

# The Lamplighter

Emmanuel United Methodist Church

September 2010



Pastor Daniel Mejia

Living in the DC metro area and not having friends working on Capitol Hill is nearly an impossible experience. At some point most of us have struck a conversation with a congressional staffer, a lobbyist, a political intern, a Governor or the President of the United States; and last but not least, the omnipresent “volunteer campaign worker.” Needless to say, the two favorite topics of conversation in the DC metro area are politics and the Redskins Football team, for many in that order of importance. It is in this context that throughout the years I have collected several acquaintances from both political parties that make their living in the illustrious hallways of Capitol Hill. Their friendships have allowed me to have a little peek, a diminutive insight into the inner workings of our political system. The recurring topic of our conversations is integrity, the integrity of the political system and the integrity of the candidates running for election.

The genius of our American

government is that we are a republic, where legislators make decisions as to what is best for all, and where there is a balance of powers. Today you cannot avoid all of the signs which indicate that we are coming up on the primary elections, to be followed soon by the general election. We hear all of these candidates for local, state and federal offices promising great benefits at no cost. My Capitol Hill friends tell me that still, in this very complicated political system of ours, the voting record of most legislators will be determined by the two C’s: **Constituency and Conscience**.

Every elected legislator knows that when voting on any political or social issue he or she is never alone. Every legislator knows that there will always be the pressure exercised by “interest groups” that helped advance his/her cause and who expect their political support to be paid back; every legislator knows that there will always be pressure exercised by the “Big Boys” in the party who want to enforce discipline and exercise their political muscle; but at the end of the day, voting will be decided in favor of either the **Constituency or Conscience**. What a tough situation for the legislator with integrity who has to vote against the people and groups who supported him/her and elected him/her to power for the sake of doing the right thing. And what a destructive mess is created when all that matters to

the legislator is to please the constituency with no regard to what is right.

**Constituency or Conscience**, God or me, greed or generosity, fear or faith, hostility or hospitality, hate or forgiveness, lust or love, disobedience or faithfulness, discipline or diligence, Jesus or me, which is getting our vote at the end of the day? I am not an elected official, yet every day I face the same voting dilemma.

We need to pray and we need to do our Bible reading and writing every day seeking God’s guidance as to what is right, and for the courage to do the right.

We need to pray for those running for office and for those elected that God will give them a good, clear conscience, and also the courage to follow that Godly conscience regardless of all other pressures.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Daniel Mejia

## DEAR LADIES IN THE CHURCH,

You are invited to join us at a meeting of the United Methodist Women (UMW) in September.

The first meeting of the United Methodist Women this fall will be on Saturday, September 25th at 12 noon in the Fellowship Hall. We will have a potluck meal. Our program will be a Bible study on the Book of John led by Pastor Daniel.

This is also our annual membership meeting. We especially invite all ladies of our church and their guests. Please come to hear Pastor Daniel and to have lunch.

Outside of General meetings, we are divided into groups called circles. Our UMW at Emmanuel offers 4 circles. We have the Ellen Hoover, the Sisters in Spirit, the Dorcas Circle and the Susanna Wesley Circle. They are led by Circle Chairpersons Barbara Butcher, Jane Grays, Eleanor Butler and Emmy Lear, respectively. We meet once a month on the 3rd Wednesday with the exception of the Ellen Hoover Circle. They meet the third Monday of the month. Please join us on Sept. 25 to find out more, or talk to any UMW member! We'll grow in our mission work together.

Debbie McNitt, President  
United Methodist Women  
301.937.4291

## ATTENTION CRAFTERS!

The Apple Festival is on Oct. 30th! If you would like to rent a table, please contact me.

Debbie McNitt, President  
United Methodist Women  
301.937.4291



## SUNDAY SCHOOL

By Todd Reitzel

*For whatsoever things were written earlier were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope. -- Romans 15:4*

Last month I encouraged you to think about what you want from Emmanuel UMC education and let me know. As I write this, we on the Sunday education team are putting together classes for all ages—kids, teens, and adults—to teach us more about God's message for us and give us hope.

On Sunday, September 12, we will hold a Sunday Education Open House from 10:15-11:00 a.m. Stop by to meet teachers of adult classes and hear about their courses. Teachers of kids and teens classes will also be available to meet parents, and they will have

activities for your youngsters if you want to leave them and learn about the adult classes.

