

EMILIE OUTREACH NEWSLETTER

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Check us out online at
www.EmilieUMC.com



Stay connected with us
on Facebook
@EmilieUMC



ADULT FELLOWSHIP NIGHTS

FRIDAY, MARCH 8, 6:30PM

It's pizza night! You are invited to join the other adult members of the church of a night of food & fellowship. Please let us know if you plan to attend so that we can plan on how much food to prepare. We hope to see you there!

**SOUTH-EAST REGION
TOOLS FOR MINISTRY**
SATURDAY, MARCH 2ND



TOOLS FOR MINISTRY

**SATURDAY, MARCH 2ND
PALMER THEOLOGICAL SEMINAR IN
ST. DAVIDS, PA**

The Easter PA Conference offers an annual Tools For Ministry training open to all church members. Skilled instructors will provide valuable information, wise insights and helpful resources covering multiple topics to help strengthen and build up the church community.

Registration is now open on the EPAUMC.org website. A brochure of the workshops being offered is available in the Narthex. Contact the church office with questions (215-945-5502 or office@emilieumc.com).

BLESSING BOX

- DONATIONS NEEDED -

In October of last year we installed a Blessing Box out front of the church. We knew there was a need for this in our community, but have been surprised by the response that we have seen from the homeless and people in need within our community. Just about as quickly as we fill the box it has been being emptied. This means that hungry people are being fed and Emilie is Serving People For Christ! We would like to be able to continue this ministry, but it requires specific types of items.

If you would like to help provide items to be distributed through the Blessing Box please see the list below.

Individually packaged oatmeal, granola bars, fruit bars, canned meat (with pull tabs), canned ravioli & pasta (with pull tabs), Pop tarts, small boxes of dry cereal, easy Mac, cup of soup and hotel toiletries.

Note: items that need to be cooked on a stove or require a can opener are better left on the Share Shelf in the Welcome Center, the main goal of the Blessing Box is to serve the homeless within our community.



EASTER LILIES

Each year our congregation has helped to beautify the Sanctuary during our Easter Sunday service, by purchasing lilies in honor or memory of a loved one. The names of donors & loved ones will be printed in a special insert included in the Easter Sunday worship bulletin. Please check the Sunday Bulletin for more information which will be available asap.

EASTER SHARE-A-MEAL

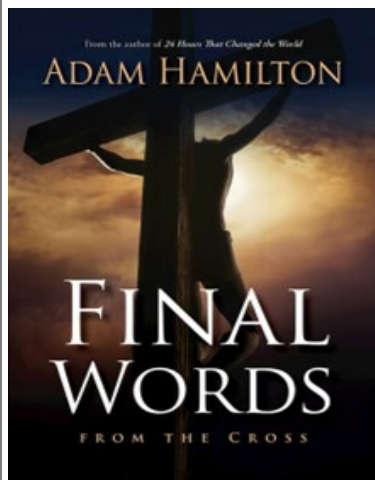
Share-a-Meal donation give the opportunity to dedicate the special gift in honor or memory of a designated person(s). The donations collected are used to help to provide financial gifts to members of our church community this Easter. **Suggested donation of \$10, but can be in any amount you wish to contribute.**
Donation deadline: March 17th.



ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

FEBRUARY 14TH

Ash Wednesday, begins the season of Lent. A worship service including a time of communion and ashes** will be held in the Sanctuary at 7:00pm
 Livestreams on our Facebook page and is then available to watch anytime thereafter.



LENT BOOK STUDY

‘FINAL WORDS FROM THE CROSS’

BY ADAM HAMILTON

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21ST

7:00 PM AT EMILIE UMC

In life and in death, Jesus’ words were powerful and meaningful. Despite the serious effort and increased pain required for Jesus to speak as he hung on the cross, Jesus spoke seven “final words”—statements that have much to teach us about Jesus, his Father, and ourselves. This book study will run for **4 weeks beginning on Wednesday, February 21st** and will follow the book ‘*Final Words from the Cross*’ by Adam Hamilton. The church office has copies available for purchase at \$13 each or you can purchase one from most book suppliers.

Sign up in the Narthex! Contact the Church Office to purchase a book!

LENTEN FELLOWSHIP LUNCH

MARCH 24, 2024 AT 11 AM



You are invited to our first **Lenten Fellowship Lunch** following worship on Sunday, March 24. This time spent in fellowship with your church family will include lunch (pulled pork, salads, mac & cheese) & an egg hunt for children & youth.

