

SOURCE

A Monthly Digest of Church Life



www.embryhillsumc.org

Sargent's Voice

"In the midst of life, we are in death." These are old words. They are words that linger in the liturgical resources of The United Methodist Church. They are words that remind us of one of the great mysteries and one of the most intensely painful experiences of human existence.

One of the blessings of human consciousness is our awareness of being. One of the curses of human consciousness is our accompanying awareness of non-being. They go together. Hamlet, of course, said it this way: "To be or not to be; that is the question."

Death generates so many questions for us, catalyzes so many thoughts and emotions. That is the case for adults, to be sure. And, with a few exceptions, what is true of adults is true of children.

I have a keen interest in death education. I have an especially keen interest in death education for children. After all, I was born to a mother and father who, only two years before my arrival, had experienced the death of their infant son, David. When I was three years of age, I lived with my parents through the death of my little sister, Leslie. I was deeply imprinted by these events and by my parents' responses to them. And, through no fault of my parents, I was offered some sadly hurtful explanations

Teach Your Children Well

about what had taken place. These explanations had a profound impact on me and led to my hunger and thirst to know more about how children experience and respond to death. This was a lively topic for me in seminary and has remained an important aspect of my ministry.

Beginning on September 9th, when Café del Soul resumes, I will offer a learning experience on how to discuss death with children. This is an opportunity for adults who are charged with the onerous and precious responsibility of discussing such a profound topic with the children they love.

We'll meet after dinner, starting at 6:30 and concluding at 7:30. I hope that our time together will provide you with helpful equipment to discuss such a vast topic with the precious little ones in your life.

"Teach your children well," Crosby, Stills, and Nash admonish us. Here's an opportunity for you to teach your children well, about the painful reality of death. I look forward to our conversations.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mark".

Mark Sargent
Senior Pastor

The Tzedakah Box

tzedakah: from the Hebrew word *tzedek* meaning righteous. In Modern Hebrew, it refers to charity - giving to those in need. The tzedakah box is a means for a Jewish person to perform one of the most important acts of Judaism

How we ended up with a tzedakah box is the subject of a separate story. Initially we didn't know what to do with it but after researching all things Jewish, we decided to follow the Jewish tradition of joyful giving: all proceeds were to go to Embry Hills. However, we added a twist: any family member who uttered a "forbidden" word must put 25¢ in the box. While I can't print many of these words here, our list was created as a way to keep our 4 year old, Connor, from using words that are more, um, adult-like.

Unfortunately, many of these words were part of my everyday vernacular. I soon found myself scraping to find quarters for the box. I was even borrowing quarters from others. If I inadvertently used one of the "words" when I knew Connor was out of earshot, I felt guilty and dropped another quarter in the box.

The box soon filled up (mostly at my expense). Rather than quietly offering the proceeds from the box to the church, Connor decided it would be cool to share it with everyone during Time on the Steps. In true Mark Sargent fashion, he wove the idea of *tzedakah* into a mean-

("Tzedakah," continued on page 12)

August, 2009
Vol. XXXIX No. 8

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Gifts Given as of July 17, 2009

- **In memory of Charles Healan:** John & Linda Purks, Elaine Van Wieren, Frank & Millie Kelley (*Youth Fund*)
- **In loving memory of our Father, Roy M. Griffin Sr:** Mark & Lianne Griffin (*Ministry & Missions*)
- **In memory of Barney "Pete" Rogers:** Mrs. Terry Heath (*Ministry & Missions*)
- **In memory of Olon Polston:** Hugh & Beth Starling (*Snax Sax*)
- **In honor of Valerie, Lori, and Judy:** Marcille Metaxas (*Ministry & Missions*)
- **In honor of Jim & Riley Deichert 40th Anniversary:** Diane Roberts (*Ministry & Missions*)
- **In honor of Cecil & Huvian Ingram:** Scott Tarr (*Ministry & Missions*)
- **In honor of Mark & Elaine's Birthdays:** Marcille Metaxas (*Ministry & Missions*)

Staff Directory

Name	Title	E-Mail*	Ext
Mark Sargent	Senior Pastor	marks	111
Elaine Puckett	Associate Pastor	elainep	112
Valerie Harvard	Pastor to Children	valerieh	114
Victoria Lawson	Director, Youth	victorial	113
Jane Carter	Office Administration	janec	121
Amir Zaheri	Director Worship Arts	amirz	117
Lori Cora	Financial Secretary	loric	123
Sally Kramer Adele Harrison	Co-Directors Kindergarten	n/a	104

*follow e-mail addresses with @embryhillsumc.org

Average Church Attendance

Time → Period ↓	8:45 am	11:00 am	Sunday School
June 2009	68	239	168
Year to Date	71	244	180

Deadline for the
September 2009 Newsletter:
Friday, August 14, 2009
Send all content to
newsletter@embryhillsumc.org

A Loving Tradition



We have no homebound members celebrating birthdays in August, but that doesn't mean we can't reach out to brighten someone's day. Why not take a moment to write a note, make a phone call, or say a prayer for one of our special members that can no longer regularly attend church activities. Let's continue to serve and love others in a meaningful way. There are address cards in the hall under the mailboxes. Please feel free to pick one up, or contact Marcille Metaxas or the church office for information on our homebound members. May God bless you and yours.

