



Emmanuel News Notes

September, 2010

Pastor Lookingbill ponders. community

Dear Friends,

What does it mean to you to belong to a community of faith? Probably most of us at Emmanuel were introduced to the Christian faith through baptism when we were very young. Our parents and godparents brought us to church for this entry sacrament, gave us a Bible or a cross to remind us that something had happened that was important to us and to the family. Then we were brought to the Sunday School to learn Bible stories and children’s songs: “Jesus loves the little children!” “This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine!” When it was time for confirmation, if we were “lucky” enough to belong to a Lutheran Church, we started meeting with the Pastor to learn the Small Catechism of Martin Luther; possibly we even learned who Martin Luther was? Once confirmed, we were “free” to attend communion services with the other “adult” members of the congregation and hopefully have some youth opportunities – acolyte, crucifer, camp, retreats, trips, dances, Luther League meetings and perhaps youth sundays!

Then the real questions started to come into focus: What am I supposed to do as a member of this church? What does it mean to belong to a community of faith once the youth programs are over? When a young person goes away to college, it doesn’t mean they are no longer members of the faith community. They are simply “away” for specific periods of time, learning, searching, seeking out new experiences and making new friends. They are no less members of the community, nor are those of our members of Emmanuel who travel often and sometimes live away from Bethesda for extended periods of time. It’s not the proximity to the worship center on Bradley Blvd. that makes a member of the church “active” or “inactive.”

When it’s determined that marriage is appropriate, the church can again come into sharp focus as the community of faith that celebrates and supports this new life, this new family. When children come into the family picture, it’s also the church community that welcomes those children into a safe and extended village family where the children can grow up, ask questions, learn to share and how to serve.

Of course there are funerals and memorial services at the end of life that celebrate how precious these days together have been and how faithfully our Lord Jesus welcomes us into an eternal life that has been prepared for us. Again, the community of faith is the gathered witnesses of Jesus’ Resurrection that help members mourn, celebrate, adjust and revitalize life.

Through all these phases of life, the community of faith is one of the unique opportunities that Christian people have to live and learn from many generations. It’s great to have grandparents attend Church with their grandchildren. It’s a blessing to have youth have someone to talk with (other than their parents) who are older than 15! It’s important to witness the worship services that the church has used for generations, since the beginning of the Christian Church. Singing songs that have been recently composed along with hymns that have touched the lives of the saints 1000 years ago, what beauty and depth of faith is expressed when we sing together! Learning about the Bible, that book that is still a “best seller” around the world, the one that sits in every house and often was used to teach children how to read, that book that still defies easy interpretation and simple answers, but plumbs the depths of our souls, learning about the faithful and not so nice people who wrestled with God, ah, there’s another unique attribute of the community of faith!

What does it mean for you to belong to a community of faith? Basically it seems to mean that we live together, learn together, grow together and celebrate together. It takes a whole bunch of grapes to make good wine; it takes a whole bunch of separate living and searching people to make up a faithful church. We share all the responsibilities of community life – we need choir voices, confirmation students, Bible students and teachers, lectors, ushers, volunteers for the office and fellowship events, folks who take care of the trees and grounds, members who welcome visitors, cooks for the homeless sheltered women and men, mentors and even sometimes pastors! It’s a

DATES OF NOTE

- Sept 4 Lunch at Cal Tor t (p 10)
- Sept 8 Wednesday Bible Study begins (p 2)
- Sept 12 Rally Day
Sunday School begins
Communion at both services
Church picnic
- Sept 13 Fun Bunch Lunch (p 6)
- Sept 15 Evening study begins (p 2)
- Sept 18 Parent/Youth meeting between services-10 a.m.
Laser tag (p 8)
- Sept 25 Synod Assembly at Good Shepherd, Gaithersburg
- Sept 25-26 Mar-Lu-Ridge (p 9)
- Oct 3 Confirmation luncheon for confirmands and parents (after second service)

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Services at 8:30 and 11 a.m.
Sunday School 10:00

community of faith, about which we are always needing new insight, deeper thought and a voice to help us change.

You might have gotten to that last sentence and wondered what I mean by change? Christianity is a life-transforming community of faith. We are all busy people at Emmanuel, but we are all also changed from life experiences. The Church community of faith is where we come together to learn about how to be changed—into the people that God has called “Holy” and “precious.” I have heard that in ancient Chinese the opposite of the word “poor” is not “rich,” but “change.” May we all grow together and support one another so that our poor understanding will be changed by the love of Christ in our living as a community of faith.

