

# The Good News

Emmanuel United Methodist Church

OCTOBER 2024

5115 Cortez Road West – Bradenton, FL 34210 – 941-792-3497

## PASTOR'S DESK

Reverend Haley Eccles

Happy Fall, Emmanuel UMC!

It feels like I am often looking for a new start. A new season, a new month, a new week can all be times of renewal and to finally begin the practices or habits that will lead to our transformation. Maybe you are that way, too. Maybe you get excited about the start of something new.

It made me wonder about the start of new ministry here at Emmanuel. As I continue to get to know both our church and the community around us, I have only seen incredible opportunities: new developments going in; place where multiple generations are gathering; needs of hurting, lonely and hungry people. The question is: are we ready for the change required to do this ministry work?

If we are honest, the most likely answer is, "Yes, but..." There are a lot of reasons we stop ourselves from embracing the change. There are logistical concerns. There are feelings associated with what was. There is ownership and worries about how our church might change.

I am currently reading a book by Robert Schnase called *Just Say Yes!* It is a challenge for me to consider the ways I say no to what God has for God's church. While I think it is helpful to acknowledge that change brings loss, I also fear the loss of missing out on joining in God's mission for Bradenton. The Spirit is moving, and I can't wait to hear some ideas worth saying yes to!

Blessings!

Pastor Haley

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*This is something which ALL members of Emmanuel UMC can do, not just the greeters!*

5 minutes before and after service, make sure you meet someone you never met.

Avoid leading with the question, "Is this your first time?" Because it may not be. They may have been there for years, but your paths never crossed. Simply offer a, "I

don't think we've met yet" or the simple, "Hi, my name is so and so, what's yours?"

The 10 refers to distance. When someone you haven't met is within 10ft of you, go and greet them. Even if you're standing in an already established circle, have the courage to excuse yourself and break the circle to greet the person you haven't had the opportunity to meet yet. In fact, if you had to break the circle to greet them, invite them in the circle of fellowship you were already standing in — which leads to the last rule: Link.

"Link" refers to connecting them to other people in the church. In the process of getting to know them (their name, where they're from, what work they do) perhaps they have something in common with someone you already know. Maybe they just started teaching at a local elementary school and your friend works at that same school. Connect them to your friend.

We cannot have a passive mindset when we're working on making people feel welcome. We have to be active and intentional and diligent. We also have to take a risk, in the sense that we may have to step out of our comfort zone to really greet someone we may not know at church. People come to church — not just to connect with God, but with God's people as well. Everyone is in need of a community. Each of us have the power and ability to help someone feel a sense of belonging in your community.

Don't be passive with that responsibility. Make the best of it and continue to connect people to your community and to God.

(From the United Methodist Church's "Rethink Church" Newsletter)



# OCTOBER 2024

## IN THE KNOW

Stay connected and know what's happening at Emmanuel by submitting your email address for our weekly updates and midweek messages.

Email: secretary.eumc@gmail.com

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 International Music Day	2 6:00pm Worship Choir Practice Rosh Hashanah	3 10am small group Wesleyan Rooted (Parlor)	4 World Smile Day	5 World Teachers' Day
6 <b>World Communion Sunday</b> 9:30am Worship Service 10:45am Small Group in McCay Hall	7	8  <b>The Lunch Bunch</b> 11:30am Beef 'O' Brady's Call for more info. 863-512-0678	9 6:00pm Worship Choir Practice	10 10am small group Wesleyan Rooted (Parlor) World Mental Health Day Missional Vital Signs Due	11 Yom Kippur	12
13 9:30am Worship Service 10:45am Small Group in McCay Hall  <b>Clergy Appreciation Day</b>	14 Columbus Day	15	16 6:00pm Worship Choir Practice	17 10am small group Wesleyan Rooted (Parlor)	18 National Mammography Day	19 Sweetest Day
20 9:30am Worship Service 10:45am Small Group in McCay Hall SW District Charge Conference- 2:30 PM in McCay Hall	21 <b>OCTOBER NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE</b> 	22	23 6:00pm Worship Choir Practice	24 10am small group Wesleyan Rooted (Parlor)	25	26
27 9:30am Worship Service 10:45am Small Group in McCay Hall	28	29 National Cat Day	30	31 		 NOV 3 - DAYLIGHT SAVINGS



**OCT** we are focusing on collecting, **Low Sugar Cereal** for the Manatee County Food Bank. Please drop off your food donations in the church Narthex.



