

MAYO CONNECTION

January 2026 EDITION

MAYO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



REVEREND AMANDA McMURTREY, PASTOR

1005 Old Turkey Point Rd.

Edgewater, MD 21037

Office Hours: Mon – Thurs. 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Phone: 410-798-6110

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Greetings Beloved,

As we step into a new year together, I find myself giving thanks for the many ways God has carried us through the past season and gently prepares us for what lies ahead. The turning of the calendar offers a natural moment to pause — to look back with gratitude, to look ahead with hope, and to remember that God is with us in every moment in between. Even in times of uncertainty or transition, God continues to weave grace into our days in ways we sometimes only recognize in hindsight.

The season of Epiphany invites us into this kind of holy noticing. It is a time when we remember the magi who followed a star, trusting that its light was leading them toward something — or Someone — life-changing. They did not have a map or a timeline, only a light bright enough to stir their hearts and call them forward. Epiphany reminds us that God still reveals God's presence in our lives, often in small glimmers, gentle nudges, quiet insights, or unexpected moments of clarity.

As a congregation, we, too, are seeking God's guiding light. We enter this new year with questions, possibilities, and a desire to continue becoming the church God calls us to be. My prayer is that we will allow this season to shape us into a people who look for Christ's light not only in our sanctuaries, but also in our homes, workplaces, conversations, and community. May we learn to follow God with the same curiosity, courage, and openness that the magi embodied.

In the coming weeks, I encourage you to pay attention to the "stars" God places before us — opportunities to serve, invitations to grow, stirrings toward compassion, or renewed energy for ministry. These are not accidental; they are signs that God is already at work, guiding us forward step by faithful step.

May this Epiphany season fill you with wonder, wisdom, and the assurance that Christ's light shines for you — and through you — here in Edgewater and beyond.

Peace be with you,
Pastor Amanda

Ladies Luncheon Wed, Jan 7th @ Noon



All American Steakhouse

139 Mitchells Chance Rd
Edgewater MD

Contact Cheryl by noon
Tuesday, Jan 6th
to let her know you're coming
Call or text 301.752.1386



CHURCH NIGHT OUT

Join us at
Cooper's Hawk

1906 Towne Ctr Blvd
Annapolis
Wed. Jan. 28th @ 6pm

Contact Cheryl by noon
Tues. Jan. 27th
To let her know you're joining us.
301.75231386

Adult Bible Studies



Light
Life
Salvation

Winter 2025-26 DVD

BIBLE STUDY CONTINUES!

Tuesday, January 6th @ 6 pm

In-person or via Zoom

Light
Life

Salvation



Children and Youth
Sunday School meet
During the
9:15 am
Or 10:15 am
Church Service

Epiphany Stewardship



Dear Disciples of Christ,

Epiphany is the season when we remember the magi offering their gifts — gold, frankincense, and myrrh — treasures given not out of obligation, but out of joy, reverence, and recognition of who Jesus truly is. Their generosity was sparked by revelation: “We have seen His star...and we have come to worship Him.”

This story invites us to consider an important truth about stewardship: Before the magi offered their gifts,

they first offered their attention. They noticed the star. They paused long enough to wonder. They allowed curiosity to turn into action. And then they gave.

Stewardship in our lives follows that same rhythm. When we take time to notice what God is revealing, giving becomes a response to grace rather than a task to complete. Epiphany invites us to look at our time, our resources, our skills, and our compassion not as burdens to manage, but as treasures we get to lay before Christ. This month, we invite you to reflect prayerfully on these questions: *Where is God shining a new light in my life? What gift — small or large — is mine to bring in this season? How might my giving become an act of worship rather than an obligation?*

The magi’s gifts were symbolic, but their journey was the true offering. In the same way, whatever we give in this season — our presence, our prayers, our abilities, our financial support — becomes part of our own journey of faith, guiding us closer to Christ.

Blessings,
Mayo UMC Finance Team

Epiphany Stewardship Challenge

Choose one area of your life--your, time, your finances, your service, or your relationships-- and intentionally “follow the star” by offering it to Christ in a new or renewed way this month.

The Church office will reopen Monday, January 5th

New Things In The New Year:

In Nehemiah 3 the people are faced with a daunting task...the temple needs to be rebuilt, starting with the walls. The passage names 75 individuals and numerous groups that all do what they can to contribute to the project. There is a lot to be done at *Mayo UMC* in 2026 and we are going to try the same approach, using many hands to get the work done!

“Paying the Bills” – Starting in January there will be a display of smaller monthly bills that have to be paid to keep the church running. Please take note of these to hold in your prayer and increase your understanding of the church budget. Each will have an envelope attached. If there is a month that you have a bit extra, you can take one of those bills and fill the envelope with a check (or cash) and put it in the offering.