In Christ’s Service,
Jan P. Lookingbill, Pastor

WEDNESDAY EVENING STUDY BEGINS 15 SEPTEMBER “*THE FUTURE OF FAITH*”

The Wednesday evening study group will begin meeting on 15 September to study together the most recent book by Harvey Cox of Harvard College and Divinity School, [The Future of Faith](#). The group is dedicated to meeting each week for discussion and consideration of the current state of religious life in America and how it affects our personal lives as well.

This latest book by Harvey Cox may well be his most considered thoughts on religious life in American today, published at the same time that he announced his retirement from active teaching at Harvard after more than forty years. In his writing, Dr. Cox refers to a “current metamorphosis in religiousness” as properly described in the poetic words of Gerard Manley Hopkins, as our everyday world “charged with the grandeur of God.” Basically Dr. Cox wants us to understand a difference in the use of the words “faith” and “belief.” He considers faith something that explores “deep-seated confidence” and refers in our lives to people we trust and values that we treasure. On the other hand, belief is rather more of an opinion, likely used with a certain amount of uncertainty. What he is really getting into is the difference between the “faith” of the early Christians and the “belief” system that emerged with the establishment of official Christianity and the hierarchy that goes with it.

What we are going to investigate is the nature of religion in our lives and in our community today and how it is invigorated by Harvey Cox’s analysis and description.

Join Pr. Lookingbill and the group each Wednesday evening in the Fellowship Hall for supper at 6:30 and in the Christian Education room at 7:30 for the study. Supper is provided by members of the group each week and shared with generosity. You need not come to supper to participate in the study. Books are available through the internet and in most book stores. If you need help in getting a book, please call the Church office.

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE ENCOUNTER BEGINS 8 SEPTEMBER 2010

THE BOOK OF GENESIS

“In the beginning . . .” is the way the first book of the Bible begins, a story line that initiates a study of “origins,” of the way God has interacted with the world. As a beginning look at what human life is like on earth, Genesis depicts a world of chaos, even in the first families of creation. God is viewed as the One who brings order out of chaos, with multiple episodes of regression and dysfunction. Nonetheless, God’s purpose for humankind moves forward in history with covenants and promises.

The Book of Genesis is basically divided into two large sections: The first eleven chapters bring to light the pre-history creation stories and the account of the flood. Beginning at Chapter 12, the story of Abraham and Sarah and the ancestral history leads to the wonderful cycle of stories about Joseph, Egypt and God’s purpose despite human failures.

Beginning on 8 September, Pr. Lookingbill will gather the Wednesday morning Bible Encounter group to take up the challenging reading of Genesis. We meet at 10:30 a.m. each Wednesday and conclude with a brown bag lunch about noon. Members and friends of Emmanuel are invited to join our fall study to review our ancient “origins” and share our Christian view about how God continues to interact in our lives today.

Dinner Club

We ended the 2009-2010 Dinner Club last year in July with a great gathering of people bringing in potluck and great fellowship. For 2010-2011, we will begin the Dinner Club in October. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex in September. You can also contact Pastor Lewis in the church office during the week.

Emmanuel News Notes is published eleven times a year by Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 7730 Bradley Blvd, Bethesda, Maryland 20817,
Telephone: (301) 365-5733; Fax: (301) 365-9236
Email: info@elcbethesda.org
website: www.elcbethesda.org

Pastor:	Rev. Jan P. Lookingbill
Youth & Family Ministry	Rev. Robert L. Lewis
Council President	James McGee
Parish Administrator	Katherine Burrell
Director of Music	Dingwall Fleary
Joyful Praise (Children’s) Choir	Susan Drumm
Parish Nurse	Anna Roberts

Anniversary Celebration Coming

SAVE THE DATE! Emmanuel is approaching a historic Congregational milestone – its 50th Anniversary of faith and ministry in Bethesda. On September 12, Rally Day Sunday, please plan to attend an informative meeting at 10:00 am in the Chapel where plans for recognizing this achievement will be discussed. Anniversary planning has taken place over the summer. A yearlong celebration combining special worship, service, art and music, and acts of generosity will begin in December 2010 and continue through December 2011. We will recognize accomplishments of the past and provide opportunities for the next 50 years. Join us to hear plans to recognize Emmanuel's "Great Tradition, Great Faith, Great Future" 50th Anniversary Celebration. If you would like to help carry out this very special celebration, please call Doug Murtland at (301) 983-2683.

