

The Lamplighter

Emmanuel United Methodist Church

July 2017

A Vibrant Multi-Cultural Church

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



Hallelujah!

I greet you in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

It is very hot. Nowadays, it is sizzling. I hope you keep yourself safe in this temperature.

At the end of May, I went to Hawaii to join the conference of Korean UMC. There, I was able to get several good insights about ministry and church. The theme was “Revitalizing Laity.” Small groups met to discuss homosexuality, how to make a church grow and be happy, etc.

On June 17, Emmanuel had a mid-year review of our church goals for 2017. One of the main goals the church set at the beginning of 2017 is to achieve an average attendance of 130 at Sunday worship services. Average attendance for the first half of the year is 121. Since last Advent, Emmanuel has welcomed 12 new people to our services. But 11 people have moved away, gone to their permanent home, or have been homebound for a long time.

God has been sending new people to Emmanuel, and the church is gradually growing. It’s a good sign that most of the new visitors continue to worship at our church. It means that they are happy with Emmanuel once they participate in church activities. I hope that God will continue to send new people to the church.

Every Friday since Lent, Crystal Webb and I have visited homes in the neighborhood surrounding the church and given residents church brochures. Last Friday, we happened to visit the home of a retired pastor who had been a District Superintendent of the Congregational Church. He welcomed us and invited us into his house. He said, “Nowadays, many churches are losing many members. How about your church?” I replied, “Our church is ok. I think it is a cultural trend.”

The implication behind his question is that many churches today are very concerned about membership. He gave us his prediction about the future of the church.

He said that house churches — a small group of people who worship in someone’s home — will be a trend. I don’t know if he means a small church or a cell group. Anyhow, it is meaningful that he mentioned the importance of small groups in the church. He said that he would like to visit Emmanuel UMC someday. We had a nice conversation.

Visiting neighbors is not easy, because people usually do not welcome strangers. Yet, whenever I visit neighbors, I recall the mission trip of Jesus and his disciples described in the Bible. I remember the stories in the New Testament and encourage myself for the work. Crystal and I will continue to visit neighbors until the end of June.

Now it is summer time. You may be going on vacation to enjoy a nearby mountain or the ocean. I pray that you will have a safe summer and vacation. Please continue to pray and support the body of Christ, Emmanuel UMC.

In His service,

~ ~*Pastor Jacob*

Treasure Found at Emmanuel!



Our Vacation Bible School Program, “Digging for Treasure,” begins August 7. During this week-long program, children and adults will explore Jesus’ parables and the treasure to be found in his words. Jesus’ parables seem simple, at first. It takes listening and digging deeper to discover the treasures of the kingdom of heaven. We will explore the parables through drama, music, games, crafts, and other fun activities for children and adults. There will be snacks, too!

Vacation Bible School is free and open to the public. It will run **from 6 pm to 8 pm, August 7 through August 11.**

A flyer with more details about VBS and the registration form may be found on pages 3 and 4.

Join us as we dig for treasure!

CONGRATULATIONS, GRADUATES!

During the worship services on June 11, Emmanuel recognized our high school and college graduates:



- **Abraham Scotland, Jr.** – High Point High School
- **Hannah Butcher** – Towson University
- **Sanya Oluwafemi** – University of Maryland, College Park
- **Temitope Oluwafemi** – North Carolina State University
- **Ascenna Scotland** - American University

Well done, each of you! We wish you all “smooth sailing” as you set course for the next stage of your life.

LOOKING FORWARD TO THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR.....



Even though the summer has just started, the food distribution program is collecting school supplies again this year to help students in the Beltsville area. We have already been in contact with Beltsville Academy, and they gave us the list below. We are trying to simplify the process this year and are asking for **only the following items**:

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| Pencils | Pink erasers | 24-pack of crayons | Glue sticks |
| Wide-ruled notebook paper | Composition book | Plastic 2-pocket folders | Scissors |
| 8 to 10 markers | Highlighters | | |

If you would rather donate money for the cause, please note it on the bottom of your check. We will be distributing the supplies prior to the beginning of school. If you have any questions, please contact Mary Ann Vaughan at mvaughan@ipcmclean.org.

