



The Eastport Spire

“Inspire Us to Great Things”

April 2026

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,

Easter is almost here.

If you’re anything like me, it doesn’t always arrive in a neat, tidy way. Life rarely slows down enough for us to fully “prepare” for something as big as resurrection. We carry into this week everything that is already on our hearts... fatigue, hope, grief, small joys, unanswered prayers, and the quiet questions we don’t always say out loud.

And still, Easter comes.

It comes not as a reward for having everything figured out, but as a gift in the middle of real life. It meets us in the in-between places, the places where things feel unfinished, uncertain, or even a little broken. The story we tell on Easter morning is not just about what happened long ago. It’s about the persistent, surprising way that God keeps bringing life where we thought there wasn’t any left.

Resurrection doesn’t ignore the hard parts of life; it moves through them. It doesn’t rush us past grief or doubt; it meets us there and gently, patiently, begins something new.

This season, I find myself wondering: where might new life be quietly taking root in us? Where might hope be stirring, even if it feels small or fragile?

As we gather this Easter at Thomas Point or in our Sanctuary, my prayer is not that we come with certainty or perfect faith, but simply with openness. Openness to joy. Openness to surprise. Openness to the possibility that God is still at work—in us, among us, and beyond us.

Easter is coming. And with it, the quiet, stubborn promise that love is not finished yet. Thanks be to God.

*~ Grace and peace,
Pastor Chris*

Holy Week

Maundy Thursday – April 2 at 7 pm

We gather around the Table and remember Jesus’ command to love one another.

Good Friday – April 3 at noon

We gather around the cross at noon to reflect on the depth of God’s love for us.

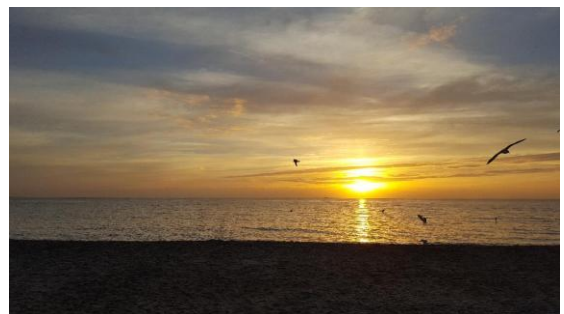
Easter Sunrise Service – April 5, just after 6 am

Join us at Thomas Point State Park to celebrate the power of life over death.

Dress warmly and bring a lawn chair.

Easter Celebration Service – April 5 at 10 am

A festive worship service in the church sanctuary celebrating the resurrection of Jesus and God’s redeeming love for the world.



Highlights



Tim Williams grew up in Lanham, Maryland, but he has now lived in Anne Arundel County for thirty-five years. Tim had a long career as a non-profit manager, for the Water Environment Federation, where he served as a Chief Program Officer, Senior Director for Government Affairs, and finally as Deputy Executive Director. He attended the University of Maryland where he studied government and journalism. Tim retired late in 2020, and he joined EUMC in 2023. He comes with some longstanding Methodist connections; Tim had attended Lanham UMC growing up, followed by Foundry UMC in DC, and later Mt Zion in Lothian, along with some other churches along the way.

Tim and his ex-wife raised their family in Edgewater near her parents. He has two grown daughters, both of whom teach at Monarch Academy, and six grandchildren. Both daughters and their families live near each other in Admiral Heights. Tim has a busy volunteer schedule, and he also spends regular time closely involved with his grandchildren and all their weekly activities. He lives in Edgewater with his partner, Jessie. They enjoy walking around the local parks with their dog, and one travel goal they share is to visit as many national parks as possible.

Tim came to EUMC and connected with Chris Broadwell, through their roles on the Board of Annapolis Pride. He has been part of the SPRC at EUMC, and this year, has taken over as Chair of that committee. In retirement, Tim has also been very active on the Board of the Anne Arundel County Library Foundation and has served as Treasurer with

the South County Democratic organization. We are grateful for Tim's involvement at the church, and with all the leadership experience he brings.

