From the Pastor

Rev. Karen Bunnell, Senior Pastor

Dear Friends,

As I write this letter I have my windows wide open and the cool, fresh air of late summer is coming in. I love this time of year. I love the break from the heat and humidity, I love watching the leaves start to change color, and I love the renewed energy in the church that fall brings. It's wonderful to have the halls full of excited and energetic people again after a quiet summer.

We've got a lot of great things going on at the church this month – particularly in terms of outreach. I'm excited that we're having a blood drive for the very first time – right here in the church. I'm excited that we're having a "Blessing of the Animals" once again – it's always moving to see all the pets that are so loved by the people of our church. I'm excited that, for yet another year, we're going to partner with Immaculate Conception Church to help fill their food pantry with our Harvest Food Festival. And I'm excited that Katie Sparks, our new Director of Children and Educational Ministries, is putting together a fall fest for children that will take place on October 16th.

All of that is on top of the regular wonderful ministries going on – Sunday School, youth, music ministries, fellowship ministries! Our church is alive and vibrant, there's a place for everyone here, and an open door for others to come. So, do me a favor - invite someone to join you here. Studies have shown that it's not sermons, or worship services, or even particular ministries that draw people to church – it's people inviting people. It's one of you inviting a friend, family member or neighbor to come with you to worship or some other event or ministry. In October, will you reach out and invite someone to come with you to church? I hope you will.

I'm so blessed to be with you on this journey of faith. May God bless you and yours in this wonderful and exciting season in our church.

October 2015

What's inside...

Anniversaries/Birthdays	10
Church News	.5
Education and Events	.3
Fellowship and Stewardship	7
Mission Outreach	2
Music Ministries	6
Youth Group, Young Adults	4

A Quick Glance At Dates

October 4

"Blessing of the Animals" service Blood Drive

Crop Walk

World Communion Sunday

October 5

Charge Conference

October 16

Sunday School Fall Festival

October 17

Knit-a-thon

October 18

Harvest Food Festival

October 23

Classic Christians' Meeting



MISSIONS OUTREACH

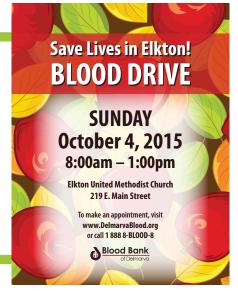
"He who despises his neighbor sins, but blessed is he who is kind to the needy." Proverbs 14:21

Harvest Food Festival Coming this Month!

Once again the Missions Committee will hold the Harvest Food Festival on Sunday, October 18th. This mission project helps to provide groceries for the Immaculate Conception Food Closet. Bags, along with a list of items needed, will be distributed on Sunday, October 11th. Collection of food bags will be on Sunday, October 18th. Elkton United Methodist Church has always been extremely generous in providing food for this very important community need. Let's make this mission project another wonderful success!

1st Annual Blood Drive

The Missions Committee invites you to take part in a brand new ministry – we're sponsoring a blood drive for the Delmarva Blood Bank. It will take place in Weldin Hall on Sunday, October 4th from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sign up to donate on the blood bank's website, www.DelmarvaBlood.org. If you can't donate for a medical reason, perhaps you can help serve refreshments or be a hand-holding buddy. To sign up to help, please email Missions chairperson Joe Tanner at jtanner495@gmail.com. If you can donate blood, please do. The need is great!



Operation Christmas Child 2015

Submitted by Nancy Stubbs, UMW Secretary

We invite members of our church family to join us again this year to make up shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child sponsored by Samaritan's Purse. This is a program working to aid the world's poor, sick and suffering children. For millions of children around the world, these shoe boxes are tangible expressions of God's love and constant presence. Whatever they may be facing, they are reassured that they have a heavenly Father who cares – a gift that endures forever!

In 2014, our church delivered 53 shoeboxes to the collection center. This number is down from the 79 boxes that EUMC delivered the previous 2 years, but the children aren't counting, they are just so thankful. Millions of shoeboxes are collected and distributed to over 100 countries around the world to the outstretched arms of jubilant children.

