

EASTON CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

APRIL, 2021

PEACHBLOSSOM PRESS NEWSLETTER

Mission Statement

“Sharing the love and blessing of God with all.”



412 S. Harrison Street

Easton, MD 21601

410-822-0475

eastonchurchofthebrethren@gmail.com

www.eastonbrethren.org



I've been thinking lately of John Kline, who reportedly rode some 30,000 miles on his trusty horse, Nell, as he traveled among the Brethren and did other errands of service.

Much of that traveling occurred across the lines of North and South in the time leading up to and during the Civil War. Brethren were opposed to slavery from the beginning, but Kline's even-handed leadership is often credited with helping to keep the church together during a time when many other denominations split into northern and southern factions.

Larry Glick, who sometimes portrays Kline in historical re-enactments, recently said in *Messenger* that Kline “took great personal risks during the war to maintain unity of the Brethren.”

Kline's frequent travel across the boundary eventually aroused suspicion among some Southern sympathizers in his home region of Virginia that he was a spy, leading to Kline's assassination by vigilantes in June 1864. But the only thing Kline had spied was hope—the hope he constantly found in following Jesus and listening to the Spirit's “still, small voice of tender compassion and love,” as he once described it.

Brethren author Dorothy Brandt Davis wrote a children's book about Kline's life titled *The Middle Man*, a testament to Kline's willingness to stand “in the middle” during those turbulent times. Others have played such a role in the church over the decades: the moderating voice of James Quinter in the late 1800s, Dan West's rallying call to service in the wake of World War II, the persistent joy and encouragement of Anna Mow later in the 20th century, and more.

Lately I've been wondering who plays that role in the church today. While the Church of the Brethren still has an important witness and much to offer, its unity has been fraying again along a different sort of battle lines. The polarized landscape and deep divisions that characterize so many aspects of life can leave the “middle” a rather lonely place to be.

While we can't let a desire to be “all things to all people” water down our faith, we do well to remember our common waters of baptism. I value the fact that this congregation seems to have a fair amount of theological and political diversity, yet still enjoys being with one another. A sense of community and a willingness to prioritize a common connection in Jesus Christ takes precedence over any differences that might exist—at least most of the time!

John Kline preached unapologetically, and sometimes called the church to accountability, but he never forgot that those he encountered—regardless of geography or other factors—were all God's children. We continue to need voices like that in the church, calling us to those middle places of common ground even when differing priorities pull us in other directions.

As we enter this Easter season, may we again find the joy of resurrection and new hope that holds us together.

—Pastor Walt 😊

Sermon and Scriptures through Easter

April 1 (Maundy Thursday love feast)

"Making Sense"

John 13:1-17, 1 Cor. 13:8-12

April 4 (Easter Sunday)

"A Feast for the Senses"

John 6:10-14; Psalm 131; Isa. 25:6-8, Mark 16:1-8

April 11

"Together"

Acts 4:32-35, Psalm 133

April 18

"The Trouble with Sharon"

Isa. 33:2-16, Acts 3:12-19, Psalm 4

April 25

"THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD"

Psalm 23, John 10:11-18

Music for April

April 4: Choir Quartet

April 11: Amy Bachand

April 18: Men's Trio

April 25: Cheryl Dayton



Worship will remain at 10 a.m. through the spring, with no Christian Education classes, as we continue to follow the protocols of the current health situation. We're monitoring the situation from week to week. The Christian Education team is preparing study resources each week, available in your bulletin.



The pandemic continues to necessitate some adjustments to our usual routines, but at least this year we are able to be together to celebrate this special season. For Holy Week/Easter Sunday we are planning the following schedule:

• On Maundy Thursday, we will have a modified love feast service at 7 p.m. in the fellowship hall. This reflective time will include readings, music, a meditation, and communion. While we will not have a meal (please eat before coming), the deacons will distribute individual bags with symbols to help us consider the meaning of this special evening.

• Easter will begin with a sunrise service at 8 a.m., Lyons' pond (off Schwaninger Road behind Round Top), weather permitting.

