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## The Lamplighter

The Newsletter of Emmanuel United Methodist Church

Happy  
New  
Year

## January 2025 Prayer

Dear Lord,

As we enter January 2025, we seek Your comfort and strength. In our challenges, we remember Your promise in Psalm 46:1, "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble."

Help us to trust You as Philippians 4:6-7 teaches, finding peace in prayer and thanksgiving. May we have the courage of Esther, trusting in Your plans for us as declared in Jeremiah 29:11.

In our struggles, we hold onto Psalm 34:18, knowing You are close to the brokenhearted. Guide us according to Proverbs 3:5-6, to trust in You and not lean on our own understanding. Thank You for Your love and mercy every day. Help us to face each day with faith, knowing You are with us.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

# HAPPY NEW YEAR 2025 **The Lamplighter**

## The Newsletter of Emmanuel United Methodist Church!



**JANUARY 2025**

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From the  
Pastor's  
Desk...

### Where There Is A Will, There Is A Way To Give

Most of us are familiar with the proverbial expression, "Where there is a will, there is a way," which simply means: If a person sets a goal or makes a decision to accomplish something, they can find a way to achieve it through commitment and determination. But here's a new twist on an old proverb: "Where there is a will, there is a way to give."

In this case, the type of "will" we are referring to is a Last Will and Testament—a written document that directs the disposition of a person's assets after death. The recipients of these assets are called beneficiaries. Beneficiaries can include family members, close friends, complete strangers, cherished pets, favored organizations, and even your local church.

In fact, when I was a pastor of three churches in Harford County, a community member passed away and left an insurance policy that included one of the churches as a beneficiary. Although that community member was not a member of the church, she believed in the church's mission and named it in her will. Naming a church, such as Emmanuel UMC Beltsville, as a beneficiary is simply a matter of completing a valid will.

In the state of Maryland, the requirements for a valid will are as follows: the will must be signed by the person making the will and attested to and signed by two credible witnesses in the presence of the person making the will. The standards of validity for wills vary from jurisdiction to jurisdiction, so it is important to know what your state of residence requires.

Additionally, not only can church members and community members name a church as a beneficiary, but so can pastors and former pastors of the church. If you do not have a will or have not updated your will recently, the start of the New Year is an excellent time to resolve to give serious attention to your posthumous giving.

Many people on the higher end of the wealth spectrum routinely give 10% of what they earn while they are alive. Whether it is 10% or 1%, after death, the money we have earned and invested during our lifetimes can still continue to do good in the life of the church—especially if we make the decision that: "Where there is a will, there is a way to give!"

*Pastor King*

Do you have something for our newsletter? Send items to the editor, Rick Bergmann at [lamplighter@eumcbeltsville.com](mailto:lamplighter@eumcbeltsville.com)



## The Mitten Tree Is Up and Waiting For Your Donations!



The United Women In Faith are once again collecting hats, scarves, mittens, and gloves through the mission tree project. All of the donations will go to area schools to be handed out to children and families in need. You can donate through December 19 by just placing the your donations on the tree in the hallway outside of the sanctuary!

## Thank you to everyone who helped out during Advent!



## Christmas 2024

Wow, Christmas is here again in a hurry! It seems we just took down that Christmas tree, and here we are putting it back up again! It is a blessing to have willing children and grandchildren to climb ladders and help decorate. Is it part of ageing, that time seems to be moving faster than before?

The saying, "No news is good news," seems to fit us this year. It seems like a good year with not much to report. Candace finally finished her therapy following her shoulder surgery. We are both working to take a short walk daily. We would do more, but between hip and knee issues, it's hard to get it done. Rich had tests for a possible autoimmune disorder but after many x-rays and blood work, he was declared O.K.! We often go out for lunch and take rides in the country. We belong to a prayer and Bible study fellowship which has yielded new Christian friends. We keep each other in prayer during the good times and the bad.