This year's collection at EUMC will be Sunday, November 8th and 15th. Nancy Stubbs will deliver all shoe boxes that are received Sunday, November 15th. Look for the shoe box display on the table next to the Welcome Center starting Sunday, October 18th.

We hope you'll join us in the worthwhile cause for the children of the world.



Mark Your Calendars!

The Spaghetti Dinner is right around the corner and, before you know it, you will smell our delicious homemade spaghetti sauce! Mark your calendars for **Saturday, November 7th** and join us for our annual Spaghetti Dinner and bake sale from 4 to 7 p.m. Tickets will once again be \$10/ adults and \$5/ children under 10. We are also bringing back our family pricing plan of a maximum of \$30 for an individual family up to 6 people. So bring your friends, neighbors and relatives for a great dinner and even better fellowship all while supporting great projects happening around our church! Questions? Or would you like to volunteer for the dinner? Contact Faye Camors at 410-392-5548 or Bethany Buckley at buckley91@comcast.net. We hope to see you there!

EDUCATION AND EVENTS

"Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old, he will not turn from it." Proverbs 22:6

Sunday School News

Submitted by Katie Sparks, Director of Children and Education Ministries

On Sunday, September 13th over 90 children and adults came out to Weldin Hall to register for Sunday School and join a class. The children enjoyed "making a splash" by naming a frog and adding it to our Sunday School pond before heading off to their classroom to enjoy treats and play games on their first day. The adults met in their classrooms, talked about their summers, and began learning what they will be studying this year.



If you have yet to sign up for a class, I encourage you to choose one and splash on in!

Deep Blue App

If you have a child in one of the following classes (2's and 3's, pre-k and kindergarten, first and second grade, and third and fourth grade), there is a free app you can download for your phone or tablet to help reinforce their Sunday School lesson at home. The app also has Bible games and activities for the whole family. Download the app by visiting deepbluekids.com.

Sunday School Fall Festival

On Friday, October 16, 2015 at 7pm, EUMC will be holding its first Sunday School Fall Festival!! There will be crafts, pumpkin decorating, music, trick or treating, and more. Feel free to come in costume!

Sign up to be an Acolyte!

If your child is in kindergarten or a higher grade, we would love to have them join the acolyte team! If your child is interested in becoming an important part of the service, please email Katie Sparks for more information at katharine.gravatt@gmail.com.

Nursery Volunteers Needed!

Our nursery is in need of volunteers for both services. Volunteering in the nursery is very rewarding and a huge help to parents with small children! If you are interested in volunteering, please see Katie Sparks in the education office for a volunteer application.

Children's Church

We are looking for volunteers to lead children's church on a rotating basis. Children's church takes place during the 11 o'clock service and is for children kindergarten through third grade. Children's church is a great way to help children learn about the Lord's love and the Bible. If you are interested in volunteering, please see Katie Sparks in the education office for a volunteer application.

Disciple Class

Submitted by Rev. Ray Graham

We will be starting QUARTERLY DISCIPLE BIBLE CLASSES on Monday, September 28th, (7-8:30 p.m.) and Tuesday morning, September 29th, (11:30 a.m.-1:00 pm.). The classes will be identical and they will continue for six weeks with one orientation session. We will cover Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. Whether a first timer or one who has taken DISCIPLE ONE before ... PLAN TO BE A PART of this wonderful journey. There is still time to sign up...if you are interested, please contact Rev. Graham by October 1st at umcslray@aol.com.

YOUTH GROUP YOUNG ADULTS

"Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long." PSALM 25:5

Youth News

Submitted by Sandy Wherry, Director of Youth Ministries

Youth Group Kick-Off: 22 members in attendance.

Designed for: 6th – 12th graders.

Meeting: Sunday nights in the Youth Room downstairs.

Time: 6 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.



Upcoming Events:

Crop Walk to feed the hungry – Oct 4th, meet for lunch at noon & leave for the walk

at 1 p.m. returning as soon as the walk is over – we will call as we leave N.E.

Fall Costume Children's Party - come dressed in costume to help serve - Oct. 16th

Host Domestic Violence Center Halloween Party – mission – Oct. 22nd from 4 – 8 p.m.

Truth or Terror – learning event about life decisions – date to be announced

15th Annual Cookie Walk!



