#### Emilie United Methodist Church

Volume 4, Issue 9

Nov/Dec 2023

# **EMILIE OUTREACH NEWSLETTER**

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EMILIE UMC 7300 New Falls Road Levittown Pa 19055

215-945-5502

ways to give

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ALL SAINTS SUNDAY NOVEMBER 5TH, 2023

We will celebrate All Saints Day by recognizing those in our congregation who have gone to be with the Lord in the past year on Sunday, November 5th.



#### COFFEE WITH THE PASTORS

Join us on <u>Sunday, November 5th</u> directly after worship for coffee and fellowship.

Pastors Lori and Marcia



WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22ND 7:00 PM CHRIST UMC 401 WISTAR ROAD, FAIRLESS HILLS, PA



ADVENT DECORATING

Sunday, November 26th, at 11:00 am (following worship)

All are invited to help decorate our church for the Christmas season. Please consider volunteering your time to help usher in the season! Many hands make light work! Please contact Jacqui Pearson or the church office with any questions.

Light lunch will be provided!

#### Volume 4, Issue 9

November 2023

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Recently, a member of our congregation asked me what my vision for our church is. I thought it was a great question. So after some prayerful thought, the following came to me:

- 1. *Every* Christ-follower at EUMC engaged in authentic, meaningful relationship building with God and other Christ-followers.
- 2. *Every* Christ-follower at EUMC deeply devoted and *hungry* for spiritual growth through discipleship opportunities like Bible studies and small groups.
- 3. *Every* Christ-follower at EUMC expressing passionate love for God through regular, whole hearted worship, through intentionally seeking out and welcoming people who are far from God, and through acts of service, kindness, compassion, justice and mercy for hurting and needy people.

Notice the emphasis on *every* – that means YOU! Why are YOU so important? Because for all of us, it's easy to just "do church" by default and forget why we exist.

This is why clarity as to who we are as the church is imperative. And what God calls each of us to do and be as individual Christ-followers is also imperative. *Without such clarity, we risk creating an institution, and a life that is not aligned with God's will.* Grounding our church and our individual lives, in God's will is the goal. We learn God's will for the church and ourselves through God's scriptures.

The apostle Luke described the daily life of Christ-followers when the church first began. In Acts 2:42-47 it says:

<sup>42</sup> They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.<sup>43</sup> Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. <sup>44</sup> All who believed were together and had all things in common; <sup>45</sup> they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need.<sup>46</sup> Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, <sup>47</sup> praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

The big idea here is that the early church lived by God's vision, not their vision. The Church – *like your life and mine* – is designed by God, for God's purposes. It cannot be an institution or a building. It must be a living, breathing, force for God. This is why we exist.

My vision? It's about every Christ-follower at EUMC, seeking and living the will of God.

Now my question to YOU is, "Where do YOU fit in?"

In Christ,

Pastor Marcia



THANK YOU FOR ALL THE LOVELY CARDS AND GIFTS WE RECEIVED DURING PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH – PASTOR MARCIA & PASTOR LORI

#### WORSHIP OPTIONS AT EMILIE UMC



WORSHIP 10:00am - Blended Worship Service Childcare for children in 5 years old and younger.



ONLINE WORSHIP

**10:00am** - Livestream of Worship Service. Livestreams on our Facebook page and is then available to watch anytime thereafter.

#### PROFESSIONAL CHILDCARE PROVIDED 5 years old and under

Professional nursery care is provided in our Emilie nursery for children ages 5 and younger during Sunday School and our 10:00am worship service.



