



# The Eastport Spire

## *“Inspire Us to Great Things”*

### **April 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.*

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## A Note from Pastor Chris

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### Friends of Eastport United Methodist Church:

Holy Week is here. We join in the story of Jesus as he journeys towards the cross, with Maundy Thursday, Good Friday.

Our Maundy Thursday service is available online at [eastportumc.org/worship](http://eastportumc.org/worship).

There will be two options to join in worship online on Good Friday. One is a Tenebrae Service in collaboration with Pastor Meredith and Trinity UMC. The other service visits the Stations of the Cross and is done in collaboration with many other Annapolis churches. Both will be available online at [eastportumc.org/worship](http://eastportumc.org/worship).

I am so excited to gather with you this Easter Sunday, both at Thomas Point at 6 a.m. and in the church yard at 10 a.m. Together, *while masked and socially distanced*, we'll celebrate the everlasting love of God that conquered the grave by celebrating Holy Communion together. We have individually packaged communion juice and wafers available for you to use, and you are also welcome to bring your own bread and juice for this occasion. An online service will also be available featuring our hand bell choir and a special video during children's time.

We'll gather in the yard near the playground, so little ones can play nearby if they need to. Be sure to bring flowers to place on the cross at the 10 a.m. service.

*~ Grace and peace, Pastor Chris*

Watch our services on EUMC's YouTube channel every Sunday. You can go back and see any you missed or any you want to repeat. Another way to listen to EUMC Sunday services is by phone at 1-410-233-3163 any time.

### JOIN US FOR



**Easter Sunrise Service 6:00 a.m.  
Thomas Point State Park**



**Easter Service with Communion 10:00 a.m.  
On the EUMC Lawn**

## April UMW Meeting

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The United Methodist Women will hold their next meeting online via Zoom on Wednesday, April 7, at 5:30. We will have a business meeting to vote on missions donations for 2021, followed by a program from the 2020-2021 UMW

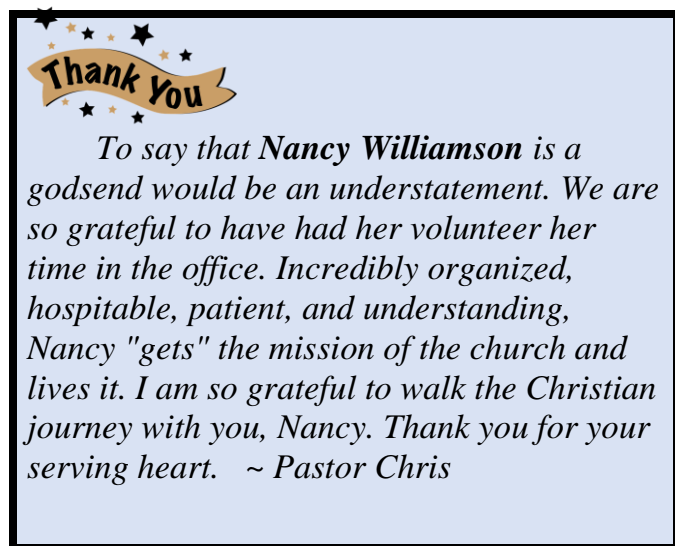
book entitled *Knitted Together for God's Good Work*. All women of the church are invited to participate.

~ Kathy Duckett

## Meet Our New Office Admin!

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Pastor Chris and the Staff Parish Relations Committee have hired Della Sztuk to serve as our new Administrative Assistant. Della's been in Annapolis for over a decade and has worked in Eastport for most of that time. Della will also serve as our Community Coordinator, leading our food pantry effort and so much more. She brings organizational and administrative experience to our office and brings a great heart and vision to accompany our efforts in serving our community.



## Spring Cleaning

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We can tell by the sudden increase in donations that spring cleaning is well underway in our congregation. Three cheers! I thought it might be helpful to provide some guidelines as you sort and determine the best recipient for your cherished items.

- We have stopped collecting Winter outerwear due to storage challenges but will restart our collecting this November for the Winter distribution in partnership with #JustOneSweater.

- We welcome food donations to our pantry but all canned and boxed goods must be sealed, and within the expiration dates. Our volunteers have recently found several donations far exceed expiration dates which preclude their being distributed.

- For our home gardeners, we would really welcome fresh produce and herbs from your garden. These are the most in-demand items at our monthly food pantry.

- We recently helped two families get rehoused with furniture and housewares after a devastating fire in Robinwood. We have concluded our collection of large items. If you still have furniture, housewares and electronics to donate, please contact Sam Coates directly to determine if he has additional families in need of such items.

