



# The Vision

Emory Grove United Methodist Church

June 2009

Volume 5, Issue 6

*"Guided by the Holy Spirit, we seek to develop a personal and loving relationship with Jesus Christ through worship, prayer, teaching, missions, and community outreach."*

## June Calendar

1	Finance Mtg 7:00 pm
2	Soup, Sandwich & Scripture 12:00 noon
3	Bible Study 7:00 pm
5	UM Women Mtg 7:00 pm
7	Peace with Justice Sunday
8	SPPRC Mtg 7:00 pm
9	Soup, Sandwich & Scripture 12:00 noon
9	Hospitality Mtg. 7:00 pm
9	UM Men Meeting 7:30 pm
9	125 <sup>th</sup> Ann. Co-Chair Mtg. 8:00 pm
10	Bible Study 7:00 pm
15	Church Council Meeting 7:00 pm
16	Soup, Sandwich & Scripture 12:00 noon
16	Leadership Development Meeting 7:00 pm
17	Bible Study 7:00 pm
18	Youth Choir at Montgomery College Juneteenth Celebration
18	Trustee Meeting 7:00 pm
21	Father's Day
22	Christian Educ Meeting 7:00 pm
22	Worship Ministry Meeting 7:00 pm
23	Soup, Sandwich & Scripture 12:00 noon
24	Bible Study 7:00 pm
25	Lay Ministers Mtg. 7:00 pm
25	Camp Meeting Planning 7:00 pm
27	Leadership Advisory Team Meeting 9:00 am
27	Ushers Meeting 11:00 am
27	Youth Block Party & Flea Market
30	Soup, Sandwich & Scripture 12:00 noon



An Excerpt from Bishop Schols'

## 2009 State of the Church Address

The adventure we are on is both exhilarating and challenging. It has left us breathless and filled with the breath of the Holy Spirit. We have sung and danced and we have struggled and persevered. We laughed and we engaged in forthright conversation. Through it all God has made us stronger, wiser, and more ready to be the church.

### A Pentecost Mission Season

We have been made stronger for what will be a season of Pentecost mission. The past 40 years have been our wilderness journey, a season in which people joining The United Methodist Church slowed. Some wanted to go back to Egypt, while others wanted to melt down the Gospel's radical call to seek justice, love kindness and walk humbly with our God for more palatable golden images of success and prosperity. But today there are signs that we are entering a Pentecost mission season in which we are Spirit-filled and mission focused. In this season we will be anchored by tradition and freed to innovate, create, and take risks - a time in which the church will be unbound and outbound...

Your Council of Bishop's is calling you to *rethink what an unbound and outbound church looks like today.*

In the Baltimore-Washington Conference we have already been rethinking church. We are becoming more about Monday through Saturday. We are a verb. Here are a few examples.

The Mount Carmel congregation in the Western Region led by Rev. Jenny Smith and her lay leadership team uses multi door evangelism that periodically sends their entire worshiping congregation out into the community to do mission. In 2008 they had 24 new professions of faith - that is one new believer for every five worshipers.

Only blocks away, the Randall Memorial Church where Rev. Eva Clark and her lay leadership team serve is leading the congregation to parade in the street and baptize in the sanctuary. Recently after parading in the street, they baptized 28 people in the sanctuary. The baptized found Randall to be a faith home where love and action come together through a partnership with the government to offer a wide variety of ministries to children and youth. One day, Pastor Clark found one of the young people crying under a table. The girl said she was crying because she was worthless. Rev. Clark told her God loved and invited her to church. She came

and accepted Christ and came to be baptized with tears streaming down her face.

These are unbound, outbound congregations - Pentecost mission churches. Walking through their doors is an act of courage. Maybe your congregation is on its way or trying to get started to be unbound and outbound. We commit to walk with every church that wants to become a church of 1000 doors, a church that is a verb, a church that is about Monday through Saturday...

