attended in March was a seminar sponsored by the District Conference. The main speaker was the author of the book, Membership to Discipleship. He emphasized that the church needs to transform church members into disciples who are dedicated and committed to the kingdom of God. The seminar encouraged me to lead the congregation to discipleship. During Lent, Crystal Webb and I have been visiting neighbors every Friday morning to share the love of God. Some welcome us, but most of them are indifferent and we do not feel welcome. Despite rejection, Crystal and I continue to do our best. Please pray for us. I think it is my responsibility during Lent.

Every Sunday afternoon, I have been teaching the confirmation class. This year, there is one confirmation candidate, Glendy. After several weeks of confirmation class, she will be confirmed. On Thursday nights, I have been teaching a new membership class with two candidates, Remi and Bart. Later, there will be specific announcements for the confirmation ceremony and the new member ceremony. Then, you will have a chance to welcome them and we will celebrate together.

In April, some important church activities and events are scheduled. In particular, please come Palm Sunday, April 8. Palm Sunday is the beginning of Holy Week. Also, Palm Sunday will be "All-Gathering Sunday." There will be only one service that day, at 10 AM. Please

come and bring your family and friends to enjoy the Easter Cantata.

On Good Friday, April 14, Emmanuel will observe the Stations of the Cross. If you are interested, please come to the church at 11 AM. We will gather at the church and move around the community with the cross. Emmanuel UMC will host the Easter Sunrise Service on April 16. The time is 6:15 AM to 7 AM at Emmanuel UMC. This will be the first time that Emmanuel hosts the service. The Easter Sunrise Service in Beltsville has been hosted by St. John's Episcopal Church for a long time with the joint service with Emmanuel UMC. The two churches have decided to alternate the service from now on. This year, Emmanuel will host the service. It will be held in front of the church, where the church cross is located. After the service is over, coffee and doughnuts will be served.

During Lent, a brick patio will be built around the church cross (where the Easter Sunrise service will take place). The patio will be paved with commemorative bricks, each engraved with the names of loved ones in memory or in honor of them. After the second Easter Sunday worship is over, the church's brick patio will be dedicated.

We are going through Lent. We will soon see the resurrection of Jesus. Until then, let us persevere in the Lenten journey. Let me conclude with an Easter poem.

## THE RESURRECTION

We hold so close to our hearts  
The cross where Jesus died,  
But so much more than the blood-stained cross  
Is that Jesus came back to life.

The stone's been rolled away;  
The tomb lay open and bare —  
They looked for Him, and then the angel said  
That He is no longer here.

Oh what joy they must have felt  
To see Him just once more,  
To eat with Him, to drink with Him,  
To receive Him back as Lord.

(continued on page 2)

So much did He accomplish  
Through His death upon the cross  
And in His rising from the dead,  
He reconciled us back to God.

Nothing else could bridge the gap  
That sin had wrenched apart —  
Now we can freely go to God  
And receive Christ in our hearts.

~ ~Pastor Jacob

### CORRECTION

Last month's Lamplighter article about the bimonthly meetings of the Beltsville DBSA (Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance) group stated that a potential co-facilitator must have been affected by a mood disorder or have a family member who has been affected by a mood disorder. This is NOT the case.

Judy Diedrich and Linda Hiner are still seeking an additional person to be a co-facilitator. Training will be provided.

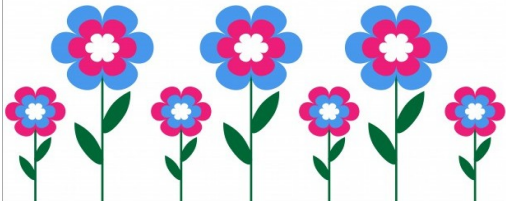
If you are interested in helping in this extremely rewarding mission field, please contact Judy at [judyscatsanddogs@msn.com](mailto:judyscatsanddogs@msn.com) or Linda at 301-641-6022.

## BELTSVILLE DAY, SUNDAY, MAY 21, 2017

by Pat Allen

During the recent snap of very cold, end-of-winter weather, this event has seemed to be far off and nothing important to think about. However, it will soon be upon us, and we need to plan. Beltsville Day is one of the few times during the year that our church has the opportunity, in a very public way, to let our neighbors and friends in Beltsville know what Emmanuel UMC is all about; our members, our fellowship, our outreach programs, our worship services, youth program, Bible studies, Vacation Bible School, our commitments to follow and emulate Christ's teachings.