Thank you for your continued support of this worthwhile program!

~ ~ *Mary Ann Vaughan*

Yelp!

Tell the Web What You Like About Our Church



You may know that Yelp (www.yelp.com) is a website of reviews of businesses, services, and other organizations. Lots of people use it to find good restaurants, doctors, and a whole bunch of other things. I use it especially to find good restaurants, not only around here, but also when I travel. When I find a business that has a high average rating with lots of reviews, I am pretty sure it's a good place.

But did you know that Yelp includes reviews of churches? And our church has an entry with one review! It's at www.yelp.com/biz/emmanuel-united-methodist-church-beltsville. The good news is that the lone reviewer gave us 5 stars. The bad news is that we only have one review.

So I want to encourage each of you to write your own review of our church, no matter how short or long, on Yelp. If you already have a Yelp account, it's easy to write a review. If you don't have a Yelp account, it's free and easy to set one up.

Let's tell the Web what we think of our great church. Let's all Yelp!

~ ~ *Todd Reitzel*



YOU'RE INVITED

to Vacation Bible School 2017

For Ages 4 through 8th grade and Adults
(Nursery Care for ages 1 — 3 will be provided for participants only)

Emmanuel United Methodist Church
11416 Cedar Lane Beltsville, MD 20705

August 7-11 from 6-8 pm
www.eumcbeltsville.com



Listen up! Dig deep! Jesus had a lot to say. And those who listened discovered a treasure in his words. Digging for Treasure is a fun-filled, Bible-based learning experience focused on uncovering the stories Jesus told, also known as parables.

Children will sing songs, play games, make crafts, eat snacks, and do other activities, all designed to help children discover amazing treasures in the parables. We welcome your children to Vacation Bible School!

Name of Adult Attendee or Parent: _____ Phone #: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

If you are a parent:

Will you attend the adult VBS class while your child is (children are) in VBS? Yes ____ No ____

If yes, will you need nursery care for a child ages 1-3? Yes ____ No ____

Name of 1st Child: _____

Birthday: _____ Grade (as of Sept 2017): _____

Name of 2nd Child: _____

Birthday: _____ Grade (as of Sept 2017): _____

Name of 3rd Child: _____

Birthday: _____ Grade (as of Sept 2017): _____

Name of 4th Child: _____

Birthday: _____ Grade (as of Sept 2017): _____

Who do we contact in case of emergency? (Please include name, phone number, and cell phone number)



Spiritual Retreat

Sponsored by United Methodist Women
"Women of the Bible"

August 19, 2017, 9 AM-3 PM Fellowship Hall

Continental breakfast served at 8:30 AM

\$20 registration fee includes continental breakfast and lunch

You can register in the narthex between services through August 13, or you can mail the registration form below and a check payable to EUMC/UMW to:

Emmanuel UMC
11416 Cedar Lane
Beltsville, MD 20705
Attn: Karen Mackey

Name of Attendee(s) _____

Address _____

Phone # _____ Email _____

Amount enclosed \$ _____

Please specify any special needs _____

Questions? Contact Karen Mackey through the church office (301-937-7114).



Celebrating the offering is a spiritual act of worship every believer can actively participate in each week. Giving becomes a celebration when the believer discovers the joy of generosity, which grows out of God's grace."

— Melvin Amerson, *Celebrating the Offering*

To belong to our congregation is to be a steward. Some may say that “stewardship” is just a polite way of referring to financial giving to the church. But it’s far more than that. One character in some of Jesus’ parables is the steward — the servant charged by the master to care for the master’s property. It is the master, not the steward, who owns the property; but the steward is responsible for it and is accountable to the master. So it is, said Jesus, between God and us. As God’s stewards, we have three responsibilities:

Receiving: We receive with joyful thanksgiving the many gifts that God showers upon us — time, talent, treasure, our bodies, our friendships, natural resources, and the beauty around us.

