

# The Lamplighter

Emmanuel United Methodist Church

November 2011



Pastor Daniel Mejia

*And I said to them, "You are holy to the Lord, and the vessels are holy; and the silver and the gold are a freewill offering to the Lord, the God of your ancestors."  
Ezra 8:28*

Finally, after many years of exile in Babylon, the people of Israel are allowed to go back home by King Cyrus of Persia. King Cyrus who defeated the Babylonian Empire was very favorable to the Jews. With his blessing, he gave them permission to begin the rebuilding of the Temple in Jerusalem and the fortification of the city's wall. An unexpected gift. Ezra the priest is called to lead the rebuilding efforts.

Embarking on a building project of this magnitude, even under normal circumstances, was a gigantic task; but if you add to this building project a pervasive low morale for the many times the people failed in the past; fear that the neighboring nations would attack them and destroy the work; and finally a great concern for the lack of financial resources to do it, this task just seems short of impos-

sible. The book of Ezra, short of a fairy tale, describes the fears, toils, attacks, and triumphs of the people in Israel in their long journey back to rebuilding but most significantly back to faith.

In motivating the people, Ezra the priest wasted no time reminding the people of one very important piece of information, "You are holy." In other words, you are here in Jerusalem because God called you to be here. You are here and capable of doing the work because God will help you. You are capable of doing the impossible because God is with you. You are holy! Never forget that!

As we hear of a sagging economy, high unemployment rates, and fear in the international financial markets, God wants to remind us that we too are "holy" and we too can rebuild our church, our lives, and solidify our faith in Christ.

Short of comparing the colossal rebuilding of Jerusalem to the challenges and struggles we face in our lives, we too can be encouraged by Ezra's words and message to keep on and keep up with the rebuilding of our church ministries, our lives, and growing on our faith in Christ. We are capable of doing the work because God will help us. We are capable of doing the impossible because God is with us. We are holy! Never forget that!

Many of you know Rev. Dennis Dorsch who is my mentor and the

"De facto" preacher who covers for me while away. Rev. Dorsch is also a prolific reader and writer who sends daily devotional emails to any one willing to read. I'm sharing with you one of his email reflections he sent from Madeleine L'Engle, who is one of my favorite writers. Madeleine's words connect very well with Ezra's. I hope you feel inspired too:

"God, through the angel Gabriel, called on Mary to do what, in the world's eyes, is impossible, and instead of saying, 'I can't,' she replied immediately, 'Be it unto me according to thy Word.' God is always calling on us to do the impossible. It helps me to remember that anything Jesus did during his life here on earth is something we should be able to do, too." (*Walking on Water, Madeleine L'Engle*)

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Daniel Mejia





*Former Pastor of Emmanuel, Rev. Richard "Dick" & Martha Karpal, participated in the special 175th anniversary service on September 17. They also attended the dinner and silent auction the previous evening. Dick served as Pastor of Emmanuel from 1980 to 1996.*

## Note from Former Pastor "Dick" & Martha Karpal

Martha and I had a wonderful time at the 175th Anniversary Dinner and Worship Service/Reception on Sunday morning. These celebrations with a church that is lively and bursting with vitality is the highlight of 2011 for the two of us. The future is bright and beautiful for this community of faith.

We thank Pastor Daniel Mejia and all the people of Emmanuel that greeted us so warmly. It was like a homecoming event; it warmed our hearts and inspired us on our journey. Thank you. And God bless you all as you continue the ministry of Christ in the church and community.

Thank you for the good work you do.

Our email address is [rkarpal7@suddenlink.net](mailto:rkarpal7@suddenlink.net)

*Dick & Martha Karpal*

## Community Place Café

By Ann Rowland

About 15,000 United Methodists throughout the Baltimore Washington Conference moved outside the walls of their churches on the weekend of October 8<sup>th</sup> to "Change the World" in service to others.

One of the events our church participated in was the distribution of treat bags to the homeless in the parking lot of First United Methodist Church in Hyattsville.