We have a space reserved to set up a booth to display and explain our programs. What we need is a planning group to organize all our information and rally personnel to man our booth during the event and physically put it up and take it down afterward. Please consider becoming a part of this planning group, so that we can let our light shine at Beltsville Day. If you are so moved, call the church office or Ted Ladd.



**Women of all ages are invited to a Garden Party!** The **Ladies' Communion Breakfast** on May 6 will start with communion in the sanctuary at 9:00 AM and be followed by breakfast, fellowship, and a garden variety of entertainment, including a **parade of flowery hats**, both beautiful and creative!

Alice White will be taking reservations between church services on April 16, 23 and 30. You also may RSVP via email:

[awhite2cat@verizon.net](mailto:awhite2cat@verizon.net), or call in the evening [301-595-3814](tel:301-595-3814). Deadline to register is Sunday, April 30th. The cost is \$8.00 for ages 12 to adult and \$4.00 for children ages 4-11. Children under 3 are free.

## PRAYER VIGIL GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 14 6 AM to 6 PM



We invite you to sign up for our prayer vigil. The sign-up chart will be in the hallway outside the sanctuary soon. You can pray at home or come to the church between 9 AM and 2 PM. You can share an hour with a friend. All ages are invited to join. A child can pray with a parent or other adult. Teenagers can create a prayer text chain with phones, or phone prayers to friends. Be creative. If weather permits, you can use the scripture garden at the end of the church next to the office.

There will be prayer material available. A good place to start is the Five Finger Prayer on page 3. Don't forget your hymnal — all hymns are sung prayers.



*“For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away.”* **Matthew 25:29**

When we hear “stewardship” most of us associate it with money. Money is only 25% of what stewardship is made of. Stewardship is comprised of 4 parts that we all commit to doing when we take our vow of confirmation. The four parts are presence, gifts, service and prayers.

### ***SERVICE***

*Service to the church is an important part of being a Christian. If you are not sure which area of service is a good fit for you, just try several opportunities once. For instance:*

**Usher-** Usher at the worship service you usually attend. Just once!

**Singing in the choir-** 11:15 service- Come to the Fellowship Hall at 10:45 and the choir will help you. Just once!

**Liturgist-** Read scripture for your service. Call the office. They will send your scripture and help you get started. Just once!

**Food Distribution-** Watch for their Saturday schedule. Show up and they will put you to work. If Sunday fits your schedule better, join Mary Ann Vaughn in the Education building for prep work before the day of distribution. Just once!

**Community Place Cafe-** These ladies prepare a meal and carry it to Hyattsville UMC once a month. You can cook on Thursday, or deliver on Friday, or both. Try it. Just once!

**ESOL-English lessons-** We have classes on Tuesday night for speakers of other languages. You may be a natural teacher or teacher's aide. Try it. Just once!

**Hospitality-** Our hospitality committee prepares dinners and luncheons for special occasions. Try it. Just once!

**Sunday School and Youth Fellowship-** You may have a special talent or knowledge that would be of interest. Offer to share. If you are a master baker, help with their bake sales. Just once!

**Some activities take place once or twice a year a year-** decorating for Christmas and Easter, polishing the altar brass. Try it. Just once.

*Service is a good way to meet people in the church if you are new. In any case, you'll be making life better for someone.*

### ***PRAYERS***

The **Five-Finger Prayer** is a guide for prayer and can be used in daily prayer routine.

**1. Thumb (people who are close to you)** Praise God for the many wonderful people God has placed in your life as a blessing. Lift up those close to you who need prayer.

**2. Pointer (people who point the way)** God often guides us through other people. Give thanks for these people and also ask God to protect, provide for, and bless them.

**3. Tall Finger (people in authority)** Pray for God's guidance for those who are in positions of authority. Ask for God's Holy Spirit to lead all that they say and do.

**4. Ring Finger (people who are weak)** This is your weakest finger. Pray for strength and healing for those who are sick. Pray for the poor and the oppressed.

**5. Little Finger (your own needs)** Out of humility, put others first in your prayer life, but do make your requests known to God with thanks in Jesus Christ. Especially, pray for God to help you grow in the Spirit that you might better follow Jesus Christ.

