

MAYO CONNECTION

September 2025 EDITION

MAYO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



REVEREND AMANDA McMURTREY, PASTOR

1005 Old Turkey Point Rd.

Edgewater, MD 21037

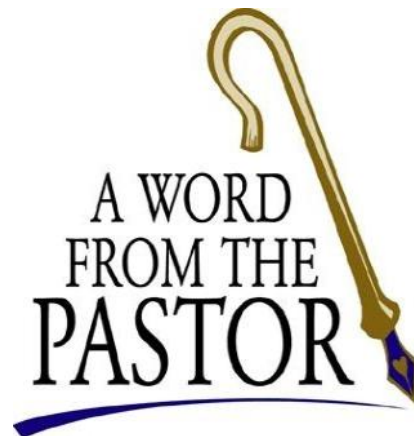
Office Hours: Mon – Thurs. 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

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Dear siblings in Christ,

I was born in October of 1979 into a family that valued honest and hard work. Labor Day was a confusing holiday to me as a child because it was called “labor day,” but you weren’t supposed to work. It was supposed to be a great holiday, but it signaled the end of summer days off and return to school. It was also a confusing holiday because I was born into an era of regulations around working conditions, hours worked, fair wages, restrictions around child labor and more. If I had been born 100 years earlier, my family may still have valued honest and hard work, but the experience would have been quite different.



In the late 1800s, as more workers left agrarian work and entered into industrial jobs, it was common for people to work 12 hour days, 6 or 7 days a week just to earn a basic living. Children as young as 5 or 6 worked full time jobs. It was common for workers to be injured or killed due to unsafe practices without compensation to their families. If you were a person of color or a woman, then the practices were likely far worse.

A common phrase heard in my family, across generations, was to “do an honest days work for an honest days pay.” When I was 10, I wanted a stereo for my birthday that cost \$200. My parents said they would pay for half, but I had to earn the other half. A list of jobs, with a pay scale, was posted on our refrigerator. Helping to do laundry was worth \$.10. Raking leaves (entire back yard) was worth \$1. It took me months, but I saved the \$100 and got my stereo. Hard work pays was the consistent message in my home.

I’m grateful for the family I was born into and for the protections that existed in my lifetime that didn’t exist for my grandparents. My grandmother dropped out of 8th grade to work a 14 hour daily shift in a straw making factory in Baltimore after her father abandoned them. As an adult, the idea of labor day is much clearer. I am inspired by the nearly 10,000 workers who took leave without pay in 1882 to hold a labor parade to celebrate and honor the contribution of “lowly” workers. I also try to remember that Christ did not call us to labor for a paycheck, but for the building of the kingdom of God.

“When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, ‘The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.’” (Matthew 9:36-38, NIV)

I find it powerful that our Savior has compassion for the harassed and the helpless, which is all of us. I find it comforting that the lack we sometimes experience is not due to a shortage of God’s blessings, but the need for more workers. I also chuckle over verse 38 when Jesus encourages those listening to pray for the Lord to send out workers into the harvest field because in a true case of “be careful what you ask for,” the very next verse has Jesus sending out the 12 to drive out evil spirits and to heal disease and sickness. You can ask for workers, but be prepared to be that worker!

Since Grover Cleveland signed the law in 1894 the first Monday of September has been a federal holiday known as Labor Day. Many of us honor that with barbecues, travel, parades, and other celebrations. This Labor Day, as you rightfully celebrate, please take a moment to thank God for the work you have been given, to lift in prayer the harassed and helpless, and to offer yourself as a laborer for the harvest of God.

Peace, love, and grace,
Pastor Amanda



**Ladies
Luncheon**
Wed.
Sept. 10
@ Noon

**3111 Solomons Island Rd
Edgewater**

*Contact Cheryl by noon
Tuesday, Sept. 9th
to let her know you're coming
Call or text 301.752.1386*

Church Night Out

Wed., Sept 24
@ 6:00 pm

105 Mayo Road
Edgewater, MD

*Contact Cheryl by noon
Tuesday, Sept. 23th
to let her know you're coming
Call or text 301.752.1386*



Bishop's Day On The District Join Bishop LaTrelle Easterling

BISHOP'S DAY ON THE DISTRICT

September 10 | 6 PM

St. Matthews UMC

14900 Annapolis Road | Bowie, MD 20715

This will be a time to meet with the clergy and laity of the district for sharing and interaction. This is an in-person meeting and will not be livestreamed or recorded.

Questions? Contact District Administrator, Sherrill Cole at 410.309.3439 or scole@bwcumc.org.



BIBLE STUDY RETURNS!
Tuesday, September 9th at 6 pm
In-person or via Zoom

Struggle Perseverance Hope



Dear disciples of Christ,

A steward is one who has been entrusted to care for, look out for, and manage another's property. In our discipleship journey that "property" are the gifts we receive from God in all their wonder. Our first instruction as stewards was when God created the world and humanity was given stewardship over all living things. Being a "good steward" can mean so many things in our lives. How we use our time, our abilities, our resources, and more is all a part of stewardship.

