

EASTON CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

MARCH, 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

As the Peachblossom Press newsletter comes off the press into Lee Ann’s capable hands, we are traveling into our second week of Lent and beginning our Lenten journey.

The Lenten journey is a 40 day spiritual pilgrimage focused on repentance, renewal, and drawing closer to God through the three pillars: prayer, fasting and Almsgiving. The season of Lent is a time to simplify our lives, embrace self-discipline, and turn away from sin to prepare ourselves for easter.

Key practices for the Lenten journey include:

***Prayer:** Deepen your relationship with God through daily prayer, reading scripture, and attending the Wednesday prayer services at 5:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.

***Fasting/Self-Denial:** Sacrifice personal comforts or habits to make room for God.

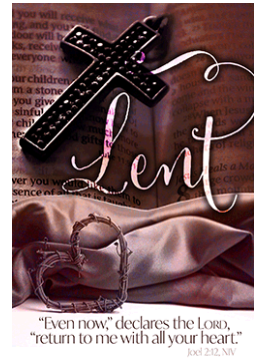
***Almsgiving/Service:** Give to others in need, donate, or perform acts of charity to share God’s love.

***Reflection:** Take time to examine your heart, seek Reconciliation (confession), and focus on spiritual growth, attending Sunday school and church when able.

For Brethren, Love Feast and Communion, held twice a year, remains the profound and central act of the church’s life. For us Brethren, it is a “high” holy time for us. We will have this on Palm Sunday, in the Fellowship Hall.

May you have a blessed Lenten journey to the cross!

Wanda Baynard, Christian Ed Chair & Deacon



Daylight Saving Time Begins!

Don’t forget to “spring forward”, March 8

As we adjust our clocks, let’s also reset our hearts—ready to embrace the new mercies God gives each morning. “The path of the righteous is like the morning sun, shining ever brighter till the full light of day.” — Proverbs 4:18

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 David Hutchison, Amy Saulsbury Hutchison, Terri Tarr, Geoff Fox, Ron Miller, Pete Fox, 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 stepdaughter), 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.***



Every Wednesday, until March 25, we will gather in the sanctuary at 5:00 p.m. for a time of prayer. Making a commitment to pray together each week, will help us connect with one another and the Almighty.



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 and it's only every 5-6 weeks that you will 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 Andy Hollis, Executive Director, if you are interested in volunteering at the center.

Their phone number is 410-822-

VOLUNTEER 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 March 19. Volunteers and the meal are needed this month. 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.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- 1 Martina Towers
- 3 Jalen Jones, Kellee Kinsey
- 4 Leslie Schwaninger
- 5 Brendan Faw
- 6 Gemma Katherine Poore
- 8 Cheryl Heckard
- 10 Cindy Townsend, Darlena Roesti-Butler
- 14 Kristi Booze
- 15 Corey Edsall, Matthew Faulkner,
Katie Pederson
- 16 Joanna Williams
- 17 Patti Ball
- 18 Kevin Schwaninger, Rebecca Russ
- 20 Sandy Faw
- 21 Robert Milburn, Joy Phelps, Albert Pete
- 22 Steven Mullikin
- 23 Trevor Ball
- 24 Randy Walbridge
- 25 Paula Ulrich
- 27 David Allen, Jude Basel
- 29 Michael Correa, Kathy Ebling
- 30 Randy Bachand
- 31 Jennifer Fox



- 9 Ted & Patty Schwaninger
- 11 David & Jo Ann Fike
- 14 Ken & Sue Ann Russ
- David & Cindy Allen
- 25 Allen & Cheryl Heckard



Leadership Team meeting



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

Special Dates for March, 2026

- World Day of Prayer, *March 6, 2026*
- Daylight saving time begins, *March 8, 2026*
- St. Patrick's Day, *March 17, 2026*
- First day of spring, *March 20, 2026*
- Holy Week, *March 29-April 5, 2026*
- Palm/Passion Sunday, *March 29, 2026*

WORLD DAY of PRAYER FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 2026

World Day of Prayer is a worldwide, ecumenical movement of Christian women of many traditions who come together to observe a common day of prayer each year, and who, in many countries, have a continuing relationship in prayer and service.