United Women in Faith



The United Women in Faith will hold their next meeting on Tuesday, April 7, at 5:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. There will be a short business meeting followed by devotions. All women of the church are invited to participate. You are welcome to bring a bagged meal and drink; dessert will be provided.

~ Kathy Duckett



AfterSchool Learn & Play

Children in the AfterSchool Learn and Play Program celebrated the season by coloring dozens of eggs which were then skillfully hidden in every nook and cranny of the church yard by the volunteers. Many plastic eggs containing candy were among the real ones. Nary a single egg escaped the kids' vigorous hunt.

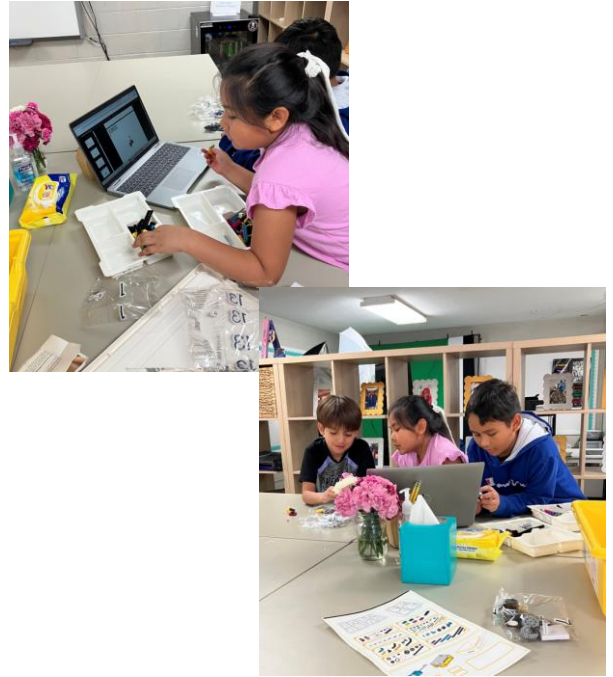


Anne Arundel County Public Schools will be closed for Spring/Easter Break March 30 to April 6. In keeping with our policy, the Learn and Play Program will not meet. Sessions will resume on Tuesday, April 7.

~ Mike Keller

Fun Learning at EUMC

Second grader Melanie Rodriguez was among the children in the Learn and Play program to participate in the creation of a moving mini robot or play computer-based educational games with the assistance of staff from Creating Communities.



Sunday School


Are you energized by children? Would you like to dip your toe into teaching? We are looking for willing adults to teach Sunday School starting this fall. If interested in more information, please reach out to Molly Estabrook at:

Estabrook120@icloud.com

Thanks! ~ Molly Estabrook

Coming Soon

These upcoming Google Workspace Workshops are free and will take place in EUMC's lower level. Please register using the QR code on the poster.



Build your digital skills with Google Workspace

FREE Google Digital Skills Workshops
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Workshops: What You'll Learn & When

April Sessions – Google Docs & Drive
Master Docs & Drive for everyday productivity

| | |
|----------|----------------|
| April 18 | 9:00 - 10:30AM |
| April 21 | 6:00 - 7:30PM |

May Sessions – Google Sheets & Forms
Learn Sheets & Forms for data + organization

| | | | |
|--------|----------------|--------|---------------|
| May 16 | 9:00 - 10:30AM | May 20 | 6:00 - 7:30PM |
|--------|----------------|--------|---------------|

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LOCATION: Charting Careers Office Eastport United Methodist Church

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Register Now Stay relevant in our digital world

Gain valuable skills with Google Workspace tools!



Are you new? Do you want to learn more?
Join us to learn about EUMC beliefs and practices.

CONVERSATIONS
to get to know EUMC

Sundays April 19 thru June 14
9:00am - 9:45am
Classroom A

Church Council Corner

The EUMC Admin Council has developed our 2026 Goals. They are included in this edition of The Spire. We invite everyone to speak with Pastor Chris and any Admin Council member about ideas of activities, initiatives, and events for reaching them.