This month consider the stewardship of time. It is the most finite gift we are given from God because once it has been used or spent it cannot be recovered. It is gone. Therefore, we should be giving careful attention to how we spend our time as disciples. We encourage you to spend time in prayer, alone and with your family, asking God how God would have you use your time this month.

September has 30 days, which means there are 720 hours or 43,200 minutes that God will give you in the entire month. What will be your budget for time? What will you chose? What will you resist? What will you let go? Who or what will be your priority? May God's grace and wisdom guide you in your stewardship this month.

Blessings,
Mayo UMC Finance Team



Greetings Beloved,

We are coming towards the end of our three year "Raise the Roof" campaign and we have managed to raise around \$50,000 thus far. I want to remind you that we have invested in the belief that everyone can support our congregation through more than money using

their prayers, presence, gifts, and witness. Throughout this fall how can you contribute to the care and maintenance of buildings and grounds?

Perhaps you have a donation you want to make of supplies that are needed? Would you want to pay part of our landscaping bill one month? Do you have skills like weeding, painting, cleaning or small repairs that you could contribute? Do you know someone who isn't part of our congregation, but would be willing to donate a service or sponsor a project? These are all ways that you can contribute to our campaign and we would be grateful for each and everyone. But what is needed the most...is your prayers.

Prayer allows us to bring God more deeply into our work. Pray for guidance as our Administrative Council makes decisions around the priorities of spending funds. Pray for protection for our buildings and grounds that we would not incur any new damage. Pray for generosity that those who have something to contribute would do so. Pray for joy to be found in the work of finances and building maintenance. Beloved, this month would you pledge a daily prayer for this campaign?

Blessings,
Pastor Amanda

What Does it Mean to “Join” the Church as a Member?

These days we are “members” of a lot of different types of businesses and organizations. You might have a gym membership or a Sam’s Club membership. Maybe you’re a member of a professional organization? You might be a member of a community or a local sports team or a Facebook group. For each of these the idea of membership can mean different things. So what does it mean to be a member of Mayo UMC?

Members of a United Methodist Church promise to support that local congregation with their prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. I would phrase it this way: Mayo UMC is my faith community and I will support it with what I have and who I am.

Here are some things that membership doesn’t include...specific requirements around how you choose to support the church. There is no giving or attendance minimum. You don’t get reward points for greater participation. Membership is also not permanent or exclusive. Our life journeys may take us to many places and our church membership needs to move with us. Moving church membership is very easy. It just involves sending a letter from our church office. Changing membership doesn’t mean you won’t worship somewhere else or participate in a Bible study or youth group at other churches. Membership is not meant to limit relationships within the body of Christ.

So why does it matter? Why can’t everyone be a faithful participant without being a member? In truth, they absolutely can. There are a few leadership roles that require church membership and some voting actions, but that is rarely an issue at Mayo UMC. Membership is a claiming that is an extension of our baptism. If you have witnessed a baptism at Mayo UMC then you know part of that sacrament is the combined vows of the family/person and the congregation. They commit to each other in welcoming a new sibling in baptism into the body of Christ. Membership is also a claiming and commitment. The member and the congregation promise to be in deepening relationship with each other and to support each other in the ways that are needed.

Would you like to know more? Do you have questions? Would you like to learn more about the history of Mayo UMC? Please consider joining me for a new workshop I will begin offering in October called Growing with Mayo UMC. It will be a monthly zoom conversation where everyone, whether you are relatively new or have been worshipping at Mayo UMC for 50 years, is invited to ask questions, share ideas, and learn. Maybe membership will call to you and maybe it won’t, but it is my hope that we can deepen the connections within our congregation and community.

If you are interested let Pastor Amanda know and she will include you in deciding when the workshops will meet.



Remember our shut-ins:

Doris Haschert
2451 White Oaks Drive #103
Springfield, IL 62704

Doris Hennen
4091 Shoreham Beach Road
Edgewater, MD 21037

Katherine Neate
Brightview-Annapolis
1935 Generals Highway #217
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

Do you have an unused musical instrument sitting in a closet?

Would you like it to have a new life? If so, you can donate it to Mayo UMC. Our Turkey Point Singers would be delighted to breathe life into that instrument. The children are enjoying the instruments that we have on hand, and would be excited to make more joyful sounds.

Toot, pluck, bow, or boom!

The Turkey Point Singers can be heard on your favorite music streaming program. You can also see artwork by some of the children and listen at the same time by visiting <https://www.youtube.com/Opamusic2024>



First Sunday Worship at Brightview-South River September 7th @ 2:00 PM

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

Brightview-South River
8 Lee Airpark Drive
Edgewater MD 21037

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 Sept 18 to be included in the October issue of: Mayo Connection.

