

# The Lamplighter

Emmanuel United Methodist Church

May 2016

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



Greetings! I greet all of you in the name of the risen Christ, Jesus! I hope that you all have been enjoying the change of season and are happy with the beautiful weather nowadays. Personally, I have been struggling with a cold for the last two weeks. I felt lousy and although I took cold medicine, it

was very hard to get rid of it. I feel much better now. Please be careful not to catch cold during the changing of the seasons.

On March 27<sup>th</sup>, we celebrated Easter, the resurrection of Jesus. Our life is still filled with the joy of Easter. Every Sunday morning following Easter, we continue to celebrate Christ's resurrection.

In terms of the church calendar, we are still going through the life of Jesus on earth. After the resurrection, Jesus spent 40 days on earth with his disciples. So the church keeps its focus on the life of Jesus on earth after the resurrection.

In May, there will be many special church services. On May 1<sup>st</sup>, Emmanuel will commemorate the ascension of Jesus, remembering his departure to heaven. On May 8<sup>th</sup>, we will observe Mother's Day, remembering the love of mothers. Not only will Emmanuel celebrate the love of mothers on that day, but we also will recognize the importance of the Christian home. On May 15<sup>th</sup>, we will observe Pentecost Sunday, the coming of the Holy Spirit to the disciples and people. Emmanuel will celebrate Trinity Sunday on May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Also on May 22<sup>nd</sup>, we will celebrate Graduation Sunday. If you are a graduate or know of a graduate, please fill out the form on page 5 and send it to the church office..

During May and June, there will be confirmation classes for youth around 12 years old who haven't participated in the confirmation process yet. What's confirmation? When babies are baptized, they enter into a covenant with God through the action of their parents. When young people are confirmed, they make their own decision to follow Jesus. Confirmation classes prepare our youth to make this important decision. After two

months of classes, the students will be confirmed on Confirmation Sunday.

As you can see, there are many important dates on the Church calendar in May. Please remember them and attend the special Sunday services.

The Annual Conference is coming up, too, from June 1 to June 4. This year, it will be held in Washington, D.C. Please pray for those attending the Annual Conference.

I hope that everyone will continue to enjoy the beautiful weather and have a wonderful spring.

~ ~ Pastor Jacob

## May is Mental Health Awareness Month



Mental illnesses are illnesses in the brain, with symptoms that manifest in our thoughts, feelings and behaviors. If left untreated, they can negatively impact how we relate to the world around us.

Mental illness is highly treatable. Yet it is a topic that some people, regardless of race and/or religious beliefs, do not like to talk about. Why?

The reasons are varied, but the stigma associated with mental illnesses generates misinformation that prevents people from reaching out and getting the help and support that they need. With faith, information and treatment, though, people living with a mental illness can not only recover, but can move forward and fulfill the plan God has for their lives.

Watch for weekly inserts on the topic of Mental Health in the May bulletins.

*The greatest healing therapy is  
friendship & love.*

~ ~ H. Humprey

## News From United Methodist Women

by Ernie Kilbourne



The United Methodist Women will have its general meeting on June 4th. It is being planned by Becky Cavallo and Debbie McNitt. The names of the Secret Sisters will be revealed. There will be a craft to make to take to the nursing home, and perhaps another surprise or two. Join us on June 4th at 12:00 noon, and don't forget to bring something for our potluck lunch.

The rummage sale on April 16<sup>th</sup> raised nearly \$1500. Thanks to all who helped and/or contributed!

Reminder — The Women's Communion Breakfast will be May 7th at 9 a.m. in the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall. This year's theme is The Royal Ball. The Royal Tax for royalty over the age of 3 is \$8. Princesses and princes aged 3 and under are \$4. Call Becky Cavallo at 301-937-7146 to make a reservation.

## Light the Way on Beltsville Day

*Let your light shine before others so that they may see your good works and praise God in heaven. —Matthew 5:16*



Beltsville Day is our church's opportunity to let the people of Beltsville know who we are, including what we do. There may be people in the community who don't know us or don't know Christ, and we are called to let our lights shine for God.

