

The Lamplighter

Emmanuel United Methodist Church

April 2018

A Vibrant Multi-Cultural Church

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



Greetings! Hallelujah! Happy Easter!

Jesus is resurrected! After the long Lenten season, Jesus is resurrected. We have been waiting for this moment for the last 40 days (46 days including Sundays). We have prepared for this moment through worship, prayer, meditation, and Bible study. We have tried to distance ourselves from pleasures. On Easter Sunday, the long waiting and journey are finally rewarded. We are able to participate in the resurrection of Jesus.

When I was young, I happened to hear the testimony of a Buddhist priest who had converted to Christianity. He was a faithful and high-positioned Buddhist priest. Although he was a Buddhist, he read the Scripture. One day, while he was reading the Bible, he was struck by the story of Jesus. It was a resurrection story. Jesus died, but three days later he was resurrected. This story completely changed the Buddhist priest's life, as well as his faith.

The Buddhist priest shared a similar story in Buddhism. A long time ago, when Buddha was alive, a woman visited him in desperation. One of her family members was dying. The woman asked Buddha to visit the dying person and heal him. Buddha said ok, but there was a condition. Buddha asked her to find a person in the village who had died but had been resurrected. If she could find such a person, Buddha promised to heal her dying family member.

The woman desperately went door-to-door visiting her neighbors. She visited almost every person in the village, but she was unable to find a person who had been resurrected. In despair, she returned to Buddha and said that there was no such person who had been resurrected from death. Then Buddha said, "That is right. No one is able to avoid death. Nobody has been, or will be, resurrected. So don't expect your family member to get healed. Let him go."

The Buddhist priest noted the difference between Buddha's statement and the story of Jesus' resurrection.

It made him begin to doubt his faith in Buddhism and convert to Christianity.

What if there is no resurrection? What if death is the end of our lives? The same question was raised by the Apostle Paul, who said, "If for this life only we have hope in Christ, we of all people are most to be pitied." Therefore, he concludes, "in fact, Christ has been raised from the dead....As all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ" and "Death has been swallowed up in victory. Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting? Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ!"

Over the years, there have been many people who died by crucifixion. In 519 B.C., for example, the Persian king Darius crucified 3,000 Babylonians. In A.D. 66, the Romans crucified 3,600 Jews, thereby starting a revolt.

So not only Jesus died by crucifixion. What made his crucifixion different? The difference is resurrection. Jesus is risen. That is a big difference. Many people died on a cross in the world. But, only Jesus is risen!

What if Jesus hadn't been resurrected? Then, Christianity would be a pessimistic and sad religion. What if there is no resurrection? Then, we are doomed to death. What if there is no resurrection? Then, we are unable to be comforted in the face of death.

You know, thousands of years ago, some people killed Jesus and they put Him in a tomb. They thought that He was dead and that was the end. But Jesus came back to life, got out of that tomb, and appeared again to announce to everybody that He was alive again. Wow! Isn't that amazing? Everyone thought Jesus was dead and gone, but He came back to life. He came out of the tomb to live forever. Jesus has conquered death for all of us.

Brothers and sisters, why don't you ask yourself the "what if" questions? What if there is no resurrection? What if Jesus isn't risen? Fortunately, Jesus is risen! Amazingly, Jesus is risen. Jesus is no longer in a tomb. He is alive.

~ ~ ~Pastor Jacob

Maryland Public Access AED Program

by Ilene Forsbacka, Health and Wellness



The Maryland Public Access Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Program permits a business, organization, church, etc. which meets certain requirements to make automated external defibrillators available for use with individuals suffering sudden cardiac arrest on the premises until emergency medical services personnel arrive. AEDs are found in many public buildings now.

I'm sure you have heard how the use of these devices is life-saving. Having one within reach at Emmanuel would be beneficial should the need arise. The Maryland Institute of Emergency Medical Services Systems (MIEMSS) oversees the Public Access AED Program and approves entities meeting the necessary requirements to participate in it. The requirements include registration with MIEMSS, training of expected operators in CPR and AED use by an approved AED training program, and the ability to access 9-1-1 immediately. A certificate issued by MIEMSS to a registered entity is effective for three years if compliance with the program requirements is maintained.

I would like to know if anyone already is certified with a current card, and if there are any people interested in becoming certified. I am looking into training classes and cost. Please send me an email at ileneforsbacka@gmail.com if you are currently certified or interested in taking a class.