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 & egg hunt prep. No one will be turned away from attending, even if you do not RSVP, but it is very helpful. Contact the church office with questions.





PALM SUNDAY

MARCH 24, 2024, 10:00 AM

Palm Sunday recalls an event in The New Testament of Jesus entering into Jerusalem and being greeted by the people waving palm branches. It is a reminder of the welcoming of Jesus into our hearts and of our willingness to follow him. Palm Sunday is the start of Holy Week which ends on Easter.



MAUNDY THURSDAY

MARCH 28, 2024, 7:30 PM

Maundy Thursday is the Christian holy day falling on the Thursday before Easter. It commemorates the Last Supper of Jesus Christ with the Apostles.



GOOD FRIDAY CANTATA

TENEBRAE-A SERVICE OF SHADOWS

MARCH 29, 2024, 7:30 PM

Emilie's Sanctuary Choir and Friends will present the cantata *Tenebrae-A Service of Shadows* on Good Friday, March 29, 2024, at 7:30pm. Tenebrae is a service of shadows, depicting the final hours of Christ's life on earth. Based on the ancient tradition of Tenebrae, the gradual extinguishing of candles produces increased shadows and ultimately darkness by the end of the service, symbolizing Christ's death. Accompanied by piano and cello, this work promises to be a very meaningful underscore to our own person journey to the cross this Lenten season.



EASTER SUNDAY

MARCH 31, 2024

6:00 AM—SUNRISE SERVICE IN CEMETERY
10:00 AM—SERVICE IN THE SANCTUARY
& LIVESTREAMED ON FACEBOOK

No Sunday School or evening youth groups on Easter



You are probably wondering what “Lent” is. The word “Lent” actually means “to lengthen” and is related to the lengthening of the days with the arrival of spring.

The season of Lent lasts 40 days, starting on Ash Wednesday and not including Sundays, as Sundays are considered a small day of resurrection.

During Lent, we encourage all believers to embark on a period of separation, cleansing and reconciliation - a time to renew our faith. This can be observed in different ways through prayer, fasting, donations, and service.

On Ash Wednesday, we mark a cross on our forehead as a symbol of our mortality. This act serves to remind us of both death and life. In the ashes, we remember that we are dust, and on the cross, we contemplate resurrection given to us through Easter morning when our Lord emerged from his tomb into the light of a new day, showing us HOPE.

I invite you to join us in this time of revival and experience the sacrificial love of our Christ.

I hope to see you soon, Rev. Lori L. Reyes

THE PASTOR'S CORNER

NOTE FROM PASTOR MARCIA

Dear Friends, This is a reminder that I am on my annual leave and will see you in March.

My prayers are with you.

-Pastor Marcia

MEET OUR NEW MEMBERS

January 28, 2024 we welcomed 3 new members into the Emilie family. You may have already met some of them in worship or through the various activities in which they have been active even before becoming full members.

Cheryl Getts

- Cheryl enjoys walking, reading, and painting. Spending time with family is most important and brings her joy.
- She has been married to her husband Mark for 34 years, and has 2 adult sons and 1 grandson.
- Sheryl was invited to Emilie by her friend, and the people were so welcoming and made her feel at home. She looks forward to volunteering within the church and community.

Dennis Sibley

- Owns Creative Glass Systems and has been married to Florence since 2007.
- Dennis enjoys trains and enjoys being a part of the choir at Emilie.
- Dennis is drawn to the Methodist way of teaching and thinks that Emilie is a lovely church with lovely pastors and lovely people.

Florence Sibley

- Florence enjoys cooking, gardening, horseback riding and many other outdoor activities. She looks forward to being involved in the life of the church in whatever ways she is privileged to be able to.
- Florence was attracted to Emilie by the love & kindness from all the people she met. The wellness from the pastors and how much they loved God.

WELCOME TO THE EMILIE UMC FAMILY!

PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND



The Pastor's Discretionary Fund is a designated fund made available to the pastor to distribute for emergency financial aid. The funds are collected through donations from the congregation throughout the year and distributed as needed by the pastors.

If you or someone within the congregation has a financial need, please contact one of the pastors to seek assistance. If you are in a position to financially help others within the church body, the best way to do that is through a donation to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund.

