

# The Lamplighter

Emmanuel United Methodist Church

July 2016

*A Vibrant Multi-Cultural Church: All God's Children Are Welcome!*



Greetings!

June was a busy month. From June 1 to June 4, I participated in the annual conference. It was held at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel in Washington, DC. The conference's main theme was "You Have the Power," which means God

empowers us with holy power. There were sessions for worship, official business, praise, the budget, fundraising for African University, Bible study, recognition of retiring pastors, farewell worship for Bishop Marcus Matthews, and so on.

There was an historic moment during the annual conference. It took place when the clergy voted on whether to commission a clergy candidate as a deacon. The candidate, Ms. T.C. Morrow, is married to a woman. Ms. Morrow passed the ordination exams and needed to receive two-thirds of the votes at the annual conference to become a deacon. Before the voting began, there was lively discussion about whether Ms. Morrow is qualified to be commissioned a deacon. Some who supported her candidacy reminded the delegates that God is love, and we need to love those who are different. Others brought up the point that the Bible does not support homosexuality.

After a long discussion, voting took place. If my figures are correct, approximately 60% of the clergy voted for her, while 30% didn't. Therefore, she could not be commissioned. After the voting, there was a time for clergy to bring her back and pray with her. While observing this historic split in the conference resulting from different viewpoints about homosexuality, I was very concerned about what will be the future of the United Methodist Church. I am sure that the issue of homosexuality will come up again, not only at the next annual conference of the Baltimore-Washington Conference, but at other annual conferences in the United States of America. The only thing I could do was pray for a peaceful resolution and for harmony among United Methodist Christians.

There were many other activities at the annual conference. I am sure that [United Methodist Connection](#)

will cover the other issues, as well as the controversial issue of homosexuality, in detail. Please read the newspaper and you will see what else happened in the annual conference.

In June, I really enjoyed working with the two confirmands, Olamide and Tia. At Lovely Lane UMC in Baltimore, they learned about the origin and history of American Methodism. They participated in the food ministry. For cross-cultural awareness, they went to a Korean restaurant in Ellicott City and attended a gospel song concert at a Korean UMC in Towson, MD. They also attended the church seminar on discipleship and church growth. Finally, they were confirmed on June 26, 2016. It was a very joyful and wonderful moment, because they were my first confirmands at Emmanuel UMC in Beltsville.

While at the annual conference, I happened to run into a retiring pastor. I said to her, "Congratulations!" I really meant it for her. I can only imagine how faithfully she has served the Lord, her churches, and the congregations. That pastor's retirement represents many years of long and faithful service. There may have been many tears, pain, struggle, joy, and laughter along her faith journey. It was a good reminder that I also need to faithfully serve the Lord and the church with all my strength and love. The retiring pastor could be a good role model for all Christians, encouraging us to do our best for the church – the body of Christ. We are called to serve the Lord throughout our lifetime. So while we may retire from our career, there is no retirement from serving God.

Now it is summertime, when people take a vacation and enjoy themselves. Personally, I took a family vacation from June 20 to 24. My family and I relaxed and enjoyed our time together. I hope that you will enjoy your summer and will come back relaxed, refreshed and revitalized to keep serving the Lord.

Take care!

~ ~ Pastor Jacob



## Summer Happenings in Christian Education and Sunday School

### by Rick Bergmann

Hello, everyone! Summer is here, and soon we will be departing for vacations, mission trips and more. While you are away for a week or two, the Church will keep on going. Our Christian Education and Sunday School ministries have several exciting things planned for the summer and the beginning of the school year!

Our regular Sunday morning program will be taking a break, but it won't go away entirely. We feel that Bible study and Sunday School are an important part of our growth as Christians. So for the summer we will have a modified Sunday morning program. For the children, we will offer a one-room schoolhouse program where they will learn Bible stories, games, crafts and more. To give our teachers a brief break during the summer, we are asking that members of the congregation volunteer to teach a Sunday. If you can volunteer, please sign up on the Christian Education bulletin board in the hallway outside the Sanctuary. If you have any questions, feel free to talk to Rick Bergmann, Tracy Fuller or Todd Reitzel. For adults on Sunday morning, Todd Reitzel will be leading an adult Bible study. Adults of all ages are invited.