We serve a nutritious lunch each month at Community Place Café, but on this occasion (and in addition to the lunch we serve on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month) we distributed 60 bags containing semi-healthy snacks along with a candy bar for fun.

It's a little early to hand out "Trick or Treat" bags for Halloween, but the "goodie" bags might be the closest any of those folks get to a Halloween Treat.

The looks on some of the faces of the recipients made it all worthwhile. The genuine expressions of thanks and smiles of gratitude were heartwarming.

The surprise factor, the unexpected, made the event even more special.

This just may become a tradition, but next year we'll try to make it a little closer to Halloween.



## Angel Tree 2011

Emmanuel will be participating in Prison Ministries' Angel Tree project again this year. Incarcerated parents who are participating in other prison ministry programs can submit the names of their children to Angel Tree.

We at Emmanuel will be receiving the names of local children soon and the congregation will be able to "adopt" an angel and provide that child with a Christmas gift. The Angel tree will be in the narthex throughout the month of November. Participants may sign out an angel. The gifts are due back by Sunday, December 4, and will be distributed at church on the afternoon of December 10. The gifts are split into a clothing gift and a fun gift. The caregivers indicate what the child needs and is interested in. We usually suggest that the amount spent on the gifts be about \$20-\$25 to insure siblings have comparable gifts. If you have any questions, contact Becky Cavallo at 301-937-7146.

## Faithful Readers Book Group

Our Faithful Readers book group met this month discussing the book 'Soul Surfer' by Bethany Hamilton.

We shared ways we deal with adversity, how we keep our faith, inspiration and scripture to get us through both good and bad times in life. Bethany's complete trust in God to get her through her ordeal has inspired thousands. In what way do you inspire those around you in church, family, friends and community?

Our snack consisted of Mango juice, tropical granola for the beach, a cookie for the surfboard and the shark!



Our next group meeting will be *Saturday, January 21st, 2012* discussing the book *"The Help"* by *Kathryn Stockett*, with excerpts from the movie, if possible. So, you have plenty of time to read it from the library and bring a friend!

Could chicken and biscuits be in our future for the new year?! Questions? Contact Bryant Davis or Carol Clatterbuck.

## EMERGE (Mental Health Ministry)

By Ann Rowland

This is the season in the life of the church where we examine our financial resources and determine the allocation of those resources among the numerous ministries, salaries, maintenance and various necessary functions of the church. Each function in the church requires a piece of the "financial pie" to do its work. Pledge money is budgeted for the Mental Health Ministry each year so that we can fulfill our mission by providing educational opportunities aimed at reducing the stigma of mental illness and hosting a support group that meets twice a month where people with depression or bipolar disorder can meet with others of like diagnosis in a supportive and caring environment to share their stories, concerns and challenges in the treatment and management of their illnesses. This peer led support group, that is entering its eighth year at Emmanuel, is made possible by the financial support of the church. Your contributions make possible our affiliation with a national mental health organization, Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance (DBSA). This affiliation allows people to locate our support group via the DBSA website where they can also find on line support and tools for living life well. Additionally, DBSA provides for print resource materials shared with the support group at each meeting and the church community during Mental Illness Awareness Week in October and Mental Health Awareness Month in May. Thank you, Emmanuel, for supporting this valued ministry to the church and the Beltsville and neighboring communities.



*Faithful Readers Book Group*

## Turkey Drive Sponsored by Emmanuel's Food Bank

*~There is more happiness in giving than in receiving."*  
*Acts, 20:35*

For the month of November, the food bank would like to give each family a turkey in the box of food they receive at the monthly distributions. In order to do this, we are sponsoring a BOGO (Buy One Give One) turkey drive. What this means is that we are asking that each family who can afford to buy one turkey for their families and buy one to give to a family who receives food through the food bank.

The goal of the drive is to collect 110 turkeys. We are only asking for 1 turkey per family if you are able to. If we reach our goal, Pastor Daniel has agreed to dress up like a turkey for whichever service (9:00 or 11:15) brings in the most turkeys.

