

THE TOWER MONTHLY

LOVELY LANE | BALTIMORE CITY STATION



VOLUME 15, ISSUE 11

July / August 2017

OPEN HEARTS

From the Pastor's Desk...

Lovely Lane United Methodist Church

MOTHER CHURCH OF
AMERICAN METHODISM



2200 Saint Paul Street
Baltimore MD 21218-5805

Worship 10:00 AM

Office Hours

Monday — Friday
9 AM — 2 PM

Phone

410-889-1512

Email

LovelyLane.BCS@gmail.com

Website

LovelyLane.net

PASTOR

Rev. Dr. Patricia Sebring

LAY LEADER

John Strawbridge

ORGANIST

Bill Scanlan Murphy

PASTOR EMERITA

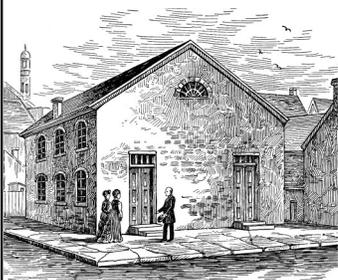
Rev. Nancy Nedwell

SEXTON

Ivan Reyes

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Lena Leone



Beloved Saints of Lovely Lane,

As pastor and congregation we officially begin our work together this month! Praise and thanks to God for the opportunity we have to do God's kingdom building work together.

Together is the operative word for our work. I believe in the power of collaboration—all of us working as we have been gifted and called by God together in the body of Christ. No single saint, no single pastor, can do the challenging and divinely appointed work of God all alone.

In the early church, Paul used many metaphors to help us understand the way in which we complement and rely upon one another indicating that the church was like a building, and also like a body. Just as our building has many different components that form the foundation, the walls, the floors, the roof, and all the plumbing, electrical, and other utilities, so too we each have roles to play in being the congregation of believers. Just as our bodies have limbs and organs and systems that work together within us to make us human, so too the body of Christ has all of us that have functions that are unique to each of us and yet reliant upon one another.

Collaboration, laboring together, will multiply our power and magnify the glory of the Lord. My prayer is that we can all enter into this time of new beginnings for pastor and congregation with a spirit of collaboration that is like that of our triune God who is Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer working harmoniously.



Sharing your joy in Jesus,

Pastor Patricia

Please keep your pastor posted on needs for prayer and pastoral care (including hospital visits & shut-in visitation) by calling or texting her on her cell phone at 443-510-3308.

MANNA HOUSE

435 E 25TH STREET BALTIMORE MD 21218 410-889-3001

The Drop-In-Center provides services starting with the morning meal 8:30 - 10:15AM every day and continues from 11:30AM - 4PM (Monday - Friday). Services include access to a phone to make important calls, the chance to request a bag of clothes, the chance to take a warm shower, food vouchers to a local food pantry and assistance with applications for birth certificates & ID's.



Your support makes a difference!

OPEN DOORS

RESTORATION GIFTS

William Motley, Jr.

In Memory of
Rev. J.A. & Mrs. Maxine Mote
 By *Stephen Morris*

GREETERS

July 2
 Susan Preston & Craig Smith

July 9
 Aimee & Ken Delaney

July 16
 Nancy & Emora Brannan

July 23
 Abedoh / Enos Family

July 30
 Marisa, Johnny & Daria Olszewski

August 6
 Carrie Harnick & Anna Diller

August 13
 Carol Curtis & John Hutchinson

August 20
 Aimee & Ken Delaney

August 27
 Sharra Kelley & Robert Furbay

TOUR GUIDES

July 2 Lenore Baier
July 9 Carol Curtis
July 16 Linda Webb
July 23 Eleanor Packard
July 30 Lee Enos

Aug 6 Sarah Scribner
Aug 13 Cathy Dryden
Aug 20 Craig Smith
Aug 27 Sefi Abedoh

Sept 3 Lenore Baier
Sept 10 Mike Rouse
Sept 17 John Strawbridge
Sept 24 Carol Curtis

