



making a 'beautiful noise' **together!** Anthems are rehearsed several weeks in advance, so you have time to feel comfortable.

Hand-bells are another way to get your music on! The notes one plays are color-coded; counting is written in the music and we practice for at least 4 weeks before playing for a service. The Heavenly Bells team is very supportive and encouraging; a more congenial group you won't find anywhere!

Please come to see me if you'd like to know more or would like to join us. Better yet, approach one of our members and ask them about their experience in one of these two groups. I can guarantee a fun time and appreciation from your fellow group members.

~ JoAnn Kulesza, Director of Music

## UMW/Women in Faith



The United Methodist Women/Women in Faith will hold their meeting on Wednesday, February 1, 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.

***Beginning in March, our meetings through June will move to the first Tuesday of each month at 5:30; therefore, our March meeting will be on Tuesday, March 7. ~ Kathy Duckett***

Special thanks to the **Community Health/Public Health Response Team** at the Anne Arundel County Health Department who provided our organization with 900 test kits and 1,000 KN95 masks. We were able to offer these to guests at our Community Food Pantry, friends in the recovery program, members of the Seventh Day Adventist congregation, and our church attendees. Thanks for all you do as individuals to keep our community healthy.

## An Invocation by Our Pastor



Pastor Chris has been invited by Maryland State Senator Sarah Elfreth to give the invocation before the State Senate on the evening of February 6. What an exciting honor. Here is a rough draft of his prayer:

*Creator and Preserver of all,*

*We give you thanks for the gift of life,  
for sustenance,  
for family,  
for neighbors,  
for co-laborers.*

*We also give thanks for this moment in which we remind ourselves of the sacred task of serving our neighbors and leading our communities.*

*Give us the grace to lead with dignity.*

*Inspire us to seek the bigger picture,  
reveal to us what is right.*

*Enable us to succeed in our collective pursuit  
of protecting and embracing the vulnerable and marginalized.*

*Empower us to build our future  
upon creativity and collaboration,  
uninhibited by personal limitations.*

*Humble us to better care for each other  
and forgive one another more.*

*Root us in your love  
so that our compassion flourishes  
into solidarity  
and our solidarity bears fruit in  
liberty and justice for all.*

*Finally, when we end our day's work,  
when we are most challenged by the  
forces of injustice,  
when we have grown weary of doing  
good,  
may we return to gratitude and  
entrust ourselves to your unrelenting  
love.*

*Amen.*

## Garden & Maintenance News



Now that our Christmas decorations have been taken down, we finished cleaning, sanding, and painting the window trim. We cleaned, patched, and painted walls in the sacristy too. The large curtain tracks and the bead-board in the chapel were also cleaned. Trash and branches were picked up as usual. We are still working on the shutters, the sacristy, and cleaning and repairing the pews. Thanks to Anne Owen for cleaning more pews, Barbara and Mitch Krebs for sweeping up the outside stairs, Tony Fowler for raking up the leaves around the playground, and Sam Coates for raking leaves again and again and again.

We are looking to hire some workers to finish up maintenance on the outside of the church. A carpenter is needed to replace some wood around windows, a mason to repoint bricks, and a painter to paint the bottom half of the steeple. If you know of a good person, please let us know. Also, please keep all our workers and volunteers in your prayers that they stay safe while doing 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



LECTERN BEFORE REPAIRS



LECTERN AFTER REPAIRS



## Lenten Study

You're invited to join Pastor Chris and Pastor Jenna for a Lenten Bible Study in the chapel at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesdays beginning February 1<sup>st</sup>. Pastor Chris will also host a study group at 9:00 a.m. Wednesdays in the chapel.

We're looking for a few more people to be Pew Angels, replacing cards/envelopes, arranging hymnals and Bibles, and tidying up the pews for service. It's a once-a-month commitment for about an hour. Talk to Barbara Schwarz about the details. Call Barbara at 410-991-6120 or email [barbaraschwarz@comcast.net](mailto:barbaraschwarz@comcast.net).



## Mental Health First Aid

The Wellness & Missions Board invites you to attend a virtual Mental Health First Aid class. Upon completion, participants will be certified for three years. Review the choices below and follow the registration link next to your selection. Registration deadlines are not flexible; this ensures participants have adequate time to complete the pre-class work.

