



# The Eastport Spire

## “Inspire Us to Great Things”

### June 2023

*We share our experiences of God’s Kingdom with all, through our faith, love, fellowship, and service. It is our vision to have each person engaged in worship that enriches, ministries that empower, and missions that embrace and affirm all people.*

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## From the Pastor

Beloved of Eastport United Methodist Church,

Our God is making all things new! The old is gone, the new has come. The same spirit that blew across the waters of creation, that blew through the locked doors at Pentecost, is blowing through this place. God is constantly bringing about the new creation.

The Spirit of Pentecost is doing that same work in us, helping us to hear what we need and giving us the words to share Good News.

Sometimes the Spirit compels us to stand up as a community against forces bigger than any one of us. When we see the impacts of racism and generational poverty and abuse of God’s earth and endless gun violence and we get lumps in our throats so that it hurts to swallow, the Spirit is moving in us. And we hear God saying, this is not my vision for my world. The Holy Spirit helps us hear the call to speak out when others don’t. And when it’s unpopular. Even when people sneer and make fun. It is the Holy Spirit that lets us hear.

And it is this same Spirit that gives us the courage to speak. We are transformed from cautious disciples afraid to get something wrong into one who speaks boldly, trusting that God will provide the words. The Spirit compels us to look at the brokenness of the world and to speak up to say this is not God’s vision for God’s world.

This season of Pentecost, what message is the Spirit calling us to hear? And what is the Spirit calling us to say? Like those early disciples, may we receive the gift of this same Spirit so that we might hear and share God’s Good News.

~ *Grace and peace, Pastor Chris*

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## Sunday School

Starting in June we will have Sunday School the second and fourth Sundays of each month! Children will be dismissed with their

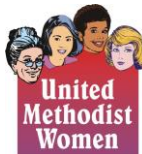


teacher during passing of the peace and will return to the sanctuary for Communion. If you are interested in helping with Sunday School, please contact Molly at [estabrook120@icloud.com](mailto:estabrook120@icloud.com)

~ *Molly Estabrook*

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## UMW/Women in Faith



The United Methodist Women/Women in Faith will hold a pot luck dinner on Tuesday, June 6, at 5:30 in the Fellowship Hall. This will be our last meeting for a few months until we reconvene in September. Please bring a main dish, side, or dessert to share. Drinks will be provided. All women of the church are invited to participate.

~ *Kathy Duckett*

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## Pastor Jenna’s Ordination

On June 11 Pastor Jenna Johnson will be ordained as a deacon in the New York Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. This is a huge



milestone in Pastor Jenna's life and ministry. Pastor Jenna will remain serving as the Assistant Director to the West River Camp and Retreat Center and we are delighted that she will continue serving with us at Eastport.

In gratitude to God we are presenting Pastor Jenna with a beautiful clergy robe. Thank you for making that gift possible!

What is a deacon? Deacons are clergy leaders who are called by God, authorized by the church and ordained by a bishop to a lifetime ministry of word, service, compassion and justice. Deacons exemplify Christian discipleship, nurture others in their relationship to God and lead church people to respond to the needs of the needy, neglected and marginalized of the world.

In the congregation, deacons teach, preach, officiate at funerals and weddings, offer pastoral care, assist the elder in administering Baptism and Holy Communion, lead discipleship development ministries and help lay people identify and claim their own ministries.

Outside the walls of the church, deacons share the good news in word and in their advocacy for the poor, neglected, oppressed and discouraged; provide ministries of mercy; and invite Christians into these ministries.

Congratulations Pastor Jenna!

*"Lord, your summons echoes true  
When you but call my name.  
Let me turn and follow you  
And never be the same.  
In your company I'll go  
Where your love and footsteps show.  
Thus I'll move and live and grow  
In you and you in me." ~ The Summons*

## Rings and Sings

The Heavenly Bells closed out their 'ringing season' on Pentecost Sunday with a rendition of *Every Time I Feel the Spirit*, arranged for six ringers. The bells have led us in to a number of services this year with a prelude. Whatever the number that can commit to a pre-determined Sunday, there are pleasant and lush pieces available to render a beautiful prelude. I would like to thank Val



Devaris, Kathy Duckett, Mary Jane Finkle, Liz Ford, Peanuts (Harriet Newquist), Anne Owen, Jill Peddicord and Jean Strucko (and Neil Bergsman) for their contribution to our bell pieces this season. May you all enjoy a restful summer with friends and family. Long may the bells resound!



