



The Eastport Spire

“Inspire Us to Great Things”

February 2015

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

I can’t believe it is February already! It seems like we just finished celebrating Christmas, and yet somehow February snuck in and the season of Lent is already upon us! Lent, that 40-day period (excluding Sundays) which takes us on the journey with Jesus to the cross and to the resurrection on Easter. Lent, that season which begins with the facing of our own mortality and sin on Ash Wednesday. Lent, that six-week walk which we use to lead us into deeper rhythms and practices of holiness, where we build our spiritual muscles to help prepare us to run the race of the Christian faith.

Often, during Lent, Christians will choose a spiritual discipline or holy habit to practice, or fast or refrain from something in order to live a more holy and centered life. Typically, come Easter, we go back to our pre-Lenten ways, ending whatever special practice or fast we have chosen. God’s plan and hope is that those spiritual practices and holy habits we begin to practice diligently will remain with us for the rest of our lives. God’s real goal is to make us holy. Most of us are capable of giving up chocolate for six weeks but God is more interested in us giving up the sin of gluttony. Most of us are perfectly capable of giving up bad language for six weeks but God wants us to stop using our language to hurt others altogether. Poet Alice Walker once said, **“Anybody can observe the Sabbath but making it holy surely takes the rest of the week.”** You get the idea.

This year, I encourage us all to make this Lent a time when we open ourselves to God’s work of further holiness in our lives, whether that is through daily prayer, Bible reading, fasting, or other spiritual practices. Here at Eastport UMC, we will also have many opportunities for building spiritual

muscles beginning with an Ash Wednesday Worship Service, Feb. 18th at noon and at 7pm in the Chapel. We will continue having noon services of prayer and communion each Wednesday during Lent followed by a light lunch. Here at Eastport UMC we will also have special Lenten studies, which will focus on prayer and practicing spiritual disciplines. They will be Wednesday morning and evening, and you can register through the office or on sign-up sheets in the fellowship hall so that we know how many books to order. For more details, contact the office.

We hope you can join us for one or both of these opportunities! If you can’t come, or if you’re looking for a way to start your own practice or rhythm to ready your mind and spirit for Lent, consider these 10 things to try during the Lenten season. (Courtesy of *The Upper Room*):

- 10. Try an electronic fast.** Give up TV, texting, Facebook, e-mail and all things electronic for one day every week. (or everyday of Lent!) Use the time to read & pray.
- 9. Start a prayer rhythm.** Say a prayer every time you brush your teeth, hear an ambulance, or check your e-mail. Before you text or talk to someone, pray for them.
- 8. Read one chapter in the Bible each day.** Mark or Psalms are a good starting place!
- 7. Forgive someone who doesn’t deserve it** (maybe even yourself.)
- 6. Give up soft drinks, fast food, tea or coffee.** Give the money you save to help folks in crisis.
- 5. Create a daily quiet time.** Spend 30 minutes a day in silence and prayer.
- 4. Cultivate a life of gratitude.** Write someone a thank you letter each week and be aware of how many people have helped you along the way.
- 3. Be kind to someone each day.**

2. Pray for others you see as you drive to and from work or walk to and from classes.

1. Volunteer one hour or more each week with a local shelter, tutoring program, nursing home, prison ministry or a Habitat for Humanity project.

~Yours in Christ, Pastor Michelle



Special News!

Pastor Michelle is delighted to share the good news with you that she will be ordained Sat. June 20th, 2015 in the Virginia Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church! Thank you to everyone for your prayers, encouragement, and support during this intense time!



It's Soup Sale Time Again!

The United Methodist Women will be bringing their famous homemade soups to Fellowship Hall on Sunday, February 1st for tasting and ordering. You will have another opportunity to order (no tasting) on February 8th. Soup pick-up day is Sunday, February 15th. Mark your calendars! Your choices will be: Ham & Bean, Chili, Potato, Taco, and Pea Soup. You might want to order several to stock your freezer to get you through till Spring.

