



The Eastport Spire

“Inspire Us to Great Things”

March 2022

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

Family in Christ,

I want to make sure you have this information and for you to know that you are invited to join in the journey toward Easter with Eastport United Methodist. You can see all the many ways you can participate below. You will also find this information at eastportumc.org/easter.

Ash Wednesday:

We'll gather together in the Sanctuary on March 2, Ash Wednesday at 7 pm for this holy day. On this day, we recognize the depth of God's grace even with all our brokenness, gifts, and doubts.

Weekly Lenten Study:

You are invited to a Lenten study on Thursday evenings at 7 pm, beginning March 3, ending with the Maundy Thursday Service. We will meet in the chapel. The study will coincide with our Lenten sermon series, “Full to the Brim: An Expansive Life.” Pastor Chris and Pastor Jenna will lead us as we reflect on scripture, poems, art, and hymns that are filled with promises of God's abundant and expansive grace. Our aim is to grow together as we pursue justice and hope. Let us discover the expansive life God dreams for us. Email Pastor Chris at chris@eastportumc.org with your interest!

Sundays in Lent:

The scriptures for this Lenten season are filled with parables and promises of God's abundant and expansive grace. Jesus as a mother hen, a prodigal son welcomed home, a fig tree nurtured with care and hope, precious oil poured out lovingly and freely, stones shouting out with praise — these sacred texts are brimming with a gospel of grace. We've done nothing to deserve or earn this grace, and yet, like water, it spills over. Join us on Sunday mornings at

10 am as we worship and grow more in our understanding of God's abundant grace.

Holy Week:

We will begin holy week with Palm Sunday worship, singing songs of joy and praise; then, throughout the week we will gradually turn our eyes towards the last days of Jesus' life Maundy Thursday (7pm) and Good Friday (noon).



Easter Sunrise at Thomas Point

"On the first day of the week, very early in the morning..." (Luke 24)

Each Easter we gather at Thomas Point to celebrate that Christ is Risen. This year our service will begin at 6:30 am. Please feel free to bring a lawn chair and dress appropriately for the weather.

Easter Sanctuary Service

At 10 am on April 17 we will join with Christians around the world in celebrating the resurrection of Christ. Come and gather as we sing and proclaim God's magnificent grace.

~ Grace and Peace,

Pastor Chris

Easter Dedications



We will be decorating our sanctuary for Easter with beautiful lilies from Bru-Mar Nursery! You are invited to make a dedication by purchasing a lily for \$20 or by making a contribution to our food pantry. Please contact the office at 410-263-5490, office@eastportumc.org or pick up an order/dedication form on Sunday morning at worship.

~ Jill Peddicord



United Methodist Women

The United Methodist Women will hold their next meeting on Wednesday, March 2, at 5:30 in the EUMC Fellowship Hall. 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*. You are welcome to bring a bagged meal and drink; dessert will be provided. All women of the church are invited to participate.

~ Kathy Duckett

Note: The UMW is assisting with the bus trip to Sight and Sound in August. Currently, 30 people have signed up for this trip. Interest is high and seats will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Please send your payment to Carol Emory to secure your seat for a fun day with friends, a tasty family-style lunch and a spectacular story. Please review the following information and join us for this special day!

EASTPORT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

August 23, 2022 (Tuesday)

Sight & Sound Theatre – “*DAVID*”
& Family-Style Lunch at Hershey Farm Restaurant
Strasburg, Pennsylvania

The Sight & Sound Theatre in Strasburg, Pennsylvania, invites you to experience its newest original Biblical stage production of the story of “*DAVID*.” Sight & Sound Theatre will take audiences inside the story of this legendary Biblical figure who rose from shepherd to king after defeating the giant Goliath. David was many different things, a shepherd, anointed king, master poet and fearless warrior. His ascent to the throne is filled with towering giants, wild animals, Philistine soldiers, and yet after unprecedented victories lead to devastating failures, this passionate warrior will face the biggest battle of all: the one within himself! Come alongside this young shepherd on his journey to become a man after God’s own heart. Witness one of the most legendary Bible stories as it comes to life with original music inspired by the Psalms, spectacular special effects, massive sets, and live animals. So, please join *Eastport United Methodist Church* and enjoy the magic and majesty of this brand-new stage production from Sight & Sound Theatre. David’s powerful yet personal story is a state-of-the-art theatrical experience for the whole family! After the show enjoy a delicious family-style lunch at Hershey Farm Restaurant.

We have excellent seats!

\$130.00 Per Person \$96.00 (Child Ages 3-12)

Itinerary:

8:00 AM	Depart Annapolis, MD
10:15 AM	Arrive Strasburg, Sight & Sound Theatre
11:00 AM	Showtime! “ <i>DAVID</i> ”
1:45 PM	Depart Sight & Sound Theatre
2:00 PM	Arrive at Hershey Farm Restaurant
2:15 PM	Family-Style Lunch
4:00 PM	Depart Strasburg, PA
6:00 PM	Arrive Annapolis, MD

Included: Transportation, reserved seats for the show, family-style lunch, and all taxes and tips.

