

EASTON CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

APRIL, 2024 PEACHBLOSSOM PRESS NEWSLETTER

Mission Statement

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



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April... A Month of New Beginnings

What does the word “April” mean? The word April comes from the Latin word asperire, meaning “to open”, referring to the spring season of blossoming flowers and leafing trees. Also, did you know that April is the month for celebrating new beginnings? On the biblical Hebrew calendar, in the month of Nisan (March 15-April 15) there is the celebration of the children of Israel being released from bondage to the Egyptians. This celebration is included in the spring festival of Passover, Unleavened Bread and the Feast of First Fruits.

April is often identified as the month of Easter, but not this leap year. So, what am I going to talk about? I think I will need to do some “digging” to see what else happens in the month of April. Of course, we have the first day of April as April Fools Day, when children, as well as grown-ups, play jokes on one another. On April 22, we have Earth Day. Earth Day is an annual celebration that raises awareness of the need to protect Earth’s natural resources for future generations. But how did it come about? The day’s origin traces back to U.S. Events in the 1960’s when there was a dramatic increase in environmental concerns. With several environmental catastrophes, particularly the Santa Barbara oil spill and the Cuyahoga River fires of 1969, many Americans thought it was time we took a more active approach to the stewardship of our planet. Perhaps in this month of April, as Christian stewards of this good Earth God created, we too can become more active in finding ways to improve the environment. Perhaps we can plant a couple of flowering trees to replace our mighty Oak! Arbor Day is coming up on April 26.

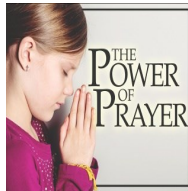
What new beginnings do you anticipate in this month of April? Will you take some time to enjoy God’s wonderful creation and grow in a new and closer relationship with Him? Will you open your eyes and your heart as you look around to find new ways to serve God and others. There is a hymn in the Brethren hymnal which has a refrain which goes like this:

“Sing a new song to the One who has said, “Behold, I make all things new.”

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 JC Russ, Jeff Lyons, Terri Tarr, John Sewell, Chris Lyons, Robbie Faulkner, Ruth Gunn, Michael Starkey, Larry & Barbara McCann, Dick Scott, Leroy Miller, Jeanette & Bob Miller, John Merceron, Mary Lou Segar, Frances Morse, Bruce Butler, Jimmy & Loretta Lohr, Charlie Willis, Adele Pogue, Caitlyn Bussey, Emerson Fike, Theresa Durnbaugh, Kathy Spurry, Billy Harding, Larry Fike, Alan Segar, GraceWay CoB, Roger Plagge, Dee Candel, Lois Schall, Nataliee Jones, 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 JC Russ. JC passed away on Tuesday, March 12. Services were held on Saturday, March 23 at Fairview CoB. We pray Christ love and presence to the Russ family.



- 1 Jordan Davis, Leslie Saulsbury
- 4 Joey Edsall
- 5 Karen Davis
- 6 Marlena Groves, Annabel Young
- 7 Kevin Wile
- 8 Michael Valliant
- 9 Marlee Fox, Heather Moore
- 11 Susan Sanger
- 12 Tim Young
- 13 Hutch Walbridge, Jack Wood, Connor Crannell
- 14 Jocelyn Koenig
- 16 Chad Whitzel, James Foreman, Karen Jo Johnson
- 17 Stanley Morris, Diane Walbridge
- 18 Robin Lyons
- 21 D.R. Warrington
- 23 Jennifer "Regan" Fox, Shelly Milburn
- 24 Todd Butler, Logan Allen, Roger Plagge, Bonnie Langford
- 25 Tom Brockson
- 26 Cheryl Dayton
- 28 Ashley Ball, Chandler Grey Seese
- 30 Gabriel Fluharty



- 8 Leroy & Sharon Miller
- 14 Mat & Wanda Baynard
- 27 Todd & Kelly Lyons

Vespers Service

Vespers will be held on Wednesday, April 17 at Roundtop Church, beginning at 7:00 p.m.



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 2024 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 Friday, April 19.** Please sign-up in the narthex to volunteer a shift or make the meal.

