



# Tidings

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April 2019

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## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

April is the month when Spring really makes its appearance in this area. Flowers, grass, warm breezes and an even warmer sunshine remind us that life follows the cold of winter. If we are graced with a month or two of this, we are truly blessed. And this year, Easter comes in the later part of the month with its message of new life and salvation. I invite you all to fully embrace the love that God warmly imparts to us.

For the church, it is a time of introspection and inevitably change in small ways. The breath of the Spirit blows away the cobwebs of the snow, wind and rain that have bundled us up both in practice and in creativity. Easter calls us to lighten up and freely move beyond that which binds us.

Come and follow the Christ with energy, courage, compassion, humility, and faithfulness. It's a journey most of us have been on for a long time, so it's really a matter of re-committing to the details. See the article about April's worship schedule that follows, and all the ways you can share God's love. Join me on Easter [4/21] in shouting: Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed!

Blessings, Pastor Peggy



## RECONCILING MINISTRY

You are invited into a conversation around Emory becoming a reconciling congregation. The subject was first raised on March 31 during the sermon “Reconciling the World” which lifted up our ministry of reconciliation as given to us by Christ.



The Reconciling Ministries Network (RMN) is an organization seeking the inclusion of people of all sexual orientations and gender identities in both the policy and practices of the United Methodist Church. It is one of many Welcoming Congregation/organizations to emerge in American Christianity in the 1980s. For more information, go to the website at [RMNetwork.org](http://RMNetwork.org).

The impetus is the General Church’s recent ruling against gays, Lesbians, Transgender, etc. folks in the church. The injustice of that stance is something that I hope Emory will stand against. Watch for more information as we move forward in this conversation.

Blessings, Pastor Peggy



### APRIL WORSHIP

Sunday, April 7 – Holy Communion – Fifth Sunday of Lent  
Sunday, April 14 – Palm Sunday – Beginning of Holy Week  
Sunday, April 21 – Easter Sunday – Christ Is Risen – Cantata  
Sunday, April 28 – First Sunday After Easter – Celebrate Earth Day



### APRIL LITURGISTS

04/07 Ruth Bradford  
04/14 Donna Rucker

04/21 Beth Zentz  
04/28 Dale Buckingham

## HAPPY APRIL BIRTHDAYS



|       |                |       |                  |
|-------|----------------|-------|------------------|
| 04/03 | Diana Blessing | 04/11 | Nancy Korman     |
| 04/05 | Sandy Shaller  | 04/17 | Phillip Fertitta |
| 04/07 | Adam Sheely    | 04/18 | Nick Smith       |
| 04/07 | Jane Alban     | 04/19 | Patty Kelly      |
| 04/08 | Josh Evans     | 04/22 | Charlotte Hendee |
| 04/09 | Dwight Johnson | 04/23 | Clark Weikers    |
| 04/09 | Luke Thomas    | 04/24 | Sharon Evans     |
| 04/10 | Lisa Thomas    | 04/24 | Brayden Fertitta |
| 04/11 | Connie Hamm    | 04/25 | Chris Wineke     |

Don't see your birthday on this list? If you would like your name to be placed on our birthday list, email the information to the office including your name and birthday (month/day) to [churchoffice@emoryunitedmethodist.org](mailto:churchoffice@emoryunitedmethodist.org)

## THE IDENTITY OF GOD



Our Bible study that got snowed out a couple of times is now a go! We began on Tuesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10am. The other gatherings are Tuesdays April 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, and 30<sup>th</sup> – we skip April 23 because that is in Holy Week. If you signed up before, we'll see you there. All others are welcome.



## EARTH DAY OBSERVED

Although Earth Day is on Monday, April 22 this year as every year, we will celebrate it on Sunday, April 28 in worship. This avoids a conflict with the Easter date and allows us to focus solely in one area. It will be a service that gives glory to God for the beauty of the creation and confirms our place in it. Please see Pastor Peggy if you would like to participate.



Emory Church is supporting the annual Easter Basket Mission through Shepherd's Staff again this year. We are donating 24 baskets for this mission and they will be delivered in early April. Thanks to everyone for your support. For additional questions please contact Diana at 410-999-7468.

## IT'S ALL ABOUT PRAYER



**Prayer Concerns:** Please remember these requests for prayer in your daily devotions. If you know of anyone who needs prayer, or have changes to update our prayer list, please contact the Church Office.

**Pray for:** Tim Armacost; Shirley Armacost; Mike Bitzel [surgery/ complications]; Jack Cashman [Elaine Dodds' brother got his second prosthetic]; Marilynne Clayton [Diana Blessing's friend/surgery in April/ recovery]; Ruth Crisler; Jeff Davis [Chuck Davis' son]; Brittnee Feix-Smith [gastro bypass]; Regina Glassman [Donna Rucker's aunt]; Shirley Gordon; Alex Obrieht's grandson [Oliver – leukemia treatment]; the Raver family on their sister Janice's death.

**Prayer Chain:** Any person requesting prayers should contact our Prayer Chain Leader, Jane Alban. Please let her know of any joys and concerns you wish to share with the congregation. You can contact Jane at 410-374-4454.

