

The Messenger

A Note From The Pastor...

Like so many parents this time of year, Deb and I dropped our oldest son, Nate, off at college. He will be completing his Senior year at Messiah College, graduating with a Bachelor's Degree in Sports Management in May 2018.



Furthermore, our youngest son, Matthew, begins his Senior year at Rising Sun High School and will be graduating in 2018 as well. Deb and I have been very excited to witness what God has done in our boys' lives these last several years.

Not only am I experiencing my boys transitioning into adulthood, but this summer has been a huge change for our family, for Deb and I. Selling our home, moving to a new town, a new congregation, leaving many people behind and being asked to begin new relationships, has been difficult.

Through all these transitions, as our lives continue to change and we find ourselves in a new season, God laid on my heart a couple important truths. These truths are applicable to the church as we begin a new season this September.

First, there is the issue of change. Life is filled with change. But these changes, no matter how difficult, unwelcomed, or scary they may be at times, are important and wonderful. I have no doubt God is about to do something very exciting and new in my boys' lives. I have no doubt God has brought Deb and I to North East UMC to bless us and use us in mighty ways. God says, in Isaiah 43:19, "*See I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.*" I constantly remind myself that God is always working, creating, making things new, so I don't become complacent or comfortable. I don't want to miss out on what is possible. I don't want to miss, and I don't want my boys to miss, what God is about to do.

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If we are honest, we don't like change. Someone once said, "*The only person who likes change is a wet baby.*" That is probably true. Change can be stressful; it can be difficult. North East UMC has undergone a major change this summer, a pastoral transition. I am sure this change of pastors has been difficult for some in our congregation. I am sure as change happens and new ideas spring forth in the years ahead there will be those who struggle and feel unsure.

But we must remember that in the midst of the changes, God has and will continue to move. God will continue to do "*a new thing.*" Just look at all God has done over the last century at North East UMC, the rich history, the ministries started, the missions supported, and the lives changed. God has provided for North East UMC through many, many seasons of ministry and mission and God will provide through many, many more.

Even though things may look different today than a few months ago, a few years ago, God has never stopped and still is moving. Many people miss God's blessings because rather than focusing on God and trying to see how God is moving, doing a "new thing," they focus on the changes taking place. They allow themselves to become overwhelmed, scared, unsure, instead of excited and involved.

I completely understand how difficult change can sometimes be for a person. I am struggling with my boys growing up. Beverly Beckham, writing about her children leaving for college, describes what I am feeling. She writes, "*Always is what you miss. Always knowing where they are. At school. At play practice. At a ballgame. At a friend's. Always looking at the clock mid-day and anticipating the door opening, the sigh, the smile, the laugh, the shrug...Always, knowing his friends. Her favorite show. What he had for breakfast. What she wore to school. What he thinks. How he feels...I miss them, still, all these years later, the children they were, at the dinner table, beside me on the couch, talking on the phone, sleeping in their rooms, safe, home, mine...*"

I miss my boys little. I miss when they couldn't wait for me to get home, when I was the center of their universe. But I know I must let them go. I must let them grow. I must allow God to continue His work in their lives, creating, moving, leading, developing. And I must trust.

A second important truth God laid on my heart this summer through the move and the changes, through watching my boys start a new chapter in their lives, concerns trust. I have to trust God to take care of my sons when they are not with me. I have to trust God to protect them and to guide them as each of them makes his own decisions. I must trust God to bless my boys in their friendships and through the lessons the coming year will teach them. I must trust God that He wants Deb and I in North East and He will do great things in our lives and touch the lives of others through our ministry.

It is the same with our church. We must trust God. Even though the summer has been filled with change and the future will have its share of change, God has never left and God will never leave. We must look closely and see God working in our midst. Even though there are and will be times the church may not look or feel the same, God IS the same and He can be trusted to lead our congregation through the deserts, the storms, the valleys along its journey. We must stay the course and ask the questions, "How can I help? How can I serve? How can I join in what God is doing and help our church make a difference for the Kingdom of God?"