UMW soup sale is one of the more popular fundraisers the ladies do. Monies from these events enable UMW to make donations to EUMC Building Fund, Vacation Bible School, Volunteers in Mission, and the Susanna Wesley House. UMW has assembled and sent birthing kits to Haiti, filled cleaning buckets for flood victims, and sent donations to Paso A Paso to assist a village in Guatemala in obtaining wells and to pay for children to go to school.

Covered Dish Luncheon February 8th – 11:45 am

**Hosted by Staff Parish Relations
and Lay Leadership Teams**
**Main dish and beverages will be provided. If
you are able, please bring a side dish or
dessert to share. Invite your family & friends
– everyone is welcome!!**

EUMC Recognized

On February 9 at the 7:00 pm City Council Meeting, Eastport United Methodist Church will receive the Martha Wood Leadership Award. Martha Wood was a community activist from College Creek Terrace and was instrumental in the initiation of a school lunch program for low income students as well as other endeavors. The award is given monthly to a deserving person or organization in the community, and EUMC was selected based on years of valuable service to the residents of the Housing Authority of the City of Annapolis and the community at large.



EUMC partners with other community leaders to hold a major Thanksgiving dinner for surrounding neighborhoods before Thanksgiving each year. We are partners in the monthly family night dinner for Housing Authority residents; we provide space and leadership in a weekly art program for the children of public housing, as well as the twice weekly Homework and Reading group made up of children in nearby housing. We provide a monthly food pantry which is open to all who need it. Our mission work through the church office continues to assist neighbors in need with food gift cards and monetary contributions to avoid eviction and electricity turn-off.

Our volunteers are examples of the Holy Spirit at work.... *“whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.”* (Matthew 25)



United Methodist Women

The UMW will meet for the months of **February and March at 2 pm** instead of the normal time of 5:30 pm. It is still the first Wednesday of the month. Since I have heard from a few ladies that they are having difficulty driving at night, the ladies who attended the January meeting thought we would try this and see how it works.

~Ann Rawls, President of UMW



Come Join Us During Lent!!

Ash Wednesday Service, February 18th

Noon and 7:00 pm in the Chapel

Each Wednesday during Lent we will have a special noon **service of prayer and communion** in the chapel followed by a light lunch. Dates are: **Feb. 25, March 4, 11, 18, 24, and April 1**. This will be a time to pause midweek and intentionally connect to God and one another. Pastor Michelle is seeking help with these brief services. If you'd like to give a reflection for one of these weeks, or help in any other way, please contact Pastor Michelle at: eastportumcpastor@gmail.com

Wednesday Lenten Studies will be held on prayer and spiritual practices. We are hoping to offer the same study both at 10:45 am and 7:00 pm on Wednesdays, beginning Wed. Feb. 25 and continuing each Wednesday in Lent (March 4, 11, 18, 24, and April 1). Please sign up on the sign-up sheets in the fellowship hall or through the office, so we know how many books to order. Suggested donation is \$10 to contribute to the cost of the materials and the church will cover the remaining expenses. If you'd like to see a preview of the study, go to:

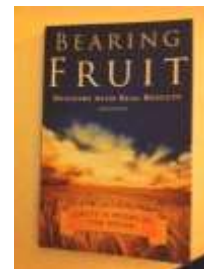
<http://wearesparkhouse.org/adults/animate/practices>

We are looking for hosts for the Lenten lunches. They are to be simple meals like soup and sandwiches for approximately 25 people. Contact Jill Peddicord at peddicorse@msn.com if you are interested in hosting one of them.

You're Invited!

Eastport UMC Administrative Council has been working to develop our church goals for 2015. One of the goals for this year includes entering an intentional process of prayer and discernment to seek God's vision for the future of Eastport UMC. As we move forward in ministry together, you are all invited to join the Council in this process. Every other month we will be coming together for prayer, fellowship, and discussion. (For want of a better name, this is being called the Vision Group.) All are invited to join us. The first date will be on Tuesday February 17th at 6:30 pm. As part of this process, we will be reading a short book together, called *Bearing Fruit*. Copies will be available in the office if you'd like to pick one up and join us! Here is the list of future dates:

- Tues. Feb. 17, 2015 (Intro & Chapter 1), 6:30pm
- Tues. April 21, 2015, 6:30pm
- Tues. June 16, 2015, 6:30pm
- Tues. August 25, 2015, 6:30pm
- Tues. October 20 or 27, 2015, 6:30pm (TBD)
- Tues. December 15, 2015, 6:30pm





Phone Scams

The truth is everyone is susceptible to phone scams. Scam artists will devise a highly believable story to solicit information from their victims. **That's why it is important to never give out any personal information over the phone if you are not the one who initiated the call** even if that person claims to be a law enforcement official or someone from your financial institution.

