

EASTON CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

January, 2024 PEACHBLOSSOM PRESS NEWSLETTER

Mission Statement

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



412 S. Harrison Street

Easton, MD 21601

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www.eastonbrethren.org

Psalm 25: 1-5

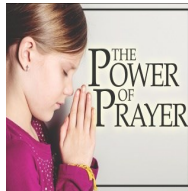
- 1** To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.
- 2** O my God, in you I trust;
do not let me be put to shame;
do not let my enemies exult over me.
- 3** Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame;
let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.
- 4** Make me to know your ways, O Lord;
teach me your paths.
- 5** Lead me in your truth, and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation;
for you I wait all day long.

More in '24? Four rhymes with lots of words, which I wouldn't necessarily want to put in front of '24 like Sore in '24 or Poor in '24. The list of the rhyming words is long and even questionable. So More in '24 seemed like the better choice for this year. As I read Psalm 25, verses 1-5, reminds me in the spirit of "More in '24" to be intentional in 2024. What do I mean by this? In 2024, could we be more intentional in our actions, to have more trust in God, to focus more on being enough, and not compare ourselves to others? Maybe a stretch as I look at the meaning from Psalm 25, but I envision God calling us to be more. Not wanting to add shame, however, where might God be pushing us to do a little more? To serve as the Almighty has called us to serve, to learn more of God's ways, to follow the paths our Gracious Guide sets for us. Maybe being more open to be lead by the Truth, especially the words of Jesus, where he challenges the disciples to "love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all of your soul, and with all of your mind, and your neighbor as yourself." The Sermon on the Mount version chapter 22 from Matthew has many words of guidance about how we can be "more" and live in a way with more trust, more love, more compassion, more understanding with others and ourselves. How will we act with intention as God's people in 2024 and being "more." I am not saying we go into overwhelm, but how can we act differently in 2024 that will make a difference in a world struggling to find peace and experience love. Can we bring MORE peace, love and light into our families? To communities? To our world? Let's work together to Be More in '24! I am looking forward to serving alongside you!

Pastor Jody

Our Prayer List

Please pray especially for the following individuals and their families: for health care workers, and for government and civic leaders who are seeking the best way forward, for our District, for all those who have been affected economically, Camp Mardela and administrator Jennifer Summy, JC Russ, Camryn Phillips, Michael Starkey, Barbara & Larry McCann, Dick Scott, Jack Wheatley, Leroy Miller, Lynn Butler, Robert & Jeanette Miller, John Merceron, Mike Moore, David Hutchison, Mary Lou Segar, Frances Morse, Bruce Butler, Jimmy & Loretta Lohr, Ruth Gunn, Charlie Willis, Adele Pogue, Caitlyn Bussey, Theresa, (co-worker of Terri Tarr), Doris Schwaninger, Wyatt Ewing, Kathy Spurry, Billy Harding, Larry Fike, Alan Segar, GraceWay CoB, Roger Plagge, Dee Candel, Lois Schall, Natalee Jones, continuous prayers for our church family in Nigeria, continued prayers for Comfort Amos, Emerson Fike. Pray for leaders & people that are working towards peace. ***Please phone or email the church office to add or remove persons on our prayer list.***



Epiphany, January 6, 2024

The Leadership Team will meet on Monday, January 15 at 1:00 p.m.

JANUARY Birthdays

- 1 Sean Randall-Jones, Joyce Battle, Kathy Fike, Chad Allan Fike
- 2 Lee Ann Fox
- 4 David Fike, Lois Sanger, Edan Thomas Koenig
- 5 Charles Ball, Jr.
- 7 Julie Griep
- 8 Reed Poore, Charlotte Grubbs, Liam Johnson, Shelby Wood, Robert & Matthew Wooters
- 10 Kathryn Ball, Lyn Banghart
- 11 Larry Milburn, Dylan Seese, Garey Lee Fike, Ian Young
- 12 Aaron Joseph Miller, Patty Schwaninger, Jenson Hagenberger
- 14 Maggie Berkey
- 15 Chad Fox
- 16 Paula Colburn, Aaron Holmes
- 17 Morgan Kilmon
- 18 Garrett Foreman, Terri Jo Tarr
- 19 Brittyn Honeman
- 20 Nathan Musch
- 21 Wanda Baynard
- 22 Norma Trax
- 23 Misty Wood, Eric Henderson
- 24 Nick Berkey, David Nalley, Jennifer Grubbs
- 27 Jordan Ball
- 29 Nathan Moore
- 30 Tina Wooters, Lauri Glass, Brandon Miles
- 31 Linda Lyons, Billy Miles, Anna Valliant