For the adults who want more Bible study or who can't make Sunday morning, we will be offering a Thursday evening Bible study on the book of Ephesians. The topic of the study is what it means to be part of a church and the body of Christ, and it will be led by Rick Bergmann. The study will begin on **Thursday, June 30** and run for six weeks. At the end of the study, we will re-evaluate and decide if we want to continue with it in the fall. See Rick Bergmann if you have any questions.

As the summer draws to a close, we will begin focusing on our back-to-school activities and the kick-off of fall Christian Education and Sunday School! Sunday, August 21<sup>st</sup> will be Christian Education Sunday, when students are invited to bring their backpacks to the worship service so that they can be blessed by the pastor. Between services, we will have ice cream sundaes in the fellowship hall for everyone, as well as tables displaying samples of the fall curriculum for the children and adults. This also will be the time for you to meet the teachers and register for the fall. Everyone is invited!

Finally, in order for us to provide the best experience for the children of Emmanuel, the Sunday School program is in need of some supplies. If you can donate any of the following items, please drop them off in the collection box in the narthex.

#### Items the Sunday School Could Use:

Glue sticks



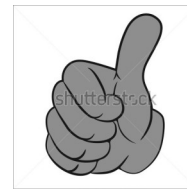
Glue  
Brown paper bags  
White paper plates  
Stickers  
Napkins  
Paper cups  
Crayons  
Markers  
Stapler  
Colored pencils  
Construction paper  
White paper  
Magazines for cutting out  
items for crafts



**Our teachers greatly appreciate all of your support.**

## Window Fund Meets Goal!

by Church Council Chairman Ted Ladd



The fund to purchase new windows for the Education Building classrooms that will be rented by a preschool has reached its goal, and the new windows have been installed. Many thanks to the members of Emmanuel who very quickly contributed more than \$5,700 to this project.

The potential beneficial impact of the new preschool is difficult to measure. It will put Emmanuel "on the map" for those enrolling children in the preschool, and the lives of the children attending will be enriched in ways they will never forget. Emmanuel will become known as the place to enroll children in a quality preschool.

Again, thanks for your "extra mile" financial support for this winning project. The preschool promises to make Beltsville a better community as well as bring needed income to Emmanuel.

Dear Church Family,



Sarah and I want to thank Emmanuel for the warm and generous reception, gifts, and send-off on June 12th. We appreciate your love and spirit of celebration. It certainly was difficult to say farewell to our church home of the last 10 years. Emmanuel was where we were baptized, married, and the seeds of children's faith planted. You all reminded us of how much we have grown in the good soil at our church. Emmanuel has left its imprint on us at least as much as we have on it.

I come from a family of gardeners. In fact, growing up some of my favorite memories involve food from the family garden. Fresh asparagus on the grill, homemade horseradish, tomato sandwiches, and sweet corn with butter. My family often had more food than they could consume themselves. While we would can and preserve some of our yield, we shared most of it. I remember driving around to visit our family and friends with a box of tomatoes in the back seat. At each stop, my dad and I would give out the fruit. Sometimes an aunt or cousin would give us an extra melon or a few cucumbers that they had.

I did not realize it at the time, but we were ministering together, sharing the bounty and blessings of our Lord with others. We had excess and had the opportunity to bring joy to others by sharing. So, we did. It strikes me that Emmanuel is in a similar place. Sarah and I came to you all as Christian seedlings and have grown and matured into a fruitful plant. Now you all, having sowed the harvest, are sharing us with others. You are sharing out of love and compassion, living up to the Great Commission to go and make disciples. You are what my father, a box of tomatoes, and I were to others.

Emmanuel will always hold a special place in our hearts. You could never be replaced or forgotten. We will visit as often as we can. As we go forth, we do so with the rich Christian soil of Emmanuel on our feet.