Managing: We take good care of what we have received. We manage these resources wisely — for our own good and the good of others.

Giving: Out of our gratitude in receiving so abundantly, we want to share with others. Let’s look at three kinds of gifts that we receive, manage, and share:

- **Our time:** As Christian stewards we try to manage time wisely and in a balanced way. And we give our time gladly to family and friends, to strangers, to the community, the church, and to ourselves.
- **Our abilities:** Do you remember Jesus’ parable of the three servants who received different amounts of money to manage while the master was away? We’ve each received from God distinctive gifts and talents. How we develop and use these talents is a matter of stewardship. As stewards, we acknowledge the gifts we have without apology. We develop them further, practicing new skills and putting our talents to work in ministry.
- **Our resources:** We may think that our financial resources are our own. But when we recall that the time, the energy, the good health, and the opportunities for employment behind these dollars are all gifts from God, we see that the funds belong to God, too. One vital aspect of our stewardship is our giving to Christ’s work in the world. For many, this proportion is one-tenth, or a tithe. Whatever the amount, we have discovered the joy in giving to God the “first fruits,” an amount “off the top” of our income, not what’s left over at the end of the month.

As we begin the vacation season, remember that the work of the church doesn’t take a vacation. Thank you for all that you have given so far this year.



Emmanuel has wheelchairs, walkers, and canes which can be loaned out. If you need to borrow any of these items, please call the church office at 301-937-7114.

~ ~The Trustees

NOTARIZED

Need to have something notarized? Bobbie Deegan is a Notary Public, and would be happy to notarize documents for you, free of charge. Give her a call at 301-937-7070, or email her at BobbieDeegan@aol.com, to arrange a time to get together.

An Overview of the 2017 session of the Baltimore-Washington Conference

By Melissa Lauber, reprinted from the Baltimore-Washington Conference website, www.BWCUMC.org

When Bishop LaTrelle Easterling pronounced the 233rd session of the Baltimore-Washington Conference open, she made history as the first woman to lead the 159,000 members and 1,050 clergy who make up the 628 churches of the Baltimore-Washington Conference.

But Easterling's actions were more focused on the future as she set an ambitious, faith-centered and Spirit-driven vision for the Conference during the three-day event, May 31-June 2, at the Wardman Park Marriott Hotel.

During opening worship, the bishop stressed the theme of the session, "We are One: Connected in Covenant." She preached to a spirited gathering of more than 1,527 registered members and guests who filled the ballroom to capacity.

"We are the body of Christ together," she said. "How we choose to live out our days is our response to this covenant. ... If we allow ourselves to be divided, we will lose our moral witness to the world."

Some of the tensions the church is experiencing arose at the very beginning of the conference, in the clergy session, when the Rev. J. Philip Wogaman handed in his clergy credentials. His gesture, he said, was made out of a "broken heart" for T.C. Morrow, a lesbian who was not approved for ordination as a Deacon in 2016 and who was not brought forth to the clergy session this year, and for others who have been excluded "as a result of bad church law, applied legalistically and hurtfully," he said.

The 54-member Board of Ordained Ministry has created a task force to review the board's policies and practices around LGBTQI candidates, especially in light of the denomination's Commission on a Way Forward, which will deliver its report on human sexuality and The United Methodist Church in February 2019.

"We solicit your prayers for this very important work," said BoOM Chair Rev. C. Anthony Hunt, "and look with hope to the day when The United Methodist Church will reflect God's gracious expression of what it means to be Beloved Community."

