

# **MAYO CONNECTION**

**September 2026 EDITION**

## **MAYO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**



**PASTOR ROD SMOTHERS**

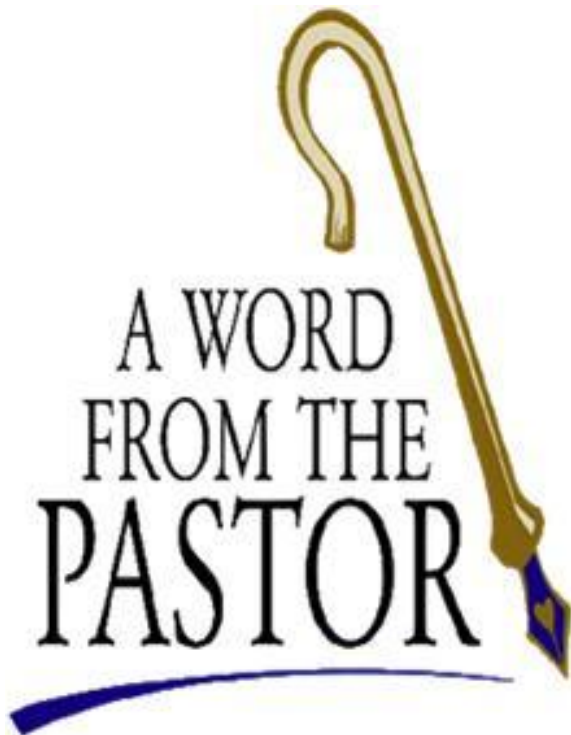
1005 Old Turkey Point Rd.

Edgewater, MD 21037

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

**Phone: 410-798-6110**

**[mayoumcmd@gmail.com](mailto:mayoumcmd@gmail.com) | [www.mayoumc.com](http://www.mayoumc.com)**



These first sixty days as your pastor have been exciting. I've seen the leadership team's extraordinary willingness to tackle the unexpected and work diligently to find solutions. The work on the parsonage has been completed successfully. The termite treatment in the administrative offices is moving along on schedule. The termite treatment has delayed the mold remediation treatment for several weeks, so I am working remotely and with limited office hours until that work is completed.

I have asked God what the parsonage repair, office treatments, and other building repairs mean. Clearly, the meaning is, "get out of these buildings and engage your community for ministry and mission." As I have toured our community and begun to discern places where we can serve as partners, I have gained several insights.

We have strategically located facilities we can use not just on Sundays but on weekdays for community events, in addition to our current partnerships. Our servant leaders (volunteers) are welcoming, accommodating, and work well with visitors. We have plenty of parking, and our buildings are easily accessible for people with limited mobility.

In the weeks ahead, you will experience some minor changes in worship that will improve the flow of worship, enhance our invitational outreach, and prepare us for online streaming and video teaching. Growing and vital churches are digital, downloadable, and available on demand.

Many of these enhancements will require increased financial support for this ministry through increased tithes, offerings, and proportional giving. Just as your household expenses have increased, Mayo United's operational expenses are increasing. We can't grow with a mindset of scarcity; we must renew our faith, grow our commitment, and grow our shared sacrifice to reach the next level of viability.

Let's Grow Christ's Ministry,

Pastor Rod



## Sunday School

Returns September 13th during the  
10:15 am service.

The fall curriculum:  
**BIG FAITH**

## **“Immediate Openings, Apply Within”**

Let’s talk about where and when you are available to serve in the life of Mayo United. Now that summer is behind us, we want to expand opportunities for people to serve on Sunday and between Sundays. On Sunday, I am seeking volunteers (servant leaders) to participate as participants in the worship service. Serving as a liturgist, choir members, ushers, children’s message leaders, financial counters, tech assistance, and church school workers working with adults and children.

We are also seeking people willing to work on the Mayo Webpages and eventually create a vital audio/visual ministry so we can broadcast and record our worship services. None of these tasks involve a single person, but a team of persons who can rotate and share these responsibilities over the Sundays.

Our Trustees need additional help managing our properties and increasing building usage. All of these are good problems to have. These are immediate openings; please apply.

The future of our ministry depends on inviting and encouraging new people to visit, participate, and unite with us in the growth of Mayo United. You are our best evangelist, inviter, motivator, communicator, and link to future growth. One way growth will happen is by extending our ministry beyond the four walls of 1005 Old Turkey Point Road. Our Facebook page has recently been revived, and now we need to create a church website that shares the good news of all that is happening in our church.

We know that digital and social media are the “new front doors” of the church. People searching for a church to attend and participate often start on social media. Another effective growth strategy is inviting others personally. Several churches are in the Edgewater Community. Let’s do all we can to get the word out and ensure that once people attend Mayo, they have a welcoming, impactful experience that invites them to return.