The congregation is strongly discouraged from providing financial assistance directly to other members of the church body. It is always best to direct those in need to speak with the pastors for financial assistance & guidance.

A special Pastor's Discretionary Fund collection is held during communion on the first Sunday of each month, however, donations can be made at anytime. *Please designate Pastor's Discretionary Fund on the giving envelope.*



FEBRUARY SERVICE CLUB

FEBRUARY 11TH

All are welcome to join us for our **next meeting Sunday, February 11th following worship in the Common Ground Meeting room.**

In addition to our regular activities, we will be potting 60 spider plants for residents at Oxford Rehabilitation & Healthcare Center, in Langhorne to share God's love this Valentine's Day.

How you can support this month's service project:

-Donate 6" plastic pots with water drip trays*

**Please drop off by February 4th, so that we can make sure to have enough for our meeting on the 11th.*

-Join us in lifting the residents in the Oxford center in prayer.

MARCH SERVICE CLUB

MARCH 10TH

All are welcome to join us for our **meeting Sunday, February 10th following worship in the Common Ground Meeting room.**

In addition to our regular activities, we will be assembling 16 Easter baskets to gift to some of our Emilie family.

If you would like to help provide goodies for the Easter gifts, please bring up to 16 small items or candy to add to the baskets.

Items can be placed in the collection bin in the narthex or dropped off in the church office during normal business hours. Deadline to drop off items is Sunday, March 10th.

If you have any questions or future Service Club ideas, please contact Cindy in the church office.

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

BULLETIN & ALTAR FLOWER SPONSORSHIP

Bulletin & Altar Flower sponsorship give an opportunity to honor, celebrate or remember someone or a special event. All sponsorships must be set up and confirmed through the church office at least a week in advance to ensure time to coordinate with florist and church staff. For both forms of sponsorship, an announcement will be added to the bulletin for that Sunday.

Bulletin sponsorship cost is \$15.

Altar flower sponsorship cost is \$30 per bouquet (2 max). The flowers can be taken home by the sponsor following worship that Sunday.

*Please note the church will put the carnation on the altar when announcing a passing of a church member & the rose on the altar to announce a birth at no charge. The church must be notified by Wednesday of that week.

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.

ONGOING 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.

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 church library 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



SECRET SISTER MINISTRY

April - May - June - July

Secret Sister Reveal for the
October 2023-January 2024 Round
Monday, February 26 at 7pm.

This ministry is a way for our Sister's in Christ to support, encourage & lift each other up in a fun way. Participants are matched up and then asked to pray for, send notes and/ or small gifts to their sister anonymously for a period of 4 months. At the end of the 4 months you'll learn who your Secret Sister is during a reveal gathering.

Women interested in participating are asked to complete and submit a Personal Profile by Sunday, March 17th.

Personal Profiles can be found on the Secret Sister table in the hallway near the glass doors. Please note this is a 4 month commitment to be in prayer and connection with your Sisters in Christ.

Contact Cindy in the Church Office with questions or to join the next round. business@emilieumc.com

EMILIE THRIFT STORE UPDATE

Emilie's Thrift Store will be open the following dates in February:

Wednesday (5:30-7:00pm) - 2/7, 2/21, 2/28 (closed on Ash Wednesday 2/14)

Saturdays (9:00-10:30am) - 2/10 & 2/17.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY—Thrift Store Lead needed:

The Thrift Store is looking for a new lead. This person would help choose the days & hours that the store is open, oversee the volunteers who help in the store & the overall operations of the store.

Please contact the church office or Kim Kamerzel for more information.



Hi friends! I had the opportunity to attend a Youth Leader Workshop in January and feel that some of what I learned is too valuable to keep to myself. The presenters (Mike Nelson, Josh Good, & Christian Johnson) were all so good and provided some great thought-provoking presentations. However, the keynote speaker, Mike Nelson, had some great points that I would like to share with you today. Whether you are a leader or not, the world has taught us that we have to do everything and be everything at all times. All too often, we get caught up in the hamster wheel of life and then find ourselves burnt out. Here are some of my takeaways from Mike's presentation "Ignite the Leader Within," which I feel can be a good message for everyone

- 1) Self-Care is vital. We have all heard the phrase "You cannot pour into others from an empty cup." So, when was the last time you did something for yourself? Have you made servanthood (doing for others) an idol? We are the supporting cast and need to let God be God in other people's lives.
- 2) Find your tribe. Being a part of the right tribe is the difference between swimming and drowning. God has not blessed anyone with all the gifts and talents. We need each other! Finding the right people for your tribe is key. They should be people that you can trust to turn to for guidance, support, and accountability.
- 3) Comparison is the thief of joy. You are uniquely you, and God has blessed you with gifts and talents that are just for you. Success is not measured by numbers but by the impact that you make in the life of another person.

