



The Eastport Spire

“Inspire Us to Great Things”

August 2013

We share our experiences of God’s Kingdom with all, through our faith, love, fellowship, and service. It is our vision to have everyone actively involved in worship that enriches, ministries that empower, and evangelism that embraces all.

Pastor’s Corner

Dear Church,

You did it again! The 38th Peach Festival was a hit and everyone who worked hard and contributed in every way to make it a success deserves rounds of applause and congratulations – for jobs done out of love for the Lord through the congregation, through this annual event. Thank you all very much. Your dedication and faithfulness continue to inspire me.

As we all take a break after Peach Festival and before the new school year comes around the corner, I strongly suggest everyone take some time off to rest and relax. Please remember to stay connected to the Lord wherever you may be, and continue to hold our congregation in your prayers and keep your support of our ministries going. Vern and I will do the same. If you are “stay-cationing,” please join your church family in worship the rest of the summer.

I look forward to the fall when we continue our regular journey in discipleship together, loving and serving the Lord through worship that enriches, ministries that empower, and evangelism that embraces all.

~Your ever grateful, Pastor MaAn



Members and Friends of EUMC:

You are the best!! You made another Peach Festival a huge success. It was a pleasure to watch so many people come together cheerfully and cooperatively, working for the love of God, His church, and each other. Thank you Bill Malamphy and Eric Edstrom for your leadership. And thanks to each and every one of you for your part, no matter how small – each person who gave in any way contributed to this year’s success. God bless you all!!





2013 Peach Festival Corporate Sponsors

This year we had the most corporate sponsor participation for the Peach Festival. We would like to thank the following sponsors for their generous contributions. Their sponsorship is indicative of the respect and care these businesses have for our community and the work of EUMC. Please express your appreciation through continued patronage.

Gold Level Sponsors

(\$250 and up)

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Bru-Mar Gardens—Nursery & Gifts
C. Clary Contracting
Your Chesapeake Connection—Tom & Elizabeth Eicher
John M. Taylor Funeral Home, Inc.
Owen Contracting
The Severn Companies
Thistle Associates
Towne Park
Wells Cove Door Knocker Co.

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(\$150 and up)

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Winegardner's Auto Care & Radiator Repair, Inc.

Bronze Level Sponsors

(minimum \$50)

Marc Bowen Parole Service, Inc.
Premier Fitness
Sam's Club

Thank you Sponsors for your support!

Peach Festival

by Betty Tillack

The Peach Festival's over,
a great big "Amen!!"
But next year we'll be out there
to do it again.
With all the wet bodies and very red faces,
we'll count on you to be in your places.
With ankles all swollen and feet that are sore,
we always keep coming back for some more.
With pies, cakes and peaches
and more pickled beets,
It will be the time to stand on your feet.
So get it together, and get lots of rest!
'Cause next year we'll expect, as usual,
your very, very best.



Put These Dates on Your Calendar:

September 14 - UMM Program on Health Care
September 15 - Church Picnic
September 21 - Annual EUMC Fall Retreat
October 28 - Charge Conference



Gracious Greetings Part II

Joyce Conley would like to start an evening session of *Gracious Greetings* with the purpose of making greeting cards for "Welcome Home Maryland," an organization that welcomes home in-coming troops at BWI. In addition to greeting returning troops at the airport, Welcome Home Maryland provides goodie bags to the troops and is in need of patriotic thank you greeting cards which are included in the bags. If you are interested in learning more about this evening group please contact Joyce Conley, 410-267-8483.

Opportunities for Service at EUMC



This is the time of year when positions of leadership change or rotate within the congregation. Presently we have three significant leaders who will pass the torch on. Please give prayerful consideration to accepting one of these opportunities to serve:

Lay Leader: Functions as the primary lay representative of the laity in the local church. Responsibilities include:

Fostering awareness of the role of laity within the congregation;

Meeting regularly with the pastor to discuss the state of the church and the needs for ministry;

Membership in the charge conference and the church council, the committee on finance, the committee on nominations and leadership development, and the committee on pastor-parish relations;

Assisting in advising the church council of opportunities available and the needs expressed for a more effective ministry of the church through its laity in the community?