We also will need an AED coordinator who is trained in CPR and AED use. The coordinator will administer and implement the program, maintain records and documentation, perform a monthly inspection of the device and any manufacturer-recommended maintenance, and report any instances of suspected cardiac arrest. I cannot qualify for this role, so if this is something you would be interested in, please let me know.

Don't forget to get your blood pressure checked on the last Sunday of each month!

Online Giving Is Here!

by Bobbie Deegan, Financial Secretary

Online giving is an easy, convenient way to support the ministries of EUMC. It lets you make a donation to Emmanuel anywhere, at any time – not just at church on Sunday morning! You don't have to write a check, or mail one to the church office when you are out of town. You can make a one-time payment online, or set your account up to make payments on a recurring basis.

Most importantly, online giving is SECURE – you don't have to worry that giving online will allow someone to hack into your bank account. All transactions are processed by Vanco Services LLC in accordance with the most rigorous security standards. Your bank account, debit card or credit card information will be processed only on Vanco Services' secure system, which is verified by GeoTrust, Inc. You can see more information about Vanco Services security on their website, www.vancoservices.com.

Best of all, online giving is EASY – so easy, even an early-Baby Boomer like me can do it!

- Go to Emmanuel's website: www.EUMCBeltsville.com.
- Click on the box that says "Giving" at the top of the page. (It's the last box on the right-hand side).
- Click on the black box that says, "Online Giving click here." This will take you to a secure Online Donation page hosted by Vanco Services, LLC.
- The first time you go to the Online Donation page, you will need to click on "Create Your Online Profile." Enter your email address and create your password. Then fill in your name/address. Next time, you will just need to log in!
- To make a donation, click on "Add transaction" and fill in the amount; whether it is a one-time or repeating donation; and your bank account, credit card, or debit card information. Review the information to make sure it is correct, then click on "Process" and you are done!
- You may print the "receipt" page for confirmation of your donation.

Never Fear — All your donations will continue to be listed on your Giving Statement, whether they are received in an envelope on Sunday or made through online giving!!

Questions? Feel free to see me or Mary Ann Vaughan, Chairman of the Finance Committee.

Little-Known Black History Facts**Therrell C. Smith****American Dancer and Dance Instructor, 1917----**

On a November day in 2013, members of a Washington, DC church gave a standing ovation in honor of a dancer and her graceful performance before them. That dancer was Therrell C. Smith, and she was celebrating her 96th birthday.

When this diminutive but larger-than-life woman prances into a crowded room, it's difficult for even her friends to believe that she is nearly a centenarian. A ballet dancer since the age of eight and a dance instructor for more than 65 years, Smith appears steady and in full control; she walks with the lithe style of a ballet dancer.

Smith, a native of Washington, D.C., began dance lessons at eight years old. She danced in theater productions and was introduced to choreographing music programs, recitals, and plays while at Paul Laurence Dunbar High School, the oldest black high school in the nation. After high school, Smith attended historically-black Fisk University in Tennessee. On summer breaks, she taught ballet to youngsters at camps in Wisconsin and Massachusetts. She studied ballet at the Carnegie Hall Ballet Arts school in New York City, and was chosen to further her studies in Paris under Mathilde Kschessinska, prima ballerina of the Imperial Russian Ballet.

When she returned to the United States, segregation limited her career options as a dancer. So, in 1948, Smith founded the Therrell C. Smith School of Dance to give young African American students a place to study ballet free from discrimination.

Smith's longevity has solidified her legacy within the Washington, D.C. community, where she is well known. Her Logan Circle home, which has been in her family since the 1930s, is part of a historic district and has long been a frequent place for parties, get-togethers, and fundraisers. Dance is still her passion, and Smith has continued to teach ballet and celebrate life through dance. She remains active and engaged, somehow mustering up energy for the next lesson, recital, or social event. With humility she says, *"There is no stopping, no retirement. I plan to just fade away."*

~ ~ ~Submitted by Jane Grays

Editor's note: Therrell C. Smith is still going strong. On November 27, 2017, she celebrated her 100th birthday by joining her nephews and great nephews in a kickline.



United Methodist Women Happenings



Each Circle made personal hygiene kits for UMCOR, which Emmy Lear delivered. The kits will provide basic necessities for people who have been forced to leave their homes because of human conflict or natural disaster. They also will be used as learning tools in personal hygiene, literacy, nutrition, and cooking classes.

