

MAYO CONNECTION

July/August 2026 EDITION

MAYO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



PASTOR ROD SMOTHERS

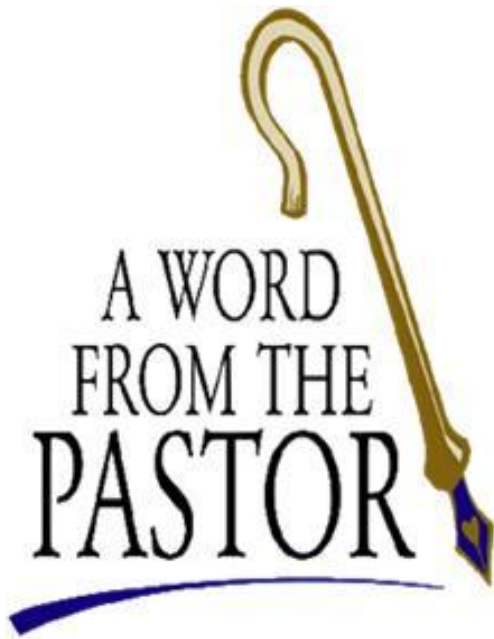
1005 Old Turkey Point Rd.

Edgewater, MD 21037

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

Phone: 410-798-6110

mayoumcmd@gmail.com | www.mayoumc.com



Grace and Peace Mayo Church Family,

My family and I are excited to become a part of the Mayo UMC Community. I look forward to listening to your stories, learning together about the future hopes and dreams of this congregation, loving one another as we serve together, and leading on a new journey of possibilities as we launch into a vital future of ministry, mission, service, and witness in the Edgewater Community.

My daily prayers are that we embark upon this new season together, building on the accomplishments of the past and seeking God's discernment and wisdom for the days ahead. Together, we can grow our impact and outreach as we focus on becoming Mayo United. Not just Mayo United Methodist Church, but Mayo United (MU), a church that is inclusive of our larger community, engaged in our community, inviting to

the several communities that surround us, and missionally focused not only at 1005 Old Turkey Point Road but expanding our evangelism and discipleship opportunities for a greater God-honoring impact.

Invitation, impact, and engagement are the lenses I would like to invite us to see our future through as we increase our ministry through one-on-one contacts, social media outreach, and in-person and in-presence contact. During my early days as your pastor, I would like to be involved in meeting with the Mayo Families and Friends, as well as the Edgewater Community, our Mission Field. When people think about (MU) Mayo United, I want them to think of our church as a Mission and Ministry Hub where people are welcomed and want to join with us in making Christ's presence known in this community.

We already have a reputation for having great music. I want us to be a multi-generational gathering place, where families of all shapes and sizes gather, fellowship, and engage in spiritual worship. MU (Mayo United) has the facilities and capabilities to serve young families and senior adults. I would like us to become known as a gathering place, a seven-day-a-week place, not just on Sundays but Monday through Sunday, a place of hospitality for all ages. I am praying that, as we live into our emerging tagline of MU, Mayo United is known in the Edgewater community as a destination for spiritual growth, financial generosity, passionate hospitality, and missional engagement.

Philippians 1:3-5, NIV says it best, "I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel."

Serving Together,
Pastor Rod



Sunday School
Is on Summer Break

Ladies Luncheon and Church Night Out are taking a summer break

“Immediate Openings, Apply Within”

The word liturgy comes from the Greek word leitourgia, which means “public service” What we do collectively is known as the work of the people, not the work of the pastor. I will be asking every able-bodied person to serve somewhere in the life of Mayo Church. Maybe as an usher, a communion steward, a church school teacher, a men’s or women’s, children’s, or youth small group leader, or a worship assistant. If you have the skill and talent, you can work on the audio-visual team, the website team, or, if you are on the Unified Board or no team, let’s work together to make a good church a greater church,

Every Pastor has a different leadership style. I believe, pastoring is a team sport. By that, I mean my primary responsibilities are ordering the life of the church, developing disciples for Christ, and leading people into a more mature spiritual walk in Christ. My personal passion is equipping the saints for the work of ministry. Based on Romans 12:6 - 19 NIV and Ephesians 4: 11-16, NLT.

