

The Lamplighter

Emmanuel United Methodist Church

March 2017

A Vibrant Multi-Cultural Church

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



2017 SIMPLE LIFE DURING LENT

Lent is a period of time to follow in the footsteps of Jesus, especially focusing on his trial, suffering and cross for each of us. It starts from Ash Wednesday and ends with Easter Sunday. It is a 40-day journey, excluding Sundays. The Sundays during Lent are exempt from Lenten disciplines because Sunday is based on the resurrection of Jesus. Christians usually join this journey with spiritual disciplines, prayer, penitence, almsgiving, and self-denial.

I like to call the Lenten journey the “Simple Life” which reorganizes life without bubbles; in other words, “giving up luxuries.”

As pastor, I would like to suggest some specific ways for the church to observe Lent in 2017:

1. Share the love of Jesus with at least one person.

If you are more than 12 in age, I ask you to choose a person who does not believe in God or does not attend church. You can pray for that person. You can share the love of God with that person before Easter. It could be a phone call, email, greeting card or personal conversation. You can have a meaningful religious, spiritual, or Christian conversation with that person to share the love of God. You can also invite the person to church.

2. Play less.

Please find out what you spend most of your time on, such as playing games, watching movies, or hobbies. Check if it is good for your spiritual health. Count how many hours you spend a day, or a week, doing those things. If it is too much, please reduce it by 30%.

3. Eat less.

In a Christian sense, fasting means eating one full meal and two small meals a day. If possible, try to keep this. But children, youth, seniors, and the sick are exempt from this practice because they need sufficient nourishment for health.

4. Spend less.

You can avoid buying unnecessary items other than food and necessities. For example, try not to use credit cards too much, or do not go to the Mall for luxuries, or do not dine out too often.

5. Read the Bible or a Devotional.

Please choose one devotional, such as the Lenten Devotional written by church members, [The Upper Room](#) or [The Purpose-Driven Life](#). Please read it daily. Daily scripture readings are listed on page 2, as well.

6. Come to church.

Most of all, do not miss the Lenten Sundays and Ash Wednesday, Holy Thursday and Good Friday Services. These services are focused on the meaning of Lent. I ask you to come to church on Palm Sunday, as well, to enjoy the Cantata. There will be only one service that day, at 10AM. It is all-gathering Sunday. Finally, join us Easter Sunday to celebrate the end of our Lenten journey.

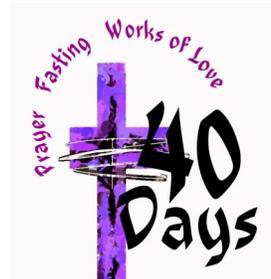
7. Give Sacrificially.

Cut back on non-essential spending and offer the savings to the church's general fund at the end of the Lenten journey on Easter Sunday. You may wish to set a goal of a certain dollar amount per day, times 40 days. Choose an amount that is right for you.

In a nutshell, Lent is a time of faithful commitment to spiritual discipline in every aspect of a Christian's daily life, not only monetary, but also dietary, spending, playing, reading, and worshipping. Please make your own plan and goals on the basis of the above suggestions. If possible, I strongly encourage you as members of the church to join the Lenten journey together.

Sincerely,

~ ~Pastor Jacob



DAILY SCRIPTURE & PRAYER FOCUS (Starting on Ash Wednesday March 1, 2017)

| | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| Day 1: Joel 2:25-26 | Day 2: Proverbs 3:9-10 | Day 3: Proverbs 22:7 |
| Day 4: Ephesians 3:20 | Day 5: II Corinthians 4:7 | Day 6: Psalm 77:14 |
| Day 7: Psalm 90:17 | Day 8: II Corinth 4:16-18 | Day 9: Deuteronomy 11:14 |
| Day 10: Luke 6:28 | Day 11: Ephesians 6:12 | Day 12: II Corinthians 5:7 |
| Day 13: James 1:17 | Day 14: Matthew 7:7 | Day 15: Psalm 37:23 |
| Day 16: I Timothy 6:18 | Day 17: Proverbs 30:8-9 | Day 18: Psalms 37:21 |
| Day 19: Luke 14:28 | Day 20: I Thess. 5:18 | Day 21: II Kings 4:7 |
| Day 22: Proverbs 21:20 | Day 23: Philippians 4:12 | Day 24: Luke 21:1-4 |
| Day 25: Matthew 23:19 | Day 26: Proverbs 3:27-28 | Day 27: Isaiah 45:6 |
| Day 28: Daniel 11:32 | Day 29: Number 12:6 | Day 30: Deuteronomy 28:4 |
| Day 31: Philippians 4:8 | Day 32: I Corinth 14:33 | Day 33: Psalm 25:2 |
| Day 34: Psalm 119:133 | Day 35: Isaiah 6:8 | Day 36: Matthew 5:16 |
| Day 37: Psalm 92:12-13 | Day 38: Isaiah 41:10 | Day 39: Romans 10:17 |
| Day 40: Proverbs 10:22 | Day 41: Psalm 119:8 | Day 42: I Chronicles 4:10 |
| Day 43: Psalm 27:2 | Day 44: I Corinth 12:8 | Day 45: Matthew 1:23 |
| Day 46: Psalm 32:8 | | |