Due to lack of storage space, we are asking that the families deliver the turkeys on Saturday November 19<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. to the church. So that we have an idea of how many turkeys to expect and to know if we will have to buy any extras, we are asking that you complete the form below and place it in the box in the narthex. If you have any questions, you can email Julie Pavelka at [julie.pavelka@yahoo.com](mailto:julie.pavelka@yahoo.com).

## THANKSGIVING TURKEY DRIVE

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

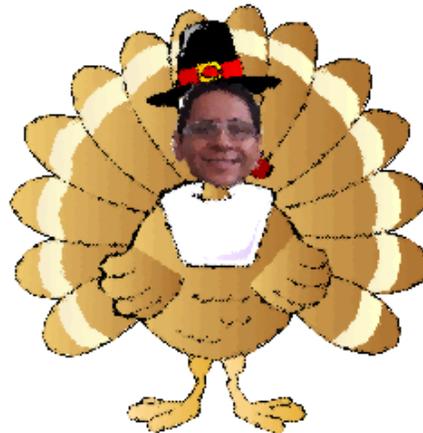
TELEPHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

WHICH SERVICE DO YOU ATTEND (PLEASE CIRCLE ONE)

9:00

11:15





*Assistant Pastor Ben Sloan*

By the time this November issue of the Lamplighter hits the press we will already be almost halfway through this year's confirmation class. Angela, Deji, Georgia, and Victoria have all been wonderful to work with. Each has brought unique gifts and perspectives to our discussions. I have been impressed by their diligence in scripture reading, prayer, and journaling.

In the initial weeks we discussed challenging subjects like the doctrine of the Trinity and the historical progression in the Old Testament. Each new topic has evoked a wide range of questions and insights. I have found over the past month that although it can be a challenge to set aside the knowledge I have gained in seminary, for me the far more rewarding part of the class has come in working to build a safe space for the confirmands to honestly express their thoughts and concerns. We hope that for our youth and children, confirmation class is one initial step in a long, rich faith journey. I feel confident that within

a loving and supporting community like Emmanuel UMC they will have plenty of guidance and companionship along this journey. If confirmation class can help our confirmands to feel more comfortable talking about faith in a real, genuine way, then I know that God will guide them through this community.

As I look forward to the rest of the confirmation class, to discussions on subjects like the history of the Church and of our denomination, I anticipate learning from the wisdom Angela, Deji, Georgia, and Victoria will share. I'm excited to see how they in turn learn and grow, and I'm thankful for this chance to journey with them.

## The Year Without A Santa Claus

For Christmas this year we are producing *The Year Without a Santa Claus*, a musical for the entire family. Much of the same talent that was involved in *A Charlie Brown Christmas* and *A Journey through Bethlehem* is involved and it promises to be a good time for the whole family.

The story is fun and interesting with a few twists and turns along the way. When Santa (John Stewart) decides that no one cares about him and he is too sick to deliver toys this year, he cancels Christmas and decides to take a vacation. Mrs. Claus (Bobbie Deegan) decides to take matters into her own hands and sends *Jingle Bells* (DeeDee Musachio), *Jangle Bells* (Patrick McGroarty), *Dancer the reindeer* (Merton Baird) down to South

Town, Florida to find some Christmas spirit so that Santa will know that people still care about him.

Along the way, they meet a lot of different characters including Iggy Thistlewhite (Marcus Baird) and his mother (Alice White) and a few more interesting characters. They also run into trouble when they come across *Heat Miser* (Hannah Butcher) and *Snow Miser* (Alex Butcher), the two beings who control the weather for the north and south.

Charlie Deegan also pops up as the mayor of Southtown.

This is a great story with a wonderful Christmas message for children and adults of all ages.

