



# The Eastport Spire

## “Inspire Us to Great Things”

### May 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

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It is a beautiful thing to see our church from my standpoint. Beauty continues to emerge and I am reminded of the emerging church in Acts 2:42-47:

*“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.”*

It's as if the early church in its entirety had this kind of encounter with Jesus. Once salvation had come to their house, their hearts, they were filled with love and generosity.

God’s spirit takes all of us, young and old, rich and poor, outsider and insider, and recreates us into a new community where we are all one in Christ Jesus. As a recreated community we are able to sing a new song to the world – where no one is left out of this beloved community.

What does it mean for us?

I think that, while we may not be as diverse as the church at Pentecost, we are certainly working on it. We come from different places and walks of life, different ages and situations and an amazing widespread array of opinions, talents and personalities.

Yet, community is formed and we are recreated into one body – not a social club where values are negotiable – but because we have a mission, we have a trajectory in our shared life. We have values that we seek to live out together. Together we repent from sin, and together love flows and compassion is shown. Together we unlearn racism, social isolation, homophobia, malice, arrogance. Together we build a community that learns the way of Jesus practices his way of compassion, justice, and joy.

Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams says, “the church is a community where no one exists in isolation, the slogan of the church's life is ‘not without each other.’ There is no me without a you, there is no we without a me.

We are brought together and held together by Jesus who binds us together in love, Jesus who is here with us today, not because we invited him, but because he invited us and has made us one.

Thanks be to God.

~ Pastor Chris



**Robert F. Gibbons, Jr.**  
**October 5, 1960 – April 23, 2023**  
Our heartfelt sympathies to Ruth and her family at this sad time.

## Welcome Theresa

Please welcome Theresa Sise to the team! She is a seasoned administrator, organizer, and planner. You might also recognize her as a well-known Jazz singer, performing at venues across the region. Her gifts and talents will make her a fantastic office administrator and a wonderful addition to our team. When you see her, please give her a warm welcome.



## Sunday School Start-Up

Starting in May we will have Sunday School once a month for the children. If you are interested in helping in the future, please let me know at [estabrook120@icloud.com](mailto:estabrook120@icloud.com). I am happy to provide volunteers with a story and activity idea, or you can take care of that on your own. Sunday School will start at the beginning of the service and the leader will bring the children back to the sanctuary in time for Communion. The next scheduled Sunday School is May 7<sup>th</sup> !



~ Molly Estabrook

## EUMC/Women in Faith



The United Methodist Women/Women in Faith will hold their next meeting on Tuesday, May 2, at 5:30 in the Fellowship Hall. We will have a short business meeting followed by a program from the 2022-2023 UMW book entitled *Mosaic of Faith: We Are All Part of God's Story*. You are welcome to bring a bagged meal and drink; dessert will be provided. All women of the church are invited to participate.

At our April meeting, the United Methodist Women voted to donate a total of \$4,100, including money that was donated in memory of Audrey Howard and Donna Nuckels, to the following missions:

- Chrysalis House in Crownsville, a residential addiction treatment program for women and their children;
- Mirah's Closet, a local foster care closet dedicated to providing children and teens in foster care with essential items, such as clothing, toiletries, school supplies, and other needed items;
- The Blue Ribbon Project, which supports victims of child abuse and supports those in foster care;
- Seeds 4 Success, which provides local children from low income communities with the skills and support to achieve success in school and life;
- the YWCA of Annapolis and Anne Arundel County, which provides a safe house and support services for domestic violence and sexual assault survivors;
- EUMC Sunday School program;
- Paso a Paso, a mission to provide education, training, and supplies to children in the extremely poor Guatemalan hillside community of Barrio la Cruz;
- the Susanna Wesley House in Baltimore, which provides women and their children with group living in a home-like setting as well as schooling, job training, and counseling; and
- Missions supported by the Baltimore-Washington Conference UMW.

~ Kathy Duckett



***I Scream, You Scream, We All Gather for Ice Cream! Join us on May 21<sup>st</sup> after church for some frozen fellowship. We'll have an ice cream social and we invite you to bring your favorite ice cream to share.***

## EUMC Garden & Maintenance News

**May 2023 News** – Thanks to everyone who helped with GreenScape: Pastor Chris, Smith, and kids, Tony Fowler and Molly Estabrooke, Barbara Schwarz and Rawle Green, Kim Wilcox, Les and Mae Johnson, and my husband Jerry, the tractor guy. Gardens were weeded and mulched, dirt was used to regrade area near bell tower for better water drainage, two holes in the yard were filled, grass seed and straw were put down, mulch was added to the playground, several Easter lilies were added to gardens, two big pots with flowers were added by the columbarium, and two new garden benches were installed. The benches were placed in memory of Dick Strucko. Thanks to Jean Strucko's sons and grandsons who put them together. It looks wonderful!