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ALL SAINT'S SUNDAY November 5th

COFFEE WITH THE PASTORS (pg. 1)

November 5th

WOMENS CRAFTING CIRCLE (pg. 5)

November 6th, 7:00pm

#### CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

November 8th, 5:30pm Front Conference Room -Contact Gary Tice with questions

ADULT FELLOWSHIP NIGHT (pg. 4)

November 10th, 6:30pm

SERVICE CLUB (pg. 5) November 12th

**OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD (pg. 6)** Deadline November 12th

THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP November 22 at CHRIST UMC

ADVENT DECORATING (pg. 1) November 26

**ADVENT STUDY (pg. 4)** November 29 - December 20

ADVENT FELLOWSHIP LUNCH (pg. 9)

December 3, 11:00am

SPECIAL MUSICAL GUESTS (pg. 7)

Laura & Michael December 10th, 10am worship

> SERVICE CLUB (pg. 5) December 10th

CHRISTMAS CANTATA (pg. 7) December 17, 10:00am

BLUE CHRISTMAS (pg. 7) December 21, 7:00pm

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP (pg. 7) December 24, 10:00am & 7:00pm



Stay connected with us on Facebook @EmilieUMC



HAPPY THANKSGIVING November 23

-Church Office Closed 11/23 & 11/24



## NEW MEMBERS CLASS

JANUARY 7-28, 2024

Being committed to Christ is part of being committed to a spiritual community.

That's why we invite you to be part of our new members class that will be held from January 7<sup>th</sup> to January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

Contact Pastor Lori or the Church Office to register.



#### PAID NURSERY STAFF NEEDED

Our hope is to provide childcare every Sunday for families with children 5 years old and under. We are currently seeking an additional adult to help make this happen. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact the Church office to discuss requirements, frequency, payrate, etc. Church Office: 215-945-5502

#### ANNUAL CHARGE CONFERENCE

NOVEMBER 18TH, 2023

Emilie's annual charge conference will be held on Saturday, **November 18**, **2023 at 1:00pm** at Lansdale UMC (300 N. Broad Street, Lansdale PA 19446.

Charge Conferences are the official, yearly meeting of a local church under the direction of the District Superintendent. Charge Conferences are required to elect new leaders, establish pastoral salary & housing, approve the membership audit, receive the trustee report, staff-parish report, etc.

Voting members of the charge conference are the people elected to Church Council.

Contact the church office or a member of the church staff with questions.

#### BIBLE STUDY & SMALL GROUPS AT EMILIE

#### Sunday School [Sept-May]

Sundays, 9:00-9:45 am. -Little Children's Club Kindergarten & younger Meets in Nursery -Bible Club 1st –5th grade Meets in Front Conference Room -Club 30 6-12th grade Meets in Youth Room

#### Tri-Club, Adult Sunday School

This adult Bible Study meets Sunday mornings at 9am in the church library and uses a quarterly study. This fall, our Bible lessons follow the theme "God Provides" and remind us of the ways God meets our needs and of God's call to us to help those who lack life's essentials of food, water, and shelter.

#### God Squad

This group is for students in grades 2-5, and meets Sundays from 6:00-7:00pm [Sept-May].

#### Chaos Jr. High Youth Group

This group is for students in grades 6-8, and meets Sundays from 6:00-7:00pm [Sept-May].

#### Chaos Sr. High Youth Group

This group is for students in grades 9-12, and meets Tuesdays from 6:00-7:00pm [Sept-May].

#### Service Club [Oct-Apr]

This group will meet the 2nd Sunday of each month, following worship to participate in a wide range of activities to live out the 3rd part of our church mission statement "serving others for Christ".

#### Women's Crafting Circle

The 1st Monday of each month this group of women (high school –adult) share a time of devotion, crafting, & fellowship.

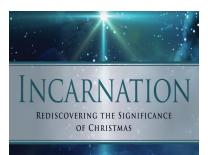
Meetings are held in the Emilie Library at 7:00pm. No previous craft skill needed, crafts selected are for crafters of all skill/ability and instructions and guidance is provided.

Nov 6, Dec 4, Jan 1, Feb 5, Mar 4, Apr 1, May 6, Jun 3

#### Men's Prayer Breakfast

Every Saturday at 8:00am the men of Emilie gather in the gather in various locations for a time of prayer, food & fellowship. Contact Frank Fabian with questions about this group.