Greeters Needed!

You may have seen the greeters at the front door during July and August. We are trying to greet members and non-members. We need your help! Please make the greeters' job easier by greeting them and getting to know each other's names.

To be a greeter, you just have to be able to say "hello my name is _____" and let the person respond. If they are not members of Emmanuel make every effort to tell them about our church service and introduce them to the Pastor and other members. After the service, greet them again and ask them what they thought of our service and invite them to coffee hour after the first service or introduce them to people you know after either service. Make them feel welcome!

If you are interested in serving as a greeter, contact Diane Swenson at 301-468-7747 or dswenson@mncbia.org. Thanks for helping improve Emmanuel's welcoming spirit!

INTERFAITH STUDY RESUMES IN OCTOBER

Pastor Lookingbill and Rabbi Emeritus Leonard Cahan will resume their study of the Book of Deuteronomy this fall, meeting at Har Shalom for the first session on 14 October at 7 p.m. This joint study between members of Har Shalom and Emmanuel is now in the tenth year and has extended our mutual understanding and affection for Biblical scripture and our respective traditions.

Not only do the two clergy enjoy one another and the texts that we've studied, but the members who have returned each year have also gained new friends along with the insights that have been shared. Personal experiences and questions are an important part of our sessions, and new participants are welcome each session.

By continuing our study of Deuteronomy this fall, we are extending our understanding of a part of Torah that has often been overlooked. As Walter Brueggemann has noted in his Introduction of the Old Testament, "It is of decisive importance to recognize that in the book of Deuteronomy we have the voice of a tradition that is completely contrasted to the Priestly voice by which we have thus far been addressed in the Pentateuch." What he means is that the Priestly tradition informs Genesis through Numbers, but Deuteronomy is separate and distinct with different intentions to accomplish different things in the history of the Jews and later Christians through the application of Jesus and his ministry.

Put 14 October on your personal calendars and join the study at Har Shalom on Falls Road. Bring a guest along with you who might enjoy this unique Interfaith Study.



Emmanuel's Men's Fellowship Group meets every month or six weeks for fellowship, burgers and beer at brewpubs in the Rockville, Gaithersburg and Bethesda area. The group calls itself the "Martin Luther Beer and Marching Society" in honor of Martin Luther. Luther, who was known to enjoy beer, had the good sense to marry Katharina von Bora, a former nun who was an accomplished beer brewer.

Membership in the MLB&MS is open to all men of Emmanuel who are of legal drinking age. Places, dates and times of meetings of the MLB&MS are promulgated by email to members, in the News Notes and the Sunday Bulletin, and in announcements before services. For further information, contact Herr Biermeister Doug Hackett, through the church office, at 301-365-5733.



PHOTOGRAPHER ALERT

This summer, on you travels or at home in your garden, plan to take some interesting camera shots to share with us for our

September Photograph Show

Hanging date: September 9

(You can bring pieces before that date and leave them in the fellowship hall.)

Label all work with name and title.
Please frame the photos, if possible.

Any Questions call
Carol Vorosmarti
301-340-7326



Polka and waltz at the Oktoberfest

The date is Sunday, October 17th, from 6 to 9pm. Tickets will be on sale the three weeks prior. Any questions? Please call Sheila Murtland at 301-983-2683.

Mae inks her way to the top

Some of us enjoy words and the oddities of language. For them, the "Washington Post Invitational" contest, carried in the Saturday issue of the *Post*, is often a fascinating collection. You may have noticed that one of the participants in the contest is often our own **Mae Scanlan**. On Saturday, July 31, Mae was the winner with her clever parody of a song lyric. Cole Porter may not have recognized her entry, but it certainly fit the tune with wit and, now, heaven knows, anything goes. Her prize (number two in her collection) is a statuette based on Rodin's "Thinker", known to the *Post* as "the Inker."

Karl Kador achieves honor

Karl Kador graduated from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln College of Engineering with a Ph. D. in biochemical engineering on May 7, 2010. He is now working as a Postdoctoral Research Associate at the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute at the University of Miami School of Medicine in Miami, FL.