These are two important truths God laid on my heart in this summer of immense change and transition that our family is experiencing. God laid on my heart the need to embrace change and the need to trust God in the midst of that change. Proverbs 3: 5-6 exclaims, "*Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.*" It is my prayer that each of us are able to put our trust in Him in the midst of whatever changes we find ourselves facing in our families, in our work, and in our church. God Bless!

Peace in Christ,
Pastor Drew



Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

I know that many of you have watched the devastation of Hurricane Harvey, particularly in Houston, Texas and Louisiana. This is a disaster that will take years from which to recover. I know many have been fervently praying for our sisters and brothers in those areas of catastrophe, but there is more that you can do, that we can do together!

At this time **UMCOR [United Methodist Committee on Relief]** has asked for financial resources, as well as cleaning buckets and hygiene kits. If you feel led to help those dealing with this disaster, **checks can be made out to “North East UMC” with the notation US Disaster Advance # 901670.** North East UMC will send the monies donated to the Conference Office and they will be forwarded to UMCOR, where 100% of what you give will go directly to help people affected by Hurricane Harvey. Information about UMCOR is below...

-Pastor Drew

The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization dedicated to alleviating human suffering around the globe. UMCOR’s work includes programs and projects in disaster response, health, sustainable agriculture, food security, relief supplies, and more.

UMCOR is a ministry of The United Methodist Church through the General Board of Global Ministries, and our goal is to assist the most vulnerable persons affected by crisis or chronic need. UMCOR’s work reaches people in more than 80 countries, including the United States. We provide humanitarian relief when war, conflict, or natural disaster disrupt life to such an extent that communities are unable to recover on their own. While UMCOR cooperates with other aid organizations to extend our reach, our most important partners are the people we serve. We are confident that successful solutions to emergency or chronic conditions begin with the affected population. UMCOR provides these survivors not only temporary relief but long-term education, training, and support. **UMCOR spends 100% of designated donations on the projects our donors specify. No part of your donation goes toward Administrative Costs. All goes directly to the Need!**

CPR/AED Training

We have scheduled a **CPR/AED teaching class** for Sunday, September 10th from 1 to 4 pm. The cost is \$40 per person, payment must be in cash. This price includes the class and CPR card once you've passed the written exam.

If you haven't already signed up and are interested in taking the class, please see Laura Young or contact the church office.



On the day of training, wear comfortable clothing, as you will be on the floor the majority of the time.

Women's Retreat

We are looking for 12 women who are interested in planning and helping with our 2nd annual women's retreat which will be held on Friday night, April 27th and Saturday, April 28th, 2018. We will have monthly meetings beginning in September and then switch to weekly meetings the end of March.

If you are interested in serving or have questions, please contact Laura Young at 443-553-1527 or lauray@comcast.net

UMCOR Work Day

Just a quick reminder that we will be having a HUB workday on Saturday, September 9th. We are planning to assemble school kits and want to put together 50 cleaning buckets. Given the flooding in Texas, I am sure that UMCOR will be calling for the cleaning buckets in larger quantities.

Please join us if your schedule permits!!

Wendi Evans, Missions Chair

We are going on a short term missions trip again this year to Jill's House on September 8-10.

The cost is \$30 per person.

Visit jillshouse.org for details.

If you are interested in going, please contact Wendi Evans at missions@northeastumc.org



The NEUMC Trustees have scheduled a church work day for Saturday, October 21st . If you are available and willing to help, please contact Jeff Gillespie or the church office.

SAVE THE DATE!

CECIL CARES 2017 - SEPTEMBER 23, 2017
FIND A PROJECT...VOLUNTEER...MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Cecil Cares 2017 is a countywide day of service coordinated by Cecil County Department of Community Services and Volunteer Cecil. The day is supported by the Maryland Governor's Office on Service & Volunteerism through the Volunteer Generation Fund. Cecil Cares provides an opportunity for residents of all ages and background to share their time, energy, and skills to serve others, support their neighborhoods, and strengthen their communities through hands-on volunteer projects managed by local nonprofit agencies and organizations. We hope you can join us!