SCHEDULE CHANGE

*Remember that from Sunday, July 2 to Sunday, Sept. 3 worship will be at **10 AM** with lemonade on the portico following worship. Please make a note of it, so we are able to worship together during these hotter months.*



LECTIONARY READINGS

July 2 4th Sunday After Pentecost
 Genesis 22:1-14
 Psalm 13 (UMH 746)
 Romans 6:12-23
 Matthew 10:40-42

July 9 5th Sunday After Pentecost
 Genesis 24:34-38
 Psalm 45:10-17 or
 Psalm 72 (UMH 795)
 Romans 7:15-25a
 Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

July 16 6th Sunday after Pentecost
 Genesis 25:19-34
 Psalm 119:105-112 or
 Psalm 25 (UMH 756)
 Romans 8:1-11
 Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

July 23 7th Sunday after Pentecost
 Genesis 28:10-19a
 Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24 (UMH 854)
 Romans 8:12-25
 Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

July 30 8th Sunday After Pentecost
 Genesis 29:15-28
 Psalm 105:1-11, 45b (UMH 828)
 Romans 8:26-39
 Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Aug 6 9th Sunday After Pentecost
 Genesis 32:22-31
 Psalm 17:1-7, 15 (UMH 749)
 Romans 9:1-5
 Matthew 14:13-21

Aug 13 10th Sunday after Pentecost
 Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28
 Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b (UMH 828)
 Romans 10:5-15
 Matthew 14:22-33

Aug 20 11th Sunday after Pentecost
 Genesis 45:1-15
 Psalm 133 (UMH 850)
 Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32
 Matthew 15:10-20, 21-28

Aug 27 12th Sunday After Pentecost
 Exodus 1:8-2:10
 Psalm 124 (UMH 826)
 Romans 12:1-8
 Matthew 16:13-20



ALTAR FLOWERS

July 2 To Welcome & Honor **Rev. Dr. Patricia Sebring**

July 9 In Honor of **Lena Leone** for her birthday

July 16 In Honor of **Julia Henslee** for her birthday
 By *Lenore Baier*



ERROL SMITH ANNIVERSARY

On Sunday, June 11, the Reverend Doctor Errol G. Smith celebrated the 55th anniversary of his ordination. After his retirement, Pastor Smith pursued several opportunities including working for United Way of Central Maryland, being curator of the Gate House Museum of History in Sykesville, and working with a consulting firm advising congregations how to raise funds. He has done pulpit supply work for Lutheran, Presbyterian, United Church of Christ, and United Methodist congregations. Joy, his wife of 55 years, is retired from the Howard County school system. They have three married children (Eric, Scott & Jennifer) and six grandchildren. They live in Westminster, Maryland.

OPEN MINDS

From the Lay Leader...

There has been a lot of talk lately about not talking about things.

The news is filled with accusations of who said this.. who didn't say that... and who leaked what. We have become obsessed about secrets. About privacy. About things being done behind closed doors.

Some people think that they do the hero's work in revealing anything that is kept secret. Others think that too much personal information is made public, and there is just too much sharing going on.

We spend a lot effort to protect our own secrets. Once upon a time, all you had to do was turn off the lights or close a door to assure your privacy. But now it seems like everyday that we hear a story about personal information being compromised or stolen from secure places.

For most of us, the rule seems to be; secrets are good when they are ours, but bad when they are someone else's.

With talk about secrets and secretiveness dominating the news and on social media, are we immune in the church? Are we in a bubble where this issue does not touch us?

Churches have long been fortresses of secrecy. There are necessary secrets. People need to feel safe to bring their private lives and struggles to their pastors or trusted friends with an assurance of confidentiality. But at times the ritual secretiveness of the Church has been used to control or exclude people. In many faith traditions, certain holy knowledge is allowed to be shared only with the elect. And entry to certain holy places forbidden except to the chosen.

So how are we to know "good" secrets from "bad?" How are we to know if we are champions for exposing secrets, or traitors for betraying privacy?

