

EASTON CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

JULY/AUGUST, 2026 PEACHBLOSSOM PRESS NEWSLETTER

Mission Statement

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

WORSHIP—10:00 am



412 S. Harrison Street

Easton, MD 21601

410-822-0475

Email: eastonchurchofthebrethren@gmail.com

Website: www.eastonbrethren.org

Rev. Jody E. Gunn, Pastor

Moving Forward!

Meeting approved moving forward on our accessibility project! I used a quote from New Testament scholar Danny Zacharias in my 6-7-2026 sermon “After Mercy.” Zacharias shares about Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26, we are shown “a Christ who moves **toward** those in need, who upends social expectations, and who embodies mercy in ways that challenge religious structures. The stories of Matthew’s call and Jesus’s healing acts emphasize restorative mercy. This mercy is not simply words, not just words of forgiveness or absolution, but tangible acts of restoration that show what the kingdom of God ought to be like.” After my sermon, someone said, “Maybe restoring our church building by becoming accessible is an act of mercy.” Restoration is part of God’s work in us, in our community, and yes, maybe God can use a building - faith in action providing a way for everyone to finally have a place at the table in the Easton Church of the Brethren.

John Trax put together clarification on what is included in the estimate of \$1,200,000:

- Sanctuary level ADA Restroom
- New Women's lower level restroom
- Revised Exterior Lift Structure
- New Men's Restroom Additions
- HVAC units for Fellowship Hall
- ADA Restroom on Fellowship Hall Level
- Asbestos Removal
- New Flooring for Fellowship Hall, including stage, kitchen, and halls
- Torchio Cost for completing final drawings to include changes
- Torchio Cost for consults during build

Please be advised that the \$1.2 M estimate is only that. We will be getting a “NOT TO EXCEED” contract to approve, to begin the build.

We ask everyone to be in prayer as plans are revised, permits are procured, and costs are finalized. Any questions please reach out to Leadership Team and/or Building Committee (Geoff Trax, Ron Miller, John Trax, Gene Walbridge)

-Pastor Jody

Annual Conference 2026
Sunday, June 28 – Thursday, July 2
Fort Wayne, Indiana
Grand Wayne Convention Center

Delegate: Ellen Wile. Also attending are Pastor Jody Gunn.

Witness to the Host City – ALIVE Community Outreach – Tuesday of Annual Conference

Alive Community Outreach is a faith-based organization with a mission to cultivate a community of nonviolence through relationships and education. They support families impacted by homicide and partner with schools to train high school students as peacemakers, building a culture of peace through violence prevention, restorative intervention, and survivor support. Rooted in Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s philosophy of nonviolence, they maintain that violence is ultimately a symptom of deeper issues that must be addressed in order to bring about lasting change. For more information go to: <https://alivefw.org>

Checks to be made out to "ALIVE Community Outreach"

(CoB Witness to the Host City in the memo line) or

Give Online: [www.brethren.org/give-](http://www.brethren.org/give-ACTuesdayOffering)

[ACTuesdayOffering](http://www.brethren.org/give-ACTuesdayOffering)

(please note CoB Witness to the Host City)



The Leadership Team will meet on Monday, July 5 and Monday, August 3, at 2:00 p.m.

Leadership Team

meeting



Monthly Prayer Meeting will be held on August 5 at 5:00 p.m. in the library. **Please note, there is NO prayer meeting in July.**

Summer worship hours will continue through August 30. Worship will begin at 10:00 a.m. There will be no summer Sunday school.

Congratulations to Brian and Alycia Walbridge on the birth of their son, Mason Theodore, on Thursday, May 28 at 3:06 p.m. Mason weighed 8lbs., 14.02 oz. Mom and baby are doing well.

Congratulations to grandparents, Gene and Diane Walbridge.



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, Ellen Wile and Pastor Jody as they travel to and from Annual Conference, Bianca Martinez and her family, Jay Lewis, Amy Saulsbury Hutchison, Terri Tarr, 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, Holly Hill Jones (Larry Fike's stepdaughter), Cheryl Dayton, Chris Lyons, Ruth Gunn, Larry & Barbara McCann, Jeanette & Bob Miller, Bruce Butler, 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.

Update on Pledges & Tithes

When sending in your pledges towards the accessibility project (either by mail or on Sunday morning), and sending in your tithes at the same time, it will be most helpful to send in two separate checks. We appreciate your cooperation. 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.

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 410-822-5015.

Talbot Interfaith Shelter

VOLUNTEER



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 July 19 and August 19. Volunteers are not needed for July. The meal is covered for both months, however, volunteers are needed to help make a meal. Please consider this ministry. Sign-up sheets are in the narthex.**





- 1 Amy Bachand, Lee Lyons
- 2 Chris Scaglione
- 4 Kathy Anderson
- 6 Joshua Lohr, Brennen Lyons
- 7 Jamie Cox, Judi Loscomb, Dwayne Mattox, Tracy Correa
- 8 Betty Lednum, Tom Schwaninger, Jody Gunn
- 10 Sherry Hutchison, Mike Mullikin
- 11 Trinity Turnage
- 13 Bob Davis, Brian Rathell, Luke Miller
- 14 David Cox
- 16 Nina Jacobs
- 17 Kevin Lohr, Curtis Satchell
- 18 Leah Miller
- 20 Terry Dayton
- 21 Melanie Young
- 22 Morgan Phillips, Liz Wildasin, Ken Martin
Michael Pierce, Nicole Edsall
- 24 Jim Harvey, Robert Musch
- 26 Bud Loscomb
- 27 Marah Basel, Kate Edsall
- 28 Paityn Phillips
- 31 Geoff Fox



