

**COLEMAN & BUTTONWOOD CHURCH  
NEWSLETTER**

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2020**

Senior Pastor Lawrence Pelham & Reverend Gail Stallings-Minor

*Happy Thanksgiving*



*There is always  
something for which to be*



Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life. It turns what we have into enough, and more. It turns denial into acceptance, chaos to order, confusion to clarity. It can turn a meal into a feast, a house into a home, a stranger into a friend.

Melody Beattie

# COLEMAN & BUTTONWOOD CHURCH NEWSLETTER



## *A Message from the Pastor*

Dear church family and friends,

If Thursday was, “Wish-It-Wasn’t-So Day” many might have a longer list than usual. The list of regrets might include: the pandemic with all of its restrictions, limitations and human loss; the racial and political climate in this country, and personal to us, the long time it is taking for the rebuild and refresh recovery from the fire damage to our church building. I am sure each of us would have our own personal list.

Fortunately, Thursday is “Thanksgiving” when the focus is on being grateful. There is a theory that if we consider first the people and things in our life that are positive, the list would be so long that there would be no time to reflect on the negative. I have found this to be true and recommend this order of reflection for gratitude every day.

Even in a year like this, we can give thanks for the blessing of life, for while we are yet alive, we can love and be loved; to love God and to love our neighbor. Lights at the end of the tunnel can be seen for the pandemic with the development of vaccines that will soon be available. The national election is over, and we have an opportunity to work on the many ills of this country. Most of all, we give thanks for God in all of God’s forms – God, Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit. As Children of God, we have the Holy Spirit, evidence of relationship to God that gives us purpose and value. Let us be forever grateful and give thanks and share with the world the source of our love, hope, joy and peace.

Happy Thanksgiving,  
*Pastor Lawrence Pelham*

## Rebuild/Renew Update

In the spirit of Thanksgiving, we are grateful for the progress that has been made. The building survived the fire, was dried out and fire-cleaning completed. Our insurance company, Church Mutual, has been good to us and already compensated for the fire damage. They are now working with us on required code upgrades in all the areas affected by the fire.

Our Capital Campaign is a success in progress and God continues to bless our church. Thanks to the generosity of our church family and friends, money received and pledged totals two-thirds of our goal of \$150,000. Special gratitude for the leadership of Bro. John Ridgeway who continues to support us but has passed leadership of the project to Sis. Cecilia Vanderhost. Let us be “All-in” until the end.

Currently, our Architect is preparing the architectural drawing required for getting a building permit from New Castle County. These drawings are more detailed than originally thought and are promised to be completed by Nov. 30. Our new electronic sign will be delivered this week and our installer has applied for the permit to install.

The pandemic has slowed everything down; however, we continue to make progress and now hope that we will be able to return to our building in the spring.

*Submitted by Pastor Pelham*



# COLEMAN & BUTTONWOOD CHURCH NEWSLETTER

## **How to Be Thankful, Even When You Really Don't Feel Like It**

Quarantines and social distancing have prohibited many from joining with family and close friends for nearly a year, and as Thanksgiving approaches that will likely remain the case for many.

This Thanksgiving will look different around the dining room table, but connection can still occur. Video chats and phone calls will be a resource we utilize well this Thanksgiving, but real connection can still occur from such unlikely platforms.

Perhaps gratitude can be found in using these options, and we can have authentic communications of where we all are in heart and mind. This is something to be thankful for, to have exchanges beyond the weather or superficialities, but to dive deeper into outlooks.

We are all struggling, but we are not struggling alone.

CS Lewis once observed, "It is when two persons discover one another, when, whether with immense difficulties and semi-articulate fumbling's or with what would seem to us amazing and elliptical speed, they share their vision and it is then that friendship is born. And instantly they stand together in an immense solitude."

Open communication can be something to be grateful for, not to continue to dig deeper into a pit of despair, but to help one another up in compassion and encouragement through authentic connection. It is through authentic connection that we realize we do not fight these fleeting hardships alone.

Check out these great ideas to make the most of your time together:

***Spirit of Gratitude***-The Coronavirus has disrupted the norm that we all had become accustomed to, and it showed us that runs on products, a roof over our heads, and food on the table are no small blessing.

***Life Updates***-This shift in perspective has reminded us that we can in fact find so many things to be grateful for, and we can carry that into the years to come after this virus has passed.