The Wesleyan Choir's last anthem-singing Sunday will be June 11th. We have welcomed FOUR new members this year: Rachel Marie Goad, Rusty Mack, Mae and Les Johnson, even as we bade farewell to Chris Pulley as he and wife Pam move to their new forever home in Indiana, near their children. Our long-time faithful members Jill Peddicord, Charlotte Kerns, Mary Jane Finkle, Ed Owen and Bill Riggs continue to provide the pillars of the choir. I am grateful to the new and sustaining members for their commitment and willingness to plunge into whatever anthems I choose for them. Wishing you all a restful summer break as well!

We have a special, energetic, fun anthem planned for 6/11. The congregation will have a part to contribute as well! You won't want to miss it!

~ JoAnn Kulesza

## Homework & Reading News



The Homework and Reading Program is planning two special events for the children before classes end. All volunteers are invited to take part.

### Trip to Barnes & Noble: Thursday, June 8

There will be an excursion to Barnes & Noble Bookstore at Harbor Center for all of the children who receive permission from their parents. Each participant will have an opportunity to select up to \$25 in books. The cost is covered by private donations. A frozen yogurt treat will follow. If you would like to assist the children in picking out their books, we will depart from the church at 4 p.m. on Thursday, June 8. We also have a special need for booster seats for the younger kids.

### Pizza Party: Tuesday, June 13

There will be a party for children in the program in the church fellowship hall from 4 to 5 p.m. on the last day of school (Tuesday, June 13). The kids may bring their parents and siblings. The menu will

include pizza, salad, ice cream and punch. Each child will receive a certificate of attendance for their participation in the Homework sessions this year. Volunteers are invited to join in the fun.

~ Mike Keller

## Pentecost Sunday



What message did you get from Pentecost? Maybe you felt the connections made despite the separation of language? Elaine Fors suggested the use of the multiple languages in our service, so we had the Lord's Prayer spoken in five different languages: Polish, German, French, Malay and Dutch.

Liz Ford shared that when you say the prayer in your own language, you really feel it in your heart.

Speaking in Malay caused me to reflect on my year as an exchange student in Malaysia. My host family was Muslim. They encouraged me to attend a Christian church (on Sunday nights; the school week ran from Sunday to Thursday). Christianity was relatively new in the predominantly Muslim country, so it was very fresh and spirit filled. My love of music allowed me to make a wonderful connection with people I would otherwise never have met. That's me in the picture below (bottom left side) in the choir at Johor Baru Holy Lutheran Church.

I'm grateful for the reminder that we are all connected in the world and our local community by the many ways God's love is shown to us.



~ Jill Peddicord

## EUMC Garden & Maintenance News



BEFORE REPAIRS



AFTER REPAIRS

We have finished a bunch of repairs on the outside of the church. Cornerstone Commercial Services replaced a lot of rotted wood around windows and doors, installed new metal flashing above main doors, painted the louvres and cornice on the bell tower (scraped off lead paint and put on 3 coats of new paint), and repointed the bricks on the back stairwell and 16 window wells. There is still some painting that needs to be done after pressure treated wood has dried out for a few weeks. Ruff Roofers also installed the copper drip edge on the bell tower which should direct water away from the building and prevent water from leaking inside.

Other projects included fixing kitchen thermostat, cleaning out a slow sink drain, fixed desk and painted rusted pipes and radiator in UMW closet, cleaned out



all 16 window wells again, cleaned duct tape residue off floors, met with boiler inspector, T Mobile installed new device to measure electricity being used, cut grass, picked up trash and tree debris, filled in holes from lift equipment with 12 bags of dirt, put down straw, and watered grass seed. Thanks to Molly Estabrook for adding sand to the playground sandbox and Barbara Krebs for helping to remove weeds there too.

