



From the Pastor

Rev. Karen Bunnell, Senior Pastor

Dear Friends,

Last Sunday I watched as one of the children in our church served as acolyte for the very first time. Later that morning another young child came into my office to see if he could water my plants for me – something he has done in the past. A couple of hours after that, I found myself sitting with two confirmands and their friends-in-faith learning about worship, preparing a sample worship service and writing hymns! It was a great day, and reminded me how blessed we are to have so many wonderful young people in our midst!

When I have experiences like these, and look out on young faces in the congregation, I know we're in good hands now and in the future. While so many people these days are bemoaning the state of the church at large, and how less and less people are going to church in general, I hope that instead, we will be people who celebrate what God has done and continues to do in and through our church, and the people of all ages who are a part of it! I am so blessed to be in ministry with you!

Grace and Peace,


Karen

April 2016

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 **Like us on Facebook!**
 Don't forget that our church has a Facebook page, where you can keep up with the latest comings and goings of our church family. Like us and our page will help spread the word of Elkton UMC and our mission to a wider audience!

Missions

Submitted by Joe Tanner, Chair

April is bringing not only wonderful spring weather but also a number of opportunities to serve others through active missions at EUMC. April 16th is Volunteer Day at Camp Pecometh when volunteers help to prepare the camp for summer campers. This provides adults and youth a chance to go to Camp Pecometh and help with the clean-up and camp preparation. Advance registration is required so if you are interested please contact me.

The Brain Tumor Walk and fund drive on the waterfront in Wilmington that was featured in the March Missions newsletter article will be held April 23rd. We are looking for walkers to represent EUMC in this important event to bring awareness and support concerning brain tumors and brain tumor research.

On April 24th, EUMC is conducting our **SECOND BLOOD DRIVE** in Weldin Hall. Our first Blood Drive last October was a success and we are hoping that this second one will be even more successful.

This summer a small team will be joining a mission trip to Costa Rica with the intent of determining if this would be a good future trip for EUMC high school and college age young people. More information and opportunities to support the mission will be available starting in April.

Finally, Christmas in April where volunteers help with small construction projects for individuals around Cecil County will be held on Saturday April 30th.

Just a few things going on! If you are interested in participating in any of these Mission opportunities, please contact me at jtanner495@gmail.com.

College Care Packages

The last college care package of the school year will be sent to our students near the end of April, so now's the time to bring your donations of goodies into the church. You can place them in the College Care Package bin located near the Welcome Center. Thanks for helping us offer this wonderful gift to our college students throughout the school year! It means so much to them, and reminds them in a wonderful way how much we think about them and are praying for them.

Our Seminarians are Graduating!!

It's hard to believe that both Carlos Reyes and Sarah Alphin are graduating from seminary already! It seems like they just started! But they are, and their graduations will take place the week of May 9th. Carlos is receiving his Master of Divinity degree from Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, and Sarah is receiving her Master of Divinity Degree from Boston University School of Theology. What a proud day it is for their families and for us, their church family – and how exciting now to see what God will do with their lives going forward! Let's shower them with love and congratulations. Send cards and notes to them at the following addresses:

Sarah Alphin	Carlos Reyes-Rodriguez
94 Notting Hill Road	138 N. American Avenue
Brighton, MA 02135	Dover, DE 19901

Compassion Sunday

Submitted by Terri Lokey

Poverty is a worldwide problem. Compassion International is the world's leading authority in holistic child development through one-to-one sponsorship. It is the only child sponsorship program to be validated through independent, empirical research.

Compassion revolutionized the fight against global poverty by working exclusively with the Church to release children from poverty so that they may become responsible, fulfilled Christian adults.

Compassion partners with more than 6,900 Christian churches in 26 countries to release over 1.7 million babies, children and young adults from poverty in Jesus' name.

On Sunday, April 24th, a video and a short presentation will be shared during both services about Compassion's global ministry and you will have the opportunity to become a part of it. More than 45 EUMC families now sponsor a child through Compassion International and we would love to include you!

