

EASTON CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

JUNE, 2025 PEACHBLOSSOM PRESS NEWSLETTER

Mission Statement

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

**Worship Hours— 10:00 a.m.
through August 24, 2025**



412 S. Harrison Street

Easton, MD 21601

410-822-0475

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Website: www.eastonbrethren.org

Rev. Jody E. Gunn, Pastor

Pentecost is Coming!

In the book of Acts, specifically Acts 2: 1-4 we read “When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.” I love this scripture and the imagery of divided tongues that appeared like fire among them. Children's Bibles, which have illustrations along with a brief description of this story from Acts 2, often depict the scene with different people gathered together with little tongues of fire resting on their heads. I am curious about the emotions, thoughts, overall experience of the day, and what it meant to the people.

Some might ask, does Pentecost still exist in today's church? Sometimes I wonder if Pentecost should or could be an every Sunday occurrence. I don't know about you, but I have been in worshipful experiences over my lifetime, where the Holy Spirit showed up in a big way and other times slipped in quietly when either alone or with other people. Whether in worship or prayer, through the spoken word or even in silence the Holy Spirit can “speak” to us. Does the Spirit appear to you in a big way like the roar of a fire or in the small, quiet flame of a candle?

June 8 is Pentecost Sunday. How will we celebrate it? I imagine like we always do with singing, prayer, as well as adding communion to our worshipful time together. Will we lift our voices to sing “Holy Spirit, Come with Power” with a different attitude, deep feeling or gusto? I would expect when Anne Rupp wrote the words for this hymn, she expected us to sing with energy, “Holy Spirit Come with power, breathe into our aching night. We expect you this glad hour, waiting for your strength and light.” Can we sing with a renewed openness to what God is doing within the Easton Church of the Brethren, our faith community that shares the love and blessing of God with all?

Camp Mardela's theme for camp this year is “Got Spirit?” The campers will be exploring how the Holy Spirit manifests itself in wonder, gratitude, hospitality, generosity, worship, and love. How might we explore the Holy Spirit this summer through these same daily themes? Could we begin by reading the book of Acts with new eyes? In “A Dunker Guide to the Bible,” I read the chapter on Acts authored by Tara Hornbacker, where she writes, “As we read Acts in community with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, may we find inspiration to be the surrendered, transformed, and empowered church for the future.” With God's help through the leading of the Holy Spirit, may it be so!

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, for Camp Mardela and administrator Jennifer Summy, the family of Mary Lou Segar, the family of Dotty Bryan Era, the family Francis Schwaninger Morse, Jay Lister, Cecelia Stephenson, Morgan Harvey, Nadia Schlotzhauer, Dean Clutts, Nora Quidas, John Trax, Mary Ellen Hutchison, Ellen Hill, Ron Patrick, Don Saballus, Holly Hill Jones (Larry Fike's stepdaughter), Kevin Little, a gentlemen name Ricki, Cheryl Dayton, Chris Lyons, John Sewell, Ruth Gunn, Larry & Barbara McCann, Jeanette & Bob Miller, Bruce Butler, Jimmy & Loretta Lohr, Adele Pogue, Caitlyn Bussey, Theresa Durnbaugh, Billy Harding, Larry Fike, Alan Segar, GraceWay CoB, Dee Candel, continuous prayers for our church family in Nigeria, continued prayers for Comfort Amos. 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.**



Our deepest sympathy to the family of Dorothy Bryan Era who passed away on May 5. Dorothy was an aunt to Sharon Lister.



Our deepest sympathy to the family of Frances Schwaninger Morse who passed away peacefully on May 11, 2025, at her home in Salt Lake City, Utah. There will be a private interment at White Marsh Cemetery, a date to be determined.

Our deepest sympathy the family of Mary Lou Segar, who passed away on May 11, 2025. Mary Lou was a sister-in-law to Anne Harvey.

We pray Christ love and presence to the families.