There will be 3 chances to see the show Dec. 9 and 10 at 7 p.m. and Dec. 11 at 2 p.m. Tickets will be \$5 and children 3 and under are free. They will go on sale about the middle of November. In the coming weeks we will begin working on sets and lights and sound and will need some volunteers. We will post on the bulletin when we will need help for anyone who is interested. So bring the whole family and get some Christmas Spirit this December.



## Christian Education

By Todd Reitzel, Superintendent

Our Sunday Study classes are off to a good start this year. Our dedicated volunteer teachers who prepare weekly lessons are a blessing, as are our students who attend, study, and learn in fellowship. With 3 adult classes, 2 teen classes, and 2 children's classes, we have a variety of offerings for all age groups and there is always room for more students of all ages. EUMC Sunday Study seeks to meet the education needs of the entire church. So feel free to stop by soon.

Sunday Study meets EUMC's education needs in a number of ways. We provide curriculum at no charge for children and youth classes. We provide teacher textbooks to each of our volunteer teachers. Adult students often pay for their books, but if they cannot, we subsidize that cost. We provide Bibles to 3rd graders and picture Bibles to kindergartners. We also pay for special events such as gift books for high school and college graduates in the spring, for supplies for events such as the Halloween Party, the Christmas card workshop, the Valentine's card workshop, and the Easter Egg hunt. All these events enrich the lessons our students are learning and build a lasting foundation for a lifetime of Christian faith.

Please remember that we need your stewardship. You are generous when we hold special fundraisers. While "second mile" giving is important, the first mile—your pledged, routine giving to Emmanuel United Methodist Church—is even more important because it allows the church, including our

Sunday Study program, to make the plans that will help it serve our congregation and be there for those who come to our church seeking God.

So when you get the opportunity this month to pledge for 2012 giving, help us lay the groundwork by pledging. Help us help our young people lay the groundwork for a lifetime of faith. Help us help our adults further their understanding of God's word for us, so that we may better live like Christ. And help us help our church fulfill God's purposes in our community. Pledge joyfully and give joyfully because pledging and giving enable God's work.

## Blessing of the Animals

October 9, 2011 will be a day to remember at Emmanuel. We had our first ever blessing of the animals service. It was a beautiful 70 degree day. There were over 50 animal owners and their pets.

Pastor Mejia opened the service with a prayer and proclamation and then he and Asst. Pastor Ben took turns blessing the pets as they came forward. Music was provided by Pat Allen and Kathryn Griffin. It was the first of what will become a new tradition at Emmanuel. We had a very successful day.

Most of the photos were provided by Rick Bergmann.





### POINSETTIA ORDER

In order to beautify the church during the Christmas season, we are again offering the opportunity for you to purchase poinsettias. Please use this form to place your order.

Red \_\_\_\_\_ White \_\_\_\_\_ (Deadline is December 5<sup>th</sup>)

NUMBER OF PLANTS ORDERED: \_\_\_\_\_ PRICE: \$8.50 EACH

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Given by \_\_\_\_\_



(Place your order in the offering plate, bring or mail to the church by the deadline above. Please make checks payable to Emmanuel U. M. C. and mark it "Christmas Decoration").

**\*If you ordered more than one color and are leaving one for a shut-in, please let us know what color you are leaving.**

Date Received \_\_\_\_\_

### Make Chrismons at Second Sunday Lunch on November 13

Join us on Sunday, November 13, during our second Sunday lunch as we will prepare for the Christmas season by making Chrismons. Chrismons are a type of Christmas Tree decoration used in many churches and often in the homes of Christians that represent a variety of biblical and theological concepts that are well known among most believers. The idea is to have fellowship and learn how to create something beautiful for our church. Bring a dish to share and join us!



### Come and Watch "A Christmas Carol" on Saturday, November 19

Come and join us Saturday November 19 at 7 p.m. in the Fellowship hall to watch the 2009 animated movie "A Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens. During the season of Advent we will follow the "Christmas Carol" story during our Sunday services to prepare us for the return of Jesus and Christmas. We hope you can join us.

