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The Lamplighter

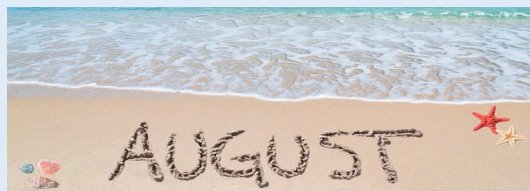
The Newsletter of Emmanuel United Methodist Church



Let's pray that
AUGUST
is a month
of healing, love,
breakthrough, miracles,
restoration, blessings,
and abundance.

The Lamplighter

The Newsletter of Emmanuel United Methodist Church!



AUGUST 2023

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From the
Pastor's
Desk...

After Sunday Service, several people began their remarks with, "Pastor, I didn't know you...."

Then they would go on to say what they had previously believed compared to what they had newly discovered. That's when the realization hit me that I came into this ministry unlike the way I would normally come into a new church setting. I arrived during the Covid Pandemic, and there was limited personal interaction, and minimal personal information.

I was born to parents Agnes and Nicodemus Middleton, the first girl in a family with two older brothers and subsequently one younger sister. My siblings and I were reared by our maternal grandparents Edna and Booker T. Millhouse after our mother passed away from cancer at the age of thirty-eight. Growing up in Summerville, SC, I attended public schools from pre-school to finally graduating Summerville High School, where I was the recipient of the first Black Studies Club Scholarship.

Following high school, I attended the University of South Carolina where I earned a B.A. from the School of Humanities. I worked for many years in mental health counseling and a couple of years in retail management before deciding to attend The Citadel, The Military College of SC, where I earned a Master of Education degree. Afterwards, I relocated to the DC metropolitan area, where I worked in advertising and public relations, The Visiting Nurse Association, and the "phone company" (aka C&P Telephone, Bell Atlantic, and Verizon).

The same day I received a job offer from the phone company, I received my acceptance letter to George Washington University (GW), which was just a few blocks away from my new work location! Not only could I walk to class after work, but my tuition cost was also being covered by my new company. My plan was to work towards my Ph.D. in Counseling, but God had other plans. I left GW and began studies at Wesley Theological Seminary, where I earned my Master of Divinity and Doctor of Ministry degrees.

I have been an ordained clergyperson and a member in good standing in the Baltimore-Washington Conference since 1997. Ordination required that I leave full-time secular employment. Yes, y'all. I had to leave my job!

Since my ordination, I have served as the pastor of local churches and as UMEA-endorsed hospital, military, and hospice chaplains.

Continued on the next page

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

Pastor's Corner continued

I have also served in other capacities in the UMC such as a board member of GCUMM, Executive Committee Member of SBC21, Disaster Recovery Manager for BWCUMC (for Hurricanes Isabel and Katrina), founding Chairperson of the BWC Black Clergy Women, Officer for the National Black Clergy Women, Associate Director of Ministry with the Poor for the Baltimore-Washington Conference, Dean of Mission u, NEJ Representative for Black Clergy Women UMC, and the Vice-Coordinator for the NEJBMCR. This is a short list of some of the ministry areas in which I have worked. I also serve in community endeavors that address homelessness, housing, intimate partner violence, health care, education, and so much more!

My husband of 22 years, Rev. Curtis D. King is also an ordained UMC elder (retired), and he currently works as a licensed clinical professional counselor. We reared his two nieces, who came to live with us two weeks after we got married. Both their parents are deceased, and we became their new parents. Our bonus daughters have made us proud. Shawanna is a patient care specialist in a major hospital system, Tikima is a certified fitness instructor and personal trainer (not to mention international girl tripper).

Currently, as the Pastor of Emmanuel Beltsville, there is still so much more we have yet to learn about each other, but now you know a little more than before!



THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who helped with the Parsonage clean up June 25. We got so much done. Thank you Willie Taylor, Bart Seedee, Linda Hiner, Deb McNitt, Karen Lear Mackey, Jimmy Mackey, and The Hernandez family! You guys rock! There is still a little more to do and we will let the congregation know how they can help!