If you are a sponsor, please bring a photo of your child on that day to share with others. Stop at the Compassion table in the hospitality area to get a "badge" so you can display your child's picture. At the table, individuals and families can choose a child to sponsor, so please stop by!

In addition, to the one-to-one sponsorship, Compassion has many other projects. Find out more about these projects by visiting www.compassion.com.

Sunday School News

Submitted by Katie Sparks, Director of Children and Education Ministries

Upcoming Sunday School Events

There are many fun activities being planned for families in the next few months. Please stay tuned for more information, but you can find a list of activities below:

April- Bingo Night (date TBD)

May- Game Night (date TBD)

June- Promotion Sunday- June 5th

Vacation Bible School

Get ready for some farmyard fun! This year's theme is Barnyard Round-Up and the children will be learning the 23rd Psalm. Vacation Bible School will be taking place July 10th-July 14th from 5:30-8:00 p.m. and, if you would like to volunteer to lead a station or group, please see Katie Sparks. Signups for children will be available soon.



Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday March 20, 2016, was not just the first day of spring, but also the annual Easter Egg Hunt. There were over 125 people in attendance and everyone enjoyed a delicious potluck lunch followed by the children hunting for eggs outside. There were 1,250 eggs for them to find! The children came back inside with overflowing buckets and began to discover the sweet treats inside the eggs. A big thank you to everyone who donated candy and helped stuff the eggs, this event would not have been possible without you!

Acolyte Sign-Ups

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 in this way please see Katie Sparks for more information.

Nursery Volunteers

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 for more information.

Youth News

Submitted by Sandy Wherry, Director of Youth

Service Project

The youth will be working on their service project and we need your help! We will be filling backpacks to keep in our cars like we did last year. The youth like to keep them available so they can pass them on to someone asking for food. We would like you to consider donating backpacks that your children/grandchildren will not be using and are just sitting around the house. These backpacks are usually in decent shape and we can use them for our project. You can place them inside the Youth Office in a box to the left of the door. We thank you in advance for your help.

Graduation

Graduation is just around the corner! Would you please send us your graduates' information so we can begin to compile our list. We need their names, school name, parents' and grandparents' names and their intentions for the future. Our Baccalaureate service will be held in May for all high school and college graduates. We hope that you will lend us 5 photos to display during our service reception. You can begin sending them in to the church office as soon as possible.



Souper Bowl Sunday

The Super Bowl Sunday collection from both services was a huge success and we thank you on behalf of the needy in our county. The funds have been sent to 'Ray of Hope Mission' to help those people who are working at minimum wage (\$7.25 an hour) and trying their very best to support their families. THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Prom Project & Prom Boutique

Our second Project Prom was a success. This event is put on by the Mary Kay Foundation, the County Agencies who work with young women and Elkton United Methodist Church. All the young ladies who attended were able to take a dress, shoes and accessories home to wear to prom. Our own Kevin Forman served as our DJ and helped to make the event successful. Thanks to Kevin and all our volunteers.

The Prom Boutique (2 rooms and 3 dressing rooms) next to the youth room is once again open for all young ladies in the county and surrounding areas. We received 6 boxes of brand new prom dresses from Prom Girl (an online company founded in Middletown, DE), along with the donated dresses from church members, students and many community members. Thanks to everyone for your involvement.

If you or someone you know needs a prom gown, please come and see us on Wednesday nights from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. or Saturdays from 10 a.m. - noon. All dresses, shoes, purses, and jewelry are FREE! If you need to look for a dress at a different time, text or call Sandy @ 443-309-0160 for special arrangements.