Here are 5 things you can do to help us make Beltsville Day, May 15th, 12 noon — 5 pm, a successful one for our church and for Christ:

- Sign up to staff the tent for an hour. (Signup sheet is in the Narthex).
- Invite acquaintances to attend Beltsville Day with you and bring them by our tent.
- Wear your church t-shirt on May 15th.
- Visit our tent on May 15th.
- Come buy one of Julie Pavelka's chili dogs.

~ ~ Todd Reitzel

## Spiritual Retreat, August 20, 2016

Would you like to learn more about the prophets and kings who were set apart by their close walk with God? Then join us for a study of First and Second Kings. It's not too early to mark your calendars so you don't forget while you're having fun this summer. Look forward to seeing you in August!



## CAMP HOPE

The date is set—our youth and their chaperones will go to Camp Hope the week of July 17<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>! CAMP HOPE stands for Christian Appalachian Mountain Project, an independent organization serving Allegany County, MD and surrounding areas. Every summer, more than 400 youth and adults from various churches and denominations repair 55 - 60 homes over a four-week period.

The individuals and families the volunteers serve receive not only home rehabilitation, home winterization, and safer homes; they experience Christian fellowship and gain new hope for the future. For the church youth and adults, the experience enhances their personal relationship with God by providing hands-on mission work. Many return year after year.

Would you like to join the group this year? Then contact coordinator Alexandra Scotland, by cell phone at (301) 830-1964 or by email at [az.scotland@gmail.com](mailto:az.scotland@gmail.com). If you call her cell phone, please leave your name and direct phone number.

## ANGELS ABOUND AT EMMANUEL UMC



A recent appeal for volunteers to help in connection with Community Place Café (CPC) brought forth many angels within the confines of Emmanuel UMC. Hugs to all of you who answered the call to join with those who already have been serving the Lord in this worthwhile mission. Praise the Lord for His mighty army!

If you are not able to support this mission in person, there are other ways you can help. First, keep those who come to the café in your prayers. Second, you can support the café with monetary donations.

The cost of a meal is only \$2.13 per person —truly a small price to pay for making a difference in someone's life. Unfortunately, CPC was budgeted only through March 2016. When I spoke to Pastor Jacob about this, he generously offered to allocate the monies from the Communion offering plate to help meet the expenses of CPC. We extend our deepest gratitude to the pastor. Did you know he helps at the café whenever his schedule allows?

Therefore, any and all monetary contributions will be gratefully appreciated to help continue to feed these children of God who are enduring hardships. As you approach the Lord's table to receive communion, please open your heart as you pass the communion plate and remember those who may not be able to sit at a table that day.

An open invitation is extended to anyone who would like to join us for lunch on the third Friday of the month. It will give you an opportunity to witness how your gift has affected another person's day. You will never forget the overwhelming aura of gratitude that fills the room and see the appreciation on the faces of those who come to the table. Please notify me (301-937-6024) if you would like to attend, so the cooks can "add a little water" to the soup.

With the grace of God and your help, Emmanuel will be able to fulfill its mission at the Café.

Thank You and God Bless.

~ ~ Elsie Cline

As a follow-up to Elsie's article, I'd like to explain how the Community Place Café funding came to be cut from the 2016 budget. I am a member of the Finance Committee, and I attended the budget meeting in which we agreed to recommend to the Church Council that the funds for CPC be cut. The decision was not easy. But when you have to cut thousands of dollars from the budget and much of it is in salaries and building costs, you don't have a lot of items to choose from. We were only able to fund CPC in the last few months of 2015 because several persons gave generous contributions expressly for that purpose. The food distribution program and the Food Closet were funded for 2016, and we cut funds for CPC with the understanding that another church could be found to take over EUMC's day. We funded CPC through March 2016 to give them three months to find a replacement for Emmanuel and to give the new church time to get its program in place.