Lay Servant Lectern: August 2023 Edition

By Ricky Whitecotton



Greetings Sisters and Brothers! Sixth in a series. In this edition, I will describe “Called to Preach”, a course on the basics of developing and delivering a sermon. I will also describe my sea duty. Here is the brief description of the course from the Be Disciple website:

Called to Preach is designed for those who have not had formal preaching training or who seek a basic refresher course, covering topics like choosing scripture, finding a focus, writing and presenting the sermon.

This online version of Called to Preach additionally includes training for those who are navigating the challenges of preaching in Zoom or similar online environments. The course requires computer skills using Assignments and Discussion Boards in Blackboard.

This class is one of the core Lay Servant Ministries classes, but everyone is welcome!

A description of the instructor from the website: Rev. Beth Perry began preaching as a Lay Speaker in the mid-1980's. She preached weekly through two-decades of pastoral ministry and has continued to be a frequent guest preacher. She has also preached through the pandemic in Zoom, Facebook, pre-recorded videos, and streamed services. She has been leading Called to Preach since Discipleship Ministries approved the online version for BeADisciple. Several of her other courses are also approved as advanced courses in Lay Servant Ministries and meet requirements towards lay speaker status.

This class was also one I really enjoyed. In addition to the typical Blackboard work, we had two zoom sessions, one to give the class tools to apply and discuss the expectations for an appropriate sermon delivery. The second Zoom was to deliver a 3 to 5 minute sermon. It IS difficult to cover the material in a meaningful manner within 5 minutes! This is again a required course for Certified Lay Speaker.

Everyone in my section did a great job on their presentation, thus credit also goes to the instructor to give us the tools to succeed.

Continued on the next page

Lay Servant Lectern continued
Some biography 1980-1985

Sea Duty, it varies for each person and the ratio of Sea to Shore duty varies across various Navy ratings (our jobs). I was a Reactor Operator (what I did), an E-6 (my rank), and an Electronic Technician (my rating). To confuse the issue more, the universal description for someone like me was, ET1 (SS). I had several tasks onboard my boat. I was a Reactor Operator, a Shut Down Reactor Operator, a Leading Petty Officer, Ship's Librarian, and Protestant Lay Reader. I did 10 deterrent patrols onboard the USS Woodrow Wilson, SSBN 624 Gold. So, all this jargon needs some explanation. Let's start with Submarines, the Cold War mentality, and strategic deterrence. I bet you did not know you were getting into this esoteric topic here! There are two basic types of submarines (in all nation's fleets), Boomers and Fast Attacks. My boat was a Boomer. This means it carried ballistic missiles. The fast attacks are vessels that accompany a deployed fleet or perhaps have a spy mission. We were one of 41 boats made in the 60s and 70s, the whole group was called "41 for freedom", so by 1980 my boat was already quite senior. The mission of the Navy is to keep the sea-lanes open, our mission was to cover our package area, which means as we arrived in our designated area of ocean (several square miles) our computers aligned the guidance systems to target the same site as the boat that we relieved. The whole process is called a strategic deterrence. From end to end about a 75 day duration, called a patrol.

This is a part of what is named the strategic triad. Land based, plane based and submarine based missiles. The concept came from the cold war, it is called M.A.D. Mutually Assured Destruction. This may sound like science fiction or a movie plot, it is not. The concept boils down to being ready and able to deliver a decisive second strike in the event an opponent strikes first. We carried up to 16 Poseidon missiles with multiple reentry packages, up to 15 each. You can look all this up on Google. Each package (bomb) can be up to 15 Kilo ton yield. I know you must be thinking this sounds crazy. The system is still functioning and functioning well today. I am sure there are subtle differences since the nuclear profiles have changed a lot since 1980. Our focus was the Soviet Union which does not exist anymore. My job though was to basically boil water, it was a bit more complex than that to get it to boil and keep the nuclear plant within all parameters.

