

The Lamplighter

Emmanuel United Methodist Church

July 2010



Pastor Daniel Mejia

I don't know if it is just me or if this is really happening; but I firmly believe that we are living in the age where we all claim to be "experts" on something while having very little knowledge about it. Trust me on this; I am an "expert." I have heard people claiming to be experts on the writings of the Apostles Paul, Peter, and John or even Jesus when these "experts" have hardly read any of their words.

These days all we need to do to call ourselves "experts" is to have some superficial knowledge that most likely we acquired from our extended sessions of watching "The History Channel," reading the internet or magazines we read while waiting at the Doctor's office. The collateral damage of our poorly researched opinions and shallow knowledge can mislead others who trust "our truth" to be the accurate Truth.

Christians have never had a problem with learning, knowing, and sharing their wisdom with oth-

ers. In fact, it is encouraged. (Matthew 28:18-20) But our Christian faith does have a problem with using weak and uninformed knowledge to lead others astray. **"Some people have deviated from these (love and sincere faith, vs. 5) and turned to meaningless talk, desiring to be teachers of the law, without understanding either what they are saying or the things about which they make assertions."** (1 Timothy 1:6-7)

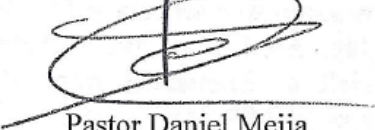
Read, study, and memorize the Scripture... yourself. Don't be satisfied with second hand knowledge or with what you get if and when you come to church.

"Ignorance is bliss," they say; but I say, "Ignorance is unjustified." Though, Jesus said it best, **"and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free."** (John 8:32)

Remember that for the Christian, spiritual growth never stops. The Holy Spirit is constantly seeking to perfect us, calling us to learn more, understand more, and to share more with others. We are expected to continually grow in our knowledge and love of God, to continually be obedient to the Will and Way of Christ, and to participate with the Holy Spirit in telling others the Good News of God's love revealed in the Scriptures and in our love. You are encouraged to participate in the Sunday school classes, Bible

studies, and this month in Vacation Bible School both as a means of learning more and sharing more of the knowledge of God.

Yours in Christ,



Pastor Daniel Mejia

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THANK YOU NOTE

Dear UMW Sisters,

I returned from the United Methodist Women (UMW) Assembly in St. Louis, Mo. Sunday evening, May 2, 2010. I thank you for your generous monetary contribution of \$265.00 which paid for registration.

The theme was *Faith, Hope, Love in action*. I was in fellowship with about 6,800 women from around the globe (a few men also). I have attended the UMW quadrennial assemblies for more than 20 years and it is spirit filled; offer mission, advocacy studies with focus on current events and a call to action ... I look forward to sharing my experience with you. Unfortunately, I did not charge the battery on my camera and don't have a lot of pictures. So you'll have to put up with my narrative!



On Thursday I participated in "Ubuntu" day of service where about 700 UMW participated in community service at various sites in St. Louis. On Friday we were asked to wear black and join with the women of St. Louis to *End the Israeli Occupation of Palestine* and to *Free Gaza*. Saturday we marched from the convention center to the center of town to protest for *Immigration Reform*. Yes I did attend seminars and workshops ... UMW prison ministries, worship center and Social Gospel ... Dr. Joycelyn Elders, former U.S. Surgeon General, spoke about health care reform. I also went to a couple of other drop-in workshops. The music was great. CeCe Winans, a multi Grammy Award-winning American gospel singer was one of the special guest artists ... It was a wonderful event and I look forward to meeting again with some of my sisters at the School of Christian Mission in Hagerstown, MD in July!

Thanks again for supporting and encouraging me in my UMW projects and activities

Yours and His

Jane Grays

FINANCE

By Bill Raulin
Finance Chairperson

I have little to write, but wish to express thanks to a friend, John Stewart, who filled in for Olivia who worked with the census. And thanks to all who send in their tithes this summer. God Bless all who help our Church.

