



Emmanuel United Methodist Church
11416 Cedar Lane, Beltsville, MD 20705

301-937-7114
www.eumcbeltsville.com

Rev. Dr. Andrea M. King
PastorKing@eumcbeltsville.com



The Lamplighter

The Newsletter of Emmanuel United Methodist Church

October Prayer.

IT IS FOR FREEDOM THAT CHRIST HAS
SET US FREE. STAND FIRM, THEN, AND
DO NOT LET YOURSELVES BE BURDENED
AGAIN BY A YOKE OF SLAVERY
GALATIANS 5:1.

BUKYOJELABI.COM

The Lamplighter

The Newsletter of Emmanuel United Methodist Church!



OCTOBER 2022

IN THIS ISSUE

- + Mississippi 911 p. 2
- + Blessing of the Animals p. 2
- + Give Ye Them To Eat Update p. 3
- + Pastor King Completes Financial Leadership Academy Classes p. 4
- + History of Laity Sunday p. 4
- + Cooking with Pastor King p. 5
- + Bishops call for rejecting 'idolatry of guns' p. 6
- + Enjoy A Good Mystery with UpStage Artists This Halloween p. 7
- + October is Mental Health Awareness Month p. 7
- + ESL Classes begin a new session at Emmanuel! P. 8
- + Ask the UMC: Does The United Methodist Church support workers' rights? p. 8
- + African Bishops Call For Unity, Condemn Advocacy Groups p. 10
- + October Calendar p. 14

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



From the
Pastor's
Desk...

Looking ahead to October!

During the month of October, we will be collecting goodies for care packages to send to college students, military (active duty and vets), and members who may be currently living away from home. You may submit the names of those you wish to receive a care package from the church. The care packages will be distributed in November.

The last Sunday in October, each ministry group will highlight its activities. The highlights may be shared by video or by live presentation. In celebration of the Laity, grab and go meals will be for everyone in attendance. We considered serving hot dogs and hamburgers the second Sunday in October for Laity Sunday but thought better since that Sunday was also the Blessing of the Animals. Somehow it just did not seem right.

In addition to celebrating the Laity, October is also Pastors' Appreciation Month, Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and Domestic Violence Education Month - not to mention Church Conference, which is October 29!

WHEW, I am already exhausted!

Blessings,
Pastor King

Mississippi 911 By Pastor King



When the shocking news of water contamination in Jackson, Mississippi hit the national news, the immediate thoughts of an ecumenical group of clergy sisters immediately turned to one of our friends and prayer partners. We began to text and call to see how we could be of assistance and discovered there was an effort underway to bring to Jackson an 18-wheeler loaded with water. Within days the truck arrived.

Xperience JXN Entertainment, Kixie 107 Radio Station, and local volunteers from social/civic groups distributed water at Anderson United Methodist Church in Jackson, MS.

Each of the clergy sisters has given a contribution toward bringing more clean water to the city. We are our sister's keeper!

A Service for The Blessing of Animals

In accordance with the UMC Book of Worship: A Blessing of Animals, in many congregations, witnesses to God's and the Church's love, care, and concern for creation. As we recognize our mutual interdependence with God's creatures, the Church's witness of stewardship of creation is strengthened. It is also a service with special appeal to children.

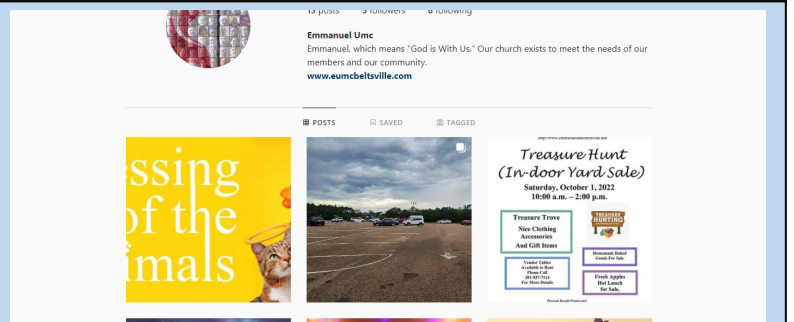
The Blessing is best celebrated during daylight in the outdoors—in the churchyard or in a park. While it may be celebrated at any time of the year, especially in early spring, or on the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi, October 4.

Emmanuel UMC will celebrate Sunday, October 9, 2022, with an outdoor worship service at 10:00 a.m. Bring any congregation friendly pet from goldfish to livestock to receive this special blessing!

Blessing of the Animals



Emmanuel is now on Instagram! Follow @eumc_beltsville





September 5, 2022



Dear Friends of GYTTE,

Many of you are people who donated or encouraged your churches to donate to help with health costs for the son, Rey David – King David, of our employee Rey Macareno. He stopped talking in early July and the family thought he was “scared” of something. He kept getting worse and finally they took him to the hospital near the Tree of Life Center. He was transferred twice and ended up in the public hospital in Puebla.