WHAT IS ASH WEDNESDAY?

In Western Christianity, Ash Wednesday marks the first day, or the beginning, of the season of Lent, which starts 40 days prior to Easter (Sundays are not included in the count).

Lent is a time when many Christians prepare for Easter by observing a period of fasting, repentance, moderation, and spiritual discipline. During the Ash Wednesday service, the pastor will lightly rub the sign of the cross with ashes onto the foreheads of worshippers.

The Bible does not mention Ash Wednesday or the custom of observing Lent. However, the practice of repentance and mourning in ashes is found in 2 Samuel 13:19; Esther 4:1; Job 2:8; Daniel 9:3; and Matthew 11:21.





*“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.

PRESENCE

Presence (noun) \ `pre-zən(t)s\: Being there

Most of us begin following Christ by coming to Sunday worship. Lent offers each of us the opportunity to grow in our faith by experiencing more:

- Ash Wednesday service (March 1, 7 PM, at Emmanuel)
- Lenten Bible study (Thursdays starting March 2, 7 PM, at Panera Bread)
- Start attending a Sunday class (Sundays, 10:15-11:00 AM)
- Maundy Thursday service with seder tasting (April 13, 7 PM, at Emmanuel)
- Good Friday Tenebrae service (April 14, 7 PM, at Emmanuel)

Take the opportunity to attend at least one of these this Lenten season! Which will you attend?

GIFTS

Many Christians throughout the world observe Lent. Catholic, Orthodox, and Protestant worshipers benefit from this annual season of sacrifice and simplicity. Christians are simply imitating the practices and teachings of Jesus.

For the last few years, Emmanuel has practiced the concept of financial fasting. What does this mean? This is the practice of giving up something during Lent and putting the money aside for the church. The challenge this year is to give up a cup of coffee or a dinner out each week, and put that money aside. If you are like me and are concerned that you may spend it before Easter, why not bring your gift weekly or monthly? You can mark it “Lenten gift” and place it in the offering plate. If this is not comfortable for you, bring in your loose change and drop it in the bank in the hallway outside the sanctuary. Everyone can spare some change.

As we enter this time of reflection and sacrifice, we ask that you prayerfully consider participating.



Thoughts on the remaining two parts of Stewardship, service and prayers, will be shared in the April issue of The Lamplighter.

UMW CIRCLES--What are They?

by Lorna Marselas

Webster defines a circle as a group of people bound together by common interests, and that is exactly what Emmanuel's United Methodist Women Circles are. We have three Circles — two that meet during the day and one that meets in the evening.

One daytime Circle, Susanna Wesley, meets on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 10 AM in Room 23 in the Education Building. We begin with a potluck brunch, followed by a short meeting, devotions, and a study. We are currently finishing a study on "Growing Older and Wiser." In March, we will begin a new study, titled "Christian Virtues." We financially support global missionary Reverend Donna Pewo, whose work involves meeting the spiritual and educational needs of children in the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes in Clinton, Oklahoma. We also are active in UMW activities, such as the Reverse Advent Calendars for women's supplies, the Rummage Sale, the Apple Festival, and making seasonal crafts for residents in local nursing homes. Susanna Wesley Circle is open to all women who want to belong to a group of active, involved women. For more information, contact Emmy Lear, Susanna Wesley Circle Chair, 301-937-7341 or emmylear@gmail.com.

The second daytime Circle is the Ellen Hoover Circle. It also is open to all women who want to belong to a group of active, involved women. If you are interested in becoming part of the Ellen Hoover Circle, contact Barbara Butcher, Ellen Hoover Circle Chair, at 301-937-3179 or barbarabutcher@verizon.net. Hoover Circle meets on the 3rd Monday of the month at 12 Noon in Room 23 of the Education Building. More information on the activities of the Ellen Hoover Circle will appear in the April Lamplighter.

