



Emmanuel United Methodist Church
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The Lamplighter

The Newsletter of Emmanuel United Methodist Church

GRACIOUS AND LOVING GOD, AS WE
CELEBRATE OUR INDEPENDENCE DAY HELP US TO
REMEMBER OUR CONTRADICTIONS AND DIVISIONS
AS A NATION AND GUIDE US AWAY FROM THEM
AND INTO YOUR LOVING ARMS. AMEN



The Lamplighter

The Newsletter of Emmanuel United Methodist Church!

July

Be present.
Let the day flow with grace.
Expect nothing. Give thanks.
Surrender. Be open.
Speak only kindness.
Impart only love.
Never forget you are not alone.
Give so that you may receive.
See goodness in others.

EVERY DAY SPIRIT . NET ©2014 MARY DAVIS

JULY 2021

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Got
News?

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



From the
Pastor's
Desk...

We Are Family (sung to The Brady Bunch)

Here's the story
Of a busy lady
Who was Pastor of two churches in B'more
And she's bid farewell to them
(Like some others)
And now she's Beltsville bound....

It's the story
Of Emmanuel Beltsville
Who is busy with changes of their own
You've spent three years
With Pastor Jalene
But now she's moving on.

'Til the one day when the lady comes to Beltsville
When we welcome Pastor
Andrea M. King
Now our group must somehow form a family
That's the way we all become a Christian bunch!
A godly bunch, a Christlike bunch!
That's the way we become a Christian bunch!

**A Christian
Bunch!**

Emmanuel says Goodbye to Pastor Jalene

On June 12 around 50 members of Emmanuel gathered outside to bid Pastor Jalene farewell and to wish her luck in her new appointment. Thank you to the hospitality, staff parish, and tech committees for putting together a wonderful program. The committee members included Ann Rowland, Sonia Kassambara, Rick Bergmann, Abel Martin, Scarlet Robertson, Nancy Thrush, Linda Hiner, Helen Akers, Margie Mock. Thank you to our speakers, Lenora Whitecotton, Jane Grays, and Willie Taylor as well. It was a lovely day and we are all very appreciative of Pastor Jalene's service at Emmanuel. We will miss her and never forget her.



Cooking with Pastor King

Recette Risquée is French for “Risky Recipe.” As I am developing new recipes, I will share them with you: Try it. You might like it!

2 ripe bananas, mashed
1 cup rolled oats
1 cup of dried fruit (raisins, cranberries, dried apple, coconut, etc.)
¼ cup nuts (any kind you like)
¼ cup apple juice (or other liquid you have handy)
1 tsp. vanilla
1 tsp. cinnamon
¼ c. coconut flour (or any other flour you have on hand)



Preheat oven to 350 degrees Fahrenheit.
In bowl, mash bananas and add rolled oats. Mix in the dried fruit and nut mixture.
Add vanilla to the apple juice, then stir into bowl.
Combine cinnamon with flour, then blend all ingredients well.
Using a teaspoon, spoon the dough onto a baking sheet. I used a mini muffin tin (spray the cavities with cooking spray). Bake for 15-20 minutes until done

A PRAYER FOR THE FOURTH OF JULY

By Fredrick W. Schmidt

Gracious God, lover of souls,
You have made us for community,
For relationships fixed in time and space,
Woven through common experiences,
Inspired by shared struggles.
Dedicated to common goals.
We give thanks for this nation of ours,
For its commitment to liberty,
For the vision of its founders,
For the bravery of its citizenry,
For its defense of the weak,
For its love of justice.
We give thanks for our fellow Americans,
For their goodness and generosity,
For the dreams that brought us all to this land,
For the genius and industry of every generation,
For the rich tapestry of our cultural heritage,
For commitments that have made many, one.
On this day of national celebration,
As we mark the anniversary
Of this great experiment,
We pray...
Strengthen us in our resolve to act justly,
To care for the weak,
To defend the persecuted,
And to foster freedom and peace.
When we fail,
Make us quick to confess our faults,
Strong enough to amend our ways,