Budget 2012	Amount
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NUTURE	
Bible Study & Special Classes	\$530
Deaf Ministry	\$3,900
Family Life	\$900
Flowers	\$100
Kitchen Supplies	\$300
Media Center	\$200
Second Sunday Pot Luck	\$100
Safe Sanctuaries for Children	\$200
S/S Literature & Supplies	\$1,475
Youth Council	\$1,800
Total NUTURE	\$9,505

OUTREACH	
Benevolence Fund	\$200
Community Outreach Task Force	\$4,550
Community Place Café	\$1,700
Covenant Missionaries	\$3,600
Drama Ministry	\$250
EMERGE	\$565
ESOL - child care	\$1,400
Lay Leader	\$125
United Methodist Men	\$865
Total Outreach	\$13,255

WITNESS	
Music & Choir Supplies	\$720
Music Soloist	\$300
Prayer Fellowship	\$400
Substitute Organist, Pianist	\$1,000
Upper Room	\$125
Visitation Ministries	\$100
Visiting Speakers	\$1,000
Worship Prog. Palms Communion	\$2,053
Total Witness	\$5,698

CONFERENCE	
Annual Conf., Lay Delegate	\$800
Apportionment	\$44,351
Total Conference	\$45,151

GENERAL STAFF	
Auto	\$4,500
CRSP-CPP	\$2,807
CRSP-DB	\$7,869
CRSP-DC	\$2,807
Health Insurance	\$9,564
Miscellaneous	\$0
Pastors Continuing Education	\$1,000
Pastors Salary	\$61,077
Social Security Match	\$7,000
Total of Staff Pay	\$95,432
Staff Parish	\$600
Workers Comp.	\$1,500
Total General Staff	\$194,156

Budget 2012	Amount
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OFFICE EXPENSE	
Advertisement - Publicity	\$2,000
Church Ofc. Equipment Contracts	\$3,944
Church Office Supplies	\$5,000
Computer & Supplies	\$1,000
Inter Net & Web Site	\$2,000
total office expense	\$13,944

BUILDING	
PROPERTY MAINTENANCE	
Air Conditioning Service	\$800
Alarm System	\$276
Boiler Service	\$2,500
Carpet Cleaning	\$900
Electrical Repairs	\$700
Floor Service	\$1,500
General Supplies	\$2,000
Ground Clean up	\$3,000
Kitchen Cleaning	\$420
Lawn Mower Maintenance	\$1,000
Misc. repairs & excesses	\$1,500
Office A/C & Heating	\$0
Parsonage repair & maintenance	\$1,700
Pest control & Termite service	\$900
Plumbing Repairs	\$700
Snow Removal	\$3,000
Van - Gas	\$1,000
Van Insurance & Repair	\$2,000
Total Property Maintenance	\$23,896

Capital Expenditures/Major Maint.	\$10,000
Church Utilities	\$34,800
Contingency Fund	\$2,500
Ed Building Improvements	\$0
Insurance Package Policy	\$5,288
Narthex Project	\$0
Parking Lot Utilities	\$336
Parsonage Utilities	\$6,552
Property Tax	\$694
Trash Collection	\$720
Total Building	\$84,786

Budget 2012	Amount
NUTURE	\$9,505
OUTREACH	\$13,255
WITNESS	\$5,698
CONFERENCE	\$45,151
GENERAL STAFF	\$194,156
OFFICE EXPENSE	\$13,944
BUILDING	\$84,786
TOTAL	\$366,495



November

- 1 Greg Beam, Elizabeth Cavallo
- 2 Chelsea McGlynn, Crystal Webb
- 4 Beverly Huneycutt
- 6 Katie McNealy
- 10 Jim Butler
- 12 Ruth Cottman, Jaime Hiner
- 13 Christie Ademiluyi
- 14 Loretta Claye, C.J. Huneycutt, Michael Vaughan
- 16 Bobbie Barkley
- 21 Edward Mougey
- 24 Peter Leget
- 25 Patricia Allen, Sarah Elliott, Claire Wray
- 26 Craig West
- 27 Charlene Frederick, Ginger Butcher
- 28 Olamide Oluwafemi
- 30 Edward White, Jr.



