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**The East Bangor United Methodist Community Church** welcomes you to a FREE "Turkey Noodle Casserole" Dinner on Sunday, Jan. 5th, from 4:00 to 4:30 p.m. This is TAKE-OUT ONLY. The church is located at 136 W. Central Ave. (Rt. 512), East Bangor, PA. Questions, call 610-588-4453 or visit [ebumc.org](http://ebumc.org).

## NPS Proposes Fee Changes at Delaware Water Gap NRA

By NPS

BUSHKILL, PA — Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area is proposing several changes to the park's fee system and is seeking public input on the proposal during a 30-day public comment period beginning December 16, 2024. The proposal includes an increase in fee amounts, a two-week extension of the fee season, changes to the annual pass purchases, and the addition of two new fee sites. The last fee increase was implemented in 2015. If approved the fee changes would go into effect in April 2025.

"Over the past several years, the park's budget has remained relatively flat while costs and visitation have both increased, facilities and equipment have aged, and the need for routine maintenance has grown," said Superintendent Doyle Sapp.

Since 2019, visitation to the park has increased 26%. Due to inflation and rising costs, the \$10 amenity fee currently charged at the park now purchases nearly 33% less than it did in 2015 when the fee was increased from \$7, meaning it now takes over \$13 to buy the same goods and services. As a result, the revenue generated by park fees no longer stretches as far as it once did.

*Continued on page 21*

# Blue Valley Times

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