~Marcille Metaxas

Please continue prayers for:

Chuck Bell	Madonna Holley**
Jack Ernst	Jim Lowry**
Barbara Loar	Grace Lowry**
Bill Halstead	Millie Taylor**
Susan Coombs	Joyce Martin**
Mary Frances Brough	Kaye Fason**
Dee Moore	

PLEASE REMEMBER
THESE FRIENDS IN
PRAYER

** Homebound Members

Transitions

- Gladys (Happy) Hole, mother of **Charli Whitfield**, passed away July 15, 2009.
- Jack Jones, father of **Carmen Jones** and grandfather of **Riley Ashworth**, died July 1, 2009.

Please keep these families in your thoughts & prayers during these difficult days.

Welcome New Members

Arthur & Katie Wendel, along with their children Evan and Kira, became our newest members Sunday, July 12, 2009 at the 11:00 a.m. worship service. Arthur is a physician with the CDC, and Katie, an urban planner by training, has a full-time job as a stay-at-home Mom.

The congregation also witnessed the baptism of Katie, Evan and Kira at the service.

Please be sure to extend a warm, Embry Hills welcome to this beautiful family!

New Arrivals

Dean Basil Jones was born June 19, 2009 to parents Jamal and Teresa Jones. The proud grandparents are Basil and Veron Jones.



Lauren Lixi Anya Lee was born June 24, 2009 to parents Doctors Jodi & Ben Lee. The proud grandparents are Basil and Veron Jones.

Charlotte Anne Washburn was born July 14, 2009 to parents Matt & Elizabeth Washburn. Charlotte weighed in at 6 pounds, 7 ounces and was 20" long.



Congratulations and much happiness to these families for their newest arrivals.

Mark 10:45: For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

We are all called to minister to others and we can invite our friends, neighbors, club buddies and family members to join us as we serve our Lord by serving others. There are several opportunities this month to bring along someone new and let them experience the Embry Hills brand of caring for our neighbors.

August 2nd - Trinity Table - Look for more information in this newsletter and throughout the church; we need volunteers to help downtown with the lunch and help with providing sandwiches. But hurry - this date is coming up FAST!

Snax Sax for Kids - starting Sept. 11th, we will be providing these bags of healthy snacks to elementary age school children. You can start donating funds or placing snack items in the pink bins right now! At the end of the school year (May), we were making 180 bags and expect to start out this school year providing the same. Look for suggested snack items here, on the EHUMC website and on flyers at church.

Reading and Math Buddies - this easy tutoring program provided to Pleasantdale Elementary students requires only 1/2 hour per week of your time and no special skills required! You'll meet with the same child every week at the time that is convenient for you. Each child is especially chosen for their need and willingness to learn. The program begins in September - sign up now!

Invite your best friend, neighbor, and anyone you think might be interested in getting involved!

Want more information about any of these programs and how you can contribute? You can email or call us anytime!

Outreach Co-chairs:

Beth Starling
(770) 939-0432

popperspenguins8@yahoo.com

Kim McDaniel
(770) 492-1967

kimwmcdaniel@aol.com



Outreach

What is Risk-Taking Mission & Service?

Risk-Taking Mission and Service includes the projects, the efforts, and the work people do to make a positive difference in the lives of others for the purposes of Christ, whether or not they will ever be part of the community of faith.



Suggested Items for SNAX SAX

1. Unsweetened applesauce cups
2. Fruit cups in light or no syrup
3. Pudding cups, fruit in *Jello* cups
4. Peanut butter in individual cups, peanut butter crackers
5. Original recipe *Spaghetti-O's* with "pop top" lids; meatless *Chef-Boy-Ar-Dee* with "poptop" lids
6. Single serving juice boxes (100% fruit, no sugar added)
7. Single serving milk boxes (no refrigeration necessary)
8. Single serving sized crackers, cookies, pretzels
9. Dried fruit - (raisins, cranberries, mixed fruit) in single serving sizes
10. Trail mix in single servings sizes
11. Fruit and grain cereal bars; Oatmeal bars
12. Any flavor granola bars
13. "No sugar added" fruit strips (available at Target).
14. Small (individual size) boxes of cereal - recommended brands:

- *Cheerios* (original, berry burst, multi-grain)
- *Frosted Mini-Wheats*
- *Cinnabon Cinnamon Crunch*
- *Kix*

Note: Fruit rollups and gummy treats are not real fruit!

Ministries



The Power of Community

The other day, while mopping my kitchen floor, I was listening to a radio broadcast I happened to get from my computer (a "podcast"). Something I misheard got me thinking about our community at Embry Hills UMC. I was listening to an episode of "Speaking of Faith," and the interviewee was a French geophysicist and spiritual thinker, Xavier Le Pichon, whose accented English was sometimes challenging to understand. What I heard Le Pichon say was, "God is a mystery, but it [sic] can be discovered through the *WE*." And that got me to thinking about our church community and the diversity we have within it and how we really need to immerse ourselves in that diversity in order to fully discover God.

Now I hope you haven't quit reading this article because of that last sentence. I hope you'll hear me out, because I believe it is this idea of being part of a community that makes Embry Hills a very special congregation. Our congregation is what got me back into church after many years away and that has fueled my spiritual growth since I got here.

It is, I believe, through the relationships I've been blessed to discover and build with the folks here that God has helped me to grow spiritually...that it is through these people that God has been revealed to me. To put it another way, I believe that it is through our "*WE-ness*" that we learn, grow and build God's kingdom, with God's help.

