

# The Lamplighter

Emmanuel United Methodist Church

October 2010



Pastor Daniel Mejia

I never miss the opportunity to go and catch a good movie. Moreover, I get particularly excited when I can catch an early show before 6:00 p.m. that will save me a couple of extra dollars. (Movies nowadays cost \$10 or \$11 in some places.)

One time, I went to an early show before 6:00 p.m. While at the theater, and to my surprise, I saw a big poster that said, "Movies before noon \$5." I said to myself, "Sweet! Even better, next time I'll come earlier." So, a few weeks later I made plans to catch a movie before noon. Looking at the movie schedule though, I discovered one small, little detail: the movie theater didn't show any movies before noon. I became one more innocent victim of false advertising.

Jesus' opening sermon was preached in front of his congregation. In this sermon, Jesus used the words of the Prophet Isaiah to tell the entire world what his life and ministry was going to be all about. ***"When Jesus came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, as was his custom. He***

***stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."*** (Luke 4:16-21)

The sermon itself was short. After quoting Isaiah's prophecy, Jesus limited himself to saying the words, ***"Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."***

If I put myself in the place of one in the audience, I am sure that Jesus' words would have seemed odd and pretentious. What made Jesus' first sermon effective and prophetic was not its eloquence or the length, but what happened after it was preached. Jesus used and employed his entire mind, strength, and heart to make sure those words became a reality. No false advertising here. Jesus did not make a promise which he did not keep. There was no false advertising. Those who got to know Jesus personally were not disappointed at the end. He promised abundant life, and he gave it to them; he promised forgiveness, and he gave it to them; he promised grace, and he gave it

to them; he promised wholeness, and he gave it to them; he promised eternal life, and he gave it to them.

No false advertising here.

One day, Jesus asked his disciples a simple question, ***"But who do you say that I am?"*** (Luke 9:20) In other words, "Do you know me?" And if you do, "Who am I for you?" Peter was quick to respond, ***"The Messiah of God."*** (Luke 9:20) Although, Peter didn't fully understand the magnitude of his answer, he knew that Jesus was by his words and actions the Son of God. No doubts, no false advertisement here. Are we too, by our words and actions, the loving, serving, and kind Christian community that we claim to be for the people in Beltsville? I hope so, I pray so.

There is nothing worse than a false advertisement.

And I know that with our prayers, our service, and our love for Christ and each other we strive every day to make the love of God a tangible reality for the people in Beltsville.

When people ask me who are we as a church, my answer is fast and clear, "Emmanuel United Methodist Church is a loving, serving, caring, and prophetic Christian community."

No false advertisement here.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Daniel Mejia

## A BLAST FROM THE PAST



These three ladies are serving at one of the chicken barbeques at the church some years ago. Can you identify them?

**The answer appears in this issue.**

Last month's photo was of Elmo Webb and James Updegraff

## PECANS ARE COMING!



**Karen Mackey is selling pecans again for the UMW. This is one of our three fundraisers for mission projects.**

To make it easier on everybody, please pre-order from Karen. You do not have to prepay. We offer chopped or halves of pecans. My personal favorites are the pecan halves dipped in chocolate. They are sweet, salty, crunchy and chocolate lusciousness in a pretty bag! We also offer candied (great on a spinach salad) and individually wrapped clusters (great for in a candy jar at work!) The price is not out yet, but LAST YEAR'S PRICE was \$7.00. 301-937-3324. Hopefully, they will be here for the Apple Festival on the 30th.

## WORSHIP COMMITTEE

By Mike Hatton and George Urick, Cochairmen, Committee on Worship

On September 8, Mike Hatton, George Urick, Margie Mock, Carl Norris, Rick Bergmann, Scarlet Robertson, and Daniel Mejia met in open forum in the library. Rev. Mejia led us in an opening prayer. Mike Hatton conducted the evening's meeting. He spent a few minutes briefing us on a communications tower project currently being discussed and considered in the church council. The tower to be built on EUMC property sometime in the future will be built by GTTE (Green Tree Tower Enterprise). A report by the church council goes into the subject in more detail, so if you're interested in knowing more, please look at September 1, 2010 Church Council notes.