Thank you and we love you all.

Joined in Christ,

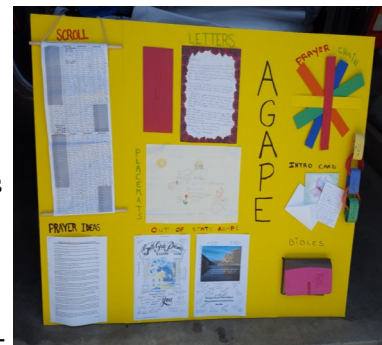
**Patrick and Sarah Elliott**  
**3602 Level Village Road**

From the Staff—Parish Relations Committee:

Thank you, everyone, for your contributions to Sarah's gift fund. We purchased a traveling communion set for her that Sarah can use to take communion to shut-ins. Knowing that there will be numerous things she will need to get as she begins her ministry in a new home, we decided to give her the remaining funds in cash. **Sarah received \$760** to begin her pastoral career! I know she and Patrick greatly appreciated your generosity.

Dear Friends,

April 28 through May 2, 2016, I had the opportunity to be one of 38 members of a **Kairos Prison Ministry International (KPMI) volunteers in mission team**. At our 3½-day retreat, we ministered to the women inside Maryland Correctional Institution for Women (MCI-W) in Jessup. It was an amazing spiritual experience. 'God's Love,' 'Forgiveness,' 'Choices,' 'You are not alone,' and 'Friendship with God' are examples of some of the talks discussed during our stay inside.



In preparation for our weekend, the team members asked friends, family, and supporters to sign our prayer vigil and pray for the team, the incarcerated and the institution. We posted the prayer log online to ensure that every time slot was filled with prayer during our stay inside. We transferred first names only to a scroll, and then wrote the first names on strips of colored paper to make a prayer chain. Once completed, the prayer chain was over 10 feet long! When we carried it into our sacred space inside the institution, the women were overcome with emotion. They were amazed that so many people around the globe were praying for them. For most of them, it was their first encounter with unconditional love.

The final day of the retreat, every woman received a Kairos cross and a gift bag which included love letters from the team and a bible, as well as placemats made by children, youth, church groups and other volunteers.

Outside guests were invited to attend the Sunday afternoon closing ceremony, and they experienced the personal testimonies and witnessed the transformation of the residents.

KPMI is one ministry which has three programs. The Kairos Inside program, which operates in both male and female institutions, brings positive and negative leaders together for a 3 ½-day weekend based on a series of talks, discussions, chapel meditations and music led by a same-gender team of volunteers. The Kairos Inside goal is to build a continuing Christian community inside the institution through Prayer and Share accountability groups and monthly Reunions organized by Kairos graduates and volunteers. The purpose of Kairos Outside is to demonstrate Christian support for women whose relatives/friends are, or have been, incarcerated. Spouses, parents and relatives of the incarcerated often “do time” right along with their loved ones. Kairos Torch is a mentoring program for incarcerated offenders age 25 and under. The weekend is a combined effort to introduce young men and women to Christian concepts as a means of making better choices for their lives. The initial weekend is followed with an established six-month, one-to-one weekly mentoring program that encourages the youth to remove their masks and see themselves as God sees them.

In His Service,

*Jane Grays*

## United Methodist Women

by Ernie Kilbourne

The Annual Prayer Breakfast of the United Methodist Women in the Washington East District was held on May 21, 2016. This year, the meeting was held at Wads UM Church, which is not very far from Chesapeake Beach. It POURED RAIN the whole day. Nevertheless, UMW ladies came from all over the district in spite of the weather. The room was packed! Debbie McNitt, Becky Cavallo and Ernie Kilbourne attended the meeting from Emmanuel.

The subject of the prayer breakfast was violence, so the speaker's topic was “STOP the VIOLENCE!” But mainly, she talked about abuse and violence in the home, because she had experienced that herself. When she got tired of being a victim, she left home and got help at a women's shelter.