The Florida Conference  
OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**CHARGE CONFERENCE**  
Sunday,  
October 20<sup>th</sup>  
2:30pm in  
McCay Hall



Churchinbradenton.com  
OR Eumcbradenton.org



Find us on Facebook at:  
<https://www.facebook.com/churchinbradenton>



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- 9 Sally Petschel
- 9 Karen Blanchard
- 11 Verna Hansen
- 13 Judy Wood
- 13 Joy Quici
- 14 Dolly Molinet
- 15 Lois Patty
- 19 Phyllis Michael
- 20 Anne Catalano
- 23 Lucy Blinn
- 27 Philip Catalano Jr.
- 29 Mary Goldthwait
- 30 Rosemary Nauenburg
- 31 Cindy Tinsley



*If your birthday or anniversary was missed, please contact the church office.*

## Record of Faithful Giving General Offering

9/1	\$ 4,114.00
9/08	\$ 1,352.00
9/15	\$ 1,414.00
9/22	\$ 8,105.00
9/29	N/A

## Weekly Attendance

9/1	55
9/08	61
9/15	47
9/22	63
9/29	N/A

## Sunday School Bible Study

10:45am

9/1	08
9/08	11
9/15	12
9/22	12
9/29	N/A

## AUGUST: Online Viewers

	FB	YouTube
8/4	13	36
8/11	5	48
8/18	8	49
8/25	5	36

## Keeping Up

Thank you for being faithful in your giving. It is through your generosity that the church can continue to operate and these gifts are very important and very much appreciated.

Here are the ways you can give to Emmanuel UMC

1. In Person on Sunday Morning
2. Drop off at the office in the mail slot located in the church office door.
3. Mail to the church at:  
5115 Cortez Rd. W.  
Bradenton, FL 34210
4. Easily online!

You may visit our website online and click the donate button to give digitally. **You may also copy and paste the link below into your favorite web browser:**

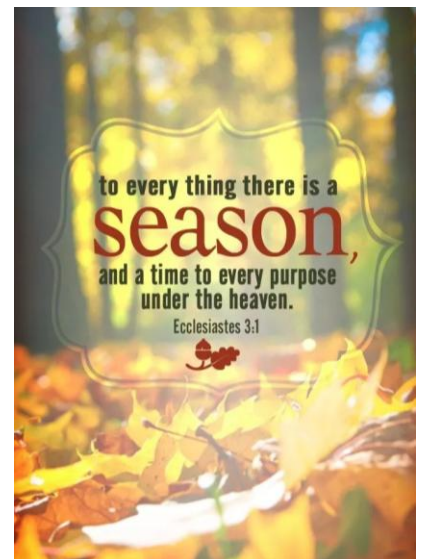
<https://www.eumcbradenton.org/online-giving>

## OUR PRAYER LIST

- Bill Deutsch, Jr.
- Bobbette Marks
- Calvin Merrill
- Carl and Sue Ruddell
- Corky Parker
- Debbie Chick
- Emma Operacz
- Gerald Goggin
- Grayson Posewitz
- Heang Prom
- Jennifer Adams
- Jim Warrender
- John Bookheimer
- Juanita Clark
- Katherine Peterson
- Kris Bennett
- Maxine Jackson
- Michelle Gabrielse
- Mike Poling
- Paul Pante
- Peggy Whitcomb
- Pete Chick
- Phil Nilsen
- Sara Wannemacher
- Sharon Locasio
- Sharon Roach
- Sherri Blais
- Susan Amon
- Teresa Schmitt
- Tom Postlethwaite
- Vera Niles