And mindful of the inheritance entrusted to us.
Defend us, we pray, against
Tyrannies that challenge us from without,
Ideologies that erode from within,
And the carelessness that so easily invades our hearts.
Make us worthy of the sacrifices made by so many,
Inspire us to own for ourselves the best of our traditions,
Lend genius to our efforts,
And instill virtue in our children.
And remind us all, that we enjoy this land of ours
For only a brief time,
As the place where we do our work,
Delight in our families,
Care for our neighbors,
And nurture our faith.
For one day, all nations and races
Will appear before your throne,
Measured by your justice,
Redeemed by your grace,
Dependent upon your love,
Indebted to your wisdom.
Guide us, then, we ask.
Amen



Mozart Adevu (right), a missionary with the United Methodist Board of Global Ministries, is presented with honey by beekeepers at the Ganta mission station in Liberia in this July 2008 file photo. Photo by June Kim.

How sweet it is: United Methodists and bees

By Crystal Caviness

“I never feel more connected to the earth and to God than when I’m surrounded by a million venomous insects,” says United Methodist Jay Williams about his beekeeping avocation.

While Williams’ statement may surprise some people, he and other United Methodist apiarists say delving into the complex world of bees has deepened their faith.

“When you’re working with these little insects and they are doing all these things, you see all this wonderment,” shares Williams, Christ United Methodist Church member and founder of Williams Honey Farm. “It’s like a tap on the shoulder that says, ‘Hey, there’s more than you think. Celebrate it and tell as many people about it as you can.’”

Tiny but mighty

The average honey bee weighs 3 grams; it takes approximately 3500 bees to weigh one pound. Recognizing the significant impact of something so

small has influenced Tate Abbott’s faith.

“Even the simplest things, like when bees go out to pollinate flowers and doing chores, it’s little but that stuff matters,” says the 18-year-old college student. “Even if I’m doing simple acts of faith for God, it may be little but it can make a huge difference.”

“Every small creature is important ...,” she explains. “Small things, such as bees, make a huge difference.” Abbott, who is a wildlife biology major at Lees-McRae College, knew at a young age that she wanted to be a beekeeper.

She first asked for bees when she was 7, says her father, John Abbott, a request that Tate’s parents delayed fulfilling until their daughter’s tenth birthday. The Abbotts, members at Covenant United Methodist Church, now keep a few hives alongside their fruit trees and vegetable garden.

“I find that it’s so intriguing,” John Abbott says. “When you open up a hive, you have all of these bees. You start off with frames that have a thin film of wax and they extract that wax to turn into honeycomb. The matrix that you have on that honeycomb is perfect. How is it that this insect produces something that perfect? There’s something going on there beyond the normal comprehension,” he muses.

Beehive State bees

Kristen Bell grew up around bees. (Her 91-year-old father still keeps bees in Shelburne, Vermont.) When Bell and her husband, Steve, retired to Utah, the United Methodist couple decided being in the Beehive State was a good reason to get into the bee business, a pastime the Bells shared with their church.

Ten years later, Ogden First United Methodist Church boasts a bountiful community garden that flourishes through greater pollination by the church’s hives, an effort aided through training by the denomination’s Earth Keepers. The Ogden church’s outreach, which operates with a handful of dedicated volunteers, also partners with nearby schools to introduce beekeeping to students and organizes an annual honey sale that yields funds to support local and global missions.

“The bees are always teaching us something,” Kristen Bell says. “They are a community too. One honey bee cannot live by itself. I think it’s a great example of humankind. Every creature in the beehive is working for the success of that colony. I think God is telling us that we are to be doing the same thing.”

Because of bees, Bell says she’s learned more about creation care. She also has learned a drop of wisdom.

“Kind words are like honey – sweet to the soul and healthy for the body,” Bell quotes from Proverbs 16:24. “I love how this is reflexive. My kind words can build others up and, at the same time, keeps me in a positive mental state, which is so healthy for my body. And, of course, the prize of beekeeping, the wonderful honey crop, is what keeps us going!”