We also know that many of you haven't heard about this.

With your help, we started giving the family money for medicines, fluids and to help them with food. They were camped out in the front patio of the hospital.

Rey David was diagnosed with meningitis and was convulsing and in a coma. He was in the hospital for more than a month and surely would have died without the help for medicines, as well as the incredible love and sacrifice of his family and prayers from many people like you. We really thought he was going to die. God had other ideas.

They took him home in late July. He was thin and practically couldn't move on his own. He wasn't talking much. By this week (Aug. 18), he can sit up in a chair, is eating well and gaining weight, he is talking, and his memory is good. He certainly isn't completely recovered but there is hope that he will. His smile shows the light inside him. Miguel and Nan saw him on Aug. 11, then Miguel, Marian and Estela saw him a week later and he had made amazing progress. He can walk a little with assistance. A walker was lent to him from GYTTE to help him.

During the visit with Marian, Miguel and Estela, Rey David, his wife and parents expressed their deepest gratitude for the monetary support and the prayers and asked that we share their thanks with all of you.



We are continuing to give the family money as they still must get regular tests and he is on many medicines.

Continued on p. 12

Pastor King Completes Financial Leadership Academy Classes!



Annabel Lusardi, Jack Brooks and a cadre of other Financial Leadership Academy (FLA) staff, coaches, and leaders helped to shepherd the Class of 2022 to the completion of the Advanced Financial Academy, a nearly year-long training process that resulted in the graduation of candidates who completed 45 contact hours, resulting in new ministry projects throughout the Northeastern Jurisdiction of The United Methodist Church. Graduates included our Pastor, Andrea King, as well as Robert Walker, Mary Ka Kanahan, and Joan Jones. (just to name a few).

History of Laity Sunday



Methodism, in all its roots, has a long history celebrating and recognizing the ministry of the laity. In the early days of American Methodism, the laity served and maintained congregations between visits of the circuit riders. Today, lay people are the front line of daily ministry at the workplace, in the home, and within the community.

The Early Days

Archives suggest the earliest plans for a Laity Sunday beginning in 1928. The first recorded observance of "Laymen's Day" was in the Methodist Episcopal Church, South in 1929. By 1930 the Evangelical Church had begun celebrating the work of laity at the culmination of each annual men's retreat. (Reflecting the times, these early celebrations focused only on the ministry of men.)

The September 1928 issue of *The Methodist Layman* reports "the third Sunday in May [is] Anniversary Day, commemorating the constitution of the Board of Lay Activities by the General Conference, the same to be designated as "Laymen's Day," and strict observance of this day by a lay program in every church, which shall set forth adequately the place of lay activities in the Church and be of inspirational value to the laymen for larger service in the kingdom."

Within two years, the success of the celebration hastened to make Laymen's Day an annual observance.

Once the factions of the Methodist Episcopal Church merged in 1939, the joint General Board of Lay Activities approved Laymen's Day and designated February 23, 1941, as the first United Methodist Church observance. The January issue of *The Methodist Layman* enthusiastically reports the aim of Laymen's Day as "...to emphasize the place that lay members have in the total life and work of the church."

Laity Sunday is a time to recognize the work and mission of all laity — not only within the walls of the church but in everyday lives.

The excitement about this day of recognition grew. The January 1942 issue of *The Methodist Layman* includes this entreaty:

Think what this could mean to the church! Forty thousand laymen — lawyers, physicians, teachers, bankers, businessmen, mechanics, farmers and others — speaking on The World Mission of the Church!

The whole Methodist Church will be moved and stirred to action by such a message. ...There are vast possibilities for good in Laymen's Day. It is the prayer of the General Board that every Conference, District, Associate District, Charge and Church Lay Leader and every District Superintendent and Pastor will give wholehearted cooperation to make the day significant in the life of The Methodist Church.

In October 1942 *The Methodist Layman* recommends the last Sunday of February "be fixed as Laymen's Day throughout the Church" and calls for "serious preparation for this day and...[for] Pastors to give active cooperation."

Mid-20th Century to Today

Laymen's Day is first mentioned in the 1944 Book of Discipline (§ 1483), where its direction is placed under the auspices of the General Board of Lay Activities.

In the 1964 edition of the Book of Discipline, Laymen's Day is designated as the second Sunday of October. (§ 1499.3)

Continued on p. 12



The Trustees thank Jenny Kresge and the scouts!

The local troop spread the leftover gravel from the cleanup job that a scout did for his Eagle badge on the Scripture Garden at the end of the office wing. This was placed under the 2 benches near the Sanctuary.