If you would like to join our volunteers who call or email a prayer request to their assigned person in the prayer chain, you are very welcome. Please notify Jane of your willingness to participate.



## **EMORY CHAPEL CEMETERY CORPORATION MEETING**

To all members of Emory United Methodist Church and all lot holders of Emory Chapel Cemetery:

This notice announces the first 2019 annual meeting of the Emory Chapel Cemetery Corporation. The meeting will be held on Monday, May 6, 2019 at 7 pm in Emory Hall. The church is located at 1600 Emory Road in Upperco MD 21155. The order of business for the meeting will include:

- The election of Trustees
- The election of officers
- Other business as appropriate for the meeting

Should you have any questions, please call the church office (410-429-6008) and request a call regarding this meeting.



## **GREETINGS FROM THE COUNCIL OF MINISTRIES**

Another month is quickly coming to an end and hopefully warm weather is around the corner. We have not been doing much with our donations to NESAP lately, so I will be asking again. If you can pick up an extra can of food for the food basket, it would be greatly appreciated.

The women collected money to make Easter baskets for Shepherd's Staff.

Donna and I are gathering clothing to take to the shelter in Westminster. If you have gently used items – men's or women's – leave them in the back of the church. We will see that they get to those who need them. It's a good feeling for these guys when they have clean clothes, especially underwear and socks, to put on after a shower.

Until next month, Connie



## UPDATES FROM THE TRUSTEES

- The chimney has been completed
- Work on the doors has started
- New Exit signs and electrical work will soon be completed

Donna



- Our elder friend for April is Charlotte Bond – Please send cards or call to remind Charlotte how important she is to Emory Church. Charlotte Bond – 4444 Meandering Way, Parry Center, #302, Tallahassee FL 32308 – 1-850-216-1466.
- April meetings are as follows: SPRC –Tuesday, 4/02; Council on Ministries – Tuesday, 4/09. All meetings are at 7 pm.
- The Out-to-Lunch Bunch will gather at noon on Tuesday, April 30 at Olive Garden. Please RSVP to Jane Alban – 410-374-4454 – so we have a count for the restaurant. Everyone is welcome. Join friends for a Dutch treat lunch and good conversation!
- Donna Rucker has some craft kits that were given to her. If you would be interested in them, please see her.
- April's mission is Giving To Extremes (new name Global Surgical Expedition)
- Women's Tea on 4/13 at 2:30 pm at Deer Park United Methodist Church – \$10. See Dee (410-374-8345) or Donna (410-429-5251) to sign up.
- NESAP is looking for an Executive Director. For details, email [nesap.director@gmail.com](mailto:nesap.director@gmail.com).



Mark your calendars! On April 3<sup>rd</sup>, we will have a special guest speaker following our Wonderful Wednesday dinner – Officer Kathleen Yox and Pinky, her canine officer companion. Please plan on remaining after dinner for her short presentation.



## **GROWING GOOD CORN**

**Author Unknown**



There was once a farmer who grew award-winning corn. Each year he entered his corn in the state fair where it won a blue ribbon.

One year a newspaper reporter interviewed him and learned something interesting about how he grew it. The reporter discovered that the farmer shared his seed corn with his neighbors.

“How can you afford to share your best seed corn with your neighbors when they are entering corn in the competition with yours each year?” the reporter asked.

“Why Sir,” said the farmer, “didn’t you know? The wind picks up pollen from the ripening corn and swirls it from field to field. If my neighbors grow inferior corn, cross-pollination will steadily degrade the quality of my corn. If I am to grow good corn, I must help my neighbors grow good corn.”

He is very much aware of the connectedness of life. His corn cannot improve unless his neighbor’s corn also improves.

So it is with our lives. Those who choose to live in peace must help their neighbors live in peace. Those who choose to live well must help others to live well, for the value of a life is measured by the lives it touches. And those who choose to be happy must help others to find happiness, for the welfare of each is bound up with the welfare of all.

The lesson for each of us is this: If we are to grow good corn, we must help our neighbors grow good corn.

“It is possible to give away and become richer! It is also possible to hold on too tightly and lose everything.... By watering others, he waters himself.” Proverbs 11:24-25

**CARROLL SINGERS Presents....**



*I Will Lift My Voice*

*Songs of Hope and Encouragement*

Directed by Julia Richard

May 6 and May 7, 2019 at 7:30 pm

Westminster Senior High School



Advance tickets are available at the Carroll Arts Council, Coffey Music, Menchey Music, and from the members of Carroll Singers

Our own Pat Rucker will be singing with the chorus.

Adults: \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door

Students: \$7 in advance, \$9 at the door

Children 6 and younger are free



**BLESSING OF THE BIKERS SERVICE**

April 14, 2019, 12:30 pm in parking lot  
(Rain Date April 28)

Sandy Mount United Methodist Church  
2101 Old Westminster Pike, Finksburg

Join us for a short devotional, special prayers and blessings for a safe riding season. Service led by Rev. Kathy Altman (aka Rev It Up!)

Followed by a free cook-out!