Hope in honey

One of the missions supported by Ogden First United Methodist Church’s honey sales is the work of Mozart Adevu, a United Methodist missionary based in Accra, Ghana. Adevu is Africa’s regional coordinator for UMCOR’s Sustainable Agriculture and Development Program. For the past two decades, Adevu has introduced beekeeping to West African communities.

“Beekeeping has become a single highest source of income for most farmers and some have indicated that their annual incomes have increased more than ten-fold compared to the period prior to their involvement in beekeeping,” Adevu states.

“Bees have helped in tremendous ways to feed the poor and hungry in communities which I have served. The gospel message has been served well through providing food to the hungry and destitute through self-help,” he says, reinforcing the adage of teaching communities “how to fish rather than providing them with fish.”

Continued on p. 7



EMMANUEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
SPRING/SUMMER 2021

We would like to acknowledge any and all of the following: Graduates of all levels, Promotions from Grade School or Jobs, Military Training, Trade School, or if you have earned any Certificates. **Please mail or email the completed form to the church office office@eumcbeltsville.com**

Name _____

Name of School/Company etc. _____

Location _____

Degree/Achievement _____

Presently: ___ Living at home. ___ Living away from home. (Check one)

After Graduation: ___ Living at home. ___ Living away from home. (Check one)

If the graduate will not be living at home, please give an address, if known.

Address: _____

Person filling out form _____ Phone _____

Keep up with the all the latest info
on our Facebook page
[www.facebook.com/groups/
EUMCBeltsville](http://www.facebook.com/groups/EUMCBeltsville)



CONGRATULATIONS!!!



Congratulations to Lupita and her husband Malcolm! They will welcome their first child, a little girl, in a few weeks!



Dear Church Family, I want to thank all of you for cards and phone calls and support while I was in rehab and am still confined to house pretty much. My good friend Linda Hiner brought me to Pastor's Jalene going away celebration. It was such a morale booster! I had a wonderful

time and we were one of the last to leave. So many hugs and kinds words. Just what I needed! Hope to see you in person at church in September!

Thank you again,
Judy

Thank
you 

Update from Nan McCurdy

Submitted by Lorna Marsellas



Some of our accomplishments in 2020: 1) 25 women completed the intermediate health course; 2) 80 women participated in continuing education on Covid-19; 3) Veronica, Roberto and their children are now living in a nice house built by them, Give Ye Them to Eat (GYTTE) staff and three AWARE teams; 4) youth and staff are studying because of your donations; 5) friends from Tabernacle UMC in Virginia and Susquehanna Valley Parish in Pennsylvania came in February and more friends participated in six Virtual Mission Teams; 6) the community was organized to improve the road and do several trash pickups; 7) corn, peanuts, squash, watermelon, mangos and bananas were harvested and corn was replanted for feed for the goats and sheep. Our 2021 wish list includes 1) organize an AWARE team to visit in 2021 or 2022; 2) your continued help that will let us conduct our training and teaching programs in different aspects of development and appropriate technology by being able to pay salaries; 3) help to continue our health activities and have money to train a new group of health promoters beginning in September 2021 (\$1,050 covers one woman for 3 courses); help us build an appropriate technology home, ecological toilet and wood-saving stove with a new family in 2021. Donations can be made through the Conference earmarked for GYTTE #07629A or for Nan McCurdy #10801Z or for Miguel Mairena #12877Z (to support missionaries) or go to www.gytte.com for more ways to give.

Nan, Miguel and all those who work in GYTTE thank God for you, for your love of GYTTE and the people of Mexico, for your prayers, for your participation in virtual mission journeys, and for your gifts.

Christians Around The World



Christians around the world will be an ongoing series in the Lamplighter that will talk about how Christians in different parts of the world live and are treated. It's not always a happy story. This month, we are going to look at Christians in China.