SERVING THE MONTH OF APRIL

	4/7/2024	4/14/2024	4/21/2024	4/28/2024
Message	Jonas Barron	Jennifer Summy	Jimmy Lohr	Jody Gunn
Worship Leader	Mat Baynard	Jane Marshall	Sharon Miller	Kevin Wile
Head Usher/ Sound	Ron Miller	Ron Miller	Ron Miller	Ron Miller
Deacons on Call	Jane Marshall & Anne Harvey	Leroy & Sharon Miller	Ron & Elisa Miller	John & Norma Trax
Special Music	Amy Bachand & Jonas Baron	Jennifer Summy	Peachblossom Bells	Choir
Flowers	Kevin & Ellen Wile	Mat & Wanda Baynard		

Camp Mardela News—from Jen Summy, Camp Administrator

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

- ◆ **Spring Fundraising Auction:** April 6 from 8:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.
- ◆ **Chick-fil-a fundraising for Camp:** April 22, 5-8p, 229332 Sussex Hwy, Seaford, DE. \$1 from each transaction will benefit camp
- ◆ **Camp Mardela Yard Sale:** May 11, from 8-12p
- ◆ **Camp Appreciation Day: June 2.** Come for a day full of games, food, fellowship, music and brick dedication.
- ◆ **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.

April 7 Amy Bachand and Jonas Barron
April 14 Jennifer Summy
April 21 Peachblossom Bells
April 28 Choir



The Demise of Willow Oak

Unknown – March 1, 2024

There does not seem to be a clear record of when Willow began life in the Easton Church of the Brethren south lawn. A picture of the 1949 corner stone dedication does not seem to have her in attendance, nor does one in the 1950-2000 anniversary booklet, nor the cover of the October 29, 1950 dedication bulletin. However, an undated picture in the 1881-1981 anniversary booklet does have her in place. So, Willow, when did you start your life with us? Sufficient to say she has been part of many gatherings under her vast branches.

As the young lady grew up, she also grew down which caused many problems with her roots in the sewer and roof drainpipes. Several times it has been necessary to call Mr. Rooter to clear her invasive extensions out of the way for proper drainage. Another of Willow's not too endearing end of the year traits was those tiny leaves in the roof gutter preventing free flow of liquid from rain or snow. There was often evidence of new trees and weeds growing, further blocking drainage, that necessitated the use of a borrowed forklift and the hand removal of the offending materials, as can be attested to by Brother Geoff Fox and others.

At the February 18, 2024, Congregational Business Meeting it was approved to have Willow removed from her place in the lawn for the noted reasons of water blockage, but also the fact that Willow was no longer the young lady and was now the Grande Dame with branches spreading over the roof and street with the potential of damage should one fall. Her girth was also increasing and the potential upheaval to the sidewalk was beginning to show.

On Thursday February 29, 2024, yes Leap Day, at 5:30 five members of the congregation gathered on the lawn to bid Willow farewell. Many remembrances were made fondly of what Willow is, was, (beehive holder) and will be in the future: ie carved works, heating wood, etc. With the singing of Ken Medema's "Tree Song" and a spoken prayer by Pastor Jody Gunn, the gathered 'mourners' slowly departed.

On Friday March 1, 2024, the crew from Economy Tree Service was on site by 8am to begin work which efficiently and respectfully brought Willow to the end of her reign, so that by 3:25pm all that was left of Willow was the beautiful many contoured shapes of the base of her foothold in the lawn.

Yet to be completed is the grinding of her stump, which will remove all visible trace of her presence with us. However, there are many many photographic records of her life on the south lawn of the Easton Church of the Brethren.

**Dale Fike, reporter
March 5, 2024**



Congratulations to Josh & Sierra Poore on the birth of their daughter, Gemma Katherine. Gemma was born on Wednesday, March 6 at 10:29; weighed 7lbs, 3 oz and 19 inches long. Gemma is welcomed home by big brother, Reed. Proud grand parents are Mike & Tracy Correa and great grand parents Leroy & Sharon Miller.

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



First Quarter 2024

<i>Attendance</i>	42	29	39	36		146
	3/3/2024	3/10/2024	3/17/2024	3/24/2024	3/31/2024	Totals
<i>Distributions</i>						0.00
<i>General (06)</i>						
Envelopes	3,105.00	605.00	2,400.00	1,365.00		7,475.00
Loose Change/Cash	40.00	1.00	4.00	20.00		65.00
Totals	3,145.00	606.00	2,404.00	1,385.00	0.00	7,540.00
<i>Other Income (06)</i>						
Building Use						
Wednesday Night Beginners				300.00		300.00
Community Event - Michelle Hammond				75.00		75.00
Washington St. Rent		1,800.00				1,800.00
Harrison St. Rent			1,600.00			1,600.00
Totals	0.00	1,800.00	1,600.00	375.00	0.00	3,775.00
<i>Special Offerings (07)</i>						
Hospitality						
In Kind						
In & Out						
Messenger Subscriptions				14.50		14.50
One Great Hour of Sharing		20.00	20.00			40.00
Totals	0.00	1,820.00	1,620.00	389.50	0.00	3,829.50
Totals	3,145.00	4,226.00	5,624.00	2,149.50	0.00	15,144.50



APRIL 6, 2024

**301 DEEP SHORE RD
DENTON, MD 21629**

8am-9am - Breakfast & Browse

9am-11am - Silent Auction

9am-1pm - Live Auction

CAMP MARDELA BENEFIT AUCTION

**FOOD STAND | BAKE SALE
LIVE, SILENT & ONLINE
AUCTION**

Support camp - shop for a cause!

