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The Lamplighter

The Newsletter of Emmanuel United Methodist Church



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MAY 2022

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Got
News?

Do you have something
for our newsletter? Send
items to the editor,
Rick Bergmann at
lamplighter@eumcbeltsville.com



From the
Pastor's
Desk...



Queen's Chapel United Methodist Church (QCUMC) in Beltsville, MD hosted Good Friday services with the preaching of The Seven Last Words (the seven last utterances of Jesus from the cross). Pastor of Emmanuel UMC (EMUC), Rev. Dr. Andrea M. King (pictured), preached the second word. Several members of EUMC attended the in-person service while others viewed the QCUMC live stream. The seven preachers and seven utterances included:

1. Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. ... Dr. Gregory Parham, Associate Minister, QCUMC
2. Today shalt thou be with me in paradise. ... Rev. Dr. Andrea M. King, Pastor, Emmanuel UMC, Beltsville, MD
3. Woman, behold, thy son!... Dr. Delila Parham, Associate Minister, QCUMC
4. My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? ... Elder Mary Lucas, Associate Minister
5. I thirst. ... Rev. Eric King, Pastor, McKendree-Simms-Brookland UMC, Washington, DC
6. It is finished. ... Rev. Dr. Will Butler, Pastor QCUMC
7. Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit ... Rev. Mark Noland, New Hope Baptist Church, Bel Air, MD.



When scripture says that it more blessed to give than to receive, the members of Emmanuel UMC (Beltsville) took it to heart, donating furniture and household goods for families who were getting a fresh housing start.

The moving truck was loaded and made its rounds from Silver Spring to Beltsville to Baltimore! The families were blessed beyond their imagination and so were the church and community donors.

When moving day finally arrived, you could almost hear the theme song from "Rawhide" echoing in the atmosphere, "Movin', Movin', Movin'...!"

Moreover, at the end of an more than eight hour day, everyone it felt like a long cattle drive!

Caring for Community Cats

By Sallie Rhodes



Living outdoors, feral cats face numerous nutritional challenges, surviving on food scraps, fruits/plants, small animals, and insects. Beltsville Community Cats (BCC) volunteers are working with colony caregivers to trap, neuter, vaccinate and return (TNVR) community cats to control their population growth and to provide access to winterized shelters during cold weather and to clean water and healthy food daily. BCC offers the following recommendations to caregivers on safe practices for feeding and suitable foods to give to feral cats.

Never allow a cat to eat wet food directly from the can as tongues can be cut, causing infections in the mouth. Never overfeed. Instead, place the portion on a dish. An adult cat should get ½ cup of dry food topped with a spoonful of canned food if possible. Excess food invites raccoons, rats, mice, ants, bacterial contamination, etc., causing neighbors to complain. Feed in a discreet location in the morning and/or late afternoon. Pick left over food up once the cats are done, or when the sun goes down. Never leave a mess. Always keep the area neat and clean.

Foods to avoid include caffeine-packed drinks, alcohol, sugary foods, dairy products, raw meats, raw eggs, and fat trimmings. **Never feed foods with garlic or onion.** Cats can eat cooked chicken and meats when the bones are removed. Acceptable human foods in controlled portions include broccoli, carrots, asparagus, green beans, peas, spinach, fruits (e.g., blueberries, peeled apples, bananas, pumpkin, and watermelon), and grains such as bread, mashed sweet potatoes, cooked corn, mashed brown rice, and oatmeal (which are good for digestion and metabolism).

As BCC continues to grow, our needs grow too. We need volunteers to foster kittens/cats; trap, transport and overnight cats; research and respond to grant opportunities; and plan and conduct fundraising events. We depend on donations to pay veterinary bills, purchase equipment, and print materials. To learn more, visit our website www.beltsvillecats.net. Questions regarding feral cats? Leave a message at 240-444-8353 or e-mail hello@beltsvillecats.net.

Follow us on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/Beltsville-Community-Cat-549023438959117/>) and Instagram (@beltsville_cats). Mail donations to PO Box 942, Beltsville 20704. **Join us at our YARD SALE fundraiser on “Caturday”, May 7 (10am-3pm) in the church parking lot.**

UpStage Artists Returns with One and Dunne!