- 4 Rusty & Phyllis Dodd-Curling
- 11 Robin & Linda Lyons
- 28 Gary & Wendy Faulkner
- 30 Tom & Sue Ann Brockson



- 1 Amy Brown
- 3 Renee Edsall
- 5 Dale Fike, Morgan Harvey
- 6 Fran Morris
- 7 Chloe Grubbs, Gretchen Satchell
- 8 Jo Ann Fike
- 9 Amara Jones
- 10 Gary Fox
- 11 Gary Ball, Adam Lohr
- 12 Emerson Tarr
- 13 Lynn Butler, Adam Schwaninger
- 14 Melissa Johnson, Jed Leroy Correa
- 19 Dennis Lohr
- 21 Ryan Tarr
- 24 Gwen Wood Larrimore
- 25 Lucas Milburn, Brenda Pierce
- 26 Bonnie Wooters
- 28 Barbara Seese
- 29 Bill Zellers, Tara Blake Haddaway
- 30 Bruce Butler
- 31 Brianna Boyle



- 3 Kevin & Ellen Wile, Kevin & Joy Miller
- 4 John & Norma Trax
- 15 John & Lyn Banghart
- 19 Lee & Lynn Lyons
- 22 Corey & Nicole Edsall



News about Camp Mardela, from Jennifer Summy, Camp Administrator

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

- " **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.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.



Vespers will be held at the home of Geoff & Lee Ann Fox on Wednesday evening, July 15 at 7:00 p.m.



In Every Season, Turn to God

*Are you enjoying a happy time? Praise God.
Is life becoming difficult? Seek God.
Are you experiencing a quiet moment?
Worship God.
Are you suffering great pain? Trust God.
Are you unsure what to do? Ask God.
Are you overwhelmed with joy? Thank God.*



SERVING THE MONTH OF JULY

	7/5/2026	7/12/2026	7/19/2026	7/26/2026
Message	Wanda Baynard	Rev. Darlene Dixon	Dot Mayorga	Meghan Knight
Worship Leader	Mat Baynard	Jane Marshall	Kevin Wile	Lynn Butler
Head Usher/Sound	Sharon Miller	Sharon Miller	Sharon Miller	Sharon Miller
Deacons on Call	Mat & Wanda Baynard	Les & Marlena Groves	Jane Marshall/ Anne Harvey	Leroy & Sharon Miller
Special Music	Ellen Wile	Amanda Manning	TBA	Amy Bachand
Flowers	Anne Harvey			

SERVING THE MONTH OF AUGUST

	8/2/2026	8/9/2026	8/16/2026	8/23/2026	8/30/2026
Message	Wanda Baynard	Annual Conference Sunday	Michelle Boulden-Hammond	Pastor Jody Gunn	Music Sunday
Worship Leader	Mat Baynard	Wanda Baynard	Jane Marshall	Kevin Wile	Lynn Butler
Head Usher/ Sound	Judy Musch	Judy Musch	Judy Musch	Judy Musch	Judy Musch
Deacons on Call	Ron & Elisa Miler	John & Norma Trax	Geoff & Lee Ann Fox	Mat & Wanda Baynard	Les & Marlena Groves
Special Music	Carolyn Lane	Ellen Wile	Amanda Manning		Music Sunday
Flowers	Anne Harvey				



Happy Independence Day
July 4, 1776-2026

Stay Connected This Summer

Summer schedules can be full, but staying connected matters. Be sure to check the bulletin, newsletter and social media for updates on worship, events and opportunities to serve. We are grateful to walk through this season together as a church family.



Roman's 14:10-13

10 Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. 11 For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." 12 So then, each one of us will be held accountable. 13 Let us therefore no longer pass judgment on one another, but resolve instead never to put a stumbling block or hindrance in the way of a brother or sister.

Conference Emblem by CJ Bowman

2026 Mid-Atlantic
DISTRICT CONFERENCE

October 9 & 10

CAMP MARDELA

301 Deep Shore Rd., Denton, MD 21629-3408

FRIDAY NIGHT CAMPFIRE

Campfire Songs • Inspirational Stories • S'mores!

More information to follow as available



CAMP MARDELA

KING RETREAT CENTER IMPROVEMENT FUNDRAISER

GOAL - \$10,000

We are raising money this year to make needed improvements to the King Retreat Center - mainly the dorm rooms. Here is what we hope to improve.

Remove mold from eaves & bathrooms

Replace carpet with laminate flooring

Build new, custom wooden bunk beds

Repaint rooms

New heat & AC units in dorms

Replace lighting in dorm rooms



Current dorm room



Sample custom, wooden bunk
Built by John Trax

**Make donations at www.campmardela.org/donations
or mail to P.O. Box 460, Denton, MD 21629**

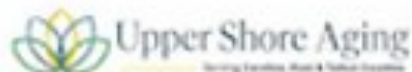
GRAB N' GO LUNCH

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



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