Garage Sale Coming

Although the date has yet to be set, it's time to begin preparing for the Emmanuel Garage Sale! Take a peek in your attic, garage, basement, or closets for items that can be donated. Popular items include clothes, books, household items, toys, small furniture, sports equipment. Help make this year's sale bigger and better than last year. To volunteer please contact Sheila Murtland or Anna Roberts.

Calling all Children of Emmanuel to Join in the Fun!

The Joyful Praise Choir wants YOU! Children from Emmanuel are invited to join the Joyful Praise Choir and experience all the fun we have singing during the church services and for special occasions. This is a wonderful opportunity for our children to experience their growing faith in a new way -- as active participants in the worship service.

The choir sings every month during the worship services as well as leading the Family Service on Christmas Eve. The highlight of each spring is the presentation of a musical that is filled with lots of music and an opportunity to wear costumes and act on stage!

Joyful Praise meets for weekly rehearsals on Tuesday evenings in the Choir Room from 6:30 to 7:30. Children, six years of age and older, are invited to join us. If you have questions, please call Susie Drumm, 301-279-2646.

Christian Education Notes

Rally Day - September 12, 2009 at 10 a.m.

We will start the regular Sunday School schedule on September 12th at 10 a.m. in the Atrium with a kick-off party. Please register your child for Sunday School. Besides the kick-off party, the children will meet their teachers and see their classrooms.

Sunday School - 10 a.m. in the Atrium and Classrooms

The pre-K to sixth grade Sunday School classes will meet in the Atrium at 10 a.m. with opening songs and prayers. The seventh and eighth grade classes will meet in room 11 and "Grabble" with today's issues through the lens of the Bible. The High School class will meet in the youth room and begin a study using movies, contemporary music and TV shows.

- 9/12 Rally Day
- 9/19 Regular Sunday School Lesson
- 9/26 Regular Sunday School Lesson
- 10/3 Group Project for Community Based Shelter

Bible Study - 10 a.m. in the Parlor

The Adult Bible Study will begin on September 13 during the Sunday School hour. You are welcome to join them anytime. Grab your cup of coffee and bring a Bible.

Adult Forum - 10 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall

The Adult Forum is an opportunity to have a Christian discussion on the issues of the day. All are invited.

Confirmation

The Confirmation Luncheon for all those who will be in confirmation classes and their parents will be on Sunday, October 3, 2010 after the second service in the Fellowship Hall. Besides enjoying some fellowship, we will also be sharing some important information about confirmation for the coming year. Afterwards Confirmation Class will meet every Monday that the Montgomery County Schools are in session with the class beginning at 4:30 p.m.

CHURCH PICNIC September 12, 2010 Begin at 12:30 p.m.

Food - Moon Bounce - More

Everyone is invited to attend our Annual Rally Day Picnic starting after the second worship service. The entree and drinks will be provided. We ask you to please bring a side dish, salad or dessert to share, a sign-up sheet will be in the Narthex. We will have games and a moon bounce for the children, activities for youth and adults. Come out and have some fun. This is also a great day to bring a friend to church.

From the Council President:

Greetings

There is a certain irony in Fall. It is a time when vegetation dies, trees become bare, and we brace for the dark days of winter. But it is also a time of renewal; it is the start of a new school year. That is also true at Emmanuel. September 12th is Rally Day, the first day of Sunday School. This year it will also begin our planning for a year-long fiftieth anniversary celebration.

On December 12th Bishop Graham will lead worship at our congregation beginning the year-long celebration that will end on December 11th, 2011, the 50th anniversary of this congregation.

This summer Council held its annual retreat during which we spent a considerable amount of time examining what we value at Emmanuel and how we think we can play a role in our community. When I look back over the kinds of suggestions that were made by the group, I realize that this group seemed to offer a very different vision of Emmanuel than we have lived, at least as long as I have been at Emmanuel.

It is a vision of service.

Our current congregational life has appeared more like a classroom, with emphasis on adult and children education. What did our group talk about? What could Emmanuel offer families with autism or families dealing with alcohol abuse? Can we offer something for young, and even not so young singles?