### Let us adventure together

We have the opportunity to become even more unbound and outbound, to rethink who we are and how God is challenging us to be the powerful, redeeming, healing church of Jesus Christ. Let us be the unbound and outbound church from the Nation's Capital to the mountains of Alleghany County, from the streets of Baltimore to the shores of the Chesapeake, from the court house in Frederick to the beaches of Bermuda.

At this time, your conference leaders feel the pain and uncertainty of these economically challenging times. That is one reason we reduced the apportionments by 11% in 2009. The present economic uncertainty raises the question of what will happen to our ministry and churches. I am hopeful that God will see us through this time.

Realistically though, we will lose ministries and churches. Congregations worshiping between 5 and 30 people who are not able to afford a level of ministry to make new disciples, or building maintenance, apportionments and pastoral salaries, may need to close. While their season of ministry will conclude in their place new ministries and congregations will take root.

The spiritual leaders of the Baltimore-Washington Conference and the congregations you serve have been called for such a time as this. We need you to face the hard challenges with hope and daring, courage and determination. An unbound and outbound church! This is God's time. A time when the church can be the church, the Pentecost mission and capture the imagination, the hearts and souls of a world trying to find hope, daily bread, meaning and salvation. Come, let us adventure together!

To read a complete copy of Bishop's 2009 State of the Church Address, please visit <http://bwcumc.org/content/state-of-the-church-2009>.

Looking for a church home? Join us!

## Mark Your Calendar!

*A Date with Divine Destiny 2009*

EMORY GROVE UMC'S CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

September 11 - 12, 2009

Hilton Inn, Frederick Maryland

More information coming soon!



## Enjoy Your Summer!

### Did You Know? -- What is Juneteenth?

First celebrated on June 19, 1865, Juneteenth is the oldest know holiday celebrating the end of slavery. It is also called "Freedom Day" or "Emancipation Day".

## Lay Speaking Ministry Serves Church and Community

Are you (or do you desire to):

- Lead a Sunday School class, teach Bible Study or teach a small group ministry?
- Serve as a liturgist for worship or help with preaching?
- Witness to and mentor children, youth or young adults?
- Visit nursing homes, new neighbors or prisons?
- Listen to and pray with others suffering with personal crisis?
- Grow in knowledge of John Wesley and The United Methodist Church?
- Advocate for persons with disabilities?

Lay speakers are called to proclaim the Gospel in many different ways, in leadership and supportive roles, to help others grow in a life-giving relationship with Jesus Christ.

A Lay Speaker is:

- An active, supportive, professing member of a United Methodist Church;
- Eager to serve the church, community, and world;
- Well-informed on Scripture and on the doctrine, heritage, organization, and life of The United Methodist Church;
- Committed to witnessing through church and community leadership, care-giving ministries, and spoken communication;
- Willing to improve her/his skills by training for service.

### Lay Speaking Ministry is more than just speaking!

This ministry goes beyond filling in for the pastor or speaking in public. Lay Speaking Ministries, as defined by The United Methodist Book of Discipline, offer wonderful possibilities for serving in roles beyond what we have traditionally understood. Teaching, serving, training, leading, participating, caring, loving and communicating are now integral parts of Lay Speaking Ministries. How lay speaking servants can help congregations and communities is limited only by your imagination and willingness to serve as a representative of Jesus Christ. There are two types of Lay Speakers --

#### Local Church Lay Speakers

Local church lay speakers serve in and through their local church. To be recognized as a local church lay speaker, one must be recommended by her/his pastor and church council or charge conference, and complete the Lay Speaking Ministries Basic Course. Each participant must re-apply, reporting on service rendered and learning achieved during the year. Every three years the lay speaker must complete a refresher course or continuing education course relating to her/his ministry.

#### Certified Lay Speakers

Certified lay speakers serve in their own churches, in other churches, and through district or conference projects and programs. This offers them the opportunity to expand their outreach and to enrich their ministry through the various advanced courses.