Christians in China

There have been Christians in China since the 700's. The earliest ones came by the Silk Road from what is now Iraq. Catholic Jesuit and Protestant missionaries came much later. Methodist missionaries came in 1847. They left in 1952 because of communism and established connections again in 1978. There are now 116 million Protestants in China. This number only reflects the ones who go public. There are many more Catholics and underground Christians who will not associate with the Chinese patriotic church which is tolerated by the Communist Party. Christians, Muslims (Uighers) and the Falun Gong who will not cooperate with the communists are pulled off the streets, taken to basements, tortured, raped, drugged, and made to work as slaves. Bibles are printed but must be sold in special stores so they can watch you. The president of China is going to re-translate the Bible to bring it in line with communism. Last year the Golden Lampstand Church (50,000 members) was dynamited and demolished by the Chinese police. A month earlier a Catholic Church was burned. Many other churches have been burned or dynamited and pastors have been arrested.



Bees continued from p. 4

Divine stewardship

Beekeeping is not only a way to care for others, but also a way to care for God's creation.

"Beekeeping is a kind of divine stewardship of keeping the earth and God's creatures," shares Mark Price, Christ United Methodist Church's pastor of congregational life. "We are in care of, not in charge of. You're keeping bees safe and healthy so they can tend to themselves."

"The health of the bees directly affects our food supply," explains Bell, adding that one-third of the food we eat requires pollination.

"Their pollination is the benefit to nature," Price explains. "Honey is our gift for helping them do the best they can at the place where they are."

While United Methodist apiarists are abuzz about the virtues of bees, they know bees make others fearful. Therein lies a deeper significance, Williams shares.

"The lesson here is that what may seem scary from the outside – venomous, stinging insects – is quite beautiful and calm and therapeutic and serene. This will ground you and make you slow down and listen more than run from it," Williams explains. "This is my version of faith."



"The matrix that you have on that honeycomb is perfect. How is it that this insect produces something that perfect? There's something going on there beyond the normal comprehension," United Methodist John Abbott muses.



WE ARE THE CHURCH

This month's member is Abel Martin



Abel Martin

How long have you been a member of Emmanuel?

Since Winter 2018

Who was the Pastor when you began attending Emmanuel?

Rev. Dr. Jalene Chase

What is your fondest memory of being a member?

Joining the choir and learning new songs with the team

What ministries have you been involved with at Emmanuel?

Chancel Choir
The Emmanuel Food Bank

What is your favorite thing about Emmanuel?

The way the congregation works in the community and the way we care about each other.

What is your favorite scripture?

Philippians 4:13: I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Anything else you would like to add?

These punishing "Days of Rona" have taken a toll on our nation & our families in addition to the standard stresses in life. I appreciate the compassion, grace, and inclusivity in our congregation. I'm thankful to have found this church & I pray for many wonderful years to come with all of you.



Abel serving as MC for Pastor Jalene's farewell ceremony.

Fabulous
Flashbacks

One of the many summer traditions at Emmanuel was always the Youth Summer Mission Trip. This was a time for the youth to come together for a week of bonding while they helped residents repair their housing. Through the years, they worked with both Project SPY and Camp HOPE. Here are a few pictures of the Youth in action.

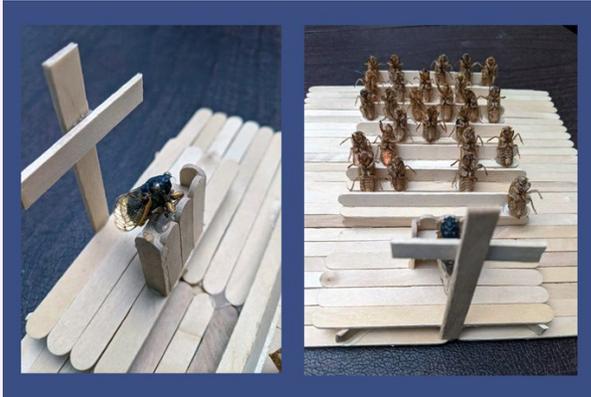


The Stewardship Committee's latest budget raising idea:
4-Channel headsets.