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

New District Name and New District Superintendent!

Beloved, in the United Methodist denomination we are gathered geographically into annual conferences that are further divided into gatherings of districts. Each district is appointed a district superintendent (DS) that oversees the work of the churches, the competency of the clergy, and the ministries of the district.

As of July 1, 2025 our Baltimore Washington Annual Conference has moved from having 8 districts to having 6. With this move we have chosen new names for the districts and our district name is now the “Two Rivers” district, named for the south and west rivers. It reaches from Annapolis to the southern borders of MD.

The shift has also brought a new DS into our lives, Rev. Dr. Johnsie Cogman, who likes to be called “Dr. C.” Dr. C will be preaching in our worship service on Sunday, September 14 while I am on vacation. I hope you will take the time to read her biography included in the newsletter and that you will welcome her with the full hospitality of Mayo UMC.

MEET OUR NEW DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT



Johnsie W. Cogman is a District Superintendent in the Baltimore-Washington Conference of the United Methodist Church (UMC), serving the Two Rivers District. Prior to being appointed as District Superintendent, Dr. Cogman was the first African American female pastor of the historic Mt Zion United Methodist Church (Georgetown) Washington DC, the oldest African American church in Washington DC.

She earned a Bachelor of Arts in Education degree from the University of NC, Chapel Hill, a Master of Science in Education degree from the University of Southern California, Master of Divinity degree from Howard University and a Doctor of Ministry degree from Wesley Theological Seminary.

Rev. Cogman has served as the District Superintendency Chair for the Greater Washington District for three consecutive terms. She was a member of the Baltimore-Washington Conference Board of Ordained Ministry and a mentor pastor for candidates in the Residence in Ministry Program. Rev. Cogman has taught for the School of Congregational Development of the UMC, various district leadership days, and conference trainings. Rev. Cogman actively engages in lay and clergy leadership development. She has preached in numerous churches nationally and internationally. She is a credentialed life and leadership coach, certified by the International Coaching Federation (ICF) specializing in innovative church leadership and creative relationship building.

Some additional facts about Rev. Cogman: she is a Stage III Breast Cancer survivor, a former educator in Prince George's County, MD; a former Air Force Officer, former top Independent Sales Director in Mary Kay Cosmetics, Inc.; and former Account Manager for Bolling AFB Chapel Center, managing the Chapel Tithes and Offering Funds for five different faith groups. As an orator, Rev Cogman ascended to the rank of a Distinguished Toastmaster (DTM) in Toastmasters International.

Adopted at birth, Rev. Cogman's life has included many challenges and successes. She has endured divorce, single parenting, remarriage, death of 2 children, and cancer. Throughout the journey, she has remained full of life, spirit and energy.

Rev. Cogman is married to a very supportive husband, Certified Lay Servant, Billy R. Cogman. The Cogmans are the proud parents of twin sons, Jacob and James', graduates from Emory and Yale, respectively. Both sons are elders serving in the Baltimore Washington Conference; Jacob is a Full-Elder serving as the Wesley Foundation Chaplain at Howard University in Washington DC and James is the pastor of Metropolitan UMC and In His Service UMC in Charles, County MD.

If you don't remember anything else about “Dr. C”, know that she is a child of God, saved by grace, redeemed by the blood, delivered from suffering, forgiven through mercy, walking in wisdom, living by faith while proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ through the actions in her life.

Sep-25						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	Labor Day 1 Church Office Closed	2	3	4	5 Church Office Closed	6
7 9:15-One Worship Fellowship Hour Sunday School during Service Brightview -South River @ 2 PM	8	9 Bible Study 6:00 PM In Person or via Zoom	10 Bishop's Day Ladies Luncheon 12 Noon The Crab Shack 3111 Solomons Is Rd Edgewater MD	11	12 Church Office Closed	13
14 8:15 Worship 10:15 in sanctuary with Sunday School during Service Fellowship Hour following	15	16 Bible Study 6:00 PM In Person or via Zoom	17	18	19 Church Office Closed	20
21 Ad Council 8:15 Worship 10:15 in sanctuary with Sunday School during Service Fellowship Hour following	22	23 Bible Study 6:00 PM In Person or via Zoom	24 Church Night Out 6:00 PM Senor Chile 105 Mayo Road Edgewater MD	25	26 Church Office Closed	27
28 8:15 Worship 10:15 in sanctuary with Sunday School during Service Fellowship Hour following	29	30 Bible Study 6:00 PM In Person or via Zoom				
Save the Date:						
Wednesday, September 10 - Bishop's Day on the District @ 6 pm-St. Matthews UMC 14900 Annapolis Road, Bowie						
Saturday, November 8th - Ham & Oyster Dinner						
Saturday, November 15th @ 11:00 am - Charge Conference						