Emmanuel UMW's general meeting on June 4th was well attended and interesting. That will be our last general meeting until September. Now we are looking forward to the Spiritual Retreat on August 20th.



Spiritual Retreat  
Sponsored by United Methodist Women  
"A Bible Study of 1st and 2nd Kings  
Set Apart: Holy Habits of Prophets and Kings"

August 20, 2016, 9 AM-3 PM Fellowship Hall  
Continental breakfast served at 8:30 AM  
\$20 registration fee includes continental breakfast and lunch

Contact - Lorna Marselas, EUMC, 301-937-7114  
Registration is July 3 thru August 14  
in the Narthex.



Please bring a cushion to sit on.  
If you have any extra cushions to share, it would be greatly appreciated.

**SPIRITUAL RETREAT**  
**Sponsored by United Methodist Women**  
**August 20, 2016 - 9 AM - 3 PM**  
**Study of 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Kings**  
**Continental Breakfast 8:30 AM - Fellowship Hall**  
**Registration fee: \$20 per person (includes continental breakfast and lunch)**

**Registration July 3 thru August 14 in Narthex, or you can  
mail registration form with check, payable to EUMC/UMW to Emmanuel UMC, 11416 Cedar Lane,  
Beltsville MD 20705 - Attn: Lorna Marselas**

Name\* \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_ Amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Specify any special needs \_\_\_\_\_

For further information, contact Lorna Marselas through the church office: 301-937-7114

\*Additional names \_\_\_\_\_

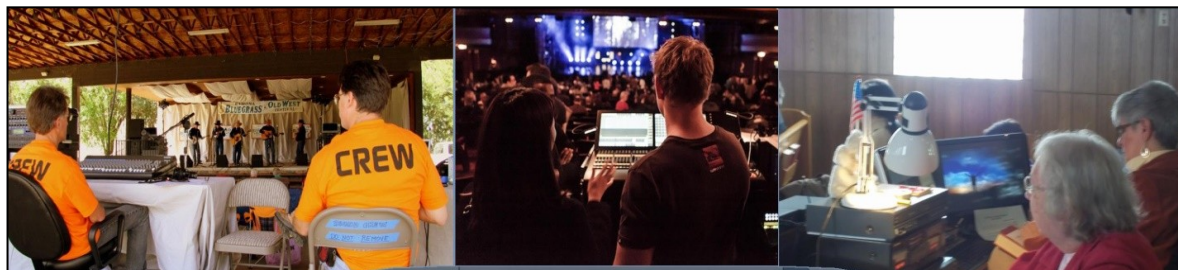
You may want to bring a cushion to sit on. A few will be available, if you don't have one.



## Volunteers needed to help with Computer and Sound Crew on Sunday Mornings

Due to new directions, graduations, jobs and more, you may have noticed that the sound crew is a little lighter than normal (a lot lighter, actually). We have lost, or are losing, 4 of our 7 crew members and are looking for fresh recruits. What this means for the time being is that, at the 11:15 service, we will not have a person to run a slide show. On the screens, the list of hymns for the morning will be displayed. We apologize for the abrupt change, but at this time it is unavoidable.

The crew could use 4-6 new volunteers to help out not only during service, but during funerals, weddings and other events. Age or gender doesn't matter. You just need to be reliable, punctual and willing to learn. All of our sound crew are volunteers and have been taught by Mike Hatton, Rick Bergmann or Patrick Elliott. Can you be the newest volunteer? If you would to join this interesting and fun-loving ministry, please contact Rick Bergmann at [rick.bergmann@eumcbeltsville.com](mailto:rick.bergmann@eumcbeltsville.com) or 301.785.7516.