Church-School Superintendent: Superintendent of the church school or Sunday school who shall be responsible for helping to organize and supervise the total program for nurturing faith, building Christian community, and equipping people of all ages for ministry in daily life.

Church Treasurer: The church treasurer shall disburse all money contributed to the causes represented in the local church budget, and such other funds and contributions as the church council may determine. The treasurer shall remit each month to the conference treasurer all World Service and conference benevolence funds then on hand. Contributions to benevolence shall not be used for any cause other than that to which they have been given. The church treasurer shall make regular and detailed reports on funds received and expended to the committee on finance and the church council. The church treasurer shall be adequately bonded.

See the Book of Discipline 2012 for more thorough descriptions. There is a copy in the church office. Talk to Pastor MaAn about your interest in serving.

Registration for lay servants and church leaders' classes for the fall is now open. The link to the registration screen is:

<http://www.bwcumc.org/academy/cls/annapolis>

Please talk with Pastor MaAn about this.

Summer Reading Program Concluded



Fifteen children took part in the Summer Reading Program held weekly during July, learning all about “cute and creepy critters.” The kids devoured, figuratively, books about raccoons, skunks, dinosaurs, rhinoceroses, bugs, eels, bats, lizards, camels, bear cubs, piranhas, sharks, hippopotamuses, fawns, dolphins, giraffes, snakes, and alligators and crocodiles.

The volunteers – Charles Grayston, Dretta Peterson, Ann Rawls (and grandson Gage), Vern Renshaw, Joyce Roper, Ida Mae Sims, Pastor MaAn and I—learned some new facts too. Did you know that the black widow spider has 15 times the venom of a rattlesnake? Or that there is a crab-eating raccoon that lives in Central and South America and looks nothing like the species in the United States?

Regular participants in the Summer Reading Program will earn a trip to the Chesapeake Children's Museum on August 19.

Studies show that engaging in reading activities during the summer helps children to keep their skills fresh. So the kids should be ready when school convenes again. The regular Homework and Reading Ministry will return soon after the beginning of the new school year.

~Mike Keller



Welcome!

What Does a Great Welcome Message Look Like?

This was shared on Facebook by the West Virginia Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church:

What does an awesome welcome message look like? It looks exactly like what “Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Community” has in their church. This is a copy of what they hand out:

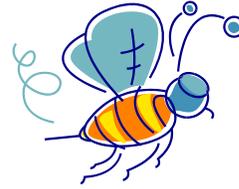
We extend a special welcome to those who are single, married, divorced, gay, filthy rich, dirt poor, yo no habla Ingles. We extend a special welcome to those who are crying new-borns, skinny as a rail or could afford to lose a few pounds. We welcome you if you can sing like Andrea Bocelli or like our pastor who can't carry a note in a bucket. You're welcome here if you're "just browsing," just woke up or just got out of jail. We don't care if you're more Catholic than the Pope, or haven't been in church since little Joey's Baptism.

We extend a special welcome to those who are over 60 but not grown up yet, and to teenagers who are growing up too fast. We welcome soccer moms, NASCAR dads, starving artists, tree-huggers, latte-sippers, vegetarians, junk-food eaters. We welcome those who are in recovery or still addicted. We welcome you if you're having problems or you're down in the dumps or if you don't like "organized religion," we've been there too.

If you blew all your offering money at the dog track, you're welcome here. We offer a special welcome to those who think the earth is flat, work too hard, don't work, can't spell, or because grandma is in town and wanted to go to church.

We welcome those who are inked, pierced or both. We offer a special welcome to those who could use a prayer right now, had religion shoved down your throat as a kid or got lost in traffic and wound up here by mistake. We welcome tourists, seekers and doubters, bleeding hearts ... and you!

EUMC.... What say you?