Our 15th annual Cookie Walk is scheduled for Saturday, December 12, 2015.

Volunteers are needed to bake cookies for this event! Let's make this 15th year one tough cookie to beat and target delivery of more than 600 dozen cookies! We can do this!

Volunteer bakers should watch for bulletin inserts in November.



Tell your friends and neighbors to enter Cookie Walk on their Dec 12 calendar! Come to a...

Knit-a-thon!

Join Paige Laning and the Elkton UMC Dorcas Circle for fun or if you just want to learn!

For Paige's Girl Scout Silver Award Project, we will be knitting squares for Warm-Up America. We will provide the yarn and patterns. For new knitters, we will provide you a starter knitting kit!

Event Date: October 17, 2015

Time: <u>12:00-4:00pm (light refreshments will be served)</u> Location: Elkton United Methodist Church, Weldin Hall



For more information:

Email: <u>pflaning@comcast.net</u>

Call: 302-521-3023





CHURCHINEWS

"Getting wisdom is the most important thing you can do. And whatever else you do, get good judgment." Proverbs 4.7

Finance

Bill Ferringer, Chairman

As we wind down the summer season and get ready for the new church year, through August we are running a deficit \$38,845. This includes special and abnormal items that do not particularly relate to the regular operations of the church but are items that were either received or paid for.

Our total income is down from last year by \$13,685 but after you take out the special and abnormal items, the income is down \$2,950. This is not too bad since we have just finished the summer time and attendance is not what it is during the other nine months of the year. The shortfall is accounted for by the envelope offering, loose offering, Easter offering, initial offering and Mission offering.

Our expenses are up from last year by \$26,336 but again after you take out the special and abnormal items, our expenses are up \$15,077. The expense increases are from apportionments, postage, staff expenses and youth programs. Other increases are from the Missions program funds that were allocated to new missions such as the Colombia mission, service dog support, purchase of 300 bibles for the Congolese children and South Sudan support. Expense decreases are from building expenses.

The net deficit is up from last year by \$40,021 but after removing special and abnormal items, the deficit is up \$18,027.

The Building Fund has taken in \$54,000 so far this year as we work to secure funds to repay the loans in 2021. The Finance Committee wants to thank everyone for their continued support of EUMC. I am confident that we will have a great fall and our finances will return to normal and positive results.

As I always say, Elkton United Methodist Church continues to be an exciting place to be and is "A place to know Jesus, be known by Jesus, and make Him known to others." And everyone is important.

	Aug 2015	Aug Year to Date
Income	\$39,437	\$318,526
Expenses	41,978	357,371
Net Income/(Loss)	(2,541)	(38,845)
Net Income/(Loss)		
After Special & Abnormal		
Items	(2,976)	(15,304)
		3° V

CHURCH NEWS

"Getting wisdom is the most important thing you can do. And whatever else you do, get good judgment." Proverbs 4:7

Trustees News

Submitted by Rich Gruebel, Co-Chair

As you might be aware there were several issues with the A/C in Weldin Hall. This also spread to the Sunday school rooms (even though they are separate units). Upon investigation we found that the units in both Weldin Hall and the sanctuary are the same age (approx. 40 years old). We included replacing and upgrading the unit in the sanctuary as a precaution. The good news is that after working with 5 different companies, of which 3 submitted bids, we have selected and accepted the bid from Crouse Brothers. They should begin work in early October, and depending upon their workload, be completed within 2-3 weeks.

Now we need your help. We have noticed that there are a number of food items being left in the kitchen after various events. The policy is that any leftover food items should be removed after the event. We are looking for 2-3 people that will 'police' the kitchen and refrigerators periodically and toss anything left behind. Please contact either Rich Gruebel or Ted McDowell if interested.

We've also noticed that there are several pieces of furniture and equipment being stored in Room 1 (computer desk, desk and drawers, set of 4 ft speakers). If anyone can help us determine where these should be placed, please let Rich or Ted know.

We are looking forward to a calmer season coming up.

