

Emory United Methodist Church
The Spire Monthly Newsletter
October 2017

Dear Friends of Emory UMC,

In the Old Testament book of 1st Chronicles we find King Hezekiah “*ordering the people living in Jerusalem to provide the required portion for the priests and the Levites so they could devote themselves to the LORD’s Instruction. 5 As soon as the order was issued, the Israelites generously gave the best of their grain, new wine, oil, honey, and all their crops—a tenth of everything, a huge amount.*”

As a community, the people banded together to support the work and worship of God among them through the priestly order of the Levites.

Why do you, why do I, why do we give to our church? So that we can, together, support the work of God in our community through worship and service. Our generosity is rooted in our gratitude. As the Israelites were deeply grateful for the work of restoration going on among them, even in the face of military threat, so we can be grateful for God’s work among us, even in the face of difficult circumstance.

I hope you will join me and my family in supporting the ongoing work of our church as we finish 2017, and begin a new journey in 2018. It is the work of the community that we certainly believe in, and I hope and pray that you will join with us in gratitude.

Blessings,

David

We have a number of events in October that I hope you are aware of. Some of these include:

-Our fall **bible study** will meet on Wednesdays in the Dow Room at Emory UMC. We will meet from 6:30-7:30 p.m., through October 25. Everyone is welcome.

-**Gathering around the Table** will meet on October 8 and October 22. Jerry Hill will be with us on October 8 to talk about diversity and inclusion. October 22 will be our second Food and Faith Series event in partnership with the E&H Office of Spiritual Life; the topic for October 22 is the Muslim religion. This series is designed to help us better understand the religious traditions of our local and worldwide neighbors.

-Our Sunday morning **children’s program** is going strong thanks to our wonderful volunteers. If you know any families in the area searching for a church home, please invite them to join us.

-Our Sunday morning **breakfast fellowship** is continuing. Please join us between 9:00-9:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings in Cole Parlor for food and fellowship.

-Our **hand bell** choir is practicing every 2nd and 4th Sunday at 4:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. Please come and join the choir if you would like to ring.

-The **choir** practices every Wednesday in the sanctuary at 7:30 p.m., anyone who wants to sing is encouraged to attend.

-**Half Century** will meet on Wednesday, October 11, Noon, at Giuseppe's Italian Restaurant in Kingsport.

-**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. All are welcome to attend to find fellowship and lively, biblical discussion. Thursdays -- 6 p.m. @ the home of Neel Rich.

-**Older Adult Outing:** Tuesday, October 24 to Roan Mountain State Park.

-**CROP Hunger Walk 2017:** The CROP Walk is a 5k walk that honors those around the world who must walk that far or more each day to gather water and other resources. Last year the walk raised \$3,500. All donations go directly to Church World Service and locally to the Stone Soup Food Pantry. The event will take place on Sunday, Oct. 15. Meet at the Abingdon, VA Creeper Trail trailhead. Registration begins at 1:30 p.m. and the walk at 2 p.m. Find out more by visiting <https://www.crophungerwalk.org>. Please contact Maggie Obermann -- mobermann@ehc.edu -- to sign up as an individual or team. We're challenging each team to raise at least \$25 per participant.

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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October Volunteers

Liturgists: Elizabeth Wicht (Oct. 1); Susan Stanley (Oct. 8); Tom Hower (Oct. 15); Mary-Margaret Justis (Oct. 22).

Children's Church: Josh and Jessie Stamper (Oct. 1); Dave and Teena Carroll (Oct. 8); Ellen and Elizabeth Wicht (Oct. 15); Greg and Sharon Wright (Oct. 22).