To be recognized as a certified lay speaker, one must be recommended by his/her pastor and church council or charge conference and complete the Lay Speaking Ministries Basic Course as well as one Lay Speaking Advanced Course. Each lay speaker must report and be renewed annually, and she/he must complete at least one Advanced Course every three years.

#### Lay Speakers at Emory Grove UMC

Effective the first Sunday in June, 2009, EGUMC lay speakers will:

- Be called "lay ministers" and constitute the ministerial staff;
- Serve as worship leaders at Sunday morning worship services;
- Serve as pastoral caregivers (pray with members, do hospital/nursing home visitations, etc.) on a rotating basis;
- Teach Bible Study and/or Sunday School and/or lead small group ministries;
- Represent the pastor and church to the community; and
- Preach at occasional Sunday morning worship service and perform other duties as assigned by the Pastor.

If you feel that God is calling you to be a Lay Speaker, please contact Charlene Tyler, Coordinator, Lay Speakers or Pastor Stevens.

#### Emory Grove UMC Pictorial Directory

The Membership Ministry will be working with Olin Mills to produce an Emory Grove UMC Pictorial Directory. There is no sitting fee and each family will receive one 8x10 photograph of their portrait. Olin Mills will contact you with the opportunity to order additional portraits. The portrait schedule is as follows:

- Friday, July 17<sup>th</sup> 3:00pm – 9:30pm
- Saturday, July 18<sup>th</sup> 10:00am – 5:00pm

Sign-up schedules are posted in the Narthex and in the Fellowship Hall. Please contact a member of the Membership ministry, if you have questions.

#### Christian Education

**Vacation Bible School** will be July 6 – 10 from 5:30 – 8:30 pm. VBS will include a mission project.

Please be supportive of the children's mission projects. The projects will include:

- collection of can goods to be distributed in the community
  - a fund raiser for an August 2009 Youth Conference in Ghana; \$10.00 will feed one youth for the entire week of the conference
- Details to be announced later.

**Gaithersburg Help** needs Food Coordinators. If interested, please see Ray Hopkins.



#### June Birthdays

Bria Robinson	6/2
Nikita Monroe	6/6
Mildred Townsend	6/7
Favor Woivor	6/9
Kyra Jackson	6/11
Genevieve Harvey	6/16
Samantha Foreman	6/17
Debbie Stevenson	6/19
Done' Thompson	6/19
Ray Hopkins	6/21
Sheila Carroll	6/24
George (TomPete) Stevenson	6/27
Candace Carroll	6/28
Louis Manzan	6/29
Silas Conerly	6/30
Sandra Prather	6/30

Note: If you would like your birthday included in the church birthday list, please email your name and birth date to [announce@emorygroveumc.org](mailto:announce@emorygroveumc.org)

#### Sick and Shut-Ins/ Convalescent Prayer List

Remember our sick and shut-ins, our convalescent and our bereaved families with your prayers, cards and visits. Also let us remember to always pray for one another!

Jeffery Jennings  
c/o Lighthouse Healthcare Ctr  
2222 Santa Ana Blvd., South  
Los Angeles CA 90059-1350  
Ph: 323-564-4461

Minnie Tyler  
301 Russell Avenue  
Gaithersburg MD

#### Worship Attendance

Date	Attendees
May 3	114
May 10	138
May 17	80
May 24	116
May 31	75

#### Professions of Faith

2



#### Health News

**Freedom Walk – June 13, 2009** Remember if you want to walk in the Health Freedom Walk, you must register on site as pre-registration is over. The location of the Health Freedom Walk is Woodlawn Cultural Park, Sandy Spring,

**We're on the Web!** – Visit us at <http://www.emorygroveumc.org>.

Please email weekly announcements to [announce@emorygroveumc.org](mailto:announce@emorygroveumc.org) no later than Friday for announcement the following Sunday.