Margie Mock had a question for Daniel. She wanted to know if it bothered him when people moved around during the benediction. He responded by saying that during the early service a lack of formality is acceptable. The pastor is able to get down the aisle before people start leaving, and it is not a problem at the end of the traditional service.

Carl Norris asked who is in charge of the ushers. No specific answer was given by anyone, but there was a discussion about training and encouraging more of the youth as acolytes. Carl was willing to help mentor new replacements for the 2nd service. As our current dedicated ushers are getting older, considering new ideas for the future is of paramount importance. Rick suggested some training of acolytes during their confirmation classes.

Scarlet spoke of the packet given to children and youth coming up for the children's moment. She suggested that the ushers should also give a packet to those who do not go up.

Good ideas, supportive encouragement and expressing concerns are appreciated by all of us.

## FAITHFUL READERS BOOK CLUB

By Carol Clatterbuck

As reported in the September Lamplighter, our next meeting is scheduled for Saturday, October 23, 10:00-11:00 a.m. We will request the library, but this could change. Watch the announcements, our website, and I'll send out an e-mail prior to meeting.

We will be reading "Keeping Faith" by Jodi Picoult. It's about a 7 year old girl who begins talking to God and is able to effect miraculous cures. Throw in the media, religious leaders, psychologists and a custody battle for a riveting read.

If you like reading, sharing your thoughts, or just listening, please join us in October!

Questions? Contact Carol Clatterbuck or Bryant Davis.

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

By Bill Raulin

Finance Chairperson

Well, school has started, the choir is back and now we are working on Christmas. I want to thank all who remembered to send in their pledge checks before going on vacation.

The church is doing well. Attendance is up, especially the 9:00 a.m. service. If you have not attended recently, check out the new early service. The praise band is good and many enjoy this different type of service. I for one like the usual service at 11:15 a.m. and the fact that I sing in the choir. We like to see more people in the pews than in the choir. In any event, if you haven't attended recently, think about it and come join us. You're always welcome at church.

We received the report on the Spirit of Beltsville Festival. It was a great success because a lot of people came and had a great time.

## COMMUNITY PLACE CAFÉ

By Ann Rowland

Do you ever think that you're only one person, so how much can you possibly do to make a difference in this world? I'd like to share this story with you because it is one that I have found so inspiring for many years and I hope you will too.

### The Starfish Story

One day a man was walking along the beach when he noticed a figure in the distance. As he got closer, he realized the figure was that of a little boy picking something up and gently throwing it into the ocean. Approaching the boy, he asked, "What are you doing?"

The youth replied, "throwing starfish in the ocean. The sun is up and the tide is going out. If I don't throw them in, they'll die."

"Son," the man said, "don't you realize there are miles and miles of beach and hundreds of starfish? You can't possibly make a difference!"

After listening politely, the boy bent down, picked up another starfish, and threw it into the surf. Then, smiling at the man, he said, "I made a difference for that one."

Adapted from The Star Thrower by Loren Easley.



## OCTOBER ANNIVERSARY



6 Eleanor & Jim Butler

## S.O.S FOR S.I.S

*Stuff Our Stockings for Sisters In Spirit*

The Salvation Army Stockings will be handled differently this year. Instead of people signing out stockings to fill, we are asking that people bring stocking stuffers and the stockings will be stuffed by residents of Renaissance Gardens at Riderwood. Beginning in October and continuing until November 21<sup>st</sup> (the Sunday before Thanksgiving), Sisters in Spirit will be collecting items to put in Christmas stockings for the Salvation Army. Items include: small toys, small books, crayons, playing cards, small dolls and cars, and any other toys that will fit in a stocking. Non-chocolate, individually wrapped candy left over from Halloween can be donated for the stockings. We need a lot of items, so please give generously to this seasonal event.



## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS



- 1 Rose Johnson
- 2 John Cavallo
- 4 Erica Belshay, Nick Lee
- 5 Shirl Akers
- 7 Peggy Wells
- 10 Cecelia Bouma
- 13 Lauren Fadely, Alexandra Butcher, Michael Hatton
- 14 Brian Beach
- 15 Edrie Powell
- 16 Samantha Painter
- 18 Leticia Mejia, Charles Vannoy
- 19 Susan Leatherman, Kathy Mellott, Betty Osborn
- 20 Betty Midkiff
- 22 Mary Plantholt
- 24 Patricia Embrey, Ruth Vaye
- 25 Mabel Claye
- 29 Donna Horton, Cameron Beach
- 31 Ronald Midkiff, May Stewart



- October 3 – Nancy Thrush
- October 10 – Hatton
- October 17
- October 24
- October 31

- November 7 -
- November 14 -
- November 21 –Carol Clatterbuck
- November 28 – Elsie Cline

## IT'S APPLE FESTIVAL TIME!

The Apple festival and Craft show is one of three major mission fundraisers the UMW has every year. Oct. 30, Saturday, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. is the date and time. This event takes most everybody's help from the church. Wed. evening the 27th we set up tables and move stuff into the appropriate rooms from 6:00-8:30 p.m. If you are strong or willing we can use your help! Please post the flier someplace so others can support this worthwhile event. Thursday we set up the attic treasure room, the book room the children's room and the tables for the crafters. Friday we price items, keep rearranging items, make sure items and signs are up. Pies are baked on Thursday and Friday. It smells **wonderful!** Saturday we are here about 9:30 a.m. and we open our doors at 10:00 and close them at 2:00. We have a bake sale, a lunch sale, we'll sell pecans if they are in. We also sell apples by the pound. Different missions have tables set up to showcase or raise money for their projects. We work even harder and box and clean up and take down signs.

We prefer donations to be brought in Wednesday evening the 27th. We will be glad to take donations earlier and store your labeled "APPLE FESTIVAL" donations upstairs in the craft room if it is more convenient. I am happy to pick up items in my mid size car from you. If it can fit in my car, I can help you. Call me at 301-937-4291 for item pick up. Doris Wray is the volunteer coordinator. Please see Doris to sign up to help. 301-937-7227. We always get our Apples from Spicknall's. Thank you for your gracious help. Debbie McNitt, UMW president.

Craft Tables are available to rent for the Apple Festival. Please call Karen Mackey to reserve your table. The fee is \$20.00. We have a total of 13 spaces available. Set up is Saturday morning at 8:30. Items must be handmade crafts. Please patronize our crafters. They work hard and offer unique items.

Emmanuel United Methodist Church  
11416 Cedar Lane, Beltsville, MD 20705  
301-937-7114



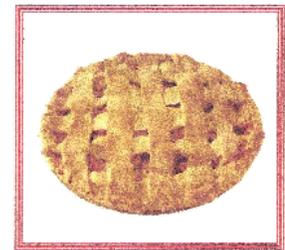
# Apple Festival

Saturday, October 30

10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

**For Sale:  
Handmade Crafts,  
Toys, Books,  
Attic Treasures,  
Fresh Georgia  
Pecans and  
Lunch**

Homemade Baked Goods  
Will Be For Sale, As Well  
As Our Fabulous  
Handmade Apple Pies



Craft Tables Are Available To  
Rent, Please Call 301-937-7114  
For More Details

*Proceeds Benefit Women and Children Through  
Approved UMW Mission Programs*

## UNITED METHODIST WOMEN ANNUAL MEETING

October 16 is our UMW Annual Meeting. It is held at Smithville UMC, 3005 Ferry Landing RD. Dunkirk, MD 20754. The nominal cost for breakfast and entertainment and enlightenment is only \$5.00. Registration is due by October 6 to Lorri Meadows, 4403 Saddle River Dr., Bowie, MD 20720. We will carpool from the church taking Route 495 to exit 11A, MD Route 4, toward Upper Marlboro. Ferry Landing Road is a right turn from Route 4. We will meet at the church at 7:30 a.m. Call Debbie McNitt (301-937-4291) if you are attending.