Our evening Circle is Sisters in Spirit (SIS). It meets at 7 PM on the 3rd Tuesday of the month in the Powell Parlor. Meetings begin with a devotional and prayer and end with a prayer. Activities center around local missions. Although we financially support a global missionary, Kabaka Ndala Alphonsine in Tanzania, Africa, our purpose is to support local missions. Some of our activities for local missions include the Reverse Advent Calendars to collect women's supplies for United Communities Against Poverty; mastectomy pillows for patients at Providence Hospital; making seasonal crafts for residents in local nursing homes; and hosting the annual Ladies Communion Breakfast. Sisters in Spirit is open to all women who want to belong to a group of active, involved women who take time to work for local women's causes. Contact Kathy Mellott, Circle Chair, at kpmellott@verizon.net or 301-937-7538.



The UMW's Call to Prayer and Self-Denial program will be held on March 18th at Noon in the Fellowship Hall. This year's theme is "Abundant Health for Women and Children."

Soup will be provided for lunch. See you there!

PANCAKE SUPPER

Reminder—the "Pre-Shrove Pancake Supper" will be held Saturday, **March 4, at 5 PM** in the Fellowship Hall. Enjoy all-you-can-eat pancakes and sausage and some light entertainment. Tickets will be available at the door on the day of the event, and are just \$10 for adults and \$5 for children ages 3 through 10. Children under 3 eat free.

Questions? See Rick Bergmann!

UMW Happenings - Mark Your Calendar



March 18, 12 Noon, Fellowship Hall, rescheduled Call to Prayer and Self-Denial General Meeting. Soup lunch provided. Becky Cavallo — program leader; Hoover Circle — hosts.

April 7, 5:30 PM, Fellowship Hall, Women in the Bible: a video about Ruth's story. Pizza, popcorn, and cookies will be furnished.

April 29, 10 AM — 1 PM, Rummage Sale in Education Building.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

by Elsie Cline

By the Grace of God and the angels here on earth, Emmanuel will be able to continue to serve those at Community Place Café for the year 2017. As a result of all the angels who came forth to support the Café, physically and/or financially, we will be able to serve the Lord by serving those in need every third Friday of the month. Thanks to all of you for making this possible.

An article on the front page of The Washington Post's Metro section on January 7, 2017 stated, "Prince George's has the region's highest concentration of people needing help." As you can see, this further reinforces the need for this very worthwhile mission.

In addition, the outpouring of donations of towels and toiletries to enable those who eat at the Café to take a shower has been overwhelming. Thanks to all of you who are contributing to this cause. Also, special thanks to the angel who generously contributed hats, scarves, etc. These gifts were gratefully received by the diners as they left to go back out into the cold.

An open invitation is extended to anyone who would like to join us for lunch on the third Friday of the month. See first-hand how your donation is making a difference in someone's life, if only for two hours. If interested, please RSVP to Elsie (301) 937-6024 or Sallie (301) 937-2668, and we will put an extra place setting on the table.

May God continue to bless you as you bless others in 2017.

EASTER FLOWER ORDER FORM

PLEASE CIRCLE COLOR YOU ARE ORDERING

- Lily (5-6 blooms).....\$12.50
- Daffodils (5-6 blooms).....\$11.50 (yellow)
- Hyacinths (3 blooms).....\$11.50 (white, pink, blue)
- Tulips (5-6 blooms).....\$11.50 (red, pink, yellow)



DEADLINE FOR ALL ORDERS IS MONDAY, MARCH 27

Please order _____ of _____ given by _____
number name flower phone number

IN MEMORY OF _____

Please order _____ of _____ given by _____
number name flower phone number

IN HONOR OF _____

Total amount of order _____ Check enclosed _____ Date Received _____

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO EUMC – EASTER FLOWERS

(Please check one):

- _____ I will take my flowers home (not eligible for tax credit)
- _____ I will donate my flowers to the church

FROM THE DBSA GROUP

by Judy Diedrich and Linda Hiner



The Beltsville DBSA (Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance) group meets bimonthly on Monday evenings at our church to provide support, understanding and education to adults affected by a mood disorder and/or who have a family member affected by a mood disorder.

We are the two facilitators of this group, and we are seeking an additional person to be a co-facilitator. We are not professionals. It is a peer-to-peer meeting. Therefore, potential co-facilitators must have been affected by a mood disorder or have a family member who has been affected by a mood disorder. Training will be provided. We will co-facilitate the meetings as a team

The experience of attending the meetings is extremely rewarding. Anyone interested may contact Judy at judyscatsanddogs@msn.com or Linda at 301-641-6022.