This also opens door of opportunity for ways to pray for one another through authentic connection in sharing how life really is going.

***Football Games***- After the scrumptious meal and perhaps seconds on pie many flock around the television set to cheer on their favorite teams, and this is not limited to being together physically. Setting up the laptop or mobile device and tuning to the same channel can still provide an opportunity to watch the game together.

***Enjoying Favorite Recipes***- For many food in itself is a love language. The making of old recipes, or the forming of new ones to share with one another, and that tradition can still endure even in an age where we are not physically together.

***Bible Reading***- For many during Thanksgiving celebrations, there is a time of reflection on scripture through sharing of a passage. Although Thanksgiving was not a tradition of the Bible, there are ample verses within the Word of examples of gratitude, thanksgiving, and rejoicing in the Lord. Choose a speaker to read passages aloud and provide time on the call for commentary, thoughts, or even sharing of times when you have seen the faithfulness of God.

***Games***- Often times families enjoy playing an old favorite game during Thanksgivings and the chefs in the family whip up the food. Charades, trivia games, or even inventing a new game could work as a possibility and still provide that opportunity for memories to be made.

***Prayer***- A thanksgiving blessing of the food through prayer is always a cornerstone of the meal. This is certainly a tradition that does not need to cease or be forgotten, for the blessing of Zoom and Facetime is the ability to converse together audibly as well.

**Fellowship is not canceled this year!**

Excerpts from Author: Cally Logan

# Capital Campaign Update!!

## \$106,183



**Raised to date:**

**Needed to meet the goal!**

## \$43,817

HONOR GOD  
with everything  
you own; give him  
the first and the best.  
PROVERBS 3:9-10

**We are "All In" to the End!  
Climbing Coleman's Campaign Ladder to  
\$150,000**



**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE PLEDGED SO FAR~THANK YOU TO ALL WHO ARE ABOUT TO PLEDGE~ THANKS BE TO GOD FOR ALL HE HAS DONE AND WILL DO!**

### \$\$\$ FINANCE UPDATE \$\$\$

On behalf of the Finance Team, thank you for being a faithful member of Coleman Church by continuing to support the church with your tithes and offering during these challenging times. By sending in your tithes and offering, we can continue to pay our obligations such as:

M&T Bank- Church mortgage, to ensure we have a place to worship once the restoration and renovation are completed.

Church Mutual - Insurance premiums on all of our properties (church, parsonage, and rental house) to ensure the all properties are insured with the adequate coverage. This includes the bus, so when we resume in-person service the bus will be insured and ready to transport our members to worship service.

We definitely want to make sure we pay the insurance, since Church Mutual has been and continues to be a great partner in working with Coleman by ensuring the church is in a good position for the renovation.

DELMARVA Power and Verizon (Telephone and Electric)  
We can continue to pay our employees, so there will be no loss of income due to the pandemic.

We appreciate your ongoing support and want to let you know we're here for you. If there's ever anything we can do for you and your family, don't hesitate to contact us. You are a valued member of our church family and your financial support is making a difference.

Finance Committee - Lanell Benson, Chairperson

**Peninsula DE Annual Conference Summary (PDAC)**

On Friday November 13th, 2020 from 1-5pm history was made in the life of the PDAC. For the first time ever, due to the pandemic, the 236th convening of the PDAC was held via ZOOM for lay and clergy members of conference only. We used electronic voting with the **raised hand** feature. The session was live-streamed for visitors and guests. There was also a church designated for those who did not have computer or WIFI capability.

Bishop Peggy Johnson opened the conference with scripture and talked about extending love and encouragement during this pandemic even though we can't physically be together.

She went on to urge us to come together in unity. Dividing is a failure of love but she remains hopeful that unity can prevail. She said that if we can admit that we don't always know everything, be vulnerable and listen to each others hearts that even diverse people can be united. She is thankful for the racial movement going on and wants us to continue trying to come together. We must operate out of the loving wisdom of God. When the world sees this in us, they will be more apt to join us. She believes that some ministries will be even better due to our new learning of online platforms.

Chelsea Spyres from Grace UMC gave the opening prayer. The song "We are yet Alive" was played and song by those on the zoom. We were reminded that we live on Native land with a presentation in reference to our native brothers and sisters.

