



# The Eastport Spire

## “Inspire Us to Great Things”

### March 2014

*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.*

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## Pastor’s Corner

Dear Church,

After days and days of seemingly never ending snow days, you and I are ready to welcome Spring. With Spring comes the season of Lent, a time when we are all strongly encouraged to take part in Jesus’ journey to the Cross. To jump start that journey there will be Ash Wednesday services with Holy Communion at noon and at 7:00 p.m. on March 5<sup>th</sup> in the Chapel (For the rest of the Lenten/Easter schedule, I refer you to the schedule of the different services in this issue, and mark your calendars, please.). Please join me in either one of these services.

To those who have signed up for the six weeks study during the Wednesdays of Lent, thank you. I look forward to taking the journey with you for a meaningful celebration of Easter.

In the meantime, continue to hold steadfastly to the faith that God has given you. Pray for the grace to be open and receptive to the Spirit as she leads you into the future that God desires for you; a future which I hope and pray you will embrace wholeheartedly, trusting in the wisdom that God gives through your leaders and through each other.

Thank you for continuing to support the ministries of the congregation. Without you, they will not happen.

~ Grace & Peace, Pastor MaAn



## Message from the Philippines

February 4, 2014

Dear Rev. Barcelo:

*Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ!*

*In behalf of the UMC members who were severely affected by typhoon Yolanda (Haiyan) on November 8, 2013, I wish to thank the members of Eastport UMC for their total donation of \$4,000.00. This money becomes part of the calamity fund that will be used in the rebuilding and rehabilitation of our local churches and the homes of some of our members in the areas affected by this disaster. Indeed, your generous contribution will help ease some of the pain and hardship that our brothers and sisters continue to endure as a result of this natural calamity.*

*May God continue to abundantly bless you.*

*Sincerely,  
Bishop Ciriaco Q. Francisco  
Resident Bishop  
The United Methodist Church  
Philippines Central Conference*



## Pancake Dinner!

Don't forget to come to church on Tuesday, Mar. 4, for a wonderful pancake dinner and to help support the expansion of the playground. All proceeds will go to the church playground. Tickets will be on sale at the door. Come and bring a friend (or two). Can't make it at all? Donations are always accepted.

When: **Tuesday, March 4, 2014**

Time: **6pm – 8pm**

Cost: **\$12 adult, \$6 children**



## EUMC Socialites

**The Socialites are Gathering  
for March Madness at  
The Green Turtle  
177 Jennifer Road, Annapolis  
Saturday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>  
4:00 to 7:00 p.m.  
Children are welcome. RSVP Lisa  
Stevens by March 5th so they can get a  
head count.  
[info@mailva.evite.com](mailto:info@mailva.evite.com)**

## Covered Dish Luncheon

March 16, 11:45 a.m.

After Worship Service

Hosted by SPRT and Lay Leadership

Main dish will be provided – Mitch Krebs' famous corned beef & cabbage!

Please bring a side dish or dessert to share.

Everyone is welcome – members, friends and families. There is always plenty!



## News from Bill Riggs



Dear Church: I have contributed a chapter to a new book about the Vietnam War. It is composed of the reminiscences of members of my all-male college class (Dartmouth 1964) who served in the military, voluntarily or by conscription, during the so-called Vietnam Era. We were ripe for the picking; the intensity of the war escalated significantly in the years after we graduated; draft deferments for students became harder to obtain or maintain; and the nationwide draft lottery had not yet been implemented. Our stories, collectively called "Dartmouth Veterans – Vietnam Perspectives," is published by the Dartmouth College Press. It will be in bookstores on April 1, 2014, and it can be ordered online at [www.upne.com/161685497.html](http://www.upne.com/161685497.html). The book was edited by one of our classmates, Phil Schaefer. Not at all coincidentally, the book's release date has been timed to coincide with the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our graduation from college.

~Bill Riggs



## UMW Invitation...

The United Methodist Women would love to have you join them on March 5, at 5:30 p.m. Bring your own brown bag dinner. Dessert and beverages are provided. There is fellowship and great camaraderie at these monthly meetings, as well as interesting topics to learn about and discuss. Last month's guest speaker was a missionary to Paso A Paso in Guatemala. Your ideas and input about UMW's future mission work are needed.

~Ann Rawls, President, UMW @ EUMC

## Life Changes

**Jaden Vasquez**

Born to Carrie & Ricardo Vasquez  
and big brothers Ricardo, Jr., & Nathan



## 2014 Lent – Easter Schedule

### Ash Wednesday Services

March 5, 12 noon & 7:00 p.m.