The Bible seems to offer conflicting lessons. Jesus himself advocated secrecy when he instructed, "But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you." [Matthew 6:6] And when Jesus goes to the Festival of Booths, he does so in secret, so that no one will know who he is. [Matthew 7:10]

But another time, when he is questioned by the high priest, Jesus answers, "I have spoken openly to the world; I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all the Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret. [John 18:20]

What example do we follow; secretive Jesus, or open Jesus?

In Matthew 10:26-27, Jesus tells his disciples, "So have no fear of [your persecutors]; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops."

In other words, we may keep our own secrets, but know that our secrets are temporary and will pass away. We must trust that God knows all, even when we don't. And when we trust in God, and keep God in our hearts in our speaking, and we need have no fear of what we say, or what is said about us.

As Christians we are often fearful of talking about God in public. But while our faith is born in private, it is a secret we are meant to expose. We must not hold anything back. God's Good News is meant to be shared, and as Christ's followers, it is our mission, and our joy, to talk about it.

Peace,
John Strawbridge, LAY LEADER

150 YEARS OF EMORY GROVE

This summer, Emory Grove is celebrating 150 years of offering religious services. Named to honor the memory of Bishop John Emory, it was founded as a camp meeting ground and still stresses its religious connection. The 47 cottages have been a haven of serenity whose purpose is "to promote Christianity through summer religious services and seasonal activities, to preserve and maintain the natural and historic environment through the active and progressive community spirit of participation, and to provide a calm and lovely refuge for the soul."

Here is some of what is scheduled for the 150th July-August season:

Every Sunday - Ecumenical worship services, 7pm

Every Wednesday - Hymn sing, 7pm

July 2nd - Sunday evening will feature a chicken dinner followed by a re-enactment of Billy Sunday's appearance from 1932.

July 4th - "Sonrise" service at 7am, Parade at 10:45 am, Patriotic Service 11am

July 15th - Cottage Tour, Vintage Car Show and Blueberry Bake Sale, noon -3pm

August 19th - "Through the Years Gala" (costume optional)

Bi-weekly concerts and talks are scheduled at 7pm throughout July and August

Directions and the full summer schedule can be found at www.emorygrove.net



OUR MISSION: To celebrate the vision of God’s Good News in Jesus Christ in liturgy, learning, and life, through the revitalization of our congregation, the restoration of our building, and the strengthening of our traditions, while recognizing our unique presence and mission in Baltimore City.



**LOVELY LANE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**
2200 ST. PAUL STREET
BALTIMORE, MD 21218-5805

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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Organization
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TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL
THANK YOU FOR PROMPT DELIVERY!

CALENDAR

Every Sunday

Worship Service, Sanctuary, **10 AM**
Fellowship Hour, LL Hall, 11 AM
Guided Tour, 11 AM

Every Wednesday

Balt. Folk Music Society Dance, LL Hall, 8 PM

Every Saturday

Seidel Martial Arts, LL Hall, 8 AM

Saturday, July 1

St. Joe’s Prep/Loyola Blakefield Overnight Departs

Sunday, July 2

Fellowship Hour: Welcome Rev. Dr. Patricia Sebring,
LL Hall, 11 AM

Thursday, July 6

Mosaic Lecture & Pizza, LL Hall, 9 AM

Saturday, July 8

Williamsport UMC Tour, 10 AM

Monday, July 10

Georgetown Prep Overnight Arrives

Wednesday, July 12

BLS Summer Kitchen Class, Kitchen, 9 AM

Saturday, July 15

Live Baltimore Event: City Living Starts Here,
LL Hall, Chapel & Sanctuary, 9 AM
Georgetown Prep Overnight Departs

Wednesday, July 19

BLS Summer Kitchen Class, Kitchen, 9 AM
Trustees Meeting, Library, 7 PM

Friday, July 21

General Board of Church & Society Tour, 10 AM

Wednesday, July 26

BLS Summer Kitchen Class, Kitchen, 9 AM

Friday, July 28

Wesley Seminary Tour, 1:30 PM

Saturday, August 5

Church Work Day, 9 AM

Sunday, August 20

Church Council Meeting,
LL Hall, 11:30 AM

Wednesday, August 23

Finance Committee Meeting,
Library, 5:30 PM