All of these ideas are wonderful ideas, but they challenge our notion of congregational life. Can we realize these visions? Will leaders step forward to show us how we can engage these under-served communities within our midst?

I can't offer that last question without reflecting on the loss that Emmanuel had this summer. The Beardall family is moving to Charlotte, North Carolina. Both Matt and Marianne have provided leadership to Emmanuel in countless ways. They leave a tremendous void to be filled. We certainly wish them well and hope to see them return for visits.

Meanwhile, we are looking to fill holes in Christian Education, the Finance Committee, the Endowment Committee and the Columbarium Committee.

So, please mark your calendars for Sept 12th. It is Rally Day, Picnic, and the opening organizing meeting for the 50th anniversary committee.

Peace and Joy

Jim McGee
1920Jimmy@gmail.com

Parish Vital Records

Births

Isabelle Hope Henzey, born 24 June 2010, proud grandparents Sue and Walt Waldrop

Casey Ann MacKenzie, born 2 August 2010, Rhoda MacKenzie, proud grandmother

Deaths

Norris Peterson, June, 2010, father of Rodney Peterson

Joyce Elaine Schumann Benz, 22 June 2010, mother of Steve Benz

Marshall Boone, 22 July 2010, brother of Gene Boone

Donald Duvall, 7 August 2010

Wedding

Stephanie Olson and Barry Hartzberg, 22 May 2010

Get My People GOING!! An Invitation to Wholeness

You are invited to take a healthy lifestyle challenge with others from our congregation that will take place from September 19, 2010 through November 14, 2010. This "invitation to wholeness" encourages you to identify small changes in your lifestyle which would help you be healthier. YOU choose three areas you would like to work on, and YOU set your own goals. WE will encourage each other, and WE will journey together.

Moses was radically changed by his experience in traveling with the people of Israel on their way out of Egypt to the Promised Land. Our program is based on the Exodus story and invites us to encourage each other to seek wholeness in all areas of our lives – from healthy eating, to moderate exercise, to getting enough sleep. It is for all ages, and for people of every health condition, because it is completely tailored to your situation and your choices.

Your Parish Nurse will be glad to answer any questions you might have about the program. You will receive a small packet of materials when you sign up. We will be available on September 12 and 19 to sign you up and get you started.

Parish Nurse Office Hours

Anna Roberts will have office hours in the church office on Thursdays from 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Please feel free to stop by with any questions and/or concerns. In addition, you can reach Anna by telephone at the main church number 301-365-5733, extension 119.

FUN BUNCH

**September 13, 2010
Noon**

The Fun Bunch will meet in the Fellowship Hall for lunch at noon on September 13, 2010. Lunch will be provided (and we ask for a free-will donation to help cover the cost). This is our annual "**What I Did This Summer**" luncheon, so please bring some show-and-tell items such as pictures or souvenirs to share with everyone. Everyone is invited to join us for the Fun Bunch Lunch. A sign-up sheet will be in the Narthex.



**RALLY DAY
September 12, 2010
10 a.m.
It's a Rally!!!**

We will kick off the Sunday School year with a Rally. Our kick-off party's theme is a Race Car Rally, so everyone is invited to wear something that reflects our theme. We will have games, crafts, and other exciting things to do as well as meet our Sunday School teachers. After the second worship service we will continue our Rally Day theme with a picnic that will have games and a moon bounce.

Pastor Lewis considers....others

Dear Fellow Saints and Sinners,

"The World in which you were born is just one model of reality. Other cultures are not failed attempts at being you: they are unique manifestations of the human spirit." Wade Davis

These were the words on a poster in one of the exhibits at the 2010 National Boy Scout Jamboree where I had the opportunity to be a chaplain for this wonderful event. The words remind us of how important **each** person is in the world. And they remind us how connected we are to everyone else in the world – even people who live very differently from ourselves. The economic crisis and Gulf oil spill are great illustrations of how interconnected we actually are. It didn't take long for a crisis that began in one place to affect people throughout the world. What affects one country now affects the whole world.

I'm not sure we were ever really disconnected, but with instantaneous communication we are now much more aware of how what we do affects others. And with that awareness comes a greater responsibility to be a good citizen of the world, not just of our own country or culture. The awareness also gives us a better understanding of the answer to the question, "Who is my neighbor?"