I also believe the more we can get together with each other as seekers of God's kingdom, the more we will get to know God, and I believe that as we seek God together, we learn how we can transform this world into what it was meant to be. At Embry Hills, we have so many opportunities to come together! We can share our *WE-ness* through Disciple Bible Study classes, through an adult Sunday School class, through helping out in KidzTown or with our fabulous youth, through the UMW (United Methodist Women) or the UMM (United Methodist Men), through service with others via Snax Sax or EHUGS, by participating in the Worship Arts program, or even through events like the Ice Cream Social.

Each time you choose to participate in an event or class or service project at Embry Hills, (I believe) you are choosing to be a part of the "*WE-ness*" that is the community helping to create God's kingdom here. Each time you get to know someone better through choosing to begin or foster a relationship with that person, I believe you are saying "yes" to God's invitation to build this community.

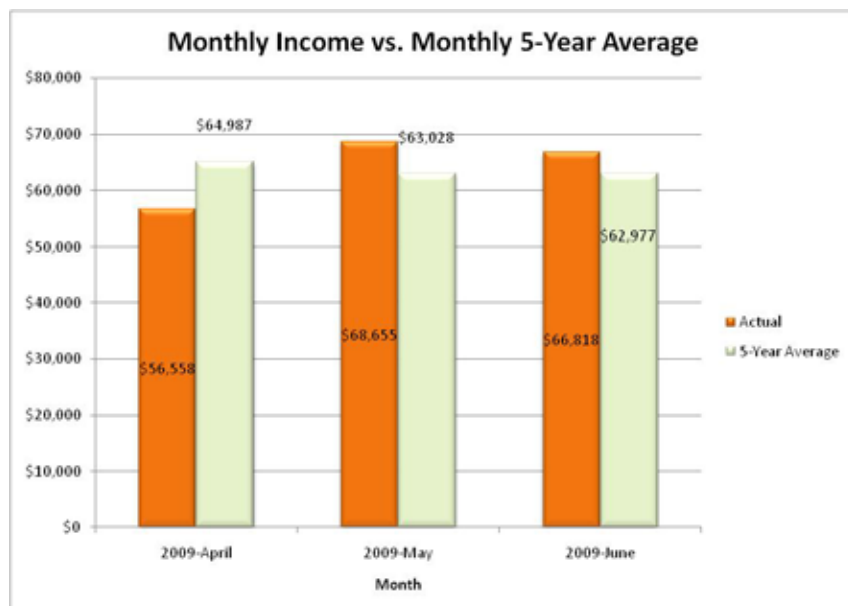
Thank you for choosing to immerse yourselves in our community. We are richer for your choice.

~Judy Campbell

FINANCIAL REPORT

June 2009 contributions were \$66,817.70 and expenses were \$64,163.22, resulting in a positive net income of \$2,654.48. The Line of Credit (LOC) balance for June 30th remains at \$121,500. Apportionments in the amount of \$39,043, against a total due of \$123,803, has been paid through the end of June.

THANK YOU for being *mindful of the continued financial needs of the church over your busy summer!*



**UNITED
METHODIST
MEN**



The United Methodist Men's group will not meet during July and August. Our next meeting is scheduled for September 13th with breakfast at 7:30am in the Family Life Center. We do have a guest speaker for our program. Please plan on attending.

The 47th Annual Men's Spiritual Retreat is scheduled for September 25 - 27 at Rock Eagle, Eatonton, Ga. Bill Glass, founder of Bill Glass Ministries, is the keynote speaker who will deliver a powerful message encouraging men to be the fathers and sons they have been called to live. A great music program is planned as well. Workshop sessions will be held on Friday and Saturday. A golf tournament, the annual Cross & Flame Walk/Run, swimming, fishing, tennis, basketball and other activities are planned. Please call Earl Witcher at (770) 934-8835 if you are interested in attending. I have more information. Men, take your sons, your friends, your father, your granddad or your grandsons. They will be changed forever.

Help is needed to rebuild Leigh Cottage, a part of the Children's Home in Decatur destroyed by fire last November. If you are interested, our Craftsmen will have information on this project.

See you September 13th.

- If you like to have fun...
- If you like to meet really cool people...
- ...**And** you like to play bridge,



You would love the
Embry Hills Bridge Club.
September-May, once a month.
For more information,
call Nan Glenn at
(770) 934-1477

Do you ask *WHY* should I become an Embry Hills United Methodist Woman? Are you looking for the company of some really great, loving, service-oriented kind of women? The UMW is the place to be. Take a look at our purpose: *The organized unit of the United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.* The EHUMW really fulfills the UMW's purpose...come and see!

How do we go about fulfilling this purpose? There are many ways through programs, fund raisers, special service projects, and we are constantly looking for new ways to serve and new women to connect with us— what a task. We presently have three circles that meet monthly during the daytime hours either in homes or at the church. Our newest group —The Square Pegs meets in the evening monthly. Other subgroups can be formed with special interests.

The Embry Hills UMW works together with the Atlanta Emory UMW, the North Georgia UMW (www.ngumw.org) and the United Methodist Women, a part of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church (<http://new.gbgm-umc.org/umw>). Check out the websites for further information about what we are about.