Application Suggestions: When praying for others, don't forget to pray for their spiritual needs. Most of the prayers that we see in the Epistles for other people are almost entirely about their spiritual health and growth. If you have a set time for when you will pray, your chances of sticking to it will dramatically increase. Write your time here: My prayer time will be: \_\_\_\_\_

## UMW Happenings - Mark Your Calendar



April 7, Free Family Movie Night, 5:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Food provided. RSVP to the church office, 301-937-7114.

May 6, Women's Communion Breakfast, 9 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Join us for a Garden Party.

May 13, Rummage Sale, 10 AM — 1 PM in the Education Building. Breakfast and lunch available.

## ADVANCE DIRECTIVES AND MOLST

Submitted by Ilene Forsbacka, Health & Wellness

The Beltsville Community is invited to join us in this important seminar on **May 7th at 12:30**. **MAKE SURE YOU HAVE YOUR FUTURE HEALTH CARE NEEDS KNOWN TO THOSE IN WHOSE HANDS YOU ENTRUST YOUR CARE!**

Learn the difference between POA of Health Care, Living Wills, Advance Directives and MOLST (Maryland Medical Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment). Don't be caught short of having your medical care decisions known and legally binding.

Join us for a short, informal educational meeting presented by the Community Outreach and Resource Nurse from Hillhaven Assisted Living, Nursing Home and Rehabilitation Center. Have your questions answered regarding Medicare's requirements for rehabilitation center admissions and the impact of hospital observation admission versus hospital treatment admission.

## OUR GRADUATES – HIGH SCHOOL OR COLLEGE

**EMMANUEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH    SPRING/SUMMER 2017**

Name of Graduate \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Graduation \_\_\_\_\_

Name of School \_\_\_\_\_

Location of School \_\_\_\_\_

Degree \_\_\_\_\_

Presently:        \_\_\_ Living at home.    \_\_\_ Living away from home. (Check one)

After Graduation:    \_\_\_ Living at home.    \_\_\_ Living away from home. (Check one)

If the graduate will not be living at home, please give address, if known.

Person filling out form \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return to church office by May 8<sup>th</sup>. Thank you!**

## WHAT DOES STEWARDSHIP OF CREATION MEAN TO YOU?

by Jane Grays

As a people who confess, “the earth is the Lord’s and everything in it” (Psalm 24:1a, CEB) and who worship God, the creator, full of hope that God will create a new heaven and a new earth, we have to learn how to live as a part of the creation in a sustainable and responsible way. The biblical model for such a lifestyle can be called stewardship. While we are honored to play an important role in making best use of God’s gifts, including all the natural resources, we also have to accept our responsibility.

God, the creator and owner of the world, wants life for all with a fair sharing of the natural gifts among all people and a supportive coexistence with the whole creation.

We, as stewards, have to make use of the world and relate to our fellow creatures in a way that pleases God. John Wesley described stewardship as such:

*“We are now God’s stewards. We are indebted to him for all we have...A steward is not at liberty to use what is lodged in his hand as he pleases, but as his master pleases.... He is not the owner of any of these, but barely entrusted with them by another...Now, this is exactly the case of everyone with relation to God. We are not at liberty to use what God has lodged in our hands as we please, but as God pleases, who alone is the possessor of heaven and earth and the Lord of every creature.”*

In 2016, one of the studies I attended at \*Mission u was “Climate Justice: A Call To Hope And Action.” In future months, I will share ways on how we can become better stewards and reduce our carbon footprint.

\* \*Mission u is an event organized cooperatively by the Conference United Methodist Women and the Board of Global Ministries. It is an opportunity to study current issues impacting society based on recent mission study topics. Participants grow in their understanding of the mission of the church in the current world context. This annual event will be held July 28 — 29, 2017 at The Bethesda Marriott. The studies this year will be Living as a Covenant Community, Climate Justice: A Call to Hope and Action and Missionary Conferences of the United Methodist Church in the United States.

### ONE WAY TO BECOME A BETTER STEWARD

Intentionally plan events that are **ACCESSIBLE**. Make sure publicity indicates accessibility and the registration form asks for special needs. Take special interest in evaluations from those with accessibility challenges.

According to the 2010 U. S. Census, nearly one in five Americans — about 57 million people — has a disability. More than half report that the disability is severe.



### Thank You



The family of the Late Mrs. Helen Mabel Ola Timity graciously and humbly thanks each of you individually and collectively for your prayers, encouraging words and compassion during this difficult time. Your visits, phone calls, cards, monetary love offerings, prepared meals, beverages, flowers, gift baskets, laughter, shoulders, hugs, smiles, attentiveness and more have been a pillar of strength. We are blessed to have wonderful family and friends as you. God’s richest mercy and grace is our prayer!