Here is one that is common right now:

Caller ID Spoofing: Generally, the scam works like this - you receive a call where total strangers pretend to be someone else and they back up their claims with "spoofed Caller ID". There are phone apps that allow the caller to make it seem that their phone number is coming from any number they put in...your bank, the police department, even you own home number! The scam artists might then ask for money, demand a payment, request your personal information, addresses, or banking info. People report getting calls from 'Secretary of State', grandchildren, law firms, IRS, and government officials. **The IRS will never call and demand money over the phone.**

Hang up, find the official number of the organization and call to report the incident. Also, don't send money - cash, check or money order - by courier, overnight delivery or wire to anyone who insists on immediate payment.

~ Jill Peddicord

Excerpts taken from online article
<http://800notes.com/arts/BMoEKwOEHQA/16-ways-you-can-be-phone-scammed>

Mark Your Calendars for Spring GreenScape

Happy New Year, GreenScape volunteers! I hope you all had a happy and healthy holiday. Even though we may be shoveling snow tomorrow, I would like to send you all the good news that the date for GreenScape 2015 has been scheduled! Mark your calendar for Saturday, April 25, 9 am to 12 noon at EUMC. Please read the following press release for more details about this year's event.



~Paulette Schwallenberg

CITY ANNOUNCES PLANNING FOR SPRING GREENSCAPE

(Annapolis, MD, January 5, 2015) — Join Mayor Michael Pantelides and the Annapolis community as we celebrate 24 years of making Annapolis a beautiful place during Spring GreenScape on Saturday, April 25. GreenScape is a volunteer effort that encourages and supports individuals and organizations to plant and maintain native gardens in public areas throughout the City of Annapolis. Volunteers clean up and plant flower and vegetable gardens in public spaces throughout the City. The City provides plant materials, mulch, trash bags and gloves; the community provides volunteers who want to make a difference in Annapolis.



Life Changes

Born December 23, 2014

Harlee Mae Jones

Stephen Jones & Brittney Linton, parents

Kylie & Ryleigh, sisters

Dallas & Brenda Jones, grandparents

Mary Jones, great-grandmother

Died January 24, 2015

William E. "Bill" Nutwell III

Barbara Nutwell's eldest son



Wisdom from the Web

When an old man died in the geriatric ward of a nursing home in North Platte, Nebraska, it was believed that he had nothing left of any value.

Later, when the nurses were going through his meager possessions, they found this poem. Its quality and content so impressed the staff that copies were made and distributed to every nurse in the hospital. One nurse took her copy to Missouri. The old man's sole bequest to posterity has since appeared in the Christmas edition of the News Magazine of the St. Louis Association for Mental Health. A slide presentation has also been made based on his simple, but eloquent, poem.

And this little old man, with nothing left to give to the world, is now the author of this 'anonymous' poem winging across the Internet.

Crabby Old Man

*What do you see nurses? What do you see?
What are you thinking when you're looking at me?
A crabby old man, not very wise,
Uncertain of habit, with faraway eyes?*

*Who dribbles his food and makes no reply.
When you say in a loud voice, 'I do wish you'd try!'
Who seems not to notice the things that you do.
And forever is losing a sock or shoe?*

*Who, resisting or not, lets you do as you will,
With bathing and feeding, the long day to fill?
Is that what you're thinking? Is that what you see?
Then open your eyes nurse, you're not looking at me.*

*I'll tell you who I am, as I sit here so still.
As I do at your bidding, as I eat at your will.
I'm a small child of Ten with a father and mother,
brothers and sisters who love one another.*