Website: volunteercecil.org

Date/Time: September 23, 2017 (all day)
Rain date—September 30, 2017

Contact Info: Krista Gilmore kgilmore@ccgov.org

Project Locations: TBD

Fees: Free

Don Fieldhouse's Famous Low Fat Coffee Cake Recipe

For the best texture, do not over mix the batter or it will make the cake tough.

CAKE

1 large egg

1/2 cup skim milk

1/2 cup plain non-fat yogurt

3 Tbsp. vegetable oil, preferably canola oil

2 cups all-purpose white flour

1/2 cup sugar

4 tsp. baking powder

1/2 tsp. salt

1 1/2 cups fresh blueberries, picked over, rinsed and gently patted dry, or frozen unsweetened berries

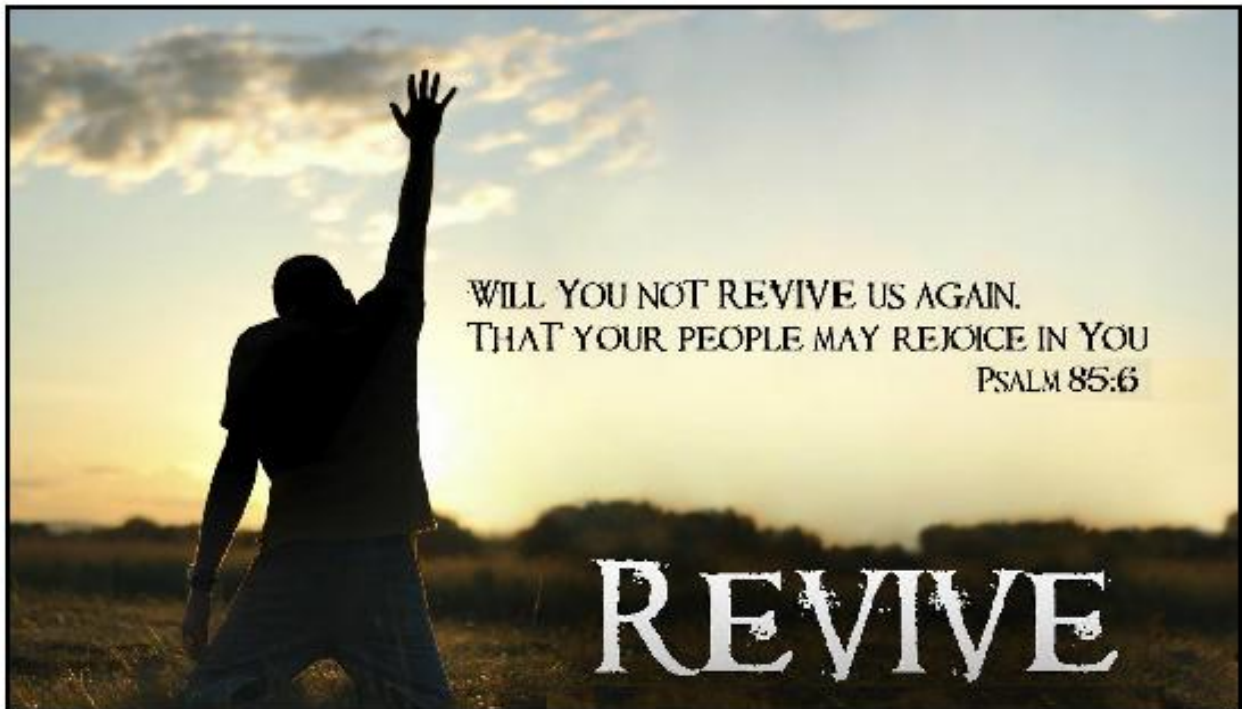
TOPPING

3 Tbsp. sugar, 2 Tbsp. finely chopped walnuts, and 1/4 tsp. cinnamon

To make cake: Position rack in the center of the oven; preheat to 400 degrees. Coat the inside of an 8-inch square baking pan with non-stick cooking spray. In a large mixing bowl, whisk together egg, milk, yogurt and oil. Set a sieve over the bowl and measure flour, sugar, baking powder and salt into it. Stir the dry ingredients together while sifting them into the liquid mixture. Stir the batter just to blend. Do not overbeat. Fold in blueberries. Turn the batter into the prepared pan.