STORAGE SPACE

By Barbara Butcher

Due to the many activities that Emmanuel takes part in, the following groups need storage in the Kitchen: United Methodist Women, United Methodist Men, Community Cafe, Homeless Ministry, ESOL, Church coffee hour, Second Sunday Lunch, Communion Comm. If your group has been missed, please let me know. Some have designated storage space and some do not. An effort is under way to find designated space for all groups. If your group knows the amount of space that it needs, also tell me that



TREASURER'S REPORT

By Beverly Ward, Treasurer

For the first five months of 2010 we have collected \$124,574 towards our 2010 budget of \$345,020. As of the end of May our bills have totaled \$214,695.82 while the money deposited to cover these bills is \$194,878.18 making a shortage of \$19,817.64 between the moneys deposited and the bills paid. This included the \$4,372.00 difference between the cost of the roof of \$58,372.00 and the C/D of \$54,000.00 that was cashed to cover this expense.

EMORY GROVE HYMN SING

The 36th Annual Hymn Sing at Emory Grove, Glyndon, MD begins in July. The Emmanuel UMC Chancel Choir is scheduled as the special guests at the July 14th Hymn Sing. We will leave the Emmanuel parking lot at 5:00 p.m. to drive to Emory Grove, about an hour drive. We have reserved the Hotel dining room for a potluck (bring a dish to share) and then we will attend the Hymn Sing in the Tabernacle at 7:30 p.m. Plan to come and support our choir members as they are the special performers at the Hymn Sing, and pick your favorite hymn to sing. We should arrive back at Emmanuel by about 10:30 p.m.

Emory Grove in a 143-year-old Methodist camp meeting ground that has held summer religious services since 1868. The Hymn Sings were begun in 1974 by Rev. George Lovell, Kathy

Mellott's grandfather. Rev. Lovell started the Hymn Sings because he felt that worship one day a week is not enough. Praising God in the middle of the week is a spiritually uplifting experience, especially in the open-air Tabernacle at Emory Grove. Other activities planned this summer include a Choir Fest hosted by Blango Ross, with Concert and Dinner scheduled for July 31st, and an Afternoon Tea scheduled for 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. on August 7th. There is a Hymn Sing every Wednesday evening during the summer at 7:30 p.m. and a Worship service, featuring a different church, every Sunday evening at 7:30 p.m. All of these events and services are open to the public!

The Mellotts have a cottage at Emory Grove, built in 1920. They spend many weekends in the summer at Emory Grove, which epitomizes the Bible verses, "Come ye apart from the madding world," and may you hear a soft voice

saying, "Be still, and know that I am God." Emory Grove brochures are available in the Narthex. For more information about Emory Grove, contact Kathy Mellott or visit the website www.emorygrove.homestead.com



The Eccard-Mellott cottage at Emory Grove

FOOD CLOSET

By Carol Clatterbuck

Keep the canned goods coming! We are currently in need of canned fruit, beans and pasta.

Thank you all who bring these in the first Sunday of every month.



2009 Hymn Sing featuring the Emmanuel UMC Chancel Choir



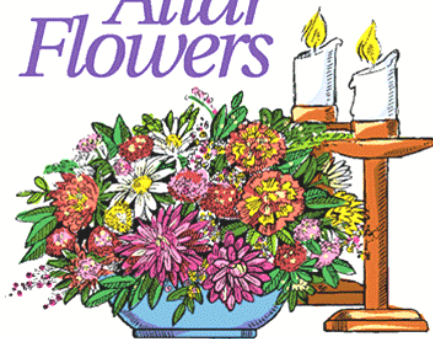
JULY BIRTHDAYS



1. Jason Pavelka
2. Bob Hiner,
Whitney Ademiluyi
Wendell Headley
5. Mildred Bladen,
Donald Galloway
7. Tobi Haufe
8. Margaret Ward
9. Kevin Andrews
10. Andrew Onukwubiri
11. Gail Belshay
14. Kenneth Warner
15. Charles Leatherman
17. Lorna Marselas
19. Trudy Headley
21. Nancy Green
22. Steven Cunningham
23. Crispin Wray
24. Dustin Storck
28. Kemi Oluwafemi,
Temitope Oluwafemi
29. Sara Hunter
30. Lenora Painter, Kristin Fadely
31. Mary Anne Heath, Amy Jo
Harding, Edward Mellott