Help Needed

We have a couple of areas in the church in need of extra help right now. One of them is the **tech team**. If you have skills with computers or video, the team could use you. The team works on a rotating basis, so that no one is tied up every single Sunday. Training is provided. If you want to learn more about being a part of the team, or want to volunteer, please contact Rich Juergens at richjuergens@icloud.com or Pastor Bunnell at eumc@comcast.net. The other area where we can use additional help is the **Parking Lot greeters** (otherwise known as the Knights in Shining Armour!). We especially can use help for the 11:00 service. Again, this doesn't have to be an every week commitment if we can get enough people signed up to help. If you want to be a part of the parking lot greeting team, please email Ken McCoy at kennethmccoy@comcast.net or Pastor Bunnell at eumc@comcast.net.

The Tech Team Needs YOU!!!

If you enjoy the wonders of technology, please consider joining the EUMC Tech Team. Training will be provided. Adults and youth interested in helping with this important part of our church life should contact Rich Juergens at richjuergens@icloud.com Thank you for giving this service opportunity your serious consideration.

"May the LORD bless you from Zion all the days of your life..." PSALM 128:5

Music Ministries

Submitted by Sharon Williams, Organist/Coordinator of Music Ministries

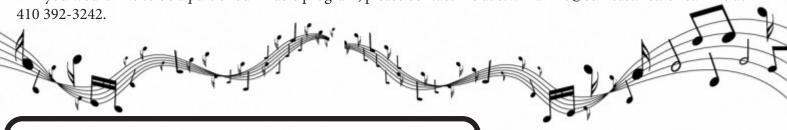
September and October are always exciting months in the life of our church as all of our music programs have begun another year of singing, ringing, and instrument playing. I hope you have been enjoying all the beautiful music so far.

The bell choir will ring for the first time on October 18th at both services, and the children's choir will sing for us on October 25th at the 8:30 service.

Joanna Melvin has stepped down as director of the children's choir. Joanna, thank you for the time you have spent growing our children's choir. You have done a fantastic job.

I am pleased to announce that, Susan Starrett, is the new children's choir director. Susan has been busy setting up a schedule and selecting songs for the children to sing. Thank you, Susan, for taking on this exciting part of our music ministries.

If you would like to be a part of our music program, please contact me at stwilliam10@comcast.net. or call me at



Thank you Betty Evans!

Betty Evans has graciously and generously donated her beloved baby grand piano to our church. It is now in Weldin Hall and will be enjoyed by hundreds of people for years to come. We thank Betty for this incredible gift, and also for sharing her many personal gifts with all of us for so many years in music, finance and so many other ways!

World Communion Sunday

On Sunday, October 4th we will celebrate World Communion Sunday. On this day, the vast majority of Christian churches will also gather around the Lord's table for communion, and as we do, we will give God thanks for the worldwide church, especially in these troubled times. It will be a good opportunity to remember that in all corners of this world, Christ's church is alive and well and witnessing to his presence and power – and on this one day, we all share in this precious meal together.

"Blessing of the Animals"

This year, on Sunday, October 4th at 5 p.m. we'll have a time to give thanks for and bless the pets in our lives with our "Blessing of the Animals" service. We'll gather on the lawn in front of Weldin Hall, so bring a lawn chair or blanket and your pet on a leash or in a carrier. Sunday, October 4th is the feast day for St. Francis of Assisi who was a great animal lover, so that's why we're having the service that day. It's a brief service – about 30 minutes long – so bring your favorite pet and come give God thanks for him/her!



Joshua Charles Cunha, son of Ashley and Mike



Amiyah Raquel Betts, daughter of Kim Shortall and Ramon Betts



John Michael Sparks, son of John and Katie Sparks

FELLOWSHIP AND STEWARDSHIP

"We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us." II Corinthians

Classic Christians' News

The October meeting of the Classic Christians will take place on Friday, October 23rd at 6:30 p.m. in Weldin Hall. The night begins with a potluck dinner (bring a dish to share), and then continues with a game night. Bring your favorite board/card games to play, and come and enjoy a night of food, fun and fellowship! Sign up to participate on the sheet across from the Welcome Center.

