

EASTON CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

MAY, 2021

PEACHBLOSSOM PRESS NEWSLETTER

Mission Statement

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



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We tend to hear this time of year, as we near Memorial Day weekend, about the many privileges we enjoy as Americans: our freedom of speech, for example, and the ability to choose our government, and the opportunity we have to gather for worship each week when and where and with whom we please.

And those are all true, of course—gifts for which we should be grateful. If we travel to other countries around the globe, we can see some of those privileges in stark contrast.

There are other privileges, though, that we tend to think about less often. And that's often really the essence of it, the simple fact that we don't have to think about some things of which others are all too aware. As sociologist Michael Kimmel noted, "Privilege is invisible to those who have it" unless they are confronted with the disparities.

Take economics, for example. Many of us don't have to wonder, when we go to the supermarket, whether we'll have enough money to cover the food that we'll need for the week. We can even get some extras if they catch our eye. Most of us don't have to hope the utilities will still be on at the end of the month or if someone will be coming to repossess our car. We have clean water to drink, a comfortable place to live, and our needs are covered.

If all of that is true for us, that's a privilege.

Most of us also don't have to worry about violence on our doorstep the way that our brothers and sisters in the church in Nigeria do, or even the way that some in Baltimore or Washington do on a daily basis.

Men, for many years, had privileges that women did not, from voting rights to earning power to roles in the church, and some of that still holds true.

And increasingly we have been confronted with the privilege that race offers in our country, where the color of one's skin can open doors or close them, or put one at greater risk, or lead to discrimination. For the most part, those of us who are white don't have to deal with the same sorts of risks and roadblocks that many people of color face. That's still an uncomfortable legacy of our country's history that shapes its present.

As many have pointed out, just because you have these various privileges doesn't mean that your life is always going to be easy. Bad things and difficult circumstances can happen to anyone. It does mean, though, that we must be careful not to take our very real privileges for granted, and that we—particularly we who follow Christ—should work to make sure that others don't pay the price for our advantages.

In Jesus' own words: "Just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me" (Matt. 25:40b).

—Pastor Walt 😊

Sermon and Scriptures through May

May 2

"Beloved"

1 John 4:7-21, John 15:9-17, Psalm 98

May 9 (Mother's Day, Ascension Sunday)

"Up and Coming"

Acts 1:1-11, Luke 24:44-53, Psalm 47

May 16

"Watered or Withered"

Ps. 1, Ps. 42:1-2, 1 John 5:9-13

May 23 (Pentecost)

"The Right Words"

Acts 2:1-12(-21); Psalm 104:24-33, Romans 8:22-27

May 30

"The Voice"

Isa. 58:1-9a, Psalm 29, John 10:1-6

Music for May

May 2, Ellen Wile

May 9, Logan Allen

May 16, Jen Summy

May 23, Darlena Roesti Butler

May 30, Amy Bachand



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.

"God's Adventurous Future"

Virtual Annual
Conference 2021
June 30 – July 4



Registration is now open. Please see the link below to find all information needed.

<https://www.brethren.org/ac/>



Please let the church office know as soon as possible if you have or know of any graduates. We would love to recognize them on Sunday, June 6, 2021 during worship.

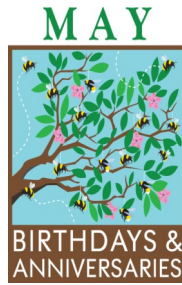
Witness Ministry Team Spring Project

We are collecting various items to benefit the Neighborhood Service Center. All items need to be into church no later than Sunday, May 2. Items needed are cleaning supplies, laundry detergent, toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, bathroom tissue and other essentials. Place items in the plastic container in the narthex. Thank you!



Happy Birthday

- 4 Charlene Cabrera
- 5 Matthew Ball
- 6 Elisa Miller, Cheryl Hughes, Lucy Carrion
- 7 Susan Lohr, Ken Russ, Les Groves
- 8 Dan Ulrich
- 10 Susan Walbridge
- 12 Matthew Mullikin, Gary North
- 13 Mischelle Nalley
- 14 Becca Walbridge
- 15 Doug Rathell
- 16 Dana Walbridge
- 17 Eric Plagge, Adrienne Eve Schwaninger
- 19 Christopher Fox, Brian Walbridge, Ellen Wile
- 21 Cora Elizabeth Fluharty
- 22 Dan Schwaninger
- 23 Terri Lednum, Virginia Turkington
- 24 Robin Valliant, Ken Cober, Gregory North, Tristan Walbridge
- 25 Sam Fike, J.D. Correa, Cathy Nalley
- 28 CJ Grubbs
- 29 Joy Marshall, Linda Mattox
- 30 Mike Jacobs
- 31 Grant Hagenberger