**Voting**

The resolution to go from 4 districts to 3 was passed by a vote of 324 to 61 with 4 abstentions. Additional resolutions that passed were: Covenant Funding Budget for the now (3) districts which was a 7% decrease for 2021. The Board of Pension Rental Housing Allowance for retired & disabled clergy, the minimum Equitable Salaries for Pastors, Property Closures in the Dover district. There were no closures in the Wilm/Easton/Salisbury districts. Rev. Rob Townsend presented the Clergy/Lay Leadership Report which passed with 359 to 11 with 7 abstentions. Four churches were requesting disaffiliation from the conference: Groome UMC; Antioch UMC; Nelson UMC & Calvary UMC. After many questions and discussion, all were approved to separate from the PDC. Bishop Johnson prayed for each of these churches and then we took a 15 minute break. Upon our return from the break, Retiring Clergy were acknowledged and celebrated for their service. Rev. Justice & Rev. Townsend presented the "Call to Action" and summarized the work they've been doing with this initiative which includes Strengthening the Black Church and BOOM.

There will be a 2 week Racial Justice Pilgrimage Walk in 2022.

Wesley College summarized their agreement with Delaware State University which will make it a regular college effective June 30, 2021.

The Global Ministries Report was provided and included a video in reference to the 2020 Annual Appeal Offering which will go to the following:

1. Scholarships for seminary & local licensing school
2. Central Congo Partnership
3. Salisbury Urban Ministries serving people in need in inner city Salisbury.

2020/2021 Appointments were lifted, and included a Thank You to outgoing Lay Leader Yvonne Jackson from Buttonwood. Bishop Johnson announced the Memorial Service and Ordination & Commissioning Services coming up on Saturday November 14th. These events are invitation only but will be livestreamed for visitors. Sister Yvonne Jackson provided an awesome closing conference prayer and the 236th Peninsula DE Annual Conference concluded at 4:22pm.

**Respectfully submitted:**

**Lay Delegate to Annual Conference Vernita Dorsey**

Peninsula Delaware Annual Conference 2020

**CLOSING PRAYER**

by Sister Yvonne Jackson



Lord, as we come to the close of this annual conference day, we thank you for being in the midst. We come reminding ourselves that we will be your feet and hands in these trying times. Help us to remain faithful to you in everything that we do. Lord, we pray that everything that we have been doing in this place may glorify your name. If there's anything that we've done because of our selfish interests, Father we ask for forgiveness.

Lord, make us one with you - one in heart, mind, spirit, and love. Make us instruments of your glory and vessels of your praise. Let your righteous hand be seen in us and in the world. Let us now go forth empowered by Your Spirit, willing to do your will, and ever ready to love your people.

In Jesus' name, we believe and pray, Amen.



**Peninsula-  
Delaware**

Conference of the United  
Methodist Church

# COLEMAN & BUTTONWOOD CHURCH NEWSLETTER



## ADVENT SEASON

Advent 2020 begins on Sunday, November 29 and ends on Thursday, December 24.

Advent marks the start of a season of preparation that looks forward to the celebration of Christmas and the second coming of Christ. It is a time of reflection in preparing our hearts for the coming of Christ—we remember how our Savior humbled Himself to be born as a baby and live among those He would save. We remember the perfect life He lived doing the will of His Father, His sacrificial death on the cross, and how He was raised from the dead three days later, having paid the penalty in order to save all who would believe. Christians remember Jesus' promise to return again one day and restore everything fully. This season invokes feelings of expectation and hope! The word Advent comes from the Latin *adventus*, meaning "arrival" or "coming" from the word *advenire* (ad- "to" venire "come"). Advent is a reminder of how the Jewish people waited for the Messiah and how Christians and Messianic Jews wait for the second coming of Christ, today.

Week 1: Hope (or promise)

Week 2: Preparation (or waiting or prophecy)

Week 3: Joy (or peace)

Week 4: Love (or adoration)

While the differences in weekly Advent themes may be confusing, we can unite in our desire to quiet our hearts during a hectic holiday season and worship Jesus. There is no right or wrong way to observe Advent as long as you're coming to God with a sincere and open heart.

-Excerpted from *What Are Advent Readings?* by Asheritas Ciuciu

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

**United Methodist Student Day is Sunday November 29, 2020. This Special Sunday with offering calls the church to support students as they prepare for life in uniting their faith with knowledge. Since Student Day is coming, and I haven't received anything from any of you, I am highlighting my own grandchildren:**

**Grandson Eric L. Dorsey III** made the 8th grade High Honor Roll with six "A's" and two "B's". The teachers comments read: Outstanding effort, A pleasure to have in class, Keep up the good work.