By Rick Bergmann

After a highly successful run of Driving Miss Daisy, UpStage Artists is returning to Emmanuel in May for One and Dunne: An Evening of Laughter! One and Dunne is 8 short comedy plays written by local award winning playwright Jeff Dunne. One of the missions of UpStage Artists is to give a spotlight to local artists and this is why we chose to do these plays. Community is important to our group which is why our motto is “Community Theater for Everyone!” These plays are family friendly (rated PG) and cover a wide range of absurd and silly situations.

The cast is made up of 8 performers, some who have been on our stage before and some totally new to our group. This wonderful cast includes *a member of Emmanuel, Susie Mendelsohn*, in 2 of the 8 plays. It’s been a delight to have her and the other performers bring these comedies to life.

So, if you are looking for a good laugh, come out and see the show! Show dates are May 6, 7, 13, and 14 at 7:30 pm and May 15 at 2 pm. Tickets are only \$10! You can buy them at www.upstageartists.com/tickets. Come out, have some fun and support local artists and community theater!



May is Mental Health Month



People with mental problems are our neighbors. They are members of our congregations, members of our families; they are everywhere in this country. If we ignore their cries for help, we will be continuing to participate in the anguish from which those cries of help come. A problem of this magnitude will not go away. Because it will not go away, and because our spiritual commitments, we are compelled to take action. (Rosalynn Carter)

DID YOU KNOW...

- The magnitude of mental illness in this country is staggering. According to the Surgeon General, one in every five Americans experiences a mental disorder in any year, and half of all Americans have such disorders at some time in their lives. These illnesses of the brain affect all of us, regardless of age, gender, economic status, or ethnicity.
- Mental Illness affects the mind, body, and spirit. It is a real, common, and treatable illness. Mental illnesses are far more common than cancer, diabetes, heart disease, or arthritis.
- Our Faith Communities can be an important part of the recovery process through education, support, and by helping individuals and families feel a part of a caring community.

MAY HAS BEEN DESIGNATED AS MENTAL HEALTH MONTH

Look for community events to highlight mental health issues affecting children, adolescents, adults, and older adults. If you would like more information visit these websites:

Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance: www.dbsalliance.org

Nami FaithNet: www.nami.org/namifaithnet

Mental Health Ministries: www.MentalHealthMinistries.net

Pathways to Promise: www.Pathways2Promise.org

International Bipolar Foundation: www.internationalbipolarfoundation.org

Ask the UMC: How are United Methodists present in Ukraine?

United Methodists have both congregations and mission partners on the ground in Ukraine, offering hope, support and aid in every way they can.

The nation of Ukraine is included, with Moldova, in the Ukraine-Moldova Provisional Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church, part of the Eurasia Episcopal Area, led by Bishop Eduard Khegay.

This episcopal area also includes the Central Russia Conference, Eastern Russia and Central Asia Provisional Annual Conference, Northwest Russia Provisional Annual Conference and Southern Russia Provisional Annual Conference. These include the nations of Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan. There were 1123 professing members recorded across these conferences in 2017.

Methodism in Eurasia began with a missionary pastor from Sweden, Carl Lindborg, in 1882. He founded the first Russian Methodist congregation in St. Petersburg in 1889. A few congregations were planted in Ukraine prior to the first World War, notably near Uzhgorod and Ternopil, but of these, all but the community in Uzhgorod were shuttered during the Soviet era. The outreach that would lead to the current churches in Ukraine began after the end of the Soviet Union, which brought an influx and spread of United Methodist missionaries from the United States, Germany, and Liberia into many of the newly independent nations in the 1990s.

While numbers of United Methodists in the Ukraine-Moldova Provisional Annual Conference are small (351 total across six congregations based on 2017 data), the congregations are strategically located in or near larger cities, including Kharkiv, Kyiv, Poltova and Chernivtsi, as well as the two breakaway areas recognized by Russia in Donetsk and Luhansk. This means that they are well positioned for outreach across the whole of the country and that several of their cities are among those most under attack at this time. Indeed, many in the church at Luhansk had previously fled in 2020 because of attacks by pro-Russian insurgents that hit their church building.