Charge Conference

Our church's Charge Conference, the annual meeting with our District Superintendent, will take place on Monday, October 5th at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. At this meeting, we will look back on the year and celebrate what we have done, look forward to next year and set goals, and line up leadership for the coming years. All members of the Administrative Council are required to attend, but anyone in the church is welcome to attend. After the conference, extra reports will be available on the table across from the Welcome Center.

Calling all Women!

Planning for this year's Women's Retreat is well underway and it's going to be great! The date is Friday, January 15th through Sunday, January 17th (Martin Luther King weekend) and the theme is "Unclutter Your Soul" and we'll be looking at ways to deal with physical, emotional and spiritual clutter in our lives. Brochures are now available on the table across from the Welcome Center. Costs for the retreat have risen from previous years because of a rate increase by the Dunes Manor Hotel, but it is still very reasonable for a weekend away (\$200/person double occupancy, \$285 single, \$180/person triple occupancy and \$170/person quadruple occupancy). Installment payments are due on October 1st, November 1st and December 1st. Be sure to sign up early – it's sure to be a sellout this year, and you don't want to miss the program, fellowship, food and fun!

Calling all Men!

The Men's Retreat for 2016 will take place at the Dunes Manor Hotel the weekend of January 22-24. Brochures are available on the table across from the Welcome Center with details about costs, program, etc. Men, mark your calendars now, invite your friends, and sign up as soon as possible. It's going to be a great weekend!

The Stewardship Committee wants EUMC to continue to be Methodists In Motion



Let's keep moving our way around the world! Remember to keep track of your time in motion – exercising, walking the dog, swimming, mowing the lawn, raking leaves, practicing and playing a school sport, marching in the band...whatever you might be doing to keep your body in motion! Please submit your time in motion (either as an individual or as a family) to EUMCWalkers@gmail.com, text your information to 443-350-4515 or place your info. in the offering plate. If you or your family has done something creative, please submit photos too! Don't forget to check our progress on the map in the hospitality area and try to find new and creative ways to be a 'Methodist In Motion' and a good steward of your body!

October Birthdays

"One thing I ask of the Lord, this is what I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and ask to seek him in his temple." Psalm 27:4 (NIV)

10/13 Renee McCormick 10/1 Olivia Forney 10/22 Brandye Whiteman 10/4 Carla Cebula 10/14 Brooke Cebula 10/23 Sheila Boulden 10/5 Krystina Lariviere 10/14 Betty Green 10/23 Lisa Cornett 10/6 Judith Pugh 10/23 Nancy Sawicki 10/14 June Long 10/7 Karen Bunnell 10/14 Amy Whitney 10/24 Jim Dech 10/7 Seth White 10/15 Emma Gaz 10/25 Richard Juergens 10/9 Travis Russell 10/15 Joseph Gilmore 10/25 Eric Laramore 10/10 Megan Hollyday 10/15 Wyatt Montgomery 10/25 Butch Lokey 10/10 Susan Ivey 10/26 Alice Mackie 10/16 Lori Foster 10/29 Ella Jane Coleman 10/10 Sheila Olewine 10/16 Larry Holland 10/10 Gerald Slayman, Sr. 10/29 Richard Gruebel 10/17 Stacie Forman 10/10 Joan Wright 10/19 Bill Ferringer 10/29 Daniel McCool 10/11 Eleanor Marsilii 10/30 Nadine Allen 10/20 Faye Camors 10/11 Nicholas Schweiker 10/20 Charles Gibson 10/30 Gail Juergens 10/11 Edwin Sprague 10/20 Seneca Hill 10/30 Robert Selner 10/11 Judith Swyka 10/21 Anna Mauk 10/31 Sarah Alphin 10/12 Wesley White 10/22 Donald Andrews, Sr. 10/22 Michael Schmook 10/13 Nancy Herczeg

October Anniversaries

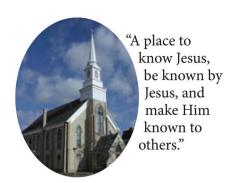
"Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh." Genisis 2:24 (NKJV)