- March 17, 4 to 8 p.m., and March 18, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.; [registration due Feb. 24](#)
- April 20 and 21, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. both days; [registration due March 30](#)

For more information, contact [abundanthealth@bwcumc.org](mailto:abundanthealth@bwcumc.org).



## With Liberty and Justice for All

*Charting Careers* (our community partner that utilizes our facility) recently participated in [MENTOR Maryland DC's](#) Moving Towards Liberation Cohort 2. This year-long cohort was designed to take Maryland & DC-based organization leaders and the team they support through a series of experiences that force individuals and organizations to examine themselves and their organizational practices, as well as to create a roadmap forward that centers principles of race equity, anti-racism/anti-oppression, and, ultimately, liberation for the young people they serve and support.

## Keeping Us Safe



We're grateful to Capt. Justin Klinedinst of the Annapolis Police Department for a thorough and informative January 15 session here at EUMC on the subject of active crisis response. We had good attendance and participation. And our thanks to the Eichers for providing refreshments.

## A Heartfelt Gift

At the January 25, 2023 Eastport Volunteer Fire Company business meeting, Eastport United Methodist Church was unanimously selected to be in their first group of AED (Automated External Defibrillator) recipients! An AED is used to help those experiencing cardiac arrest. It is an easy to use medical device that can analyze the heart's rhythm and deliver an electric shock to help the heart reestablish an effective rhythm.



EVFC will be placing the order from the manufacturer very soon. We will keep you updated on next steps as soon as a delivery date is available. EVFC will work with us on some of the details such as installation of the device as well as training. We anticipate delivery and installation to be before the end of the year.

We are so very grateful for our neighbors at EVFC who with this gift wish to recognize our church and the great work we do with our community.

## I Go to Sing

I Go to Sing

I might be exhausted and the children might be cranky,  
but I will be going to church on Sunday.  
Don't know who is preaching, doesn't matter –  
the sermon may be helpful or not, holds my attention or  
doesn't –  
it's the singing.

I go to sing.

I get up,  
get clean,  
get dressed,  
possibly get mad (at not-ready kids, at empty coffee pot,  
at traffic)

get going,  
get there,  
get seated,  
get comfortable,  
get focused  
and when the music starts,  
get saved.  
It's the singing.

I go to sing.

It's the willingness to stand if you are able,  
the common agreement on page number,  
the voluntary sharing of songbooks with people on your  
row,

even ones you rode there with –

but most of all,

it's the collective in-breath before the first sound is  
made,

the collective drawing upon the grace of God,

the collective, if inadvertent, admission

that we are all human,

all fragile,

all in need of the sustaining air, freely dispensed,

all in need of each other to get the key right and not  
sound discordant —

it's the hidden life-celebration

in the act of making a joyful noise,

all together.

We don't even have to sound that good.

Singing together still brings home

the we-ness of worship,

the not-alone-ness of life in God,

the best of all we have to offer each other.

When we are singing, I think that I might actually be  
able to forgive you

for being so terribly human,

and you might be able to forgive me

for being so terribly not there yet,

and we might be able to find peace now,

not postpone it for some heavenly hereafter

but live and breathe it today,

drawing in the grace of God,



voicing out our need and hope and gratitude and longing.  
 When we are singing, I can feel the better world coming,  
 and if I get to be a part of it, you do too . . .  
 so sing with me,  
 and we'll make our way down that blessed road together,  
 collectively better  
 than we ever thought  
 possible.

*(Posted on Facebook by Lindy Thompson, forwarded to us by JoAnn Kulesza)*



**ANNAPOLIS POLICE DEPARTMENT**

199 Taylor Avenue Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
 410-268-9000 x 7218

**Traffic Safety Unit**  
 Release: 01/04/2023 Case# 22-27591

**\*\*\*\*\*Attempt to Identify\*\*\*\*\***



On Friday 12/30/2022 at approximately 8:30 PM, officers were dispatched to the area of Chesapeake Avenue at State Street for a hit-and-run crash with a pedestrian struck.

The suspect vehicle is a white 2011-2015 Ford Edge with tinted windows.