The Sunday Education Open House is an opportunity to explore options for learning more in fellowship, in order to build your

faith on the solid ground of God's Word. I hope you can stop by on September 12!

Blessings,  
Todd

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

By Bill Raulin  
Finance Chairperson

The finance meeting went well but we are a bit behind and had to make a few changes. No I am not asking for more money. We had a rough winter. We lost three weeks of services. The snow removal was unbudgeted. The funds will never be made up completely, but we will be fine come fall.



The council meeting was spirited, we got a lot done, and afterwards we had a meeting on the church's 175th anniversary. A lot of good ideas came out. The anniversary is next year in September.

(See the article on page 8)

## FAITHFUL READERS BOOK CLUB

The July Faithful Readers Book Club discussed the book we read with an unusual ending of singing the hymn at the end of the book. During the August 8th church services, this hymn, "Walking Across Egypt" was also sung as part of the service!

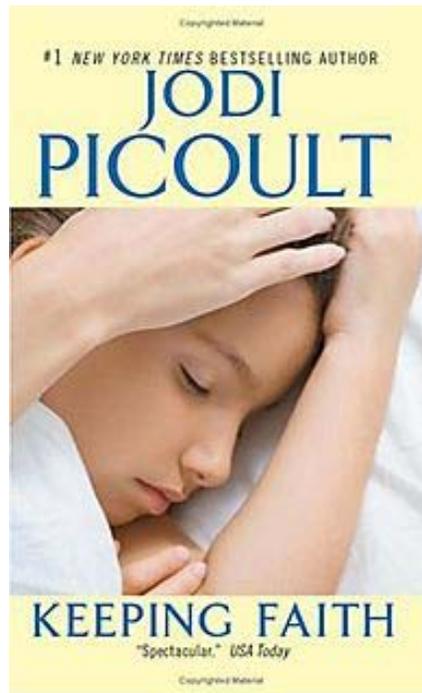
Our next meeting is scheduled for Saturday, October 23rd, 10:00-11:00 a.m. We will request the library, but this could change. Watch the announcements, our website, Lamplighter and I'll send out an email prior to meeting.

We will be reading "Keeping Faith" by Jodi Picoult. It looks like the library system has many books available, and 3 different covers for this book, but they all seem to be the same storyline. 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



## FOOD CLOSET STATUS

Our food closet is in continual use giving boxes and bags of food to people in need. We are well rounded now in all categories, so any contribution is appreciated.

Thank you for participating in this ministry.



## ESOL PROGRAM ENTERS FOURTH YEAR

By Pat Allen

Emmanuel UMC will be starting up the fourth year of its ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) program with registration on Tuesday evening, September 7. Classes will run on subsequent Tuesday evenings from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. through November 16. Again, we will provide instruction at beginning, intermediate, and advanced levels. The fee for this semester will be \$20.00. Supervised care for children 1 year of age and older will be provided for a charge of \$1.00 per child per class session. We encourage anyone who is interested to come, observe then share in the fun of helping our students learn English. Also, any donations of snacks for our refreshment times are always welcome.



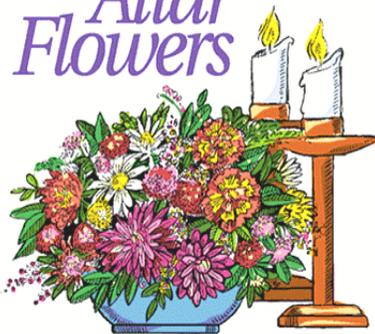
*The Faithful Readers Book Club*

## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS



- 4 Dottie Gilbert
- 6 Issac Oluwafemi
- 8 Charles Cohen
- 9 Jessica Leatherman
- 10 Charlie Deegan, Ester Hatton
- 11 Michael Belshay, Sr.,  
James Mackey, Jr.
- 12 Tracy Fuller,  
Richard Davis,
- 14 Evelyn Adkins
- 15 John Claye, Mary Midkiff
- 21 Bob Miller, Carol Lee
- 22 Beverly Ward
- 23 Chinasa Onukwubiri
- 29 Carolyn Hicks,  
Elizabeth Mougey
- 30 Kathryn Griffin,  
Jennifer Embrey

## Altar Flowers



- September 5 - Charlie and  
Bobbie Deegan
- September 12 - Elsie Cline
- September 19 - John Bouma
- September 26 - Open

## SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES



- 1 Carrie & Roy White
- 2 Don & Mary Ann Roberts
- 3 May & John Stewart
- 4 Donna & Jim Tock
- 5 Bobbie & Charlie Deegan
- 6 Barbara & Jim Butcher
- 8 Priscilla & Chrispin Wray
- 9 Ernie & George Kilbourne
- 16 Mary & Ray Midkiff
- 17 Cecelia & John Bouma
- 18 Juliet & Chuck Pavelka
- 21 Therese  
& Andrew Onukwubiri
- 24 Ada and Dennis McGlynn
- 27 Ann & Ted Ladd
- 30 Camille & John Wesley

**I WANT TO THANK YOU** for all of the cards, calls and prayers for me during my recent illness. Thank you to Pastor Daniel for visiting me while I was in the hospital. It is always good to see a friendly face when you are surrounded by strangers. Thank you also for the beautiful flowers. It feels so good to be back on my feet again and back at work. All of your thoughts and concern mean so much to me.

Jo Anne Harrison

**CONGRATULATIONS!** Sarah and Patrick Elliott announce the birth of their son, Preston Stewart Elliott, II. He was born on Sunday, August 1<sup>st</sup>, weighing a healthy 7 lbs. and 6.3 oz and 21 inches in length. Baby, mom, and dad are all doing well and thank everyone for their prayers, support, and encouragement.



*Preston Stewart Elliott, II*

**THIS IS A SPECIAL THANK YOU** to each one of you who helped in any way to celebrate the life of Michael Anthony McCarthy with beautiful words and a reception following on August 7<sup>th</sup> at Emmanuel United Methodist Church.

Doris Wray

**I JUST WANTED** to thank you for the campership funds. I had a very awesome time at Camp Awesome. I felt a stronger connection between God and me. Because of you, I got to feel the experience and share it with my family. I loved it so much that I miss everyone in my group, including the counselors. I had a very great time and can't wait till next year. **THANNNNNNNNKKSSSS!!!!!!!!!!**

Love, Erica Belshay

# THANK YOU FROM PRINCE GEORGE'S SUMMER TEEN THEATRE

The Prince George's Summer Teen Theatre (PGSTT) would like to say thank you to the trustees and congregation of Emmanuel. If you didn't know, Emmanuel was kind enough to allow PGSTT to hold auditions and rehearsals at the church during May and June. We spent 4 nights a week for about 7 weeks at the church for several hours each evening rehearsing.

Thank you again for your generosity towards the program. Check out the pictures below.

Rick Bergmann



**FREE!**

# Spirit of Beltsville

**Festival sponsored by Emmanuel United Methodist Church**

**Saturday, Sept. 11 Noon-5pm**

**11416 Cedar Lane Beltsville, MD 20705**

For more information call (301) 937-7114



**Fun and Games  
Entertainment  
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Health Fair  
Crafts**



**Concert by TNL Praise  
Band At 3  
And More!!!**

\*Canned food donations or school supply donations accepted to benefit the Food Bank Pantry



[dreamspin.com](http://dreamspin.com)

## MY WEEK AT BIKE CAMP

By Hannah Butcher  
August 13, 2010

A week ago I went to a bike camp that is part of the West River United Methodist church camp. It was amazing! I biked 350 miles from Pittsburgh to D.C. in 7 days, so about 60 to 40 miles a day. It was hard in the beginning but in the end I was happy to be there. We camped some nights and others we stayed at United Methodist churches. One night we stayed at Manidokan, a sister camp of West River.

The trail is beautiful and shady but it is bumpy and muddy on the C&O canal. My favorite part about the trip would, over all, be the people, who became my family and great friends. They supported me and helped me whenever I needed it.

The last day was my 14th birthday, which I have to say was the best birthday I've ever had. That day also happened to be the 14<sup>th</sup> anniversary for the completion of the first bike trip. That news made my day 10 times better and with that I knew I had to go back. And now that's it's over I'm sad because I miss the bike camp. It's hard to believe that before the trip I was freaking out and not wanting to go, where now I can't wait 'til next year.

## NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

By Kathy Mellott

National Night Out was a great success. Thanks to all who came to help and special thanks for Ernie Kilbourne for arranging for a table and Pat Allen for helping to set up and staying with the table the whole time.

## CHURCH GETAWAY

By Kathy Mellott

The Church Getaway is scheduled for October 1 – 3. We need to pay for a minimum of 40 people for the two lodges. Registration forms are in the Narthex and on page 10 of this issue of the Lamplighter.