The Unified Board Framing Principles are in the last stages of being drafted. They describe a new governance structure for Eastport UMC. In late spring and early summer, we plan meetings to develop our shared understanding of the new model. The congregation will have several chances to work together in transitioning to the Unified Board.

The next Admin Council Meeting is 7 pm on April 21. All are welcome to attend.

Coming Up Soon:

On Sunday, May 3rd, after service, we're having an EUMC Greenscape event. If you can give a little time, we'd welcome your help spreading mulch and doing some general spring cleanup on our grounds.

The Admin Council is Tim Williams, Jean Strucko, Jill Peddicord, Michael Keller, Ruth Gibbons, Elaine Fors-MacKellar, David Emenheiser, Tonya DeMedici, Neil Bergsman, and Tracy Alexander. All comments and questions go to David Emenheiser, Admin Council Chair.

EUMC 2026 Goals

The Church's Administrative Council is pleased to announce the following goals for 2026.

We are sharing these with you to provide insight into our focus areas and to invite your ideas or potential volunteer support. We strive to set goals that are specific, measurable, attainable, relevant, and timely. Of course, these goals do not encompass every activity of our church. They are not all-encompassing, but they do indicate the key areas that the Council believes require particular attention this year.

~ EUMC Administrative Council, David Emenheiser. Chair

Church Ministries - Reaching In

Goal 1: Attendance and membership.

Membership will increase over the course of the year.

Average Sunday attendance will increase at least ten percent from January to December

Church Ministries - Reaching Out

Goal 2: Community service ministries.

EUMC will continue the monthly food pantry.
EUMC will add at least one community partner or outside event.

EUMC will initiate a ministry to support and assist members of vulnerable and fearful groups.
EUMC will sponsor at least one special event focused on families and children for the surrounding community.

Church Ministries - Reaching Deep

Goal 3: Discipleship and development.

EUMC leadership will personally invite individuals to help with doing ministry tasks

EUMC will create discipleship series to help individuals progress from visitor/ guest to regular attender to member to active member to ministry leadership and from unawareness to understanding of United Methodism and EUMC mission, vision, and values

Church Operations

Goal 4: Financial sustainability and stewardship

Total revenues (excluding investment earnings) will meet or exceed revenues in budget (\$151,400).

Offerings will exceed the 2025 amount (\$97,771).

EUMC will commission an audit or financial review of finances.

Goal 5: Communication

EUMC will improve internal and external communication among various constituencies, including visitors, members, neighbors, partner organizations, and leadership.

The Admin Board will plan and initiate a review of EUMC's processes for communicating with members - including those who are not regular attendees - in order to determine their expectations and preferences. This review will lead to recommendations regarding the form, frequency, and content of communications.

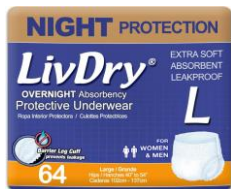
Goal 6: Governance Structure

EUMC will develop a complete proposal for a Unified Board governance structure, and will hold a conference to consider its adoption.



April Special Pantry Item

We are collecting adult diapers for our April 18 pantry. Your donations are gratefully welcome and can be brought to Sunday service or dropped at the church office between 9:30 and 2:00 Tuesdays through Fridays.



Last month's special pantry focus, thanks to your generosity.