Happy Anniversary

- 1 Greg & Tammy Haddaway
- 6 Kevin & Kellee Kinsey
- 7 Steve & Makaran Mullikin
- 15 Paul & Virginia Turkington
- 21 Brent & Melissa Johnson
- 22 Bill & Sharon Schuyler



THANK YOU

The family of Ellen Walbridge thanks everyone for the cards and expressions of sympathy in this time of grieving following her recent passing. It is difficult to put into words the sense of comfort and reassurance that such thoughts convey. We have been truly blessed. Thanks also to those who honored her memory through your generous donations to the ministry of the church. She would be truly humbled and grateful for your thoughtfulness.



CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Corey & Nicole Edsall on the birth of their son, Joseph Douglas Edsall. Joey was born on April 4.



Congratulation also to Renee' Edsall , grandmother and Pete Fox, great-grandmother.

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).

Thank you!!!



Our Prayer List



Please pray especially for the following individuals and their families: for those who 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, Jim Saathoff, Lexi (a friend of Amelia Gunn) is scheduled to have a baby soon, Maggie Hegedus, Caitlyn Bussey, Lynn Butler, Bev Altwater, 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 (BVS) (who is feeling pretty down for not being able to make it home for her rescheduled Bridgewater commencement ceremony), 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 Saballus, 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.



Newsletter



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 (**beginning with the June, 2021 newsletter**) for those whose addresses we have. If you are not on our email list, please submit to: eastonchurchofthebrethren@gmail.com. Thank you!

Newsletter



A book study is being offered of Drew G. I. Hart's Trouble I've Seen, Changing the way the Church views Racism. In his book, Drew very frankly and faithfully describes how we can be the people God calls us to be and leads his readers toward Jesus in building a bridge of love and support for others.

"Hart offers concrete practices for churches that seek solidarity with the oppressed and are committed to racial justice".

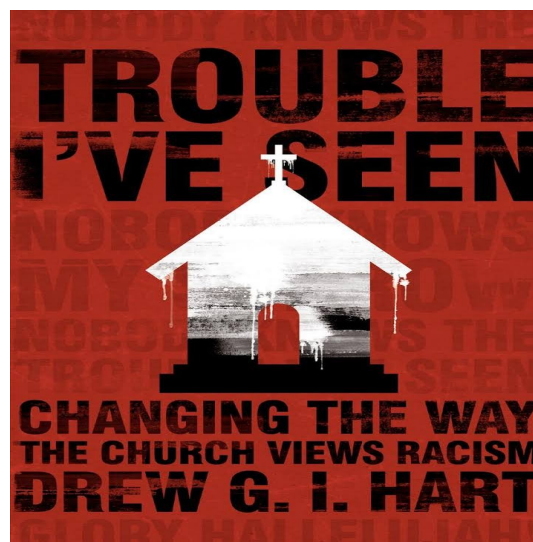
"Where the old order structured life by wielding its coercive power to take life, intimidating the masses in subjugation, Jesus's (Realm) reconfigured life around the authority of God, taking down thrones, casting out demons, healing the sick, feeding the hungry, liberating the oppressed, and proclaiming good news to the poor.

Where the old order dominated and violently lorded over others, the (Community) of God arose from bottom, margins and cracks of society, freely inviting people to share in the peace and justice of God made available in presence of Jesus."

p. 66, Trouble I've Seen

This book study is being planned for online using Zoom. If there is interest, perhaps a socially distanced small in-person class can be formed.

Please let Ellen Wile or Wanda Baynard know if you are interested in either the online or in-person study. You can sign-up in the narthex, or call the church at 410-822-0475. Deadline for indicating interest is May 2.



News from the District Office

Join the Church of the Brethren Annual Conference Virtual Blood Drive

Help us continue the yearly tradition of donating blood during the Annual Conference though we are not meeting in person.

Make a pledge through the Virtual Blood Drive and donate blood locally.

How can YOU join the 2021 Virtual Blood Drive?