**THANKS TO ALL OF MY** Emmanuel family for all of your prayers, cards and messages in the loss of my husband Roy, Aug. 19. Pastor Dan participated in the funeral mass at St. Joseph's. His presence was a great comfort. Many thanks also to Doris Wray and her able crew for the luncheon. My family really appreciated the beautiful setting and delicious food. Kathryn Griffin

A Blast From the Past  
answer: From left, Helen Akers,  
Sara Updegraff and Emmy Lear

## EMERGE

Mental Health Ministry  
By Ann Rowland

The first full week in October is Mental Illness Awareness Week. On October 10<sup>th</sup> we will observe mental illness with a special worship service during the 9:00 and 11:15 am services.

Michelle Thorne's (ministerial assistant) mother, Cathy Thorne, LCSW, PhD, a Clinical Therapist at Tucker Clinic in Richmond, VA, will bring the message. In Dr. Thorne's practice she counsels couples with marital problems and individuals suffering from depression and anxiety disorders. We look forward to Dr. Thorne's message that promises to bring a greater understanding of mental illness so that we, as a community of faith, can respond with compassion and be inclusive of all persons regardless of their mental health status.

There will be a literature table in the Narthex during October containing pamphlets and booklets that you may take to learn more about mental illness. You will find information about Depression, Bipolar Disorder, Obsessive Compulsive Disorder and much more.

Tuesday, October 5<sup>th</sup> is National Day of Prayer for Mental Illness Recovery and Understanding. Organizations and faith communities around our nation will be praying for everyone whose lives are touched by mental illness. Many who are mentally ill feel that they are alone, but the numbers are staggering; about one in four adults suffer from a mental disorder.

## SPIRIT OF BELTSVILLE FESTIVAL

The first Spirit of Beltsville Festival was held on the grounds of Emmanuel United Methodist Church on Saturday, September 11 from noon to 5:00 p.m.

There were many activities, including crafts, kids games, a moon bounce, health screenings, and grocery giveaways.

The Boy Scouts of Troop 1033 constructed a monkey bridge that challenged many who tested their balance and equilibrium.

Special guests included members of the Beltsville Volunteer Fire Department.

Hula hoop and limbo contests attracted the kids, as did a sumo wrestler game that involved their wearing bulky costumes.

At 3:00 p.m., Pastor Daniel led the assembled group in a prayer for 9/11 victims and first responders.

The TNL Praise Band followed up with a very nice selection of religious music.

The event was well attended, and all seemed to enjoy it.

Please see the photos on page 6.

## HALLOWEEN PARTY & TRUNK OR TREAT

Halloween is Sunday, October 31<sup>st</sup> this year. Emmanuel is planning two fun events for the whole family:

Kids through grade 6 are invited to a Halloween costume party from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. Then, Trunk or Treat is scheduled from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Park your cars between 6:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Kids will go car to car for candy between 6:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Awards for the most decorated cars will be announced, so bring plenty of candy and lots of decorations.

Boy Scouts will be available to help direct traffic and show people where to park for the safety of the children.