10/2	Daniel & Cathy Gohlke	10/15 Theodore & Melinda Grablis
10/4	Henry & Marge Jacobs	10/16 Thomas & Sharon Williams
10/9	Robert & Bettie Murray	10/20 Randall & Carrie Tenney
10/10	Jack & Patricia Corder	10/23 Randall & Carla Cebula
10/10	Alex & Diana Hitchens	10/27 Joseph & Nancy Draper
10/11	Robert & Deborah Dalrymple	10/31 John & Dawn Stahl

October

2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				8:00 PM AA Meeting	2	3
World Communion Sunday 8:00 AM-1:00 PM Blood Drive 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:30 AM College Outreach Mailing 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Service 12:00 PM Crop Walk 5:00 PM Blessing of the Animals	6:30 PM Cub Scouts 6:45 PM Bible Study 6:45 PM Handbell Choir 7:00 PM Disciple Class 7:00 PM Charge Conference	9:30 AM Staff Meeting 11:00 AM Disciple Class 2:30 PM Genesis, Betty Budrow's Team 6:00 PM Girl Scouts 7:00 PM Cecil County Choral Society Rehearsal	6:30 PM Men's Choir 6:45 PM Communion 7:00 PM Chancel Choir 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	7:00 PM Boy Scout Committee Meeting 8:00 PM AA Meeting	6	10
Blood Pressure Screenings 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Service 6:00 PM Youth Group	6:30 PM Cub Scouts 6:45 PM Bible Study 6:45 PM Handbell Choir 7:00 PM Disciple Class	9:30 AM Staff Meeting 11:00 AM Disciple Class 6:00 PM Girl Scouts 7:00 PM Cecil County Choral Society Rehearsal	14 10:30 PM Tele-Care Meeting 12:00 PM Ruth-Sarah Circle 6:30 PM Cub Scout Committee Meeting 6:30 PM Men's Choir 6:45 PM Communion 7:00 PM Chancel Choir 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	November Newsletter Deadline 8:00 PM AA Meeting	16 7:00 PM Sunday School Fall Festival	17 12:00 PM-4:00 PM Knit-a-Thon (WH)
Harvest Food Festival 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Service 6:00 PM Youth Group	6:00 PM Girl Scout Committee Meeting 6:30 PM Cub Scouts 6:45 PM Bible Study 6:45 PM Handbell Choir 7:00 PM Disciple Class	9:30 AM Staff Meeting 11:00 AM Disciple Class 6:00 PM Girl Scouts 7:00 PM Cecil County Choral Society Rehearsal	6:30 PM Men's Choir 6:45 PM Communion 7:00 PM Chancel Choir 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	22 6:30 PM Staff Parish Relations Committee Meeting 8:00 PM AA Meeting	23 6:30 PM Classic Christians' Game Night/Potluck Dinner	24
8:30 AM Worship Service 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Service 6:00 PM Youth Group	26 6:45 PM Handbell Choir 7:00 PM Disciple Class	27 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 11:00 AM Disciple Class 6:00 PM Girl Scouts 7:00 PM Cecil County Choral Society Rehearsal	28 6:30 PM Men's Choir 6:45 PM Communion 7:00 PM Chancel Choir 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	29 8:00 PM AA Meeting	30	31



Elkton United Methodist Church 219 East Main Street Elkton, MD 21921

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Church Staff

Senior Pastor.....Rev.Karen F. Bunnell Associate Pastor of Visitation Ministries.....Rev. Ray Graham Children & Education Ministries Director.....Katie Sparks Youth Ministries Director....Sandy Wherry Organist/Coordinator of Music Ministries.....Sharon Williams Adult Choir Director......Steven Gilmore Adult Handbell Director......Paul Deemer Children's Choir Director....Susan Starrett Nursery Care Professional......Yolanda Gomez Treasurer......William Vassalotti Secretary.....Kay Mortimer Sextons......Donald Ewing Donna Horgan

Sunday Worship Services

8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m. - Noon

Sunday School (All Ages)

9:45 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

Youth Fellowship

Sunday evenings at 6:00 p.m.

Contact Information

219 East Main Street
Elkton, MD 21921
(410) 398-0933
Email: eumc@comcast.net
Web site: www.elktonumc.org

Church Office Hours

Monday through Thursday 8:00 a.m. - Noon 12:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Friday 8:00 a.m. - Noon