• For Sunday morning Easter worship, we will offer two identical services at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. in the church sanctuary to spread out the crowd (similar to what we did for Christmas Eve). We ask that everyone planning to attend please sign up for one of the services in advance. We'll be limiting attendance to about 50 people at each. Please sign up on the sheets in the narthex or contact the church office. We will have the Changed Cross at both services. Please bring your fresh cut flowers to church. However, we will not be placing them individually as we did in years past. We will have one person placing the flowers on the cross at each service.



Other worship services through the spring, will continue to be at 10 a.m. in the sanctuary. Watch your email, the website, and the weekly announcement sheets for further information. Thank you!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

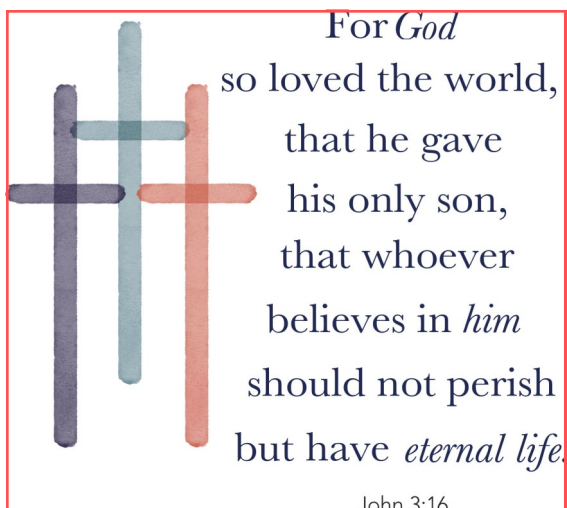
- 1 Jordan Davis, Leslie Saulsbury
- 4 Jimmy Mattox
- 5 Karen Davis
- 6 Marlena Groves, Annabel Young
- 7 Kevin Wile
- 8 Michael Valliant
- 9 Marlee Fox,
Heather Moore
- 11 Susan Sanger
- 12 Tim Young
- 13 Hutch Walbridge, Jack Wood,
Connor Crannell
- 14 Jocelyn Koenig
- 16 Chad Whitzel, James Foreman,
Karen Jo Olszewski
- 17 Stanley Morris, Diane Walbridge
- 18 Robin Lyons
- 21 D.R. Warrington
- 23 Jennifer "Regan" Fox, Shelly Milburn
- 24 Todd Butler, Logan Allen, Roger Plagge,
Bonnie Langford
- 25 Tom Brockson
- 28 Ashley Ball
- 30 Gabriel Fluharty

APRIL



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- 8 Leroy & Sharon Miller
- 14 Mat & Wanda Baynard
- 27 Todd & Kelly Lyons



?? ? Bible Quiz ? ?

We know the name of only one of the two disciples to whom the risen Jesus appeared on the road to Emmaus. Who was he?

- A. John
- B. Paul of Tarsus
- C. Joseph of Arimathea
- D. Cleopas



Answer: D (See Luke 24:18.)



Messenger Renewal Time

Deadline to renew/cancel or sign-up (as a first time subscriber) is May 15.

Please let Lee Ann know asap your request to renew, cancel or sign-up by Sunday, May 2, 2021. We ask each subscriber to pay for their subscriptions. Yearly subscriptions are \$14.50, two-year subscriptions are \$27 and first time subscribers is \$7.25 (for the first year in a church club). Post cards will be sent out to those who are scheduled to renew. Thank you!!!

Changes to the Newsletter

We are working on converting the newsletter to be delivered mostly digitally (via email) as a way to save money, paper, and time. We will still make a limited number of print copies available, though for those who need them. If you prefer to receive your newsletter in print form, please let the church office know by May 16. Otherwise, we will convert all newsletter deliveries to email for those whose addresses we have. If you are not on our email list, please submit to: eastonchurchofthebrethren@gmail.com. Thank you!