- Pledge today to give blood at www.brethren.org/virtualblooddrive2021 or by called/emailing Brethren Disaster Ministers.
- Find a blood drive near you, preferably between June 15-July 15, 2021.
- Take a photo when you donate blood to encourage others and to celebrate your gift.
- Tell us that you followed through with your pledge so we can keep track of total donations.
- Send us your photo! You can also share it on social media: **#SleevesUpBrethren2021**.

It's that easy!

For more information, call Brethren Disaster Ministries at 1-800-451-4407, ext. 1, or email us at bdm@brethren.org.



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 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.



CAMP MARDELA

GRAND RE-OPENING SCHEDULE

MAY 15TH, 2021

	WALK-A-THON START AT PAVILION 12pm-6pm
	CAMP STORE CAMP STORE 1pm-4pm
	FOOD STAND KRABILL HALL 1pm-6pm
	ARTS & CRAFTS CRAFT HOUSE 2pm-5pm
	CANOE & KAYAKS FLOATING DOCK 2pm-5pm
	CAMP FIRE PAVILION 6pm-8pm

CAMP MARDELA 2021

Summer Camp Schedule	Overnight Camp	Day Camp	
	+ Camping Area * Primitive Sites	- 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	- 3rd, 4th, & 5th Grade Camp July 19-July 22 3rd-5th Grade
WEEK 6	+ Tween Camp July 25-July 29 6th-8th Grade	X	

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



CAMP MARDELA

P.O. Box 460
Denton, MD 21629

Serving for the month of May

	5/2/2021	5/9/2021	5/16/2021	5/23/2021	5/30/2021
Message	Pastor Walt	Pastor Walt	Pastor Walt	Pastor Walt	Pastor Walt
Worship Leader	Mat Baynard	Tammy Haddaway	Jay Lister	Sharon Lister	Jane Marshall
Head Usher/ Sound	Lee Ann Fox	Mat Baynard	Mat Baynard	Mat Baynard	Mat Baynard
Deacons on call	Leroy & Sharon Miller	Ron & Elisa Miller	John & Norma Trax	Geoff & Lee Ann Fox	Mat & Wanda Baynard
Special Music	Ellen Wile	Logan Allen	Jen Summy	Darlana Roesti-Butler	Amy Bachand
Flowers	Anne Harvey		Gene & Diane Walbridge	Sharon Miller & Marlena Groves	

TAKING A POLE

May Day (May 1) traditionally included celebration and dances around the maypole. Can you unscramble these other words associated with poles? Think creatively! Answers are below.

PEELNOTHE
REBABR
THORN
VESTIPOI
FIGNISH
NETT
ACT
ACMETING
TILTYUI
THUSO
RAAWWS
DAT
AGLF
STOPONII



Answers: Telephone, barber, North, positive, fishing, tent, cat, magnetic, utility, South, Warsaw, tad, flag, position.

Attendance & Offering for April

	Attendance	56	37	36	38	167
		4/4/21	4/11/21	4/18/21	4/25/21	Totals
<u>Distributions</u>						0.00
General (06)						
Envelopes		4,470.00	1,150.00	1,495.00	1,400.00	8,515.00
Loose Change/Cash		0.00	0.00	5.00	0.00	5.00
Total Before Prepaid Tithes		4,470.00	1,150.00	1,500.00	1,400.00	8,520.00
Prepaid Tithes		675.00	675.00	675.00	675.00	2,700.00
Dale		5,145.00	1,825.00	2,175.00	2,075.00	11,220.00
Other Income (06)						
Dutchmans Lane Rent					2,400.00	2,400.00
Harrison St. Rent		3,000.00				3,000.00
						0.00
Totals		3,000.00	0.00	0.00	2,400.00	5,400.00
Special Offerings (07)						
Deacon Fund		1,000.00				1,000.00
In & Out						
Adopt a Cabin Reimbursement		500.00				500.00
Handbell Gloves		7.50				7.50
Messenger Subscriptions			54.00	95.50	27.00	176.50
Round Top Note Cards				16.00		16.00
Bldg/Memorial - Ellen Walbridge		100.00	50.00			150.00
Totals		4,607.50	104.00	111.50	2,427.00	7,250.00
Totals		12,077.50	1,254.00	1,611.50	6,227.00	21,170.00

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.



WE'RE
IN THIS
TOGETHER!



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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