Make checks payable to Carol Emory at 506 Duvall Lane, Annapolis, MD 21403 to secure your seat. For further information or to check for availability, contact Carol at her email, which is carolemony7@aol.com.



The Betty Effect – Part 2

You may recall that when Pastor Michelle was here, we celebrated in January with choosing a word to live by for that year. If we didn't have a word in mind, we could choose one randomly from words she had prepared. I was always one of those who chose randomly because I just didn't feel strongly enough about a word to figure one out on my own.

However, this year, a word finally chose me. That word is joy. As you may recall, when Pastor Chris was sick and had to miss a Sunday, I filled in for him. His only instruction to me for the scripture lesson was to emphasize that the Wise Men were overwhelmed with joy. And, of course, since I was sooo not feeling joy at that point, I really had to dig deep to discover how I could speak from my heart about something that wasn't in my heart. As I pondered this dilemma, Mrs. Betty and her frogs came to mind, the sermon prepared itself, and the Betty Effect was born.

That is also when I knew that the word joy had chosen me. Because I suddenly could not escape it. For example, one of the people (Tony Fowler) who chose a frog showed me his amphibian – a frog in overalls relaxing and fishing. Tony explained that he also fished so it was a natural pick for him. He said that he felt joy every day because he was 28 years sober, and in an online conversation we had later (in which he gave me permission to share), he explained in more detail.

Tony said: The frog is on the dashboard of my car ... and my granddaughters, Gigi and Eden, are getting to enjoy the frog currently. About my long-term sobriety -- I am celebrating 28 years of continuous sobriety on the 25th of this month. I am

the least "anonymous" person in sobriety you are likely to meet. That being said, I am enjoying the "joy of sobriety" and I am impressed by the "Betty Effect." I believe that joy is a part of being a Christian. I also accept the responsibility, as a person in recovery, to be available to help those who are suffering from alcoholism and addiction. That is particularly true in the present climate. In other words, I welcome the exposure so that I can be available to anyone who might be having trouble with alcohol or drugs.

Thank you, Tony, for sharing your joy! And, of course, that wasn't all the Betty Effect had in store for me. Soon after, JoAnn Kulesza gave small gifts to the praise band to thank us for our service. Her gift to me? *The Book of Joy*, of course. This book consists of interviews with the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu when they met in April 2015 with the express purpose of pondering joy from all angles.

One last bit of joy to share – a dream from Mrs. Betty herself. Well, maybe she didn't actually send me the dream – who knows what can happen in the great beyond? But I do know that she was obviously the influence for my brain using these images. This dream is pure Mrs. Betty and her joy. So here goes!

We're doing a performance at church, but using a karaoke tape, which suddenly cuts out. While we try to fix the problem, Mrs. Betty gets up to entertain those assembled. She has donned a birthday hat (you know the kind that are cone shaped and pointy and kept in place with a rubber band) and has also put on a fake nose, which is a carrot. Dressed like this she is dancing around, when she pulls out a Beanie baby that is shaped like an orange cookie monster from Sesame Street, which she then perches on her carrot nose while she dances. This thing is bobbing up and down on her carrot nose, and we are in stitches. The dream ends when she is surrounded by about four or five little girls who want to have a selfie taken with her. Everyone is laughing and having so much fun.

So while "joy" may not be a word that resonates with you, I still invite you to think about how we can work to find it in our day-to-day lives, how we can express it to those people we come in contact with, and how we can live in joy with ourselves and with Christ. May the Betty Effect visit you often! Oh, and could someone hand me my carrot nose, please?

~ Barbara Krebs



Celebrate!

Bringing back a pre-Covid tradition after a two-year pause, we will have a celebration of our church community with a dinner after church on Sunday, March 20th. Mitch Krebs will prepare his famous Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner! It would help Mitch if he had a ballpark count of people joining us, so please let the church office know by phone or email. (410-263-5490, or office@eastportumc.org)



Garden & Maintenance News

Spring is coming! We have started cutting back rose bushes, sedum joy, and liriopie in anticipation of spring growth. The crepe myrtles that were damaged in the snow storm were trimmed. The two dead trees were cut down. One stump needs to be finished yet. We cut down broken tree limbs that were stuck up in two trees also. Of course, a new one that is really high up has decided to split this past week. Next time. The outside doors, window trim, posts and signs were washed. It's amazing how some soap and water can make things look brand new!

Another outside light was fixed and now has a dusk to dawn bulb. The glass in the two big church signs by the road were cleaned. They look much better but still need a little interior cleaning and paint. Some more of the window wells were cleaned out but still need new screening installed. Seven new metal drain covers were installed and all the window screens were cleaned (in my shower due to the cold). A new downspout was installed by the church office (the old one blew away?). The hole in one outside door was patched and is waiting on warmer weather for some

new paint. A broken cap was replaced on one of the posts. Two more exit signs were installed inside. As usual all the normal chores like picking up trash and branches continue. Our GreenScape day at church will be Sunday, April 24. We will be pulling some weeds and putting down new mulch donated by the City in our gardens. If you can help with any work outside, please contact Joanne or Jerry Christofel at msjohara@yahoo.com or 410-295-5474.