Without doubt, Community Place Café is a worthy program. Pastor Jacob can use communion donations to fund CPC without Church Council approval because those funds are not budgeted. It was always everyone's hope that funding could be restored once Emmanuel is on a sounder financial footing. In the meantime, I am glad the pastor made his discretionary fund available for this purpose.

~ ~ Bobbie Deegan

## Staff—Parish Wants to Know .....

The Staff—Parish Relations Committee is charged with handling relations among the pastor, staff, congregation, and conference. This makes us not only the personnel officers — we are also the "morale officers!"

Several folks have commented recently that they are concerned about the amount of grumbling going on — conversations overheard in the hallway or parking lot where one or more persons are obviously upset about something. The concern of the persons who brought it to my attention was two-fold: this behavior isn't healthy for a congregation, and what kind of impression does this give a newcomer about Emmanuel?

People need to share things that upset them and/or that they feel strongly about. But it doesn't give visitors a good impression of Emmanuel to see (or hear) folks venting outside the Sanctuary. Nor is it healthy for us to get frustrated or upset about the same thing over and over again. So PLEASE, if you are concerned about something, let me know! Nothing will change if you don't share it. But if you choose NOT to share it, then please, "let it go!"

~ ~ Bobbie Deegan

## First Impressions Are Always Lasting Impressions

by Rick Bergmann

On April 5, Emmanuel's twitter account received a message that said "You have been reviewed." So we clicked on the link and found our way to an article by a pastor who was traveling around the country with his family. They attended one of our services this past August. The article was an interesting read and provided a lot of insight into how our congregation and our church are perceived by the visitors and first-timers who walk through our doors every week. In the article below, I share some highlights with you. To read the full article, please go to: <https://www.churchbuzz.org/2015/first-time-visitor-review-of-emmanuel-umc-beltsville-maryland/>.



Margie Mock and Helen Akers take a selfie with a visiting pastor and his family

The 9 AM service that our visitors attended happened to be Youth Sunday, which meant that our service was a little different from our normal services. The first thing they noticed is that there were greeters at the door to show them into the sanctuary. Since it was Youth Sunday members of the youth were at the door, but the majority of the time at Emmanuel, this is not the case. On any given Sunday, it is rare for us to have a greeter to welcome worshipers at our front door and shake hands with them. This is an important and vital part of any church, and it is something we need to have every Sunday. Please consider lending a friendly face to our doors each week so that we can make our visitors feel at home.

Our members were friendly to the newcomers. At least four persons spoke to them, and two ladies spoke at length. (They even took a moment to take a selfie with the family! See the photo above). This is extremely important at all events held at the church. If you don't recognize someone, please take a moment to talk to them. Even if it turns out they have been attending Emmanuel for some time and they are just new to you, make a new friend. We are all members of God's family, and should treat each other as such. So make sure you are actively looking for someone you don't recognize or know and take some time to get to know them.

Now, there were a lot of positives in this review, but one not-so-positive comment that stuck out to me was about communion time. The visitor noticed that when we took communion, there was a tremendous amount of crumbs on the floor. He found this a little off-putting. A simple way to reduce this problem is for us to be more mindful when we go to receive communion. Please cup your hands when receiving the bread, which will help with the crumbs. Also, after you dip your bread into the juice, place one hand under the other to keep both bread and juice from dripping on the floor. This will help with much of the "mess" at communion time.

First impressions are extremely important in any situation, particularly at church. Please take some time to read the full article and keep in mind how you are presenting yourself the next time you see a new person!

**YOU NEVER GET A SECOND CHANGE TO MAKE A GOOD FIRST IMPRESSION.**

**OUR GRADUATES – HIGH SCHOOL OR COLLEGE**  
**EMMANUEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH    SPRING/SUMMER 2016**

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Name of Graduate Date of Graduation

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Name of School \_\_\_\_\_

Location of School \_\_\_\_\_

Degree \_\_\_\_\_

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 address, if known.