**Anyone can join the Sound Crew!**

## Deaf Woman Ordained as a United Methodist Elder

Submitted by Roy White



Carrie and I journeyed via Metro to the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel in DC on June 4, 2016 to witness our Deaf friend, Lisa Jordan, being ordained an elder. Lisa was a part of our Deaf Mission team in Kenya back in 2013. She is the second Deaf woman to have been ordained an elder in the history of the United Methodist Church. Before Lisa became a licensed preacher at Mt. Bethel UMC in Smithsburg, MD in 2008, she was a high school music teacher. As her hearing loss became worse, Lisa had to leave the teaching profession. Then she became a chaplain at Gallaudet University for a few years before becoming a pastor at Magothy United Methodist Church of the Deaf in Pasadena, MD. She also was involved with Deaf Shalom Zone at Christ United Methodist Church of the Deaf in Baltimore.

Lisa recently returned to the Baltimore-Washington Conference from her pastorate at Bread of Life Deaf Church in Minneapolis, MN, which is affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America. Having had cochlear implants in both ears, Lisa was able to be trained to become a certified deaf interpreter. She has worked part-time as an interpreter for ZVRS (Video Relay Service).

Rev. Lisa Jordan's new pastoral appointment is to the newly-formed Mountain Ridge Cooperative Parish, consisting of Mount Zion UMC in Sabillasville, MD and Pleasant Walk UMC in Wolfsville, MD, both "hearing" congregations.

## A report on The United Methodist Church General Conference 2016 General Commission on Religion and Race

Last month, more than 1000 United Methodists from five continents across the globe, speaking over 20 languages, gathered in Portland, Oregon to attend opening worship and organize the 2016 General Conference. Even more joined online. Vast differences at General Conference were apparent from the very beginning – differences in language, tribe, identity, race, age, gender, ability, and theology.

To be a worldwide Church requires a level of intercultural communication and competency that is demanding and, at times, difficult. Even recognizing differences means that we acknowledge that there is more than one story and more than one cultural reality. We celebrate all the ways in which this happened throughout General Conference and we are clear that there are many places where the church fell short of our theological task.

Legislatively, 13 out of 14 petitions submitted by the General Commission on Religion and Race (GCORR) were considered and passed. The disciplinary mandates of the agency were adapted to re-articulate the agency's mission and ministry. These changes reflect the agency's response to the current global realities of race, tribe, ethnicity, and culture experienced within the worldwide church, particularly at the local church level. Other significant GCORR-submitted legislation considered and affirmed by General Conference included clarifying the responsibilities of annual conference commissions, affirming the use of diverse languages in the U.S., opposition to white privilege, opposition to racial profiling, and opposition to global racism, tribalism, and xenophobia .

Legislation changes polity, but relationships change people. Change is most genuine when we begin with our own awareness. GCORR is committed to building the capacity of The United Methodist Church to be contextually relevant and to reach more people, younger people, and more diverse people as we make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. That requires more than legislation. GCORR is here to partner with you each step of the way. Check out [www.gcorr.org](http://www.gcorr.org) for updated resources on intercultural competency, equity, and on having vital conversations. In the coming weeks, GCORR will release study guides featuring key worship moments from General Conference and inviting you to go deeper and explore in small groups what ministry looks like in your local context when you engage across lines of difference.

### Summary of Church Account Information as of May 31, 2016

The Church Council is committed to keeping the congregation informed about Emmanuel's financial picture. For this reason, year-to-date contributions and expenses as of the preceding month have been listed in the Sunday bulletins. Because this data changes monthly rather than weekly, the Council decided at its April meeting to report it in The Lamplighter instead.

#### As of May 31, 2016

Total donations received:	\$	107,563
Total expenses paid:	\$	<u>127,854</u>
Difference to date:	\$	- 20,291

## FREE PAPER SHREDDING DAY

Dispose of your unwanted personal  
documents safely & securely

Donations will be accepted for the  
Beltsville Lions Club Foundation

**Saturday, July 30**  
**8 AM—Noon**

**At Behnke Nurseries**  
11300 Baltimore Avenue  
Beltsville

**Statements of Giving** for the 2nd quarter of 2016 will be mailed out in early July. If you have questions, please contact Financial Secretary Gail Belshay. Many thanks to all who have been faithful in their giving.