If you have been feeling burnout trying to do it all, please know that you are not alone. To borrow a quote from a favorite TV show... "I'm like the human equivalent of the inside of a roasted marshmallow." We don't always get it right, God knows I don't. Mike's three reminders above help set a good foundation to help keep us strong and healthy in mind, body & spirit. It's time to ignite your spark and burn brightly for God.

Blessings & Love,
Your Sister-in-Christ, Cindy Calderone



JANUARY LIFE OF THE CHURCH RECAP

January's winter weather affected a few of our scheduled events, but some great things also took place in the life of the church.

- 1) Three individuals participated in the new member class and officially joined the body of the church on January 26th, you can read a little about each of them on page 4.
- 2) The January Service Club assembled 60 Blessing bags full of snacks and personal care items that were distributed at the A.H.T.N. (Advocates for the Homeless and Those in Need) Code Blue Shelter. Thank you to everyone who donated items or time to this project.
- 3) Volunteer opportunities were presented to the congregation and many people stepped forward to volunteer their time & talents.*

*If you would like to learn more about volunteer opportunities within the life of the church, please contact the office or one of the pastors.



DAY SCHOOL NEWS FEBRUARY 2024



2024 is off to a great start at Emilie Christian Day School. The summer and fall enrollment is well underway, and in addition to students, the directors are seeking out additional staff members to add to the growing team.

During Chapel in January, the students and staff learned how to tell others about God's love as they studied Matthew 4:19, which tells us, 'Jesus said, "Come follow me, and I will make you fishers of men."'

The students in the Day School are participating in the February Service Club by making Valentine's Day cards to be gifted to the residents at Oxford Rehabilitation & Healthcare Center in Langhorne and members of Emilie's TLC list. February also includes a study of Black History Month and some awesome door displays by the staff throughout the school.

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



EMILIE UMC - WINTER WEATHER PLAN

In the event of unsafe travel conditions due to winter weather (snow/ice), here's what to expect for changes to Sunday morning worship.

By 7am on Sunday we will post changes to that morning's worship in the following ways:

Online: Church website (emilieumc.com) & Facebook (Emilieumc).

Church phone line: call the church office at 215-945-5502 and select option 1 (worship).

Email: An email will be sent out to everyone on the church Newsletter & Upcoming events email list.

*note: no new post means there is no change to worship that Sunday.



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

3 ways to give



in person



by mail



online



GRASS CUTTING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Emilie's grass cutting team is looking to add a few volunteers to the rotation schedule for the coming spring/summer season. If you would like more information or would like to join this vital team, please contact the church office or Ken Hahn. Note: Ride on & push mowers options.

Church Office Hours

Mon: 9:00am-noon

Tue: noon-3:00pm

Wed: noon-3:00pm

Thu: noon-3:00pm

Fri: 9:00am-noon

office@emilieumc.com
call: 215-945-5502



Closed on holidays

Church Office Closed

Monday, February 19, 2024

Thursday, March 28, 2024

Friday, March 29, 2024

Monday, April 1, 2024

SPECIAL GIVING SUNDAY

UMCOR SUNDAY—MARCH 10TH

DONATE IN-PERSON OR ONLINE

EMILIEUMC.COM/GIVE



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 UMCOR?

As followers of Jesus Christ, we are called to respond with extravagant grace. Through the **United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR)**, we are able to make a difference in the lives of communities and individuals whose lives have been upset by storms, wars, fires, displacement and climate change. This offering underwrites UMCOR's "costs of doing business," allowing UMCOR to keep the promise that **100% of any gift to a specific UMCOR project will go toward that project, not administrative costs.**

The United Methodist Church's special giving structure ensures your generosity blesses as many people as possible in sustainable, strategic ways

YOUR DONATION CHANGES THE WORLD ONE LIFE AT A TIME GIVE TO YOUR CHURCH:

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



TO GIVE ONLINE SCAN QR CODE WITH YOUR SMARTPHONE CAMERA



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