Divisions among us start young, from the first school rivalries, where we try to prove that our team is better than yours. That sense of "mine" is better than "yours," is fostered and encouraged in countless ways throughout our lives – from high school cliques to sports teams to reality TV to which neighborhood you live in. We would all do well to remember that the world in which we were born is just one model of reality. Had I been born in Wisconsin – I'd be a Packer fan rather than a Dallas Cowboy fan. The divisions we create are so arbitrary – and so unChristian.

I Corinthians 13 is probably one of the better known passages of the Bible – the famous "love chapter" that is often read at weddings. But we forget that St. Paul wrote these verses to the church. They were not written for newly married couples, but for Christians who were trying to figure out how to **be** Christ to one another.

Love is patient, love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. 1 Corinthians 13:4-6

What if we actually lived by those words with everyone! Then the words of Wade Davis on that poster would make sense – we would see others as part of this body of Christ called to love one another, even (and especially) those who are different from us. Perhaps if we lived by the words of 1 Corinthians we could see our differences as a gift, rather than something to be feared.

So today, tomorrow, this week and even the rest of your life - when you look at someone you consider a rival, or at least someone who is significantly different from you, repeat these words: *Love is patient, love is kind.* . . . See if it changes the way you view the world.

PAX,
Pastor Robert L. Lewis, Jr. +

COMMUNITY-BASED SHELTER SERVICE

It is Back-to-School time, so it must be Community Based Shelter and our opportunity to serve the homeless. Each year we spend a week contributing to and serving the Community-Based Shelter (CBS) in Rockville. It is an intermediate-level facility where residents are working to overcome their issues (alcoholism, abuse, mental illness, and the like) that made them homeless.

From October 3-9, Emmanuel members will make and serve dinners at CBS. We will also provide food for breakfasts, prepare bag lunches, and purchase supplies for the facility. It takes everyone's help to make all this happen.

We are in the process of calling Emmanuel members to prepare or serve portions of meals. If you would like to participate, please call Marijke Asser at 301-983-8996 to volunteer.

Service is a simple reflection of Christ's love for us. Please join us in service at CBS.

"SUPPLIES" MINISTRY

The residents at the Community-Based Shelter (CBS) have clean, safe places to shower. However, they do not have all the supplies they need, and it is expensive for CBS to supply them. So, Emmanuel supplies toiletries and home supplies, as a part of the preparations for our shelter week.

On September 26 and October 3, we will collect these supplies in a box in the narthex. Won't you please select a few items from the list below and join our CBS ministry? They have lots of small hotel toiletries, but these larger items seldom get donated. Many thanks.

Shopping list:

- Laundry detergent
- Dishwashing/hand soap
- Hand/body lotion
- Bath towels and wash cloths
- Sanitary napkins
- Razors
- Linens for twin beds
- Shower curtains

Youth and Family Calendar

September 4, Saturday, 1 p.m.

Lunch at Cal Tort

Meet Pastor Lewis outside California Tortilla in the Cabin John Mall at 1 p.m. for lunch. Pastor Lewis will treat all those who arrive on time.

September 12, Sunday, 10:30 a.m.

Rally Day

All youth are requested to help with the Rally Day Activities. Please be at the church by 10 a.m.

September 12, Sunday, 12:30 p.m.

Church Picnic

Everyone is invited to the Church Picnic after the second worship service. The entree and drinks will be provided, all we ask is that you bring a salad, side dish or dessert to share. See page 5 in this issue for more information.

September 13, Monday, 12 noon

Fun Bunch

The Fun Bunch will meet again after a summer hiatus. This is our annual "What I Did This Summer" luncheon, so please bring some show-and-tell items to share with everyone.

September 19, 10 a.m.

Youth Parents Meeting

All parents of youth (7th to 12th grade) are encouraged to attend this important meeting about the plans for the 2010-11 year. We will meet in the Christian Education room.

September 19, Sunday, 1:00 p.m.

Lunch and Laser Tag

Meet Pastor Lewis at Cici's Pizza at the Quince Orchard Shopping Center where he will treat for lunch, and then it's off to Shadow Land Laser Tag also located in the Shopping Center. Bring \$15 for two games of laser tag and some extra if you want to get a snack or drink between games. Cici's Pizza is located at 642 Quince Orchard Road.

September 25 - 26

Mar-Lu-Ridge Homecoming & Walkathon

The Lutheran camp, Mar-Lu-Ridge is hosting several events during the weekend of September 25 - 26, 2010.

