



The Eastport Spire

“Inspire Us to Great Things”

June 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

Dear Church,

I can’t believe it is June already! I wanted to share with you some exciting opportunities that are coming up in my life and the life of our church. The first is this June 20th, 2015, when I will be ordained as an elder at the Virginia Conference in Roanoke, Virginia. Many people have asked me what will be different with ordination. Three years ago I was “commissioned” as a provisional elder, which gave me authority to administer sacraments and sent me into ministry for a term of service. In my ordination, I will become an elder in full connection, which sets me apart for a lifetime of service. The only outward and physical difference is that when I robe I will wear a stole, as a symbol of “yoke of Christ” (Matthew 11:30). In terms of the sacraments – baptism and communion, I have already had the authority to officiate these as a commissioned provisional elder. However, now my authority to do these things is no longer provisional, it is permanent. Also, ordination means that I will be recognized as an elder in United Methodist Churches worldwide, not just in our local conferences; as such, I could preach or officiate sacraments wherever I am.

During ordination the Bishop and other elders will lay hands on me, as a prayer and sign of the giving of the gifts of the Holy Spirit for a lifetime of service. The laying on of hands has happened throughout history all the way back to Jesus who laid hands on his disciples. The Virginia Annual Conference is planning to livestream the ordination service on Saturday June 20 at 7:30 p.m. If you would like to see the service, the link for the livestream is here:

<http://livestream.com/VAUMC/AC2015>

Another exciting honor that I would like to share with you is my selection as part of the Lewis Fellows program of the Lewis Center for Leadership at Wesley Theological Seminary for this next year. This program is a leadership development program for young clergy post-ordination. It is both demographically diverse (in race, culture, and geography) and ecumenically diverse (i.e., not just United Methodist clergy). Twenty-five of us will come together face-to-face three times throughout this next year. One of the three sites we will visit will be the Church of the Resurrection where Rev. Adam Hamilton serves as pastor. Many of you have participated in his Bible studies and have heard of his church, which is the largest United Methodist Church in the United States. Their average weekly worship attendance was 9,472 people in 2014. I am excited for this opportunity and for the learning I will be able to bring back to Eastport from this experience.

Finally, I would like to share with you that in early July, I have been asked by the Baltimore Washington Conference to participate in a young adult pastor’s exchange program to South Korea for ten days. Our Annual Conference and the Korean South Annual Conference is sponsoring this exchange program and will fully cover our travel expenses, room, and board. While there, our group of 7 pastors will be shadowing and learning from our colleagues in Korea. The Methodist Church is rapidly growing in Korea and it will be an exciting intercultural immersion experience! Next summer, our Baltimore Washington Annual Conference will be hosting some Korean pastors, and I believe Eastport UMC will have the opportunity to help host and interact with them. It is a great honor and privilege to be invited to go on behalf of our Conference and Eastport UMC, and I ask for your

support and prayers as our team travels and experiences ministry in South Korea.

I am grateful to God for these opportunities for growth. Thank you for the honor it is to be your pastor, and I appreciate your support and encouragement in these endeavors!

Grace & Peace, Pastor Michelle



◆UMW PICNIC◆

The United Methodist Women are having a June picnic at Paulette Schwallenberg's home, 110 Great Lake Drive, Annapolis, on Wednesday, June 3rd at 5:30 p.m. All the women are welcome. Please join us. We have a fun time together. There will be BBQ pork, baked beans, cole slaw and macaroni salad, and of course dessert. We will have a brief meeting to choose a treasurer. Please give the office a call to let us know you are coming.

UMW will not meet in July and August. The next meeting will be September 2nd at 5:30 p.m.

~Ann Rawls



**June Covered Dish Luncheon
Sunday, June 14 – 11:45 a.m.**

**Hosted by
Board of Trustees & Garden Team**

Main dish and beverages will be provided. If you are able, please bring a side dish or dessert to share. You're encouraged to invite family & friends – everyone is welcome!!

EUMC YARD SALE & BAKE SALE



Saturday, June 6 – 8 a.m. to 12 noon

(Please help us with set-up at 7 a.m.)

Please, no TVs, computers, or any other electronics. They do not sell. Last year we had to take a car full of TVs and computers out to Best Buy – that just takes up our time when we have so much to do. We do take books, but no text books. CDs sell, but VCR tapes do not. Please no shoes or clothing of any kind.

Price stickers will be available when you bring your items. Please price your items before or at the time you leave them – Monday thru Thursday, June 1st to 4th between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Please do not bring items on Friday, since that is the day we set up and organize the room. Lots of help is needed for this event.