- Lastly, but most importantly, we must keep our Dignity Pledge in mind with all donations. There is a sentiment in our country that if people have nothing, they should be happy to get anything. We do not see it that way. We believe that if people have nothing, they have already gotten the worst in life. Now, it is time to give them the best. Unless you would wrap it up with a bow and gift it to your loved ones, we will not gift the donation to our families.

~ Susan Schneider



## A Cord of Three Strands

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With so many people seemingly at polar opposites, I do my best to find those small places in the world where folks have common purpose. Luckily, I have been able to find some of that close to home. For instance, the other day I was reading an article in the *Washington Post* about a company, NC Made, that offers homemade North Carolina foods and gifts. Basically, the company pulls together small vendors from communities across the state and helps them market their products to a much wider audience.

Yup, this was an article I had to read. First of all, any article about NC piques my interest. Secondly, NC food? Even better. The Bertie County peanuts they included in one of the photos have always been a favorite of mine! But then, midway through the article, I was struck by what one of the vendors said about this community coming together. She cited Ecclesiastes 4:12:

*Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves.*

**A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.**

A cord of three strands; that really made me think. Eastport's collaboration with Mt. Zion and John Wesley – our cord of three strands that we have lovingly woven together – is doing so much more than any one of our small churches could accomplish on its own.

Before reading the *Post* article, I had been emailing back and forth with my friend Nakia (Mt. Zion). Turns out I had mistakenly identified Ms. Ida Mae in last month's Spire article (The Power of Community) as also being from Mt. Zion, but Nakia corrected me gently and let me know she's actually from John Wesley. I joked that Ms. Ida Mae probably wouldn't mind that she suddenly had dual citizenship, to which Nakia replied: ***Dual! – I feel like triple membership, lol. I can honestly say I would feel welcomed at Eastport or John Wesley. These partnership opportunities have in truth built something amazing.***

Wow! I couldn't have said it better myself. And I am so grateful to be part of this loving community of three small churches that are sharing resources, time and members to support our larger community of Eastport. It might be a drop in the bucket but I'm so

happy to be part of something that focuses on building, not tearing down.

Now if you'll excuse me, I need to track down a website: I need me some Bertie County peanuts!

~ Barbara Krebs

## Lenten Sermon Series

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The United Methodist Church has long sought to point God's people towards reconciling love in Jesus Christ by urging congregations and to work for justice and inclusion in church and society. During the course of Lent, we touched on a number of church teaching documents that are both convicting and compelling. Whether they convict you or frustrate you, you may want to take more time to meditate on them and see how you can integrate the teaching of our church into your life.

Charter for Racial Justice:

<https://www.umcjustice.org/who-we-are/social-principles-and-resolutions/a-charter-for-racial-justice-in-an-interdependent-global-community-3371>

Rights of Racial and Ethnic Persons:

<https://www.umc.org/en/content/social-principles-the-social-community#racial-ethnic>

Resolution on Environmental Racism:

<https://www.umcjustice.org/who-we-are/social-principles-and-resolutions/environmental-racism-in-the-us-1025>

Resolution on White Privilege in the United States:

<https://www.umcjustice.org/who-we-are/social-principles-and-resolutions/white-privilege-in-the-united-states-3376>

Racism and Economic Injustice Against People of Color in the US: <https://www.umcjustice.org/who-we-are/social-principles-and-resolutions/racism-and-economic-injustice-against-people-of-color-in-the-us-3378>

Stop Criminalizing Communities of Color in the US: <https://www.umc.org/en/content/book-of-resolutions-stop-criminalizing-communities-of-color-in-the-united-states>



Humanizing Criminal Justice:

<https://www.umcjustice.org/who-we-are/social-principles-and-resolutions/humanizing-criminal-justice-5031>

Speaking Out for Compassion:

<https://www.umcjustice.org/who-we-are/social-principles-and-resolutions/speaking-out-for-compassion-transforming-the-context-of-hate-in-the-united-states-3422?emci=2be2c086-9ca6-ea11-9b05-00155d039e74&emdi=09a288c9-2eab-ea11-9b05-00155d039e74&ceid=2693093>



## Something to Celebrate!

We are so grateful to the Community Foundation of Anne Arundel County for their grant award to Eastport United Methodist Church. EUMC received \$10,000 from CFAAC's Community Crisis Response fund to aid our Community Coordinator effort. This will help us meet critical needs of residents in our immediate area. It is so good for us to have CFAC as a partner in #care for our neighbors.

Learn more about CFAAC's work here:

<http://www.cfaac.org/>

*We said goodbye to a beautiful soul  
and long-time member of Eastport United  
Methodist Church.*

**Marie Sims**

**June 8, 1920 – March 23, 2021**

## Coffee with the Pastor



Over the past year, Pastor Chris has been available for chats over Zoom and telephone. Pastor Chris is now making himself available for scheduled outdoor visits. Please reach out to him to schedule a time to get together to chat and to pray. Who knows, maybe he'll even bring his guitar with him!