Please keep all our workers and volunteers in your prayers to stay safe while they do repairs on our church. If anyone has any extra time and can help with church garden and maintenance, we would greatly appreciate it. Please contact Joanne or Jerry Christofel at [msjohara@yahoo.com](mailto:msjohara@yahoo.com) or 410-295-5474

~ Joanne Christofel

## Annapolis Pride Parade



I am so excited to have so many folks from EUMC going together to celebrate Pride and cheer on those in the Annapolis Pride Parade this Saturday June 3. Molly Estabrook will be the Grand Marshall.

Annapolis Pride is one of the fastest growing non-profits I have ever seen and has become an incredible asset/advocate to everyone in our community. One of the things that makes Annapolis' celebration unique is that it is truly a family friendly event. Along with the festival tents on West St. there will also be a family fun and food court area in "The People's Park" on Calvert Street.

I have been thinking about how to best accommodate our group's gathering point in terms of parking, shade, ease of accessibility (stairs/steps), and availability of restrooms.

Our meeting point will be 209 West St. across the street from Lighthouse Bistro at Southgate Ave and West St. This is equidistant from Knighton Garage and the garage at One Park Place. This is also a great spot because there is space for people to be dropped off if the walk is a bit far.

I will have plenty of water available for us, bring your own lawn chair if you wish. If you would like me to have a chair there for you, let me know.

I hope to arrive at 10 a.m. to secure the spot; the streets close up around 11:40; the parade begins at noon and might last an hour.

~ Pastor Chris

A graphic with a rainbow background. The text reads "Many Faiths. One Pride." in large white letters. Below it, in smaller white text, is "An Interfaith Pride Celebration". At the bottom, there is a horizontal rainbow bar. To the right of the text, there are colorful silhouettes of people's heads in profile, overlapping each other.

In conjunction with the Annapolis Pride Parade, local churches are gathering for an ecumenical service on June 4, 3 p.m. at **First Presbyterian Church of Annapolis**. The service will feature congregational singing, a guest speaker, a choral anthem of combined choirs, and remarks from community leaders.

## Maryland Fire & Rescue Services Memorial



You are invited to join in the annual memorial service, remembering those who have given their lives in the line of duty. The service by the Maryland Fire and Rescue Services Memorial Foundation is on Sunday, June 4, 2023 @ 1pm; 101 Calvert Street in Annapolis.

## Graduation Celebrations 2023

Elaine Fors is celebrating multiple family-member graduations (below)....



**Sally Hight** graduated with an MEd. in Educational Leadership from Southeastern Oklahoma State University.

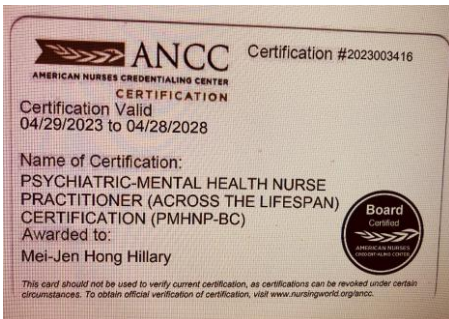


**Kyle Barrett & Grant Barrett** (twins)  
 North High, Owings MD



**Brandon Brashears** graduated from University of MD College Park with a BS in Criminal Justice. Brandon is Sally & Kevin Hight's nephew.

**Sadie Jacobs**  
 Lake Braddock HS in VA

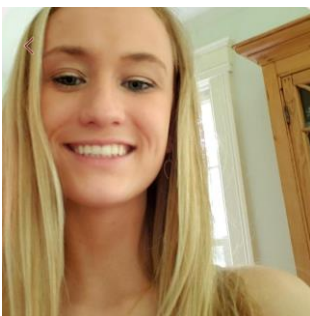


**Mei-jen hong Hillary**

*Dear church members, I hope to share the good news of mine! I became a PMHNP in April 2023! I am so honored to share this news to my church members! Best regards, Mei jen hong Hillary*



**Madison Carwell**  
 Ashland KY



**Samantha Heald**, graduates in June from McGill University with a BA in International Development and a minor in Cultural Studies. Samantha is Anne Heald's niece.