The word "BINGO" is written in large, bold, black letters, each letter inside a red and black striped sphere.

## DESIGNER BAG & BASKET BINGO

20 Games – 3 Specials – Raffles – Door Prizes  
Coach – Vera Bradley – Thirty-One & more!



Friday, April 26, 2019

Pleasant Valley Fire Hall

2030 Pleasant Valley Road South, Westminster



Doors open at 5:30 pm and games start at 7 pm. Tickets are \$25 and must be purchased in advance. Children must have a paid admission ticket. No refunds. Proceeds benefit the Shepherds' Staff Back-to-School Program. Call 410-857-5944 to purchase tickets. This event usually sells out, so please purchase your tickets early!

Also, please bring a Back-to-School item to donate and receive a ticket for a special raffle. Come hungry and support the Pleasant Valley Fire Hall kitchen!

## YOUR EASTER LETTER



You have all received a special letter reminding you of our current needs and the call for Faithful Giving. One of the easiest ways to respond to that letter this Easter Season is the simple way with no checks to write, no need to remember to stamp and send the envelope back. There is no cash/check for the church to count, handle or deposit. Just open Emory's website [emoryunitedmethodist.org](http://emoryunitedmethodist.org). Click on the "Giving" option at the top, then on the Yellow "Online Giving" icon. This takes you to the Vanco secure online giving page. Your data is automatically and securely transferred to our system from your checking account or credit card in any amount you choose and on the frequency you choose. Seamlessly.

All Emory members who have started using Vanco e-giving are still using it and love it. We hope you will too. If you wish to use this and have any difficulty, you can contact Elaine Dodds at 480-747-8785 or [edodds45@gmail.com](mailto:edodds45@gmail.com).



Thanks to everyone who supported the Women's Nut and Candy fundraiser. It was a great success this year!

And thank you for supporting our Annual Book Sale! It was also a success.

Donna

*The Nursing Staff at the Neonatal Intensive Care & Pediatric Units* sent a thank you letter for the beautiful handmade blankets and quilts for their babies, children, and adolescents.

A blanket or quilt is given to every NICU baby as well as every child in the inpatient Pediatric Unit and it goes home with the child when they are discharged from the hospital.

In the NICU the blankets cover incubators to shield the tiny babies from bright overhead lights. For the larger, more stable babies, the blankets are used for swaddling, providing the children with warmth and comfort. The parents truly appreciate your loving gift to their child too!



**The outreach for the month of April is Global Surgical Expedition**

| SUNDAY   | MONDAY  | TUESDAY  | WEDNESDAY   | THURSDAY   | FRIDAY  | SATURDAY                             |
|--|---|--|---|--|---|--------------------------------------|
|  | <b>1</b><br>9:30 am<br>Project<br>Linus   | <b>2</b><br>10 am<br>Bible Study<br>7 pm<br>SPRC<br>meeting                              | <b>3</b><br>5:45 pm<br>Wednesdays<br>are Wonderful<br>dinner    | <b>4</b><br>7 pm<br>Boy Scouts   | <b>5</b>  | <b>6</b><br>7 pm<br>AA/Al-Anon       |
| <b>7</b><br><br>10 am<br>Worship w/<br>Communion  | <b>8</b><br>9:30 am<br>Project<br>Linus   | <b>9</b><br>10 am<br>Bible Study<br>7 pm<br>Council on<br>Ministries<br>meeting          | <b>10</b><br>5:45 pm<br>Wednesdays<br>are Wonderful<br>dinner   | <b>11</b><br>7 pm<br>Boy Scouts  | <b>12</b>   | <b>13</b><br>7 pm<br>AA &<br>Al-Anon |
| <b>14</b><br><br>10 am<br>Worship<br>Children's<br>Easter<br>activities<br>during church | <b>15</b><br>9:30 am<br>Project<br>Linus  | <b>16</b><br>10 am<br>Bible Study  | <b>17</b><br><b>NO</b><br>Wednesdays<br>are Wonderful<br>dinner | <b>18</b><br><br>7 pm<br>Boy Scouts | <b>19</b><br><br>7 pm<br>Good Friday<br>service | <b>20</b><br>7 pm<br>AA &<br>Al-Anon |
| <b>21</b><br><br>10 am<br>Worship<br>featuring choir<br>cantata                        | <b>22</b><br>9:30 am<br>Project<br>Linus<br> | <b>23</b>  | <b>24</b><br>5:45 pm<br>Wednesdays<br>are Wonderful<br>dinner   | <b>25</b><br>7 pm<br>Boy Scouts  | <b>26</b>   | <b>27</b><br>7 pm<br>AA &<br>Al-Anon |
| <b>28</b><br>10 am<br>Worship<br>Observe Earth<br>Day  | <b>29</b><br>9:30 am<br>Project<br>Linus  | <b>30</b><br>10 am<br>Bible Study<br>Noon–Out-<br>to-Lunch<br>Bunch –<br>Olive<br>Garden |   |  |   |                                      |

**ITEMS FOR THE MAY NEWSLETTER ARE DUE BY APRIL 21  
BUT ARE WELCOME EARLY!!**