**Grand-daughter Laila Spencer** made 10th grade Honor roll with 3 "A's", 3 "B's" and a high C.

**Grand-daughter Jurnee Ogunewale** who is in the 3rd grade made Student of the Week.

**Grand-daughter Lanaiya Mullen**, Howard College Freshman is still awaiting her grades but reports are promising.

Two year old **Grand-daughter Riyan Dorsey** will be celebrating her 3rd birthday on 12-5 and can recite all of her ABC's, count up to 20, and knows all her shapes and colors.

Yes we are proud grand-parents and spoil them every chance we get.

**If you have family, school, job or special events to highlight please send them in so we can celebrate with you.**

# COLEMAN & BUTTONWOOD CHURCH NEWSLETTER

**The Coleman Memorial United Methodist Women want to Thank everyone for using your vote to express your voice.**

**Please pray for all our new Congressional leaders and especially our new President. The world is more than ready for unity and peace.**

**Please remain faithful that through prayer and supplication things can change.**



**Our struggle is not yet over but the work has begun. The election of the first female vice president and first black person and Asian American to hold the position is a great start.**

## **SPOTLIGHT ON VICE PRESIDENT KAMALA HARRIS**

### **Who Is Kamala Harris?**

After attending Howard University and the University of California's Hastings College of the Law, Kamala Harris embarked on a rise through the California legal system, emerging as state attorney general in 2010. Following the November 2016 elections, Harris became just the second African American woman and the first South Asian American to win a seat in the U.S. Senate. She declared her candidacy for the 2020 U.S. presidential election on Martin Luther King Jr. Day 2019 but dropped out of the race before the end of the year. In August 2020, Joe Biden announced Harris as vice presidential running mate and after a close race, Biden and Harris were elected in November 2020.

### **Early Life**

Kamala Devi Harris was born on October 20, 1964, in Oakland, California. Reared in a predominantly African American neighborhood of Berkeley, she was brought to civil rights demonstrations as a toddler and sang in a Baptist choir.

Harris' mother, Shyamala, emigrated from India to attend the University of California, Berkeley, where she met Harris' Jamaican-born father, Donald. Shyamala carved out a career as a renowned breast-cancer researcher, while Donald became a Stanford University economics professor. Her mother also ensured that Harris and her younger sister, Maya, maintained ties to their Indian heritage by raising them with Hindu beliefs and taking them to her home country every couple of years. Harris' parents divorced when she was seven years old, and at age 12 she moved with her mother and sister to Montreal, Quebec, Canada. She learned to speak some French during her time in Quebec and demonstrated her burgeoning political instincts by organizing a protest against a building owner who wouldn't allow neighborhood kids to play on the lawn.

### **Education**

Harris attended Westmount High School in Quebec, where she founded a dance troupe with a friend. Returning to the States to enter Howard University in Washington, D.C., she was elected to the liberal arts student council and joined the debate team, en route to a B.A. in political science and economics. Harris then enrolled at the University of California, Hastings College of the Law, earning her J.D. in 1989.

### **Early Career**

After earning admittance to the State Bar of California in 1990, Harris began her career as a deputy district attorney in Alameda County. She became managing attorney of the Career Criminal Unit in the San Francisco District Attorney's Office in 1998, and in 2000 she was appointed chief of its Community and Neighborhood Division, during which time she established the state's first Bureau of Children's Justice.

### **San Francisco District Attorney**

In 2003, Harris defeated incumbent Terence Hallinan, her former boss, to become San Francisco district attorney. Her accomplishments in this role include the launch of the "Back on Track" initiative that cut recidivism by offering job training and other educational programs for low-level offenders. However, Harris also drew criticism for adhering to a campaign pledge and refusing to seek the death penalty for a gang member convicted of the 2004 killing of police officer Isaac Espinoza.



# COLEMAN & BUTTONWOOD CHURCH NEWSLETTER



## 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" A written copy of the sermon will be emailed out to those we have email addresses for the following week.