Now, what's on our upcoming schedule? The Square Pegs will meet on Thursday, August 6 at 7:30 p.m. in Room 410. Plans will be made for fall as well as scheduling. Your ideas are important—contact LeyAnna Messick. (sl.messick@comcast.net)

The next General Meeting for all EHUMW members will be in the chapel on Tuesday, September 1, at 10:00 a.m. with lunch to follow. We have a very special program. Our speaker is Helen Swope with Worship being the focus. Helen, who has been a long-time member of Embry Hills, has worked with, prepared for, trained, and loved serving on the Worship Committee at Embry Hills. Acolytes know her and have learned the importance of serving. Preparation for Communion Sundays and what is needed is part of her work. Helen has stories of interest, of laughter and of purpose.

What should you do? Contact us and plan to join us.



United Methodist Women
Women's Division

Sue Ownbey
shounbey@yahoo.com
(770) 493-7642

Ministries

The Book Shelf

Elaine Eisemann, our church librarian, recently suggested a set of books, donated by Val Bligh, be included in our reading list. Seven volumes are easy to locate. They can be found on the top shelf of the bookcase to the right of the entrance to the library. They will be placed in the 220.9 Loc section later.

This collection is by Dr Herbert Lockyer, published by Zondervan Publishing House.

The volumes in our library series includes six works;

- *All the Apostles of the Bible*
- *All the Books and Chapters of the Bible*
- *All the Kings and Queens of the Bible*
- *All the Men of the Bible*
- *All the Miracles of the Bible*
- *All the Women of the Bible*

The opening section of each book introduces us to the scope of that particular study. Each work includes help at the end of each section. For example, there is a Topical Index in *The Women of the Bible...*; Following the "study of the Parables", from the Old and New Testaments, is an alphabetical index; Whereas... *The Books of the Bible...* has a section of "outlines" of each book, (OT & NT) and an index. The book ...of Miracles, contains a Subject Index.

It is interesting to note that the various books are organized in a variety of ways. For example, *In Women of the Bible*, the book is divided as follows: The life and lot of Bible Women, Nameless Bible Women, Symbolic and Representative Women, and Aids from Women's Groups and Meetings.

In the study of the Apostles, we not only read about the original twelve but those that followed them.

From the book on Miracles, we find both old and new testament works. The study on Kings and Queens includes Monarchs from Mesopotamia and ancient times, as well as the Greek and Roman periods. In the book on the Parable we find old and new Testament stories.

I highly recommend this series of books for study and personal enjoyment.

~Jim Johnson

Dance to the Music...

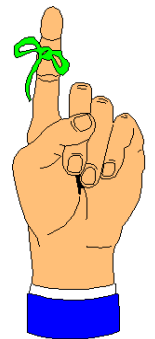
Put on your dancing shoes and come out for a night of music and dancing on Saturday, August 22nd in the Family Life Center! We will enjoy some great music by Billy Puckett and his band and dance the night



away. Even if you have "two left feet" you can enjoy the music and fellowship, and who knows, you might even learn a move or two! Refreshments will be served and the cost is \$10 per adult. Look for more information coming and a sign up table in the FLC and narthex on Sundays beginning in July. Contact Carolyn Shaffer (404) 296-2039 or Elaine Puckett (770) 938-0661 for more information.

Please Remember...

Before scheduling a meeting or event, please contact Jane in the Church Office at 770-938-0661, ext. 121, or via email at ehunc@yahoo.com, to ensure that the room you will be using is available. If you have reserved a room and decide not to use it, please let the Church Office know. Thank you so much!!



These Feet Were Made for Dancing!

Do something different this summer! Try line dancing. You don't need a partner, it is good exercise for your mind & body, and it is FUN!!



The 5, 6, 7, 8 beginner line dance classes are offered on Mondays at 4:45 pm – 5:45 pm and 6:00 – 7:00 pm. Call Jane in the Church Office at 770-938-0661, ext. 121, for further information on this exciting way to exercise!!

KidzTown Happenings



KidzTown Registration:

Registration/Allergy Forms Needed

Each fall we like to make sure all children attending Embry Hills UMC are registered through KidzTown, the children's ministry here at church. It's not just for those attending Sunday School, but for all the children. This helps us to make sure we have all the correct information on hand, including birthdays, email addresses, schools, and important allergy information.

Each family only needs to fill out one registration form. However, if your children have allergy issues, especially in regards to specific food items or items such as latex, a separate allergy form should be filled out for each child. These forms have been mailed out to most of our families, however the forms will also be available in the Narthex and at the KidzTown Welcome Center

Registration forms need to be completed and returned to the office of Valerie Harvard as soon as possible. (...be sure to check out the article from "The Box"). If you have any questions, please contact Valerie Harvard at valerieh@embryhillsumc.org.

Safety & Behavior Guidelines

This is just a reminder of the guidelines set forth by the Children's Council of Embry Hills UMC to help ensure the safety of our children. Please make sure your children, grandchildren and visiting friends are aware of the guidelines.

1. You must be with your parent, teacher or other approved adult at all times.
2. Stay in the area where you belong.
Be respectful of your teacher, other adults and friends.
3. Walk inside the building.
4. Use inside voices.
5. Keep hands and feet to self.
6. No food or drinks inside the KidzTown Connection computer lab.