During the session's times of holy conferencing, members:

- Voted on five amendments to the denomination's Constitution, including one that addresses discrimination against women and girls within the UMC. The results of these votes will be announced after all the United Methodist conferences, worldwide, cast their ballots.
- Passed a resolution to become a member of the Religious Coalition on Reproductive Choice.
- Chose to participate in a conference-wide boycott of Hewlett Packard products until the company ceases to profit from the Israel-Palestine conflict.
- Rejected calls for the BWC and Mid-Atlantic Foundation to adopt stronger socially responsible investment screens and to divest from Caterpillar, Hewlett Packard, and Motorola, three companies noted by some for their financial involvement in Israel's occupation of Palestine.
- Revised the conference moving policy so that retirees have the same moving benefits as active clergy.
- Officially closed Centennial-Caroline Street UMC in Baltimore and Overlea Chapel UMC in Baltimore.
- Adopted an \$18,463,136 budget for 2018, only a 0.3 percent increase over 2017.
- Slightly lowered the benevolence factor, used to determine apportionments, to 17.725 percent; and affirmed a projected collection rate of 92 percent.
- Increased the equitable compensation rate for clergy by 2 percent to \$43,149, with the minimum housing rate remaining the same at \$19,866.

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Overview of the 2017 session

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In moments of celebration and remembrance, members:

- Rejoiced at the ordination of seven Elders and the commissioning of one provisional Deacon and nine provisional Elders during a service in which Bishop Ernest Lyght celebrated Jesus as the bread of life.
- Gave thanks for the 617 total years of service of 24 clergy who retire July 1 at a luncheon where Bishop Forrest Stith spoke on the importance of passing the torch with purpose.
- Lit candles remembering the bishops, pastors, clergy spouses and lay people who died during the past year during a memorial service led by the Rev. Ginger Gaines-Cirelli.
- Recognized, in the laity session, eight new Certified Lay Members who completed their two-year course of study.
- Honored two Cabinet members: The Rev. Laura Easto, superintendent of the Baltimore-Suburban District, who has been appointed to serve Potomac UMC; and the Rev. Ed DeLong, interim superintendent of the Baltimore Metropolitan District; and welcomed two new superintendents, the Revs. Wanda Duckett and Ann Laprade.
- Welcomed new conference leaders: Christie Latona, the new Director of Connectional Ministries; the Rev. Antoine Love, who will serve as assistant to the bishop; and the Rev. Rodney Smothers, who will become the BWC's new congregational development resource specialist.
- In special offerings, collected \$10,051 for Seeds of Security, a ministry to assist people leaving situations of domestic violence and \$4,075 for scholarships for youth to attend the ROCK retreat.
- In a district-centered Penny War, raised \$814 for the Adrienne Terry Affordable Housing Fund.
- In a new tradition, held a worship service recognizing the 75 clergy who are appointed to new churches this year and the lay people who will receive them.

During reports about a variety of ministries, members:

- Committed themselves to personally addressing racism during the Call to Action report, which outlined a new conference-wide initiative on racial justice and reconciliation.
- Honored Andy Thornton, who is retiring after 30 years as director of the conference's camping and retreat ministries.
- Learned about a new resource for individual and youth groups created by the Conference Council on Youth Ministries called Stress Less, which addresses issues affecting young people.
- Received information about how they can become more involved in the conference's Young Adult Council, especially in the One Love creative worship experience next fall, and the expanding conference Hispanic Ministries programs.
- Celebrated with BWC Lay Leader Delores Martin how the laity are active in ministry, with more than 1,000 lay servants and 143 Certified Lay Ministers working in covenant relationship with others to glorify God.
- Heard from the Rev. Jim Miller of the Episcopacy Committee how last year, the BWC raised \$330,740 to help build a health and wellness center at Africa University.

