

MAYO CONNECTION

October 2026 EDITION

MAYO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Pastor Rod's Choir Recruitment

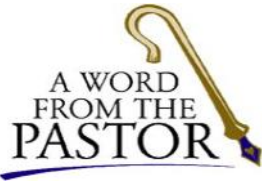


PASTOR ROD SMOTHERS
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Edgewater, MD 21037

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

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October Is a Month of Transformation

October brings so many changes in our lives. The weather is changing, schools are back in session, crops are being harvested, and believe it or not, some retailers are already placing Christmas decorations in their stores. Recently, I preached on changing seasons, and that sermon focused on the different challenges life brings and how God is preparing us to navigate these new and unfamiliar seasons.

Fall also marks the start of Church Charge Conferences and a new planning cycle for the 2027–2028 season of programs, ministries, and missions. This year, Mayo Church will host our District Church Conference on October 10th . Our sister churches will gather in three groups at 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., and 1:00 p.m. These annual reporting sessions offer Mayo and our sister churches an opportunity to share progress, discuss challenges, and present our vision for the future. You are invited to serve as a volunteer (servant leader) at any of the sessions, helping with hospitality and welcoming guests. All Mayo members are especially encouraged to attend the 1:00 p.m. session and support our Mayo Leadership Team.

From a pastoral perspective, I have been helping to build the spiritual maturity of our congregation by inviting us to grow into new phases and possibilities for Mayo Church. Through ministry and community involvement, sacred service, and increased participation in worship.

In October, I will focus on communion, generosity, and stewardship. These spiritual disciplines are essential to our continued growth and vitality as a congregation. Bottom line: the cost of doing ministry is increasing, like everything else in our lives. I invite you to think of ways you can increase your financial support for Mayo Church.

Your gifts through tithes and offerings, memorial gifts, extra-mile giving, and incremental increases in giving are needed now. Contrary to popular belief, Mayo does not have a pot of money to draw from that lessens the financial burden of paying our ministry expenses. I believe generosity is our way of saying, God, I am returning to you through this ministry some of the resources you have entrusted to my care. Your financial support, whether small or large, makes a strategic difference in the financial health of Mayo Church.

A Word From The Pastor (con't)

Three of my favorite scriptures about giving are Proverbs 11:24-25: "A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed." Luke 6:38: "Give, and it will be given to you . . ." and 2 Corinthians 9:6-8: "Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously." All these texts remind us that God loves a cheerful giver.

I will close this newsletter with these words of thanksgiving. Thanks for the generous and incredible ways you support Mayo Church. If we sow generously, give cheerfully, and trust God abundantly, this church's future will remain hope-filled and blessed.

With great expectations,
Pastor Rod

Trustees Corner

The scripture that inspires me as a trustee is Philippians 1:3: I thank my God in all my remembrance of you. And that is the joy and blessing of being a part of Mayo United Methodist Church. We have more than our fair share of challenges over the past few years and I am grateful for your commitment and service to our church.

This past month we passed fire marshal inspections and made sure the kitchen is up to code. Up coming we will need to complete the termite/mold remediation in the pastors office and the other rooms with some damage. Some areas of the walls will also need to be rebuild after we make sure the mold and termites are cleared.

Fall work day Oct. 17, 8-12 am. See you there!

Elizabeth Davis,
Trustee Chair



It takes many hands to make our Sunday Worship special. You can be a part of that! Please volunteer to be a liturgist, an usher, children's time leader and/or a Sunday School teacher. Sign up sheets are on the table in the Narthex.



Mayo UMC will be celebrating World Communion Sunday on October 4th. We will pass an extra offering plate for it on Sunday, October 11th.

What is World Communion Sunday?

World Communion Sunday is one of six churchwide Special Sundays designated to support ministries and causes important to the entire United Methodist Church. On this Sunday, United Methodists join Christians around the world in celebrating Holy Communion, remembering that we are one in Christ, no matter our background, language, or culture.