### Wednesday Lenten Studies

March 12 thru April 16  
10:15 a.m. & 6:45 p.m.

### Wednesday Lenten Services

March 12 thru April 9  
12 noon followed by light lunch

### Cantata Sunday Service

March 30, 10:00 a.m.

### Holy Week

#### Contemplative Services

April 14, 15, 16  
12:15 to 12:45 p.m.

### Palm-Passion Sunday Service

April 13, 10:00 a.m.

### Holy Thursday

April 17, 6:00 p.m.

Covered dish dinner with Seder  
Remembrance followed by  
Worship & UMM Presentation

### Good Friday Service at EUMC

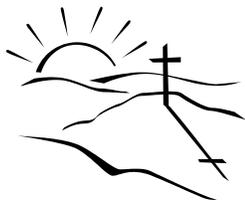
April 18, 12:00 noon

### Black Saturday – April 19

Day of personal prayer

### Easter Sunday – April 20

Sunrise Service, 6:00 a.m., Thomas Point  
Easter Day Service, 10:00 a.m. at EUMC  
Easter Egg Hunt follows



## District United Methodist Men Retreat

Those who attended the second annual retreat of the United Methodist Men in the Annapolis District at the West River Center were treated to a weekend of testimonies and praise, awesome music, uplifting messages, and insightful presentations and discussions. Jeff Bauckman, Mike Keller and Jim Wilcox represented Eastport United Methodist Church – which had the largest number of congregants present. Here are a few highlights.

► Greg Witte of Cedar Grove UMC gave a seminar on Lead Like Jesus Encounter, a course of study which focuses on how Jesus' ministry relates to the manner in which we operate today. Matthew 20: 25-28 provides the basis for Jesus' approach to leadership. Jesus called his followers to exhibit a radically different approach to leadership. Servant leadership is a mandate for all who follow Jesus. It is a transformational cycle that begins with personal leadership and then moves to leading in one-on-one relationships, then leading a team or a group, then leading an organization or community. Leadership, in Jesus' style, is something that you do *with* people, not something you do *to* people. Central to leading like Jesus is embracing a life purpose of loving God, serving people, and becoming doers of the Word.

► The Johnson Male Choir of Asbury Town Neck UMC electrified participants by a rousing concert of Gospel music.

► Andy Thornton, director of Retreat and Camping Ministries for the Conference, gave an inspirational message about how God calls us to leave our comfort zones and face our fears in pursuing ministry. You know that God is calling you when you feel stretched. Like Peter, we should "step out of the boat." It is when we get out of the boat that we grow and develop our faith. Then we too can walk on water. His message was followed by the "mime communion" performed by David and Carol Hill. It is especially powerful in a small group and left participants literally speechless.

► The men engaged in small group discussions about how to get more men involved socially and spiritually in activities within their churches and evangelistic efforts “outside the walls.”

► Several powerful, personal testimonies were heard – but none more moving than Robert Reyes’ talk about how he came to Christ while serving nine years in Maryland prison for a very serious crime.

Planning will begin soon for the 2015 retreat. Men of the church, consider attending. You will be blessed by taking part.

~Mike Keller



## **The Grand Adventures of the Bergsman Boys**

### **More from Dennis about Italy ...**

*On the train ride over, we were able to get a wonderful view of the Alps. I once again wondered how anyone was able to march an army of elephants all over these mountains in winter. We also passed through many villages. So many so that it appears to me that the Italian countryside is made of hundreds of quaint small towns with about a hundred meters of beautiful fields between them.*

*When we arrived I realized that Venice is truly a city paved in water, not just the canals but also the true streets were filled with water thanks to the rain. Unlike Milan, it is truly a city of the past. There was one bridge that looked like it was a good four hundred years old. As an activity we were given a treasure hunt that had us running around the city through this labyrinth of stone and water. We ran through narrow water logged streets and over ancient bridges to find ourselves in front of medieval churches and wells. And shops filled with glass and carnival masks. We had covered most of the city by the time we were done and met the teacher that assigned this task in the main square.*

*Venice is the most beautiful city I have ever seen and while I would hate to live there, I would love to be able to visit it again.*

### **What is Louis Bergsman up to?**

Many of you have asked about Louis: Where is Louis? What is he? Does he like it Indonesia? Here is some information from Louis...