JULY
ANNIVERSARIES

4. Beverly & George Urick
6. Donna Horton & Todd Reitzel
12. Kathy & Pat Mellott
18. Lezlee & Jeff Kramer
23. Evelyn & Rogers Beasley
25. Diane & Vaughn Riffe
JoAnne & Donal Blakley
28. Elizabeth & Edward Mougey

Altar
Flowers

- July 4 - Urick
 July 11 - Horton-Reitzel
 July 18 -
 July 25 - Theresa Timity

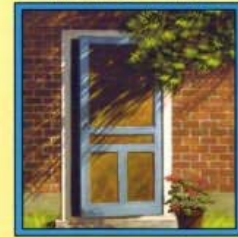
FAITHFUL
READERS
BOOK CLUB

CLYDE EDGERTON

Author of KILLER DILLER

WALKING
ACROSS
EGYPT

The story of a spunky woman,
a stray dog, a teenage delinquent,
and the best home cooking
in Listre, North Carolina



"Reading this book is like
sitting down to a big round table
full of the best food you ever
put in your mouth, you can't quit eating
for a minute, this is just so good."
—Lee Smith

Our next meeting is Saturday,
July 24th, 2010 in the Library on
the 1st floor of the Education
Building, from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

The book, "Walking Across
Egypt," by Clyde Edgerton will be
discussed and we will sing the
hymn in the back of the book
(courtesy of Kathryn's piano play-
ing) as a group!

This book is an easy read;
available in the library, in book-
stores and on Amazon for a few
dollars. It was written in 1987, but
is spiritually timeless. A 2007
movie was made starring Ellen
Burstyn too.

SUMMER EDUCATION AT EMMANUEL UMC

By Todd Reitzel, Superintendent

Thanks to all the young people who participated in Youth Sunday this year!

I hope you found your service to the church rewarding. I am impressed with and grateful for everyone's contributions. Also, congratulations to our graduates, who were recognized that day. Finally, thanks again to our hard working, committed teachers who guided our classes throughout the year. You have led us to a greater understanding of God's message for us.

Please volunteer to teach One-Room Schoolhouse.

Summer is the time when we give our teacher's time off, but education doesn't stop in the summer. Please volunteer for one Sunday. You will find it rewarding. The sign-up sheet is on the Sunday School board in the narthex.

Bring the rest of the family to summer Sunday classes too.

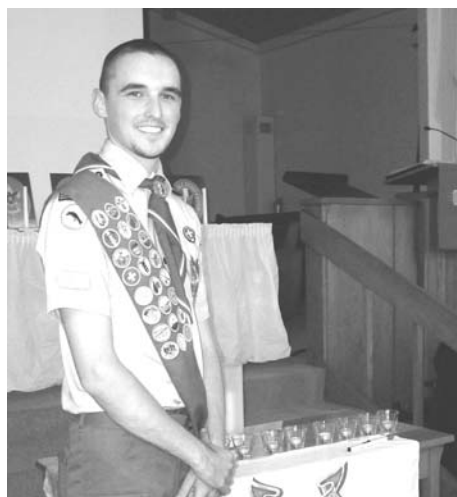
We will have a combined teenager class this summer for 6th through 12th grades, and we will have a combined adult class. Summer lessons are designed for folks to drop in for single Sundays, so it's a great time to try out a class.



Join the VBS 2010 Registration Challenge!

Vacation Bible School is for youngsters aged 4 and up, teenagers, and adults, and this year's theme is Heroes Headquarters

Our goal is to register at least 100 total people. Several of our brothers and sisters have bravely volunteered to do outrageous things with their hairdos if we reach certain registration benchmarks. Check out the poster in the narthex for details, and visit the registration table in the narthex to register. VBS is Monday, July 19, through Friday, July 23, 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. with dinner included each evening at 5:30 p.m. Join in the fun and register today!