But it's more than just worship. It's also a time to support scholarships and leadership training for students from underrepresented communities—helping the Church become more inclusive and better equipped to serve.

Why Does It Matter?

The Church is strongest when its leadership reflects the people it serves. But many communities—especially those historically underrepresented—face barriers to education and ministry. World Communion Sunday matters because it helps break down those barriers. It equips students from diverse backgrounds with the resources and training they need to answer God's call to lead. When we invest in these future leaders, we're building a more faithful, inclusive Church—one that's better prepared to share Christ's love in a changing world.

What Does My Giving Support?

Special Sundays give us a chance to focus our prayers and support on important ministries all year long—uniting our gifts to multiply our impact. Your generosity supports scholarships, grants, and programs that help prepare the next generation of church leaders. Here's how the funds are used:

- **Scholarships (50%)** Half of the funds collected go toward scholarships for undergraduate and graduate students of color in the U.S. who are pursuing ordained ministry. To learn more or apply, email scholars@umcmmission.org.
- **Grants (35%)** A portion of the funds provide In-Service Training Grants that support diversity, equity, and access training—helping the Church recruit and retain leaders of color across all areas of ministry.
- **Leadership Programs (15%)** The remaining funds support leadership development with partner churches in Africa, Asia/Pacific, Latin America, Eastern Europe, and communities of color in the U.S. For more information, contact scholarship@umcmmission.org.

When Is World Communion Sunday Celebrated?

Most United Methodist churches observe World Communion Sunday on the first Sunday in October, but it can be celebrated on any Sunday that fits your church's calendar. Here are the current dates: October 5, 2025, October 4, 2026, October 3, 2027 and October 1, 2028.

How Can I Be Part of the Ministry?

You can support this ministry by giving, sharing its purpose, and encouraging others to support scholarships and leadership development. Your involvement helps students and future leaders from underrepresented communities receive the education and training they need to serve the Church faithfully.

What are the Special Sundays?

Ever wonder what a special Sunday is, why these days exist, and when each occurs? Well, read on to find answers to these pressing questions.

The United Methodist Church sets aside a number of Special Sundays every year to recognize specific ministries we support as a denomination. We celebrate and identify these as Special Sundays. We encourage you to take the time to educate and prepare your congregation to charitably give and learn to participate more fully in the United Methodist connection.

There are six Church-wide special Sundays celebrated on specific dates each year:

Human Relations Day

It is always celebrated the Sunday before the observance of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday. Human Relations Day supports community developers, United Methodist voluntary service, and youth offender rehabilitation programs. The goal of this Sunday is to strengthen United Methodist outreach in the United States and Puerto Rico, encouraging social justice.

UMCOR Sunday

It is always celebrated on the fourth Sunday in Lent. UMCOR Sunday donations cover United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR's) operation costs so that 100% of donations received in response to emergency appeals go directly to communities in need.

Native American Ministries Sunday

It is always celebrated on the third Sunday of Easter. We celebrate to recognize and support Native Americans and their contribution to society and The United Methodist Church. Donations support scholarships, leadership development and other vital ministries.

United Methodist Student Day

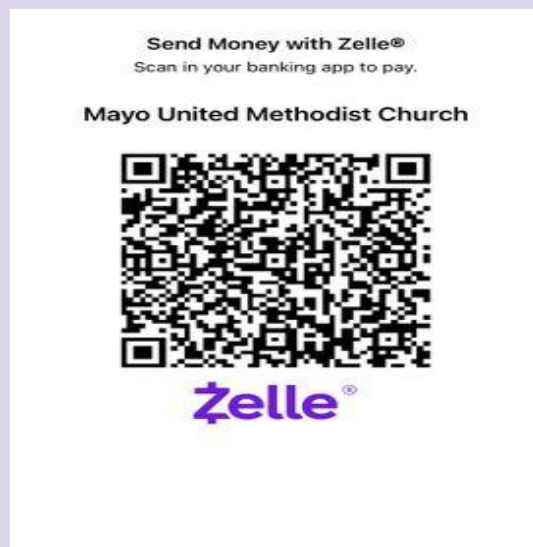
As of General Conference 2024, United Methodist Student Day is celebrated in the month of May instead of the fourth Sunday in November. We celebrate and recognize United Methodist students as they pursue their dreams through higher education. Every donated on United Methodist Student Day funds over 70 scholarships.