We had our annual trips to Ohio to see Sarah, David, Chloe, and Willow; to North Carolina to the beach with the whole family; to Philadelphia to see Candace's family; and Delaware to visit dear friends. Trips to Virginia included a wedding and a Thanksgiving bash with our brother and sisters and their extended families. We see Rachel, Ryan, Saylor, Savian and Shevaun often since we are just 7 minutes from their house. This winter we plan to return to Florida and spend some time sharing a house with good friends Bill and Peggy.

We are proud grandparents, as our grandchildren work hard to achieve at school academics and various activities that include music, art, e-sports, dancing, performing, running, marching, and ballet.

You are receiving this letter because--we remember you! We are so happy that we have shared life together. We pray for our family and friends daily and this includes you. We ask that God would comfort you and bless you in your lives. Especially at this Christmas time, may you find a greater comfort in knowing God's great and eternal love, that came to us through Jesus Christ, those many years ago; and which remains with us, through the Holy Spirit today! May God's peace, love and joy be upon you now and always! Amen!



*Love, Richard & Candace*





Sing a song of Christmas!  
Make a joyful noise—  
Let everyone rejoice!

Merry Christmas from  
Richard + Candace

## Super Bowl Sundae and the Return of the Potluck

By Becky Cavallo



Following the service on February 9, 2025 there will be soups AND sundae fixings for the congregation and visitors served in the fellowship hall. We are also hoping to restart the second Sunday potlucks this year if there is an interest.

One thought is to provide the main course each month (one of these: soup/mac and cheese/sandwich makings) and people could bring a main course, side dishes, or desserts to round out the meal.

Interested people can remain after Souper Bowl Sundae to discuss/plan the logistics of a March potluck as we “march” with our plans.

You can submit your ideas to the church office as well. I am looking forward to more chances for fellowship in the new year Look for updates in the announcements on Sunday.



On November 1, 2024 Pastor King and Lay Leader John Claye responded to the request of Mr. Earl Keller to be led in prayer to be assured of his salvation, to be baptized, and to receive Holy Communion. In the fellowship of three believers gathered in the name of Jesus Christ, Mr. Keller became a member of the household of faith. On December 5, we received word that Earl had transitioned to be with the Lord. May his soul rest in eternal peace.

Rest In  
Peace

## UpStage Artists Raises \$1,280 for The Emmanuel Food Distribution!

By Rick Bergmann

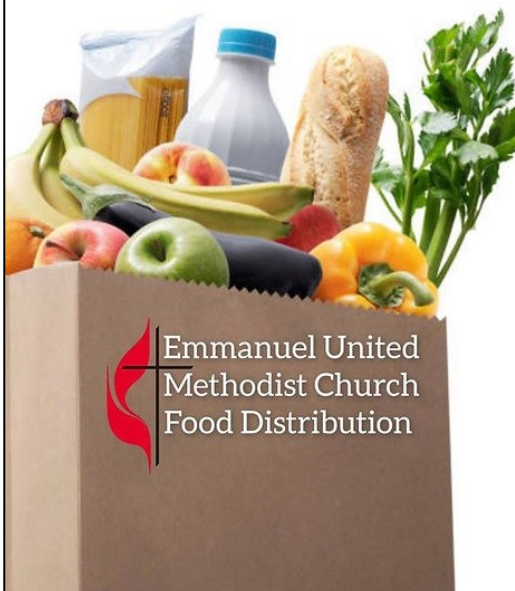


Eight actors and two sound effects technicians brought *It's A Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Show* to life in a heartfelt and energetic performance. The familiar story follows George Bailey, a man overwhelmed by his struggles, contemplating ending his life on Christmas Eve. Guided by his guardian angel, Clarence, George is shown how his good deeds have positively shaped his town, ultimately restoring his faith in life.

The performers and the audience had a fantastic, fun-filled, heartwarming evening bringing this classic story to life in a unique way. UpStage Artists is forever grateful to Emmanuel for all of the support they have given us since we began in 2019. We look forward to bringing more quality theater to the community in 2025!