“Fix-Its” Group – Do you have skills? Are you a handy person around the house? Sign-up for this group. The church has occasional tasks, like repairing doors, or painting a wall that need a skilled hand. You will get a text or email when one of these tasks is needed and if you can help great! If not then please hold the task in prayer.

“Helping Hands” Group – Are you like Pastor Amanda, no real skills, but willing hands that will help? Guess what? We need you too!! Sign-up for this group and when tasks like cleaning the kitchen, organizing rooms, or gardening needs to happen you will receive a text or email. If you can help that’s great! If not, then please hold the task in prayer.

“Dial-ups” Group – Can you make phone calls? Our trustees lose a lot of time making phone calls to get estimates or schedule services. Sign-up for this group and you will receive a text or email. If you have time that week to make some phone calls that’s great! If not, then please hold the task in prayer.

“Sanctuaries” Group – Can you help us keep our sanctuary worship ready? From walking through to pick up left behind newsletters to putting out boxes of tissues. From setting up communion to changing the candles and paraments. There is a lot that happens in the sanctuary before and after worship each week. Sign-up for this group and Pastor Amanda will contact you to see what you would like to do and when.

Remember our shut-ins:

Note New Address

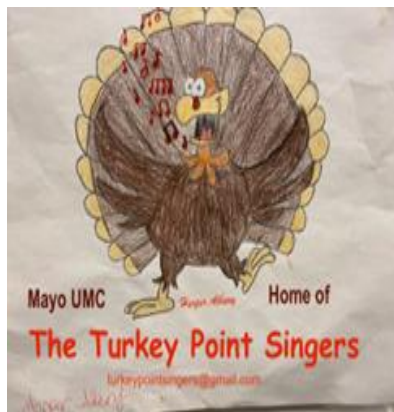
Doris Haschert
3344 West Washington St.
Springfield, IL 62711

Doris Hennen
8 Lee Airpark Dr. #327
Edgewater, MD 21037

Katherine Neate
Brightview-Annapolis
1935 Generals Highway #2
Annapolis, MD 21401

Please let our shut-ins know we are thinking of them.

If you have someone you would like to be included here please email the office (mayoumcmd@gmail.com) or call the church (410.798.6110).



The Turkey Point Singers

All young people are encouraged to join the rehearsals following Sunday services.

The Bulletin

The Bulletin is a monthly resource designed especially for local churches to share important and meaningful information about faith and vitality as it is being lived out in the Baltimore-Washington and Peninsula-Delaware Conferences.

Here's the link:

<https://www.pdcbbc.org/the-bulletin.html>

Deadline REMINDER

Submissions are due by Jan. 21st to be included in the February 2026 issue of: Mayo Connection.

Email to mayoumcmd@gmail.com or call the church office at 410.798.6110



First Sunday Worship At Brightview-South River January 4th @ 2:00 PM

Join Pastor Amanda and Doug for a time of worship, hymns, and fellowship with the residents of Brightview Senior Living.

8 Lee Airpark Drive
Edgewater MD 21037



*Drop-in Wednesday, January 7th from 10am -2 pm, or
Join Pastor Sunday, Jan 7 after the 10:15 am service, or
via Zoom at 7:00 pm Thur., January 22nd.*

If you are not on the church's email list contact the office by email or phone to be added.

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Jan-26

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|--|---|---|--|--|----------------------------|-----------|
| | | | | Happy New Year 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 9:15-One Worship Fellowship Hour No Sunday School Brightview -South River @ 2 PM | 5 | 6 Bible Study 6:00 PM In Person or via Zoom | Grow with Mayo (10-2) 7 Ladies Luncheon 12 Noon All American Steakhouse 139 Mitchells Chance Rd Edgewater MD | 8 | Church Office Closed | 10 |
| 11 Ad Council 8:15 Worship 10:15 in sanctuary with Sunday School during Service | 12 | 13 Bible Study 6:00 PM In Person or via Zoom | 14 | 15 | Church Office Closed | 17 |
| 18 8:15 Worship 10:15 in sanctuary with Sunday School during Service Fellowship Hour following Growing with Mayo | MLK Day 19 Church Office Closed | 20 Bible Study 6:00 PM In Person or via Zoom | - | 22 Growing with Mayo via Zoom-7pm | Church Office Closed | 24 |
| 25 8:15 Worship 10:15 in sanctuary with Sunday School during Service Fellowship Hour following | 26 | 27 Bible Study 6:00 PM In Person or via Zoom | 28 Church Night Out 6:00 PM Coopers Hawk 1906 Towne Ctr Blvd Annapolis | 29 | Church Office Closed | 31 |

Save the Date

Soup/Chili Cook-off-Feb 1 after the 9:15 service

Ash Wednesday, February 18, 2026