Cooking with Pastor King: New Orleans Bananas Foster Cake

Ingredients:

Cake

1 1/2 cups butter, softened
3 cups sugar
6 large eggs
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
5 cups all-purpose flour
1 tablespoon baking powder
2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
1/4 teaspoon salt
2 1/2 cups milk

Caramel Cream Cheese Icing

3/4 cup brown sugar
1/4 cup heavy whipping cream
1 1/2 cups plus 2 tablespoons butter, softened and divided
2 (8-ounce) packages cream cheese, softened
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
4 cups confectioners' sugar

Bananas Foster Topping

1/4 cup butter
1/2 cup firmly packed brown sugar
1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
2 tablespoons dark rum (or rum flavoring)
2 tablespoons praline liqueur (optional)
1/4 teaspoon salt
3 large ripe bananas, peeled and sliced
1 cup pecan halves (use walnuts if you don't have pecans)

Instructions:



Preheat oven to 350 degrees F and butter (or use shortening) and flour 3 (9-inch) round cake pans. In a large bowl, combine butter and sugar and beat at medium speed with an electric mixer until fluffy.

Add eggs one at a time, beating well after each addition, and stopping to scrape down sides of the bowl. Beat in vanilla.

In a medium bowl, combine flour, baking powder, cinnamon, and salt.

Add flour mixture to butter mixture, alternating with milk, beginning and ending with flour mixture.

Pour batter into prepared pans. Bake 25 to 35 minutes or until top of the cake feels firm when gently pressed on. Let cakes cool for 10 minutes, then remove and place on wire racks to cool completely.

For icing, combine brown sugar, whipping cream, and 2 tablespoons butter in a small saucepan over medium heat. Cook for 3 to 4 minutes stirring constantly to dissolve the sugar. Let cool completely.

Using an electric mixer, beat remaining 1 1/2 cups butter and cream cheese at medium speed until smooth. Add brown sugar mixture and vanilla and beat to combine. Gradually add in confectioners' sugar, beating until smooth. Spread icing between layers and cover top and sides.

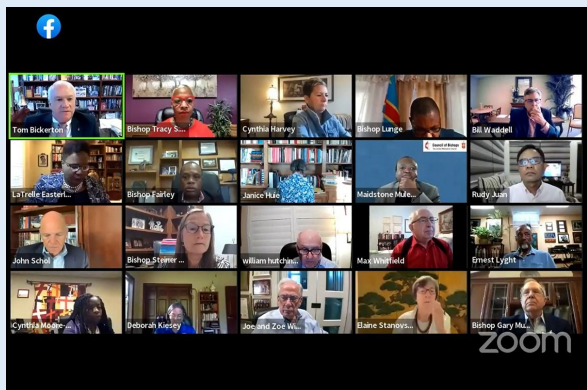
For topping, melt butter over low heat in a medium skillet. Add brown sugar and cinnamon and cook for 3 to 4 minutes, stirring continuously.

Turn heat up to medium and add rum and liqueur and salt. Cook for 5 minutes, stirring frequently. Add bananas and pecans and cook for 1 minute. Let cool before spooning over top of cake.

Keep finished cake refrigerated.

Bishops call for rejecting 'idolatry of guns'

By Heather Hahn



United Methodists will need to both pray and act to end the scourge of gun violence, says a letter the Council of Bishops released Sept. 1 to the wider church.

“As people of prayer, we followers of Jesus are called to be ‘counter-cultural change makers,’” the letter says. “To that end, we must reject the idolatry of guns and the distorted attachments to our right to own guns without safeguards for the communities of the world.” United Methodist bishops unanimously adopted the letter Aug. 26 during the final day of their online summer meeting. Only active bishops vote on Council of Bishops actions. However, all United Methodist bishops signed the document.

The statement also will form the basis of a letter the bishops plan to send to the U.S. Congress and White House.

In a denomination with more than 12 million members across four continents, the bishops also stress that gun violence is not just a U.S. problem. The bishops’ statement cites Amnesty International, which reports that about 2,000 people are injured and 500 people die by gunshots every day.

During their online meeting Aug. 26, bishops unanimously affirmed a statement addressing gun violence. To stop the gun violence epidemic in the U.S. and around the globe, bishops are urging United Methodists to raise their prayers to God and contact their elected leaders. Screenshot courtesy of the Council of Bishops via Zoom by UM News.

United Methodists — long committed to transforming the world

to be more like Christ’s example — have a role to play in addressing the crisis, the bishops said.

“This is a call to prayer, beginning this September, for all who follow Jesus, the Prince of Peace,” the bishops’ statement said. “This is a call to action for all to weep with those who weep and demand, insist on, and push for positive change from our elected officials.”

