

Emory United Methodist Church
The Spire Monthly Newsletter
April 2017

The Easter Season: *The Easter Season, also known as the Great Fifty Days, begins at sunset Easter Eve and continues through the Day of Pentecost. It is the most joyous and celebrative season of the Christian year. It focuses on Christ's resurrection and ascension and on the giving of the Holy Spirit on the first Easter (John 20:22 –23) and the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2). Lessons from the Acts of the Apostles replace readings from the Old Testament because the early church, empowered by the Holy Spirit, is the best witness to the Resurrection (-UM Book of Worship). I hope you will join us for these very special worship services.*

Upcoming Events

-Sunday, April 2	Communion Sunday
-Sunday, April 2	Lenten Study, 4 p.m.
-Wednesday, April 5	Choir Practice, 7:30 p.m.
-Thursday, April 6	S.P.A.R.Q., 6:00 p.m.
-Sunday, April 9	Palm Sunday
-Sunday, April 9	Lenten Study, 4 p.m.
-Sunday, April 9	Gathering around the Table, 5:30 p.m.
-Sunday, April 9	Noe Amellal Elizabethan Performance, 7:30 pm, Memorial Chapel
-Wednesday, April 12	Half-Century, Noon
-Wednesday, April 12	Choir Practice, 7:30 p.m.
-Thursday, April 13	S.P.A.R.Q., 6:00 p.m.
-Sunday, April 16	Easter Sunrise Service, 7:00 a.m.
-Wednesday, April 19	Choir Practice, 7:30 p.m.
-Thursday, April 20	S.P.A.R.Q., 6:00 p.m.
-Sunday, April 23	Easter Choral Celebration, 9:30 a.m. Service
-Sunday, April 23	Gathering around the Table, 5:30 p.m.
-Tuesday, April 25	Older Adult Outing
-Wednesday, April 26	Choir Practice, 7:30 p.m.
-Thursday, April 27	S.P.A.R.Q., 6:00 p.m.

Breakfast Fellowship: Every Sunday at 9:00 a.m. there will be informal breakfast fellowship in Cole Parlor. Everyone is welcomed and encouraged to attend.

Lenten Study: *24 Hours That Changed the World* by Adam Hamilton will meet on Sunday afternoons at 4:00 p.m. in the Dow Room at Emory UMC on April 2 and 9.

Elizabethan Performance: Our own choral intern, Noe Amellal, will present *Shakespeare in Love: A Recital*, on Sunday, April 9, at 7:30 p.m. in Memorial Chapel. Everyone is invited.

Small Group Ministry: S.P.A.R.Q. (Seeking People Asking Relevant Questions) Study group is a friendly group of folks from the Emory UMC congregation that meet weekly to discuss topics of interest and search scripture to find answers or even more questions. Topics have included: Love, Forgiveness, Hope, Age of Accountability, the Holy Spirit, and many more. All are welcome to attend to find fellowship and lively, biblical discussion. Thursdays -- 6 pm @ the Central Café in Glade Spring.

Half-Century: Will travel to the Sugar Hill Brewery and Restaurant in St Paul, VA on April 12, at Noon. Reservations need to be made with Evon Crowder at crowderb@comcast.net by April 10.

Gathering around the Table: Please join us for Gathering around the Table on Sunday, April 9. A meal is provided (no charge), and Lindsey Blackwell will be leading a children's program from 6:00-7:00 p.m. Our congregation thought partner for 2017, Jerry Hill, will be with us on April 9 and April 23.

Easter Sunrise Service: April 16, Holston Conference Cemetery, Emory, VA at 7:00 a.m.

Easter Choral Celebration: Sunday, April 23, 9:30 a.m. service.

Older Adult Outing: Tuesday, April 25 to the Carter Family Fold and Museum, Mace's Spring, VA. Neel Rich is coordinating (944-3351). Visit the Carter Family Fold, A.P. Carter Store/Museum, A.P. Carter Log House with a local guide. Lunch will be catered by Smoke-N-Pig BBQ.

Recycling at the Emory Depot: We are still collecting aluminum in the bins behind the depot – aluminum can be dropped off at any time. Funds raised from the aluminum go to our medical assistance fund, which helps families in the community with emergency medical needs.

Weekly Food Donations: Everyone is invited to bring donated food to worship each Sunday morning. We collect the food in a bin as we enter the sanctuary and it is delivered to the Glade Spring Food Pantry during the week.

Stay Connected: The Emory UMC worship service is rebroadcast on WEHC 90.7 FM at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings, with a one week delay. If you are not able to make it to church, tune in to WEHC and join us for worship. Also, please visit our website at <http://emoryumchurch.org>.

We the people of the Emory United Methodist Church affirm that our church is inclusive and open to all people. We are a Reconciling Congregation, affiliated with the Reconciling Ministries Network, which means that we welcome all persons into full participation in the life of our congregation regardless of age, gender identity, racial or ethnic background, sexual orientation, marriage status, or physical or mental condition.

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April Volunteers

Breakfast Hosts: Mary-Margaret, Anita, and Curly (Apr. 2); Sally and Lisa (Apr. 9); Susan, Tal, and Carol (Apr. 16); Evon, Bob, Rachel, and Bob (Apr. 23); Sharon and David (April 30).

Liturgists: Elizabeth Wicht (Apr. 2); Various (Apr. 9); Tom Hower (Apr. 16); Susan Stanley (Apr. 23); Mary-Margaret Justis (Apr. 30).