These two stained glass windows, which originally came from the first Eastport United Methodist Church, were repaired. Repairs on the stained-glass windows are done. Terraza Stained Glass replaced 14 pieces of plexiglass repaired two bulging panels, reinforced two cracks with lead, replaced rotted wood under stained glass window, painted wood, and built a platform that was disassembled, labeled, and stored in shed for any future work that needs to be done. We now have crystal clear glass to protect the stained-glass windows.



Before (damaged plexiglass)



After repairs (new clear glass)

Jerry finished the first wood cabinet for the dehumidifiers.



Mason jars on stage were put in closet under stairs with Peach Festival items and reorganized to add Men's Winter Relief items to this

closet. Curtain was installed at UMW door. Items no longer wanted by Ballard Senior Center were put in dumpster or given to nonprofit (basketballs, etc). File cabinet was moved to work room. Storage areas are being worked on due to interest by a church and AACPS (using classrooms for early childhood classes) which would generate funds for the church. Exterior window repairs by Jerry and Joanne started: Removed rotted quarter round, treated for wood rot, cleaned, primed, and painted. Plexiglass cover was installed on one window well. Replaced broken key lock box. Hole drilled through wall to connect dehumidifier to sump pump in choir office. Lead paint testing done on exterior wood. New drip line to be installed on copper roof soon.

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



### Garden Angels . . .

There is a sign-up sheet in the fellowship hall – you can pick a garden to take care of once a month (pull weeds for about 30 minutes). Every little bit helps keep the gardens beautiful.

## GreenScape Day at EUMC



*Mina Reese Manlapaz*  
Daughter of  
Erin (Moyer) & Cliff Manlapaz  
Granddaughter of  
Dawn & Guy Moyer  
Baptized April 9, 2023  
Easter Sunday



*David & Lauren Peddicord* were married on April 28, 2023. David is a member of EUMC and the son of Jill Peddicord and grandson of Eunice Corse.



*Lisa Hozey* (church member) and *Dean Canon* were married during a ceremony officiated by Pastor Chris on May 6 at Quiet Waters Park. A beautiful day, a beautiful service and celebration.

## May Birthdays



- May 1 Shirley Ford  
Louis Bergsman
- May 6 Cindy Macey-Mayhew
- May 10 James Stevens
- May 12 Tyler Johnson
- May 13 Braden Clary
- May 15 Caitlin Peddicord Holt
- May 16 Brenda Jones
- May 18 Abigail Wilcox
- May 19 Ruth Gibbons
- May 24 Gene Swanner
- May 25 Mike Keller
- May 26 Ashlyn Hughes  
Frances DuPlayee Clark
- May 30 Mitch Krebs
- May 31 Kathy Volz



**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.**

"Your Chesapeake Connection"  
Tommy & Elizabeth Eicher  
Real Estate Professionals  
Cell 410-212-3383/410-279-1702  
410-263-8686



## May Anniversaries



- May 1 Gerald & Lorraine Crouch
- May 14 David & Kathy Moreland
- May 16 Tom & Harriet Newquist
- May 18 Curtis & Vicki Clary
- May 21 Dallas & Brenda Jones
- May 23 Joe & Sue Nasatka
- May 24 Butch & June Stevens
- May 25 Neil Bergsman & Val Devaris



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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> 	<b>2</b> Homework & Reading 4pm  <b>UMW Meeting &amp; Dinner 5:30pm</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Homework & Reading 4pm  Choir 7pm	<b>5</b> <b>Cinco de Mayo</b> 	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> <b>Service 10am</b>  Parking lot re-striping after church	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Homework & Reading 4pm	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Homework & Reading 4pm  Choir 7pm	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>  <b>.05k Bridge Run Crack O' Noon</b>
<b>14</b> <b>Service 10am</b> 	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Homework & Reading 4pm	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Homework & Reading 4pm  Choir 7pm	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> <b>Food &amp; Diaper Pantry 10:00 am</b> 
<b>21</b> <b>Service 10am</b>  <b>Stay for Ice Cream in Fellowship Hall</b> 	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Homework & Reading 4pm  <b>Admin Council 7pm</b>	<b>24</b>  <b>Blue Angels</b>	<b>25</b> Homework & Reading 4pm  Choir 7pm	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> <b>Service 10am</b>	<b>29</b> 	<b>30</b> Homework & Reading 4pm	<b>31</b>	<b>United Methodist Women will meet on Tuesday, June 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. All women of the church are invited.</b>		

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