The statement goes on to urge congregations to collaborate with ecumenical and interfaith partners in their public witness. The statement also encourages the use of United Methodist resources for Bible study and advocacy in efforts to reduce gun violence.

Bishop Julius C. Trimble, who leads the Indiana Conference, proposed the letter on behalf of the bishops’ Justice and Reconciliation Leadership Team.

“It is always the right time to do the right thing,” he told UM News after the bishops’ meeting. “We are in an emergency when it comes to gun violence in America and around the globe. I believe we have a moral obligation as bishops to offer more than ‘thoughts and prayers.’”

The bishops decided to take up the issue of firearms following deadly massacres at a grocery store in Buffalo, New York; a church in Laguna Woods, California; an elementary school in Uvalde, Texas; and a Fourth of July parade in Highland Park, Illinois.

Beyond the horror of headline-making mass shootings, the U.S. also has experienced a rise in gun deaths overall. More Americans died of gun-related injuries in 2020 than in any other year on record, reported the U.S. Centers for Disease Control. In all, 45,222 people in the U.S. died that year in homicides or suicides involving firearms.

Gun violence also has taken a personal toll on United Methodists. The bishops spent part of their August meeting mourning the death of the Rev. Autura Eason-Williams, a district superintendent and former episcopal candidate fatally shot in an apparent carjacking in Memphis, Tennessee.

Immediately after the deaths of 19 children and two teachers in Uvalde, Council of Bishops President Thomas J. Bickerton called on United Methodists to “go on the offense” to stop mass shootings.

Those words echoed throughout the U.S. annual conference season this spring and summer. More than a dozen of the denomination’s regional bodies took a public stand to address gun violence when they met this year.

A number of the conference resolutions and the bishops’ letter advocated for the same measures recommended in “Our Call to End Gun Violence,” which the denomination’s General Conference adopted in 2016.

The General Conference resolution quotes God’s dream for peace in Micah 4 that “they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks... .”

Continued on p. 9

Enjoy a Good Mystery This Halloween with UpStage Artists!



UpStage Artists is preparing for its final show of the 2022 season, Agatha Christie's most popular mystery, *And Then There Were None*. The play is "A dark thriller in three acts. One of Christie's darkest tales and a masterpiece of dramatic construction, its growing sense of dread and unfaltering tension will keep you guessing to the very end." It opened on Broadway on June 27, 1944, and now, 78 years later, it is gracing a stage in Beltsville!

The play begins when Ten strangers are summoned to a remote island. All that the guests have in common is a wicked past they're unwilling to reveal and a secret that will seal their fate. For each has been marked for murder. As the weather turns and the group is cut off from the mainland, the bloodbath begins and one by one they are brutally murdered in accordance with the lines of a sinister nursery rhyme.

This is UpStage's 3rd show this year and they are looking forward to finishing their season with a good, old-fashioned murder mystery. Come out and join them for this incredible *Who Done It!*

Show dates are October 28, 29, November 4 and 5 at 7:30 pm and October 30 and November 6 at 2:30 pm. You can buy your tickets

for \$12 at www.upstageartists.com/tickets today! UpStage Artists sincerely appreciates all the support that Emmanuel has given to their program.



October is Mental Health Awareness Month



Effective JULY 16, 2022 – 988 – National Suicide Prevention Lifeline
If you or a loved one needs assistance or is thinking of suicide, please get help immediately. Call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 988. You can also reach a crisis counselor by messaging the Crisis Text Line at 741741.

Pandemic Support Groups: Since the beginning of Pandemic support groups have gone virtual. Most participants feel that online support has expanded their contact with the outside world by meeting and talking to others from other states and countries with similar concerns and symptoms in their wellness journey. Some still prefer meeting in person to have the personal interaction.

The Wall Street Journal turns to DBSA for insights on depression risks

Stressful times can increase mental health risks, but there are things we can do to stay balanced. This month, Wall Street Journal reporter Andrea Petersen asked what DBSA is doing to support people with mood disorders. Dr. Gary Sachs, a leading mental health expert who serves on DBSA's Scientific Advisory Board, shared these helpful tips:

- Reach out to friends and family. Don't be afraid to tell them how you're feeling.
- Helping others may lift your spirits, too. This can take the form of making masks for neighbors, going grocery shopping for someone in quarantine, or simply picking up the phone to chat with a loved one who might be lonely.
- Online support groups can be a real comfort. (Find one via our COVID-19 portal.)
- Limiting the time you spend with pandemic news can keep you from feeling overwhelmed. Try keeping it to two 30-minute sessions a day or less, based on how you feel.

Continued on p. 9

ESL Classes begin a new session at Emmanuel!

Online English Classes

Grammar Basics and Conversation



Thursdays

Time: 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Cost per session: Free

September 15, 2022 to November 17, 2022

All are welcome!