Newsletter

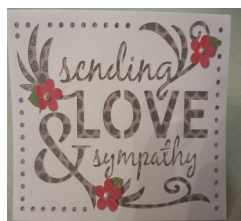


Our deepest sympathy to the family of Ellen Walbridge. Aunt Ellen, as she was known to many, passed away on her 102nd birthday, February 26. She touched so many people and was loved by all. Aunt Ellen's service was held on Saturday, March 6 at the Easton CoB. Graveside services were held at the Fairview Cemetery.

Please pray Christ presence and love to the Walbridge family!

Our deepest sympathy to the family of Ted Nicholson. Ted passed away on Thursday, March 25. Ted's service was held on Tuesday, March 30, at St. Ann Catholic Church, Chesterfield, Virginia. Interment was held on Wednesday, March 31.

Please pray Christ presence and love to the Nicholson and Battle family.



Please pray especially for the following individuals and their families: for those who

Our Prayer List

have contracted COVID-19, for health care workers, and for government and civic leaders who are seeking the best way forward, for our District Executive, Gene Hagenberger, for all those who have been affected economically, for Camp Mardela and administrator Jennifer Summy, to the family of Ted Nicholson, to the family of Ellen Walbridge, Caitlyn Bussey, Lynn Butler, Bev Altavater, Sheila Tyler, Ron Miller, Joyce Battle, Kim Hammond, Misti Green, Peggy Hutchison, Bunky Miller, Theresa, (co-worker of Terri Tarr), Verna Calloway, Bonnie Langford, Mary Kelly, Amelia Gunn and Chad Whitzel (BVS), Hermann & Peggy Oberkofler, Doris Schwaninger, Brenna (a college senior at Bridgewater with cancer), John Evans, Isabelle Halliday, Wyatt Ewing, Jim & Loretta Lohr, Kathy Spurry, Lillian Sefcik, Judy Haddaway, Jean & Don Sabalus, Richard Scott, Billy Harding, Chuck Davis, Annabel Young, Larry Fike, Childlene Brooks, Alan Segar, Bruce Butler, Pat Lewis, Lee Roesti, Norman Harding, Gene & Betty Lednum, GraceWay CoB, Nancy Scheffler, Roger Plagge, John Nalley, Bobby Hopkins, Kurt Kline, Dee Candel, Lois Schall, Natalee Jones, Jeff Wright, continuous prayers for our church family in Nigeria, continued prayers for Comfort Amos, Barbara Taylor, Leo Truban, Emerson Fike, Katelyn Howard. Pray for leaders & people that are working towards peace. Please phone the church to add or remove persons on our prayer list.



I would like to thank the congregation for the cards and prayers. They were very comforting.

A very special thanks to Barbara Saulsbury. She continued to pack the lunches for the Ridgeway House. She faced some adversity, but was committed.

*Thanking everyone,
Misti Green*



News from the District Office

43rd Annual Meat Canning Project **CANCELED**

The meat canning committee is saddened to inform the district that the 2021 meat canning event has been canceled. There were not enough volunteers signed up to cover all the needed shifts.



The committee is aware of the immense local and global need, therefore, the committee has decided to use the funds that have been donated to purchase canned meat for distribution. Your church will be notified when we have details for the distribution date and asking if your congregation would like to receive meat for distribution.

By purchasing this canned meat (which is more costly than canning it ourselves) we will be depleting the meat canning donations fund. Donations will be needed for the 2022 event as we will try once again to resume meat canning. Donations are appreciated at any time during the year and are held in a restricted funds account specifically for meat canning events.

Disaster Response Auction Date **Saturday, November 13, 2021**

For this year, the auction has been postponed from its normal date in May. Details will be shared as they become available.



Because our beloved MAD Disaster Auction has been postponed until November,

Because disasters don't stop,
Because we are a people who care,
Because we want to follow in the steps of Jesus...

We are having another "Steps for Disaster" devotional walk in the month of May.

DISASTER RELIEF WALK-A-THON MAY, 2021

The Mid-Atlantic Disaster Response committee is raising money through a walk-a-thon to benefit emergency disaster fund of the Church of the Brethren.

