



The Eastport Spire

“Inspire Us to Great Things”

March 2012

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

Brothers and Sisters in Christ, as we join together during this season of Lent in preparation for Easter, may we always remember the words of John Wesley paraphrased in this short ditty:

Do no harm by every word or deed;
Do good wherever there is need;
Remain attentive to God's Word;
Stay in Love with God; Stay in Love with God.

For whether you gave up something and/or took on something as your spiritual practice during this season of sacrifice and discipline in imitation of the Lord or as an offering of gratitude for all that he has done for us especially through his suffering and death, all of these, are beautifully summed up in this jewel of our Methodist heritage.

It looks and sounds simple enough, this ditty, doesn't it? But try putting each of its components into practice in daily life, and we begin right away to realize how difficult and challenging they can be. That is why we need to turn to God for the grace we need to carry them out. They are prescriptions of how we can be the better persons that God wants us to be and that we want to be for God, for those we love and those we interact with each day. And on our own, that is a goal often hard to accomplish.

The Lenten season we continue to be in this month of March is a God-given opportunity for us to more conscientiously work on living out this ditty in a more intentional and focused way. The Lord himself shows us the way.

Compelled by the Spirit into the wilderness, he fasted forty days and forty nights from food, yes, but also from everything that made life comfortable and living easy. He deliberately disciplined himself to saying no not just to evil but even to the good things of life. The experience strengthened him to meet the challenges of his life's work faithfully and without wavering.

As the body of Christ, we don't live our lives solely on human-made philosophies or viewpoints; we don't stumble our way through a maze of feel-good speeches, ideas, and opinions. Instead we put our trust in the Lord because in Him and in His love and grace for us, we find ourselves empowered by the tragedy of the cross and the triumph of the resurrection.

So in imitation of our Lord, I call on all of us to fast during this remaining season of Lent from everything that keeps us from growing in our relationship with God. Let us fill our lives with more time for God instead, in prayer, in reflective reading of the Bible, in worship, in holy conversations that usually take place in communal study and small group discussions. So that when life deals us with its blows, we are better equipped to meet them as Jesus did. And with Him we will experience what resurrection, even now, is really like.

Again, let this be our mantra during this Lenten season: do no harm; do good; stay in love with God. Get excited about being in love with our God – a God of grace and mercy; a God who loves **YOU!**
~Pastor MaAn

2012 LENT & EASTER SCHEDULE

Wednesdays during Lent

Feb. 29, Mar. 7, 14, 21, 28
10:15 a.m. and 6:45 p.m. Lenten Study
Noon Worship with Holy Communion
Light Luncheon

Cantata Sunday

March 25 10 a.m.

HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday

10 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday

12:15 p.m. Thirty-minute Contemplative Service

Holy Thursday

6 p.m. Dinner with Seder Remembrance
Passion Play

Good Friday

Noon Worship Service

Holy Saturday

Personal Prayer, Meditation and Reflection

Easter Day

Sunrise Service at Thomas Point
(Sun will rise at 6:39 a.m.—be early)
10 a.m. Easter Worship with Holy Communion
Easter Egg Hunt Follows the Service

Church Prayer List

Please take a good look at our bulletin prayer list and let the office staff know if those persons you have listed are now stable and out of crisis. We would like to keep this list current and also have room for new names as they are brought to us.



125 Years of Blessings & Service

Time is fast approaching for Eastport United Methodist Church's 125th Anniversary Celebration. Special events are planned for Saturday, April 21 and Sunday, April 22. Please come and join us!

On Saturday, we'll gather at Calvary United Methodist Church (CUMC) at 5 p.m. for an evening of fellowship, a shared meal, and a special program. Several former EUMC pastors will be joining us. Our Anniversary Team is using CUMC's fellowship hall for this event for two reasons: (1) their room will seat more people, and (2) EUMC members and guests will not be tasked with working in the kitchen. No cooking or cleanup for members on this special night! Our evening begins with appetizers, table displays for reminiscing, and socializing. A roast beef and fried chicken dinner follows at 6 p.m. with our special 7 p.m. program.

Sunday morning we'll start our day with a special worship service and music program at 10 a.m. District Superintendent Chris Holmes will be our guest preacher offering the reflection. Music offerings by our Wesleyan Choir, Prays Band, Soul Searchers, and Heavenly Bells are sure to be inspirational for all!

