



Saturday July 18, 2020

## COLEMAN & BUTTONWOOD CHURCH NEWSLETTER

Senior Pastor Lawrence Pelham & Associate Pastor Gail Stallings-Minor



### **A Walk of Faith** **Sis. Judy Pelham,** **Ph.D.**

*Trust in the Lord with all thine heart;  
and lean not unto thine own understanding.  
In all thy ways acknowledge him,  
and he shall direct thy paths.*

*Proverbs 3:5-6*

A colleague told me a story that had both of us “quietly shouting” one midweek morning. Both this lady and her husband were employed; however, his job afforded no benefits (no vacation, no sick leave, etc.). If he didn’t work, he didn’t get paid. A minor injury left him out of work for a few weeks, leaving them with only her income. As if that wasn’t enough, they had a major bill due within a couple of weeks. Their youngest child was going to college, and a payment was due. A regular tither, that Sunday morning this woman held her tithe in hand, written out in advance of arriving at church and thought about what she should do. She wondered if it was prudent for her to put the full tithe into the collection basket given her husband’s condition and their bills. She talked about watching the collection basket get closer and closer to her row, and she said, “God, I trust you” and simply dropped her tithe into the basket.

I don’t know if she cried in the pews that Sunday morning, but as she told me this story she teared up. And, honestly, even as I write about this now, I get misty-eyed.

A few days later, a family friend gave her a substantial check. Reportedly, she had not asked or complained about her situation, but the money came from the friend, “just because.” Within a couple of days, her child received a call from the college awarding this student a scholarship. Note: the “payment that was due” had been cancelled! God has promised us children many things. Among them, are that our needs will be met in line with God’s riches (Philippians 4:19).

Please note that the money was not of such a magnitude that she could quit her job, buy a mansion, or travel North America. But the finances that she received more than met the family’s needs. The scholarship meant that the school bill simply went away. Eventually, her husband healed and returned to work and this lady of Christ continued on her faith-filled life’s journey, having added one more piece of evidence of the faithfulness of God to her life and to mine.

A typical call and response for those of us in the Church are, “God is good...and all the time...God is good.” This is an often-used call and response; however, will we really know if this is true if we fail to put God to the test (Malachi 3:10)? If we don’t lean on our faith in God as we confront trials and tests, how will we really know that God is good? If she had not put the tithing check into the basket, who knows what would have happened? Probably, she would have felt guilty given her tithing history. But there are two points from this story that strike me.

First, it is important to be clear in our own minds about what constitutes faithful behavior. Sometimes, our friends and associates will give us an “easy landing,” but not the right landing. A lot of us would have “understood” if she had decided to hold onto that tithe. I mean, after all, her husband was sick and had no income, and they still had bills.... Second, God works through people. The cynics among us might say that the family friend knew this family’s financial situation and that God’s goodness and her faithfulness were totally unrelated to either the love gift or the scholarship. However, God doesn’t drop money from the sky like manna. Instead, God works through our circumstances and people. Tithing, as obedience to God, is a walk of faith. If the facts and circumstances of our lives are always evident, then faith is irrelevant. Faith, however, says:

**“God, I don’t know how You will work this out, but I have confidence in Your power and faithfulness. And, because I know You love me, I can leave this problem with You.”**

**“God, You have already brought me a mighty long way; I believe You will continue to carry me the rest of the way.”**

**“God, I trust You.”**

# COLEMAN & BUTTONWOOD CHURCH NEWSLETTER

## PLEASE READ

### IMPORTANT MEETING SCHEDULED

Good Morning Coleman Family,

We pray this newsletter finds you safe and well at the end of a long week.

On behalf of Reverend Pelham, Pastor Stallings-Minor, and the Administrative Council we are writing to invite you to a very important **Churchwide Zoom meeting on Thursday, July 23<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm.**

A meeting planner will be sent to you on Sunday. Please click on the link within the meeting planner on Thursday to sign into the meeting, or call the phone number listed at the designated time. If you know others who are not on the email, or don't have email access, please share the phone number with them.

Thank You, Vernita Dorsey Council Chair

#### PENINSULA-DELAWARE CONFERENCE IMPORTANT FALL DATES

##### September

**Wed. September 9** – 6:30 pm – ZOOM Wilmington District Meeting with the Bishop and Pre-conference conversations (other district members welcome)

**Wed. September 30** – 6:30 pm – ZOOM Annual Conference preparation meeting to vote the rules of the virtual annual conference session. Voting members of conference only will be sent an electronic ballot voting number ahead of time by email. Those requesting written ballots will be sent ahead of time as well. Only voting members will be on ZOOM call. There will be a church designated for those without computer or WiFi capability.

##### October

**Sat. October 24** – 9:00 am – 11:00 am – ZOOM Executive Session for voting members of the clergy **only**. Each clergy will be sent an electronic ballot voting number ahead of time by email. Those requesting written ballots will be sent ahead of time as well. There will be a church designated for those without computer or WiFi capability.

**Sat. October 24** – 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm – ZOOM Laity Session for voting members of the laity **only**. Each lay person will be sent an electronic ballot voting number ahead of time by email. Those requesting written ballots will be sent ahead of time as well. There will be a church designated for those without computer or WiFi capability.