*A young boy of Sixteen with wings on his feet
dreaming that soon now a lover he'll meet.
A groom soon at Twenty, my heart gives a leap.
Remembering the vows that I promised to keep.*

*At Twenty-Five, now I have young of my own
who need me to guide, and a secure happy home.
A man of Thirty, my young now grown fast,
bound to each other with ties that should last.*

*At Forty, my young sons have grown and are gone,
but my woman's beside me to see I don't mourn.
At Fifty, once more, babies play 'round my knee.
Again, we know children, my loved one and me.*

*Dark days are upon me, my wife is now dead.
I look at the future, shudder with dread.
For my young are all rearing young of their own.
And I think of the years and the love that I've known.*

*I'm now an old man and nature is cruel.
Tis jest to make old age look like a fool.
The body, it crumbles, grace and vigor depart.
There is now a stone where I once had a heart.*

*But inside this old carcass a young guy still dwells,
And now and again my battered heart swells.
I remember the joys, I remember the pain.
And I'm loving and living life over again.*

*I think of the years, all too few, gone too fast.
And accept the stark fact that nothing can last.
So open your eyes people, open and see.
Not a crabby old man. Look closer see ME!!*

Remember this poem when you next meet an older person who you might brush aside without looking at the young soul within we will all, one day, be there too!

~ Submitted by Jean Strucko

February Birthdays



Feb 2 Sally Hight
 Evan Ugolini

Feb 4 Richard Miller

Feb 5 Thomas Smith
 Cailyn Johnson

Feb 9 Anne Owen

Feb 13 Earl Macey, Jr.

Feb 14 Jackie Cunningham
 John Allen Wilcox
 Luke Wilcox

Feb 15 Harriet Macey
 Betty Owen

Feb 20 Yaritza Edstrom

Feb 22 Jason Clurman

Feb 23 Jacqueline Ploof

Feb 25 John Stuntz

February Anniversaries



Feb 11 Guy & Dawn Moyer

Feb 14 Richard & Betty Miller

Feb 16 James & Shirley Keller

Feb 19 Jim & Jean Wilcox



Feb 22 Scott & Nicole Hughes

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www.eastportumc.org
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Editor: Eunice Corse





Lenten Studies begin February 25th

Eastport United Methodist Church		FEBRUARY 2015			410.263.5490	
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Chapel 9am Worship 10am – Sunday School 10:15am Nursery 10:15am	2 Bells 7pm	3 Homework & Reading 4pm	4 Methodist Women 2pm Kids Art 4pm	5 Homework & Reading 4pm Choir 7pm	6	7
8 Chapel 9am Worship 10am Sunday School 10:15am Nursery 10:15am COVERED DISH LUNCHEON	9 Bells 7pm	10 Homework & Reading 4pm Finance Meeting 6:30pm	11 Kids Art 4pm Columbarium Meeting 7pm	12 Homework & Reading 4pm Choir 7pm	13	14  Game Night 5:30pm 
15 Chapel 9am Worship 10am – Sunday School 10:15am Nursery 10:15am	16 Bells 7pm	17 Homework & Reading 4pm Trustees 6:15 Vision Group 6:30pm	18 ASH WEDS. Service 12pm Food Pantry 1-3pm Kids Art 4pm Service 7pm	19 Gracious Greetings 1:30 Homework & Reading 4pm Choir 7pm	20	21
22 Chapel 9am Worship 10am – Sunday School 10:15am Nursery 10:15am	23 Bells 7pm UMM Prayer & Pizza 7pm	24 Homework & Reading 4pm	25 STUDY 10:45am & 7pm Service 12pm & lunch Kids Art 4pm	26 Homework & Reading 4pm Choir 7pm	27	28

2015 MINISTRY TEAMS LEADERS AND MEMBERS

EDUCATION & NURTURE

Church School

Team Leaders: Valerie Devaris, Nicole Hughes
Adult Education/ Sunday Conversations: Various Leaders