October 3, Sunday, 10 a.m.

Youth Sunday Preparation

All youth, 7th to 12th grade, will meet in the Christian Education room as we finalize plans for the Youth Sunday the following week.

October 4, Monday, 4:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Confirmation Class and serve at CBS

This is the first meeting of the Confirmation Class. Besides beginning classes, we will also be preparing food to bring and serve at the Community Base Shelter in Rockville.

October 10, Sunday, Both Worship Services

Youth Sunday

Youth will lead and share their message at both services on this Sunday.

Pr. Lewis and the Boy Scouts

I had the honor of being chosen by the National Lutheran Association on Scouting as one of the Chaplains for the 2010 National Boy Scout Jamboree this past summer. As a Jamboree Staff chaplain, I was on a team of about 50 chaplains from a variety of faith traditions ministering to over 44,000 scouts and scouters. One of the many "jobs" I had was to have a discussion with over 1000 Boy Scouts and Venture Scouts about their faith and faith journey as part of the requirements to earn the "Duty to God" rocker-arm patch (Venture Scouts include boys and girls from 9th grade to the age of 21).

There were two other chaplains assigned to sub-camp three with me, Deacon Jim (A Roman Catholic deacon) and Brother Joel (an experienced chaplain and scout leader from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints). Between the three of us we had the responsibility to instruct and support 47 troop chaplain aides. That training included how to lead prayers in a multi-faith environment, and ways to remind the scouts and scouters daily the last word of the Scout Law - A Scout is ... reverent. By reverent, scouting means that a scout is reverent toward God and faithful in his/her religious duties and respects the convictions of others in matters of custom and religion.

Being a chaplain also meant being a part of daily ecumenical devotional services and helping to lead the two Sunday Lutheran worship services during my time at the Jamboree. The first Sunday was with staff only and there were a little over 200 at that service. On 1 August 2010 we had over 800 scouts and scouters in attendance at the Lutheran worship service.

The position on of a chaplain is demanding. Besides sleeping in a 36x24 foot tent with nine other adults, I was on call 24/7, ministering to Scouts and their leaders. I spent much of my first three days at the jamboree helping set up camp and ministering to the large number of adults who became ill with heat related illness and a few other serious injuries and illnesses. Once the scouts were at camp I continued my ministry in the medical tent as well as shepherding and offering encouragement to many homesick boys and providing mediation between tent mates. I was also enlisted at serious moments such as accompanying those whose injuries or illness brought them to the hospital. I was also called upon to notify and comfort five campers about a family death or hospitalization.

It was impressive to see such a large group of young people go about creating a community based on twelve simple rules, the Boy Scout Law. These teenagers are our future – yet they are also our present. With encouragement they can give witness to their peers.

I would like to thank the people of Emmanuel for allowing me the opportunity to have such a wonderful experience ministering to this group of youth and youth leaders at the Jamboree.

Report from *Chi Rho* 2010

How do you describe an event that changes your outlook on life forever? It's a journey where you learn from new people and learn about yourself all while helping a great community. This past summer was my third and last year at the high school work camp known as *Chi Rho*. This year was different because there were so many sites for us to work. There was a lot of carrying cinderblocks, demolition, digging, cleaning, carrying cinderblocks, painting, moving, roofing, and carrying more cinderblocks. This year the group consisted of half returning and half newcomers. It was nice and refreshing to get to see new people enjoy this experience that is so close to my heart.

The team members from Emmanuel include **Pastor Robert "P-Rob" Lewis, Greg Hunley, Catherine Roberts, Kristina Roberts, James Hastings, Rachel Lundberg, Olivia Stanhope, and Cece Sullivan**. We joined 27 others from the Metro D.C. Synod for this annual pilgrimage/mission trip/work camp that we call *Chi Rho*.

We all planted our relationship seeds the first night, we all just clicked together. By the end of the week all the roots of the seeds bonded together and accomplished many great things for a great community and blossomed into a family. Another thing we did to help us get to know new people was to choose someone we didn't know to be our "prayer buddy" for the week. So we would have one person we could always go to and help start new friendships. I love my prayer buddy, and if Barbara Harner and Pastor Lewis had not had us do this exercise I would not have met her and learned that we had so much in common.