Expectantly,

Pastor Rod



### **Ladies' Luncheon (with Pastor Rod)**

**Plan on joining us at noon  
Wednesday, September 2nd**

**at UR Burger**

**120 Mitchells Chance Road  
Edgewater, MD**

Please contact the church office  
410.798.6110 or [mayoumcmd@gmail.com](mailto:mayoumcmd@gmail.com)  
to reserve your seat

## **Church/Parsonage Keys**

If you have a key to either the church or the parsonage, please call the church office or send an email. We would like to make sure that our records are up to date!

Thanks,  
Elizabeth

Church phone: 410-798-6110 or Email address [mayoumcmd@gmail.com](mailto:mayoumcmd@gmail.com)



### **Update from our Trustee Representative**

Greetings friends!

We have had a busy and productive summer with plenty of ups and downs with the church property and parsonage. The parsonage is now ready to be leased! While there were more projects than we expected; we completed everything necessary for the property to be ready for as a rental or for a new pastor. It is a lovely parsonage and a definitely an asset to our church.

Our volunteers did and oversaw all this work:

- Painted the main living area, kitchen, foyer and main bedroom
- Painted trim throughout the house and the front door
- Refinished foyer handrails
- Stretched and cleaned carpets
- Power washed house exterior
- Fixed doorbell
- Water softener restored to working condition
- Hedges, shrubs and beds pruned and cleared out
- Completed Lead paint testing and certification
- Well Water tested
- New exterior shutters
- New mini blinds throughout
- Install fire alarms in bedrooms
- New stoppers for screen door
- New dryer hose

Meanwhile at the church, thanks to Pastor Rod, we discovered termite activity and damage in the pastors office and some other locations along that wall. We have completed treatment for the termite infestation, but will need to take care of some mold remediation and repair the damaged areas.

It is not all bad news, we have a special church building and are blessed to be able to share it with many groups from the community. With love, commitment and the wonderful congregation, Mayo United Methodist Church will be a gift to us and to the community for generations to come.

Prayerfully, Elizabeth Davis  
Trustee Representative

## Remember our shut-ins:

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](mailto: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.



We are firing up our infant diaper/wipes etc. drive. Every donation helps a baby and mother who are in need of assistance.  
**The Gabriel Network**



## First Sunday Worship At Brightview-South River

September 6th  
@ 2:00 PM

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

**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>

## PRAYER REQUEST

Mark and Martha Meredith are requesting the prayers of our friends at Mayo UMC.

Mark has a diagnosis of cancer first found in the peritoneal cavity with a likely origin in the pancreas.

God is good and we are trusting in his mercy.

Thank you for your prayers.

## \*Deadline REMINDER\*

Submissions are due by Sept 17th to be included in the Oct 2026 issue of:  
Mayo Connection.

Email to [mayoumcmd@gmail.com](mailto:mayoumcmd@gmail.com) or call the church office at 410.798.6110



Each month, a recurring article will highlight a featured resource that points us toward our primary focus: Making Disciples for the Transformation of the World. As a church, we do many things to form, operate, and present the gospel of Jesus Christ. Monday through Friday, we reach out to visitors and members and invite them to become more involved in ministry. On Sunday, we focus on spiritual education, stewardship of time, talents, gifts, service, and witness, and worship.

Sunday mornings are more than just a gathering of friends and family; it's a community of prospective disciples, growing disciples, and maturing disciples, learning and growing together to expand the witness of Jesus Christ. Worship that includes biblical teaching, prayer, song, and acts of giving is a spiritual discipline that deepens our knowledge and strengthens our faith.

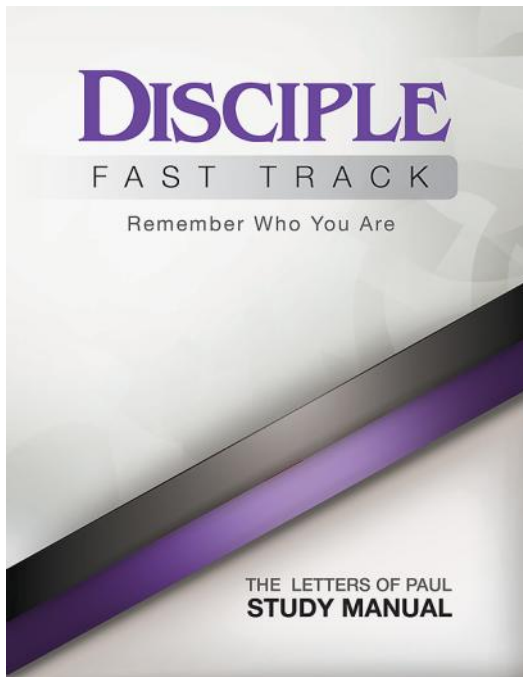
During the week, we offer spiritual growth opportunities like Disciple Fast Track: Remember Who You Are to deepen our spiritual growth experience. This Bible study is a small-group experience that enhances our listening and learning so we can put into action the words and worship of our Sunday morning gathering, go into the community, and invite others to become disciples of Jesus Christ.