#### Leaving the USA and heading to Indonesia

*On Aug. 31<sup>st</sup>, 2013, I left for Indonesia from BWI. It was a really long travel time, 30 hours in total. Along the way I steadily met more and more ETAs (English Teaching Assistants) and went through waves of excitement and nervousness and sheer exhaustion. We arrived in Singapore, spending one day there sight-seeing before heading to our sites for a quick 4 days of meeting people and getting paperwork done and then we all came to Bandung for orientation. I am teaching at an Islamic High School (actually it is a midrassah). More details on my blog "**Guru Lou**" and my conversation with two Buddhist students.*

#### Bandung Orientation: Sept 7<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup>

*We were treated by AMINEF to a really amazing orientation training experience. We stayed at the Trans Luxury Hotel in Bandung, the capital city of West Java. Definitely the nicest hotel I've ever stayed in: huge TVs, huge comfy beds, hot tubs, pools, a water slide, robes and slippers, just everything. Nothing was feeling very developing world at all. While there, by day, we were doing cultural training, guest lectures, and language training. By night, it was ETA-bonding time and we went on fun excursions to the different areas of the city and sometimes just to the bars. On our one day off we got lost hiking a volcano and turned a two hour hike into a 7 hour one. Since then, I've gotten much better at getting directions in Indonesian. But orientation was great, immensely helpful, and really nice to meet and become friends with the other Fulbright ETAs. It's a very, very diverse, interesting group of people and it's cool to be part of it.*

#### Back to Pekanbaru: Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup>

*I returned to my site, trained and ready to be an English Teaching Assistant! The idea of the Fulbright program here is that Fulbright wants to accomplish public diplomacy goals and their Indonesian partner organization AMINEF wants to*



**Leaders Needed!**



*accomplish educational goals. Between the dual set of responsibilities we are kept incredibly busy! Daily life entails navigating a foreign city and culture, lesson-planning, leading classes, giving impromptu lessons on language or culture to students and even teachers, and managing an endless onslaught of social invitations (karaoke, weddings, lunches, coffee, dinner, sleepovers, more weddings). What at first felt overwhelmingly stressful and crazy busy over time became manageable, if still crazy busy. In this time my sitemate, Taylor, and I were able to do some awesome trips to!*

Look for more on these awesome trips in the next Spire. In the meantime, if you have any questions you want to ask Louis, send an e-mail to Valerie ([valneill@verizon.net](mailto:valneill@verizon.net)) and she will get the answer for you.

*~Valerie Devaris (Bergsman Mom)*

It's time to think about Yard Sale and Vacation Bible School. These events always bring out lots of helpers, but first we need leaders to make some decisions and put things in motion. Please prayerfully consider taking leadership (or co-leadership) of one of these EUMC events.

Happily, we have leaders for Peach Festival (August 2); however the committees that make up this event are in need of help.



### **GreenScape 2014**

GreenScape is a city and community partnership investment in beautification, clean-up and planting in public spaces through Annapolis. For more than 20 years, hundreds of projects have been initiated and adopted by individuals, community groups and neighborhood associations.

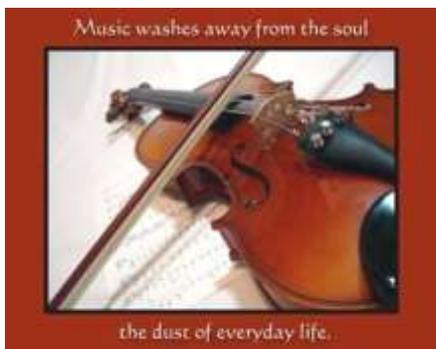
GreenScape planting occurs annually in April. The projects are year-round commitments for care, watering and weeding. This year's planting will take place on Saturday, April 26, 2014.

Eastport United Methodist Church has taken part in this program for many years. Please come on April 26<sup>th</sup> to the church from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. to help weed, pick up trash, mulch and enjoy the sun. Please bring your own gloves, rakes and gardening tools. If it rains the church will plan another date for this project.

There will be information in Fellowship Hall so families can pick sections of the Church yard to be responsible for. Consider an hour of your time for this project –it will make a big impact on the looks of the Church – we are the Jewel of Eastport!

For more information please call the Church office or Paulette at 410-268-5975.

*~Paulette Schwallenberg*



### **Easter Cantata March 30 Worship Service**

On Sunday, March 30<sup>th</sup>, EUMC choirs and guest musicians will present Song of the Shadows by Joseph M. Martin. This cantata is an invitation to contemplate the love and sacrifice of Christ. The composer wrote "...The earthly life of Christ began in shadows...the light of the world delivered himself into our darkness...wherever there are shadows, there is also light." Tracing in song the last days of the Savior, this deeply moving work is truly an opportunity to worship. Let us show JoAnn and the choir the support they deserve for their work and dedication – spread the word and invite friends and family to this special part of the Lenten Season.