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Beginning the week of June 28th the office staff will be in Tuesday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Please remember to get all announcements and prayer requests into the office **before noon on Wednesdays.**

STAFF PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Summer office volunteers are needed on Mondays from 9:00 a.m. till 12:00 noon from June 28th thru Aug. 23rd. The duties of the volunteer are not complicated. Answering the phone is a priority. Volunteers will be given written guidelines and a short orientation if needed. Arrangements will be made for access to the office. If you are interested in volunteering in the office this summer, please contact annrowland@verizon.net or 301-572-5250.

MICHAEL CLIFFORD IS THE 79TH EAGLE SCOUT OF TROOP 1033

Michael Clifford of Boy Scout Troop 1033 celebrated his Eagle Court of Honor at Emmanuel on May 22, 2010. The ceremony was led by Eddie Mellott, an Eagle Scout of Troop 1033, who served as the Master of Ceremonies for the evening. Gary Stewart, father of 3 Eagle Scouts of Troop 1033, led the Trail to Eagle Ceremony. Another Eagle Scout from Troop 1033, Billy Wauschek, delivered the Eagle Charge and Promise. Scoutmaster Gary Bauchan presented Michael with the Eagle Medal, Certificate, and Badge.

EMERGE (MENTAL HEALTH MINISTRY)

By Ann Rowland



This ministry hosts a Support Group for persons with Bipolar Disorder or Depression and their families. There are usually 10 to 12 persons in attendance every 2nd and 4th Monday evening. The group is always open to qualified new participants. To qualify for the Support Group one must be diagnosed and in treatment for Bipolar Disorder or Depression. If you or someone you know would like to join the group please call Jennie Owens at 301-937-1157 or Elsie Cline at 301-937-6024 as a screening process is required.

EMERGE has an affiliation with DBSA, (Depression Bipolar Support Alliance), a national mental health organization. Our Support Group is listed on the DBSA website and we are the only group in the area at this time. I think it's important to realize that this ministry extends beyond our own church and community, but serves at least one person as far as one hour from Emmanuel. EMERGE plans special educational programs during Mental Health Month in May and Mental Illness Awareness Week in October. If you would like to become involved in this ministry, please

call me at 301-572-5250 or email me at annrowland@verizon.net.

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

By Mike Hatton and George Urick, Co-chairmen

There was no scheduled Worship Committee meeting in June. However, as there were quite a few members present at the June 9th Church Council meeting, a few subjects were discussed having the great benefit of the Church Councils point of view.

One of the topics reviewed and opened up to discussion was having to do with a Chattaqua (under the tent) worship service. Believing that a great probability of having a tent service was quite possible, July 4, 2010 was going to be the target date. The June Lamplighter article announcing such an event went to press before all the facts were completely known. Recent discovery that a wedding tent covering 150 persons would cost approximately \$2000.00, the Church Council advised us to consider such a plan when funds were more readily available.

So, we need to pray about this and other timely considerations used for spreading the gospel to our neighbors in the Beltsville community. Rev. Mejia's article in the June Lamplighter makes his point very clearly; that as Christians, we need to pray, read our Bible daily, tithe and expect

to make a commitment to follow Christ in service and in sacrificial giving.

Your prayers, ideas and concerns are appreciated by those of us serving on the Worship Committee.

COMMUNITY PLACE CAFÉ (CPC)

By Ann Rowland

If you are looking for a place to serve this summer, why not try Community Place Café. Last month I wrote about the many ways one can help with this ministry, but failed to mention a specific need that some of you may be able to fill. On the 3rd Friday morning that we serve, I need someone to lift the heavy pots and steam table trays of food (usually rice and chili). This entails transferring the trays from the fridge to the ovens and from the ovens to the cars. This particular need is from 10:00 a.m. till 11:30 a.m. So, if heavy lifting is not an issue for you and you would be willing to give 1 ½ hours of your time to this ministry once a month, please give me a call at 301-572-5250 or email me at annrowland@verizon.net.