FOR MORE INFORMATION, EMAIL DELA MARTIN
AT DELA.MARTIN@EUMCBELTSVILLE.COM OR
PHONE (202) 417-7303.

Clases de inglés en línea

Conceptos básicos de gramática y
conversación

jueves

Hora: 7:00 pm a 8:00 pm

Costo por sesión: Gratis

15 de septiembre de 2022 al 17 de noviembre de
2022

¡Todos son bienvenidos!

Para obtener más información, envíe un
correo electrónico a Dela Martin a
dela.martin@eumcbeltsville.com o llame al
(202) 417-7303.

Ask the UMC: Does The United Methodist Church support workers' rights?

From the beginning, the Methodist movement has focused particular attention on the concerns of workers. Justice, dignity, and equality for workers are an integral part of our social teachings and heritage. Methodists have been a part of the labor movement throughout history, committed to fairness and justice in the workplace.

When John Wesley, one of the founders of the Methodist movement, began his ministry in rapidly industrializing England, there was no "labor movement" the way we understand it today. But Wesley preached to and cared for coal miners and other oppressed workers, opposed slavery, and advocated for protecting people from dangerous working conditions.

After Wesley died, his followers continued to address injustices affecting working people, helping to create early British labor unions based on the structure of the Methodist societies.

In the United States, Methodists were among the first supporters of the labor movement. Both lay and clergy members played leadership roles in supporting garment workers, textile workers, farm workers, and factory workers and advocating passage of the Fair Labor Standards Act and the National Labor Relations Act.

In the early 20th century, the church worked to end child labor and adopted the first Social Creed in 1908. The Social Creed dealt exclusively with labor practices. In the 1950s, during the U.S. civil rights movement, Methodists fought for fair wages and better working conditions.

The United Methodist Church, through its Social Principles, recognizes and supports the right of workers to organize into unions of their own choosing and to bargain collectively regarding hours, wages, and conditions of employment. The church calls both employer and union to "bargain in good faith within the framework of the public interest."



Members and supporters of the Coalition of Immokalee (Fla.) Workers pray in Nashville, Tenn., at the conclusion of a protest against the Publix supermarket chain's refusal to join a farm workers' rights labor program. The Book of Resolutions of the United Methodist Church demands that employers "treat farm workers and their families with dignity and respect." Photo by Mike DuBose, UM News.

Continued on p. 9

Idolatry of Guns continued from p. 4

The resolution calls for, among other steps, “banning large-capacity ammunition magazines and weapons designed to fire multiple rounds each time the trigger is pulled.”

The bishops’ letter also calls for an assault weapons ban. The U.S. previously banned assault weapons from 1994 to 2004, and the number of mass shootings fell during that time. Since the ban expired, the U.S. has seen a steep rise in mass shooting deaths.

The U.S. House of Representatives in July passed a bill to reinstate the assault weapons ban. The bill is now before the U.S. Senate, where many longtime political observers expect the proposal will not be able to achieve the 60 votes required to overcome a filibuster and move forward.

But some are not so sure the bill is doomed. The public pressure from United Methodists and others has already led to some gun reforms. In late June, the U.S. Congress passed and President Biden signed into law the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act — the most significant federal gun-safety legislation in decades.

The new law, a compromise, includes money for school safety, mental health and incentives for states to provide a more comprehensive background check of 18- to 21-year-olds who want to buy guns.

“We are seeing more and more grassroots activists demanding action from their elected leaders on gun violence prevention,” said the Rev. Susan Henry-Crowe, the top executive of the United Methodist Board of Church and Society — the agency that works to promote United Methodist social teachings. Henry-Crowe worked with the bishops in developing their statement.

“The mobilization of regular people across the country was the deciding factor in getting the Safer Communities Act signed into law earlier this summer,” she told UM News. “Our youth and young adults are particularly passionate about this issue and are demanding that their communities rally around them in taking a stand against a culture of violence.”

Trimble said that by making a stand, the bishops are being faithful to The United Methodist Church’s commitments and obedient to their own prophetic and teaching roles as episcopal leaders. The bishops are hoping their words will influence at least some U.S. senators, six of whom are United Methodist.

Trimble put it this way: “If there are evidence-based solutions that can lessen the number of deaths due to firearms, why would we not pursue them?”

Mental Health Awareness Continued from p. 5

Mental Health Wellness Tips

- Get some sun
- Your body clock needs to see light in the morning, so spend some time outside or spend at least 2 hours next to a window, facing daylight, and focusing on being calm.
- Work from home
- Listen to your body and prioritize wellness. Even if you’re not working, try to keep a schedule of waking up, meals, exercise breaks, or social time, but don’t feel bad if you don’t get everything done!
- A regular schedule
- Set times for a few regular activities each day such as home tutoring, telephone calls with a friend, or cooking. Do these activities at the same time each day.