**Emmanuel United Methodist Church**

11416 Cedar Lane, Beltsville, MD 20705 301-937-7114



### Parking Lot Trunk or Treat

- Cars must be parked between 6pm & 6:30pm
- Kids (through 6th grade) go car to car instead of house to house
- For safety reasons, cars must not be moved while kids are Trunk or Treating
- Awards will be given for best decorated cars
- Bring lots of candy to give out

www.emmanuelumcbeltsville.net

**Halloween Night, October 31st from 6:30pm - 7:30pm**



# PHOTOS FROM THE SPIRIT OF BELTSVILLE FESTIVAL

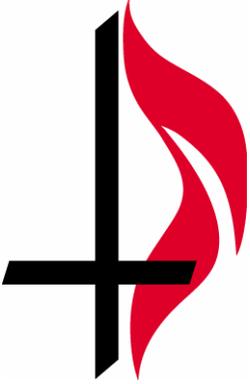


# October 2010

| Sun  | Mon   | Tue                  | Wed  | Thu   | Fri  | Sat  |
|--|---|----------------------|--|---|--|--|
|  |   |                      |  |   | 1<br><i>Manidokan<br/>Retreat Starts</i><br><br>7:00 p.m. Teen<br>Club | 2  |
| 3<br>9:00 & 11:15 a.m.<br>Worship<br>10:15 a.m. Sunday<br>School<br>12:30 p.m. Confir-<br>mation Class<br>Homeless Ministry                  | 4   | 5<br>7:00 p.m. ESOL  | 6<br>6:00 p.m.<br>Communications<br>Committee<br>6:00 p.m.<br>Marinatha Choir<br>7:00 p.m. Church<br>Council                               | 7<br>7:00 p.m.<br>Chancel Choir   | 8  | 9<br>8:30 a.m. Men's<br>Breakfast  |
| 10<br>9:00 & 11:15 a.m.<br>Worship<br>10:15 a.m. Sunday<br>School<br>12:30 p.m. Confir-<br>mation Class<br>2nd Sunday Lunch<br>1:30 p.m. UMW | 11<br>12:30 p.m.<br>Women's Club<br>7:00 p.m. Depres-<br>sion/Bipolar<br>Support Group<br>7:00 p.m. Trustees<br>Meeting | 12<br>7:00 p.m. ESOL | 13<br>6:00 p.m.<br>Marinatha Choir<br><br>7:00 p.m. Worship<br>Committee   | 14<br>10:00 a.m. Prayer<br>Fellowship<br><br>7:00 p.m.<br>Chancel Choir | 15<br>11:00 a.m.<br>Community Place<br>Café                            | 16<br>9:00 a.m. Church<br>Council Planning<br>Retreat                                      |
| 17<br>9:00 & 11:15 a.m.<br>Worship<br>10:15 a.m. Sunday<br>School<br>12:30 p.m. Confir-<br>mation Class                                      | 18<br>12:00 noon<br>Ellen Hoover Cir-<br>cle  | 19<br>7:00 p.m. ESOL | 20<br>10:00 a.m.<br>Susanna Wesley Circle<br>12:00 noon<br>Dorcas Circle<br>6:00 p.m.<br>Marinatha Choir<br>7:00 p.m. Sisters in<br>Spirit | 21<br>7:00 p.m.<br>Chancel Choir  | 22   | 23<br>10:00 a.m.<br>Faithful Readers<br>Book Club in the<br>Library                        |
| 24<br>9:00 & 11:15 a.m.<br>Worship<br>10:15 a.m. Sunday<br>School<br>12:30 p.m. Confir-<br>mation Class<br>Homeless Ministry                 | 25<br>7:00 p.m. Depres-<br>sion/Bipolar<br>Support Group  | 26<br>7:00 p.m. ESOL | 27<br>6:00 p.m.<br>Marinatha Choir   | 28<br>10:00 a.m. Prayer<br>Fellowship<br><br>7:00 p.m.<br>Chancel Choir | 29   | 30<br><b>Apple<br/>Festival</b><br>United Methodist<br>Women<br>10:00 a.m. to<br>2:00 p.m. |
| 31<br>9:00 & 11:15 a.m.<br>Worship<br>10:15 a.m. Sunday<br>School<br>12:30 p.m. Confir-<br>mation Class<br>Trunk or Treat                    |   |                      |  |   |  |  |

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Address Service Requested

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