Environmental Film Festival

August 8

St. John Neumann Church

620 Bestgate Road, Annapolis, MD 21401

7:00 p.m. – FREE

Queen of the Sun: *What the bees are telling us* is a profound, alternative look at the global bee crisis. Taking us on a journey through the catastrophic disappearance of bees and the mysterious world of the beehive, this engaging and ultimately uplifting film weaves an unusual and dramatic story of the heartfelt struggles of beekeepers, scientists and philosophers from around the world including Michael Pollan, Gunther Hauk, and Vandana Shiva. Together they reveal both the problems and the solutions in renewing a culture in balance with nature. For more information contact Martha Scott at 410-295-7550 or at Zakiyyams@verizon.net



Outing to Bowie Baysox Baseball Game

The Eastport United Methodist Men are organizing an outing to see the Bowie Baysox in action on Friday evening, August 23. The cost is \$11.50 per person. A fireworks exhibition will be held that night as well.

All members of the church, including youth, are invited to take part. There will be car pooling from the church to the game. If you are interested in attending, please contact Jeff Bauckman at 443-758-4841 or Jim Wilcox at 410-268-7458. You must pay upfront to reserve seats. Last year's event proved to be a lot of fun. And the BaySox are in contention for the playoffs.

United Methodist Men to Sponsor Program on New Health Care Law

Major provisions of the Affordable Care Act (“Obamacare”) will be implemented beginning January 1, 2014. Marian Callaway, director of communications of Health Care Access Maryland, will make a presentation on the topic, “The Affordable Care Act: What *You* Need to Know *Now*”, on Saturday, September 14 at 2 p.m. at the church. The program, which is being organized by Eastport United Methodist Men, will address these issues:

- How will my insurance work if I am 65 or older?
- How will my insurance work if I am under 65 and my employer currently offers insurance?
- What happens if my employer does not currently offer insurance?
- How does the “individual mandate” work?
- How will my health care premiums and coverage change?
- What will be the impact of the Affordable Care Act on the deficit?

A large part of the program will be reserved to answering questions of those who attend. Light refreshments will be served. The program is free and open to the public. Please spread the word to those outside the church whom you think may be interested. For more information, see Jim Wilcox.

Hand Bell Concert



The Raleigh Ringers is an internationally acclaimed, advanced community hand bell choir based in Raleigh, North Carolina. Since its founding in 1990, The Raleigh Ringers have been dazzling concert audiences with unique interpretations of sacred, secular and popular music, including famous rock ‘n’ roll tunes arranged just for hand bells.

They will be presenting a concert in Joppa, MD on Aug 24th at 6:30pm. The cost is \$20.00. We would like to car pool to this event (It's an hour away from EUMC) with anyone who is interested. Please see Margie Hughes or Jill Peddicord if you would like to go and we will order the tickets. This is a really great show! Please consider joining us! ~ *Jill Peddicord*

Still Looking for Neckties From the Men of EUMC

Carol Emory and Sally Colburn are working on a mystery project requiring neckties. Is there one you don't want anymore? Please bring it to church, identified with your name.

Prayer Concerns List In the Bulletin



Once again we want to let you know that the prayer list in the Sunday bulletins will be started over each month. We are using other churches as models. When a notice appears the same week after week, after a while it isn't even looked at. You, the congregation, are responsible for giving us names each month. This is also a way of keeping the pastor informed concerning the health and welfare of friends and church members. Thank you for cooperating with this request.

Soda Can Tops for Ronald McDonald House

Students at Crofton Middle School will start collecting tabs to add to our church ones. You are encouraged to collect them at home or where you work, and place them in the marked container in fellowship hall. A ziplock bag works too. See Betty Tillack if you have any questions.

Eyeglasses for the Lions Club

We still collect used eyeglasses for the needy. There is a basket for donations in Fellowship Hall on top of the coat rack.

~*Joanne Christofel*

Excerpts from Sermon on Gratitude

by Pastor MaAn, July 14, 2013

Who of us woke up this morning thanking God that we are still alive?

Who of us thanked God that our senses are still operating and that our body is still functioning – we could get out of bed, walk to the bathroom, put on clothes, etc ...?

Who of us thanked God that when we turned on the faucet, water came out, light came on when we flipped the switch, and water was warm and ready for the cup of coffee or tea we usually have for breakfast?

Who of us thanked God for the seed, the soil, the sun, and the rain and the farmers and factory workers who made it possible for us to have food before we even came to church?

Who of us thanked God for the car that brought us here today?