For more information about any of these Bible Study/ Small Groups, contact the church office. 215-945-5502/ office@emilieumc.com



#### ADVENT BOOK STUDY

Our Advent book study begins Wednesday, November 29th and will run until Wednesday, December 20th. Start time is 6:30 pm and will be led by our pastors. In this four-session group study, we will explore the book Incarnation, by Adam Hamilton and the meanings behind the titles given to Jesus, what they tell us about

Hamilton and the meanings behind the titles given to Jesus, what they tell us about the baby whose birth we celebrate at Christmas, and the significance of that Christ child for our lives today.

Please consider joining us for this exciting study. Pastors Marcia and Lori

\*limited copies of the book for this study are available for purchase through the church office for \$13 each.

#### ADULT FELLOWSHIP GROUP

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 6:30PM

We would like to invite you to join an Adult Fellowship Group that would meet on a Friday night every other month. Our first meeting will be on Friday, November 10, at 6:30 p.m. in the Common Ground Meeting Room. It will be a "Getting Acquainted Night" with games and refreshments. This is a great way to get to know other Adult members and share in some fellowship and fun activities. We ask that you please RSVP to Sue Ermer - (11) The formation or Jacqui Pearson - (11) Formation of you plan to attend. We hope to see you there.

The other dates for this group are:

January 12 - Soup and Salad Night followed by a fun activity.

March 15 - Pizza Night followed by a fun activity

May 17 - Picnic at the Pearson's (time to be announced)

# Service

#### SERVICE CLUB

All are welcome to participate in our upcoming meetings:

#### Sunday, November 12th at 11:00am.

We will be doing our regular monthly activities of sending cards to some of our Emilie UMC family and appreciating our Day School teachers. In addition, we will be assembling **Thank You Snack Baskets for local first responders.** 

How you can support the November service project:

-Donate snack packs of cookies, crackers, & chips, and individually wrapped candy & granola bars. Donations will be collected in a box in the Narthex and should be turned in by Nov 12th.

-Join us in prayer for all of the first responders who serve our community.

#### Sunday, December 10th at 11:00am.

BRING A SACK LUNCH to eat between worship & caroling!!

We will be caroling to the homes of some of our Emilie shut-in family members, to show hope, love, joy, and peace. We will be traveling by caravan, and ask that each family be prepared to transport your household from house to house or ask about carpool options. Everyone should plan to leave around 20 minutes after the end of worship.

We hope to have you join as we Serve People for Christ!

#### Contact Cindy in the Church Office with any questions about Service Club.



<u>November Craft Project</u> This is the inspiration for the November craft project that we will craft together

#### WOMEN'S CRAFTING CIRCLE

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 7:00PM

The 1st Monday of each month you are invited to join this group of women (high school –adult) share a time of devotion, prayer, crafting, & fellowship.

Meetings are held in the Common Ground meeting room at 7:00pm. No previous craft skill needed, crafts selected are for crafters of all skill/ability and instructions and guidance is provided.

If possible, a small donation of \$3-\$5 is asked to help cover the cost of craft supplies. Contact Cindy Calderone, Gina Sylvester, or Ann Ermer with questions.

Save the Date for the December meeting to be held on December 4th, same time & location as above.



#### <u>CHAOS JR. HIGH YOUTH GROUP</u>

This group is for students in grades 6-8 and meets Sundays from 6:00-7:00pm. Our goal is to provide a safe environment for everyone to grow and learn how to live Christlike in our chaotic world.

#### CHAOS SR. HIGH YOUTH GROUP

This group is for students in grades 9-12 and meets Tuesdays from 6:00-7:00pm. This dinner club offers high school students a safe space to learn who God created them to be.

Chaos Youth Group is a ministry combined with Christ UMC.

Contact the church office to get more information about this Ministry.



#### GOD SQUAD

God Squad is for children in grades 2-5 and meets Sundays from 6:00-7:00pm. The goal is to build lasting friendships with other Christians and work together to make a community.

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#### **OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD**

DROP OFF DEADLINE IS-NOVEMBER 12

We are excited to partner with Operation Christmas Child again at Emilie UMC! This is an outreach opportunity to bless boys and girls around the globe, and uplift them with the Word of God!