I watched once again a wonderful old movie recently. If you have ever seen The Lilies of the Field, you will know how we sometimes feel like a reluctant Sydney Poitier building a chapel. God always has more work for us. Amen!

~ Joanne Christofel



Masks

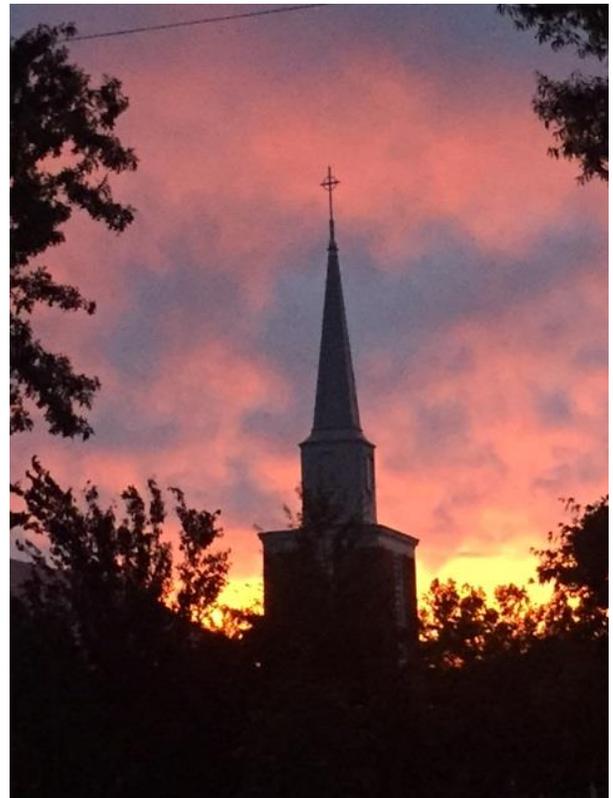
We know everyone is tired of wearing masks, and we also recognize that masking mandates are being relaxed. There is, however, still concern among our families with small children and the immunocompromised. We have been very grateful for the care and concern our congregation has shown during this difficult time and would like to ask that you show more grace and space by continuing to wear masks while in the church, except when eating, drinking or using a microphone. Please contact me with any concerns.

~ Jill Peddicord
Administrative Council Chair



March Birthdays

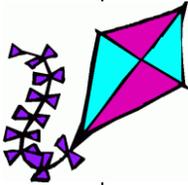
- Mar 1 Christy South
- Mar 2 Evelyn Beall
Nancy Williamson
- Mar 3 Jean Wilcox
Katherine Wilcox
- Mar 5 Molly Estabrook
Ernie Schultz
Stephen Jones
- Mar 8 Carol Emory
- Mar 9 Carol Ann Stevens
- Mar 10 Andy Little
- Mar 11 Chris Broadwell
- Mar 13 Jill Peddicord
- Mar 14 Vern Renshaw
- Mar 18 Paulette Schwallenberg
Sue Hadaway
- Mar 19 Eric Smaridge
- Mar 26 Barbara Nutwell
- Mar 26 David Hill
- Mar 27 Catherine Elliott
- Mar 29 Thomas Owen
Dixie Reichel
- Mar 31 Jennifer Smith
Sue Nasatka



March Anniversaries

- Mar 16 Ernie & Virginia Schultz
- Mar 18 Rusty & Janet Mack
- Mar 21 Jim & Judy Bradford
- Mar 31 Rawle Green & Barbara Schwarz

The Spire is published monthly by Eastport United Methodist Church, 926 Bay Ridge Ave., Annapolis, MD 21403. 410.263.5490
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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Homework 4:00pm	2 UMW Meeting 5:30pm @EUMC ASH WEDS SERVICE 7PM	3 Homework 4:00pm Lenten Study 7pm Choir 7pm	4 	5
6 Worship 10am Covid Vaccine Clinic 12 – 4pm	7 Bells 7:00	8 Homework 4:00pm	9	10 Homework 4:00pm Lenten Study 7pm Choir 7pm	11	12  Set clocks forward
13 Worship 10am Daylight Savings Begins	14 Bells 7:00	15 Homework 4:00pm Admin Council Zoom meeting 7pm	16	17  Homework 4pm Lenten Study 7pm Choir 7pm	18	19 FOOD PANTRY 10:00 AM 
20 Worship 10am Corned Beef & Cabbage 11:30am @EUMC Spring Begins	21 Bells 7pm	22 Homework 4:00pm	23	24 Homework 4:00pm Lenten Study 7pm Choir 7pm	25	26
27 Worship 10am	28 Bells 7pm	29 Homework 4:00pm	30	31 Homework 4:00pm Lenten Study 7pm Choir 7pm		

**Eastport United Methodist Church
926 Bay Ridge Avenue
Annapolis, MD 21403-3091**



**Pastor Christopher Broadwell
Church Office 410-263-5490
Sunday Worship Service 10:00 a.m.
www.eastportumc.org**