Missionaries---Who They Are and What They Do

by Jane Grays

"Missionary" is one of the oldest and most honored offices of the Christian church, with origins in the New Testament. Letters of Paul are those of a missionary called and commissioned to Jesus Christ.

Missionaries witness and serve in dramatically different locales and cultures, and engage in a range of professions and activities. They come from many places and backgrounds.

Missionaries are a tangible connection between the church and mission. In a real sense, all faithful Christians are missionaries. Those who convey the Good News of God's love and forgiveness to others near and far carry the missionary spirit within them.

United Methodist mission personnel commissioned by the General Board of Global Ministries are supported through three major avenues:

- Of primary importance is the World Service Fund, one of eight funds to which congregations contribute through their apportionments. It provides basic financial resources for the core ministries of our denomination, underwriting the work of Global Ministries and its mission personnel, as well as the work of other general agencies of the church.
- Secondly, a portion of support for all mission personnel comes from the Pledge to Mission from local United Methodist Women units, channeled through the Women's Division of Global Ministries.
- The third avenue of support is through The Advance, the second-mile giving channel of The United Methodist Church.

Covenant Relationship Program

Since 1974, the Covenant Relationship Program has enabled United Methodist congregations to surround our mission personnel with love and prayer, and to grow in understanding the context in which these missionaries serve by learning about the place of service and its people, culture, traditions and religious life.

Emmanuel United Methodist Women support the following missionaries:

- *Ellen Hoover*, who serves in Lumbumbashi, Democratic Republic of the Congo;
- *Kabaka Ndala Alphonsine*, serving Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania;
- *Donna Pewo*, a member of the Comanche Tribe of Oklahoma who serves the Clinton/El Reno Church; and
- *Nan McCurdy*, who formerly served in San Francisco Libre, Nicaragua and is now a Mission Advocate for the Western Jurisdiction.

**GENERAL BOARD OF GLOBAL MINISTRIES MISSIONARIES
SUPPORTED BY THE BALTIMORE-WASHINGTON CONFERENCE*
As of December 2016**

Hoover, Ellen #07990Z – Ellen is an educator and administrator in Lumbumbashi, Democratic Republic of the Congo. jeffellenhoover@gmail.com

Hoover, Jeffery #07989Z – Jeffery serves as a professor, University of Katanga, Democratic Republic of the Congo. jeffellenhoover@gmail.com

Mairena, Miguel #12877Z — Miguel is serving as a GBGM's Jurisdictional Mission Advocate for the Western Jurisdiction, The United Methodist Church. nanmigl@yahoo.com

McCurdy, Nan #13929Z – Nan serves as a GBGM's Jurisdictional Mission Advocate for the Western Jurisdiction, The United Methodist Church. nanmigl@yahoo.com

Saucedo, Alina #15168Z -- a missionary with the General Board of Global Ministries serving as advisor on institutional and community development of the Women and Community Association of San Francisco Libre, Nicaragua.

Williams, Richmond #3021955 – a missionary with the General Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church serving as professor of leadership development at Africa University, Mutare, Zimbabwe.

Willicor, Albert #15151Z – a missionary with the Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church through GBGM Global Health, is Chief Medical Officer at Ganta United Methodist Hospital in Ganta, Liberia.

Lesure, Gayle #982965 – Gayle serves as a GBGM Church and Community Worker and Deaconess with the Greater Clarksburg Cooperative Parish in the West Virginia Annual Conference. cburgparishgayle@yahoo.com

Moore, Jennifer # 3022165 – a missionary with the General Board of Global Missionaries of the United Methodist Church serving as a Christian educator with the United Methodist Church in The Republic of Macedonia.

**These are missionaries who have gone out from the BWC or who have four local churches supporting them.
Note: Twenty-four additional missionaries are supported by at least one local church in the Baltimore-Washington Conference.*

**RETIRED MISSIONARIES FROM THE BALTIMORE — WASHINGTON
CONFERENCE**

Rev. Roger and Sylvia Burtner (Nigeria)
Rev. Kenneth Jones (Zaire)
Dorothy Warner (Japan)

Secretary of Global Ministries for the Baltimore-Washington Conference

Jane Grays
7118 Piney Wood Place
Laurel, Maryland 20707
Email: ladyjanegra@aol.com



ALTAR FLOWERS

- * March 5 — Madea Badio
- * March 12 — Madea Badio
- * March 19 — Madea Badio
- * March 26 — Madea Badio

* The 2017 flower chart is posted in the Narthex 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!