### 2025 Food Distribution Dates

- Saturday, January 25, 2025
- Saturday, February 22, 2025
- Saturday, March 22, 2025
- Saturday, April 26, 2025
- Saturday, May 24, 2025
- Saturday, June 28, 2025
- Saturday, July 26, 2025
- Saturday, August 23, 2025
- Saturday, September 27, 2025
- Saturday, October 25, 2025
- Saturday, November 22, 2025
- Saturday, December 20, 2025



Join us on Sunday mornings at 10 am. Use this link if you wish to attend virtually: <https://bit.ly/3SVutjU> 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**



### Virtual Bible Study

Join us online for Bible Study on Wednesdays from 7 pm to 8 pm. Come and discuss the Bible and learn from each other and other Emmanuel folks! No preparation needed! You just need to log on! Go to <https://bit.ly/3PPrgjE> to join us. The Meeting ID is 929 3284 2856 Passcode: bible Any questions, email Rick Bergmann at [rick.bergmann@eumcbeltsville.com](mailto:rick.bergmann@eumcbeltsville.com)





November 8, 2024.

Dear Friends,

We give thanks for you and for your churches that raise up this ministry, pray for us and also provide donations for our programs. Many of you made donations in recent months and we feel such gratitude.

In the last months we have had different activities that we would like to share with all of you.

During July we finished our regional health meetings – basically continuing education for health promoters. In the 7 meetings in different geographic areas, nearly 80 women attended and learned about malnutrition.



In our quieter months, our staff takes advantage of the opportunity to take some refresher courses. In August some of our staff took courses on baking, electricity, health care for the elderly and English.



In the month of September and October, Betzy and Panchita, our Health Program directors, have given two workshops on “Care of the Elderly and Disabled.” The women have learned the correct way to take care of an elderly or disabled person, as well as how to take their blood pressure, blood

sugar and many other very important things. The September workshop was in the community of Ixtepec [Indigenous and very poor] and the October workshop was in the community of Tepeaca, Puebla.





From October 6th to 12th our Tree of Life Center hosted the Pennsylvania AWARE [Alternative Work Study and Reality Experience] mission team. They worked on



different projects and learned more about Give Ye Them To Eat Programs as well as getting to know

Mexicans like our staff. They also did a lot of educational tourism about the history of colonialism in the city of Puebla and the history of the many indigenous groups. They also visited the famous Cholula pyramid which is the biggest in the world in surface area. This group was led by our friend of 25 years, Marian Hartman who has brought groups at least 50 times. She is arriving soon with another team.



During these months we also received groups from different schools near Tlancualpicán to have one-day workshops at the “Tree of Life” Center, learning a little bit about all we do.



Many thanks for reading this newsletter, praying for us, sharing with others and for sharing your gifts. In God’s amazing love,

*Catalino, Clara and all the GYTTE Staff.*



## Cooking with Pastor King: Mini Empanadas

### Ingredients

- 1 lb. ground beef (80/20) or ground turkey
- 1 red onion medium, chopped
- 1 packet your favorite taco seasoning
- 1 cup refried beans
- 1/2 cup cheddar cheese shredded (shredded it yourself)
- 1/2 cup pepper jack cheese shredded (shred it yourself)
- 4 pie crusts (frozen/thawed 2 packages double pie crusts) I like the Harris Teeter brand
- 1 egg beaten



### Instructions

Preheat oven to 400°F.

In a large skillet brown ground beef (or turkey), red onion and taco seasoning over medium heat, breaking up to crumble.

Add the refried beans and stir in cheese. Set aside to cool slightly. Meat mixture will thicken.

On a lightly floured surface, roll out a pie crust to about 1/8-inch thickness. Using a 4 inch round circular mold (I used the refried beans container lid) cut 6 circles, re-rolling dough if needed. Repeat with other pie crusts for 24 circles.