Continued on p. 6



And Dunne AN EVENING OF LAUGHTER

When: May 6, 7, 13, 14 at 7: 30 pm and May 15 at 2 pm

Cost: \$10.00 per ticket

Where: Emmanuel United Methodist Church
11416 Cedar Lane Beltsville, MD 20705

Space is limited, get your tickets today at
www.upstageartists.com/tickets



**Community Theater for
everyone!**

**UPSTAGE ARTISTS PREFERS ATTENDEES TO THEIR
PERFORMANCES WEAR A FACE MASK TO KEEP OTHERS SAFE**



Find us on Twitter @upstage_art



on Instagram at upstage_art or



UpStage Artists on Facebook



Beltsville
Community Cats

YARD

S A L E

Beltsville Community Cats
Invites you to join us for our first
"CATURDAY"

What: A Yard Sale and Volunteer Recruitment Event
(Items available for donations include cat and dog boutique items, clothes, supplies, carriers, dog crates, and some household items.)

When: Saturday, May 7th from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Where: Emmanuel United Methodist Church (11416 Cedar Lane, Beltsville 20705)

WEATHER PERMITTING – Meet some of our cats/kittens available for adoption.



Ukraine continued from p. 3

Global Ministries encourages United Methodists to give generously to UMCOR's International Disaster and Recovery fund to enable United Methodists and other mission partners on the ground to deliver support where it can do the most good.

We pray with the people of Ukraine and all those affected by this campaign of war against its sovereignty within its own borders, joining the words of Bishop Khegay, who published this prayer for peace in Russian on his episcopal area website:

*Lord we know that it shouldn't be.
People should not bear death.
People should not be killed.
People should not lose their loved ones on the battlefields.
Cities and villages should not be turned into a war zone,
children should not be victims,
and war should not be a means to achieve peace.*

*Lord, we need a new heaven and a new earth.
We remember the world that You gave us,
and mourn that we have lost it.*

*We all want to be safe.
But our security is not in force.
Spare us the ravages of war.
Teach us the ways of peace.*



Members of the Ukrainian community and supporters gather for a peace vigil on the steps of the Tennessee State Capitol in Nashville on Feb. 25. Photo by Mike DuBose.

Cooking with Pastor King: Lemon Sponge Cake



This cake can be made in a tube pan, a loaf pan, layer pans, cupcake tin, etc. If you don't have fresh lemon, use another fresh citrus OR lemon extract. Finesse it how you like!

Ingredients

- ~7 large eggs (separate 6 of the eggs - yolks and whites, put the whites aside in separate bowl)
- ~1 1/2 cups granulated sugar, sifted (there should be no lumps of sugar)
- ~The zest and fresh juice of one fresh lemon
- ~3/4 cup potato starch, sifted
- ~1 pinch of salt

Directions

1. Preheat the oven to 350°F.
2. Beat the 6 egg yolks and the 1 whole egg with an electric mixer on medium-high until frothy. Gradually add the SIFTED sugar, then lemon zest and juice, beating continually until lightened and fluffy. Gradually add the potato starch, beating continually until well combined.
3. In the bowl that you set aside earlier, Sprinkle (or 2 dashes of the salt shaker) the salt into the 6 egg whites and beat them with a clean mixer until stiff but not dry. Gently FOLD the egg whites into the egg yolk mixture until combined. A cake spatula works well for this process.
5. Transfer the batter to an UNGREASED 10-inch tube pan. Bake for about 55 minutes, until the cake springs back when gently touched near the center as well as the edges.
6. Invert the pan over a bottle and allow to cool before removing the cake from the pan.



TIP If you decide to make a smaller pan, the cooking time will be faster, especially for cupcakes. The cake will be a golden brown!