~Myrna Dobbs, Sally Malamphy, Eunice Corse

Spread the Word Vacation Bible School is This Month!!



The fun begins June 22 and runs through June 26 from 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon each day.

All children ages 5 through 12 are invited to join us as we transform EUMC into the G-Force Adventure Park! This high energy program will rev up the desire to explore random acts of kindness while participating in a variety of action packed activities. The adventure includes energizing music, super science projects, cool crafts, random acts of kindness, delicious snacks, great games and more. Best of all it's FREE! To be a part of the excitement, call 410.263.5490 or better yet, use the following link to register directly:

<http://2015.cokesburyvbs.com/eastportunitedmetho dist>

~Jacqueline Ploof

This Year's Memorial Day Parade



A large group of hardy EUMC souls took part in the annual Memorial Day parade. It was a beautiful day to be in downtown Annapolis and a great way to recognize and honor the sacrifice of so many. Thank you to all who participated.



Graduation News



Andrew "Andy" Little
Son of Jack and Sherrie Little
B.A. Degree History
Certificate in
Secondary Education
Graduated Cum Laude
UMBC

Andy plans to teach History and English at the high school level. Congratulations Andy, from all of us at Eastport United Methodist Church!



40th Peach Festival

WOW! Can you believe it! Our 40th Peach Festival is fast approaching. This year it will be held on Saturday, August 1st from 12 noon to 5:00 p.m. As we embark on this tradition, we hope we will be guided by the leaders of the past and carry on this legacy with grace and gratitude.

This Festival is an "all worshippers" undertaking. We ask that each of you make your presence felt by attending, working and supporting this year's Festival in your own unique way. Bring a friend...remind your family members...ask neighbors...we would love to have them all.

We held our first planning meeting in May, and we're thankful that most area leaders have agreed to continue in their positions. The Peach Festival is EUMC's largest fundraiser, and as such, our goal is to have 100 percent participation by our worshippers—before, during and/or after our Festival. Sign-up sheets will be in our Sunday bulletins this month. Please contact Jackie Cunningham or Jean Strucko with any questions or suggestions.

Jars...Jars...We need all of your jars from beets and jams that you may have at home. Please leave them in the kitchen, and we will put them to good use very soon.

RESERVE Wednesday, July 22nd and Friday, July 24th to join us in the kitchen at 9:30 a.m. to can our famous Pickled Beets. Many hands make light work—plus it's a fun day of fellowship. Men and women are needed for this task.

Silent Auction...Please start collecting donations for our Silent Auction. Restaurants, hair salons, stores, services that you may use are good places to approach for a donation. Speak with Harriet Newquist, Paulette Schwallenberg or Wendy Edstrom for information and for letters to present to businesses. You are personally invited to donate baseball tickets and/or services such as baking a cake or cooking a meal, a special boat ride or free rentals. The Silent Auction tables are always a big

attraction. Use your imaginations for a unique donation and/or practical donation. Drop your donations off at the church office before July 15th between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Doll House...The Silent Auction Team will be selling raffle tickets for a doll house which will be featured among the silent auction tables.

Corporate Sponsors...Do you own, work for, or know a local business that would like to partner with EUMC as a sponsor for our 40th Annual Peach Festival? If yes, corporate sponsor packets will be available in the fellowship hall or can be downloaded from the church website (www.eastportumc.org) for you to approach the business for a Sponsorship. Remember, all sponsor donations are tax-deductible, and this is a great way to build a continued relationship with our local business community! Questions/comments, please contact Mike or Lisa Stevens at 443-822-9799 or mwaynes8@hotmail.com or lisayonka@hotmail.com.

Corporate sponsor donations are due by July 23rd.

June 10th at 7:00 p.m....You are welcome to join us for our next planning session. All are welcome to attend and give input to this major project.

~Jean Strucko



THE END OF AN ERA

After countless years, Val Devaris and Nicole Hughes have both stepped down as EUMC's Sunday School teachers. They were honored in the worship service on May 31st. Their contribution has been invaluable, and they have our eternal gratitude.



Soul Searchers



The Soul Searchers of Eastport United Methodist Church are ready for their 2015 season. Learn more about this group by following their link on our website www.eastportumc.org. Below is their tour schedule – we hope you will support these young people by attending one or more of these performances, **especially the one at EUMC on June 14.**

SATURDAY, JUNE 6

7:30 p.m.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church
1800 Seton Drive, Crofton, MD 21114

SUNDAY, JUNE 7

10:00 a.m.

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church
13106 Annapolis Road, Bowie, MD 20720

7:30 p.m.