The summary of those Biblical Texts forms a framework for working in the church. Mayo is not my church; it’s Christ’s church. We are honored to be entrusted as members, participants, and worshippers. That honor does not come without responsibilities. I may be the pastor, but my role is to stir your gifts so that you are actively involved in ministry, not just a pew sitter.

I expect every member to be involved in some activity, service, mission, or ministry. There are no volunteers in the church; everyone is called to be a servant leader. Everyone has a gift to be involved in some active ministry. You will often hear me ask, “Where are you serving in the life of Mayo Church?”

My personal mantra is, “Who Will Do This With Me?” Mayo United (MU) is a family of people serving together. I close with this well-known phrase: Many hands make light work”

Together, we are called into a new season of sacred service. If you don’t know where God is calling you to serve, let’s get together and talk about it. We can meet in person, connect via email at mayopastorrod@gmail.com, or by mobile at 301.741.2710.

Immediate Opening, Apply Within!
Pastor Rod



Welcoming Rev. Dr. Rodney T Smothers



The Reverend Doctor Rodney Thomas Smothers is a native of Washington, D.C. He served in the United States Air Force for 7 years prior to attending Gammon Theological Seminary in Atlanta, Georgia. He earned his Master of Divinity Degree in 1982 and his Doctor of Ministry Degree in 1993. He completed the Howard University School of Business Executive Leadership for Ministers Program 2013. In 2022, after 41 years as a pastor, coach, adjunct professor, and congregational consultant, he retired from pastoral ministry to devote full time to coaching, consulting, and resourcing local congregations for vital ministry. In retirement, he serves as the Lead Coach for rTs

Coaching Associates. On July 1, 2026, Pastor Rod returned to Pastoral Ministry as the Interim Pastor for Mayo United Methodist Church in Edgewater, Maryland.

Pastor Rod, as he prefers to be called, has led new congregational starts in cross-cultural, urban, and suburban churches. He has served at the General Board of Discipleship in Nashville, Tenn., as the Director of Evangelism and served as the Director of Congregational Development for the Baltimore-Washington Conference. At the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta and the Howard University School of Divinity, he taught Church Administration, Liturgical Worship, and United Methodist Polity.

Dr. Smothers co-authored RESURGENCE: Navigating the Changing Ministry Landscape (with Rev. Dr. Candace M. Lewis), BLANK SLATE: Write Your Own Rules for a 22nd-Century Church Movement (with Rev. Lia McIntosh and Rev. Jasmine R. Smothers), and Cry From The Pew: Call To Action for the United Methodist Church (with Kay Kotan).

Dr. Rod has been married to Dr. Lynn Thomas, Smothers, MD, for 30 years, and he is the father of three young adults.

DISCIPLESHIP GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES

https://www.pdcbbc.org/uploads/1/0/2/7/102773790/worshipseries2026-2pg_final.pdf

Each month, I will encourage you to grow in your spiritual discipleship by taking advantage of conference, district, or general church learning opportunities. These growth opportunities are available to people at all levels of their spiritual development.

If you are searching for a short-term, easily accessible, and fun learning experience. I highly recommend this learning series, available at the link above. In keeping with our mantra, "Who will do this with me?", invite someone to join you in this learning experience.

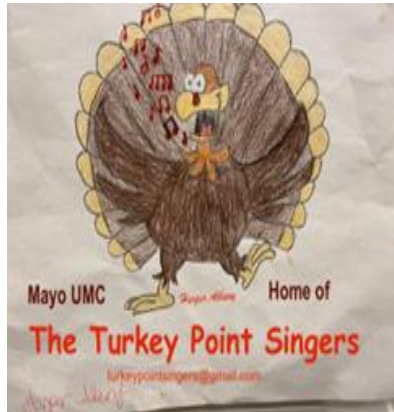
Remember our shut-ins:

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.