An Easter Message from Bishop LaTrelle Easterling



Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?” Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.” Jesus said to her, “Mary!” She turned and said to him in Hebrew, “Rabbouni!” -- John 20:15-16

The Gospel for this Easter morning as recorded in John opens with Mary Magdalene arriving to find the stone rolled away and the tomb empty. Not completely grasping what has transpired, she runs to tell the other disciples what she has seen and what it might mean for their beloved Teacher. As the disciples, one by one, hear her report and begin to wrestle with its implications, they run to the tomb. They arrive breathless and begin surveying the scene - - the stone is rolled back, the linens that covered his body are present, the cloth that once covered Jesus’ head is now rolled into a ball -- but Jesus is gone. As the disciples entered the tomb, they believed Mary’s report that the tomb was empty, but they were yet unable to

grasp its full meaning for their lives and for the world. The Gospel states, “for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.”

But Mary remained. Mary did not leave with the disciples. Mary lingered a little longer. She wept just outside of the tomb as she looked in and felt the fullness of the emptiness. As she lingered there, two angels appeared, occupying the places where Jesus’ head and feet had been lying. The angels inquired about her tears and she explained that she did not know where Jesus had been taken. As she spoke, she must have felt a strong presence because the scripture says she turned around. She did not recognize who it was, but she lingered a little longer. Asked once more why she was weeping, she stated that if she could be taken to Jesus’ body she would gladly care for him. The person before her spoke her name, “Mary!” The voice, now familiar in her hearing, led to her to exclaim, “Rabbouni!” (which means teacher in Hebrew). Mary now understood that her beloved teacher and friend stood before her, risen from the dead. Jesus told her that she could not hold on to him because his mission was not yet complete, but she must go and tell the other disciples that he was going to fulfill the scriptures and ascend to his Father. Mary, having received this greater understanding, was able to go and share the good news.

Beloved, there is so much swirling around us; so much that at first glance appears overwhelming and final. We cannot break completely free from the restraints of the pandemic, violence looms at home and abroad, rancor and vitriol fill the halls of Congress and our churches and separation seems inevitable. Even though Easter is here, for too many it still feels like the wilderness, and we can’t quite grasp the full meaning of what we’re seeing and hearing. The inclination may be to return to our proverbial homes, but perhaps we need to linger a little longer.

If we linger a little longer, we may gain greater clarity. If we linger a little longer, we may hear a familiar voice. If we linger a little longer, there may be a conversation that restores our hope. If we linger a little longer, we may find an opportunity for reconciliation and healing. If we linger a little longer, the myth of the bad news may be overcome by the truth of the Good News. If we linger a little longer our faith may be restored!

In our desire to move quickly, gain immediate answers and get on with the business at hand, what are we missing? What might be within our reach that now feels just beyond our grasp? I have long felt that in this season of perpetual delay there is a message for us as United Methodists. What blessing might there be if we are willing to linger a little longer in the presence of Jesus?

May the story of Mary Magdalene encountering Jesus as she lingered at the tomb encourage us to receive the blessed assurance that God’s promises are true. Even when what we see with our eyes appears to tell one story, our Risen Savior still always brings good news, hope, restoration and salvation if we linger a little longer. I can hear the elders singing:

Done made my vow to the Lord,
and I never will turn back,
oh I will go, I shall go,
to see what the end will be!

Easter blessings!
Bishop LaTrelle Easterling
Baltimore-Washington Conference of The United Methodist Church