Submarine life was "different", it had regularity, we shifted our clocks to Zulu time, which is Greenwich Mean Time while at sea, Monday through Friday we had drills each week of all types: Missile drills, torpedo drills, engineering drill, fire drills, we trained as a department at least every other week, Saturday was Field Day (Clean up ship), Sunday was quiet, and there were both Catholic and Protestant services. There were daily maintenance checks to ensure our systems performed properly. Our division was on Port and Starboard watches, we were on for 6 hours, off for 6 hours. During our off time we had all those drills and maintenance to do. We also had unexpected events. During my 10 patrols I experienced 3 flooding events and 5 fires, 3 port calls, and a few special assignments for our boat, some were interesting like shooting off 2 missiles (doing a launch test) and a couple of AUTEK runs in the Bahamas, we went north of the Arctic Circle once.

There were a lot of sleepless days and monotony. Same people, every day the same.

I learned a lot of things though that were beyond the Nuclear world. I learned that everyone was important. The young men driving the boat blind (there is no windshield you know) were the youngest folks on board, often 17 years old. They had their drivers license about 1 year before they went out driving us around in a billion dollar boat!

The guys that made our oxygen failed out of Nuke School, could not make the grades, but I was glad to breath their oxygen. We all had to know many critical things and be able to do a set of emergency tasks throughout the boat, properly, the first time. We were interdependent. We creatively solved a world of problems that came our way. It was failure to leave our patrol area. That was avoided at all cost.

People that can qualify as a submarine Reactor Operator number in the low thousands, People that have preached a sermon 300 feet or more under the surface is a much smaller number.

I could go on, but I am sure your mind is full on this topic.

Back home, which was in Goose Creek, South Carolina. We had 2 children when we arrived, Lenora came along a little later.

I unfortunately have to again speak about the boat, it drove our lives in many ways. We had two crews, a blue crew, and a gold crew. They were identical, one was on shore, the other at sea in the same boat. Three months in, three months out. I came back from my second patrol and found Ruie had started attending a Free Will Baptist Church in North Charleston. She kept at me and eventually I started attending as well. I think it was after the third patrol I started pursuing church and seeking to understand more of this denomination. We were in a stressful situation, and it is not uncommon to rely on support that is comforting. There was a young dynamic preacher in the church. I was moved to come to the altar and my life significantly changed. I was like a sponge, studying, we were there every time the door squeaked. I went on home evangelism visits with a deacon (different denomination remember), Clifford Hannah, a wonderful fellow.

Lay Servant Lectern continued

I learned a lot, and felt a call to preach, was certified as a preacher within the district, we were called preacher boys. When ashore, I did all I could for the church, and at sea I was the Protestant Lay Reader, so ministering there. The most disconcerting thing that I could not reconcile was a time I asked the pastor about the fossil record. His response was that it was a lie of Satan. This did not settle well with me, and while I accepted all the theology, and scripture, this point, which avoided scientific fact, was very weak. The Free Will Baptist denomination was, at that time, extremely conservative and it fed that aspect within me. As I noted last month, the United Methodists and Free Will Baptist agree on many things: Trinity, the virgin birth of Jesus, Jesus' work on the cross, Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection. Jesus' ascension to heaven, the Holy Spirit, the sacraments of baptism and communion. We differ in some understandings though. Baptism must be by immersion only, communion is considered more symbolic than our thought process where we consider Jesus to be present with us during the feast. They consider the Bible as inerrant, as written and at that time King James only. There is no real polity as we know it, churches must find their own pastor. On the basics, the same, we both are Arminian.

There is a reason I returned in a circuitous path to the United Methodist movement, as I have aged I have become less judgmental and try to love my neighbor more.

I write more about this time, it had a significant impact on the rest of my life. It was a time where our family was completed, and the first time we had lived very far from home.

If you want more information on the Lay Servant program, please ask me!

May God continue to richly bless you all!

Ricky

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!

ESL Summer Hiatus

The ESL Ministry is on Summer Hiatus. Any persons interested in taking English classes or volunteering to teach English classes should contact the church office by email at office@eumcbeltsville.com or by telephone at 301-937-7114.

Please pray for our homebound

Home bound

Glen and Pauli Colburn

Bob Humphrey

Ernie Kilbourne

Out of state

Lil Mizzer



Christian Love and Sympathy to

the family of PJ Rubin (friend of Abel Martin)



Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.