"Steps for Disaster Relief" is a:

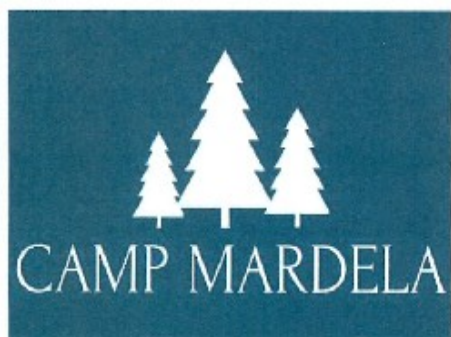
- Reflective walk-a-thon done at your convenience.
- Walk for a total of one hour, all at once or multiple times to add up to one hour.
- Recruit family and friends to walk with you and/or sponsor you.
- Intentionally walk in a disaster survivor's shoes, imagining their plight, praying for them and for all those who in some way have, are and will continue providing relief.
- Eight congregations raised \$12,942.25 for "Steps for Disaster Relief", in 2020.

Sponsor forms are located on the table in the narthex.



Feel free to enjoy a day at Camp walking the trails. Hiking is done by appointment only (in order to maintain social distancing). Please call for your appointment at 410-479-2861. Facilities and building will not be available.

Camp Mardela continues with their fundraiser of Scrip: What is Scrip? Buy gift cards online (all year long) at www.shopwithscrip.com, pay online and a rebate will be earned between 2% and 16% that will immediately go towards Camp Mardela. When your gift card arrives, use them for your everyday shopping...that simple. If you would like a copy of the instructions, contact Lee Ann and she can mail you a copy.



**GRAND
RE-OPENING!**

**May 15,
2021
12pm - 8pm**



**DISASTER RELIEF WALK-A-THON
DRIVE-IN CAMPFIRE
CAMP STORE, BOATS, FOOD, AND MORE!
301 Deep Shore Road, Denton. MD**

CAMP MARDELA 2021

Summer Camp Schedule	Overnight Camp + Camping Area * Primitive Sites	Day Camp - Pavilion
WEEK 1	+ Horses, Horses, Horses June 20-June 24 5th-8th Grade	X
WEEK 2	+/* Youth Camp June 27-July 2 9th-*12th Grade	- Science Camp June 28-July 1 4th-6th Grade
WEEK 3	+ Fine Arts Camp July 4-July 8 5th-8th Grade	- Arts & Crafts Camp July 5-July 8 3rd-5th Grade
WEEK 4	+ Performing Arts Camp July 11-July 15 5th-8th Grade	- Mini Camp July 12-July 14 K-2nd Grade
WEEK 5	+ Me & You Camp July 16-July 17 K-2nd Grade	*Outdoor Adventures Camp July 18-July 23 7th-9th Grade
WEEK 6	+ Tween Camp July 25-July 29 6th-8th Grade	- 3rd, 4th, & 5th Grade Camp July 19-July 22 3rd-5th Grade

Age groups are determined by grade completed by June 2021
*2020 seniors will be permitted to attend Youth Camp

All camps will follow the COVID-19 guidance as outlined at
www.campmardela.org/summer-2021-covid-19-guidelines

this
is our
prayer

We will not accept
registrations the day of
camp under current
COVID-19 capacity limits
and health pre-screening
requirements.



REGISTER TODAY at www.campmardela.org P.O. Box 460
Denton, MD 21629

Ham & Turkey Dinner

SUNDAY, APRIL 11, 2021

CAMP MARDELA

SERVING CARRY-OUT STYLE ONLY



Pre-Order Pick-Up starts at 12:30

Drive-In Orders 1:00 until sold out

Pick-Up Location 301 Deep Shore Rd
Denton, MD 21629

Price \$10 minimum
donation per meal

MEAL INCLUDES

Ham	Cole Slaw
Roast Turkey	Candied Sweet
Dressing	Potatoes
Mashed Potatoes	Rolls
Green Beans	Desserts

Meals can be pre-ordered at
paypal.me/campmardela. You can also send
a check to PO Box 460, Denton, MD 21629,
Include your name, contact info, and how
many meals you want with the pre-order and
we will send you your meal tickets.