If you can assist in identifying the suspect, please contact Officer D. Dekowsky #9005  
[DDekowsky@annapolis.gov](mailto:DDekowsky@annapolis.gov) reference case# 22-27591

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 1-888-71.OCRU.P, (1-888-756-2587)  
[www.MetroCrimeStoppers.net](http://www.MetroCrimeStoppers.net)

**February Birthdays**



- Feb 2 Sally Hight  
Evan Ugolini  
Christina Hataway
- Feb 4 Richard Miller
- Feb 5 Thomas Smith
- Feb 9 Anne Owen  
Sam Coates
- Feb 13 Earl Macey, Jr.
- Feb 14 Jackie Cunningham  
John Allen Wilcox  
Luke Wilcox
- Feb 15 Harriet Macey
- Feb 23 Jacqueline Ploof
- Feb 24 Sue Finkle
- Feb 25 Mark Stevens
- Feb 28 Justin Ford

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[www.eastportumc.org](http://www.eastportumc.org)  
 Pastor: Christopher Broadwell  
 Editor: Eunice Corse

**February Anniversaries**



- Feb 11 Guy & Dawn Moyer
- Feb 14 Richard & Betty Miller
- Feb 19 Jim & Jean Wilcox
- Feb 22 Scott & Nicole Hughes



## seeking: honest questions for deeper faith

This season of Lent invites us along many stories of Jesus encountering people who are seeking: Nicodemus comes to him in the veil of night, Jesus approaches a Samaritan woman at a well, Jesus heals a man born without sight. In these stories, each person is seeking a new beginning, a different life, a deeper faith. What unfolds is an exchange filled with questions and exploration. Often, an unveiling occurs—assumptions are disrupted, a new perspective is revealed, mystery grows.

Many of our weekly questions feel restorative (“Can these bones live?”). Some feel like a charge or challenge (“Who will you listen to?”). Some questions are hopeful and curious (“How do we begin again?”). Our questions won't necessarily lead to answers, but they can help us find clarity and a new perspective.

Ultimately, we pray those questions lead to a new beginning, a restoration, a wider grace.

Like the characters in our Lenten scriptures, we are also seeking many things: clarity, connection, wonder, justice, balance. We are seeking our calling, the sacred, and how to live as a one who follows the way of Jesus.

Join us in the spiritual practice of seeking. We encourage you to stay curious, open, and nimble. We hope you will soften your assumptions and expand your perspectives. We pray that these questions will create a safe space to explore—to be drawn more deeply into the fullness of life, into the heart of God.

**Weekly Wednesday Study** February 1 - Mar 30, 9am & 7pm

**Ash Wednesday @ EUMC** 7 am & 7 pm

**Conversations in Faith** Each Sunday at 9 am

**Maundy Thursday @ EUMC** April 6, 7 pm

**Good Friday @ EUMC** April 7, noon

**Easter @ Thomas Point** April 9, 6 am

**Easter @ EUMC** April 9, 10 am

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b> UMW Meeting & Dinner 5:30pm  Lenten Study 9am & 7pm	<b>2</b> Homework & Reading 4pm Choir 7pm  	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b>  Service 10am	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>  Homework & Reading 4pm	<b>8</b>  Lenten Study 9am & 7pm	<b>9</b>  Homework & Reading 4pm  Choir 7pm	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> Service 10am    Super Simple Super Bowl Soup Lunch after Church	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>  Homework & Reading 4pm  Admin Council 7pm  	<b>15</b>  Lenten Study 9am & 7pm	<b>16</b>  Homework & Reading 4pm  Choir 7pm	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>  Food & Diaper Pantry 10:00 am  
<b>19</b>  Service 10am	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>  Homework & Reading 4pm	<b>22</b>  Ash Wednesday Services 7am and 7pm  <div style="background-color: #d3d3d3; padding: 2px; text-align: center;"><b>LENT BEGINS</b></div>	<b>23</b>  Homework & Reading 4pm  Choir 7pm	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b>  Service 10am	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>  Homework & Reading 4pm	<div style="background-color: #fff9c4; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"><b>Only 20 days til Spring!!</b></div>			

**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.  
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