MATTHEW 11:28-30



1. Chris Butcher, Preston Elliott II
2. Levi Martin
7. Hannah Butcher, Theodore Martin
8. Michael Belshay, Jr.
9. Carmen Amaya Barahona, Gregory Stiggers
10. Elmo Webb, Lynette Wray
13. Aidan Cruz
14. Breanna Williams
18. Grant Midkiff
22. Lynne Miller
23. Andrea Onukwubiri
26. Alice Mabry
29. Helen Akers, Cheryl McBride Hoch
31. Justin Hunnycut

-
10. Patricia & Ralph Guynn
 31. Rebecca & John Cavallo





Cooking with Pastor King: Crabless Crabcakes

Ingredients:

15 Ounces Canned Heart of Palm

15 Ounces Canned Artichoke Hearts

15 Ounces Garbanzo Beans

NOTE: if you do not have all 3 of these ingredients on hand, you can use more of one ingredient.

2 Cups French Fried Onions (or Italian Style Breadcrumbs, panko, or other breadcrumbs)

1/2 Cup Mayonnaise

1 Tablespoon Dried Parsley

2 Teaspoons minced garlic (or Garlic Powder)

2 - 3 Teaspoons Old Bay

1 Teaspoon Dijon Mustard (or any mustard)

1 Teaspoon fresh Lemon Juice



Directions:

Drain the beans, then combine the garbanzo beans, artichoke hearts, and heart of palm in a food processor. Pulse slightly to create large chunks that resemble flakes of crab meat, blending artichokes and beans.

In a medium bowl, combine the rest of the ingredients except 1/4 cup of French fried onions or breadcrumbs. Mix well. Add the bean mixture to the bowl and mix well again. Place in the fridge to chill for 30 minutes.

Spread remaining French Fried Onions (or breadcrumbs) on a large plate.

Form the mixture into patties and roll them in the French Fried Onions (or bread crumbs). Fry the cakes in oil until golden brown. Alternatively, you may air fry, broil or bake your cakes.

NOTE: If you are frying in a shallow pan with a little oil, spray or non-stick surface, only flip cake one time (3-4 minutes on each side).



Join us on Sunday mornings in hybrid worship in person or through Zoom. Worship begins at 10 am.

Use this link if you wish to attend virtually:

<https://zoom.us/j/97839889289?pwd=YzUxZjJKTzUybTJnZEt4UC9qTkI4OT09> 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

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.



History of Hymns: 'Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart'

By C. Michael Hawn

“Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart” by Henry Smith (The Faith We Sing 2036)

*Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ His Son*

*And now let the weak say I am strong, Let the poor say I am rich because of what the Lord has done for us
And now let the weak say I am strong, Let the poor say I am rich because of what the Lord has done for us*

**“[Give] thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.”
(Ephesians 5:20, KJV)**

**“Behold, we live, as punished, and not killed, as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing, as poor, yet making many rich,
as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.”
(2 Corinthians 6:9b–10, ESV)**



Henry Smith Jr. (b. 1952) has composed approximately three hundred worship songs, but “Give Thanks” (1978) is the only one to be published and extensively recorded. During the early years of the song’s use, the composer was unknown. Occasionally credit was ascribed to someone else. Smith was born in Crossnore, North Carolina. Though he started piano lessons in his early years, his brother’s guitar piqued his interest in music. He taught himself to play by reading a guitar manual and soon began composing songs.

During his years as a student at King’s College (Bristol, Tennessee), music became more important to him, deciding that “I only wanted to write songs for Christ” (Terry, 2002, p. 58). “Give Thanks” was written in 1978 in response to a sermon given by the pastor at Williamsburg New Testament Church (Virginia), preaching on 2 Corinthians 6:10. Soon afterward, Henry and his future wife Cindy sang the song at the church on several occasions. A military couple attending the church took the song with them to Germany, where they were stationed. The song then developed a life of its own.