Wednesday Night Preschool Program

Our Wednesday night suppers begin Wednesday, September 9th and we have some exciting things planned for our Kindergarten thru 3rd graders and our wonderful WHALES program continues for our 4th and 5th graders.....and we're wanting to offer a program for our preschoolers. But we can't do it without your loving help. If you would like to help with our Wednesday night preschoolers from 6:30 to 7:30pm, please give Valerie a call in the church office (770—938-0661 ext, 114).

Club 45

What is this thing called Extended Session ????

WHAT : Extended Session is our program for children ages 3 years (as of Sept 1) through Kindergarten. Because a full hour of worship is sometimes difficult for this age group, we provide a wonderful and safe place where the children can play. Younger children are invited to be cared for in our nursery and older children are invited to remain with their parents in the sanctuary.

WHEN: Extended Session begins immediately following the Time on the Steps for children during the 11:00am worship service. The children will be led from the steps to the Narthex. From there, they will go to Room 305 in the Education Building. You will pick your child up at these rooms immediately following the 11:00 a.m. Worship service.

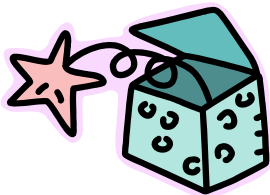
SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: Please make a name tag for your child and place it on their backs where it is visible for our volunteers. Name tags are also available in the Children's Worship Activity Bags.

EXTRA SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: If you see a visitor sitting nearby with small children, introduce yourself and tell them about Extended Session. After worship, escort them to the Education Building to pick up their child.

Ministries

A Word from "The Box":

Wow....things sure get exciting during our "time on the steps" during the 11am worship service. I've really been carrying some special things to share with Pastor Mark and the congregation. I've been noticing a lot of new kids on the steps and I want to make sure everyone gets a chance to take me home and fill me with something special to share. Because we have so many children and not so many Sundays, there's no way I can go home with every kid, but I'm sure going to try.



Beginning for the 1st Sunday of September (you need to check your calendars, I don't have hands to turn my calendar page to July...and Miss Val's busy with other kid stuff right now) I'm asking Miss Val to please wipe the slate clean in her box database. That means you will need to get your children's registration forms in to Miss Val as soon as possible. No form...no name to be drawn for the box. Because I want to get to know each child and these forms help me do just that.

If you've not already received the forms, I think there's some in the Narthex and at the KidzTown Welcome Center. (I'd go check, but I don't have feet and legs.) So be sure to get your forms in by September 1st so I can get to know your children a little better. (She wants me to sign my name....*but gee willerker*s....I don't have hands.) And remember, nothing *slimy*, nothing *living or dead*, or *weaponess*, or *corroded*. And you must be present to get to take me home! See you Sunday on the steps!

KidzTown Celebration Sunday

"Each Child is a Star"

Sunday, August 9th ~ 9:45am

Family Life Center

As the new school year is about to begin, at this time of the year we honor the children in our church as they are promoted into a new grade. In year's past this has always been done in conjunction with our Sunday School program and has been referred to as "Promotion Sunday." This year we want to change this a little bit. We are inviting all children and their families (children 3 years old as of September 1st through children who will be entering 5th grade) to join us for *Celebration Sunday*. We will be honoring all children of our church, even if they are not currently attending Sunday School, because here at KidzTown of Embry Hills, we believe "each child is a star!"

We'll be serving a full breakfast buffet with yummy food supplied by some very special friends here at the church. If you would like, though it's certainly not required, you're welcome to bring something to add to the table. Most of all we want you. We want you and your family to come and be part of our special morning. In addition to breakfast, we'll have special music, certificates will be given to the children, along with other surprises for the "stars of Embry Hills UMC." Please RSVP by Wednesday, August 5th by calling Valerie Harvard, Pastor to Children and their Families at 770-938-0661 ext. 114 or by email at valerieh@embryhillsumc.org.

What is Intentional Faith Development?

Intentional Faith Development refers to the purposeful learning in community that helps the followers of Jesus mature in faith, such as Bible studies, Sunday school classes, short-term topical studies, and support groups that apply the faith to particular life challenges.



Wednesday Workshop

Embry Hills is a great place to be. After hanging around for a year or so to get my bearings, I'm finally jumping into ministry here and I couldn't be happier. If you missed the announcement and bulletin insert on July 12, read on for more details. For those who were there and stepped up to help, Thank You! I can't remember a time when I have felt so supported and encouraged by my church family. Keep the help coming, it will take all of us to make Wednesday Workshop a great place for our kids.

This year, on September 9th, we (that's *all* of us at Embry Hills) will be launching an exciting new learning program for children in grades K-3. Children will come into a workshop environment where they can guide their own spiritual growth. Our kids will learn about the Bible and the United Methodist Church. They will serve the church, share God's love far and near, and find their own creative ways to connect with their faith and their church. They will do it all through their own choices of hands-on activities including games, puzzles, artwork and more. We're calling it Wednesday Workshop because it will be a workshop for our children – not a set of teacher directed lessons, but a space for children to explore and build on their own and with other kids.



For those of you thinking "I don't have children that age." Don't skip to the next article. This is a program that will thrive with the full support of all of Embry Hills. Right now, we are working to build the materials our children will start using in the fall. And we have plans available for more materials which need to be built. If you can sew, work with wood, cut, paste, find things on the Internet, shop, or cook, we have a job for you.