Finance News

Submitted by Bill Ferringer, Chair

	FEBRUARY MONTH	FEBRUARY YTD
Income		
General Ministry & Trustees		
Operational	35,516	79,607
Non-Operational	<u>985</u>	<u>1,590</u>
Total Income	36,501	81,197
Expenses		
General Ministry & Trustees		
Operational	35,537	76,292
Non-Operational	<u>17,032</u>	<u>17,032</u>
Total Expenses	52,569	93,324
Net Income/(Loss)		
General Ministry & Trustees		
Operational	(21)	3,315
Non-Operational	<u>(16,047)</u>	<u>(15,442)</u>
Net Income/(Loss)	(16,068)	(12,127)



One Great Hour of Sharing Offering

As of March 20th, our congregation has given just under \$10,00 to the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering! That is tremendous, and will make such a difference in the lives of those who have suffered at the hands of disaster. The One Great Hour of Sharing offering goes to underwrite the work of the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). Thank you so much for your generous giving to this once-a-year offering! If you didn't get a chance to give, and would like to, simply make your check out to Elkton UMC and write OGHS on the memo line.

2016 EUMC Pictorial Directory

Submitted by Nancy Crawford, Communications Committee Chair

It's that time again! Time to produce a new, updated pictorial directory of our church members.

The process begins with members signing up to have their picture taken at a table the Hospitality area after the 8:30am and 11:00am services on Sundays, April 3, 10, and 17. Volunteers will be on hand to assist you and to distribute literature provided by Lifetouch Pictorial Directories (formerly Olan Mills) detailing the various configurations and prices of available picture packages they offer. Having that information prior to your photo shoot will cut back on the amount of time you spend ordering pictures after your sitting so things will move along quicker. At the time of booking your appointment, you will have to state how many people will be in the picture and if you are including a pet(s). This will make it easier for the photographer to set up and have everything ready for you when it's your turn. You will also need to check your address, telephone and email information for the directory at the time of your sitting so updates can be made.

The photo sittings will be scheduled on Wednesday, April 27, Thursday, April 28, Friday, April 29 and Saturday, April 30. The weekday appointments will run from 2:00pm until 9:00pm; Saturday appointments will be scheduled from 10am until 5:00pm. We ask that you please schedule your sitting earlier on the weekdays to keep Saturday and evening hours open to families and college students. Plan to be at the church for approximately one hour the day of your sitting. Please, come prepared and come at least 15 minutes early, so you don't hold up the appointments after you.

You should have your new directory sometime in August.

Music Ministries

Submitted by Sharon Williams, Organist/Coordinator of Music Ministries

Thank you, thank you, thank you to all our bell ringers, singers, soloists, and instrumentalists for the beautiful music you shared with us during our worship services for Lent, Palm Sunday and Easter. Your time and talent are very much appreciated.

I am beginning to schedule "musical offerings" for the summer months. If you are interested in singing or playing a musical instrument for worship, please contact me soon.

Mark Your Calendars!!!

Mark your calendars for Sunday, May 15th at 7:00 p.m. when we will have the Providence Brass perform a concert for us along with some other special music. Providence Brass is a group of music teachers and retired music teachers from Cecil County. This concert will be held in our sanctuary, and promises to be an enjoyable evening of music for all ages. Free Will Offering.



Lent/Easter Thanks

Many, many thanks to all who helped make our Lent and Easter journey so special. To all of our musicians and their wonderful leaders, to our ushers and greeters, counters, hospitality hosts and hostesses, parking lot attendants, gospel readers and worship leaders, to Kay and all of the bulletin crew, to those who gave lilies to adorn the sanctuary, to all who took part in the Lenten Lunch and Learn study and the Good Friday crosswalk, to those who hosted the Maundy Thursday soup and bread dinner, and anyone else who in any way helped to make this Lent/Easter season so special – thank you, thank you, thank you – we couldn't have done it without you!

When You're Away

Don't forget that, if you ever have to be away on a Sunday and can't attend worship here at EUMC, our services are now videotaped and posted on You Tube via our church website (elktonumc.org). Simply go to the website, click on sermons, and on that page you will see a link to the You Tube videos.

Wednesday Night Communion Change

Every Wednesday evening, holy communion is offered in our Chapel. For several years now, this has taken place at 6:45, but starting Wednesday, March 30th the time will change. The service will now take place from 6:15 – 6:30 p.m. in order to partner better with the Wednesday night choir rehearsals. Come and take advantage of this mid-week spiritual uplift led by Ivan Mehosky.