It was not until 1986 that a friend brought Smith a cassette tape of a recording of the song by Integrity Music, who had listed the author as “unknown.” Henry Smith contacted the publisher. They informed him that they had been trying to locate the composer because the song had been recorded more than fifty times and published in several collections. The song first appeared as an octavo, “Give Thanks” (Mobile, AL, 1978). Donald Hustad’s *The Worshiping Church* (Carol Stream, IL, 1990) may have been the first standard hymnal to carry it. Evangelical British/American hymnwriter Bryan Jeffery Leech (1931–2015) heard the song at Billy Graham’s “Mission England” Crusade in 1989 and recommended it to the hymnal committee (Hustad, 1990, no. 496). It started to spread beyond Evangelicals. Twenty-first-century hymnals continue to publish the song, attesting to its sustained use.

Contemporary Christian artist Don Moen (b. 1950) met Henry Smith in Washington, D.C., at an Integrity Music conference and played a recording of the song in Russian. “My wife and I began to weep. We were overwhelmed to hear my song in that language. Moen had no idea we were in the audience” (Terry, 2002, p. 59).

The song’s strength lies in the text’s biblical foundation, rhetorical construction, and the music’s coherence. The biblical underpinnings are cited above. The effective repetition of the imperative “Give thanks” at the beginning of three successive lines in the first part of the refrain (*anaphora*) has a cumulative effect. The composer repeats section one, giving a total of six reiterations of “Give thanks.” The scriptural basis for whole-hearted thanks is abundant throughout the Psalms (9:1; 86:12; 111:1; 138:1). The second part of the refrain continues effectively with “let the weak” and “let the poor” in successive lines. Each section concludes with a “because” clause that balances the *anaphora* of the earlier phrases: “because he’s given Jesus Christ his Son” (section one); “because of what the Lord has done for us” (section two).

Carl Daw Jr. identifies the characteristics of the effective melody: “Much of the coherence of this tune comes from the use of sequences. The second phrase, for example, is a third-lower sequence of the first phrase. Then in the repeated middle section there are three successive phrases, each one step lower than the preceding one” (Daw, 2016, p. 615). In short, the song is a perfect blend of simplicity, symmetry, and artistry.

Henry Smith composed the song during a time of unemployment, financial insecurity, and an uncertain future due to a degenerative visual impairment that would eventually lead to his becoming legally blind. No doubt he found strength in Paul’s words, “That is why, for Christ’s sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong” (2 Cor 12:10, NIV).

August 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Office closed	2 9:30-2:30 Office Hours	3 Office closed 7 pm Upstage Artists Rehearsal	4 9:30-2:30 Office Hours 7 pm Upstage Artists Rehearsal	5 5 pm NA
6 10 am Worship 11 am Bible Study 6 pm Boy Scouts in Chester Stewart Room	7 9:30-2:30 Office Hours 7 pm Upstage Artists Rehearsal	8 Office closed	9 9:30-2:30 Office Hours	10 Office closed 7 pm Upstage Artists Rehearsal	11 9:30-2:30 Office Hours 7 pm Upstage Artists Rehearsal	12 5 pm NA
13 10 am Worship 11 am Bible Study 6 pm Boy Scouts in Chester Stewart Room	14 9:30-2:30 Office Hours 7 pm Upstage Artists Rehearsal	15 Office closed	16 9:30-2:30 Office Hours	17 Office closed 7 pm Upstage Artists Rehearsal	18 9:30-2:30 Office Hours 7 pm Upstage Artists Rehearsal	19 5 pm NA
20 10 am Worship 11 am Bible Study 6 pm Boy Scouts in Chester Stewart Room	21 9:30-2:30 Office Hours 7 pm Upstage Artists Rehearsal	21 Office closed	22 9:30-2:30 Office Hours	23 Office closed 7 pm Upstage Artists Rehearsal	24 9:30-2:30 Office Hours 7 pm Upstage Artists Rehearsal	25 8 am Food Distribution 5 pm NA
26 10 am Worship 11 am Bible Study 6 pm Boy Scouts in Chester Stewart Room	27 9:30-2:30 Office Hours 7 pm Upstage Artists Rehearsal	28 Office closed	29 9:30-2:30 Office Hours	31 Office closed 7 pm Upstage Artists Rehearsal		

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EMMANUEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

BELTSVILLE, MD

Life is a journey, don't travel it alone