To be grateful for the good things... is easy.... But To be grateful when life seems to be going against us is difficult.... Often when times are difficult and there seems to be no light at the end of the tunnel, all we can think of is the hardship that we or our loved one is going through.... How can anyone be grateful when all I am experiencing is anxiety, fear in the darkness that is threatening to drag me or my loved one into the pit of hopelessness?

Our faith assures us that though God does not grant us immunity from all the vicissitudes of life, God is with us through them. Trials can be opportunities for growing strong in many ways as we rely on the Spirit of the living God to walk with us through our difficulties.

Our earthly eyesight is limited while God's perspective is infinite. Perhaps the hardest thing any of us may have to accept is that some things may never be resolved this side of eternity. Finding things to be thankful for in that scenario can be a real challenge. Each of us must make a choice about how we're going to handle adversity. Choosing to give thanks in all circumstances can change our attitude. *How are you at giving thanks while dealing with difficult situations? Talk to God now for guidance and inspiration.*

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For Your Health.....



Drive Safely at Night

The National Safety Council affirms “traffic death rates are three times greater at night than during the day.” And certain factors, like age, can make you more susceptible to dangers during nighttime driving as well. There are a number of steps you can take to improve your odds.

Remember Those Reaction Times

The faster you're going, the longer it takes to bring your vehicle to a stop. The darkness dulls reaction times, too. Keep more distance than usual between you and the car ahead and take care to reduce your speed.

Turn Your Headlights On and Maintain Your Vehicle Lights

Many cars now have daytime running lights and/or automatic lights. If not, remember to flip the switch when the sun begins to set and not after it's already dark. Twilight is a dangerous time on the road – your eyes are in a constant state of adjustment. Using the high beams to your benefit – though not when there's oncoming traffic – will make nighttime driving easier on your eyes and expand your sightline as well. Inconsiderate or distracted drivers often fail to lower their high beams as vehicles approach. Avoid being temporarily blinded by the glare by keeping your eyes trained on the right side of the road.

Maximize visibility on both ends by cleaning any grime and muck off your car's headlights, signal lights, and taillights. Take the time to check that your headlights are angled correctly.

Do not let windshield wiper fluid run dry and windshield wiper rubber grow hard.

Eyewear is Your Responsibility

Wear your glasses or contacts as required.

Remember to slip those sunglasses off your face once the sun dips below the horizon. It's easy to accidentally leave them on long after it gets dark, without realizing it.

Be Aware of Increased Risks

Nighttime drivers are more likely to be tired. There's also an increased chance of encountering an intoxicated driver. Stay safe out there!

August Birthdays



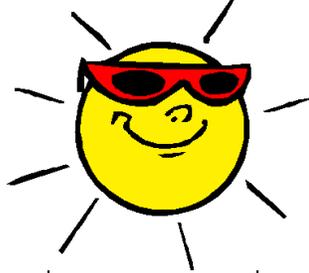
Aug 1	John Peret
Aug 2	Adam Valentine
Aug 3	Marty Dobbs
Aug 8	Bill Malamphy
Aug 17	June Stevens Colette Krebs
Aug 19	Carole Williams
Aug 20	Ruth Bowen
Aug 21	Joyce Conley
Aug 22	Jeff Conley
Aug 23	Rawle Green
Aug 27	Dave Wheeler
Aug 28	Lisa Parrish Tammy Lesley
Aug 29	Albert Stevens
Aug 30	Linda Harrison
Aug 31	Jean Strucko

August Anniversaries



Aug 4	John & Sue Peret
Aug 5	Richard & Margie Hughes
Aug 7	John & Debbie Morgan
Aug 8	Jeff & Joyce Conley
Aug 14	Bill Riggs & JoAnn Kulesza
Aug 21	Tom & Elizabeth Eicher
Aug 22	Ed & Sharon Owen

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 38 th Annual Peach Festival 12 – 5 pm 
	P e a c h W e e k					
4 •Worship 10am	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Rest and Relaxation!!					
11 •Worship 10am	12	13 District UMM 7pm	14	15	16	17
18 •Worship 10am	19	20	21 Food Pantry 1 to 3pm	22 ECCO 5:30pm	23 Bowie Baysox Game	24
25 •Worship 10am	26 UMM Prayer & Pizza 7pm	27	28	29 	30	31