## March Birthdays

Mar 2	Christy South
Mar 2	Evelyn Beall
Mar 3	Jean Wilcox, Katherine Wilcox
Mar 5	Ernie Schultz, Stephen Jones
Mar 8	Carol Emory
Mar 9	Carol Ann Stevens
Mar 10	Andy Little
Mar 13	Jill Peddicord
Mar 14	Vern Renshaw
Mar 17	Monica Hight
Mar 18	Paulette Schwallenberg Rebecca Bailey Virginia Gill, Sue Hadaway
Mar 19	Eric Smaridge
Mar 26	Barbara Nutwell, David Hill
Mar 27	Catherine Elliott
Mar 28	Arnold Hadaway
Mar 29	Thomas Owen
Mar 31	Sue Nasatka, Jennifer Smith

## March Anniversaries

Mar 3	Charlie Card & Nadine Clark
Mar 8	Tom & Michelle Outerbridge
Mar 12	Sonny & Shirley Owen
Mar 16	Ernie & Pud Schultz
Mar 21	Jim & Judy Bradford
Mar 31	Rawle Green & Barbara Schulz



### ***God's Wonderful Gift, the Story of Pentecost, is a Bible App for Kids***

Your kids will love “God’s Wonderful Gift,” the eighth story in the [Bible App for Kids!](#) Based on Acts 2:1–47, “God’s Wonderful Gift” uses delightful graphics and interactive storytelling to teach your kids about Pentecost and the Holy Spirit. It is completely free for any iOS, Android, or Kindle Fire device. Check it out at [bible.com/kids](http://bible.com/kids).

### ***Son of God* Movie in Theaters Now**



*Son of God*, a full-length feature film about the life of Jesus, arrived in theaters February 28. Featuring a score by Oscar®-winner Hans Zimmer, *Son of God* is brought to you by Mark Burnett and Roma Downey, producers of the highly acclaimed series *The Bible*.

***The Spire*** is published monthly by Eastport United Methodist Church, 926 Bay Ridge Ave., Annapolis, MD 21403. 410-263-5490  
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Editor: Eunice Corse

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<b>1</b>
<b>2</b> Conversations 9am-Chapel Worship 10am Sun.Sch. 10am	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Homework & Reading 4pm  <b>Pancake Supper 6-8pm</b>	<b>5</b> <b>Ash Weds. 12 &amp; 7pm</b> Art Kids 4pm  UMW Brown Bag Dinner	<b>6</b> Homework & Reading 4pm  Choir 7pm	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Game Night 5:30pm   <b>SET CLOCKS FORWARD</b>
<b>9</b> DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME Conversations 9am-Chapel Worship 10am Sun.Sch. 10am	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Homework & Reading 4pm	<b>12</b> Lenten Study 10:15am & 6:45pm  Service 12pm  Art Kids 4pm	<b>13</b> Homework & Reading 4pm  Choir 7pm	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> Conversations 9am-Chapel Worship 10am Sun.Sch. 10am	 <b>17</b> <div style="border: 2px solid green; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin: 5px auto;">Covered Dish Lunch Follows Worship</div>	<b>18</b> Homework & Reading 4pm  Trustees 6:15 Admin Council 7:30pm	<b>19</b> Lenten Study 10:15am & 6:45pm Service 12pm Food Pantry 1-3pm Art Kids 4pm	<b>20</b> Homework & Reading 4pm Gracious Greetings 1:30pm ECCO 5:30 Choir 7pm	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> Conversations 9am-Chapel Worship 10am Sun.Sch. 10am	<b>24</b> Bells 7pm  UMM Prayer & Pizza 7pm	<b>25</b> Homework & Reading 4pm	<b>26</b> Lenten Study 10:15am & 6:45pm Service 12pm Art Kids 4pm	<b>27</b> Homework & Reading 4pm  ECCO 5:30pm Choir 7pm	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> EASTER CANTATA Conversations 9am-Chapel Worship 10am Sun.Sch. 10am	<b>31</b> Bells 7pm					

◀ March 30, 10:00 a.m.  
Bring your friends to hear our vocalists  
and musicians present this year's  
Easter Cantata... "Song of the Shadows"  
by Joseph M. Martin.