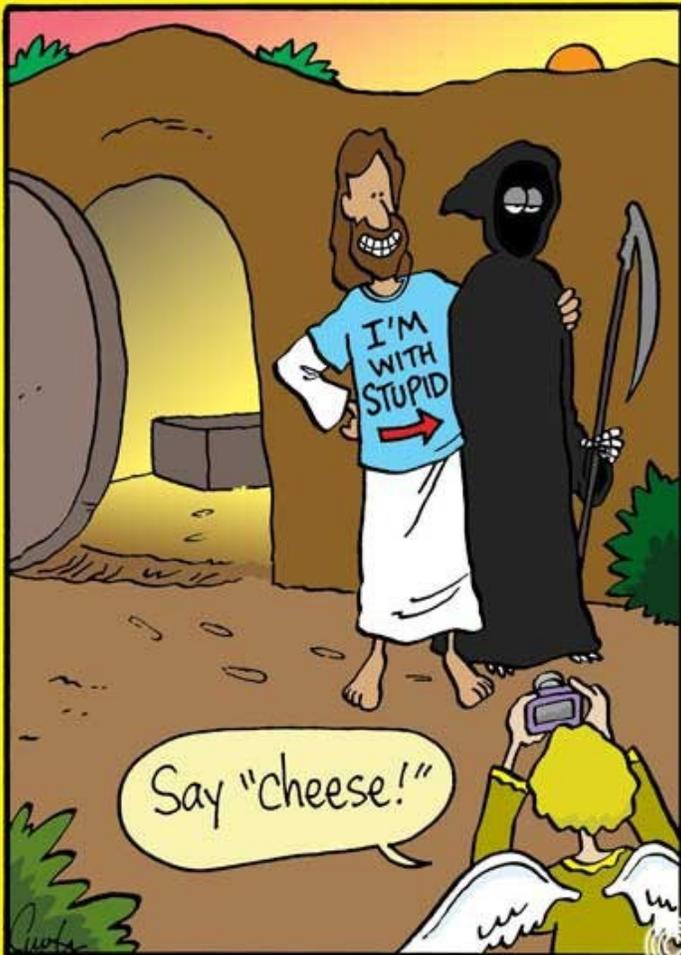
Church Chuckles



Thanks to Benoit Paquette (See Matthew 16:24) 02-01-2002
"TAKE UP THY CROSS AND FOLLOW ME", HE SAYS ... NOW I HAVE TO GO BUY ONE ... I MEAN REALLY, DOES HE SERIOUSLY THINK I KEEP ONE LYING AROUND?



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How Can I Give?

Online: You can now give online through Emmanuel's website at www.eumcbeltsville.com/giving or scan the QR Code below. This is a great way to keep up with your giving if you are out of town, are sick or if you can't come to church.

Through the Mail: You can mail your offering to the church. The address is 11416 Cedar Lane, Beltsville, MD 20705.



Happy May Birthdays!

1. Joelle Onukwubiri
5. Pam Midkiff
6. Joel Tyler
8. Emmy Lear
12. Megan McNitt
13. Nancy Thrush, Jason Kresge
14. Diane Embrey
17. Scarlet Robertson
19. Kevin Kresge
20. JoAnne Blakley
22. Nancy McNealy, Roy White
29. Preston Gregory, Sr.
30. Darwin Aguilera



CAN YOU HELP?

Share your talents at Emmanuel by sharing the Word as a Scripture Reader during our Sunday Zoom Service! Help for a single Sunday or choose several. You choose how many Sundays you are able to help. Just email the office at office@eumcbeltsville.com and they will let you know which weeks are available! No experience needed! We will train you on the job!

Christian Love and Sympathy To:

the family of Thelma (Peggy) Roby Gosman
the family of Terry (friend of Debbie McNitt)
the family of Olaitan Abidoye (friend of Rick Bergmann)
the family of Dr. Patricia Alayande (Andy Onukwubiri's cousin)
the family of Pricillia Ucheya (Mrs. Ago Apugo's sister)
the family of Laura Escobar (friend of Olivia Heath).

"Wherever a beautiful soul has been, there is a trail of beautiful memories."

Happy Anniversary

4. Lynne & Robert Miller
6. Karen & James Mackey
15. Nancy & Michael McNealy

Please pray for our sick and shut in
Homebound
Norma Hall
Carolyn Scarcia
Dottie Gilbert
Out of state
Lil Mizzer



Hybrid Worship at Emmanuel!

Join us on Sunday mornings in hybrid worship in person or through Zoom. Worship begins at 10 am. Sign Language interpretation is available for both in-person and online and online is closed captioned as well.

Use this link if you wish to attend virtually:

<https://zoom.us/j/97839889289?pwd=YzUxZjJKTzUybTJnZEt4UC9qTkI4QT09>

or go to zoom.us and click join a meeting.

The meeting number is 978 3988 9289. The Password is EUMC

You can call in on any telephone (cell or landline) at 1-301-715-8592

If you're calling on the telephone the information is

Meeting ID: 978 3988 9289 Passcode: 479360