## TEEN CLUB

By Kathy Mellott

We are going to try another year of Teen Club, beginning September 3rd. We could use chaperones. The same people have run Teen Club for more than 10 years! Also, we can use someone who is not going on the Getaway weekend to run Teen Club for October. Please contact me if you can help.

## WORSHIP COMMITTEE

By Mike Hatton and George Urick,  
Co-chairmen, Worship Committee

Members in attendance at the August Worship Committee met on the 17th instead of the regularly scheduled August 11th date. Every one of us appreciates getting to have Daniel, our beloved pastor, at our meetings. Even though the main purpose of our committee is to assist him in accomplishing most worthy goals, having his personal attention and input is so very important and helpful to us. He's a very busy man and has just recently returned from a conference in Puerto Rico. Before tackling the evening's agenda, he led us in the opening prayer.

Mike Hatton started off with a presentation and review of 2010 and 2011 budget considerations. Knowing that there is and has been significant budgetary constraints thrust on all aspects of our churches spending, it was decided that we could at least entertain and publish a "wish-list" for the coming year. Anyone wishing to donate to a worthy cause would be welcome to do so. Some starters for our "wish-list" are: new microphone pack for Michelle Thorne (hers is slowly dying); Windows 7 software and Norton Virus protection for the laptop computer; Media Shout software for computer; and of course, new choir members are always welcome.

WORSHIP  
continues on page 8

## WORSHIP

Continued from page 7

The next topic for discussion was about Spirit of Beltsville Day at Emmanuel to be held on September 11, 2010. Bryant Davis, chairman of this event requested to know if Worship will be manning a booth or printing a flyer for the occasion. A decision was reached to print a recruitment flyer, inviting folks to volunteer for Chancel Choir, help with multi-media during worship services, etc.

In September 2011 our church will be having events for the entire month celebrating 175 years since the founding of the First Methodist Episcopal Church in Beltsville, Maryland. The Ebenezer Meeting House was established in 1836. Some time was spent talking about it and what kind of things needed to be done during the coming year. A couple of projects had been suggested earlier at the August 9th Church Council meeting. They have to do with remodeling the church sanctuary and the kitchen. Any fund raising events have yet to be decided.

Rev. Mejia considers the use of drama to be an integral part of worship. This year a living nativity program and dinner are being talked about for December. A children's service on Christmas Eve is still in the planning stage.

Some people have asked why our Chancel Choir doesn't enter

down the center aisle anymore. Kathryn Griffin, Chancel Choir Director, said that it was a special consideration given to some members who don't walk as well as they used to.

In the last few months you may have noticed some of the pews being removed in the back of the sanctuary. Mike, Rick and Daniel explained that it was needed for construction of the media booth and to allow passage of wheel chairs. We have some persons with paraplegia worshipping with us now. Also, others that are wheelchair bound can participate easier when we have communion. Placing the pews in the hallway to give people a place to sit and rest was also a good idea.

Mike Hatton and family have donated a portable PA system with speakers and cords which can be used for out-of-doors programs. The band has also used it, making it easier for them to hear each other.

Kathryn Griffin announced that Chancel Choir practice will begin the first Thursday after Labor Day. There will be practice on the 9th and 16th, but not on the 23rd. The choir will not sing on the 26th of September.

Share your ideas, prayers and concerns with us. We are here to serve.

Thank you all

## 175 YEARS OF METHODISM IN BELTSVILLE

**Save the date for the biggest event Emmanuel has seen in 175 years!** On September 18, 2011, we will celebrate 175 years of Methodism in Beltsville. In June 1836, Evan and Verlinda Beall Shaw sold an acre of land to Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church. On this land, Ebenezer Meeting House was built out of logs. In 1874 a brick church, named Worthington Chapel Methodist Episcopal Church South, was completed. Worthington Chapel was torn down in 1892 and the materials used to build a larger church on Prince George's Avenue.

This new church was renamed Emmanuel Methodist Episcopal Church, South. In 1939, the Methodist Protestant, Methodist Episcopal, and Methodist Episcopal South branches of Methodism were unified and Emmanuel became Emmanuel Methodist Church.

In January 1961, Emmanuel Methodist Church moved to Cedar Lane. When The Methodist Church and The Evangelical United Brethren Church merged in 1968, our name became Emmanuel United Methodist Church. There have been many changes over the years, but the Methodists are still here doing the Lord's work in Beltsville.