Ann Rowland, Pat Allen & Barbara Butcher preparing to deliver food to Community Place Café

SUMMER NEWS FROM YOUR SEMINARIAN

By Michelle Thorne



Michelle Thorne

As the heat continues to rise and mid-summer approaches, I have finally had time to sit and reflect on this past school year. In my pondering the two words I most want to say to you all are – **Thank you!** Yes...Thank You. This has been a wonderful year! I am grateful for the opportunity to learn and to serve alongside all of you at Emmanuel UMC. I have been overwhelmed by your generosity and the grace and kindness you have offered me during this past year. It really has been a joy and an honor to be in ministry with all of you, and I thank you for the many ways you have encouraged me in this wild journey of faith that we are on together. I look forward to another year at EUMC with deep gratitude and

appreciation. So thanks! Know that you all are loved! And try to have some fun this summer!

Shalom

Youth Summer News

July 12-16th the youth of Emmanuel UMC will be participating in a week of mission and service projects around the Beltsville and D.C. areas. We will be serving in a variety of ways, so look out for changes that may happen in our community this week! I invite your prayers for us as we represent Jesus Christ and this local community of faith throughout the broader community. Pray that we would serve with loving hearts, be challenged into deeper relationship with God, and learn to love our neighbors more faithfully in the process!

Fall Confirmation Class

- ❖ Although the fall is still a couple months away, we want you to know about this upcoming opportunity now! Starting **September 5, 2010**, we will begin a **10 week confirmation class** for youth entering 7th grade or older. If you know a youth who would like to be confirmed, please contact Pastor Mejia or Michelle Thorne at dmejia3686@aol.com or micheller-thorne@gmail.com to register!
- ❖ If you have already been confirmed and are a member of the church keep on

reading... **Everyone** (and we mean everyone!) in the church has a role in nurturing the young people who will begin this wonderful and serious journey of faith exploration. We invite your support of the youth in this class especially through your **ongoing prayers** and by your **attendance on Confirmation Sunday, November 7, 2010.**

- ❖ We also invite you to **prayerfully consider becoming a mentor or volunteering to sponsor one of these youth.** If you are interested in spending time listening to and shepherding the next generation, please contact Pastor Mejia or Michelle Thorne by **August 1.** You just might never be the same!





Emmanuel's
movies
under the
stars

Emmanuel United Methodist Church
11416 Cedar Lane Beltsville, MD 20705

Lawn opens at 7 pm, movie begins at
dusk ***

Every Friday July 9, - August 13, 2010

Bring a picnic dinner (no alcohol
beverages or glass bottles) and enjoy a
meal with family and neighbors.

****In case of rain, movie will be shown in
Sanctuary*

Schedule:

July 9-Evan Almighty

July 16-Space Jam

July 23-Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs

July 30-UP

August 6- Diary of A Wimpy Kid

August 13-The Tale of Despereaux

July 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 9:00 a.m. & 10:15 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m. Sunday School & New Members Class	5	6 7:30 p.m. ESOL Classes	7 6:00 p.m. Communica- tions Committee 7:00 p.m. Church Council	8 10:00 a.m. Prayer Fellowship	9 Movie - "Evan Almighty"	10 8:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast
11 9:00 a.m. & 10:15 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m. Sunday School & New Members Class 2nd Sunday Lunch	12 7:00 p.m. Depression/ Bipolar Support Group	13 7:30 p.m. ESOL Classes	14 Emory Grove Hymn Sing 7:00 p.m. Worship Committee	15	16 11:00 a.m. Community Place Café Movie - "Space Jam"	17
18 9:00 a.m. & 10:15 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m. Sunday School & New Members Class	19 5:30 p.m. Vacation Bible School	20 5:30 p.m. Vacation Bible School	21 5:30 p.m. Vacation Bible School	22 10:00 a.m. Prayer Fellowship 5:30 p.m. Vacation Bible School	23 5:30 p.m. Vacation Bible School Movie - "Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs"	24 10:00 a.m. Faithful Read- ers Book Club
25 9:00 a.m. & 10:15 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m. Sunday School & New Members Class	26 7:00 p.m. Depression/ Bipolar Support Group	27	28	29	30 Movie - "Up"	31



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11416 Cedar Lane
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