- It is initiated and carried out by women in more than 170 countries and regions.
- It is symbolized by an annual day of celebration observed on the first Friday in March to which all people are welcome.
- It brings women of different races, cultures and traditions together in fellowship, understanding and action throughout the year.
- Through World Day of Prayer, women affirm that prayer and action are inseparable and have immeasurable influence in the world.

The motto of World Day of Prayer is *"Informed Prayer and Prayerful Action."*



News about Camp Mardela, from Jennifer Summy, Camp Administrator

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

- ◆ **Easter Sunrise Service:** April 5, 7:30 a.m.
- ◆ **Camp Auction:** April 18, 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
- ◆ **Yard Sale:** May 16, 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
- ◆ **Camp Appreciation Day:** June 7, 5-7:00 p.m.
- ◆ **Family Camp:** September 4-6
- ◆ **Camp Supper:** September 19, 4-7:00 p.m.
- ◆ **Sights and Sounds of Christmas,** December 11, 6-8:00 p.m.
- ◆ **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.raiserright.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 MARCH

	3/1/2026	3/8/2026	3/15/2026	3/22/2026	3/29/2026
Message	Pastor Jody Gunn	Pastor Jody Gunn	Rusty Curling	Wanda Baynard	Love Feast & Communion— F. Hall
Worship Leader	Lynn Butler	Wanda Baynard	Jane Marshall	Mat Baynard	
Head Usher/Sound	Judy Musch	Judy Musch	Judy Musch	Judy Musch	Judy Musch
Deacons on Call	Leroy & Sharon Miller	Ron & Elisa Miller	John & Norma Trax	Geoff & Lee Ann Fox	Mat & Wanda Baynard
Special Music	Choir	Amanda Manning	Choir	Peachblossom Bells	Choir
Flowers			Anne Harvey		



Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”
~2 Corinthians 9:7, NIV

One Great Hour of Sharing reaches those near and far, sometimes changing the life of someone in distress in your own community, while at other times impacting the lives of those we may never meet but who are in need of our compassion. God provides the resources so that we can give back. It's not the size of the gift that matters; it's that we give of what we have. We're simply giving back to God what is already God's—and that means everyone has a gift to bring!

Gifts given through this special offering empower ministries like the Church of the Brethren's Brethren Volunteer Service, Discipleship Ministries, Office of Global Mission, Brethren Disaster Ministries, the Global Food Initiative, and many others.

Collection date will be Sunday, March 15. Offering envelopes will be in your bulletin on Sunday, March 8.

JOURNEY TO THE CROSS

Starting on Ash Wednesday, the church traditionally observes Lent, a 40-day period of repentance and reflection. As we prepare for Easter, families can focus on Jesus' life and ministry, culminating in his death and resurrection.

Use this Lenten Bible Reading Plan, along with a kid-friendly Bible version, for family devotions. With older kids, you can expand the readings to the surrounding paragraph or chapter. Discuss how each reference to Christ ties into God's plan of salvation.