The first of these mid-week growth opportunities will be held on Tuesday evenings from September 8th through November 24th from 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm on ZOOM. We are using the ZOOM format to provide for wide participation in this Bible Study in homes across our community and the nation. Please see the enclosed class schedule included in this newsletter.

We are also offering a robust in-person learning experience on Sunday mornings for our children and youth, so they can learn and grow in their understanding of what it means to be a Christian Disciple. Please see the enclosed article.

My goal is simple: to develop mature spiritual disciples who are equipped to go into our community and invite others to become part of the Mayo United Experience. A place where we encounter God, grow in our faith, and go forth to serve in mission and witness.

Let's Grow Together,  
Pastor Rod



## Pastor Rod's Fall 2026 Midweek Bible Study Via Zoom

Beginning Tues, September 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm join us for this Disciple Fast Track Study, Remember Who You Are-The Letters of Paul.

This is a twelve week study that immerses readers in the **Letters of Paul**. *(Each session will include a video taped teaching session by a known scholar on the week's topic and there will be a 20 minute small group interactive discussion with others who are participating in the study with you.)*

The study is ideal for busy people who want to fit an in-depth Bible Study into their schedule.

I invite you to invite family and friends who live out of state or in our communities to join us for this exciting Bible Study. **The Orientation** Session will be held on Sept. 1 from 7:00-8:30 pm.

Week 1: Sept 8-Called Through God's Grace

Week 2: Sept 15-The Letters of Paul

Week 3: Sept 22-The Lord is Coming

Week 4: Sept 29-Seeing the Good

Week 5: Oct 6-The Body of Christ

Week 6: Oct 13-Crisis in Confidence

Week 7: Oct 20-Salvation for All

Week 8: Oct 27-New Life in Christ

Week 9: Nov 3-Fruit of the Holy Spirit

Week 10: Nov 10-Christ Above All

Week 11: Nov 17-Leadership in the Church

Week 12: Nov 24-Remember Who You Are

### **What you'll need:**

\*A NRSV, Common English Bible or NIV Study Bible

\*Disciple Fast Track: Remember Who You Are-The Letters of Paul Study Manual

\*Cokesbury-Paperback and eBook:

<https://www.cokesbury.com/Disciple-Fast-Track-Remember-Who-You-Are-The-Letters-of-Paul-Study-Manual>

\*Amazon-Kindle Version:

<https://amzn.to/SEZUchR>

A New  
Way  
to Give  
To

Mayo United Methodist Church



zelle®

# Sep-26

| SUN                                                                                       | MON       | TUE                                                          | WED                                                                                                       | THU       | FRI                                     | SAT       |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------------------------------------|-----------|
|                                                                                           |           | <b>1</b><br>Bible Study<br>Orientation<br>via Zoom 7-8:30 pm | <b>2</b><br>Ladies Luncheon<br>UR Burger<br>130 Mitchells Chance Rd<br>Edgewater<br>RSVP to Church Office | <b>3</b>  | <b>4</b><br>Church<br>Office<br>Closed  | <b>5</b>  |
| <b>6</b><br>9:15 in Sanctuary<br>with Holy Communion<br>Brightview -South River<br>@ 2 PM | <b>7</b>  | <b>8</b><br>Bible Study<br>Week 1<br>via Zoom 7-8:30 pm      | <b>9</b>                                                                                                  | <b>10</b> | <b>11</b><br>Church<br>Office<br>Closed | <b>12</b> |
| <b>13</b><br>8:15 Worship<br>10:15 Worship<br>with Sunday School<br>Ad Council            | <b>14</b> | <b>15</b><br>Bible Study<br>Week 2<br>via Zoom 7-8:30 pm     | <b>16</b>                                                                                                 | <b>17</b> | <b>18</b><br>Church<br>Office<br>Closed | <b>19</b> |
| <b>20</b><br>8:15 Worship<br>10:15 Worship<br>with Sunday School                          | <b>21</b> | <b>22</b><br>Bible Study<br>Week 3<br>via Zoom 7-8:30 pm     | <b>23</b>                                                                                                 | <b>24</b> | <b>25</b><br>Church<br>Office<br>Closed | <b>26</b> |
| <b>27</b><br>8:15 Worship<br>10:15 Worship<br>with Sunday School                          | <b>28</b> | <b>29</b><br>Bible Study<br>Week 4<br>via Zoom 7-8:30 pm     | <b>30</b>                                                                                                 |           |                                         |           |

Save the Date

Ham & Oyster Dinner with Silent Auction-November 14