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Overview of the 2017 session

(continued from page 8)

Members also heard from several honored guests, including:

- Rev. Steve Manskar of the Board of Discipleship, who led a two-session Bible study on Ephesians 4:1-16, the guiding Scripture of the Conference Session. During the session, he explored how United Methodists are to be a sign, foretaste and instrument of God as they make disciples, serving as Christ's ambassadors and servants.
- Bishop Seung Ho Choi and a delegation of leaders from the South Conference of the Korean Methodist Church in South Korea, who are in covenant partnership with the BWC.
- Jodi Cataldo of Discipleship Ministries, who instructed the laity on a discipleship system built on H.O.P.E. and outlined the various roles and requirements for those called to be certified lay servants, certified lay speakers and certified lay ministers.
- Bishop Mariann Edgar Budde of the Episcopal Diocese of Washington, who is celebrating the move for greater unity between United Methodists and Episcopalians.
- Tiaara A. Anderson, a student at Philander Smith College, who thanked the BWC for its support of the Historic Black College Fund.
- Representatives from the General Board of Church and Society, who encouraged United Methodists to become active in the sanctuary movement, opening their hearts and doors to provide shelter and safety to immigrants in need.
- The Commission on the Way Forward, which showed a video with words of hope about their work addressing issues of human sexuality in the denomination.
- The Committee on Faith and Order, which encouraged BWC members to participate in the study "Wonder, Love and Praise," that explores the United Methodist understanding of what it means to be church.

You Have the Power to Donate Life



May Stewart was taken from us very suddenly and unexpectedly, but her love for people will live after her for many years to come. May was an organ donor, and several people are benefiting from her selflessness.

Each organ donor has the potential to save and enhance the lives of more than **75** people! Donated organs and tissue may include the heart, intestines, kidneys, liver, lungs, pancreas, bones, corneas, heart valves, skin, tendons, and veins.

But what, exactly, does this involve? Rest assured, organ, eye and tissue donation becomes an option only after all lifesaving efforts have been made. The body is always treated with great care, respect, and dignity. Organs are distributed based on such medical information as blood type, body size, and tissue type matching. Tissue is distributed based on patient need, availability and medical criteria. There is no cost to the donor's family or estate to make a donation.

More than 100,000 men, women and children currently are awaiting lifesaving organ transplants, and that number continues to grow. An average of 18 people die each day "still waiting."

Would you like more information about organ and tissue donation? Visit www.BeADonor.org or call 866-Be-A-Donor (866-232-3666).

To register as a donor, go to www.DonateLifeMaryland.org.

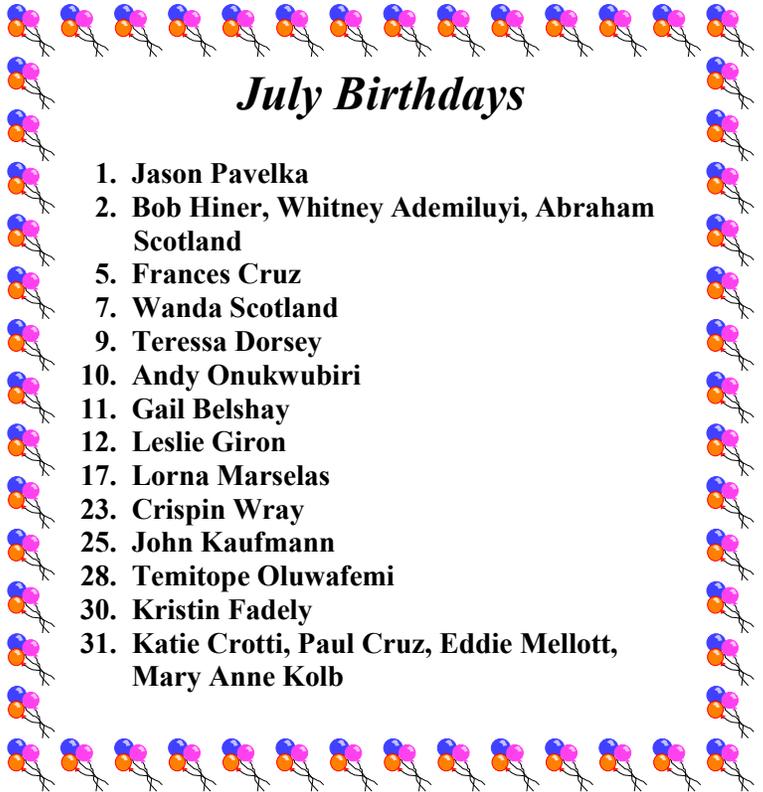
ALTAR FLOWERS

- July 2 — Scotland
- July 9 — Scotland
- July 16 — Marselas
- July 23 —
- July 30 — Scotland