**Davis Fowler**, child to Molly Estabrook and Tony Fowler, completed Cosmology School at Paul Mitchell Temple Annapolis on May 10. Next step State Boards for certification!



**Alaina Ugolini** is graduating from Annapolis High School this year. She will be going to the School of Visual Arts in

New York City to study animation. Alaina is the granddaughter of Richard and Marjorie Hughes and the daughter of Stephen and Sherrie Ugolini.

We celebrate **Diesha Contee**, our Community Navigator, on her recent graduation from a very special program: Leadership Anne Arundel. This program successfully connects business, nonprofit, government and individual community leaders.



Diesha shares that she deeply appreciates the amazing experience and the relationships she made. It reminded her of her deep

need to practice openness

to new things and opportunities. While she may have completed the program, she continues the lifelong work of becoming a successful, proactive leader that seeks the common good.

## Community Food Pantry

This past May we welcomed a new partner to our community food pantry – **Bubbe's Closet**. This



volunteer-run effort provides a resource for clothing and small household items for Anne Arundel County

families in transition or experiencing hardship. Their goal is to partner with local organizations that work directly with community members to help fill emergency requests, requests for urgently needed items, and to cosponsor targeted campaigns to help serve the needs of the community.

## Where is Oscar?

Congratulations to our friends, Will Cunha and Garrett Harper for the upcoming launch of their new business: Oscar's Coffee. Named after their beautiful golden retriever, their team has converted a vintage Shasta trailer into a coffee shop. You can begin visiting them in the parking lot of Horn Point Marina after they open in mid-June. Cheers!



***We will donate \$500 to EUMC on your behalf, for any Real Estate transaction resulting in a sale for all EUMC members, family and friends.***

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## June Birthdays



- June 1 Jerry Lesley
- June 3 Ricardo Vasquez, Jr.
- June 6 Courtney Morgan Hardie  
Benjamin Baker
- June 9 Pam Pulley  
Shelly Wilcox
- June 10 Teresa Keller
- June 14 Barbara Pearson
- June 17 Vaughan Parrish
- June 21 Noah Somers  
Lynn Swanner  
Randi Aaliah Savoy
- June 22 Jan Hopping
- June 23 Alaina Ugolini
- June 24 Darcey Schultz
- June 25 Sharon Stevens
- June 27 Ginny Davidson

Tune in to Jeopardy on June 8<sup>th</sup> to cheer on David Ford - he is Justin Ford's son!



Fraud, identity theft, scams...these impact everyone - seniors in particular. On Sunday afternoon June 25, at EUMC, a representative of the Annapolis Police Dept. will offer info and guidance for the general community. Come learn how NOT to be a victim. Stay tuned for more information.

## June Anniversaries



- June 4 Pam & Chris Pulley
- June 11 Wendy & Eric Edstrom
- June 22 Holly Green & Matt Ficca
- June 25 Christy & Jerry South
- June 29 Elizabeth & Justin Ford

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<b>1</b> Homework & Reading 4pm  Choir 7pm	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Annapolis Pride Parade 12 noon
<b>4</b> Service 10am	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Homework & Reading 4pm  UM Women Potluck Fellowship Hall 5:00 pm	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> H&R Trip to Barnes & Noble 4pm  Choir 7pm  Watch Jeopardy!!	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b> Service 10am  Pastor Jenna's Ordination in NY	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> H&R Pizza Party 4pm  	<b>14</b>  14 JUNE FLAG DAY	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Food & Diaper Pantry 10:00 am  
<b>18</b> Service 10am  Happy Father's Day!	<b>19</b> 	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 
<b>25</b> Service 10am  Identity theft prevention @ EUMC	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Admin Council 7pm	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	