

December 18, 2016



Unwrapping the Gifts of the Season

*Eastport United Methodist Church
926 Bay Ridge Avenue
Annapolis, MD 21403
410.263.5490*

Welcome to Eastport United Methodist Church

where we share our experiences of God's Kingdom with all,
through our faith, love, fellowship, and service.

Our vision is to have everyone actively involved in worship that
enriches, ministries that empower, and evangelism that embraces all.

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 18, 2016

10:00 a.m.

Gathering Music

Welcome

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Let us pray: **Come, now O Spirit of God. Fill us with your gift of love
so that it overflows to our neighbors in need.**

Sung Response: **Shine a candle into the darkness,
breathe new hope into our lives.
Wind your blessed peace around us
till the day when Christ arrives.
Shine a candle in the darkness,
wind your blessed peace around us.**

Songs of Praise

*Angels from the Realms of Glory – UMH 220
There is Joy in the Lord*

Prayer

Passing of the Peace

The Symbols of Christmas

Children's Sunday School

Children's Time

Special Music

Arise and Shine Forth – Sally DeFord
Wesleyan Choir

Communion Hymns

Agnus Dei
Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming – UMH 216

Sharing of Gifts & Prayer

The Unified Budget & Heaven Cent Basket for
Parish Fund/Benevolence Fund

*Closing Praise

The King of Glory Comes, TFWS 2091

*Blessing

*Praise Song to Send Us Forth

*Please stand as you are able.

Participation last Sunday: 133



Thank you to our talented group of Sunday School students for bringing us
the message of Christmas.

~

Thank you to Nicole Hughes and the other adults
who worked with our children to prepare this
wonderful pageant.

The Reverend Michelle Mejia, *Pastor*
 Nicole Hughes, *Junior Choir Director* Margie Hughes, *Heavenly Bells Director*
 JoAnn Kulesza, *Music Director & Organist*
 Bill Riggs, Sherrie Little, Sally Hight, Mike Keller,
 Bill Malamphy, Steve Parks, Joan Dove
Lay Speakers/Prayer Leaders
 Audrey Howard, Jean Strucko, *Worship Team Leaders*
 Sally & Kevin Hight, *PowerPoint Presenters*
 Shirley Owen, *Ushers Coordinator* Audrey Howard, *Greeters Coordinator*
 Kevin, *The Treats Dude*

THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK
December 18, 2016

Greeters: Carol & Bob Emory
 Welcomer: Anne Owen
 Ushers: Cyndi & David Councill
 Prayer Leader: Bill Malamphy
 Children's Time: Nicole Hughes
 Sunday School:
 Nursery: Nikki Finkle
 Jean or Dick Strucko
 Communion Assistants: Bill Malamphy (PL)
 Kathleen and Dylan Liedy
 Counters: Lisa Parrish, Mike Stevens,
 Jennifer Smith

Fellowship Time
 Cookies with Santa
 Worship Team & Congregation

THOSE SERVING NEXT WEEK
December 25, 2016

Greeters: Butch & June Stevens
 Welcomer: Sharon Stevens
 Ushers: Sonny & Shirley Owen
 Prayer Leader: Bill Malamphy
 Reader: Jean Strucko
 Children's Time: Pastor Michelle
 Sunday School:
 Nursery: Nikki Finkle
 Russ or Lisa Parrish
 Counters: Ruth Gibbons, Audrey Howard,
 Jackie Cunningham

Fellowship Time
 Coffee and Donuts

You may contact Worship Ministry Team Leaders and Pastor Michelle
 through the church office, 410.263.5490.

EUMC e-mail: eastportumc@verizon.net

Website: www.eastportumc.org

Pastor Michelle: eastportumcpastor@gmail.com

Thanksgiving

THE BLESSED SEASON OF ADVENT

State, Country & World

THE GIFT OF TRUE PEACE

Our Homebound Members

Leona Bergsman, Esther Gannaway, Norman Jones
Betty Storton, Nadine Clark, Ernie Mutschler, Elaine Hollidayoke, Mary Jones



December Prayer List



A new list will start on January 1st. Please use the yellow prayer cards in the pews for your prayer requests, or call/email the church office.

Please be aware: we will print concerns in the bulletin only if that box is checked on prayer card, or if you have notified us. We want to respect the privacy of individuals.

