



The Eastport Spire

“Inspire Us to Great Things”

October 2021

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.

From the Pastor

Friends of Eastport United Methodist Church,

We’ve been blessed to have you join in worship over the past several months! It is truly a beautiful and holy time to gather to sing, pray, share, and remember God’s great free gift of love for our world. As we have been gathering together again we are reminded of what is at the heart of worship: becoming deeper followers of Jesus. What is following Jesus all about?

Love.
Delight.
Inclusion.
Liberation.

I want to be a part of that. Do you? Join us for worship, even outside on the first Sunday of the month (weather permitting). Join us for service, with the food pantry or one of many other ways.

The worship service last Sunday was a blast. I am so grateful for the opportunity to worship and fellowship together. A highlight for me was being able to bless the underwear that has been collected throughout the month. The video and bulletin are posted to the church website:

eastportumc.org/worship

Weather permitting, we’ll worship outside this Sunday, October 3. As usual, you are welcome to bring your own lawn chair, but we’ll have chairs provided for you as well. I’m excited to preach this weekend on the subject I’ve been thinking about for a while. *Why follow Jesus? What’s the point? What is following Jesus about?* Hope to see you this Sunday.

~ Grace and peace, Pastor Chris

Blessing of the Underwear

Over the past month we have been collecting underwear for those seeking refuge in our country from Afghanistan. We learned that many of them come with next to nothing and lack basic necessities when they arrive. We are so grateful for the hundreds of pairs of underwear you’ve brought. During church on Sunday, we prayed a blessing over the underwear:

God of grace, you made all nations to inhabit the whole earth. Help us to recognize your presence in the refugees, migrants, and asylum seekers who flee this places of origin, seeking safety in our community. We pray for these immigrant adults and children who have been forced to leave behind all they have ever known. May these gifts that they receive only be the beginning of healing from trauma, from fear, from deprivation, loss and abuse. Comfort them and give them peace and wholeness. Accompany us, O God, Lead us into active ways of love for our neighbors who have no place to call home or rest their heads. We pray this in the name of your migrant son. Amen

Remember *justonesweater*?? We’re collecting again. Sweaters, hoodies, jackets, warm winter clothing – gently used and clean. We’ll be collecting for six weeks beginning October 1. There will be a container outside the church office, or you can bring your items to church when you come on Sundays.

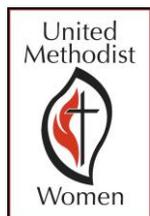
Welcome Pastor Jenna and Alicia!

We were joined in worship on September 5th by Pastor Jenna Johnson and Alicia O'Brien. Pastor Jenna is a provisional deacon in the United Methodist Church, serving West River United Methodist Center, one of our retreat and camping ministries. Pastor Jenna is originally from Mississippi, completed seminary at Union Theological in New York City, and has worked for the New York Annual Conference prior to coming to West River.

You might recognize Alicia O'Brien from when she preached on July 4. Alicia O'Brien, MDiv. is a certified candidate for ministry in the Baltimore-Washington Conference of the United Methodist Church, a graduate of Yale Divinity School, a mother to two adorable children, and spouse to Andrew.



From left to right: Pastor Jenna Johnson, Pastor Chris Broadwell, Alicia O'Brien



United Methodist Women

The United Methodist Women will be meeting on Wednesday, October 13, at 5:30 in the Fellowship Hall. Please note that instead of our usual first-

Wednesday meeting, we will be meeting the second Wednesday this month since many members will be attending the Sight and Sound bus trip on October 6. We will have a short business meeting, followed by a program from the 2021-2022 UMW book entitled *Healing and Joy: On our Journey to God*. All women of the church are invited to participate.

