

EASTON CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

JANUARY, 2026 PEACHBLOSSOM PRESS NEWSLETTER

Mission Statement

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

Worship Hours — 10:45 a.m.
Sunday school — 9:30 a.m.



412 S. Harrison Street
Easton, MD 21601
410-822-0475

Email: eastonchurchofthebrethren@gmail.com
Website: www.eastonbrethren.org
Rev. Jody E. Gunn, Pastor

REFLECTIONS FOR THE NEW YEAR—2026

Do you ever wonder how other countries around the world celebrate the New Year? I have, so I got curious and did a search on what other countries do to celebrate the New Year.

Often, countries celebrate the New Year with fireworks, feasts and unique traditions focused on luck and new beginnings...like eating 12 grapes in Spain, jumping off chairs in Denmark, ringing temple bells 108 times in Japan, carrying empty suitcases in Columbia for travel, and wearing polka dots in the Philippines for prosperity. This often involves family gatherings and symbolic activities to welcome good fortune.

Our Jewish brothers and sisters celebrate the New Year with Rosh Hashanah. The event usually falls in September or October, marking the beginning of the High Holy Days in Judaism. During this time, Jewish communities worldwide come together to reflect on the past year, seek forgiveness, and pray for a sweet prosperous year ahead.

Celebrating the New Year with fireworks, parties, family gatherings and watching the “ball drop” in Time Square, can be fun times; however, the New Year can also be a good time to reflect on God’s faithfulness, spiritual growth, gratitude for past blessings and aligning our goals for the New Year with God’s will. In doing this, we are able to grow into a stronger and deeper relationship with our Heavenly Father.

May God bless you abundantly in the New Year 2026!

Wanda Baynard,
Christian Ed Chair



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 Gregg Thomas, the family of Jeff Patrick, Joyce Battle, Gavin Miller, Les Groves, Howard Miller, Carol Segar, Debbie Maloney, Alycia Walbridge, Paul Shortall, Lynn Butler, Vicky Johnson, Norma Trax, Jay Lister, Tim Fluharty, Connie Griep, Cecilia Stephenson, Morgan Harvey, Nadia Schlotzhauer, Dean Clutts, Nora Quidas, John Evans, Ellen Hill, Holly Hill Jones (Larry Fike's step-daughter), Cheryl Dayton, Chris Lyons, Ruth Gunn, Larry & Barbara McCann, Jeanette & Bob Miller, Bruce Butler, Jimmy & Loretta Lohr, Adele Pogue, Caitlyn Bussey, Theresa Durnbaugh, Billy Harding, Larry Fike, 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.***



Choir will be on break until January 8, 2026, when rehearsals will resume, 7 pm.

The Peachblossom Bells will be on break until January 8, 2026, when rehearsals will resume at 6 pm each Thursday.

The Tidewater Singers are on break from rehearsing at the Easton Church of the Brethren until February 2, 2026. Then, rehearsals will resume on Mondays, 7-9 pm until May 25, 2026.



Worship Leader's Are Needed!!

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 Yvette Robinson, Interim Executive Director, if you are interested in volunteering at the center. Their phone number is 410-822-5015.



Talbot Interfaith Shelter

The 2026 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. Volunteers are needed this month. The meal is covered. 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.

cele
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, Kit Jeremy Correa
- 5 Charles Ball, Jr.
- 6 Gemma Katherine Poore
- 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 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, Josie Lee Haddaway
- 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

cele
JANUARY
Anniversaries

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

Leadership Team

meeting



The Leadership Team will meet on Monday, January 5 at 2:00 p.m.

Vespers will be held on Wednesday evening January 21, in the church library at 7:00 p.m.



Congregational Business Meeting

Our February CBM will take place on Sunday, February 15 following worship.



Epiphany Sunday – Christ, the Light to the Nations

On Sunday, January 6, we celebrate Epiphany, the day we remember that Jesus came to bring light and salvation to all people. Together, we'll give thanks for the hope His light brings to a world in need and pray that His love shines through us this year.



News about Camp Mardela, from Jennifer Summy, Camp Administrator

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

- ◆ Skate Night at Camp, 6-8 p.m.
- ◆ February 6-8: Jr. High Retreat, Grades 6-8
- ◆ February 21: Mini Day Retreat, Grades 2-3
- ◆ March 6-8: Twix Retreat, Grades 4-5
- ◆ **Shop with RaiseRight/Script Fundraiser:** Support camp by shopping at your favorite stores! Order gift cards through the script program and a percentage will go back to camp without you spending anymore money than you normally would for your shopping needs. Go to www.raiseright.com or use the RaiseRight app and enter the code (contact Camp for the code) to purchase gift cards and give back to Camp Mardela.



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.

SERVING THE MONTH OF JANUARY

	1/4/2026	1/11/2026	1/18/2026	1/25/2026
Message	Wanda Baynard	Pastor Jody Gunn	Jennifer Summy	Pastor Jody Gunn
Worship Leader	Mat Baynard	Kevin Wile	Wanda Baynard	Jane Marshall
Head Usher/ Sound	Geoff Fox	Geoff Fox	Geoff Fox	Geoff Fox
Deacons on Call	Jane Marshall & Anne Harvey	Leroy & Sharon Miller	Ron & Elisa Miller	John & Norma Trax
Special Music	Choir	Meghan Knight	Carolyn Lane	Choir
Flowers				





CAMP MARDELA

301 Deep Shore Rd, Denton MD 21629

New Year's

SKATE NIGHT

Roll into the new year at this family-friendly event!

JAN. 2, 2026
6-8PM

\$10/person (food included)

\$5/skates (limited supply - sizes J11-M13)

Children under 16 must be supervised by an adult

Register online at www.campmardela.org/skate-night

*Optional fee - if you bring your own skates, you only need to pay \$10

PEACING IT TOGETHER

LOOKING FORWARD TO THE NEW YEAR AS A COMMUNITY

The Cross and Community

To be or not to be a community is not an option for the church. By nature the church is a community and experiences communion. But the question before the people of God is: What kind of community will we be?

-John Driver

Key Text 1 Corinthians 12: 12-14, 27

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. . . .

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.

*Threatened with Resurrection
Self-Preservation and Christ's Way of Peace
Jim S. Amstutz*

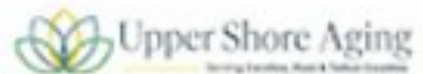
GRAB N' GO LUNCH

PROVIDED BY EAT SPROUT

STARTS:
NOVEMBER 12



BROOKLETTS PLACE WILL BE HANDING OUT FREE GRAB N' GO LUNCHES TO SENIORS (60+) EVERY TUESDAY FROM 10AM-11AM OR UNTIL WE RUN OUT! GLUTEN FREE OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE.



FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT BROOKLETTS PLACE: 410-822-2869



*Start
the new year
with prayer*



January

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