## Exciting News!

The Reentry Task Force that meets to support Pastor Chris in making pandemic-related decisions has decided to set **May 23rd (Sunday)** as the date for reopening the EUMC facility. **That Sunday morning will be our first in-person, indoor worship service.** We will have protocols established to minimize the opportunity for community spread of the virus, which will certainly include wearing a mask for entirety of your time inside the building, and maintain physical distance (i.e. every other pew) while seated in the sanctuary. We're not quite ready to welcome everyone to the Fellowship Hall afterward, but we'll look forward to being able to do that in the future!

The 23rd also marks the date when we will welcome the other users of the facility, such as the Seventh Day Adventist Church, the Colonial Nursery School and the recovery groups, back to the building. We will provide them with expectations for mask-wearing, social distancing and cleaning/disinfecting after their meetings, and we're confident they'll be as eager to return to EUMC as we are!

Even though we will return to in-person worship beginning May 23rd, the Worship Team has committed to continuing to provide an online worship experience for the foreseeable future. We've heard great feedback for how that new medium has been a blessing to members and non-members alike, so we hope to continue serving them in that way.

April, 2021



**BID FOR HOPE 2021**  
**Spring Fling**  
**4/14/21 - 4/17/21**



Greetings and Happy Spring! Due to COVID, Arundel House of Hope was not able to hold its annual Bid for Hope event in February. We are pleased to announce that we will be holding our 15th annual Bid for Hope event online. Just as in previous years, our event will be a silent auction and raffle with numerous exciting prizes on which you can bid. The auction will start at 8am on April 14, 2021 and run until 4pm on April 17, 2021. I have attached the link for the event website. The items available for bidding will not be posted until the date of the event; however the site will allow you to purchase raffle tickets ahead of time. In addition to the items available for bidding, the site will offer a link to make a direct donation to Arundel House of Hope and a link labeled Fund a Need which will allow you to donate money towards a specific cost associated with our clients. Please take a moment to familiarize yourself with the website, recognize our sponsors, make a donation and buy raffle tickets. We are very excited to offer this virtual alternative to our annual event. Please click on the link below to hear a message from our Executive Director. Thank you, as always, for your continued support of Arundel House of Hope and for giving back to those in need.

[Click here to go to event website](#)

## THE CONNECTION



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

[eastportumc.org](http://eastportumc.org)

## April Birthdays







- Apr 2 Butch Stevens  
Joe Nasatka
- Apr 3 Ricardo Vasquez
- Apr 5 Bill Schneider
- Apr 6 David M. Owen
- Apr 7 Jason Wilcox  
Jim Bradford
- Apr 9 Carole McNew
- Apr 12 Sophia Hughes  
Jessie Keller
- Apr 14 Tom Schwallenberg
- Apr 19 Scott Hughes
- Apr 20 Susan Schneider
- Apr 23 Nadine Clark
- Apr 26 Liam Smith  
Traci DuPlayee
- Apr 27 Jim Finkle
- Apr 29 Evie Swink  
Guy Goddard

## April Anniversaries



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

*The Spire* is published monthly by Eastport United Methodist Church, 926 Bay Ridge Ave., Annapolis, MD 21403. 410.263.5490  
[office@eastportumc.org](mailto:office@eastportumc.org)  
[www.eastportumc.org](http://www.eastportumc.org)  
Pastor: Christopher Broadwell  
Editor: Eunice Corse

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<b>1</b> Maundy Thursday Virtual Service EUMC Website	<b>2</b> Good Friday Virtual Service EUMC Website	<b>3</b>
				<a href="http://eastportumc.org/worship">eastportumc.org/worship</a>		
<b>4</b> Sunrise Service @ Thomas Pt. 6am  Easter Service on EUMC lawn 10am	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> History of Hymns Online 7:30pm	<b>7</b> UMW MEETING (VIRTUAL) 5:30PM	<b>8</b> Virtual Hymn Sing 7:00pm	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b> Online Worship	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> History of Hymns Online 7:30pm	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Virtual Hymn Sing 7:00pm	<b>16</b> Pickup & sort food for tomorrow's food pantry	<b>17</b> <b>FOOD PANTRY</b> 10:30 AM 
<b>18</b> Online Worship	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Admin Council Meeting 7pm History of Hymns Online 7:30pm	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Virtual Hymn Sing 7:00pm	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> Online Worship	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> History of Hymns Online 7:30pm	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	

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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](http://www.eastportumc.org)