**Tue. October 27** – 6:30 pm – ZOOM Annual Conference information session to explain further the budget, district re-alignment and nominations. All are welcome as there is no voting, just information. There will be a church designated for those without computer or WiFi capability.

##### November

**Thu. November 5** – 6:30 pm – ZOOM Annual Conference information session to discuss the disaffiliation resolution. All are welcome as there is no voting, just information. There will be a church designated for those without computer or WiFi capability.

**Fri. November 13** – 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm – ZOOM Annual Conference Session for lay and clergy members of conference only. Each conference member will be given an electronic ballot voting number by email. Those requesting written ballots will be sent ahead of time. The session will be live-streamed for visitors and guests. There will be a church designated for those who do not have computer or WIFI capability.

**Sat. November 14** – 10:00 am – Memorial Service at Connection Community Church in Middletown, DE. This is by invitation only. The service will be live-streamed for visitors and guests

**Sat. November 14** – 1:30 pm (robing), 2:00 pm – Ordination and Commissioning Service at Connection Community Church in Middletown, DE. This is by invitation only. The service will be live-streamed for visitors and guests.

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**Date Extended**

**Deadline Tuesday July 21st, 2020**

**Coleman Church Family**

**Please send your response to the survey questions below.**

**Thanks to all who have already responded.**

## Action Item-Response Required

### Coleman 360 Survey

As a church it is important to understand our mission holistically. What would Jesus have the church be today? As we begin the process of crafting a new Mission & Vision for our church, we would like your answers to the following questions? **Please email your answers to Administrative Council Chairperson, Vernita Dorsey at [vdorsey315@gmail.com](mailto:vdorsey315@gmail.com) by July 22nd, 2020.**

1. What is the mission of the general church?
2. What is the mission of Coleman Church?

**Thanks for responding.**

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### Bible Study is Back

Reverend Lawrence Pelham is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom Bible Study.

Time: Every Wednesday at 6:30 PM; this is a recurring meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting– CTRL

Click here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82686971411>

Meeting ID: 826 8697 1411

One tap mobile

+13126266799,# US

(Chicago) +19292056099,,US  
(New York)

Find your local number:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/u/>

## Sunday Worship

Live Streaming Sunday Worship Service. Tune in at 11:00a.m. on Facebook.

**To log into the service go to the Coleman Facebook page or ctrl+ click on the link, <https://colemanmemorialumc.com/>**

If your able, call someone without access to live streaming and place the phone next to your computer microphone so they can listen in.

Service will be uploaded to YouTube which anyone with a phone should be able to see within 24 hours. If you miss any sermons go to our website and click on "Sermons".

## TITHING & GIVING

### Coleman Memorial

Giving methods: Pay by mailing a check to the church address- Coleman Memorial UMC 465 ½ Anderson Dr. Wilmington, DE. 19801- mail is being picked up, or via Vanco using the web address below, or if you prefer, through your banks online Bill Pay. <https://www.vancopayments.com>

### Buttonwood

Giving methods: pay by sending a check to P.O. Box 407 New Castle, De 19720 or if you prefer, through your banks online Bill Pay.

# COLEMAN & BUTTONWOOD CHURCH NEWSLETTER

Test your bible knowledge.

Who asked Pilate for  
Jesus' body after the  
crucifixion?

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Joseph of Arimathea

Solidarity Wednesdays with  
Rev. Joe Archie  
Peace with Justice Coordinator and  
the Wilmington District Superintendent.

“Solidarity Wednesday”, a series of webinars produced by the Peninsula-Delaware Conference. We will explore ways to be advocates for justice from a Christian perspective. Each Wednesday night at 6:30 pm from July 8<sup>th</sup> – August 5<sup>th</sup>, I will spend an hour hosting a leader or two from our community and you will have an opportunity to hear their stories and thoughts about how we can work for justice together. Enter questions and comments in the chat for us to answer and discuss.

- Each session will be a one-hour long zoom webinar. Please use the link below to register for any or all nights. After registering, you will receive an email containing the link and password for your selected session.

July 22 - Col. Vaughn Bond, Chief of Police, New Castle County. Col. Bond will be discussing new laws toward policing and talks of defunding the police.

*Thank You For Your Prayers*

You may have sent a card or took the time to make a phone call or you may have taken part in the celebration of life service or provided the repass.

You may have just supplied a shoulder to lean on or an ear to listen.

Most of all you showered our family with love and prayers.

We are grateful for all of your expressions of sympathy and condolences.

It is truly a blessing to be connected to the community of Coleman and the body of Christ that includes each of you. 🙏

Blessings of Christ,  
The family of Evelyn Moore

## “Nurses Corner”

### COMMUNITY MOBILE HEALTHCARE AND WELLNESS

What to Expect

Preventative Screenings, Immunizations

(Adults & Children)

Physical Examinations, Blood Pressure Check, Lab Tests

Referrals to Community Based Organizations

### July Schedule

July 22, 9:00 a.m. - Community Education Building

July 22, 1:00 p.m. - Rose Hill Community Center

July 29, 9:00 a.m. - Canaan Baptist Church

July 29, 12:00 p.m. - Knollwood Community Center

Please call to verify location

Phone: 302.575.8218