Please check the web-site for an updated list of items we need donated. Many things are coming in and others are being added to the list from week to week.

If there is one thing more rewarding than a look of sheer joy on a child's face, it is watching a child totally engrossed in learning and seeing their pride when they reach a goal. So jump right in and let me know how you can help. We'll be building all summer and into the fall. Contact Karen Gimnig (678-705-9007, gimnig@gmail.com) to share your talents.

W

ow! Does school really start this month? (I know, I know, but you will get to hang out with your friends everyday...) We've been soooo busy in Youth Ministries that the summer has just flown by!! Be sure to read about the last outreach project and the mission trip to see all that we've accomplished and the fun we had, too. Don't worry--there's plenty of the same in August! All 6th-12th graders are welcome and encouraged to get involved. **For more information or to be added to the Youth e-mail list, please contact Victoria Lawson, Dir. of Youth Ministries, at victorial@embryhillsumc.org or 770-938-0661, ext. 113.**

Sunday School: Sundays @ 9:45 a.m. in Room 403. Grab a couch cushion and join in the discussions. New faces welcome anytime!

Youth Fellowship: Sundays, 5:15-7:30 p.m., beginning in Family Life Center; \$3 for dinner. We will meet each Sunday in August but take note of some special times and events.

August 2: Extended hours of 3:30-9 p.m.—Lunar Golf (Discover Mills) & Dinner @ Victoria's home. We will be off-site, so **pre-registering is required** by contacting Victoria so that there is a ride for everyone. It's \$5/person for Lunar Golf (glow-in-the-dark putt-putt) and the regular \$3 for dinner. This is the Grand Finale of Youth Week 2009!

August 9: Parent Potluck Supper & Mission Trip Show-n-Tell. Those who represented you in Kentucky want to share their experience with you. Each family is asked to bring a dish to share; no additional cost for meal. Drinks provided. Parents will also be asked to sign-up to offer a dinner on a future Sunday night in the fall. We couldn't eat without you!

August 16: "Normal" YF. Special Note: **Amir's concert begins @ 7p.m.** Any Youth attending concert must pay ticket price (see article in this newsletter) and must sit with a parent or Victoria for the entire concert. We want to enjoy it, not disrupt it, right? ;)

August 23: "Normal" YF

August 30: 5th Sunday of the month = Game Night!!!! Sneakers are encouraged for those running around games.

Special Event, Saturday, August 1, 1-4 p.m., Family Life Center: Join in the final outreach

Youth Ministries



event of Youth Week 2009. We will be making sandwiches for **Trinity Table**, formerly know as the Trinity Soup Kitchen. Members of EHUMC will be taking these sandwiches to Trinity Table on Sunday, 8/2, to serve and feed some of Atlanta's homeless community. You WILL make a difference to someone this weekend by participating, I guarantee it.

Fall Confirmation Class for 7th & 8th graders: We will begin "classes" in September. Of course, you 7th & 8th graders expect be involved and probably even have guessed that your parents would be in on some things, too. There will also be Faith Friends to help you make the final decision about whether or not you feel prepared to confirm your faith and complete the rite of passage to become responsible for your faith development. What are these Faith Friends, anyway? Each confirmand will be partnered with an adult in the church family who will serve as Faith Friend--think mentor or maybe a guide. The two of you will work as a pair on several "assignments" through a 5 or 6 week period. (No, there are no tests or grades, I promise!). A few examples might be: *Attend a worship service together and talk about what you got out of it; Read a Scripture selection and discuss what was most relevant to you; Attend a church meeting together to see what happens "behind the scenes."* ; *Go over the membership vows together; Share a faith journal together--simply share ideas, thoughts, questions with each other by passing a journal back and forth.* Some contact will be in person, of course, but other times e-mail or phone will work, too. This person will stand with you as you are confirmed. **Sign up with Victoria by Sunday, August 23 to be a part of the 2009 Confirmation Class.**

Now that you know what's happening in August, let me tell you about a couple of things that took place in July ...

UMCOR Flood Buckets:

Nine of us spent Wednesday, July 15, filling eight 5-gallon buckets with a literal car load (trust me!) of cleaning supplies. Why, you ask? The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) gives such buckets to households affected by natural disaster so they can begin to clean up what must surely feel



like an insurmountable mess! It wasn't easy to stuff everything in there, but we did it and each of us added a prayer for those homeowners, as well. This outreach project was made possible by a gift from Lee & Linda Hockman and other designated Youth funds.

Thousandsticks Mission Trip: How to begin to describe a week that went so fast but was so full of giving and fun... Our projects were to complete a gaping hole in the middle of the Fellowship Hall at Thousandsticks UMC, repair flooring in the parsonage attic and replace flooring in the sanctuary attic. We accomplished that and more!! When we left, the Fellowship Hall had furniture back in place (the heaviest tables ever made), the parsonage attic was repaired and the work in the sanctuary attic was completed, as well as sorted and re-organized (and added a trip to the dump!). A few of us even began digging for the church van's new carport--they had to use a Bobcat machine to replace us on that one!



We took a few field trips, too. The area pool was refreshing, though I might inform you that the high dive is higher than it looks (next time I will jump, not dive!). We got up close, but not very personal, to some wild elk and were in awe. We took some time to play at the gorgeous Trace Branch Recreational Park, as well as treating ourselves to some very interesting (& cold!) shaved ice cones. There was even a little education involved when we traveled to the Red Bird Missionary Conference offices. We were sure to give support to the Red Bird Mission when we shopped in the craft store, too.