Peace with Justice Sunday

It is always celebrated on the first Sunday after Pentecost. Donations support programs and ministries to educate, equip and mobilize networks to engage in social advocacy and action.

World Communion Sunday

It is always celebrated on the first Sunday in October. Donations support racial and ethnic students with scholarships, grants, mentoring and training for leadership development





Ladies' Luncheon

Plan on joining us at noon

Wednesday, October 7th

at Senor Chile's

105 Mayo Road

Edgewater, MD

Please contact the church office

410.798.6110 or mayoumcmd@gmail.com

to reserve your seat



Ham & Oyster and Silent Auction

Saturday, November 14th

4:00 – 7:00 pm

Eat in or Carry Out

Adults: \$35.00 Children 2-12: \$15.00 Children under 2: Free

SILENT AUCTION!!!



(During the Ham & Oyster Fall Fundraiser Dinner)

Saturday, November 14, 2026

We are putting the FUN in FUNdraiser and everyone can take part.

It's easy as 1-2-3!

1. We need donations for our Silent Auction. Have a skill and or talent you could donate? (Home Cooked Meal, Babysitting, Pet Services, Knitting Lessons) Maybe your credit card has rewards and you could donate a gift card or two or airline points? Or you know that friend who owns a Charter Fishing Boat or a place at the Beach, maybe you could make a deal with them? The possibilities are endless!
2. We need you to tell everyone this is the place to be on Saturday, November 14th. Tell your friends, family, neighbors, person in line behind you at the grocery store, your gym buddies, your senior center friends. Not only will we have exciting items to bid on which will make great Christmas presents, there will be dinner too!
3. So, you've contributed just the right thing to the Silent Auction. You've told everyone you know to be there. Now the third thing is easy. Come join us on Saturday, November 14th. If you would like to volunteer a helping hand that would be terrific too.

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) 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

October 4th
@ 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 Requests

The Francis Family
The King Family
The Hettenhouser Family
The Meredith Family

Deadline REMINDER

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

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

October, 2026						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
						Hall rented 12-4
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9:15 AM Worship and a time for fellowship following the service		Bible Study-Week 5 7:00 PM Disciple Fast Track Via Zoom	Ladies Luncheon @ Noon Senor Chile 105 Mayo Rd Edgewater			Church Conference
2:00 Brightview-South River	5:30 PM AA Meeting	5:30 PM AA Meeting	Did you RSVP yesterday? 7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous	5:30 PM AA Meeting	Church Conference Set Up	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
8:15 AM Worship Service		Bible Study-Week 6 7:00 PM Disciple Fast Track Via Zoom				
10:15 AM Worship Service with Sunday School during and fellowship following					CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	8:00-12:00 Fall Work Day
Ad Council	5:30 PM AA Meeting			5:30 PM AA Meeting		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
8:15 AM Worship Service		Bible Study-Week 7 7:00 PM Disciple Fast Track Via Zoom	7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous			
10:15 AM Worship Service with Sunday School during and with fellowship following					CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	
	5:30 PM AA Meeting	5:30 PM AA Meeting	7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous	5:30 PM AA Meeting 7:00 PM MNC Meeting		
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
8:15 AM Worship Service		Bible Study-Week 8 7:00 PM Disciple Fast Track Via Zoom				
10:15 AM Worship Service with Sunday School during and with fellowship following	5:30 PM AA Meeting	5:30 PM AA Meeting	7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous	5:30 PM AA Meeting	CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	