**“Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”**

2 Corinthians 9:7 New International Version

### Altar Flowers

- July 3 — Lynne Miller
- July 10 — Olivia Heath
- July 17 — Scotlands
- July 24 — Theresa Timity
- July 31 — Mellotts

The 2016 flower chart is posted in the Narthex 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!

### Make Emmanuel a welcoming congregation!

Be a **greeter** at the 9 AM or 11:15 AM service!

Persons also are needed to **read the scriptures** at some services in July and August.

To volunteer to cover one or more Sundays, please put your name on the sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board outside the Sanctuary in the Narthex.

**Thank you** for helping to share God's love and His Word with the people in His Church!

# WELCOME

**GUESTS** visiting Emmanuel on one or more Sundays in May included:

- Richard Anderson
- Carolyn McAfee
- Balkissour
- Ella Bredbenner
- Thyra Jones
- James Summers
- Katie Lawrence

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

To contact Lamplighter editor Bobbie Deegan, please email her at [BobbieDeegan@aol.com](mailto:BobbieDeegan@aol.com) or phone her at 301-937-7070.

### July Birthdays

1. Jason Pavelka
2. Bob Hiner, Whitney Ademiluyi, Abraham Scotland
5. Frances Cruz, Donald Galloway
7. Wanda Scotland, Tobi Haufe
8. Margaret Ward
9. Kevin Andrews, Teresa Dorsey
10. Andrew Onukwubiri
11. Gail Belshay
12. Leslie Giron
17. Lorna Marselas
19. Trudy Headley
21. Nancy Green
22. Marcus Baird
23. Crispin Wray
25. John Kaufmann
28. Temitope Oluwafemi
29. Sara Hunter
30. Lenora Painter, Kristin Fadely
31. Katie Crotti, Paul Cruz, Mary Anne Heath, Amy Jo Harding, Edward Mellott

### July Anniversaries

4. Beverly & George Urick
7. Wanda & Abraham Scotland
8. Kimberly & Brian Beach
12. Kathy & Pat Mellott
25. JoAnne & Donal Blakley

### IN MEMORIAM

Christian love and sympathy to Alex Turney, the bass player in the Praise Band, on the death of his grandfather.

Also, love and prayers to Kemi Oluwafemi and family on the death of her mother, Alice Famodo, on June 21.

May God's love and happy memories comfort everyone who is struggling with the loss of a loved one.



## July 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 5 pm NA
3 9 & 11:15 am Worship Services 10:15 am Sunday School	4 <b>Independence Day</b> 	5	6	7 6:30 pm Bible Study	8	9 5 pm NA
10 9 & 11:15 am Worship Services 10:15 am Sunday School 2nd Sunday Lunch 12:30 pm Youth Fellowship	11 7 pm Depression/ Bipolar Support Group 7 pm Trustees 7 pm SPRC	12 10 am Prayer Fellowship	13	14 6:30 pm Bible Study	15 11 am Community Place Café	16 5 pm NA
17 9 & 11:15 am Worship Services 10:15 am Sunday School	18	19	20	21 6:30 pm Bible Study	22	23 5 pm NA
24 9 & 11:15 am Worship Services 10:15 am Sunday School	25 7 pm Depression/ Bipolar Support Group	26 10 am Prayer Fellowship	27	28 6:30 pm Bible Study	29	30 5 pm NA
31 9 & 11:15 am Worship Services 10:15 am Sunday School						



## ***In This Issue***

***Pastor's Message***

***Christian Education and Sunday School***

***Window Fund***

***Message from Patrick Elliott***

***Kairos***

***UMW***

***Spiritual Retreat***

***Sound Crew***

***Pastor Lisa Jordan***

***General Conference on Religion & Race***

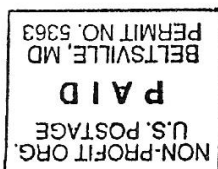
***Church Account Information***

***Free Shredding Day***

***Altar Flowers/Birthdays/Anniversaries***

***Readers & Greeters/Visitors//In Memoriam***

***July Calendar***



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