April Anniversaries



- Apr 5 Linda & Hillard Harrison
- Apr 7 Mary Jane & Jim Finkle
- Apr 16 Lindsey & David M. Owen
- Apr 23 Kathy & Steve Duckett

Tommy & Elizabeth Eicher
Real Estate Professionals
3 Church Circle Annapolis 21401
Cell 410-212-3383/410-279-1702
Office 410-263-8686



We will donate \$500 to Eastport United Methodist Church on your behalf for any Real Estate transaction that results in a sale



April Birthdays



- Apr 2 Butch Stevens
- Apr 6 David M. Owen
- Apr 7 Jason Wilcox
- Apr 12 Sophia Hughes
Jessie Keller
- Apr 19 Scott Hughes
- Apr 25 Katie Willie
- Apr 26 Liam Smith
Traci DuPlayee
- Apr 27 Jim Finkle
- Apr 29 Evie Swink
Guy Goddard

Almost T-Shirt Weather

Let your faith shine wherever you go with our church T-shirts! We have several unique options to choose from, all featuring uplifting messages and inspiring imagery. Whether you're looking for a classic design to wear to a festival or something suitable for everyday wear, we have something for everyone.



<http://bonfire.com/store/friends-of-eumc/>

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www.eastportumc.org
Pastor: Christopher Broadwell
Editor: Eunice Corse



| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|-----------|---|--------------------------|---|--|---|
| | | | 1 | 2 Prayer Time 9 to 10am Maundy Thursday Service 7pm | 3 Praise Band 10am Good Friday Service 12pm | 4 |
| 5 Sunrise 6am @ThomasPoint Sanctuary Service 10am | 6 | 7 Learn&Play 4pm United Women In Faith Meeting & Dinner 5:30pm | 8 | 9 Prayer Time 9 to 10am Learn&Play 4pm Men's Group 7pm Choir 7pm | 10 Praise Band 10am | 11 |
| 12 Conversations in Faith 9:15am Service 10am Sunday School Pot Luck after Service | 13 | 14 Divine Diners Lunch 12pm @Sammy's Learn&Play 4pm | 15 TAX DAY | 16 Prayer Time 9 to 10am Learn&Play 4pm Choir 7pm | 17 Praise Band 10am | 18 Charting Careers Innovation Hub 9 to 11am Community Food & Diaper Pantry 11am (Setup 10am) |
| 19 Conversations in Faith 9:15am *Newcomer* Conversations 9am Room A Service 10am | 20 | 21 Learn&Play 4pm Divine Diners Adam's 5:30pm Admin Council 7pm | 22 | 23 Prayer Time 9 to 10am Learn&Play 4pm Choir 7pm | 24 Praise Band 10am | 25 |
| 26 Conversations in Faith 9:15am *Newcomer* Conversations 9am Room A Service 10am Sunday School | 27 | 28 Learn&Play 4pm | 29 | 30 Prayer Time 9 to 10am Learn&Play 4pm Choir 7pm | | |

WEEKLY EVENTS

SUNDAY

CONVERSATIONS IN FAITH 9:15 AM
SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP 10 AM
CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL 2ND/4TH 10:15 AM
COFFEE HOUR 11 AM

MONDAY

AFTERSCHOOL W/ CHARTING CAREERS 3 PM
NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS 7 PM
NAPTOWN PHILHARMONIC CHOIR 7 PM

TUESDAY

ESL CLASSES W/ CENTRO DE AYUDA 10 AM
AFTERSCHOOL LEARN & PLAY 4 PM
DIVINE DINERS 2ND TUES, 12 PM / 4TH TUES 5:30 PM
CREATING COMMUNITIES: ARTS & ROBOTICS CLASS 5 PM

WEDNESDAY

CHAIR CARDIO EXERCISE CLASS 9 AM
AFTERSCHOOL W/ CHARTING CAREERS
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS 8:30 PM

THURSDAY

MORNING PRAYER 9:30 AM
ESL CLASSES W/ CENTRO DE AYUDA 10 AM
AFTERSCHOOL LEARN & PLAY 4 PM
ARTS & ROBOTICS CLASS W/ MD HALL 5 PM
EUMC CHOIR REHEARSAL 7 PM

FRIDAY

BUILD A BETER BOOTCAMP 8 AM
EUMC BAND REHEARSAL 10 AM
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS 7 PM

SATURDAY

COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY 3RD SAT, 10 AM
LA INGLESIA ADVENTISTA DEL SEPTIMO DIA 9 AM

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Annapolis, MD 21403-3091



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