## NEEDING PRAYER?

If you would like to be added to the listing of prayer requests please feel free to call or email the church office and leave a message. We will respond as soon as we can. 941-792-3497  
Secretary.eumc@gmail.com



# CELEBRATING YOU!

Why not let us celebrate your Birthday and Anniversary! If you would like your photo displayed on the church screens and also on the website announcement page, please provide your photo from the new church directory or whatever photo you would like our Audio Visual Department to use.



You may drop your photo off at the church office or please see Terrie Zieber in the Audio Visual sound booth.

Your photo will be returned back to you.

Kind regards...

Terrie Zieber, Website & Presentation Coordinator  
tmzieber@gmail.com

## LUNCH BUNCH



Calling all ladies and gentlemen! You're invited to join your church family for a casual lunch at Beef 'O' Brady's close to the church on Cortez. Mark your calendars for Tuesday, October 8th, at 11:30. We meet in their private dining room and order whatever each of us would like off of the menu and pay for our individual lunches. We'd love to have you join us!



## CONFERENCE WIDE STUDY

We invite you to join us for a special online Conference-wide study of the book 'Upward!' by Paul Chilcote and Steve Harper. Together, we will explore what it means to be Wesleyan Rooted as we delve into the theology, practices, habits, and attitudes that characterize the people called Methodist.

- Dates: Saturdays, October 5 through November 23
- Time: 8:30 - 10 a.m. via Zoom
- Our text: Upward! Wesleyan Formation in Three Movements

Register here: <https://bit.ly/upward-study>



### Week of October 1, 2024

**Tuesday:** Matthew 1; Luke 2:1-38

**Wednesday:** Matthew 2; Luke 2:39-52

**Thursday:** Matthew 3; Mark 1; Luke 3

**Friday:** Matthew 4; Luke 4-5;  
John 1:15-51

**Saturday:** John 2-4

**Sunday:** Mark 2

### Week of October 7

**Monday:** John 5

**Tuesday:** Matthew 12:1-21; Mark 3;  
Luke 6

**Wednesday:** Matthew 5-7

**Thursday:** Matthew 8:1-13; Luke 7

**Friday:** Matthew 11

**Saturday:** Matthew 12:22-50; Luke 11

**Sunday:** Matthew 13; Luke 8

### Week of October 14

**Monday:** Matthew 8:14-34; Mark 4-5

**Tuesday:** Matthew 9-10

**Wednesday:** Matthew 14; Mark 6;  
Luke 9:1-17

**Thursday:** John 6

**Friday:** Matthew 15; Mark 7

**Saturday:** Matthew 16; Mark 8;  
Luke 9:18-27

**Sunday:** Matthew 17; Mark 9;  
Luke 9: 28-62

### Week of October 21

**Monday:** Matthew 18

**Tuesday:** John 7-8

**Wednesday:** John 9:1-41; John 10:1-21

**Thursday:** Luke 10-11; John 10:22-42

**Friday:** Luke 12-13

**Saturday:** Luke 14-15

**Sunday:** Luke 16; Luke 17:1-10

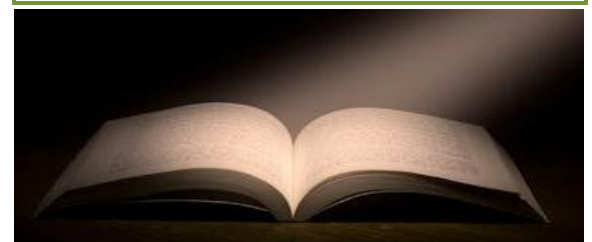
### Week of October 28

**Monday:** John 11

**Tuesday:** Luke 17:11-37; Luke 18:1-14

**Wednesday:** Matthew 19; Mark 10

**Thursday:** Matthew 20-21



# Ring and Singing

## WANTED

## Choir Members

**Positions Available:** Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Baritone & Bass.

If you are not sure we will help place you in the proper group.