Care of Members Teams

Team Leaders: Pastor Michelle and Jean Strucko
Administrative Assistant: Wendy Edstrom
Membership Secretary: Eunice Corse
Nursery Coordinator: Russ Parrish
Young Adults Coordinator (Socialites): Lisa Stevens
UMW Transportation Coordinators: Carol Hill, Harriet Macey, Harriet Newquist
UMW We Care: Paulette Schwallenberg
UMW Bereavement Lunches: Jackie Cunningham
Visitation Teams' Members: Eunice Corse/ Betty Tillack, Shirley Keller /Meijen Hong,
Sonny & Shirley Owen/ John Stuntz, Mary Jane Finkle/ Pud Schultz,
Bob & Donna McWilliams (visitors to Becky Dobrick)

MISSION OUTREACH

Missions/Outreach Team

**Regular meeting: bi-monthly (January, March, May, September, November)
on 2nd Tuesday @ 7:00 pm**

Team Leader: Jackie Cunningham
Joyce Conley, Barbara Pearson, Carol Emory,
Members: Jill Peddicord, Ann Rawls, Lorie Rawlings, Barbara Schwarz,
Cindy Macey, Bill & Sally Malamphy. Linda Harrison
Homeless Shelter Coordinators: Jim Wilcox, Jackie Cunningham
UMW Representative: Ann Rawls
UMM Representative: Jim Wilcox

Gracious Greetings Card Ministry

Meeting: 3rd Thursday of each month @ 1:30 pm

Team Leader: Joyce Conley
Participants: Mryna Dobbs, Jan Harmon, Sally Malamphy, Pat & Steve Parks,
Paulette Schwallenberg, Dick Strucko, Betty Tillack, and other friends

Eastport Community Center Outreach

Meeting: 1st Thursday of each month @ 5:30pm
Outreach Family dinner: 4th Thursday of each month @ 5:30pm

Team Leader: Ann Rawls
Participants: Audrey Howard, volunteers from the community

Homework & Reading Ministry

Meeting: Every Tuesday & Thursday @ 4:00pm when school is in session
Special arrangements in the summer months

Team Leaders: Mike Keller and Joyce Conley
Participants: Ann Rawls, Dick Strucko, Paulette Schwallenberg,
And volunteers from the community

Food Pantry

3rd Wednesday of each month; 10am set-up, 1- 3pm distribution

Team Leader: Jackie Cunningham

Pick up and delivery of food: Dave & Berlyn Wheeler

Participants: Shirley Keller, Betty Tillack, Bob & Carol Emory, Ann Rawls, Jean Wilcox

United Methodist Men

Meeting: 4th Monday of each month @ 7:00pm

Team Leader: Jim Wilcox

Assistant Team Leader: Mike Keller

*Members: Edgar Bowen, Mike Keller, Kevin Hight,
Eric Smaridge, Jeff Bauckman*

All the Men of the Church

United Methodist Women

Meeting: 1st Wednesday of each month @ 5:30pm

Team Leader: Ann Rawls

Assistant Team Leader: Wendy Edstrom

Secretary: Paulette Schwallenberg

Treasurer: Myrna Dobbs

UMW Transportation Coordinators: Carol Hill, Harriet Macey, Harriet Newquist

UMW We Care: Paulette Schwallenberg

UMW Bereavement Lunches: Jackie Cunningham

Members: All the Women of the Church are members

EVANGELISM

Evangelism Team

**Meeting: 2nd Tuesday of the month @ 6pm in September, November & May;
1st Sunday of the month after church in February & March**

Team Leader: Joan Dove

Assistant Team Leader: Harriet Macey

Members: Joyce Conley, Tammy Lesley, Anne Owen, Pud Schultz, Barbara Krebs

Communications

Team Leader: Eunice Corse

Publicity: Joyce Conley

The Spire Editor: Eunice Corse

Office Liaison: Wendy Edstrom

The Spire Interviewer: Lisa Parrish

Face Book and Web "Spider Woman": Eunice Corse

WORSHIP

Worship Team

Meets Quarterly

Team Leaders: Jill Peddicord, JoAnn Kulesza

Music Director: JoAnn Kulesza

Director of Heavenly Bells: Margie Hughes

Director of Wesleyan Choir and Prays Band: JoAnn Kulesza

Director of the Junior Choir: Nicole Hughes

Lay Speakers: Bill Riggs, Sally Hight, Sherrie Little, Mike Keller

In charge of Acolytes & Ushers: Shirley Owen, Jill Peddicord
In charge of Greeters: Audrey Howard
In charge of Paraments: Pat & Steve Parks
Communion Setup: Evie Swink, Sally Colburn, Eunice Corse
Wedding Coordinators: Paulette Schwallenberg, Sue Nasatka