Email campmardela@gmail.com, or call
410-479-2861 if you have any questions.

They say that "April showers bring May flowers." Can you rank the following states 1-10 from the wettest to the driest? Answers below.

CALIFORNIA
DELAWARE
FLORIDA
HAWAII
IDAHO
KANSAS
MAINE
MARYLAND
NEVADA
WASHINGTON



Answers (average rainfall in inches in parentheses): 1. Hawaii (63.7); 2. Florida (54.5); 3. Delaware (45.7); 4. Maryland (44.5); 5. Maine (42.2); 6. Washington (38.4); 7. Kansas (28.9); 8. California (22.2); 9. Idaho (18.9); 10. Nevada (9.5). Source: currentresults.com.

Birthday Card Shower



Chad Whitzel, serving in BVS at the Elgin office in Elgin IL, will celebrate his birthday on April 16. Let us shower him with lots of birthday greetings. Chad's address is: 808 Stewart Avenue, Elgin, IL 60120.



Minutes from the March 2, 2021—Leadership Team Mtg.



- Rents are up-to-date.
- No Treasurer's report.
- Pastor Walt's report was written and passed out.
- We'll have 2 Easter services, 9:00 & 11:00 a.m. Please sign-up.
- Talbot Interfaith Shelter has a new space. Norma will check on what they may need or suggestions.
- Newsletter will be sent via email beginning of June. Those who wish paper copy may do so by request.
- Wanda Baynard (Christian Ed) mentioned a new book to read and having a possible book group.
- Anne Harvey (Witness) has some things in the works.



Serving for the month of April

	4/4/2021	4/11/2021	4/18/2021	4/25/2021
Message	Pastor Walt	Pastor Walt	Pastor Walt	Pastor Walt
Worship Leader	Sharon Miller	Kevin Wile	Lynn Butler	Wanda Baynard
Head Usher/Sound	Ron Miller	Ron Miller	Ron Miller	Ron Miller
Deacons on call	Geoff & Lee Ann Fox	Mat & Wanda Baynard	Les & Marlena Groves	Rick & Jane Marshall
Special Music	Choir Quartet	Amy Bachand	Men's Trio	Cheryl Dayton
Flowers	Easter Flowers	Kevin & Ellen Wile	Mat & Wanda Baynard	

Attendance & Offering for March

	Attendance	42	42	45	48	177
		3/7/21	3/14/21	3/21/21	3/28/21	Totals
<u>Distributions</u>						
General (06)						
Envelopes		3,346.00	1,069.00	2,989.00	16,443.00	23,847.00
Loose Change/Cash		0.00	120.00	32.00	5.00	157.00
Total Before Prepaid Tithes		3,346.00	1,189.00	3,021.00	16,448.00	24,004.00
Prepaid Tithes		300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	1,200.00
Dale		3,646.00	1,489.00	3,321.00	16,748.00	25,204.00
Other Income (06)						
Building Use						
Wednesday Night Beginners				360.00		360.00
Totals		0.00		360.00		360.00
Special Offerings (07)						
Deacon Fund		1,000.00				1,000.00
Erie Insurance Reimbursement			171.00			171.00
In Kind						
In & Out						
Camp Supper - April			20.00			20.00
One Great Hour of Sharing			20.00			20.00
Camp Mardela				50.00		50.00
Memorial - Ellen Walbridge		505.00	350.00	300.00		1,155.00
Marjorie Walbridge				100.00		100.00
Totals		1,505.00	561.00	810.00		2,876.00
Totals		4,851.00	1,750.00	4,191.00	16,448.00	27,240.00

**WE'RE
IN THIS
TOGETHER!**

Let us all be vigilant. Wash your hands, socially distance, wear a mask that covers your mouth AND nose, and pray for God's guidance and healing.