On March 31st, the UMW hosted a pot-luck luncheon for members of the church to meet missionaries Nan McCurdy and Miguel Mairena. They have accepted a new missionary assignment in Puebla, Mexico with Give Ye Them To Eat (GYTTE). This organization was founded in 1977 by Mexican Methodists. Although the offices are in Puebla, much of the work is in a remote town called Tlancualpican. There, they have the Tree of Life Training Center and a small farm in what is almost a desert. They provide training there on different kinds of appropriate technologies, sustainable agriculture, and health, so that people can improve their lives.

Many families in Tlancualpican lost their homes in the last earthquake, so GYTTE also has been training people to make straw-bale homes that are more earthquake-resistant. To learn more about GYTTE, visit their website, www.gytte.org.

Now, UMW is looking forward to The Ladies Communion Breakfast on May 5th in the Fellowship Hall. This is for ladies of all ages -- very young, young, old, and older, so please COME! Our "Sisters de Mayo" [Cinco de Mayo] Fiesta will be after communion. Check your church bulletin for details, or call Becky Cavallo at 301-937-7146 if you have questions.

All ladies are invited to every UMW activity!



The first full day of Spring in Beltsville, MD,
as viewed on Knott Street!

A Poem for Easter Morning

Shared by Pastor Jacob

On this Easter morn, we welcome you, Jesus, into our lives.

We welcome your resurrection, for it is life-changing,
life-giving and life-sustaining.

We welcome the hope it brings to our world.

We welcome the joy it brings to our darkness.

We welcome the empty tomb, for we know that it means you
are on the loose.

Lord, may your resurrection give life to

Those who feel lifeless,

Those who are just going through the motions, and

Those who have had the death of a loved one.

Lord, may your resurrection give hope to those

Who are mired in despair,

Who feel hopeless, and

Who have given up all hope.

Lord, may your resurrection give joy to those who

Feel no joy,

Have lost their joy, or

Have had their joy snuffed out.

Lord, may you be on the loose in this world

As the risen Christ.

The 2018 Annual Conference is Coming! (What's that?)



There are 132 United Methodist annual conferences around the world, with 56 in the United States. Emmanuel United Methodist Church in Beltsville, Maryland is one of 628 churches or charges in the Baltimore-Washington Conference, in the Northeastern Jurisdiction. Our conference is led by Bishop LaTrelle Easterling.

The Baltimore-Washington Conference (BWC) is made up of regions and districts. The BWC has four regions – Baltimore, Washington, Annapolis, and Western. Emmanuel UMC – Beltsville is in the Annapolis Region. Each region has two districts, presided over by a district superintendent. We are in the Washington East District (WED) of the Annapolis Region, and Rev. Rebecca Iannicelli is our district superintendent.

The Annual Conference Session is the Conference's annual business meeting. The Bishop presides over it. The Book of Discipline requires an equal number of laity and clergy to be members of the Annual Conference Session. All clergy are members. All deaconesses and diaconal ministers are lay members. So, Pastor Jacob and Deaconess Jane Grays will attend the Annual Conference Session. At their annual church conference, local churches elect lay members to attend the Annual Conference Session and vote on the church's behalf. At Emmanuel's church conference last fall, we elected Ted Ladd and Roy White to be our Lay Members to the Annual Conference Session. There also are some "at large" members to the Annual Conference who are voting members by virtue of their district, conference or national positions.

This year's Baltimore-Washington Annual Conference Session will be held Wednesday, May 30th through Friday, June 1st at the Marriott Waterfront Hotel in Baltimore, MD. Its theme is "We Are One: Beneath the Cross." More than 1200 members will be called upon to vote on several items, including the 2019 annual budget and several resolutions, all of which are available on the conference website. Annual Conference also will include opportunities for inspirational worship; reports from the Discipleship and Stewardship areas of the conference; a memorial service recognizing clergy, clergy spouses and lay members who died in the previous 12 months; recognition of clergy who are retiring; and the Ordination and Commissioning service, as well as Bible study and times of fellowship.

A summary of the actions of the Annual Conference Session will be posted on the conference website at www.bwcumc.org.

READY FOR YOUR QUIZ?



What Jurisdiction is Emmanuel in?
 What Conference?
 What Region?
 What District?
 Who is our Bishop?
 Who is our Superintendent?
 Who are our Lay Members to the Annual Conference?
 And finally — When is this year's session of the Annual Conference, anyway?

ONLINE BIBLE STUDIES



Would you like to learn more about the Bible, but can't make it to Rick's class on Thursday evenings? Consider taking an online class offered by Dr. Ralph F. Wilson.