Anniversary Team members have been meeting, planning, and working on this event for the past year. Our team includes: Joan Dove, Wendy and Eric Edstrom, Audrey Howard, Harriet Macey, Ann Rawls, Pastor MaAn, Pud Schultz, Betty Storton, Jean Strucko, Margaret Terry, Kathy Volz. We hope all worshippers will join us in this special celebration!

~Jean Strucko, Anniversary Chair

Easter Bulletin Dedications

The Missions and Worship Teams will be accepting Easter bulletin dedications beginning March 18. This wonderful EUMC tradition assists in beautifying the sanctuary on Easter and also goes a long way in helping to fund food purchases for those in need. Please be sure to stop at the table in fellowship hall and order a lily or give a monetary donation that will be used to purchase food items.

~Joyce Conley, Missions

EUMC Bus Trip – “Jonah!”

Save the date! You won't want to miss this new production at the Sight & Sound Theater in Strasburg, PA on Thursday, June 28.

A brand new production of “Jonah” will be presented. Be prepared to set sail on an exhilarating journey with one of the Bible's most colorful prophets!

A massive production, “Jonah” features special breathtaking effects including a multi-faceted 40-foot-tall ship that breaks apart right before your eyes and an immersive underwater scene with a shocking reveal of the big fish that swallows God's misguided prophet!

This sweeping musical intertwines powerful themes of love, mercy, obedience and second chances. Have your heart and spirit moved as you witness Jonah's remarkable journey of rediscovery where he eventually finds himself and the all-merciful heart of God! Before the show, relax and enjoy the fellowship of friends old and new while dining on a DELICIOUS smorgasbord lunch at Shady Maple Smorgasbord.

\$103.00 Per Adult
\$84.00 Per Teen (13-18 yrs.)
\$67.00 Per Child (3-12 yrs.)

Itinerary

10:30 a.m. Depart Annapolis, EUMC parking lot
12:45 p.m. Arrive East Earl, PA at Shady Maple Smorgasbord
1:00 p.m. Smorgasbord Lunch
2:30 p.m. Visit Shady Maple Gift Shop
3:00 p.m. Depart East Earl, PA
3:30 p.m. Arrive Strasburg, PA Sight & Sound Theatre
4:15 p.m. Showtime! “Jonah”
7:00 p.m. Depart Strasburg, PA
(Fast Food Stop en route)
9:30 p.m. Arrive Annapolis, EUMC parking lot

Cost includes transportation, smorgasbord lunch, shopping visit to Shady Maple Gift Shop, reserved seats for the show, taxes and tips.

First come; first served with 30 seats available.
Contact Bob or Carol Emory at 410-268-1526 or carolemory7@aol.com.

Call for Volunteers

Church School Teacher. Val Devaris could use some help. Currently (and for a long time now), Val has been managing church school for the younger children and rarely able to attend a worship service herself. Further, it's been a long time since she's had a child in this age group.

Val has expressed her willingness to lead the teens and tweens who also need a leader, but one or more people will need to step up to cover the younger class. The future of the church is ultimately in God's hands. However, as part of this congregation, we have the responsibility to work with God's grace to ensure that future. And that means all of us stepping up to the plate to carry on the work of the church, foremost of which is the education of our young ones.

If we truly believe that “the young” are the future of the church, then, please find it in your heart and schedules to respond to this appeal. You do not have to be an expert to lead church school. Resources will be available to empower you to carry out this ministry. A team of two is what we urgently need right now to provide the education our little ones and our youth need to be the faithful disciples we and God want them to be. Please talk to Val or Pastor MaAn of your interest to serve in this vital aspect of our life together.

2012 Yard Sale Leader. Anybody out there interested in having a spring yard sale? Let us know soon if you would be willing to take on this project.

Coffee Hour Hosts. The list of open Sundays is on the bulletin board in fellowship hall. There are different ways to do this ministry, depending on your available time, energy, and resources. The simplest way is to let the church office staff know that you are hosting and would like the church to provide everything. The office or the Worship Team will make sure refreshments are there and you will then be responsible only for set-up and clean-up.