JANUARY Anniversaries

- 14 Michael & Tracy Correa
- Robert & Judy Musch
- 23 Gene & Jan Hagenberger
- 26 Phillip & Margie Ridenour



Interested in Serving as Worship Leader

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 Marlena Groves (Nurture Chair).

Neighborhood Service Center 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.

Neighborhood Service Center

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

Talbot Interfaith Shelter

The 2023 Talbot Interfaith Shelter (TIS) 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 month. Any questions, please contact Norma Trax. **Our next date will be January 19.** Please sign-up in the narthex to volunteer a shift or make the meal.

SERVING THE MONTH OF JANUARY

	1/7/2024	1/14/2024	1/21/2024	1/28/2024
Message	Jody Gunn	Tom Hill	Jody Gunn	Jen Summy
Worship Leader	Jane Marshall	Sharon Miller	Kevin Wile	Lynn Butler
Head Usher/ Sound	Geoff Fox	Geoff Fox	Geoff Fox	Geoff Fox
Deacons on Call	Leroy & Sharon Miller	Ron & Elisa Miller	John & Norma Trax	Geoff & Lee Ann Fox
Special Music	Ellen Wile	Amy Bachand	Choir	TBA
Flowers		Robert & Judy Musch		

Camp Mardela News—from Jen Summy, Camp Administrator

There are several copies of Camp Mardela's newsletter "The Lane" in the narthex.

- ♦ Camp Mardela's first fundraiser of the year will be held on Monday January 15 at the Easton Dairy Queen from 5:00-8:00 p.m.
- ♦ **Krabill Hall fundraiser continues.** Send donations to camp or online (www.campmardela.org/payments). We are almost halfway to our fundraising goal! We've been working on finalizing details for the remaining upgrades to the hall - the biggest portion of that being installing the heat & air conditioning system. We have taken a lot of time and thought to ensure we make the right choice for these systems, but we cannot go forward with installation until we raise the full \$50,000.
- ♦ **Brick Fundraiser:** Order bricks with custom text to put in the brick garden at the Peace Pole. 4x8 for \$75 and 8x8 for \$125. All proceeds from sale will go towards heat and air in Krabill Hall. Our Brick Fundraiser is a great way to contribute to this project. You may also give your year-end donations towards this project to help us reach our goals. We are very excited about the possibilities this will give us for year-round events, camps, rentals, etc and would appreciate your prayerful support in reaching this goal and making this a reality.
- ♦ **Scrip Fundraiser:** We are still running our Scrip fundraising program! Order gift cards through Scrip and Camp Mardela gets a percentage of the sales. Register and order cards at www.shopwithscrip.com. Contact campmardela@gmail.com for the registration code or any other questions.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support for camp and its ministry. It is greatly appreciated and we continue to see the fruit of Camp ministering in the lives of people.

A note from your Church Administrator:

It has been my pleasure to have been your church administrator for 28 years. How hard is that to believe, and how fast time travels. I have had the privileged to work with some amazing pastors, and I thank each one: Paul Groff, Wendell Flory, Gene Hagenberger, Jody Gunn, Eric Henderson, Kevin Kinsey, Rusty Curling, Walt Wiltschek, and now again with Pastor Jody. I have been blessed with the best, and for that I am truly grateful.

Beginning in January, I will be semi-retiring, cutting my days back in the office, to one day a week and one from home. Right now, my two work days will be Wednesday and Thursday. I will keep you informed which day I will be in the office. Most weeks it will be Thursday, but that could change to Wednesday. I will always have my computer with me when I am home. Please, please, please, do not hesitate to reach out to me anytime. You may call me, text me, or email me. I will be available.

What am I going to do with my spare time? I will be watching our newest grandson Carter, three days a week and will be able to spend more time with Jaxon as well!. I am so excited to see my babies so much more!