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



July Birthdays

1. Jason Pavelka
2. Bob Hiner, Whitney Ademiluyi, Abraham Scotland
5. Frances Cruz
7. Wanda Scotland
9. Teresa Dorsey
10. Andy Onukwubiri
11. Gail Belshay
12. Leslie Giron
17. Lorna Marselas
23. Crispin Wray
25. John Kaufmann
28. Temitope Oluwafemi
30. Kristin Fadely
31. Katie Crotti, Paul Cruz, Eddie Mellott, Mary Anne Kolb

July Anniversaries

- 4. Beverly & George Urick
- 7. Wanda & Abraham Scotland
- 8. Kimberly & Brian Beach
- 12. Kathy & Pat Mellott

Greeters & Scripture Readers Needed

at ALL the 9 AM and 11:15 AM services in July!

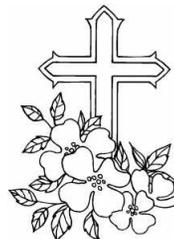
No experience necessary!
We will train!

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!

IN MEMORIAM

Christian love and sympathy to the families listed below.



John Stewart and family, on the passing of his wife, May, on May 31.

The family of Amelia "Amy" Risdon, who passed away on June 2.

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



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

- Frances Notley
- Mary & Steve Seitz

All of God's children are welcome at Emmanuel. We welcome you to our church family! Please worship with us again soon.



To get in touch with Pastor Jacob, please call the Church Office at 301-937-7114, or email the Pastor at Jacob.Young@eumcbeltsville.com. Please do not use his personal email address, because that makes the church's computer network vulnerable to worms, viruses and other undesirables. Thanks!

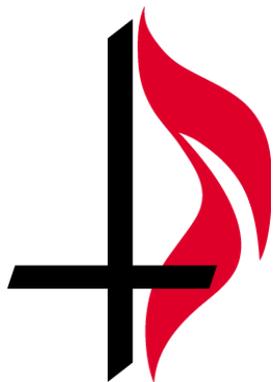
To contact Lamplighter editor Bobbie Deegan with an article, suggestion, or story idea, please phone her at 301-937-7070, or email her at BobbieDeegan@aol.com. Additional material gladly accepted!

July 2017

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|--|--|------------------------------|---------------------------|--|---------------|
| | | | | | | 1 5 pm NA |
| 2 9 & 11:15 am Worship Services | 3 | 4  | 5 | 6 7 pm Bible Study | 7 | 8 5 pm NA |
| 9 9 & 11:15 am Worship Services 2 nd Sunday Lunch | 10 7 pm Trustees 7 pm Depression/ Bipolar Support Group | 11 10 am Prayer Fellowship | 12 | 13 7 pm Bible Study | 14 | 15 5 pm NA |
| 16 9 & 11:15 am Worship Services Youth leave for Camp Hope | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 7 pm Bible Study | 21 11 am Community Place Café | 22 5 pm NA |
| 23 9 & 11:15 am Worship Services | 24 7 pm Depression/ Bipolar Support Group | 25 10 am Prayer Fellowship | 26 7 pm Church Council | 27 7 pm Bible Study | 28 | 29 5 pm NA |
| 30 9 & 11:15 am Worship Services | 31 | | | | | |

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11416 Cedar Lane
Beltsville, MD 20705
301-937-7114
Web: www.emmanuelumcbeltsville.net
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