Jon Peret (Sue's son)

Amy (Kathleen Liedy's sister)

Bobbi Stewart (Steve Parks' aunt)

Harriet Macey (member)

Sue Finkle (member)

Margaret Terry (member)

Steve Duckett (member)

Tammy Lesley (member)

Chuck Ferrar (regular attender)

Jennifer R (friend of Amanda Owen)

Jeannie, Julian & Children (friends of JoAnn Kulesza)

Andy Stuntz (John's grandson)

Meredith (friend of Cierra Ploof)

Virginia Freeland (Justin & Liz Ford's aunt)

Ken Bergsman (Neil Bergsman's cousin)

Joke Jansen (Lizabeth Ford's mother)

Edelin Givi (Barbara Pearson's friend)

Lisa Jeanes and Family (Barbara Krebs' cousins)



Birthdays this Week

December 18 – Ernie Mutschler

December 19 – Jonathan Wilcox

Anita Andrews

December 20 – Russ Parrish

Leona Bergsman

Mark Goodnow

December 21 – Michelle Anderson

Brian Duckett

December 22 – Audrey Howard

December 23 – Margaret Terry

Rylan Standiford

Ryleigh South

December 25 – JESUS

And Chris Pulley too!



EVENTS THIS WEEK

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Monday, Dec 19 | Heavenly Bells 7pm |
| Tuesday, Dec 20 | Homework & Reading Christmas Party 4 - 7pm Trustees mtg. 6:15pm; Administrative Council 7:15pm |
| Wednesday, Dec 21 | Advent Study 10:30am and 6:30pm; Food Pantry Noon – 2pm; Kids Arts Club 4pm |
| Thursday, Dec 22 | NO Homework & Reading 4pm; Choir 7pm |
| Sat, Dec 24 | See worship times at the end of the bulletin; please note the new time for Christmas Eve services*. |
| Sun, Dec 25 | Worship at 10:00am |

Tai Chi will not meet on 12/ 21 & 28.



Poinsettia and Pantry donations are being taken until December 18. Poinsettias are \$10, and pantry donations are accepted in any amount.

Gift bags for Timothy House -- Please consider helping with this distribution after worship TODAY!



UMM Toy Drive: Thank you to all who have donated toys for the children at Eastport Elementary. **The toys and gifts will be wrapped on Monday, December 19 at 7 p.m.** Help is needed from members of the church, men and women, in wrapping the gifts.

As you plan your year-end charitable giving, please consider making a special gift to Eastport UMC. **We can't say it often enough - every gift makes a difference.**

If you have never given to Eastport UMC, we hope you'll consider doing so now.

If you made a pledge to Eastport UMC this year, **thank you!** If it is within your means, we hope you will consider an additional gift over and above your regular pledge.

Also, if you have not already, please remember to return your pledge giving for 2017 to the office or in the plate in an envelope marked for Russ Parrish, the financial secretary.

Thank you again for your support, and for your participation in our community life together - through worship, through missions projects and ministries, through children's ministries, through administrative and ministry teams, through Bible studies, **your presence enriches this community of faith.**

I wish you a blessed Advent and Christmas!

Pastor Michelle

Advent ♦ Christmas ♦ New Year Schedule

Advent Study

Wednesdays, 11/27 – 12/21 at 10:30 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 18

Children's Pageant

Cookies with Santa (following worship)

Saturday, December 24

Christmas Eve

***5:30 p.m. – Family-centered service**

***8:30 p.m. – Pre-service Christmas concert**

***9:00 p.m. – Communion & Candlelight service**

Sunday, December 25

Christmas Day

10:00 a.m. – Worship, a Service of Lessons & Carols

Saturday, December 31

New Year's Eve

Interfaith Service

6:30 p.m. – Pre-service music

7:00 p.m. – New Year's Eve Service

(refreshments following)

Sunday, January 1, 2017

New Year's Day

10:00 a.m. – Worship, a Service of Reflection and Renewal

Into the Darkest Hour
Madeleine L'Engle (1918-2007)

It was a time like this,
War & tumult of war,
a horror in the air.
Hungry yawned the abyss --
and yet there came the star
and the child most wonderfully there.

It was time like this
of fear & lust for power,
license & greed and blight --
and yet the Prince of bliss
came into the darkest hour
in quiet & silent light.

And in a time like this
how celebrate his birth
when all things fall apart?
Ah! wonderful it is
with no room on the earth
the stable is our heart.