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 2025 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 June 19. Thank You!**

AA Group

Mid Shore Intergroup is a local AA group that meets at our church every Wednesday evening at 7p. For more information please go to www.midshoreintergroup.org.

SERVING THE MONTH OF JUNE

	6/1/2025	6/8/2025	6/15/2025	6/22/2025	6/29/2025
Message	Rusty Curling	Pastor Jody Gunn	Jim Lohr	Pastor Walt Wiltschek	Pastor Jody Gunn
Worship Leader	Kevin Wile	Lynn Butler	Sharon Lister	Kevin Wile	Wanda Baynard
Head Usher/ Sound	Lee Ann Fox	Lee Ann Fox	Lee Ann Fox	Lee Ann Fox	Lee Ann Fox
Deacons on Call	Geoff & Lee Ann Fox	Mat & Wanda Baynard	Les & Marlena Groves	Jane Marshall & Anne Harvey	Leroy & Sharon Miller
Special Music	Rusty Curling	Amanda Manning	Amy Bachand	Ellen Wile	Darlana Roesti-Butler
Flowers					Lynn Butler

News about Camp Mardela, from Jennifer Summy, Camp Administrator

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

- ♦ **2025 Service Days at Camp Mardela:** Aug. 2, and Nov. 15.
- ♦ **June 1st Deadlines** - Josh Wilson is a well-known Contemporary Christian artist who will be performing a concert here on June 7th at 7pm. Tickets are \$20 for adult general admission, and \$10 for children 12 and under. This will be an open-air concert held at our pavilion, but will be held in Krabill Hall in case of inclement weather. Order your tickets online at <https://www.campmardela.org/josh-wilson-concert>
- ♦ **Camp Appreciation Day:** June 1, 4-8p.
- ♦ **Camp Mardela Annual Supper:** Sept. 20, 4-7p
- ♦ **Wish List:** Several items need to be replaced at camp. The wish list is located on the web-site; www.campmardela.org/donate
- ♦ **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.



SUMMER WORSHIP HOURS (10:00 a.m.) ARE EFFECTIVE THIS SUNDAY, JUNE 1 through AUGUST 24. There is no summer Sunday school.

This Sunday there is a Congregational Business Meeting immediately following worship, in the sanctuary. There are several estimates we need to vote on!





- 1 Ann Reed
- 2 Nancy Quidas, Holly Mattox
- 6 Dulcy Walbridge, Cami Lyons
- 7 Gene Walbridge, Monica Oberkofler
- 10 Benjamin Gunn, Sean Jacobs, Indie Kyah Basel
- 12 Beth Mattox, Katie Grubbs
- 13 Anna Harvey, Leroy Miller, Beckett Ward
- 15 Mark Sanger, Timmy Lohr
- 16 Craig Foxx
- 17 Sara Booth
- 19 Debbie Russ, Elise Pittrizzi
- 20 Derek Keller, Robert Clark, Jr., Mark Lednum
- 22 Sally Lohr
- 24 Sue Russ, Savannah Miles, Debbie Urry
- 25 Jeff Lohr
- 26 Noah Lohr
- 28 Larry Fike
- 29 Julie Reynolds, Naomi Willey
- 30 Sierra Poore



- 2 Josh & Morgan Kilmon
- 5 Dennis & Sally Lohr
- 6 Casey & Sara Booth
- 9 John & Linda Evans
- 12 Jamie & Christa Crannell, Jalen & Kayla Jones
- 13 Jim & Loretta Lohr, Phil & Joy Marshall
- 14 Todd & Darlena Roesti-Butler
- 15 Eric & Jody Gunn
- 23 Randy & Amy Bachand
- 24 Dylan & Krista Seese
- 25 Ed & Liz Wildasin

Vespers service will be held on
Wednesday, June 11 at 7:00
p.m.