The 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee met after the Church Council

ANNIVERSARY  
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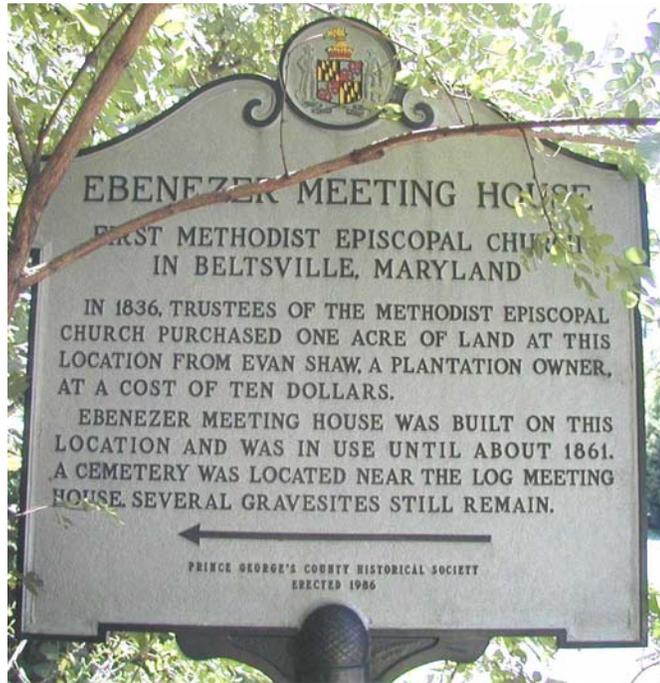
ANNIVERSARY  
continued from page 8

meeting on August 8. They have come up with some great ideas for the celebration. We have already invited the Bishop to worship with us on September 18 next year, and we plan to invite former pastors and members to join us in a “homecoming” as well. Other activities that will lead up to that special day include updating the Church history book, producing a commemorative photo directory, creating a special cookbook and creating a commemorative plate depicting Emmanuel.

Besides looking back, however, we want to celebrate the fact that the Methodists have remained a continuously functioning congregation by “stepping out in faith” to update our facility so we can expand our ministry. The specific changes to undertake are still under discussion. Do we want to upgrade our kitchen so we can provide meals to the needy? Do we want to modify the Sanctuary to make it more functional? Do we want to create a computer lab? Committees are forming to examine different options. Regardless of what option is selected, raising funds will be a major objective. Since the purpose for the change (s) will benefit all of Beltsville, we can include the community in our fundraising.

As you can see, our 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary will be a big undertaking. No matter where your interests lie, there will be ways for you to

participate. So get involved! Let Charlie or Bobbie Deegan know what project you would like to help with.



## A BLAST FROM THE PAST



Can you identify these men? Answer next month.



Emmanuel United Methodist Church

*We are all part of the Family of God*

Emmanuel UMC  
11416 Cedar Lane  
Beltsville, MD 20705

Phone: 301-937-7114  
Fax: 301-937-6121

E-mail: eumcbeltsville@earthlink.net

# CHURCH GET-AWAY REGISTRATION—Oct 1—3, 2010

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

PERSON ATTENDING:	SAME RATES AS 2009				Registration Fee
	ADULT \$ 60	TEEN (13-17) \$55	CHILD (4-12) \$50	FREE (under 4) 0	
					\$
					\$
					\$
					\$
					\$
Family Total					\$

REMITTANCE: Make check to Emmanuel UMC, with Memo to Family Life Retreat.

Amount Due: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Discount: —\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Minus \$5 per person who helped with Family Life fundraising activities this year

Amount Paid \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_

We need a minimum of 10 people for the Climbing Wall or Zipline. Which are you interested in?  
Free Time \_\_\_; Climbing Wall \_\_\_ How Many People \_\_\_\_; Zipline \_\_\_ How Many People \_\_\_\_\_

Mark here if you will **NOT** be attending the whole weekend (5 meals) and please explain below  
(there is no discount in registration fees)

\*\* The count for the Retreat needs to be called in to Manidokan two (2) weeks prior. The amount due to the camp for the Retreat is based on that number. If you do not attend the Retreat, full payment is still required. Family Life pays one-half (1/2) of the registration fee **for those attending**. You are responsible for the **whole amount** if you register and do not attend. (The base number of attendees can be increased, not decreased)

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read and understood the above statements, and I promise to abide by the rules of the campground. I further agree that I am responsible for the conduct of the persons listed above.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## NEW MEMBERS WELCOMED

The church welcomed nine new members at Sunday services on August 8th. In the photo below, Pastor Daniel leads the induction service of seven of the new members.



