

# EMILIE OUTREACH NEWSLETTER

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VISIT [emilieumc.com](http://emilieumc.com)

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

-Prayers for the family of Ruth Hill who passed away on May 13.

-Prayers for the family of Margaret "Peg" Bruce who passed away on May 20th.

**Please email your prayer requests to the church staff, leave a message on the church voicemail or submit them on the church website.**

In Loving Memory of  
*Ruth Hill & Margaret Bruce*



## REOPENING PLANS FOR EMILIE UMC

From EUMC Leadership Team\*

The leadership team of Emilie UMC has been holding frequent virtual meetings to discuss when it will be safe to reopen the building, to hold in-person worship &/or meetings, what will be required when we do reopen, and what changes will need to be made to "normal" building operations. We thank you for your patience and understanding as the national, state and county agencies work to implement plans to move to the next phase of the pandemic.

**At the virtual meeting held Wednesday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, Emilie's leadership team unanimously agreed NOT to reopen the building immediately when the county reaches phase YELLOW in the coming weeks. The committee will continue to work closely with the Day School and may allow the building to be open for the Day School to provide care to families within the community before the church is able to gather in person. We have also contacted the leaders of Head Start and will evaluate their proposed plans once we receive them.**

The decision to delay reopening of public worship and activities is based on 3 key elements: safety, quality, and children.

1. Safety for everyone
  - A. Due to current demand, items needed to clean and sanitize the church regularly are still unavailable.
  - B. Plans for restrooms, welcome center, sanctuary set-up need to be outlined.
2. Quality of worship experience (based on CDC and EPA Conference guidelines)
  - A. limit of gathering size of 25 or less
  - B. restriction of no singing
  - C. maintaining social distancing in worship and when entering/exiting the building
3. What do we do with the children?
  - A. The CDC and other childcare agencies have put together specific guidelines for schools and childcare organizations.
  - B. Those guidelines will be incredibly challenging to implement with in-person worship.

### **These factors would make it impossible to hold a safe in-person worship at this time.**

The committee will continue to meet weekly (via Zoom) for thoughtful and careful planning of new building procedures and safety standards. Staff will continue to provide an online worship service Sunday morning at 9:30 AM (via the church Facebook page), as well as a mid-week message from Pastor Mike, Chapel for the children, and other spiritual resources. Please reach out to Pastor Mike or any of the church staff members if you or your family have any physical needs or prayer requests, so that we can continue to be the Church and support the church body in whatever ways we can.

Our sincere desire is to be together in face-to-face fellowship within the doors of Emilie UMC as soon as it is safe to do so. Until then we pray health and safety for all.

*Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.<sup>1a</sup> 31 The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'<sup>1b</sup> There is no commandment greater than these."* Mark 12:30-31

\*LEADERSHIP TEAM members are STAFF: Pastor Mike Roberts, Cindy Calderone, Ann Ermer, Ryan Fleming, Jessica Keller, Tami Lewis; VOLUNTEER LEADERS: Susan Lowe- treasurer & chair of Finance, Albert Sylvester-chair SPRC, Gary Tice-chair Church Council, Pam Tice-Lay Leader, Representative TBD- Trustees



**EMILIE UMC**  
 7300 New Falls Road  
 Levittown Pa 19055  
 215-945-5502

**ways to give**

by mail    online

*"Now the Lord is the Spirit,  
 and where the Spirit of the  
 Lord is, there is freedom".*  
 2 Corinthians 3:17



May 31, 2020  
 In celebration of  
 Pentecost on Sunday,  
 May 31st, wear red.  
 See you online for worship.

**We are on the web**  
[www.emilieumc.com](http://www.emilieumc.com)



## Message from Pastor Mike

### Assurance

In recent days, my thoughts perhaps more than usual have been on heaven. Perhaps because of the Pandemic, or the daily news reports of people seemingly on the verge of panic because of isolation and worry. There are some people who depend so much on their reason that they reason away God. They say, "God is not a person we can ever see." They say, "God is a Spirit." So He is, but He is a person too; and became a man and walked the earth once. Scripture tells us very plainly that God has a dwelling-place. There is no doubt about the existence of heaven, we see and dwell with Him.

In 1 Kings 8:30, we read:

"And hearken Thou to the supplication of Thy servant, and of Thy people Israel, when they shall pray toward this place; and hear Thou in heaven Thy dwelling-place; and when Thou hearest, forgive."

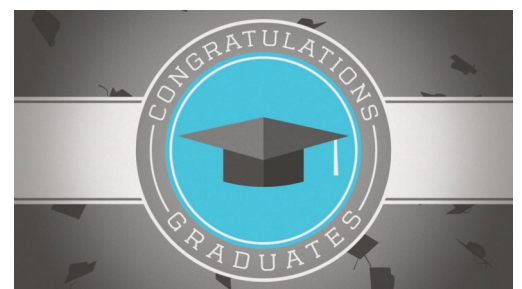
This idea that heaven is everywhere and nowhere is not true according to Scripture. Heaven is God's habitation, and when Christ came to earth, He taught us to pray: "Our Father, which art in heaven." This habitation is spoken of as "the city of eternal life." Think of a city without a cemetery there is no dying there. If there could be such a city on this earth what a rush, to go there! Imagine people would do anything to reach that city! You cannot find one like it on the face of this earth. A city, without tears, God wipes away all the tears up yonder. This is a time of weeping, but by-and-by there will be a time when God shall call us where there will be no tears. A city without pain, a city without sorrow, without sickness, without death. There is no darkness there. "The Lamb is the light thereof." It needs no sun; it needs no moon. The paradise of Eden was as nothing compared with this one. The enemy came into Eden and triumphed, but in that city nothing that pollutes will ever enter. There will be no enemy of our soul there. Think of a place where temptation cannot come. Think of a place where we shall be free from sin; where pollution cannot enter, and where the righteous shall reign forever. Think of a city that is not built with hands, where the buildings do not grow old with time; a city whose inhabitants are numbered by no census, except the Book of Life, which is the heavenly directory. Think of a city through whose streets has no flow of business, where no hearses exist; a city without griefs or graves, without sins or sorrows, without marriages or mourning, without births or burials; a city which glories in having Jesus for its King, angels for its guards, and whose citizens are saints!

More than melancholy, boredom, or weariness; these days more than ever should alert us to the hope and assurance of our future home.



**SEND US YOUR PICTURES**

Greetings Emilie family and friends. Ryan Fleming here. I have something special up my sleeve for Father's Day. I'd like to collect a photo of your dad or father figure, you and your dad, fathers and their children, etc. Please let me know who is in the picture. Send them to [ryanfleming55@yahoo.com](mailto:ryanfleming55@yahoo.com), or text them to me at 215-499-1473 by Tuesday, June 16. Thanks everyone!



Emilie UMC would like to recognize all those graduating high school or from institutions of higher education. If you or someone you know is graduating, please forward to the office the person's name, institution from which they are graduating, degree with which they are graduating, a digital picture of the graduate, plans for the future, and their relationship to you, by June 22<sup>nd</sup>. You can email Ann Ermer at [annermer@yahoo.com](mailto:annermer@yahoo.com) or call the church at 215-945-5502.