~ *Kathy Duckett*

Colonial Nursery Ceases Operation

It's with great sadness that I inform you that Colonial Nursery School has officially ceased operations in the basement of EUMC. In August, Colonial Nursery hired a mold inspector to test the air quality in their various classrooms. The high humidity and musty odor detected in the basement spaces was cause for concern. The testing revealed that all of the rooms on the northeast side of the basement - under the sanctuary - were uninhabitable. And some of the rooms on the opposite side of the hall were also uninhabitable. The pastor's office and the workroom were among the rooms deemed too contaminated to occupy. Representatives of the Trustees and the Pastor worked diligently to help the nursery school to move their classroom spaces to those rooms deemed safe, but in the end, the school determined that they could not continue operations. They have formally defaulted on the lease agreement as of this month. We regret the impact this undoubtedly has on the staff of the school, the families of their students, and the students themselves. The Trustees will continue to seek remediation for the mold present in the building, and seek to identify and correct any structural issues that contribute to the development of mold in the building.

~ *Bill Schneider, Trustees Chair*

EUMC's Little Free Library

Our Little Free Library is being repainted to tell the story of two basketball rivals who became best friends – Roger “Pip” Moyer from Annapolis High School and Joseph “Zastrow” Simms from the state's black league. They crossed racial boundaries during

segregation in the 1940's to grow a life-long friendship that took an extraordinary turn in April 1968. The story is fascinating. The design below, depicting the two men and their story, is painted by youth artists from the Jovenés Artistas program at Maryland Hall for the Creative Arts. The front library doors have portraits of the men, the back panel (in tan) shows their silhouettes, and the two side panels (in rust brown) tell their story. Thank you Moyer Family for allowing us to memorialize our local hometown heroes, Pip and Zastrow.

We have invited a guest speaker who lived the story to come share his memories with us on a Sunday in October. Stay tuned for details.



The More Things Change

... the more they stay the same. So goes the old saying. And while I believe that is partially true, for example, human nature remains reasonably constant with goods and bads, I think the fundamental concept is flawed.

If things didn't change, we'd still be huddling in caves, roasting our wooly mammoth over a fire as we kept warm with our wolfskin pelts. Of course, that is an exaggeration. But it does point to the fact that things do change over time, that they do evolve, that nothing remains the same forever.

So that leaves us with the dilemma of "how do we accept change?" Do we defend the status quo (if it ain't broke, don't fix it) or do we investigate new possibilities, even uncomfortable ones.

While there is no black-or-white answer to this question, some guidelines are helpful. For example, let's pretend for a moment that it's 1915. Consider

two young blacksmiths, both of whom are making a good living, shoeing horses and making carriage rims. But they've also noticed that those horseless carriages are multiplying, and that Henry Ford has invented this thing called the assembly line, which makes producing those horseless carriages faster and easier.

One blacksmith decides cars are the devil's own instrument and rails against everything they stand for. "Look how they panic the horses! They get stuck in the mud all the time! This is a rich man's fad and will pass." And though there was no immediate impact, as the years passed, his services were needed less and less.

The other blacksmith is curious. He turns his metalworking skills to figuring out how this gosh-darned "infernal" engine works. As he learns more about it, he begins to develop skills as an automotive mechanic, and as his forge begins to cool off, his new career as a mechanic is really taking off.

Again, this is an oversimplification. But it does illustrate that change, as the name indicates, is not static. Adopting a rigid stance against it is generally counterproductive. Instead, when confronted with change, it's best to be inquisitive. Why is this change happening? Is this a trend that appears to have broad-based support? Is this a fad that will burn itself out in a few months? If I feel threatened by this change, why? And is that a good thing or a bad thing? How can I navigate this change?

Obviously, there are no simple answers to these questions. But change is inevitable, and usually beyond our control. So what we must do is: take time with change, especially with change that is uncomfortable, unsettling. Observe the wider world around you, seeking clues from multiple sources. Eventually, you'll find your answer and can decide which blacksmith you are.

~ *Barbara Krebs*

Bring Your Own Bulbs

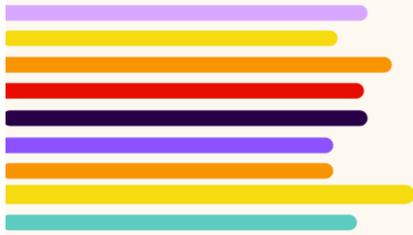


You are invited to bring a bag of flower bulbs to the church to be planted before Winter settles in. Please bring them to the office by October 9. We will be planting them in the front corner of our lot. It will be a nice surprise next Spring.