Book Swap Coming to EUMC!

Submitted by Mary Ann Schmidt, Co-Chair Stewardship Committee

The Stewardship Committee will be having a BOOK SWAP on Sunday, May 22nd from 9:30 am to 1:00 pm in Weldin Hall. Please stop in and enjoy picking up some FREE BOOKS!

We also need book donations for the swap. Any used books for children or adults (no textbooks please) can be dropped off to the church on Sunday, May 15th. Please limit to 10 books per family.

"The more that you READ, the more things you will KNOW. The more that you Learn, the more places you'll GO." Dr. Seuss

Classic Christians on the Road Again!

A group of Classic Christians will be leaving our parking lot bright and early on Monday, April 18th and heading off to Nashville for a week. They'll be visiting the Country Music Hall of Fame, the Grand Ole Opry, the Upper Room Chapel and more. Stay tuned for pictures in next month's newsletter! In the meantime, pray for traveling mercies for them all



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ABOVE	EAST	SIDEWAYS
AHEAD	FORWARD	SKYWARD
AWAY	LEFT	SOUTH
BACKWARD	NORTH	TOWARD
BEHIND	REVERSE	UP
BELOW	RIGHT	WEST
DOWN		

Crossword puzzle solution on page 12!

Easter Egg Hunt



Boy Scout Cub Scout Pancake Breakfast



Cub Pack 443 Pinewood Derby



April

2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 <i>Communion</i> 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Service 6:00 PM Youth Group	4 9:00 AM AARP Tax Service 6:30 PM Cub Scouts 6:45 PM Handbell Choir	5 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 2:30 PM Elkton Rehab (Ruth Deibert/Betsy Budrow Team)	6 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	7 7:00 PM Lay Academy Training 8:00 PM AA Meeting	1 5-9 PM Girl Scout Bingo (WH)	2 2-9 PM Blue/Gold Banquet Pack 443
10 <i>Blood Pressure Screenings</i> 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Service 6:00 PM Youth Group	11 9:00 AM AARP Tax Service 6:30 PM Cub Scouts 6:45 PM Handbell Choir	12 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 6:30 PM Missions Committee Meeting	13 10:30 AM Tele-Care Meeting 12:00 PM Ruth-Sarah Circle Meeting 6:30 PM Men's Choir 6:45 PM Communion 7:00 PM Chancel Choir 7:00 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM Suicide Bereavement Group	14 5:30 PM Relay for Life Meeting 7:00 PM Lay Academy Training 8:00 PM AA Meeting	15 May Newsletter Deadline	16
17 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Service 6:00 PM Youth Group	18 <i>Classic Christians to Nashville</i> 9:00 AM AARP Tax Service 6:30 PM Cub Scouts 6:45 PM Handbell Choir	19	20 6:30 AM Men's Breakfast 6:30 PM Men's Choir 6:45 PM Communion 7:00 PM Chancel Choir 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	21 7:00 PM Lay Academy Training 8:00 PM AA Meeting	22	23
24 <i>Blood Drive</i> <i>Compassion Sunday</i> 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:30 AM College Outreach 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Service 6:00 PM Youth Group	25 6:30 PM Stewardship Committee Meeting 6:30 PM Cub Scouts 6:45 PM Handbell Choir	26 9:30 AM Staff Meeting	27 <i>Administrative Professionals Day</i> 2-9 PM Lifetouch Directory Pictures 6:30 PM Men's Choir 6:45 PM Communion 7:00 PM Chancel Choir 7:00 PM Boy Scouts Bereavement Group	28 2-9 PM Lifetouch Directory Pictures 7:00 PM Lay Academy Training 8:00 PM AA Meeting	29 2-9 PM Lifetouch Directory Pictures	30 10 AM-5 PM Lifetouch Directory Pictures



“A place to know Jesus, be known by Jesus, and make Him known to others.”

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

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

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.