This week was rewarding in so many ways. My favorite thing was that we got to go visit the house we began building last year as well as get to meet the owners. Last year we began with a concrete foundation, laid down the floor and raised three walls (seen in our "God's work. Our hands." video). Out of everything I have done at *Chi Rho* this was the most rewarding site I have ever been on. When we went to visit the house, I melted. We got to meet the owners and get to see how we helped someone and it was overwhelming.

We had a wonderful week full of hard work, fun, love, and a new sense of the world. We got to meet new people that brought great things to this ever-growing and changing family that is *Chi Rho*. Our slogan for this trip was, "We leave home as individuals and leave HOMES as a family" (HOMES is the name of the organization that host *Chi Rho* in Neon, Kentucky). This statement stays true to the way this trip affects the people HOMES touches. This trip will always be in my heart and has given me a new outlook on life. I love my *Chi Rho* 2010 family. Thanks for all the great memories and I encourage everyone to try to be part of this family!

Your Sister in Christ,
Cece Sullivan

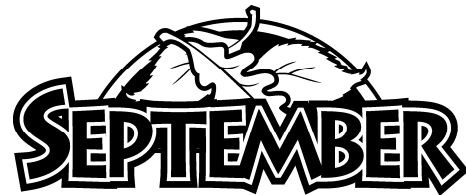
Mar-Lu-Ridge Homecoming & Walkathon

September 25 - 26, 2010

Mar-Lu-Ridge, one of the great Lutheran Camps, is celebrating with a homecoming and walkathon. There are many ways that you can be involved. One way is to register to stay the entire weekend and have a great time the whole weekend, but you will have to do that quickly. If you cannot make the whole weekend, there are many other things to get involved. Contact Pastor Lewis for details.

WALKATHON registration begins at 12:45 p.m. at Mar-Lu-Ridge with the walk starting at 1:30 p.m. The walk will be about 5 miles. A hay wagon is available for those who would rather ride or might need a little help along the way.

Minors attending without family are WELCOME at the Mar-Lu-Ridge celebration. Summer staff will be on hand to lead them. Registration forms can be found at <http://www.mar-lu-ridge.org/Downloads/mlrhomcoming10.pdf>



September, that peculiar month, is upon us. Why is the ninth month of the year saddled with a name that says that it is the seventh? Blame it on the Romans and the church. At one time, the first day of the new year was "Lady Day" or March 25 (and, thus, September was the seventh month of the year). The calendar then in use was that proposed during the time of Julius Caesar and it had a few shortcomings, not the least of them was the fact that there weren't quite enough days in the year to keep the months in sync with the seasons. Finally, Pope Gregory XIII in 1582 advocated the adoption of a revised calendar that included the proper number of leap-year days and more or less insured that the calendar and the seasons stayed together. The Brits, however, were slow to change and it wasn't until 1752 that the new calendar was adopted. At the same time they shifted the start of the year from March to January 1. Now, the names of the last four months of the year no longer match their place in the year, but autumn reliably starts in late September and Christmas falls in December when it's wintery. We'll talk about Easter another time.



It used to be that school didn't start until after Labor Day; now, many systems start in late August. There was always a sense of loss as summer's freedom faded away, but that melancholy thought was balanced by the excitement of a new term. The freshly sharpened pencils and crisp tablets of paper, the new unbroken crayons, a special eraser (and in those days, a fresh inkwell and new penholder) were tokens of a new experience with old fellow pupils and new (to us) teachers. Even the teachers seemed to approach the new year with enthusiasm and, if we were lucky, a novel approach to parts of speech or the trials of long division.

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

7730 Bradley Boulevard
Bethesda, Maryland 20817

Phone: (301) 365-5733
Fax: (301) 365-9236
Email: info@elcbethesda.org

Jan P. Lookingbill, Pastor

Robert Lewis, Pastor
Youth & Family Ministry

James McGee, Council President
Katherine Burrell, Parish Administrator
Dingwall Fleary, Director of Music
Susan Drumm, Joyful Praise Choir
Ligia Benjumea, Nursery Attendant
Anna Roberts, Parish Nurse

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Bethesda, MD 20817
Permit No. 2772

Current Resident or

WE'RE ON THE WEB
WWW.ELCBETHESDA.ORG

SEPTEMBER, 2010