Above, from left: Assistant Pastor Michelle Thorne, Pastor Daniel Mejjia, new members Gloria & Jan Slingerland, Katie & John Kaufmann, Victoria Witherspoon, Kathleen Staton and Caleb Aquilino. Other new members not in this photo are Javelin Singh-Baird and Carmen Isabel Amaya Barahona. In the photos below, new members are welcomed by other parishioners following the 9:00 a.m. service on August 8th.



PHOTOS OF VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

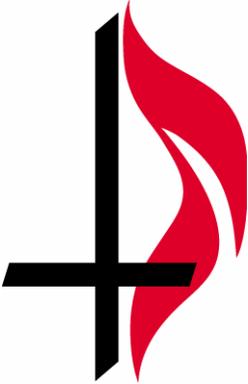


# September 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>NOTICE</b>  <b>MARANATHA CHOIR</b> will begin rehearsals on September 15 <sup>th</sup> . This choir is for grades 1-6. We meet on Wednesdays in the Fellowship Hall from 6:00 – 6:50 p.m. If you have any questions please call me, Kathryn Griffin@ 301-937-2078 or call the office.			<i>1</i>  6:00 p.m. <i>Communication Committee</i>  7:00 p.m. <i>Church Council</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>  7:00 p.m. <i>Teen Club</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>5</i>  9:00 & 11:15 a.m. <i>Worship</i> 10:15 a.m. <i>Sunday School</i>  12:30 p.m. <i>Confirmation Class</i>	<i>6</i>  <i>Church Office Closed</i>	<i>7</i>  7:00 p.m. <i>ESOL Registration</i>	<i>8</i>  7:00 p.m. <i>Worship Committee</i>	<i>9</i>  10:00 a.m. <i>Prayer Fellowship</i>  7:00 p.m. <i>Chancel Choir</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>  12:00-5:00 p.m. <i>Spirit of Beltsville Festival</i>
<i>12</i>  9:00 & 11:15 a.m. <i>Worship</i> 10:15 a.m. <i>Sunday School</i> 2nd <i>Sunday Lunch</i> 12:30 p.m. <i>Confirmation Class</i>	<i>13</i>  12:30 p.m. <i>Beltsville Women's Club</i> 7:00 p.m. <i>Depression/Bipolar Support Group</i> 7:30 p.m. <i>Trustee Meeting</i>	<i>14</i>  7:00 p.m. <i>ESOL Registration And Classes</i>	<i>15</i>  10:00 a.m. <i>Susanna Wesley Circle</i> 6:00 p.m. <i>Maranatha Choir</i> 7:00 p.m. <i>Sisters in Spirit</i>	<i>16</i>  7:00 p.m. <i>Chancel Choir</i>	<i>17</i>  11:00 a.m. <i>Community Place Café</i>	<i>18</i>
<i>19</i> <b>Education Sunday</b>  9:00 & 11:15 a.m. <i>Worship</i> 10:15 a.m. <i>Sunday School</i> 12:30 p.m. <i>Confirmation Class</i>	<i>20</i>  11:00 a.m. <i>Ellen Hoover Circle</i>	<i>21</i>  7:00 p.m. <i>ESOL Classes</i>	<i>22</i>  12:00 noon <i>Dorcas Circle</i>  6:00 p.m. <i>Maranatha Choir</i>	<i>23</i>  10:00 a.m. <i>Prayer Fellowship</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i>  12:00 noon <i>UMW General Meeting</i>
<i>26</i>  9:00 & 11:15 a.m. <i>Worship</i> 10:15 a.m. <i>Sunday School</i> 12:30 p.m. <i>Confirmation Class</i>	<i>27</i>  7:00 p.m. <i>Depression/Bipolar Support Group</i>	<i>28</i>  7:00 p.m. <i>ESOL Classes</i>	<i>29</i>  6:00 p.m. <i>Maranatha Choir</i>	<i>30</i>  7:00 p.m. <i>Chancel Choir</i>	<b>ATTENTION CHANCEL CHOIR MEMBERS:</b> We will rehearse on Thursday, September 9 <sup>th</sup> & 16 <sup>th</sup> . There is no rehearsal on September 23 <sup>rd</sup> . We will not sing on September 26 <sup>th</sup> . Our usual schedule will begin on September 30 <sup>th</sup> .	

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