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 Aug 20th to be included in the Sept 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

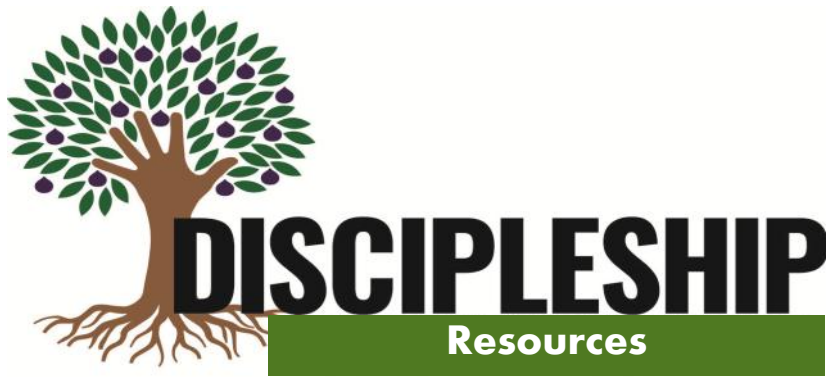
July 5th

August 1st

@ 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**



In this combined Summer Issue of our Church Newsletter, I want to introduce a section titled: Discipleship Resources. This section of our newsletter will cover various topics related to what it means to become a spiritual disciple, how to grow in our knowledge of the resources available to us for growing in faith, and how to share our faith with others, both within our congregation and in the larger community.

This monthly article will also include resources for daily growth and inspiration. The shared resource in this month's edition is the YouVersion Bible App and Audio. It can be located at <https://www.youversion.com>. This free resource is available at the App Store for Apple users and on the Google Play Store for Android users. This resource is a wonderful tool for looking up and listening to bible passages in several different versions. Its library of bible resources, devotionals, and inspirational daily devotions can also be used for research for both beginners and mature spiritual believers. This "free" material can be downloaded to your mobile phone, tablet, desktop, or laptop computer. Both Android and iOS versions are available.

The YouVersion Bible also has an extensive collection of materials for children, youth, young adults, and senior adults. It's a learning tool, a daily inspirational tool, a biblical research tool, and a wonderful library of materials we can use as individuals, or you can sign up to join one of the many online communities that share this resource.

I would love to participate in a Mayo United (MU) daily study group, where we can share in a congregational-wide daily devotional community. I am hoping that someone in our congregation will feel called to coordinate this daily study group here at Mayo United (MU).

Download the app today, and let's get started.

Let's Build Our Faith Together,

Pastor Rod

A New Way
to Give To
Mayo UMC

Mayo United Methodist Church



zelle®



Mark your calendar so you don't miss...

Enrollment information coming soon...

V a c a t i o n Bible School

August 9-13
6:00-7:30 pm



Jul-26						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3 Church Office Closed	4
5 9:15 Worship & fellowship	6	7	8	9	10 Church Office Closed	11
2:00 PM Brightview- South River						
12 8:15 Worship 10:15 Worship Ad Council	13	14	15	16	17 Church Office Closed	18
19 8:15 Worship 10:15 Worship	20	21	22	23	24 Church Office Closed	25
26 8:15 Worship 10:15 Worship	27	28	29	30	31 Church Office Closed	
SAVE THE DATE Sunday, Aug 9 - Thursday, Aug 13-Vacation Bible School						

Aug-26						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2 9:15 Worship with communion 2:00-4:00 PM- Brightview South River	3	4	5	6	7 Church Office Closed	8
9 8:15 Worship 10:15 Worship	10	11	12	13	14 Church Office Closed	15
Vacation Bible School-"Snowball Mountain Challenge" 6-7:30 pm						
16 8:15 Worship 10:15 Worship	17	18	19	20	21 Church Office Closed	22
23/30 8:15 Worship 10:15 Worship	24/31	25	26	27	28 Church Office Closed	29
SAVE THE DATE Sunday, Sept. 13th Sunday School Resumes						