—The Timity and Extended Family

\* \* \* \* \*

**ALTAR FLOWERS**

\* \* \* \* \*

- \* April 2 — Alice White
- \* April 9 — Bobbie Deegan
- \* April 16 —
- \* April 23 —
- \* April 30 —

\* The flower chart is posted in the hallway next to the mailboxes at the end of the hall.

\* Arrangements are \$30. Please fill out a Flower Request Form when you sign up and leave it in the office mailbox.

\* **Indicate on the form whether you will take the flowers home or leave them for a shut-in.**

\* (Flowers that you take home are not tax-deductible). Thank you!



**April Birthdays**

1. Natalie Corman, Lil Mizzer
4. Monica Hatton, Nancy Bell
5. Kelly Lee
7. Patrick Shiplett
8. Lea Claye
9. Deji Bello
11. Lacey Fadely, Dan Webb
13. Louisa Davies
15. George Urick
16. Cale Fuller Jr., Grace Rodeffer
18. Ernie Kilbourne
19. Ted Ladd
21. Sharon White
25. April Ademiluyi
26. Glenna Pavelka
29. Merton Baird



**April Anniversaries**

4. Christopher & Virginia Butcher



**Make Emmanuel a welcoming congregation!**

**Greeters and Scripture Readers** are needed at both the 9 AM and the 11:15 AM services in April!

To volunteer to cover one or more Sundays, please put your name on the sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board in the hallway outside the Sanctuary.

**Thank you** for helping to share God's love and His Word with the people in His Church!

**WELCOME**

**GUESTS** visiting Emmanuel on one or more Sundays in February included:

- Aiesha Layne
- Remi Samu

We welcome you to our church family! Please worship with us again soon.

To contact Lamplighter editor Bobbie Deegan, please email her at [BobbieDeegan@aol.com](mailto:BobbieDeegan@aol.com) or phone her at 301-937-7070.

**IN MEMORIAM**

*Christian love and sympathy to:*

*Gail Belshay and family on the death of her uncle, Bill McGlothlin;*

*Gretchen Buchen and family on the death of her step-father, Dick van Vrankin.*

*May God's love and happy memories comfort everyone who is struggling with the loss of a loved one.*



April 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<i>1</i> 5 pm NA
<i>2</i> 9 & 11:15 am Worship Services 10:15 am Sunday School 12:30 pm UMW Executive Meeting 12:45 Chancel Choir	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i> 7 pm ESOL	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i> 7 pm Bible Study at Panera Bread	<i>7</i> 5:30 pm UMW movie	<i>8</i> 10 am Chancel Choir 10 am Easter Egg Hunt 5 pm NA
<i>9</i> 10 am Worship Service & Cantata 12:30 pm Youth Fellowship	<i>10</i> 7 pm Depression/ Bipolar Support Group 7 pm Trustees	<i>11</i> 10 am Prayer Fellowship 7 pm ESOL	<i>12</i> 7 pm Worship Committee	<i>13</i> 7 pm Maundy Thursday Service	<i>14</i> 6 am Prayer Vigil 11 am Stations of the Cross 7 pm Good Friday Service	<i>15</i> 5 pm NA
<i>16</i> 6:15 am Sunrise Easter Service at EUMC 9 & 11:15 am Worship Services 10:15 am Sunday School	<i>17</i> 12:00 Noon Ellen Hoover Circle	<i>18</i> 7 pm ESOL 7 pm Sisters in Spirit Circle	<i>19</i> 10 am Susanna Wesley Circle	<i>20</i> 7 pm Bible Study	<i>21</i> 11 am Community Place Café 7 pm Food Preparation	<i>22</i> 10 am Food Distribution 5 pm NA
<i>23</i> 9 & 11:15 am Worship Services 10:15 am Sunday School 12:30 pm Youth Fellowship	<i>24</i> 7 pm Depression/ Bipolar Support Group	<i>25</i> 10 am Prayer Fellowship 7 pm ESOL	<i>26</i> 7 pm Church Council	<i>27</i> 7 pm Bible Study	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>
<i>30</i> 9 & 11:15 am Worship Services 10:15 am Sunday School 12:45 Chancel Choir						

Address Service Requested

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