The Connection

The Connection is a community group to foster connection, conversation, and resources for LGBTQ people, their partners and family who are exploring the Christian faith. The group will meet virtually twice a month starting in October, if there is enough interest it will be in-person. If you or someone you know may be interested in participating, please contact Pastor Chris at chris@eastportumc.org.

THE CONNECTION



A twice-monthly group seeking to foster connection, conversation, and resources for LGBTQ people, partners, and family exploring faith.

eastportumc.org

Creating Communities



Creating Communities
Harnessing the Power of the Arts

**Every Wednesday starting
September 29 –
Fun and free kids art activities!**

When: Every Wednesday
Where: Parking lot, Eastport United Methodist Church
Time: 4:00pm-5:00pm

Masks and safe social distancing required



Creating Communities is an arts education program that we are working with to connect with our community. You'll notice them in the parking lot on Wednesdays from 4-5pm creating beauty and fun!



Community Food Pantry
Eastport United Methodist Church
926 Bay Ridge Ave.

11 am

more info @
eastportumc.org/food



Packing for the community food pantry will be on Wednesday, October 13 at 11:30 in the fellowship hall at the church. Community food pantry festivities begin in the Lot of Love on Saturday, October 16 at 10:00 am.



We are asking that all wear masks while indoors unless drinking, eating, or speaking at a microphone. We thank you for your help in creating a safe atmosphere for all!

October Birthdays



- Oct 2 Clara Jean Wurst
- Oct 3 Brooke Hughes
- Oct 4 Brady Duckett
- Oct 7 Brian Cunningham II
- Oct 9 Barbara Krebs
Dylan Liedy
- Oct 10 Lorie Rawlings
- Oct 11 Thomas Newquist
Colby Wurst
- Oct 12 Neil Bergsman
- Oct 16 Mimi Shaefer
- Oct 19 Eli Wurst
- Oct 20 Essie Broadwell
- Oct 21 Myrna Dobbs
- Oct 22 Dallas Jones
Dawn Moyer
Donna Nuckels
- Oct 24 Lisa Stevens
Nathan Owen
- Oct 25 James Keller Sr.
- Oct 27 Nancy Swaray
- Oct 28 Thomas Eicher
- Oct 28 Michael Valentine
- Oct 29 Elizabeth Ford



October Anniversaries

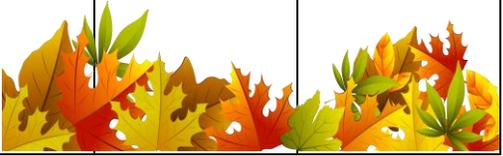


- Oct 13 Amanda & David Owen
- Oct 14 Carol Ann & Albert Stevens
- Oct 16 Sally & Kevin Hight
- Oct 21 Catherine & Ryan Elliott

Recordings of Sunday's services can be viewed on EUMC's website, www.eastportumc.org.

You can also listen by phone to our prerecorded services by calling 1-410-233-3163.

The Spire is published monthly by Eastport United Methodist Church, 926 Bay Ridge Ave., Annapolis, MD 21403. 410.263.5490
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www.eastportumc.org
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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 Worship 10am (outside weather permitting)	4	5	6 Sight & Sound Bus Trip	7 Homework 4:00pm	8	9
10 Worship 10am	11	12 Homework 4:00pm	13 <i>Food Pantry packing 10:30am</i> UMW Dinner Meeting in Fellowship Hall 5:30pm	14 Homework 4:00pm	15	16 FOOD PANTRY 10:00 AM
17 Worship 10am	18	19 Homework 4:00pm Admin Council Meeting 7pm ZOOM	20	21 Homework 4:00pm	22	23
24 Worship 10am <hr/> 31 Worship 10am Halloween	25	26 Homework 4:00pm	27	28 Homework 4:00pm	29	30 

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**926 Bay Ridge Avenue
Annapolis, MD 21403-3091**

**The Rev. Christopher Broadwell, Pastor
Church 410-263-5490**

**Worship Service 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School & Nursery 10:15 a.m.
Office Hours 9:30-3:30 Monday-Friday
Office Closed 12-1 p.m. for Lunch**



www.eastportumc.org