If you would like to pick up an empty shoebox to fill, please grab a box on the table in the Narthex or stop by the church office during office hours. Any questions about filling your shoebox or Operation Christmas Child can be directed to the church office or found on the church website's Outreach page.

Please note: boxes may not contain liquids, glass, war or military themed items, candy or edible items.

Boxes can be dropped off during office hours or on Sunday morning. Drop off deadline: November 12th.

#### **EMILIE THRIFT STORE**

Schedule:

Wednesdays 5:30-7:00pm; dates will vary [Open: 11/1 & 11/29] Saturdays 9:00-11:00am; dates will vary [Open: 11/4 & 11/18]

Needs: Prayer for this outreach ministry.

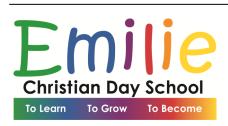
Volunteers to assist shoppers when store is open.

Donations of clothing & shoes ONLY!

\*All donations must be clean, gently used and in wearable condition.\*

\*\*No Undergarments, Linens or Household items\*\*

If you are interested in volunteering in the Thrift Store please contact the church office or Kim Kamerzel.



DAY SCHOOL NEWS NOVEMBER 2023



October has been a very busy month at Emilie Christian Day School with visits from fire trucks to celebrate Fire Prevention Month, field trips to Shady Brook farm to pick pumpkins, a schoolwide Trunk or Treat event and 2 days of Halloween parades. The school is currently holding a food drive to benefit the local ERA food pantry, food drive ends November 17th. Staff completed their annual ALICE training to practice active shooter drills and will be holding Fire Safety Training in November.

During Chapel in October, the classes learned that God has the Power to Take Care of Me and that the Bible says to "Cast your worries on Jesus because He cares for you" 1 Peter 5:7.

The school is currently enrolling students in a new Pre-K classroom (an expansion into one of the former Bucks IU rooms). If you know a family looking for care for 4 year old (must have turned 4 by September 1st) please have them reach out to the school for more information on enrollment options.

> Contact the school for more information about enrollment opening and staff opportunities. emiliechristiandayschool.com ~ 215-945-3131 ~ dayschool@emilieumc.com





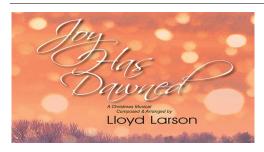






SPECIAL GUEST MUSICIANS DECEMBER 10, 2023, 10:00AM WORSHIP SERVICE

The internationally known, classical guitarists, Laura Oltman and Michael Newman, known professionally as The Newman Oltman Guitar Duo, will be joining us to share their Advent/Christmas music, *A Christmas Pastoral, 600 Years of Carols, Preludes, and Pastorals.* This is a rare opportunity for our congregation to hear music of this quality and something you don't want to miss! If you'd like to know more about Laura and Michael, here's their website https://www.guitarduo.com.



#### CHRISTMAS CANTATA

DECEMBER 17, 2023, 10:00AM WORSHIP

Emilie's Sanctuary Choir and Friends will offer the Christmas Cantata, Joy Has Dawned during our 10am worship service on December 17th. Traditional hymns, contemporary songs, and even a spiritual will be accompanied by a live orchestra to fill our hearts with the joy of Christmas!

#### BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE

DECEMBER 21, 2023, 7:00PM



Christmas can be a season filled with fun holiday gatherings, family reunions, and the wonder of children; but it can also be a difficult time of year for those of us who experience hardship of any kind. Many struggle with things such as loneliness, depression, missing a loved one who has died, financial difficulties, being new in a community, or health issues. The Blue Christmas service recognizes the challenges that the holidays can present and offers comfort and hope in the midst of stress. Please join us on the evening of December 21st at 7 pm for a service of prayer, music, and reflection.



### CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP OPTIONS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2023

#### SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE-10:00 AM

This worship service will include a special Children's Church Worship (see below).

#### CHILDREN'S CHURCH WORSHIP-10:00 AM

Children 1st –5th grade will leave worship following the Children's Message to participate in a kid friendly Christmas worship in the Common Ground meeting room.