*NOTE: If you want to use only 1/2 a recipe, you can fill the other empanadas with fruit pie filling to make 12 meat pies and 12 fruit pies.*

Top each dough circle with about 2 tablespoons of the filling. Fold in half and press edges with a fork to seal. (You can use a 4-inch mold or dumpling press if you have one). Place on a parchment wax paper lined baking sheet (use a brown paper bag if nothing else is handy).

Brush the tops and sides with beaten egg then pierce the top of each with a fork. Bake for about 15 minutes or until golden brown.

If you wind up prepping a whole batch of 24, you can freeze and seal them unbaked in an air tight freezer bag or container. At some point for future use, brush with egg wash on AFTER thawing and bake for 15 minutes until golden brown.



### Please pray for our homebound

- Glen and Pauli Colburn
- Ernie Kilbourne
- Emmy Lear



### Emmanuel is on Instagram!

Follow @eumc\_beltsville



Join us on Facebook!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/EUMCBeltsville>

- 01. Carrie White
- 03. Doug Galloway
- 07. Katie Cavallo, Dan Kenyon
- 14. Hazel Newell
- 21. Glendy Hernandez
- 28. Rebecca Vaughan
- 31. Rick Bergmann



- 14. Rick and Nancy Zerbe

### Worship Through Giving: How Can I Give?

**Online:** [www.eumcbeltsville.com/giving](http://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:** mail your offering to 11416 Cedar Lane, Beltsville, MD 20705.



## History of Hymns: 'Freely, Freely (God Forgave My Sin)' By Carol Owens UMH 389

By C. Michael Hawn

SANCTIFYING AND PERFECTING GRACE

389

Freely, Freely

1. God for - gave my sin in Je - sus' name, I've been  
2. All power is given in Je - sus' name, in

born a - gain in Je - sus' name, and in Je - sus' name I  
earth and heaven in Je - sus' name, and in Je - sus' name I

come to you, to share his love as he told me to.  
come to you, to share his power as he told me to.

Refrain

He said, "Free - ly, free - ly you have re - ceived,

free - ly, free - ly give. Go in my name, and be -

WORDS: Carol Owens, 1972 (Mt. 10:8; 28:18-20)

MUSIC: Carol Owens, 1972

© 1972 Communiqué Music, Inc.

FREELY, FREELY

99.99 with Refrain

Carol Owens (b. 1931) is an Oklahoma native educated in California at San Jose State College (now University) in what has become Silicon Valley. In 1954, she married Jimmy Owens (b. 1930), a jazz band director and church musician in southern California. A part of the “Jesus Movement,” they composed contemporary Christian musicals and performed throughout California. The Owenses were involved in musical missions for evangelist Jack Hayford’s (1934–2023) Church of the Way in Los Angeles. They received the Christian Artists Music Achievement Award in 1986. Working with contemporary Christian artist Paul Baloche (b. 1962), they co-authored *Words and Music: A Guide to Writing, Selecting and Enjoying Christian Songs* (1984).

“Freely, Freely” is a song from one of the ten musicals composed by the Owens duo, *Come Together: A Musical Experience in Love* (1972). The original album (Light Records — LS-5592-LP) features Pat Boone. “Freely, Freely” is the final track on the first side during the worship section of the musical. The words came to Carol Owens one morning during a reading of the Gospels (Adams, 1992, p. 126).

The UM Hymnal editor Carlton R. Young, commenting on this song, finds its Scriptural roots in the Gospel of Matthew: “This gospel hymn expresses the obligation of those who have been forgiven and made new creatures in Christ to share freely (Matthew 6:12) that graceful gift to the lost and needy in the spirit of the great commission, ‘Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.’ (Matthew 28:19)” (Young, 1993, p. 150) The tagline “freely” comes from Matthew 10:8:

“Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give.” (KJV) Other words from the refrain paraphrase the key ideas of the great commission: “Go in my name, and because you believe, others will know that I live.”

The two stanzas reflect the simple sincerity of contemporary Christian songs of the early 1970s and have the feel of bridges to the refrain rather than fully developed verses. The first stanza focuses on being “born again” (John 3:7). Stanza 2, which begins with “All power is given in Jesus’ name, / in earth and heaven in Jesus’ name,” paraphrases Matthew 28:18.