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/j/koUxTxQrG>

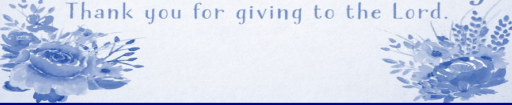
## Prayer Request

If you or someone you know is in need of prayer, please email your request to the church Secretary, Sister Mary Trotter at [cmumcde@gmail.com](mailto:cmumcde@gmail.com)

Please provide your name, email address & your prayer request. Please note if you **do not** want your request to be included in the weekly newsletter, if not noted it will be included for the entire congregation to pray for you.

## Tithe & Offering

Thank you for giving to the Lord.



### Coleman Memorial

Giving methods: Pay by mailing a check to the church address- Coleman Memorial UMC 465 1/2 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>  
Or CashApp @  
\$ColemanMemorial

### 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.



- Pray for the Coleman & Buttonwood Congregations.
- Pray for our Country and Nation.
- Pray for peace for all the families affected by COVID-19
- Pray for Pastor (s).
- Pray for yourselves and each other.
- Pray for all those experiencing homelessness.
- Pray for all the children.
- Pray for those experiencing abuse in any form.
- Pray for the success of the Capital Campaign, and return to church.

# COLEMAN & BUTTONWOOD CHURCH NEWSLETTER

## Holiday Reminders



Thanksgiving is on the way! Just a reminder to continue wearing your mask, social distancing, and although you want to have that large family gathering limit your social interactions. It has definitely been determined that wearing a mask decreases the chances of exposure to COVID. COVID 19 numbers are increasing.

As of Monday, November 23, Delaware is issuing new guidelines for gatherings. In your home, there are no limitations. However, remember that you or a family member could possibly have exposure to someone outside your family (work, school, anywhere there is a large number of folks). Some individuals never test positive but are carriers of COVID. So you won't know who has the virus.

Remember once in contact with the virus symptoms do not occur for 4-10 days after exposure. This is the reason for a 14-day quarantine following potential exposure. If during that 14-day quarantine you have a negative COVID test you must still maintain the 14-day quarantine. Symptoms can occur anytime during that quarantine period. If you test positive for COVID your quarantine period is 10 days because they go back 4 days from the date you indicate possible exposure to calculate your quarantine period. If it is determined you may have been potentially exposed you will be contacted by the Department of Public Health.

Let's do our part and WEAR A MASK and SOCIAL DISTANCE! If you are an individual who is in the high-risk category (age-related, health issues) please continue to monitor your interactions with others that are not your immediate family members. And family members are cautioned to monitor their interactions with others so that they do not expose their high-risk family member to COVID.

We wish for everyone to have a safe, healthy, happy thanksgiving! Have fun! Laugh, take deep breathes, and just enjoy yourself with your family!

" Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that has come on you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you."-- 1Peter 4:12 (NRSV)

God is creating something new in us regardless of what the circumstances are at this time. Take time to look for evidence of how God is creating something new in you and our church family. God Bless!

**Submitted by: Nurse Carol Moore**

## **New Castle County Revised COVID-19 Testing Sites**

New Castle County Executive Matt Meyer announced a revised New Castle County COVID-19 testing site schedule today leading up to the holiday. The testing sites are listed below. The testing sites are free and available to anyone regardless of symptoms. Tests are self-administered saliva based while maintaining social distancing. Families and all ages are welcome.

Dates and locations below:

Monday, November 23 2-6 p.m. Congo Funeral Home 2401 N. Market Street, Wilm.

Monday, November 23 2-7 p.m. Frawley Stadium 801 Shipyard Drive, Wilm.

Tuesday, November 24 2:30-6:30 p.m. Garfield Park Recreation Center 26 Karlyn Drive, New Castle, DE

Tuesday, November 24 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. William Penn High School 713 E. Basin Road, New Castle

Wednesday, November 25 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. New Castle County Government Center 87 Reads Way, New Castle

Wednesday, November 25 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Middletown High School 120 Silver Lake Road, Middletown

Saturday, November 28 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. University of Delaware's STAR Campus 540 S. College Avenue, Newark

**TO REGISTER, VISIT: [Curative.com](https://curative.com)**

**[https://curative.com/search#10/39.5942/-75.5961?  
utm\\_source=delaware.curativeinc.com&utm\\_medium=scheduler](https://curative.com/search#10/39.5942/-75.5961?utm_source=delaware.curativeinc.com&utm_medium=scheduler)**