Geoff & Lee Ann Fox
10030 Chapel Road, Easton



*"Then Jesus took a cup, and after giving
thanks, he gave it to them."*

~ Matthew 26:27a

Drink this cup

The Pentecost Offering of the Church of the Brethren highlights the invitation to partake of Jesus and his ways as we call and equip fearless disciples and leaders, renew and plant churches, and transform communities.

Envelopes will be included in your bulletin on Sunday, June 1 for collection on Sunday, June 8.

CHURCH PICNIC- Sunday—June 29

We will be having an Indoor Picnic on June 29 following worship. Hamburgers and hotdogs will be provided, so bring a side to share with your church family! All are welcome! Bring a friend! It is a great way to connect and get to know one another better.

Team 1 will be in charge: Elisa Miller, Terri Tarr, Diane Walbridge and Liz Wildasin.



PEACING IT TOGETHER

Which Jesus do you want?

Matthew 27: 15-23

*“Whom do you want me to release for you,
Jesus Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?” (v.17)*

PILATE PRESENTED TWO prisoners to the crowd, offering to release the one they chose: Jesus Barabbas or Jesus Messiah. The crowd's choice might be the most revealing moment of the entire Holy Week story.

I used to picture Barabbas as a common criminal—a bad guy, to be sure, but not all that different from anyone you might visit at the local jail. Bible translators have often described him as a thief, someone who violated the rights of others in his community and was paying his debt to society.

The problem with these interpretations is that the Roman government didn't crucify common criminals; crucifixion was reserved for political revolutionaries. Luke 23: 18 confirms Barabbas had been arrested for insurrection. Why, then, was the crowd so eager for Pilate to release Barabbas?

Perhaps because they hated that the land God had given them was occupied by the Roman government who, among other things, taxed them for the services they provided. Barabbas offered freedom and the crowd's enthusiastic response to his potential release suggests they viewed him as a hero. Seen this way, Barabbas is more like George Washington, or even Luke Skywalker from the Star Wars movies—someone who will bring salvation through military rebellion.

Jesus the Messiah also offers to restore God's kingdom. In his vision, the meek and the peacemakers will be blessed, swords will become plowshares, and the poor will find justice.

Which Jesus do we trust with our lives? The choice is never as easy as we imagine. +

Jesus, the temptation of violence and domination is never far from me. Forgive me for the times I've chosen Barabbas instead of you.

Article taken from the Lenten Devotions, “Take Up Your Cross”, written by Tim Harvey.



Camp Mardela **Appreciation Day**

June 1, 2025

4:00pm - 8:00pm

Food | Games | Music | Fellowship

Join us in appreciating all of the people who make camp possible.

This is a FREE event, so come and celebrate Camp Mardela with us!

www.campmardela.org/appreciation-day



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PLUMBING



JOSH WILSON

is Coming to Camp Mardela

JUNE 7TH, 2025 AT 7PM

\$20 GENERAL ADMISSION | \$10 CHILDREN 12 AND UNDER

VISIT CAMPMARDELA.ORG FOR TICKETS AND MORE INFORMATION

301 DEEP SHORE RD DENTON, MD 21629

CAMP MARDELA



WISH LIST

THERE IS A LOT THAT GOES INTO MAKING CAMP POSSIBLE. IF YOU WANT TO HELP, CONSIDER DONATING SOME OF THE ITEMS LISTED BELOW:

- Moisture absorbers
- Garden edging
- Outdoor landscaping rocks
- Top soil
- Sink organizers
- Twin comforters or blankets
- Bedding storage container
- Curtains - any size
- Rugs - any size
- Dish rags
- Metal/plastic storage shelving
- Volleyball net
- Outdoor ceiling fans
- Spotlights (plug-in or solar)
- Wall-mounting heat & AC units
- Fire resistant & locking file cabinet
- Full-size refrigerator (for pavilion)
- Commercial ice machine
- Golf cart
- Camp van

YOU CAN ALSO FIND THIS LIST AND A LINK TO OUR AMAZON WISH LIST AT
WWW.CAMPMARDELA.ORG/DONATE.





Spend time with God this summer



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