\_\_\_\_\_

Person filling out form \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return to the church office by May 9<sup>th</sup>. Thank you!**



**Lt. Chris Harrison, the County Fire Inspector, inspected the first new window on April 15th and gave his thumb's-up approval.**

**Window Fund**

You are invited to donate to the Window Fund for the education building.

A total of six new windows are needed to allow a second way of leaving a classroom in case of fire. Once installed, the new windows will allow a preschool to start up, and this will bring needed revenue to the church. The preschool director is standing by, waiting to move in; this will happen once the windows are installed and we have approval from the Fire Marshal.

Each window costs \$750. One new window is installed in room 12, paid for by a congregant. A second congregant has pledged to pay for another window. Now we are seeking funding to install the remaining four windows. If you would like to help in this effort, please write "Window Fund" on the memo line of your check. Any amount you donate will bring us closer to the goal.

Working together, we will make this a successful effort!

***Altar Flowers***

May 1 — Elsie Cline  
 May 8 — Susan Fanning  
 May 15 —  
 May 22 — Dottie Gilbert  
 May 29 —

June 5 — Hattons  
 June 12 —  
 June 19 —  
 June 26 — Beverly Ward

The flower chart for 2016 is posted in the Narthex next to the mailboxes. Arrangements are \$30. Please fill out a Flower Request Form when you sign up and leave it in the office mailbox.

**Also, please 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!

***May Anniversaries***

4. Lynne & Robert Miller  
 6. Karen & James Mackey  
 10. Scarlet & Bill Robertson  
 15. Nancy & Michael McNealy  
 21. Janey & Stephen Lewis

**READERS and GREETERS are Needed**

for some 9 AM and 11:15 AM services in May and June.

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 make Emmanuel a welcoming congregation!



To get in touch with **Pastor Jacob**, please call the Church Office at 301-937-7114. If you prefer, you may email him directly at [Jacob.Young@EUMCBeltsville.com](mailto:Jacob.Young@EUMCBeltsville.com).

**To submit an article for The Lamplighter** or to get in touch with editor Bobbie Deegan, please email her at [BobbieDeegan@aol.com](mailto:BobbieDeegan@aol.com), or call her at 301-937-7070.

Articles are due **NO LATER THAN** the 15th of the month. It's OK to send them early!

***May Birthdays***

1. Joelle Onukwubiri
2. Walter Ademiluyi
3. Ada McGlynn
4. Buck Aplin
5. Pam Midkiff
6. Joel Tyler
8. Susan Fanning, Emmy Lear
10. Sam Shiplett
12. Megan McNitt
13. Nancy Thrush, Jason Kresge
14. Diane Embrey
17. Scarlet Robertson, Doris Shirey
18. Maxine Norris
19. Kevin Kresge
20. JoAnne Blakley
22. Nancy McNealy, Roy White
23. Karl Norris
28. Sylvie Jones
29. Nemahun Jones, Preston Gregory, Sr.
30. Darwin Aguilera, Jillian Smith

**WELCOME, VISITORS!!**

The following guests visited Emmanuel in March:

- Collins Ezebuihe
- Charles & Marie Frasier
- Jay & Linda Roberson
- Roberto Valazquez
- Ella & Molly Bredbenner
- Sonia O. Kassambara

Welcome! Please worship with us again soon.

**IN MEMORIAM**

Condolences to Marcel Jean and his family on the sudden death of his beloved sister, Denise. Marcel is Emmanuel's sexton.

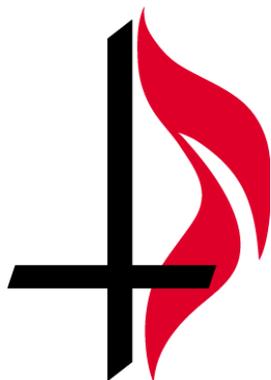
Karen Mackey's brother-in-law, Bill Davis, passed away on March 31. Our sympathy goes out to Karen and the rest of the family.

Former member Marcia McAdoo lost her husband, Dennis, on April 3. You may recall that Marcy's mom passed away on February 15. Please keep Marcy and her family in your prayers during this very difficult time.

