

# The Lamplighter

Emmanuel United Methodist Church

October 2009

*Have you ever come on anything quite like this extravagant generosity of God, this deep, deep wisdom? It's way over our heads. We'll never figure it out. Everything comes from him; Everything happens through him; Everything ends up in him. Always glory! Always praise! Yes. Yes. Yes. Romans 11:33, 36 The Message*



Pastor Daniel Mejia

It is charge conference time, which means writing a yearly report about the state of our church. I begin writing this report with a deep sense of gratitude and humility for all of the great things God has allowed me to see and be part of this past year at Emmanuel United Methodist Church. As I sit down to write this report, I find myself in the same position as the proud parent who cannot stop bragging about the successes and accomplishments of his/her children to anyone who is willing to listen. Of course, we all know that parents have a tendency to enlarge the accomplishments and talents of their children. And you may think that as Emmanuel's pastor I am supposed to do the same, especially when the Baltimore/Washington Annual Conference will be reading my report and I need to look good. However, as stated at the beginning, I am convinced without a doubt that all the accomplishments and growth experienced by Emmanuel this past year need to be celebrated and proclaimed because they are the result of God's grace and the hard work of many members of this congregation. In this past year God has opened many new doors for ministry, and Emmanuel has courageously walked through them. In the midst of difficult times we have continued to move ahead knowing that God was right there with us.

There are many reasons to celebrate:

- 60 students attended Vacation Bible School this year, double the attendance from last year.
- Michelle Thorne of Wesley Theological Seminary elected to become Emmanuel's intern for the next two years.
- The church narthex received a fresh coat of paint after 30 years, a new coffee table, and 2 new bulletin boards to make our church more hospitable to new people.
- New air conditioning units were installed in all Sunday school classrooms and windows were installed in all doors in order to bring the church up to code with the "Safe Sanctuary" policy which protects children and youth.
- The youth group was re-started after a four year lapse and meets on a weekly basis.
- The Sunday school program continues to grow offering more classes for adults and youth.
- In spite of the declining economy, our apportionments to the Baltimore/Washington Annual Conference were paid in full.

These are just a few of the many signs of growth that God has blessed us with this year. However, our growth has not come without trials and tribulations. Some dear church members died or moved away. In addition, the financial crisis touched the members of our congregation. Nevertheless, our service, commitment, giving, love, and passion for God did not diminish.

I look forward to the work that Emmanuel United Methodist Church will accomplish, by God's grace, this coming year. May God continue to bless us so that we may continue to be a blessing to others in Jesus' name.

Yours in Christ,



## WORSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

By Mike Hatton and George Urick  
Co-chairs, Worship Committee

After the opening prayer by Rev. Daniel Mejia, the regularly scheduled meeting of the Worship Committee was brought to order by Mike Hatton. Those in attendance at the evening's get-together were Kathryn Griffin, Daniel Mejia, Scarlet Robertson, Mike Hatton, Margie Mock, George Urick and Rick Bergmann.



There was some time used for review of last meeting's discussions about the 2009-2010 budget. Budgetary request items were submitted in a list to the Finance Committee by Mike Hatton on September 1st. Requests were submitted a little early this year in order to help the Finance Committee plan next years church budget.

Due also on September 1st was the Annual Report to the congregation for the Worship Committee for the period of July 2008 - July 2009. This report, submitted by George Urick, was prepared to help the entire congregation and our District Superintendent to hear and appreciate the scope and great magnitude of the ministries and the many good things being done at Emmanuel United Methodist Church.

Included separately was a request to the church office to reserve on the church calendar the 2nd Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. each month for a meeting night of the Worship Committee.

All of the aforementioned reports were presented to prepare for the up-coming charge conference to be held in October and to assist in the church's over all planning for the coming year.

Thank you for your prayers, your ideas and helpful assistance. You are appreciated.

## FINANCE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

By W. Raulin

As the chair of finance it is my job to log in all moneys coming into the church from all sources. It is also my job to keep an eye on spending. I do not write the checks; that's Beverly job and she does it well.

At the last council meeting I pointed out that we are going into the hole every month about \$1,000 dollars. No one likes me to write or say the church is a business, BUT just like any business, cash flow is needed. We are at this point of spending money we do not have. Rev. Dan suggested if all of us make sure we are supporting the church with 10 percent, we will be ok. This is not an appeal for more money, well in a way it is. If you receive this newsletter, you are a member of this church and we need your support. If you have fallen behind in your giving we ask you to make it up. If money is tight in your house, well, May GOD Bless you. Thank you for your time.




## PARKING LOT TRUNK OR TREAT

By Kathy Mellott

Parking Lot Trunk or Treat is scheduled for Saturday, October 31<sup>st</sup>. Park your car in the Emmanuel UMC parking lot and give out candy from your trunk. Decorate your car to provide a Halloween atmosphere for the kids. Lots of children from the church and neighborhood come to "Trunk or Treat" in this safe atmosphere. Plan to park your car between 6:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. so that cars are not moving while the children are moving from car to car. Children, aged through 6<sup>th</sup> grade, are invited to go from car to car and collect candy and other goodies. Emmanuel UMC also has treats to give out including reflective bags and glow necklaces. Trunk or Treat ends at 7:30 p.m. Let's have a good turnout of cars this year.