November

- 12 Suzie Kilbourne & Chris Insley
- 17 Trudy & Wendell Headley



Too Warm? Too Cold?

Why is the Sanctuary cool on days when some would like it warmer and warm when others would like to cool off?

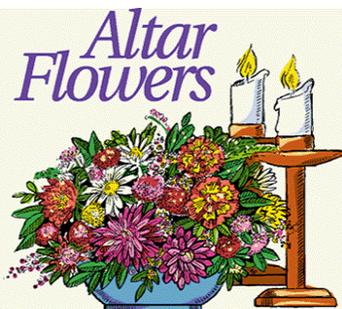
Emmanuel has an old heating system consisting of a hot water boiler with an added compressor for cooling. To have heat, the water heats to a prescribed temperature and air blows over the pipes.

To cool, the water must be cooled and air blown over the pipes.

To change from one to the other takes several hours.

So if the room is not your comfortable temperature it probably will be that way when next you are there.

*The Trustees*



November

- 6 Theresa Timity
- 13
- 20 Carol Clatterback
- 27

December

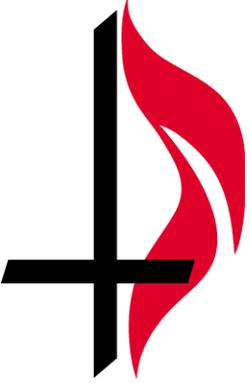
- 4 Carol Clatterback
- 11 Theresa Timity
- 18
- 25

## NOVEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 7:00 p.m. ESOL & Youth Learning Fellowship	2 6:00 p.m. Maranatha Choir  7:00 p.m. Church Coun- cil	3 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	4 7:00 p.m. Play Practice	5 11:00 a.m. Play Practice
6 9:00 & 11:15 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m. Sun- day School Youth Group 1:30 p.m. UMW Executive Meeting	7 7:00 p.m. Play Practice	8 10:00 a.m. Prayer Fellow- ship 7:00 p.m. ESOL & Youth Learning Fellowship	9 6:00 p.m. Maranatha Choir 7:00 p.m. Worship Committee	10 3:00 p.m. Lions Club Blood Drive 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	11 7:00 p.m. Play Practice	12 8:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast  11:00 a.m. Play Practice
13 9:00 & 11:15 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m. Sun- day School Youth Group  2nd Sunday Lunch	14 12:30 p.m. Women's Com- munity Club of Beltsville 7:00 p.m. De- pression/Bipolar Support Group 7:00 p.m. Play Practice 7:30 p.m. Trustees	15 7:00 p.m. ESOL & Youth Learning Fellowship	16 10:00 a.m. Susanna Wesley Circle 12:00 noon Dorcas Circle 6:00 p.m. Maranatha Choir 7:00 p.m. Sis- ters In Spirit	17 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	18 11:00 a.m. Community Place Café  7:00 p.m. Play Practice	19 11:00 a.m. Play Practice  1:00 p.m. UMW General Meeting  7:00 p.m. Food Preparation
20 9:00 & 11:15 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m. Sun- day School 1:30 p.m. Food Distribution	21 12:00 noon Ellen Hoover Circle 7:00 p.m. Play Practice	22 10:00 a.m. Prayer Fellowship  Thanksgiving Service	23 Church Office Closes at 12:00 noon	24 <b>Happy</b>  <b>Thanksgiving</b>	25 Church Office Closed  7:00 p.m. Play Practice	26 11:00 a.m. Play Practice
27 9:00 & 11:15 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m. Sun- day School	28 7:00 p.m. Play Practice 7:00 p.m. Depres- sion/Bipolar Sup- port Group	29	30 6:00 p.m. Maranatha Choir			

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Address Service Requested

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