DAY 1
Genesis 3:15

DAY 2
Isaiah 7:14

DAY 3
Matthew 1:20-21

DAY 4
Luke 2:11

DAY 5
Luke 2:52

DAY 6
Mark 1:9-11

DAY 7
Matthew 4:10

DAY 8
Matthew 4:18-20

DAY 9
Luke 6:27-31

DAY 10
Matthew 11:28-30

DAY 11
Luke 4:40-41

DAY 12
Luke 8:24-25

DAY 13
Matthew 12:8

DAY 14
Mark 6:41-42

DAY 15
Luke 9:20-22

DAY 16
John 3:16-17

DAY 17
John 6:35

DAY 18
John 8:12

DAY 19
John 10:14-15

DAY 20
Mark 10:13-16

DAY 21
Mark 9:2-3

DAY 22
Matthew 20:17-19

DAY 23
Luke 19:9-10

DAY 24
Matthew 14:25-27

DAY 25
Luke 10:36-37

DAY 26
John 11:25-27, 43

DAY 27
John 12:3

DAY 28
Matthew 21:8-9

DAY 29
Mark 11:15-16

DAY 30
John 17:17-19

DAY 31
Luke 22:3-6

DAY 32
Mark 14:22-24

DAY 33
John 13:3-5

DAY 34
Matthew 26:39

DAY 35
Luke 22:63-65

DAY 36
Mark 15:22-26

DAY 37
Matthew 27:50-54

DAY 38
John 19:40-42

DAY 39
Luke 24:1-8

DAY 40
Matthew 28:19-20

PEACING IT TOGETHER

Things that make for peace

Luke 19: 41-44

“If you, even you, had only recognized on this day the things that make for peace!” (v. 42a).

One of the most poignant stories from the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting in 2012 was teachers helping their students hide in classroom closets, telling each one, “I love you” just in case those were the last words the children would hear.

Our broken world longs for peace. Yet we also want to trust in the myth of redemptive violence that teaches us such things as, “the only way to stop a bad guy with a gun is a good guy with a gun,” and “an armed society is a polite society.” Mass shootings like the one at Sandy Hook used to stop our nation in its tracks; now such tragedies are so common that we carry on with our lives, offering the innocuous sentiments of “thoughts and prayers.”

As people who do recognize things that make for peace, we continue to believe in prayer’s transformative power. We can also reject the notion that gun homicides and suicides are inevitable sacrifices on the altar of gun ownership. We can begin with the simple and scientifically established fact that more guns lead to more deaths. Unrestricted gun access has not made us safer.

The Annual Conference last spoke about guns and gun violence in the 1978 statement “Violence and the Use of Firearms.” The underlying peace theology of that statement remains relevant, including the bold personal imperative, “Our heritage and faith call us as individuals to relinquish voluntarily our own handguns.”

Can we learn from Jesus and our church the things that make for peace—even when that causes us to challenge values that our nation holds as sacred?

Teach us the true meaning of peacemaking. Prince of Peace, and help us understand and accept its cost in our lives.

Bruce Butler

Peace Advocate for Easton Church of the Brethren



**Mid-Shore
Community Band**
Presents Its

**14th Annual
St. Patrick's
Concert**

Sunday, March 15 at 2 p.m.
Easton Elks' Ballroom
502 Dutchmans Lane
Easton, Maryland

Tuesday, March 17 at 7 p.m.
Zion United Methodist Church
612 Locust Street
Cambridge, Maryland

A Free Concert of Irish Music



TALBOT
ARTS

(Donations Gratefully Accepted)

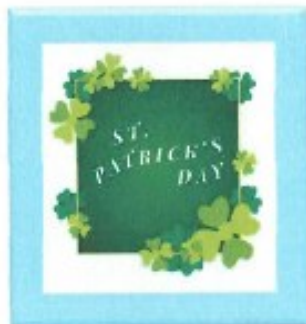
www.msacb.org



MSAC
MID-SHORE ARTS COUNCIL



MARCH 15, 2026
CELEBRATE ST.
PATRICKS DAY



**Market Street
Public House
in Denton,
Maryland**

BRUNCH 10-2:00

**MUSIC 12:00 –
2:00**

**Music by
Waterbound**

**Sing, celebrate, good
eats!!**

**MARKET ST
PUBLIC HOUSE**

200 Market Street
Denton, Maryland

410-479-4720

GRAB N' GO LUNCH

PROVIDED BY EAT SPROUT

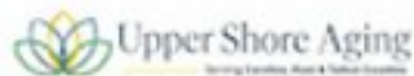
STARTS:
NOVEMBER 12



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.



A place to connect. A place to thrive.



Living Longer. Better. Healthier.

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



DURING THIS LENTEN SEASON,
*we praise God for
his righteous Son,*
who perfectly kept all of God's commandments
for us and paid the full price
for our disobedience.



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