**Emmanuel United Methodist Church**  
11416 Cedar Lane, Beltsville, MD 20705 301-937-7114



**Parking Lot Trunk or Treat**

[www.emmanuelumcbeltsville.net](http://www.emmanuelumcbeltsville.net)

**Halloween Night, October 31st from 6:30pm - 7:30pm**

- Cars must be parked between 6pm & 6:30pm
- Kids (through 6th grade) go car to car instead of house to house
- For safety reasons, cars must not be moved while kids are Trunk or Treating
- Awards will be given for best decorated cars
- Bring lots of candy to give out

## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

1. Rose Johnson
2. John Cavallo
4. Erica Belshay,  
Nick Lee
5. Shirl Akers,  
Brittany Back
7. Peggy Wells
10. Cecelia Bouma
11. Kevin Back
13. Lauren Fadely,  
Alexandra Butcher,  
Michael Hatton
15. Edrie Powell
16. Samantha Painter
18. Leticia Mejia,  
Charles Vannoy
19. Susan Leatherman,  
Kathy Mellott,  
Betty Osborn
20. Betty Midkiff
22. Mary Plantholt
24. Patricia Embrey
25. Mabel Claye,  
Robert Haufe
29. Donna Horton
31. Ronald Midkiff,  
May Stewart



## OCTOBER ANNIVERSARY

6. Eleanor & Jim Butler



## ALTAR FLOWERS

October	November
4 Dorothy Decker	1 Webb
11 Thrush	8 Beverly Ward
18 Mellott/Griffin	15 Bridgette Lazard
25 Stacy Graham	22 Carol Clatterbuck
	29 Elsie Cline

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## NOTES OF THANKS

**THANK YOU** to all of the church office workers that volunteered their time over the summer to help out. Thank you to: Evelyn Adkins, Ann Anderson, Bobbie Deegan, Ann Rowland, Beverly Urick and Peggy Wells. Also, thank you to Bobbie Deegan and Margie Mock who helped fold the newsletter. We appreciate all of your help! Beth and Jo Anne

**THANK YOU!** The Homeless Ministry would like to say Thank You to all the individuals who helped make the trip to feed and clothe the homeless successful last Sunday. If you would like to know how you too could be involved, please see the sign up and information sheets on the hallway bulletin board near the coffee and donut table. Thank you again for all your continued efforts to help those in need! Sarah Elliott

## NOTE FROM FORMER PASTOR

I am a former Pastor of Emmanuel United Methodist Church. The office staff graciously sends me the monthly *Lamplighter*. The September issue recently came and I was most pleasantly surprised.

The September issue contained many photographs with unusual clarity and sharpness that are not usually seen in a church newsletter. The quality of the paper is different too.

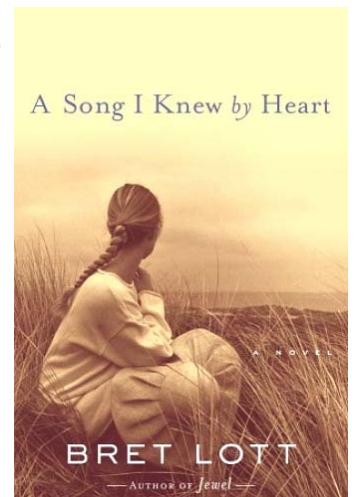
The church newsletter has greatly improved as to writing and content and this really adds to the paper being more attractive and readable.

Cordially,  
Richard Karpal

## FAITHFUL READERS GROUP

The Faithful Readers group will meet again Saturday October 17th 10:00-11:00 a.m. to discuss the book, "*A Song I Knew by Heart*" by Bret Lott. Please join us for a good discussion, light refreshments and a creative activity to go along with the discussion! Please bring a friend.

RSVP: Bryant Davis or Carol Clatterbuck.



# October 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	2 7:00 p.m. Teen Club	3 2:00 p.m. Sisters in Spirit Afternoon Tea
4 9 & 11 a.m. Worship 10:10 a.m. Sunday School Homeless Ministry Distribution	5	6 7:00 p.m. ESOL Classes	7 6:00 p.m. Maranatha Choir 7:00 p.m. Church Council	8 10:00 a.m. Prayer Fellowship 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	9	10
11 9 & 11 a.m. Worship 10:10 a.m. Sunday School 2nd Sunday Lunch 12:00 UMW Exec. Mtg.	12 12:30 Beltsville Women's Club 7:00 p.m. De- pression/Bipolar 7:30 p.m. Trustees	13 7:00 p.m. ESOL Classes	14 6:00 p.m. Maranatha Choir 7:00 p.m. Worship Meeting	15 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	16 11:00 a.m. Community Place Café	17 10:00 a.m. Book Club 1:00 p.m. Charge Conference at Mt. Oak UMC
18 9 & 11 a.m. Worship 10:10 a.m. Sunday School	19 12 noon Ellen Hoover Circle	20 7:00 p.m. ESOL Classes	21 10:00 a.m. Susanna Wesley 12:00 noon Dorcas Circle 6:00 p.m. Maranatha Choir 7:00 p.m. Sisters	22 10:00 a.m. Prayer Fellowship 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	23	24
25 9 & 11 a.m. Worship 10:10 a.m. Sunday School	26 7:00 p.m. De- pression/Bipolar	27 7:00 p.m. ESOL Classes	28 6:00 p.m. Maranatha Choir	29 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	30	31 8:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast Parking Lot Trunk or Treat 6:30-7:30 p.m.



*Pastor's Message  
October Birthdays & Anniversaries  
Notes of Thanks  
Committee Reports  
Faithful Readers Group  
Parking Lot Trunk or Treat*

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