Make Emmanuel a welcoming congregation!

Be a greeter at the 9 AM or 11:15 AM service!

Persons also are needed to read the scriptures at the 11:15 services in March.

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!



GUESTS visiting Emmanuel on one or more Sundays in January included:

- The Barnes Family
- Molly Bredbenner
- Aiesha Layne
- Pamela Lindley
- Rick & Susan Mellott
- Bart Seede

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 or phone her at 301-937-7070.

March Birthdays

1. Alice White
3. Ray Midkiff
6. Mary Nicholson, Sherry Cohen
7. Janet Carter, Dayo Hassan
10. Ian Kresge
11. Maureen Sciannella, Bryant Davis
12. Adel Wortman, Kemi Oluwafemi
17. Brendan McNealy
18. Nancy Cavallo, Stacy Graham, Pastor Jacob Young
19. Sallie Rhodes
21. Morgan Graham
22. Sue Young
24. Jennifer Kresge, Margie Mock
26. Stephen Lewis
28. Dennis McGlynn
29. Dara Hassan
30. Mary Jane Kenyon
31. Stephanie Ladd



March Anniversaries

9. Isaac & Kemi Oluwafemi



IN MEMORIAM

Christian love and sympathy to:

- Scarlet Robertson and family, on the loss of her husband, Bill, on February 1.
- Betty Robb and family, on the passing of her husband, George, on February 16.

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



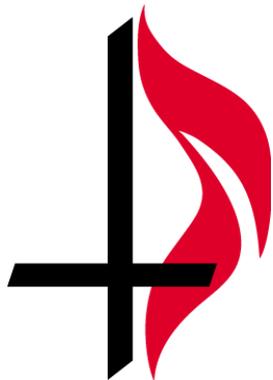
March 2017

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|--|--|---|---|--|
| | | | <p><i>1</i> 7:30 pm Ash Wednesday Service @ EUMC</p> | <p><i>2</i> 7 pm Bible Study at Panera Bread</p> | <p><i>3</i></p> | <p><i>4</i> 5 pm Pancake Supper 5 pm NA</p> |
| <p><i>5</i> 9 & 11:15 am Worship Services 10:15 am Sunday School 12:30 pm UMW Executive Meeting 12:45 Chancel Choir</p> | <p><i>6</i></p> | <p><i>7</i> 7 pm ESOL</p> | <p><i>8</i></p> | <p><i>9</i> 7 pm Bible Study at Panera Bread</p> | <p><i>10</i></p> | <p><i>11</i> 5 pm NA</p> |
| <p><i>12</i> 9 & 11:15 am Worship Services 10:15 am Sunday School 2nd Sunday Lunch 12:30 pm Youth Fellowship 12:45 Chancel Choir</p> | <p><i>13</i> 7 pm Depression/ Bipolar Support Group 7 pm Trustees</p> | <p><i>14</i> 10 am Prayer Fellowship 7 pm ESOL</p> | <p><i>15</i> 10 am Susanna Wesley Circle</p> | <p><i>16</i> 7 pm Bible Study at Panera Bread</p> | <p><i>17</i> 11 am Community Place Café</p> | <p><i>18</i> 12 Noon UMW General Meeting 5 pm NA</p> |
| <p><i>19</i> 9 & 11:15 am Worship Services 10:15 am Sunday School 12:45 Chancel Choir</p> | <p><i>20</i> 12:00 Noon Ellen Hoover Circle</p> | <p><i>21</i> 7 pm ESOL 7 pm Sisters in Spirit Circle</p> | <p><i>22</i></p> | <p><i>23</i> 7 pm Bible Study at Panera Bread</p> | <p><i>24</i> 7 pm Food Preparation</p> | <p><i>25</i> 10 am Food Distribution 5 pm NA</p> |
| <p><i>26</i> 9 & 11:15 am Worship Services 10:15 am Sunday School 12:30 pm Youth Fellowship 12:45 Chancel Choir</p> | <p><i>27</i> 7 pm Depression/ Bipolar Support Group</p> | <p><i>28</i> 10 am Prayer Fellowship 7 pm ESOL</p> | <p><i>29</i> 7 pm Church Council</p> | <p><i>30</i> 7 pm Bible Study at Panera Bread</p> | <p><i>31</i></p> | |

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