The predominately step-wise melodic movement of the triple-meter musical setting is accessible to congregations. The diatonic harmonic setting is straightforward, allowing the song to adapt easily to various styles from folk guitar and country Western to traditional organ and piano accompaniment. The earliest hymnal to include the song was *The New Church Hymnal* (1976), edited by contemporary Christian pioneer and composer Ralph Carmichael (1927–2021). Subsequently, the song appears in twenty hymnals, primarily evangelical collections, including *The Hymnal for Worship and Celebration* (1986), *Baptist Hymnal* (1991 and 2008 editions), *The Celebration Hymnal* (1997), *Complete Mission Praise* (1999), and *Anglican Hymns Old and New* (2008).





Presents

# ROPE

Directed By Rick Bergmann  
Assistant Directed By Stacey Saunders



**YOU'RE INVITED TO THE PERFECT MURDER**

February 21, 22, 28 and March 1 at 7:30 pm and  
February 23 and March 2 at 2 pm

Tickets are just \$10.00  
Seating is limited so get your tickets early!\*

Emmanuel United Methodist Church  
11416 Cedar Lane  
Beltsville, MD 20705

[www.upstageartists.com/tickets](http://www.upstageartists.com/tickets)  
\*no refunds or exchanges

## January 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b>OFFICE HOURS</b> M, W, F 9:30 am - 2:00 pm</p>	<p><b>Calendar Room Key:</b> (FH)- Fellowship Hall (Sanctuary Building) (CSR)- Chester Stewart Room (Education Building) (Zoom)- Virtual (S)- Sanctuary</p>					
<p>5 10:00 am Worship (S) 6:00 pm Scouts (CSR)</p>	<p>6 Office Open 7:00 pm UpStage Artists rehearsal: Rope (FH)</p>	<p>7 Office Closed</p>	<p>8 Office Open 7:00 pm Bible Study (V)</p>	<p>9 Office Closed 7:00 pm UpStage Artists rehearsal: Rope (FH)</p>	<p>10 Office Open 7:00 pm UpStage Artists rehearsal: Rope (FH)</p>	<p>11 5:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous (CSR)</p>
<p>12 10:00 am Worship (S) 6:00 pm Scouts (CSR)</p>	<p>13 Office Open 7:00 pm UpStage Artists rehearsal: Rope (FH)</p>	<p>14 Office Closed</p>	<p>15 Office Open 7:00 pm Bible Study (V)</p>	<p>16 Office Closed 7:00 pm UpStage Artists rehearsal: Rope (FH)</p>	<p>17 Office Open 7:00 pm UpStage Artists rehearsal: Rope (FH)</p>	<p>18 5:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous (CSR)</p>
<p>19 10:00 am Worship (S) 6:00 pm Scouts (CSR)</p>	<p>20 Office Open 7:00 pm UpStage Artists rehearsal: Rope (FH)</p>	<p>21 Office Closed</p>	<p>22 Office Open 7:00 pm Bible Study (V)</p>	<p>23 Office Closed 7:00 pm UpStage Artists rehearsal: Rope (FH)</p>	<p>24 Office Open 7:00 pm UpStage Artists rehearsal: Rope (FH)</p>	<p>25 8:00 am Free Food Distribution 5:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous (CSR)</p>
<p>26 10:00 am Worship (S) 6:00 pm Scouts (CSR)</p>	<p>27 Office Open 7:00 pm UpStage Artists rehearsal: Rope (FH) 7:00 pm Depression Bi Polar Support (V)</p>	<p>28 Office Closed</p>	<p>29 Office Open 7:00 pm Bible Study (V)</p>	<p>30 Office Closed 7:00 pm UpStage Artists rehearsal: Rope (FH)</p>	<p>31 Office Open 7:00 pm UpStage Artists rehearsal: Rope (FH)</p>	