#### CANDLELIGHT WORSHIP SERVICE-7:00 PM

This worship service will include Lessons & Carols to help us recognize & prepare for the coming Christ. Traditional flame candles will be used.

\*Livestreams on our Facebook page and is then available to watch anytime thereafter.

#### \*Church Facebook page - Emilie UMC



#### POINSETTIA & SHARE-A-CHRISTMAS

Each year our congregation has helped to beautify the Sanctuary during our Christmas Eve services, by purchasing poinsettia plants in honor or memory of a loved one. The names of donors & loved ones will be printed in a special insert included in the Christmas Eve worship bulletin. Poinsettia order envelopes can be found in the Narthex. **This years plants are \$8 each.** <u>Order deadline: November 26th.</u>

Share-a-Christmas envelopes will be available on a special giving tree beginning November 27<sup>th</sup>. These donations give the opportunity to dedicate the special gift in honor or memory of a designated person(s). The donations collected are used to help to provide financial gifts to members of our church community this Christmas. **Order deadline: December 18th.** 

#### ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING DEVOTIONAL (FOR AT HOME)

To prepare your heart for Christmas we have a prepared an Advent Wreath Lighting Devotional for you to use at home each week. The devotional will be posted weekly on our Emilie Facebook page, you can pick up a copy from the table in the Narthex, or print a copy off the church website.

NOTE: This devotional will be available in all of the above ways, beginning the first Sunday in December.



#### ADVENT MISSION FOCUS

EACH SUNDAY IN ADVENT DECEMBER 3-24

During the 4 Sundays in Advent, Emilie will take on a different mission focus as a way to provide for various members of our community in different ways. Below are the items that will be collected during worship each Sunday in Advent.

**1st Sunday in Advent—December 3rd,** spread the <u>hope</u> of Jesus through a collection of new toys for children of any age through Toys for Tots.

**2nd Sunday in Advent—December 10th**, spread the <u>love</u> of Jesus to the students in the Emilie Christian Day School, with a collection of candy canes AND the homeless members of our community, with a collection of winter hats & gloves.

**3rd Sunday in Advent—December 17th**, spread the joy of Jesus by writing Christmas cards (some are available in the Narthex) to our shut-ins and other members of our Emilie family.

**4th Sunday in Advent—December 24th**, spread the <u>peace</u> of Jesus through the collection of nonperishable food items to feed the hungry. Items will go on the Share Shelf and Blessing Box food pantry.

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#### ADVENT FELLOWSHIP LUNCH DECEMBER 3, 2023 AT 11AM



Emilie's annual *Advent Family Night* is getting a new look and time. This year we will be holding an **Advent Fellowship Lunch** following worship on Sunday, December 3rd. This time spent in fellowship with your church family will include lunch (soup, chili, mac & cheese & salad) and crafting an Advent Wreath (one per family) to be used throughout the Advent season.

If you plan to attend please RSVP on the RSVP sheet in the Narthex, call or email the church office or online via the QR code to the right. This will help in planning for quantities of food and craft supplies. No one will be turned away from attending, even if you do not RSVP. Contact the church office with questions.







by ShopWithScrip

#### SCRIP CARD PROGRAM AT EMILIEUMC

Emilie's Scrip card program gives members the ability to purchase gift cards for various retailers, the church is able to purchase them at a discount and earns funds to support the ministries of the church.

How to order\*:

-Call the church office, 215-945-5502

-Email the church office, office@emilieumc.com

-Download the scrip app and use the following information.

www.shopwithscrip.com Enrollment Code E537CBC211556

\*Orders are processed by the church office the 3rd week of the month. Contact the church office with any questions or for more details.

Many gift cards start at \$5 and make great gifts.