Go to the link below for more info:

www.campmardela.org/spring-camp-auction



**\$1 OF EACH
SALE FROM
5-8PM
BENEFITS
CAMP!**



**CHICK-FIL-A
FUNDRAISER
APRIL 22 - 5-8PM**

**SEAFORD LOCATION:
22932 SUSSEX HWY. SEAFORD, DE 19973**



**NO COUPON
REQUIRED!**



CAMP MARDELA

www.campmardela.org

301 Deep Shore Rd, Denton, MD

campmardela@gmail.com



May 11, 2024
8am - 12pm



**YARD
SALE**



Denton's Yard Sale Day!

\$15 per yard sale space

Breakfast for sale



Find deals.
Sell items.
Support Camp.



CAMP MARDELA

APPRECIATION DAY

www.campmardela.org/appreciation-day

FOOD



GAMES



MUSIC



BRICK DEDICATION



SUNDAY, JUNE 2ND

301 DEEP SHORE ROAD, DENTON, MD 21629

Please post this on a bulletin board in your church, Thank you!

Special Item Donation

Mid-Atlantic Disaster Response Auction

**Do you have a special item of high value
that you would be willing to donate to the
Disaster Response Auction on May 4, 2024?**

Such as...



Valuable Crafts



Antiques



Gift Baskets



Artwork



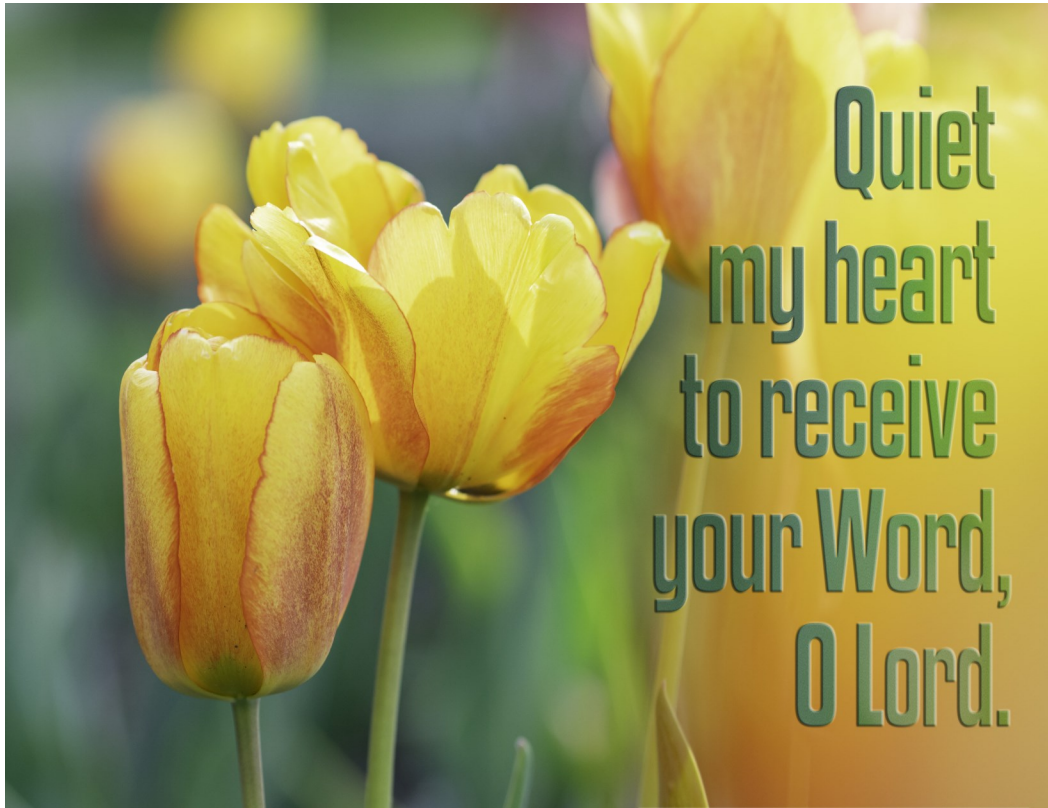
Destinations



Fine Woodworking

**Please call Jeff McKee at 443-547-5958 or
email a photo with description to auctionbooklet@comcast.net**

A photo and description needs to be received by February 9th to be published in the booklet!



April 

The word "April" is written in a grey, elegant cursive font. To the right of the word is a small illustration of a green hummingbird with a red beak, perched on a cluster of pink and purple flowers.

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