Volunteer Opportunities

Ridgeway House Lunches

The 1st & 3rd Fridays of each month. For months that have five Fridays, lunches will be provided on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Friday. Monetary and food donations (drink boxes, individual fruit cups, small bags of chips and cookies) are always welcome.

NSC Food Pantry

Let's not forget that food prices keep going up! When we pay attention to our local, national and international food needs, we are reminded that people suffer from food insecurity all around. If we do not share of our bounty, others go hungry. Let us give, so others may live. Any non-perishable food items with good "best if used by" dates are accepted. **Consider bringing in your non-perishable items when church re-opens.**

Interested in Serving as Worship Leader or doing the Children's Time?

We're always looking for new people to share their gifts! It doesn't take a lot of time--just a bit of preparation and a willingness to serve. If you would like to join this team of volunteers or want more information, please contact the church office or Pastor Walt.

The volunteer opportunities listed below are currently closed due to COVID-19. Please keep these opportunities in mind when things re-open.
Thank you!!!

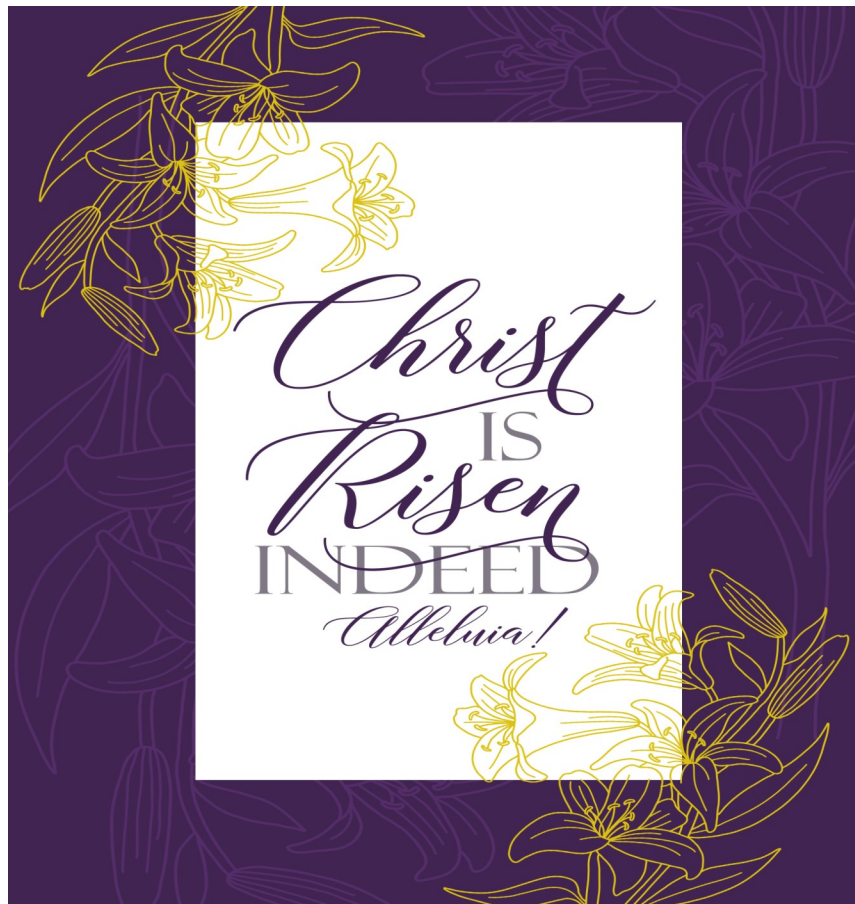
Talbot Interfaith Shelter

The 2020 volunteer list is available for sign-up. Please take the time and look to see where you can spare a few hours of your time every other month. Any questions, please contact Norma Trax. **Our next date is April 19, 2021. If you are interested in providing a meal, please contact Norma Trax. (We will keep you updated should COVID-19 restrictions change in allowing volunteers to come to the shelter.)**

Neighborhood Service Center

Please contact Marilyn Neal, if you are interested in volunteering at the center. Their phone number is 410-822-5015.





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