# Deadline to order cards guaranteed for Christmas is DECEMBER 4th.

Cards will be available for in-person pick up in the Church office, during office hours (see hours) 12/18, 12/19, 12/20, & 12/21

#### RETAILERS AVAILABLE

Acme (\$10, \$25, \$50, \$100) Amazon (\$10, \$25, \$50, \$100) Applebee's (\$10, \$25, \$50) Apple Store (\$15, \$25, \$100) Bath & Body Works (\$10, \$25) Best Buy (\$25, \$100) Bonefish Grill (\$25, \$50) Burlington (\$25) Cheesecake Factory (\$25) Chili's (\$25, \$50) Chipotle (\$10, \$25) Cracker Barrel (\$10, \$25) CVS (\$10, \$25, \$100) Dick's Sporting Goods (\$25, \$100) Dunkin' Donuts (\$10, \$25) Five Below (\$25) Giant (\$25, \$50, \$100) Home Depot (\$10, \$25, \$100) Joann Fabric & Craft (\$25) Kohls (\$50, \$100) Lowe's (\$20, \$25, \$100) Old Navy (\$25, \$100) Outback Steakhouse (\$10, \$25, \$50) Panera Bread (\$5, \$10, \$25, \$50) PetSmart (\$25) Red Robin (\$25) Shoprite (\$25, \$100) Starbucks (\$5, \$10, \$25, \$50) Target (\$10, \$25, \$50, \$100) Walgreens (\$25, \$100) Walmart/ Sam's Club (\$10, \$25, \$50, \$100) Wawa (\$25, \$100) AND MANY MORE!!

#### OCTOBER LIFE OF THE CHURCH RECAP



Chaos, Pumpkin Carving Night



God Squad, Halloween Party



Emilie UMC participated in the Day School Trunk-or-Treat event to hand out fruit snacks from the church to those in attendance and invite them to "Fall for Jesus, because He never leaves"!

-The Fall Book Study (The Christian Atheist) kicked off in October and has been very well attended.

-Thank you to everyone who helped celebrate and bless Pastor Lori & Pastor Marcia this month.

-The October meeting of the Women's Crafting Circle had the largest turnout to date, with 19 ladies in attendance.



Those who participated in the October Service Club helped to install and set up a Blessing Box out front of Emilie UMC. This little outdoor pantry will help to provide food items to members of our community.

We invite you to support this ongoing outreach by leaving non-perishable food items in the box as you are able and lifting those who will visit the pantry in prayer.

#### SPECIAL GIVING UPDATES

Thank you for all of your generous donations toward the UMC Special Giving Sundays.

January 16th—UMC Human Relations Day \$137 donated

> March 27th—UMCOR Sunday \$157 donated

UMCOR—Ukraine/Turkey Advance Project \$1,070 donated

May 1st—Native American Ministries Sunday \$127

June 12th—Peace with Justice Sunday \$495

October 2—World Communion Sunday \$106

Easter Share-A-Meal Donations \$395 donated in honor/ memory of loved ones

> Pastor's Discretionary Fund \$1,138

#### SPECIAL GIVING SUNDAY UNITED METHODIST STUDENT DAY

NITED METHODIST STUDENT DA NOVEMBER 26, 2023 Donate in-person or Online Emilieumc.com/give



REACH IS BEYOND MEA

The United Methodist Church's special giving

structure ensures your generosity blesses as many

people as possible in sustainable, strategic ways

he people of The United Methodist Church

YOUR DONATION CHANGES The world one life at a time

Make checks payable to your local church or donate online via credit/debit card at

GIVE TO YOUR CHURCH:

ourceUMC.org/SSGive

#### TOGETHER OUR REACH IS BEYOND MEASURE

#### WHY DO WE CELEBRATE Special Sundays?

United Methodists celebrate on specific days to unite and make clear the commitment of the church as the people of God, and to give everyone the opportunity to contribute to special programs approved and supported by the Church. For stories on how you make a difference visit UMC.org/yourimpact

#### HOW DO YOUR GIFTS SUPPORT

UNITED METHODIST STUDENT DAY? United Methodists have been investing in our students for more than 100 years. United Methodist Student Day invites the church to support United Methodist students in achieving their educational goals. The funds received award United Methodist scholarships to undergraduate and graduate students. Your gifts help young people achieve their educational calling with more financial freedom.