Jenkins Memorial Church
133 Riviera Drive, Pasadena, MD 21122

THURSDAY, JUNE 11

7:00 p.m.

Christ Our Anchor Presbyterian Church
1281 Green Holly Drive, Annapolis, MD 21409

SUNDAY, JUNE 14

10:30 a.m.

Community United Methodist Church
8680 Ft. Smallwood Road, Pasadena, MD 21122

7:30 p.m.

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

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17

7:00 p.m.

Safe Harbor Presbyterian Church
931 Love Point Road, Stevensville, MD 21666

SUNDAY, JUNE 21

9:00 a.m.

Cape St. Clair United Methodist Church
855 Chestnut Tree Drive, Annapolis, MD 21409



EUMC Scholarships

The EUMC Scholarship Team is pleased to announce that we will be accepting scholarship applications for the coming year. Forms will be available in the church office starting June 1st and must be returned by July 6, 2015. You may also request the information be sent to you via email. Eligible students (full or part-time) are encouraged to apply. Be sure to check online with the Baltimore-Washington Conference for more scholarship opportunities. Information may be found at the following link: http://www.bwcumc.org/news/scholarships_available_bwc

~Wendy Edstrom, Scholarship Team

◆Missions Team News◆

The annual Mission Trip is an opportunity for *anyone* who has an interest in service – no special skills are required. Once again we are going to Brenton, West Virginia, to take part in the Appalachian Service Project (ASP). We'll be joining Calvary UMC and a few other local churches. The dates are Wednesday, Oct. 7 to Sunday, Oct. 11. Contact Jackie Cunningham if you are interested in participating.

EUMC Missions sent \$250 to the Susanna Wesley House and \$250 to African School through special offerings at Annual Conference delivered by Jean Strucko and Pastor Michelle.

We always need volunteers for Food Pantry the third Wednesday of every month. Over the past few months there have been more and more of our food recipients assisting others in receiving their food. It is so nice to see that they want to "give back" and that they feel so comfortable in our church.

Habitat for Humanity has volunteer opportunities in their ReStore Shop located in Pasadena. Also they will soon start a new build on Clay Street. We will let you know when volunteers are needed there.

Winter Relief will be held again this year during Thanksgiving week. We are seeking more men to help this year. There are opportunities even weeks

before Winter Relief starts. Contact Jackie Cunningham.

The next Missions Team meeting will be July 17.

~Jackie Cunningham

◆Worship Team News◆

The Worship Team met on May 24th and discussed many aspects of Worship here at EUMC. We had great input from 19 church members. As always, every member of the congregation is welcome at these meetings. It takes a lot of hands and hearts, working together with Pastor Michelle, to tweak and refine our worship services.

Many thanks to our Communion Bakers-Setup-Cleaners, Altar Guild, Building Openers-Closers, Audio-Video Crew, Ushers-Greeters, Garden Committee, Office Staff, Kitchen Crew, Lay Speakers, Pew Angels, Nursery and Sunday School volunteers, Musicians, Fellowship Hour hosts, our last minute problem solvers, and everyone who makes our worship services comfortable and spirit-filled.

~Jill Peddicord and JoAnn Kulesza



Congratulations to Dennis Bergsman

Dennis Bergsman has now achieved Boy Scouting's highest honor – the Eagle Scout Award. The expansion of EUMC's playground was Dennis' service and leadership project to meet one of the requirements for his Eagle Scout rank. Good job Dennis – we're proud of you!



Greeting Cards for our Troops

Our card making group, Gracious Greetings, and The Scrapbook Ministry of John Wesley UMC are having the Second Annual Card Making Marathon on Saturday, July 11, at John Wesley UMC, 2114 Bay Ridge Ave. Drop in between 10:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. and stay as long as you like! Cards will be made for Operation Welcome Home Maryland for their distribution to our military troops arriving at BWI. Last year's get together was enjoyed by many of us. Everyone is welcome! Supplies will be provided and kits and templates will be available for folks who believe they are not creative. Bring your own adhesives and supplies if you wish.

Snacks and lunch will be served. Please let Joyce Conley know if you plan to participate!

~Joyce Conley



BALTIMORE-WASHINGTON ANNUAL CONFERENCE INTRODUCTION

The governance of The United Methodist Church is made up of four levels.

1. General Conference: The United Methodist General Conference meets every four years with no fewer than 600, or more than 1,000 delegates. It will meet again in May 2016. At the General Conference sessions, delegates from all over the world vote on items which go to make up, amend, and add to the *Book of Discipline* and the *Book of Resolutions*. The General Conference is the only official voice of The United Methodist Church.