To prepare topping: In a small bowl, stir together sugar, walnuts and cinnamon; sprinkle over the batter.

Bake for 20-25 minutes, or until the top is golden brown and a cake tester inserted in the center comes out clean. Let cool in the pan on a rack for 10 minutes. Cut into squares and serve warm. Serves 9



John Hobbs & Kenny Davis

**Janes United Methodist Church
213 N. Walnut Street, Rising Sun, MD 21911**



September 10—13, 2017—7:00 pm

September 10—6:00pm

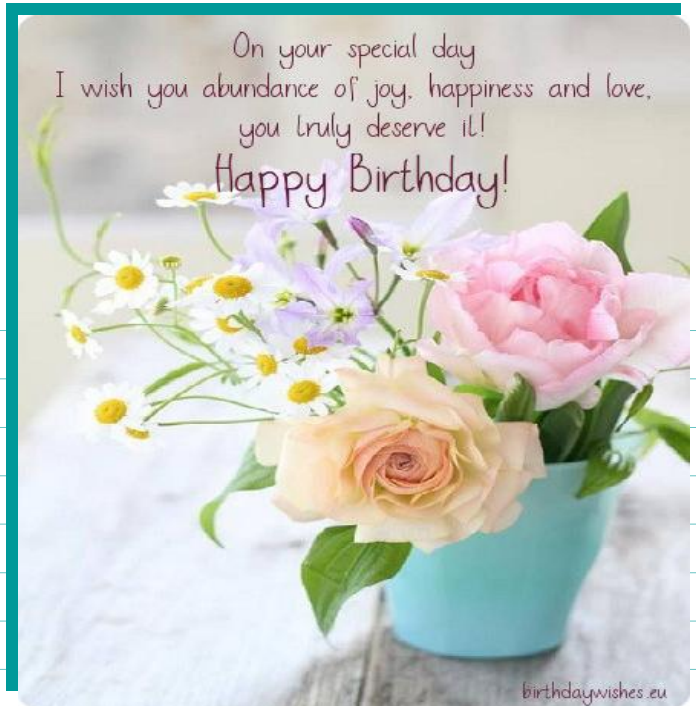
Join us for dinner

A love offering will be taken every night.

For more information please call the church at (410) 658-6800.

September Birthdays

Ray Jackson	3
Cathy Benjamin	5
Cheyenne Deecki	5
Emma Benjamin	8
Katherine Intano	9
Nancy Reynolds	11
Nancy Stark	11
Ann Whitt	12
Lisa Riale	14
Katie Sutphin	16
Robbie Laird	17
John LeClare	18
Dona Fieldhouse	19
Stephanie Stevens	19
Matthew Williams	19
Dawn Hadry	20
Chloe Benjamin	21



Glen Higgs	24
Jackie Naglieri	25
John Eicher	26
Celyn Evans	26
Lindsey Stevens	29

October Birthdays

Charlotte Hallett	1	Chuck Luck	19
Jason LeClare	2	Susan Sharpless	21
Tim Wyatt	2	John Kreiser	22
Bobby Benjamin	4	Tyler Wyatt	25
Bill Stevens	6	Nick Rodden	28
Donna Helmka	7	Dylan Schmidt	28
Samantha Shirley	7	Jess Crouch	29
Carol Nickle	8	Margaret Essig	29
Ken Chalmers	9	Katie Keeton	29
Emma Schmidt	9	Wanda McCracken	29
Sylvia McMullen	14	Ed McCracken	29
Jen Demond	15	Ashley Eicher	30
Dan Bolt	19	Bonnie Boyer	31

North East United Methodist Church Choir



Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations. ~Psalm 100 (NIV)

We are always recruiting new members for the Intergenerational Choir.