Dr. Wilson is a Christian evangelical who is the director of Joyful Heart Renewal Ministries. He has written many books that may be purchased in paperback, Kindle, and PDF format. But he also has designed 35 Bible studies available free via email. It's called the JesusWalk Bible Study Series, and it is intended to build discipleship.

You receive a lesson by email once a week, and you have the option of receiving a thought-provoking question on the week's lesson every day, or just getting the weekly lesson. To look at the course list or to sign up for a class, visit the website at www.Jesuswalk.com.

ALTAR FLOWERS

- April 1 — Kemi Oluwafemi
- April 8 — Bobbie Deegan
- April 15 —
- April 22 —
- April 29 —
- May 6 —
- May 13 —
- May 20 — Dottie Gilbert
- May 27 —

The flower chart for 2018 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 you.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 1. Natalie Corman, Lil Mizzer
- 4. Monica Hatton, Nancy Bell
- 8. Lea Claye
- 9. Deji Bello
- 11. Lacey Fadely, Danny Webb
- 15. George Urick
- 16. C J Fuller, Grace Rodeffer
- 18. Ernie Kilbourne
- 19. Ted Ladd
- 21. Sharon White
- 25. April Ademiluyi
- 26. Glenna Pavelka



APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

- 4. Christopher & Virginia Butcher

**IN
MEMORIAM**



Christian love and sympathy to:

Kathy Hunter, Sara Hunter, and family on the death of their four-year-old granddaughter/daughter, Madison Dru Lawrence, on February 25th. The late Frankie Hunter, a life-long member of Emmanuel, was Kathy's mother, and Sara grew up attending Emmanuel.

May the Holy Spirit comfort and sustain all of the families who are mourning the loss of a loved one.



GUESTS visiting Emmanuel on one or more Sundays in February included **Jane Maranga**.

We welcome you to our church family. Please worship with us again soon!

BE A GREETER OR SCRIPTURE READER!



Help make Emmanuel a friendly and welcoming congregation! Share the Word of the Lord!

A Scripture Reader is needed for the 9 am service on April 1st!

To volunteer to cover one or more Sundays as a Greeter or Scripture Reader, please put your name on the sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board in the hallway outside the Sanctuary.

No experience necessary — we will train!

Need a notary public? At your convenience, I can notarize something after church one Sunday, in your home, or you can bring it by my house. Just email me at BobbieDeegan@aol.com or give me a call (301-937-7070). There's no charge — I am happy to be able to provide this service when folks need it!

~ ~ ~Bobbie Deegan

To contact Lamplighter editor Bobbie Deegan with an article, suggestion, or story idea, please e-mail her at BobbieDeegan@aol.com, or phone her at 301-937-7070.

Contributions are always welcome!



April 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 EASTER! 6:30 am Sunrise Service at St. John's 9 & 11:15 am Worship Services 10:15 am Sunday School	2	3 7 pm ESOL	4	5 7 pm Bible Study	6	7 5 pm NA
8 9 & 11:15 am Worship Services 10:15 am Sunday School 2 nd Sunday Lunch 12:30 pm UMW Executive Meeting 12:30 pm Youth Fellowship 12:45 pm Chancel Choir	9 7 pm Trustees 7 pm Depression/Bipolar Support Group	10 10 am Prayer Fellowship 7 pm ESOL	11	12 7 pm Bible Study	13	14 11 am Memorial Service for Jessie Marcus 5 pm NA
15 9 & 11:15 am Worship Services 10:15 am Sunday School 12:45 pm Chancel Choir	16 12 Noon Ellen Hoover Circle 7 pm SPRC	17 7 pm Sisters In Spirit Circle 7 pm ESOL	18 10 am Susanna Wesley Circle	19 7 pm Bible Study	20 11 am Community Place Café	21 5 pm NA
22 9 & 11:15 am Worship Services 10:15 am Sunday School 12:30 pm Youth Fellowship 12:45 pm Chancel Choir	23 7 pm Depression/Bipolar Support Group	24 10 am Prayer Fellowship 7 pm ESOL	25 7 pm Church Council	26 7 pm Bible Study	27	28 10 am Food Distribution 5 pm NA
29 9 & 11:15 am Worship Services 10:15 am Sunday School Blood Pressure Screening 12:45 pm Chancel Choir	30					

Emmanuel United Methodist Church
11416 Cedar Lane
Beltsville, MD 20705
301-937-7114
Web: www.emmanuelumcbeltsville.net
Address Service Requested

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