2. Jurisdictional Conference is the next largest body. There are five jurisdictions in the United States: Northeastern, North Central, Southeastern, South Central and Western. The Baltimore-Washington Conference (B-W Conference) is one of 10 conferences that belong to the Northeastern Jurisdiction. The Jurisdictional Conference meets every four years following the General Conference, and its primary function is to elect bishops for each conference.

3. Annual Conference is next. There are 133 annual conferences around the world with 59 in the United States. The B-W Conference, in the Northeastern Jurisdiction, is led by Bishop Marcus Matthews. This conference has 641 churches with approximately 177,000 members. Bishop Matthews presides over the annual conference session. This is the conference that Pastor Michelle and I attended in May to represent Eastport United Methodist Church (EUMC). We voted on the 2016 budget; new resolutions that were presented and approved to go before the General Conference; general business reports; and delegates to the General and Jurisdictional Conferences.

4. Regions and districts. The B-W Conference is made up of four regions. Each region has two districts presided over by a district superintendent. Eastport United Methodist Church is in the Annapolis District presided over by District Superintendent the Reverend Evan Young.

FYI: The basic policy-making body of the local church is the *Charge Conference*. EUMC's *Charge Conference* is usually held in October or November and is presided over by our District Superintendent. During the *Charge Conference* team leaders review the congregation's ministries; endorse candidates for ministry, e.g., Lay Speakers, Lay Leader, and Administrative Council Chair; and set clergy compensation.

~ Jean Strucko

EUMC is seeking people who are willing to teach Sunday School in 4 to 8-week units. Please see Pastor Michelle if you have an interest.

June Birthdays

| | |
|---------|--------------------------------|
| June 1 | Amanda Owen Jerry Lesley |
| June 3 | Ricardo Vasquez |
| June 6 | Courtney Morgan Hardie |
| June 8 | Marie Sims |
| June 9 | Pamela Pulley Shelly Wilcox |
| June 10 | Teresa Keller Betty Tillack |
| June 11 | Steve Parks |
| June 14 | Barbara Pearson |
| June 15 | Joyce Lorenz |
| June 17 | Vaughan Parrish |
| June 21 | Lynn Swanner Aaliah Savoy |
| June 22 | Jan Hopping |
| June 23 | Alaina Ugolini |
| June 24 | Darcey Schultz |
| June 25 | Sharon Stevens |
| June 26 | Donna McWilliams Sue Peret |
| June 27 | Ginny Davidson |

June Anniversaries

| | |
|---------|--------------------------|
| June 4 | Chris & Pam Pulley |
| June 11 | Eric & Wendy Edstrom |
| June 21 | Bill & Sally Malamphy |
| June 22 | Matt Ficca & Holly Green |
| June 25 | Jerry & Christy South |
| June 29 | Daniel & Michelle Mejia |

If your birthday or anniversary is not showing up in our bulletins and newsletters, it's because we don't have that information in our database. If you'd like them to be published, please send the dates in an email to the church office: eastportumc@verizon.net.

Welcome New Members!

Sharon Kopp

Alison Massey

The Spire is published monthly by Eastport United Methodist Church, 926 Bay Ridge Ave., Annapolis, MD 21403. 410-263-5490
eastportumc@verizon.net
www.eastportumc.org
Pastor: Michelle Mejia
Editor: Eunice Corse

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|---|---|-----------|--|
| | 1 Bells 7pm | 2 Homework & Reading 4pm Finance Mtg. 6:30pm | 3 Kids Art 4pm UMW Picnic 5:30pm | 4 Homework & Reading 4pm Choir 7pm | 5 | 6  8am to 12 |
| 7 Conversations 9am Worship 10am Nursery 10:15am | 8 | 9 | 10 Peach Festival Meeting 7pm | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 Conversations 9am Worship 10am Nursery 10:15am ▶ | 15 | 16 Trustees 6:15pm Vision Group 7pm | 17 Food Pantry 12 to 2pm | 18 | 19 | 20 Pastor's Ordination in Virginia |
| 21 Conversations 9am Worship 10am Nursery 10:15am  | 22 UMM Prayer & Pizza 7pm | 23 SPRT Meeting 7pm | 24 Lunch Bunch @ Sammy's 12:15pm | 25 ECCO 5:30pm | 26 | 27 |
|  Vacation Bible School  Monday through Friday 9:30am to 12 noon | | | | | | |
| 28 Conversations 9am Worship 10am Nursery 10:15am | 29 | 30 | |  It's SUMMER! | | |