Our sympathy and prayers are with the families and friends of all these persons, and with everyone who is struggling with the loss of a loved one. May the Holy Spirit sustain you and happy memories give you comfort.

## May 2016

| Sun  | Mon  | Tue  | Wed  | Thu              | Fri   | Sat  |
|--|--|--|--|------------------|---|--|
| <p><b>1</b><br/>9 &amp; 11:15 am<br/>Worship Services<br/>10:15 am<br/>Sunday School<br/>12:30 pm<br/>Chancel Choir</p>  | <p><b>2</b></p>  | <p><b>3</b><br/>7 pm ESOL</p>  | <p><b>4</b></p>  | <p><b>5</b></p>  | <p><b>6</b></p>                                     | <p><b>7</b><br/>9 am Women's<br/>Communion<br/>Breakfast<br/>11 am<br/>Maranatha Choir<br/>5 pm NA</p>                         |
| <p><b>8</b><br/>9 &amp; 11:15 am<br/>Worship Services<br/>10:15 am<br/>Sunday School<br/>12:30 pm<br/>Chancel Choir</p>  | <p><b>9</b><br/>7 pm Trustees<br/>7 pm<br/>Depression/<br/>Bipolar Support<br/>Group</p> | <p><b>10</b><br/>10 am Prayer<br/>Fellowship<br/>7 pm ESOL</p>             | <p><b>11</b><br/>7 pm Worship<br/>Committee</p>                                    | <p><b>12</b></p> | <p><b>13</b></p>                                    | <p><b>14</b><br/>9 am<br/>Confirmation<br/>Class<br/>5 pm NA</p>   |
| <p><b>15</b><br/>9 &amp; 11:15 am<br/>Worship Services<br/>10:15 am<br/>Sunday School<br/>12 Noon<br/>Beltsville Day<br/>12:30 pm<br/>Chancel Choir</p>                                      | <p><b>16</b><br/>12 Noon Ellen<br/>Hoover Circle<br/>7 pm<br/>SPRC meeting</p>           | <p><b>17</b><br/>7 pm ESOL<br/>7 pm Sisters in<br/>Spirit Circle</p>       | <p><b>18</b><br/>10 am Susanna<br/>Wesley Circle<br/>12 Noon<br/>Dorcas Circle</p> | <p><b>19</b></p> | <p><b>20</b><br/>11 am Community<br/>Place Café</p> | <p><b>21</b><br/>9 am<br/>Confirmation<br/>Class<br/>11 am<br/>Maranatha Choir<br/>5 pm NA</p>                                 |
| <p><b>22</b><br/>9 &amp; 11:15 am<br/>Worship Services<br/>10:15 am<br/>Sunday School<br/>12:30 pm<br/>Chancel Choir<br/>12:30 pm Youth<br/>Fellowship<br/>12:30 pm UMW<br/>Exec Meeting</p> | <p><b>23</b><br/>7 pm<br/>Depression/<br/>Bipolar Support<br/>Group</p>                  | <p><b>24</b><br/>10 am Prayer<br/>Fellowship<br/>7 pm ESOL<br/>Cookout</p> | <p><b>25</b><br/>7 pm<br/>Church Council</p>                                       | <p><b>26</b></p> | <p><b>27</b><br/>7 pm Food Prep</p>                 | <p><b>28</b><br/>9 am<br/>Confirmation<br/>Class<br/>10 am Food<br/>Distribution<br/>11 am<br/>Maranatha Choir<br/>5 pm NA</p> |
| <p><b>29</b><br/>9 &amp; 11:15 am<br/>Worship Services<br/>10:15 am<br/>Sunday School</p>  | <p><b>30</b><br/><b>CHURCH<br/>OFFICE<br/>CLOSED</b></p>                                 | <p><b>31</b></p>   |  |                  |   |  |



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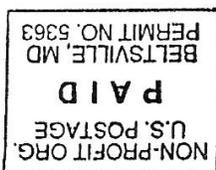
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