Cicadas show up for church, testing clergy

By Sam Hodges



Staff and members of Fairlington United Methodist Church, in Alexandria, Va., cherish photos of a model church made by a boy in the congregation 17 years ago during the last Brood X cicadas emergence. He used cicada husks and Popsicle sticks. Photos courtesy of the Rev. Janine Howard.

The Rev. Bonnie Scott recently preached an online sermon titled “The Cicadas Are Humming.” She did it in the style of spoken-word poetry, and she included the sound of cicadas in the background.

Asked what technology she drew on for the special effect, Scott — pastor of Trinity United Methodist Church in Germantown, Maryland — replied that she hadn’t used any.

“I just opened the window,” she said.

This is a Brood X cicadas year, meaning billions of the red-eyed, flying insects have noisily emerged in parts of 15 states and the District of Columbia, after spending 17 years underground.

United Methodist clergy are finding inspiration in this miracle of nature. They’re also having to cope.

The Rev. Ashley Allen, pastor of Oakton United Methodist Church in Oakton, Virginia, retreated inside with some parishioners from an outdoor gathering where cicadas were nearly overwhelming in their buzzing and flying around.

In the church narthex, she removed a cicada that had come inside with an older parishioner, hopping from his shirt to his face.

“I told him to close his eyes so I could get it off quick and get it back outside,” she said.

Though they look somewhat like locusts of Bible fame, cicadas are different anatomically in key ways. They fly but don’t really swarm, as do locusts. And they don’t decimate crops.

Once above ground, cicadas drop their shells, form wings and search for landing places on hardwood trees or shrubs. The males’ mating calls account for the shrill sound.

In their few days above ground, the adults mate and the females lay eggs on leaves. The hatched cicadas chew through branches that fall and carry them to the ground for the cycle to begin again.

There are many cicada species, but only a few are periodical cicadas, emerging after 13 or 17 years. Brood X — the X is the Roman numeral for 10 — is one of the largest, with the Baltimore-Washington area as its epicenter.

In Washington, on June 8, the charter plane set to carry journalists to Europe to cover President Biden’s visit there had its engines clogged by cicadas. Another plane had to be found.

Last year’s Brood IX emergence coincided with United Methodist churches moving to drive-in and other outdoor services because of the pandemic. The Rev. Jon Woodburn, then pastor of Oakland United Methodist Church in Dry Fork, Virginia, remembers sound technicians turning up the volume because of competition from cicadas.

“Not only was it loud, those little suckers would bomb worship leadership and fly into people’s cars,” said Woodburn, now serving a church on the Virginia coast.

As with the general population, United Methodist clergy vary in their feelings about cicadas.

The Rev. Jennifer Smith Walz, lead pastor of Princeton United Methodist Church in Princeton, New Jersey, is fascinated. She has been taking photos of the Brood X cicadas, and measuring their sound.

“I was outside getting lunch a little bit ago and on my Apple Watch, the decibel reading went up to 91,” she said. That’s lawn-mower loud.

Smith Walz recently used cicadas as the subject for a children’s message. She finds theology in entomology, including the need for creation care. Some parts of Princeton, she notes, are void of the sound of cicadas, because the ground they would emerge from has been paved.

While a cicadas fan, Smith Walz is a bit concerned that they will drown out and gross out people at her church’s upcoming Juneteenth cookout.

“I didn’t know we were going to have to make cicada-contingency plans,” she said.

Scott, the Germantown pastor, has already called off an outdoor service because of cicadas.

But she, too, is entranced by them, as evidenced by her decision to preach a sermon about how they offer what she calls a “beautiful interruption” in climate-controlled human lives.

Continued on p.10

Cicadas continued from p. 9



Staff and members of Fairlington United Methodist Church, in Alexandria, Va., cherish photos of a model church made by a boy in the congregation 17 years ago during the last Brood X cicadas emergence. He used cicada husks and Popsicle sticks. Photos courtesy of the Rev. Janine Howard.

in the congregation, Jonathan Dooley, who used Popsicle sticks for pews and cicada carcasses for people. He gave the cicada church as a present to the departing pastor, the Rev. Drema McAllister-Wilson, whose tenure extended back another 17 years.