Each night we focused on what it means to love the Lord with all our hearts, souls, minds and strength, as well as to show God's love to our neighbors as well as ourselves (Luke

("Youth," continued on page 12)

Coming in September

Kick-Off Sunday

Our resident brass ensemble, *The Midtown Brass Quintet*, will once again join us as we celebrate the beginning of our fall season of worship together. Join us for this festival setting of the worship service as we lift our voices high.



Sunday, September 13—11:00 a.m.—Sanctuary

September 9, 2009: Wed. Evening Worship Arts Schedule Begins;
September 13, 2009—Sun. Afternoon Worship Arts Schedule Begins;
September 20, 2009—Youth Arts Choir Schedule Begins

There Are Souls And SAX To Fill!



Amir Zaheri, Organist and Director of Music and Worship Arts, will present an evening of 20th and 21st century organ repertoire. This very special evening will benefit the amazing ministry known as SNAX SAX! Every week during the school year, hundreds of bags are filled with healthy snacks by numerous volunteers. The bags are then delivered to our nearest Title 1 schools every Friday and distributed to students who may not be able to have such nourishment over the course of a weekend. Please come and help make this an event to remember for so, SO many!

Thursday, September 17—7:30 p.m.
Free admission—Sanctuary
A Special Offering Will Be Received to Benefit SNAX SAX!



("Youth," continued from page 11)

10:27). Thoughts were noted and shared, if so inclined. Songs and prayers were shared. At the congregation's generous potluck dinner, we were honored to present the prayer quilt from Embury Hills UMC. Looks like it will hang in their sanctuary! We also



got the chance to meet (or meet again) the Rev. Steve & Diane Springer, who joined us for our cookout. The Springer's are missionaries to whom EHUMC has given support for nearly two decades and it was great to spend some time with them.

"Adjust, Adapt, Accept" was heard often--I think we mastered the idea as we became a family for the week--working and playing; sharing and listening; worrying and laughing; caring and praying. In short, the experience was just about perfect!

Special thanks again to Al Coltrane, Brian Jones and Marcille Metaxas for giving their time and so much of themselves.

~Victoria Lawson

("Tzedakah," continued from page 1)

ingful way to give to others. However, I feared the moment when Mark asked where the money in the box came from. Fortunately, the service was running long and my name was never mentioned as the largest contributor to the box.

I like the idea of *tzedakah*; it promotes the idea of joyful giving. However, next time it might be cheaper for me to practice *teshuvah* (repentance).

Do you have a tzedakah box?



~Larry Donroe-Wells



**Do You Know
the 5 Practices
of Fruitful
Congregations?**

Worship Arts



Are you looking for ways to share your musical talents? The Worship Arts area, led by Director Amir Zaheri, is just the place you want to be. Read below all of the opportunities you (or your children) have to participate in this very special ministry.

Cherub Choir: For all 3 and 4-year old children, this group explores the art of movement, music and play, all while preparing our youngest for participation in worship.

Sundays – 4:00 p.m. - 4:45 p.m., Room 305
Elizabeth Washburn, director

Carol Choir: For our kindergarten and 1st grade young singers, this group helps begin the transition of the young voice into the middle-elementary music repertoire which is offered in worship regularly. *Orff* instruments are incorporated into this group's curriculum.

Sundays – 4:00 p.m. – 4:45 p.m., Room 312
Beverly Blissit, director

Junior Choir: Our 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th grade singers prepare music which is increased in challenge and helps to initiate the transition into upper-elementary and junior-high vocal repertoire. This group offers its musical gifts in worship regularly. *Orff* instruments are incorporated into this group's curriculum.

Sundays – 4:45 p.m. – 5:30 p.m., Room 312
Beverly Blissit, director

Young Ringers: For children in grades 3, 4, and 5, this hand bell ensemble rehearses weekly and serves in worship throughout the season.

Wednesdays – 5:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m., Sanctuary
Victoria Lawson, director

Tintinnabulum: The hand bell ensemble for all students in grades 6-12, this ensemble rehearses weekly and appears in worship regularly.

Wednesdays – 5:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m., Sanctuary
Victoria Lawson, director

Youth Arts Choir: For all students in grades 6-12, this ensemble rehearses throughout the entire year and serves in worship, tours regularly, and ministers through music to local and area communities.

Sundays – 4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m., Rehearsal Hall
Amir Zaheri, director

Praise Band: Embry Hill's own praise-leading ensemble is open to all, at any skill level, who play any traditional or non-traditional praise band instrument and to all who wish to participate vocally as well! No experience is necessary. This ensemble oftentimes accompanies portions of the Youth Arts Choir's repertoire and leads service occasionally as well.

Wednesdays – 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m., Chapel
Brad Deal, director

Chancel Choir: This ensemble is the resident choral group of weekly Sunday morning 11:00 a.m. services. The repertoire chosen is eclectic, challenging, and appropriate to the season. All are welcome to participate, regardless of experience or musical expertise.

Wednesdays – 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m., Rehearsal Hall
Amir Zaheri, director

Carillon Ringers: This ensemble is open to all and rehearses weekly. Serving regularly in worship, this ensemble prepares a wide variety of music and employs eclectic techniques and styles throughout its repertoire.