**Qualifications & Experience:** Must be able to carry light musical notes partway across the Church. Must have sufficient vision to see the Director up to twenty feet away. Any musical experience including singing in the shower is accepted.

**Wages & Benefits:** The satisfaction and joy of being in God's service and the added benefit of social fellowship with other members of the Choir.

**Hours:** Sunday mornings and part of Monday evening. There are opportunities for overtime at the above-mentioned wages.

**Vacation:** Missed rehearsals and worship services are primarily a matter of conscience but may be scheduled at your discretion.

**Retirement:** No particular age, but is generally determined by prayer, printed notes getting too small, notes too high, Sanctuary too hot or cold or the Accompanist is unable to play the notes you are singing.

To apply see Karen Ponader,  
Music Director  
or email her at: [louiz77@aol.com](mailto:louiz77@aol.com).



## Why Do You Ring?



*(Excerpts from an article by Jennifer Cauhorn, "Overtones Handbell Magazine" These were some of her thoughts after serving on the faculty of "Worship and Arts Conference" in Hunt, Texas.)*

I have observed a group of people deeply committed to making music and using it to praise God and enrich their faith and worship experiences. For many at his event, music and the arts are their path to worship. For others, worship is their path to the arts.

What is it about handbells that meets our musical, artistic, and spiritual needs?

Those new to the instrument can be successful at the beginning levels quickly. At the same time, handbells are challenging to the most advanced musicians. A skilled director is able to assign music in a way that will allow musicians of multiple skill levels to participate in the same ensemble and make it a fulfilling experience for all.

Handbells played in ensembles are a true team sport.

There are no stars in a handbell choir. Every member is equally important to the end result.

When members connect on multiple levels—musical, technically, emotionally—the final result is magical.

I love the connection with other musicians and the feeling when the end result becomes greater than the sum of its parts. It feeds my soul and spirit.

**Why do you ring?** Why DON'T you ring with our handbell choir here at Emanuel UMC?

**See Karen Ponader, Music Director for information**



# Changed by the Storm

A storm featured prominently in John Wesley's own spiritual formation. After studying at Oxford, John Wesley went to Savannah Georgia for two years as a missionary. During the trip across the seas, his boat encountered a huge storm. According to his journals, the main sail was split in pieces and water rushed aboard and he felt as if they were being swallowed by the deep. Also aboard the ship were German believers. He had observed that while aboard they took the jobs no one wanted, stating that their Savior had done more for them than they could do for others. During the storm, rather than panic, they sang and gave praise to God. John Wesley asked about the experience afterwards and stated that they said they were not afraid to die.

Friendship with the Moravians flourished during John Wesley's time in Georgia and continued after returning to England. In them, John Wesley found a greater appreciation for the movement of the Spirit and a personal piety that provided peace and assurance in Christ. This combined with the social holiness in his faith practice allowed for deep growth.

What personal practices help deepen your faith? You can also see the resources below for some suggested scripture passages to consider carefully over the next week.

## **Spiritual Practices:**

Grounding passages (Commit the following passages to memory, or create a piece of art (or write a poem), or write them on a piece of paper where you see them regularly)

- *"Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God." (1 John 4:7, NRSV)*
- *"... God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them." (1 John 4:16b, NRSV)*
- *"Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves has fulfilled the law." (Romans 13:8, NRSV)*
- *"Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." (John 13:34b-35, NRSV)*
- *"... 'you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength'... 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." (Mark 12:30-31, NRSV)*
- *"And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love." (1 Corinthians 13:13, NRSV)*
- *"Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony". (Colossians 3:14)*

**Each Day this week, take one of the passages of scriptures above and meditate on what it is saying.**

- How is God speaking to you through the passage?
- How is God speaking to the Church?
- Sit in silence for 10 minutes, asking God to speak a word to you.