If there's a pastor who is wistful about cicadas, it's the Rev. Barbara Miner, associate pastor at Floris United Methodist Church in Herndon, Virginia.

Seventeen years ago, her daughter was married in a backyard ceremony, with a lot of uninvited guests.

"We had to pick cicadas out of her veil," Miner said. "The bridesmaids would run screaming. We've got these great pictures of people trying to look happy and natural and, in fact, they're terrified."

Miner has used this Brood X cicada season to reflect on all that's happened since the last one, including her daughter having had two children, and she and her daughter both having lost family members and close friends.

"It gives you this opportunity to look back at 17 years and realize how short that time is, and yet how much has changed," she said.

Miner is sentimental, but only to a point. She noted that cicada husks have been piling up outside the entry to Floris United Methodist.

"Our facilities guy had to get the leaf blower."

"It reminds us there's no way to keep the outside out and the inside in," Scott said by phone. "I wanted to draw a parallel to the way Christ enters our world."

The Rev. Patricia Allen, senior pastor of St. Paul's United Methodist Church in Kensington, Maryland, drew on cicadas for a weekday online devotional.

Allen called her talk "The Dreaded Cicada." She shared with her church how, 17 years ago, she was driving through Baltimore with the windows down when a cicada landed on her dashboard.

"I do know they are God's creation, but I also believe God created ... me and those critters to not inhabit the same space," she said.

Allen advised drawing on God's help in confronting fears.

"We have to make a decision as to whether we're going to face our cicadas," she said in the devotional.

Cicadas have lately been a major topic of conversation at Fairlington United Methodist Church in Alexandria, Virginia.

The Rev. Janine Howard noted that staff and members are still sharing a photo of a model church created 17 years ago by a boy



*It's hard to get in
shape spiritually if
you only work out
on Sunday!*

How Can I Give?

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

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



CAN YOU HELP?

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

Christian Love and Sympathy To:

the family of Debbie Alexander (former church member of Jane Grays) on her death.

the family of Brenda Calvert (mother of a friend of Rick and Ruie Whitecotton)

the family of Marie Stinson (friend of Olivia Heath)

the family of Cuttie Bacon (colleague of Sonia Kassambara)

the family of Leroy Fischer (friend of the Whitecottons) on his death.

Abel Martin and family on the death of his father.

**"May God's peace
and love lift you
from sorrow."**

HAPPY JULY BIRTHDAYS!

1. Jason Pavelka
2. Whitney Ademiluyi, Abraham Scotland
5. Frances Cruz
7. Wanda Scotland
9. Teresa Dorsey
10. Andrew Onukwubiri
11. Gail Belshay
17. Lorna Marselas
21. Dontae Lytle
23. Crispin Wray
25. John Kaufmann
28. Temitope Oluwafemi
30. Kristin Fadely
31. Paul Cruz, Edward Mellott



HAPPY JULY ANNIVERSARIES

4. Beverly and George Urick
7. Wanda and Abraham Scotland
12. Kathy and Pat Mellott
25. JoAnne and Donal Blakley



Please pray for our sick and shut in

Homebound

Harry Cottman

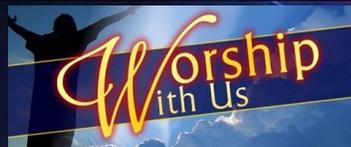
Norma Hall

Carolyn Scarcia

Dottie Gilbert

Out of state

Lil Mizzer



Virtual Worship at Emmanuel! (UPDATED INFORMATION)

Join us on Sunday mornings in virtual worship through Zoom. Join us for 30 minutes of fellowship from 9:30-10 am followed by worship at 10. Use this link:

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

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

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

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

If you're calling on the telephone the information is

Meeting ID: 978 3988 9289 Passcode: 479360