I have been so grateful to have a job that I looked forward to coming to work every day. Thank you to everyone who has made my job enjoyable and rewarding. You are a



Camp Mardela Dairy Queen Fundraiser

**8438 Ocean Gateway
Easton, MD 21601**

Mon, Jan. 15th, 5pm-8pm

No coupon required!

**Just come to the Easton Dairy Queen on 1/15
from 5-8pm and 10% of your purchase will
benefit Camp Mardela!**



Our year in review!

CAMP MARDELA • 2023



2023 GOALS CHECKLIST

Buildings:

- ☐ Heat & AC in Krabill
- ☐ Put gutters/gutter guards on buildings

Grounds:

- ☐ Open additional sites in RV area
- ☐ Replant storm damaged areas of camp

Equipment:

- ☐ Got 2 more 8 person tents
- ☒ Floating dock for swimming pond

Programming:

- ☒ Increase campers by 25%

Help us accomplish these goals and others in 2024!

THE NUMBERS

30 Rental Groups
2 Overnight Winter Retreats
9 Summer Camps
150 Campers
10 Summer Staff
300 Volunteers (Summer & Year Round)
1 BVS Volunteer

Thanks for your support!

FUNDRAISER SUMMARIES

Camp Auction - \$14,300*
Chicken BBQ \$1,500*
Yard Sale - \$600*
Chick-fil-a - \$350*
Camp Supper \$6,700*
Sights & Sounds of Christmas - \$1,300*
Scrip Fundraiser - \$800*
Brick Fundraiser \$750*
Krabill Donations \$37,005*
*net income *cumulative income



Administrator - Jen Summy
301 Deep Shore Road
Denton, MD 21629



CAMP MARDELA

campmardela@gmail.com
410-479-2861
www.campmardela.org

Looking Ahead

CAMP MARDELA • 2024



Jan. 15th, 5pm-8pm - Easton Dairy Queen Fundraiser (Lunch provided)
Feb. 3rd, 10am-12pm - Incorporation Meeting (Open to public)
Feb. 10th, 9am-3pm - Winter Service Day (Lunch Provided 12pm)
Feb. 11th, 3pm-6pm - BVS Reunion (Alumni RSVP campmardela.org/event-details/bvs-reunion)
Feb. 23rd-25th, 7pm-11am - Youth Winter Retreat (\$110 - discounts available)
Mar. 8th-10th, 7pm-11pm - 2nd-5th Winter Retreat (\$110 - discounts available)
Mar. 15th-17th, 7pm-11am - Tween Winter Retreat (\$110 - discounts available)
Mar. 31st, 7am-9am - Easter Sunrise Service (Breakfast Provided)
Apr. 6th, 8am-1pm - Camp Auction
May 4th, 9am-3pm - Spring Service Day (Lunch Provided 12pm)
May 11th, 8am-12pm - Yard Sale (Breakfast for sale - \$15 per yard sale space)
June 2nd, 5pm-8pm - Camp Appreciation Day (Music, food and activities provided for FREE)
June 3rd-14th - Volunteer & Staff Training (evenings - exact times & dates TBD)
June 9th-14th - Jr/Sr High FaithX Work Camp (Register at www.brethren.org/faihtx/schedule/)
June 16th-Aug 2 - Summer Camp (Registration opens Feb 1 campmardela.org/camp-programs)
Aug. 10th, 9am-3pm - Summer Service Day (Lunch Provided 12pm)
Aug. 30th-Sept. 1st, 7pm-1pm - Family Camp (Guest Speaker - Barbara Lewzchek)
Sept. 21st, 4pm-7pm - Camp Supper (\$12 minimum donation)
Nov. 15th, 9am-3pm - Fall Service Day (Lunch Provided 12pm)
Dec. 20th-22nd, 5pm-8pm - Sights & Sounds of Christmas (\$5 per car)

2023 GOALS



Heat & AC in Krabill (\$30,000 goal)
Open more & upgrade existing RV sites
Replant in storm-damaged areas of camp
Put gutters and gutter guards on buildings
Increase campers by 25%
Get 2 8-person tents
Upgrade RV site bath house
Build additional camp storage areas



Visit www.campmardela.org for more information!

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit" - John 15:5

Administrator - Jon Summy
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