Practice is held on Wednesday evenings from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm. We sing at the 8:30 am service on the first, second and fourth Sundays of the month.

Our first choir practice will be Wednesday, September 6th at 7:00 pm.

Don't worry if you cannot read music – because we will teach you the notes to sing. We welcome all who love to sing and who will be committed to this ministry.

If you have any questions, please contact Laura Young at 443-553-1527 or lauray@comcast.net

Hope to see you there. May God Bless You.

Youth Group: 6pm - 8pm
Sunday Evenings!



Back to School Kick Off
This Sunday, September 3rd.

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
at The McCracken's for a **Pool Party!**

Please see Josh for more information.

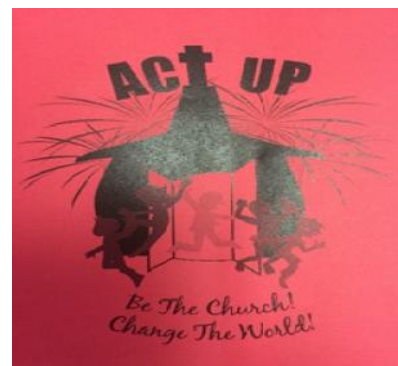
**See You At The Pole:
School Prayer Day**
Wednesday, September 27
At your school in the morning,
before school starts!



North East United Methodist Church

Church-Wide Small Group Campaign

Starting October 1, 2017



The book of Acts tells the story of the explosive growth of the early church. During the 30 years covered by this book, the church grew from what was considered an insignificant off-shoot of Judaism, into a influential presence. The story is truly a page-turner as Jesus' disciples fearlessly carry his message throughout the known world.

Over 7 Weeks, beginning the week of October 1st, we will read through the Book of Acts.

Week 1	Acts 1-2	Act with Power
Week 2	Acts 3-6	Act with Generosity
Week 3	Acts 7-11	Act with Acceptance
Week 4	Acts 12:1-15:35	Act with Creativity
Week 5	Acts 15:35-20:12	Act with Perseverance
Week 6	Acts 20:13-23:35	Act with Courage
Week 7	Acts 24-28	Act as a Witness

Small Groups Currently Available

Call The Church Office & Sign Up For A Group Today!

Tuesdays 10 AM	Men/Women	Katherine Intano & Pastor Drew Christian	At North East UMC
Tuesdays 7 PM	Men/Women	John/Teresa LeClare	383 Red Toad Road North East, MD
Wednesdays 1 PM	Men/Women <i>Limited to 10 Individuals</i>	Laura Young	62 North East Isles Dr North East, MD
Thursdays 7 PM	Men/Women	Dafydd/Wendy Evans	167 McKineytown Road North East, MD
Fridays 7 PM	Men/Women <i>Children Friendly</i>	Josh/Jen Mericle	223 Tournament Circle North East, MD
Sundays 9:30 AM	Men/Women	Kathy Styer	At North East UMC
Sundays 6 PM	Men/Women	Pastor Drew & Debbie Christian	306 South Main Street North East, MD



Get ready to hear the pitter patter of little feet and the squeals of laughter in and around the church. Yes, we are nearly ready to welcome forty preschoolers and their families to a fun filled year of playing, learning and making new friends.

School begins Monday, September 11th for the 4 year olds and Tuesday, September 12th for the 3 year olds.

We always appreciate your prayers and support in this awesome, over 20 years old ministry! Please feel free to stop in and see us.