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

TRUSTEES

Meeting: 3rd Tuesday of each month @ 6:15pm

Team Leaders: Joe Nasatka

Secretary: Kathy Volz

Treasurer: Eric Edstrom

Facilities Use Coordinator: Wendy Edstrom

Garden Team members (see listing below)

Class of 2015: Marty Dobbs, Edgar Bowen, Kathy Volz

Class 2016: Harriet Macey, Joe Nasatka, Thomas Schwallenberg, David Hollidayoke

Class 2017: Carol Emory, Jerry Lesley, Dick Hughes

Garden

Team Leaders: Joanne Christofel and Paulette Schwallenberg

Tractor Operators: Eric Smaridge, Steve Duckett, Sonny Owen

Gardeners: Mary Jane & Jim Finkle, Tom Schwallenberg, Shirley Owen,
Eric Edstrom, Jeff Conley, Joyce Conley, Marty Dobbs, Butch Stevens,

Scholarship

Meets in the spring

Team Leader: Wendy Edstrom

Members: Lisa Stevens, Valerie Devaris, Sue Peret, Harriet Newquist, Jeff Conley

Kitchen

Team Leader: Ann Rawls

Members: Jackie Cunningham, Shirley Ford, Shirley Keller
Myrna Dobbs, Harriet Macey, Betty Tillack

Occasional Volunteers

FINANCE/STEWARDSHIP

Meeting: 3rd Tuesday, bi-monthly, alternating with Admin. Council at 7:30 pm

Team Leader: Mitchell Krebs

Assistant Team Leader: Mike Stevens

Treasurer: Eric Edstrom

Financial Secretary: Russ Parrish

Administrative Council Chair: Bill Riggs

Lay Leader: Jean Strucko

Lay Member to Annual Conference: Jean Strucko

Alternate Lay Member to Annual Conference: Harriet Macey

SPRT Representative: Eric Smaridge

Trustees Representative: Joe Nasatka

STAFF PARISH RELATIONS TEAM (SPRT)

Meets Quarterly

Team Leader: Eric Smaridge

Lay Leader: Jean Strucko

Class of 2015: Jeff Bauckman, Debbie Morgan

Class 2016: Cyndi Councill, Michael Keller

Class 2017: Ruth Gibbons, Eric Smaridge

LAY LEADERSHIP (Nominations Committee)

Team Leader: Pastor Michelle

Assistant Team Leader: Bill Riggs

Lay Leader: Jean Strucko

Class of 2015: Mary Jane Finkle, Betty Tillack

Class 2016: Virginia Schultz, , Audrey Howard

Class 2017: Sally Malamphy, Bill Riggs

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

Meeting: 3rd Tuesday of Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, and Nov @ 7:30pm

Chairperson: Bill Riggs

Assistant Chairperson: Jill Peddicord

Secretary: Harriet Newquist

Lay Leader: Jean Strucko

Lay Member to Annual Conference: Jean Strucko

Alternate Lay Member to Annual Conference: Harriet Macey

Worship Team: Jill Peddicord, JoAnn Kulesza

Music Director: JoAnn Kulesza

Treasurer: Eric Edstrom

Finance & Stewardship Team Representative: Mitchell Krebs

Financial Secretary: Russ Parrish

Mission Outreach Team Representative: Jackie Cunningham

SPRT Representative: Eric Smaridge

Trustees Team Representative: Joe Nasatka

UMW Representative: Ann Rawls

UMM Representative: Jim Wilcox

Evangelism Team Representative: Joan Dove

Church School Representative: Val Devaris, Nicole Hughes

Youth Representative: Colette Krebs

Ex Officio Member: Pastor Michelle Mejia

Revised 01/09/15