Lenten Study & History Trip

Beginning Wednesday, February 29, and ending Wednesday, March 28, our study will be “Methodism 101” – a good way to learn in depth what our denomination is all about as we approach the 125th anniversary of EUMC. Two classes are offered Wednesdays 10:15 to 11:45 a.m., and 6:45 to 8:15 p.m.

On Friday, March 30, we will tour Lovely Lane United Methodist Church and Museum in Baltimore. Founded in 1784, Lovely Lane is known as the “Mother Church of American Methodism.” Plans to stop for lunch and then visit Old Otterbein Church in Baltimore are still in the works. Everyone is welcome to join this tour; we will carpool from the church parking lot. Sign up in Fellowship Hall, or call the church office.

Job Opening

Exciting and rewarding position available for Peach Festival Chair or Co-chairs! Compensation is reward of service to EUMC and the congregation for the 37th Annual Peach Festival! Will you answer the call? Committee chairs are waiting to be called into action. Guidelines and schedules are in place. Prayerfully consider this position.



Altar Flowers

EUMC has recently changed to a different florist for the altar flowers placed in honor or memory of your loved ones and friends. The cost is \$25 for a single arrangement. Send an email or call the office if you would like to make a special dedication on an upcoming Sunday morning.

GreenScape 2012 & EUMC

Yard Cleanup

The Garden Team is excited to spruce up our church grounds in preparation of our Anniversary weekend! Join us to help with the spring cleanup of the church yard on April 7 from 1 to 4 p.m.

This year the City of Annapolis has scheduled GreenScape on April 21. We will only spread mulch that morning from 9 a.m. to noon since that is our Anniversary weekend and we definitely need your help!

For those of you who have not experienced this project, it is truly a joy to come together in fellowship and glorify the Lord as we clean up the grounds of His House. We hope to see you there!

~ Paulette Schawallenberg and Joanne Christofel



Picnic Moments & Memories

If you have memories and photos of EUMC Picnics in years past, would you share them with us? We want to include your stories and photos at the 125th Anniversary celebration this year. We’ll make sure your photos are returned. Please take a moment to write a few words to ensure your memories become timeless! Please give photos and stories to either Betty Storton, Kathy Volz, or Margaret Terry. Thank you!



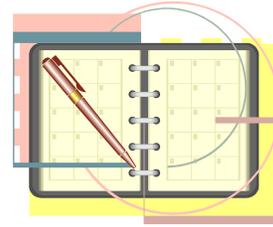


Just a little reminder...

Thank you for donating items to the church and the community! We appreciate your generosity but many items are left in fellowship hall without prior contact being made with an appropriate person. Please make sure boxes, bags, and household items are identified with labels stating who left them and for whom they are designated. Otherwise our space constraints require disposal of these items.

Young Adults Group

Calling all moms, dads, singles or any member who considers themselves a "young" adult! Relax and enjoy a fun social hour or two at McGarvey's Saloon & Raw Bar, 8 Market Space, downtown Annapolis, on Saturday, March 24 from 5 to 7 p.m. Unwind with a little "young" adult time while leaving the young ones behind. Email Lisa Parrish at lparrish@hotmail.com or call Lisa Stevens at 443-822-9799 for more details.



March Happenings

- 7 – Methodism 101 - 10:15 a.m. and 6:45 p.m.
United Methodist Women meeting – 5:30 p.m.
- 10 – Game Night – 5:30 p.m.
- 11 – Daylight Savings Time begins—*Spring forward!*
- 12 – Covered Dish Dinner – 6 p.m.
- 14 – Methodism 101 - 10:15 a.m. and 6:45 p.m.
- 15 – Gracious Greetings- 1:30 p.m.
- 20 – Board of Trustees – 6:15 p.m.
Administrative Council – 7:30 p.m.
- 21 – Methodism 101 - 10:15 a.m. and 6:45 p.m.
Food Bank distribution – 1 p.m.
- 26 – United Methodist Men 7 p.m.
- 28 – Methodism 101 - 10:15 a.m. and 6:45 p.m.

Please check our website www.eastportumc.org for updated information.

Devotional Minute

Behind the scenes, before He ever flung the stars into space, God had today in mind. He had this very week in mind. In fact, He had you in mind. And He knew exactly what He was going to do. God is never at a loss to know what He's going to do in our situations. He knows perfectly well what is best for us. "I will once again deal marvelously with this people, wondrously marvelous."