Sincerely,

Mrs. A. (Doris Andersen) and Mrs. C. (Pat Chalmers)

To My Church Family:

As you all know I have been heading up the ERS (emergency rotating shelter) for several years. It hurts my heart to say this but this will be my last year running this mission. If someone/anyone is interested in this mission by all means let me know and I will be happy to show you the ropes. I do love this mission and I certainly LOVE ALL THE VOLUNTEERS as well as OUR GUESTS. If not for all of you, this would not ever happen. So Mark Dobbins (SMA) and I will be attending a meeting on Sept. 6th at 5:00 pm at the Mary Randall Center to hopefully retain the last week of Jan. and first week of Feb. 2018 for our guests. Also, I will need to purchase a cot this year for the over-nighters so I will be asking for extra donations. Please pray for me, the mission, and for possibly volunteering to help reach the homeless in our community. Thank you so very much and God Speed!

Blessings,

Kelly Wilson

KIDS MINISTRY

Kids Sunday School

Starting September 17, we will kick off our fall curriculum for Sunday School. This month we will explore lessons about an unforgiving servant, being first and last. Come join us Sunday mornings from 9:30am to 10:30am. We have two awesome classes, 3 years old to first grade and second grade to fifth grade.



Kids Church

Each Sunday during the 10:30 am service we offer a Kids Church for 3 years old to fifth grade. Every lesson is explored in several different ways, such as telling the story through a skit, or hands-on experiments. This month we will be learning about Hannah and prayer. How God called Samuel to be a prophet and how Samuel anoints Saul and David as future kings.

Kids Message

Beginning September 10th, we will start back up with the children's messages in the 10:30 am service. Each message will follow along with the lesson for Kids Church of that day. This is just another great way of tying in what God is doing in the lives of the kids in the church. If you would like to be apart of the volunteer rotation that give the message, please contact Josh Mericle.



Nursery

We are now offering nursery care for infants to four years old each Sunday at both services and during Sunday School. Starting next week we will be posting a paid position for Nursery Coordinator, replacing the nursery worker position. Those who are interested may contact the church office for a

Youth Ministry

Wow has the summer gone by fast this year! This fall we will continue to talk about prayer and how God can use us, despite our many faults. Coming up this weekend is our Back to School Kickoff on Sunday the 3rd from 6 to 8pm at the McCracken's home. Come out, enjoy the pool and eat some great food with friends.

Events happening this Fall:

09/27 - See You At The Pole: Day of Prayer at your school. Meet at the flag pole by 7:10 am.

10/27 - Truth or Terror: Christian Halloween Night

10/29 - Cecil County Crop Walk: Walking Event
(After Church) to help raise Funds to fight hunger across the globe.

10/29 - Fall Bonfire at Camp Pecometh in the evening.



2017 Mission Trip

This year we returned to Mozelle, Kentucky for our mission trip for the fourth year. God blessed us 4 adults and 9 students that traveled down there to make an impact for His glory. We split the team into two groups. The first group worked on a home that was up the street from Lower Beach Fork UMC, the church we were staying at. We were sent there to help out with a ceiling that had collapsed in the high school girls room. Through working on her room, which was her only safe space to call her own in the home, we found some other projects that needed to be addressed, such as black mold and a front deck railing that had fallen apart. Through the week, the first team built a relationship with the young lady and had seen that her room needed some fixing up, paint was peeling on the walls and her bed was held up by concrete cinder-blocks. God had put it on our hearts to make her room the best we could for her. We repaired her room with a cool purple color she picked out and got her a new bed frame, box spring and mattress. The second group worked on the sister church, Upper Beach Fork UMC, which was a 2 point charge for Pastor Phil. Our group helped to fix up a kid's Sunday School classroom that had previous water damage and mold issues. The crew began by cleaning off the concrete walls and removing the rest of the paneling. After that, we painted the block walls with a special paint and put up new wall paneling, then painted them and the concrete floor. Each morning and evening one person from the group led a devotional and prayer which reminded us daily why God brought this group together to help those who are in need. During the mission trip, we were blessed every day by bonding and forming new friendships. Thank you