Ask the UMC continued from p. 6

From the 1908 Social Creed through today’s Social Principles, a belief in God-given human dignity undergirds United Methodists’ historic emphasis on worker justice. For United Methodists, workplace justice includes fair wages, earned sick time, paid maternity leave and safe conditions. For over 100 years, we have supported a living wage in every industry and our Social Principles make clear that we believe people — not profits — should be at the heart of our economic system:

“The church proclaims, “Throughout Scripture, God commands us to treat workers with respect, dignity, and fairness. Exploitation or underpayment of workers is incompatible with Christ’s commandment to love our neighbor — a love that extends to all persons in all places, including the workplace.” (Living Wage Model, Book of Resolutions).

African bishops call for unity, condemn advocacy groups

By Eveline Chikwanah



Greater Nhiwatiwa (in purple dress), wife of Bishop Eben K. Nhiwatiwa (left), explains the history and significance of the Chin'ando prayer mountain to bishops attending the Africa College of Bishops retreat held Sept 5-8 at Africa University in Mutare, Zimbabwe. The bishops released a statement at the close of the retreat calling for unity in The United Methodist Church while condemning traditionalist advocacy groups looking to break up the denomination. Photo by Eveline Chikwanah, UM News.

African bishops have called for unity in The United Methodist Church while condemning traditionalist advocacy groups looking to break up the denomination.

The bishops released a statement Sept. 8 denouncing the Africa Initiative and Wesleyan Covenant Association, which they say, "are wrongly influencing God's people in our areas."

The statement was released at the close of the Africa Colleges of Bishops retreat, which was held Sept 5-8 at Africa University. The denomination's bishops are organized by colleges, or groups, based on their regions; Africa has three such colleges.

The bishops' statement said the Africa Initiative is working with the Wesleyan Covenant Association to destroy the church in Africa through its support of the Global Methodist Church, a denomination not yet recognized by General Conference.

"We will dissociate from any activities of the Africa Initiative and will not allow any activities of the Africa Initiative in our areas," the bishops said, noting that "the Africa Initiative has lost its original goal of helping The United Methodist Church in Africa."

The bishops also addressed misinformation that is being spread in the church.

"We will not tolerate anyone giving false information about The

United Methodist Church," the statement said.

All of the continent's active bishops, with the exception of Nigeria Area Bishop John Wesley Yohanna, signed the statement.

Yohanna sent a brief statement by email to UM News, stating that while he respects his fellow African bishops' views, he continues to support the Africa Initiative and WCA.

"The Africa Initiative and Wesleyan Covenant (Association) are pushing for obedience to the Bible and the Book of Discipline. Why should we not associate with them?" said Yohanna, who did not attend the meeting. Yohanna is a member of the United Methodist Commission on Communication, which oversees UM News.

Jay Therrell, the WCA's president, said the advocacy group and sister organizations have long worked together with African leaders as equal partners, and the WCA's Global Council has leaders from across the African continent.

"We are deeply disappointed, but not surprised, by the statement purported to come from all the African bishops," he said. "We have been told the statement is not supported by all the bishops in Africa and lament that it insinuates that it is."

He added that the WCA believes "strong-arm control tactics by some African bishops infringe upon the Christian freedom of their members to speak into the current and future direction of The United Methodist Church and their role in it. We remain committed to working with theologically conservative Methodists across the continent of Africa to empower their witness to the faith and their right to make informed decisions about their future in the church."

Bishop Eben K. Nhiwatiwa, president of the Africa Colleges of Bishops, said the church is thriving on the continent and there is no need to break away from the denomination.

"Unity is our constant point of reference. The bishops are saying there is no need for breaking away from The United Methodist Church and joining another denomination," said Nhiwatiwa, who leads the Zimbabwe Episcopal Area.

He said the Global Methodist Church has nothing new to offer Africans.

"We are not seeing anything new because we are traditionalist from start to finish here in Africa. If you want to see people who are conservative, come to Africa.

"If anything happens which will make us feel uncomfortable in the future, we will sit down and see how we channel our efforts in the church."

Continued on p. 11

Unity continued from p. 10

After decades of intensifying disagreements about the status of LGBTQ people in the church, General Conference was set to vote on a denominational separation plan in May 2020.

But after a third postponement of the denomination's top lawmaking assembly, organizers of the Global Methodist Church decided to launch on May 1. The Wesleyan Covenant Association, a theologically conservative unofficial advocacy group in The United Methodist Church, has served as the main organizing force behind the new denomination. The Africa Initiative is an unofficial traditionalist advocacy group representing laity and clergy in Africa.