Isaiah 29:14

~Charles Swindol, *Beside Blessings*





March Birthdays

- 01 Christy South
- 02 Evelyn Beall
- 03 Jean Wilcox
- 05 Stephen Jones, Ernie Schultz
- 08 Carol Emory
- 09 Carol Stevens
- 10 Andy Little
- 13 Jill Peddicord
- 14 Vern Renshaw
- 17 Monica Hight
- 18 Virginia Gill, Sue Hadaway, Paulette Schwallenberg
- 26 Barbara Nutwell
- 27 Greg Colburn, Catherine Elliott
- 28 Arnold Hadaway
- 29 Thomas Owen
- 31 Sue Nasatka, Jennifer Smith

God's Chosen Ones

As God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.
Colossians 3:12



March Anniversaries

- 08 Arnold & Sue Hadaway, Thomas & Michelle Outerbridge
- 12 Sonny & Shirley Owen
- 16 Ernie & Pud Schultz



Every person I meet today is a child of God.

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*Below is a sample of the anniversary invitation to be sent out on or about
March 10, 2012. Be on the lookout!*

*Eastport United Methodist Church
125 Years of Blessings and Service
1887 – 2012*



*Rolling
into
the
Future ..*

Eastport United Methodist Church
Invites you to celebrate with us
“125 Years of Blessings and Service”

Saturday, April 21 - Banquet, Recognitions, & Entertainment 5:00 P.M. at
Calvary UMC ~ 301 Rowe Boulevard, Annapolis, Maryland

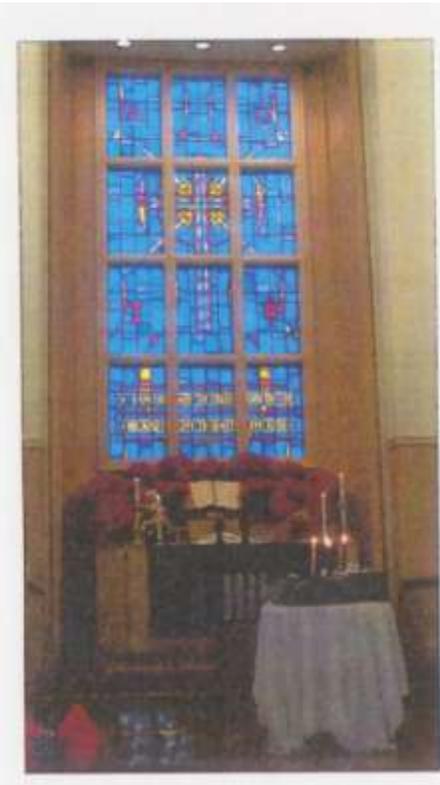
Sunday, April 22 - Worship & Praise Service 10:00 A.M. at
Eastport UMC ~ 926 Bay Ridge Avenue, Annapolis, Maryland
Special music will be presented

Please use this to indicate whether or not you will be able to attend, and how many people in your family will be attending. Include payment for dinner with response card.

Banquet Information

Adults	\$20.00	Children under 4 years	Free
Children ages 4-10 years	\$5.00		

Please make checks payable to:
Eastport United Methodist Church
On the memo line: Banquet
Thank you



We look forward to celebrating with you.
Kindly respond by April 7, 2012

M _____

_____ We will attend the banquet

_____ Number of Persons

_____ Check is enclosed

_____ We will attend the worship service

_____ Number of Persons

_____ We are unable, but hope your
celebration is wonderful.

EASTPORT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
125th Anniversary Celebration
Dedication Form

Some people want a means to recognize, remember and/or acknowledge persons who played significant roles in the life and history of Eastport United Methodist Church and to provide a means to help financially support the 125th Anniversary Celebration expenses.

(*Note- An honor is quite general; a tribute is generally for some specific act or gift.)

We will include the listing of these recognitions in our Sunday Celebration bulletin. Please complete the form and contribute what you are able and return the form to the church office or place in the offering plate.

We will not be listing amounts in the bulletin.

In MEMORY of _____ \$ _____

In HONOR of _____ \$ _____

In TRIBUTE to _____ for (specific act or gift) _____

_____ \$ _____

By _____

EUMC, 926 Bay Ridge Avenue, Annapolis, Maryland 21403