Wednesdays – 6:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary
Jen Brown, director

Cantors: There are several opportunities every month for cantors (vocal soloists who assist in the leading of worship). Please contact Amir Zaheri for more information on the many ways in which you might minister through your individual vocal gifts.

Cover Art Ministry: In an effort to elevate a passionate sense of worship, we celebrate the gifts of the visual artists of all skill levels in our community and invite you to help create the art that appears on the covers of our weekly orders of worship. Contact Amir Zaheri if you are interested in participating in this very exciting and rare form of ministry!

Wednesday, September 9—Wednesday Worship Arts Schedule
Sunday, September 13—Sunday Worship Arts Schedule
Sunday, September 20—Youth Arts Choir Schedule

BE INVOLVED.

BE CHALLENGED.

WORSHIP MATTERS.

Embry Hills UMC

EHUMC

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
2	3	4	5
<p>Youth Week</p> <p>SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE</p> <p>Youth: Lunar Golf & Dinner</p> <p>9:40am - Trinity Table Volunteers</p> <p>5:15pm - Youth Fellowship @</p> <p>6pm - SPRC</p>	<p>7:30pm - Sound of Music Singalong</p>	<p>10am - McElroy Circle @ 202/204</p> <p>1:35pm - Staff Meeting @ LCR</p> <p>6pm - Line Dancing @ RM-312</p>	<p>7pm - Chancel Choir @ Rehearsal</p>
9	10	11	12
<p>SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE</p> <p>9:30am - KidzTown Celebration</p> <p>5:15pm - Youth Fellowship @</p> <p>6pm - Finance Meeting @ RM-</p>	<p>4:45pm - 5-6-7-8 Dance Class @</p> <p>6pm - 5-6-7-8 Dance Class @ 312</p>	<p>1:35pm - Staff Meeting @ LCR</p> <p>6pm - Line Dancing @ RM-312</p>	<p>7pm - Chancel Choir @ Rehearsal</p>
16	17	18	19
<p>SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE</p> <p>5:15pm - Youth Fellowship @</p> <p>7pm - Summer Sang in Me @</p>	<p>9:30am - Yoga @ RH</p> <p>4:45pm - 5-6-7-8 Dance Class @</p> <p>6pm - 5-6-7-8 Dance Class @ 312</p>	<p>1:35pm - Staff Meeting @ LCR</p> <p>6pm - Line Dancing @ RM-312</p> <p>6pm - Yoga @ RH</p>	<p>7pm - Chancel Choir @ Rehearsal</p>
23	24	25	26
<p>Fall Confirmation Registration</p> <p>SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE</p> <p>5:15pm - Youth Fellowship @</p> <p>7pm - Children's Council Meeting @</p>	<p>EHUMC-Teacher's Return</p> <p>9am - Musical Beginnings Summer Camp - #3</p> <p>9:30am - Yoga @ RH</p> <p>4:45pm - 5-6-7-8 Dance Class @</p> <p>6pm - 5-6-7-8 Dance Class @ 312</p>	<p>1:35pm - Staff Meeting @ LCR</p> <p>6pm - Line Dancing @ RM-312</p> <p>6pm - Yoga @ RH</p> <p>7:30pm - Choir Board Meeting @</p>	<p>7pm - Chancel Choir @ Rehearsal</p>
30	31		
<p>SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE</p> <p>12:15pm - Potato Bar Luncheon @</p> <p>5:15pm - Youth Fellowship @</p>	<p>EHUMC-School Starts</p> <p>9:30am - Yoga @ RH</p> <p>4:45pm - 5-6-7-8 Dance Class @</p> <p>6pm - 5-6-7-8 Dance Class @ 312</p>		

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 3304 Henderson Mill Road
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 Phone: 770.938.0661
 www.embryhills.org

on exclusive contracts at 80%

Embry Hills United Methodist Church
 organist and director of music and worship arts
June 27th
 Cole Forter, Kurt Boeckrich, Henry Mancini,
 Stephen Sondheim, Lily Joel, and many, many more!!!
 Featuring music by some of the greats...

Embry Hills United Methodist Church
 Embry Hills United Methodist Church
 Dessert reception following performance
 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, August 16, 2009
 Tickets—general admission at door or more!
 \$15 (individual) \$25 (pair) \$40 (family of three or more)
 Doors will open at 6:15 p.m.—Childcare is provided

Make plans now to attend this memorable concert with
 soprano Amy Little and pianist Arac Zornell
 as they present an evening of some of the
 most beautiful songs ever written!

Amy L. Little
 professional soprano
 performs regularly with The Atlanta Opera

Summer Song in Me
 An evening of timeless and beautiful classics...

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Presented by the Music and Worship Arts Area, the Children's Ministry,
 and the Youth Ministry of Embry Hills United Methodist Church

Front lawn of Embry Hills United Methodist Church
 3304 Henderson Mill Road
 Atlanta, Georgia 30341
 770.938.0661
 www.embryhills.org

Monday, August 3
 7:30 p.m.
 Admission is free!

It's free!

The Sound of Music
 Sing-Along!

Make plans now to attend...

DID YOU SEE?

Restroom will be available!
 Bring a Lawn Chair!
 Bring a Blanket!
 Bring your Voice!

See it all in a large poster screen!

August Events

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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