Eight bishops, including retired Bishop Ntambo Nkulu Ntanda of North Katanga, attended the retreat. Several bishops were unable to attend the meeting but signed onto the statement: Bishops Benjamin Boni (Côte d'Ivoire), Gabriel Unda (East Congo), Joaquina Nhanala (Mozambique), Gaspar João Domingos (Western Angola) and interim Bishop Warner Brown (Sierra Leone).

The statement appears to be a shift for some bishops who have a history with the Africa Initiative. Bishops Kasap, Quire and Yohanna attended the Africa Initiative's meeting in May in Nairobi, Kenya, as the group pondered the future of Methodism in Africa. The bishops indicated at the time that their presence at the gathering was not sanctioned by the African bishops as a group, but that they were attending with the understanding that they would brief their colleagues.

In a Sept. 12 press release, the Africa Initiative responded to the bishops' statement. The group expressed respect for the bishops, but also asserted its rights as an advocacy group whose membership includes General Conference delegates.

"It is unthinkable that anyone would think and believe that it is possible to stop us from standing up for Jesus Christ or from debating all the issues of The United Methodist Church," the release said.

The group went on to say its mission has not changed.

"The Africa Initiative remains undauntedly committed to its vision, to see biblical Christianity taught, lived and sustained within the three central conferences of Africa in the Wesleyan spirit."

The release said the Africa Initiative prays that the bishops would see the group as a "reliable and trustworthy partner in the holistic growth and development of the UMC in Africa."

The bishops' retreat, which was themed "Learning and Worship," included presentations on principles of effective leadership by Pamela Machakanja, Africa University interim deputy vice chancellor, and effective Christian worship from the Rev. Beauty R. Maenzanise of the United Methodist Board of Higher Education and Ministry.

The gathering culminated in a visit to the Chin'ando prayer mountain at Old Mutare, which was developed by United Methodist women in the Zimbabwe Episcopal Area.

During the meeting, the bishops shared their joys and hopes for the future and also noted some of the challenges facing the church in Africa.

"Sometimes we do not have enough resources. It's a common problem in Africa, but our people are working very hard building churches, schools, waiting mothers' shelters even during the COVID-19 lockdowns," Nhiwatiwa said.

He urged church leaders to be bold and brave in their leadership.

"We try to give direction; that is what leadership is all about. You cannot be a leader if you just want to be in a comfort zone."

Those thoughts were echoed at the close of the bishops' statement.

"We will continue to be shepherds of all of God's people throughout our beloved continent."



Retired Bishop Ntambo Nkulu Ntanda (right), who led the North Katanga Episcopal Area, contributes during a presentation on worship while Bishop Daniel Wandabula of the East Africa Episcopal Area looks on during the Africa College of Bishops retreat held Sept 5-8 at Africa University in Mutare, Zimbabwe. The bishops released a statement saying they "will not tolerate anyone giving false information about The United Methodist Church." Photo by Eveline Chikwanah, UM News.

Nan and Miguel continued from p. 3

We are so grateful for your generosity – it has made all the difference in the life of Rey David and his family.

You gave enough that we have also been able to help out another employee, Veronica Galindo. Veronica was part time for many years and two years ago became full-time. Some of you helped Veronica two years ago. She had two brothers in the US without papers: The first died of cancer and the second of Covid in 2020. Then her mom died of Covid about 10 months ago.

Her father had a “botched” operation in the private sector about a month ago and had gotten worse. They took him to public hospitals but by then, he was very weak and died on August 21. She has had a lot of expenses and your donations have helped incredibly.



Thank you very much. If you feel so moved, we can still use donations for our employees.

You can write a check to New Bloomfield UMC with GYTTE in the memo line. Send it with a note to Rev. Marian Hartman, 418 W. High Street, New Bloomfield, PA 17068. Marian's email is: mhartman@susumc.org. We also always need donations for our ongoing work!

We thank you for your generosity and for your prayers.

In Christ,

Nan, Miguel, Marian, Clara, Cata and the rest of the team

Laity Sunday continued from p.4



The 1968 Book of Discipline (§ 1202) expounds on the day's larger purpose: shall be to interpret the role of the laity in the world and to provide laymen with opportunity to witness to their faith in Jesus Christ and their commitment to his mission in the world.

By the 1972 edition of the Book of Discipline, Laymen's Day was renamed the gender-neutral Laity Sunday (§ 163) but was often referred to as Laity Day until 1977.

Today, Laity Sunday is celebrated the third Sunday of October. Quadrennial themes are set by the Association of Annual Conference Lay Leaders and approved by the board of directors of Discipleship Ministries.

We need the whole Body of Christ as we seek to become more vital congregations who make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world!

The Laity at Emanuel do so many things such as collecting toys for tots, visitations, run sound, teach sign language, and read scripture during worship!



Agatha Christie's
**AND THEN THERE
WERE NONE**

WHEN: OCTOBER 28, 29, NOVEMBER 4, 5 AT 7:30
AND OCTOBER 30 AND NOVEMBER 6 AT 2:30

WHERE: EMMANUEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 11416 CEDAR LANE,
BELTSVILLE, MD 20705

COST: \$12.00 GET TICKETS AT
WWW.UPSTAGEARTISTS.COM/TICKETS



“And Then There Were None” is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc.

www.concordtheatricals.com

October 2022

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|--|---|---|--|---|
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 1 |
| | | | | | | UWF TREASURE HUNT! 10 am- 2 pm |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| *Worship 10 am *Zimbabwe Christian Fellowship 2 pm | *Church Office Closed *UpStage Artists Rehearsal- 7pm | Church Office Open 9:30- 2:30 By Appt. | *Church Office Open 9:30- 2:30 *Bible Study 7 pm (Virtual) | *Church Office Open 9:30- 2:30 By Appt. *Boy Scouts-7pm *UpStage Artists Rehearsal- 7pm | *Church Office Closed *UpStage Artists Rehearsal- 7pm | |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| Blessing of the Animals 10 am | *Church Office Closed *UpStage Artists Rehearsal- 7pm | Church Office Open 9:30- 2:30 By Appt. | Church Office Open 9:30- 2:30 Bible Study 7 pm (Virtual) | *Church Office Open 9:30- 2:30 By Appt. *Boy Scouts-7pm *UpStage Artists Rehearsal- 7pm | *Church Office Closed *UpStage Artists Rehearsal- 7pm | |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| Worship 10 am Zimbabwe Christian Fellowship 2 pm | *Church Office Closed *UpStage Artists Rehearsal- 7pm | Church Office Open 9:30- 2:30 By Appt. | Church Office Open 9:30- 2:30 Bible Study 7 pm (Virtual) | *Church Office Open 9:30- 2:30 By Appt. *Boy Scouts-7pm *UpStage Artists Rehearsal- 7pm | *Church Office Closed *UpStage Artists Rehearsal- 7pm | Food Distribution 8:00 am |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| Worship 10 am | *Church Office Closed *UpStage Artists Rehearsal- 7pm *Depression Bipolar Support (Virtual)- 7 pm | Church Office Open 9:30- 2:30 By Appt. | Church Office Open 9:30- 2:30 Bible Study 7 pm (Virtual) | *Church Office Open 9:30- 2:30 By Appt. *Boy Scouts-7pm *UpStage Artists Rehearsal- 7pm | *Church Office Closed *UpStage Artists show: And Then There Were None-7:30 pm | UpStage Artists show: And Then There Were None- 7:30 pm |
| 30 | 31 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| *Worship 10 am *UpStage Artists show: And Then There Were None-2:30 pm | Church Office Closed | | | | | |

Worship in Giving: 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.

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



Happy October Birthdays!

1. Rose Johnson, Abraham Scotland
2. John Cavallo
4. Erica Belshay
5. Cale Fuller
8. Kathy Rodeffer
9. Elizabeth Galloway
11. Shirley Nelson
13. Lauren Fadely, Alexandra Butcher, Michael Hatton
15. Magdalena Elliott, Elizabeth Elliott
16. Jonayn Hicks
17. Glendy Hernandez
18. Madison Cruz
19. Kathy Mellott, Tammy White
22. Kell Jones, Mary Plantholt
24. Patricia Embrey, Janet Jones, Ruth Vaye
25. Mabel Claye
26. Pauli Colburn
27. Joyce Yarwood
31. Ronald Midkiff



CAN YOU HELP?

Share your talents at Emmanuel by sharing the Word as a Scripture Reader during our Sunday 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 Sandy Ferguson
the family of Dr. Paul T. Kwami (Dela Martin's Uncle)

With Sympathy
Thinking of you in these
difficult times and sending love



Please pray for our homebound
Homebound
Norma Hall
Out of state
Lil Mizzer



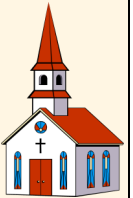
Happy Anniversary

4. Sallie Rhodes and Norman Beaver
7. Mary Jane and Dan Kenyon

A REMINDER ABOUT BUILDING USAGE

Anyone desiring to use the church facilities must apply by completing the appropriate forms and detailing how they desire to use the property. Application does not mean automatic approval.

All room requests should be submitted to the church office directly.



WORSHIP WITH US!!!!

Hybrid Worship at Emmanuel!

Join us on Sunday mornings in hybrid worship in person or through Zoom. Worship begins at 10 am. Sign Language interpretation and closed captioning is available for online closed captioning is available in-person on our screens.

Use this link if you wish to attend virtually: <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