



Elkton United Methodist Church

The **Beacon**



From the Pastor

Rev. Karen Bunnell, Senior Pastor

Dear Friends,

As I sit down to write this letter, I am painfully aware of all the strife in the world, and particularly, right now in our country. I have a hard time watching the news anymore, because it makes it hard to sleep at night. And I know I'm not alone. I was talking to my friend Linda in Boston the other night, and her doctor actually told her she needed to stop watching the news because it was sending her stress levels off the chart.

It is so easy to get caught up in the anger and bitterness, and stress and worry, and you wonder what you can do about it. Well, I don't know all the answers, but I do know this – the one sure place to find peace is in the arms of the Lord. And the perfect day to remember that evil does not have the final word – ever – is Easter! Because Easter is proof that Jesus defeated evil once and for all.

So my friends, if you know someone who needs to know peace right now, invite them to come with you to worship on Easter Sunday! We will have a joyous celebration, with uplifting music, life-changing scripture readings, and more. One of the greatest gifts you can give your family and friends this year is to invite them to join you in worship on this most special day! Won't you do that?

I so look forward to celebrating with you!

April 2017

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Holy Week Schedule

Sunday, April 9th – Palm/Passion Sunday

8:30 & 11:00 Services – Choir Cantata

12:00 noon – Easter Egg Hunt

Thursday, April 13th – Maundy Thursday

6:00 p.m. Soup & Bread Dinner

7:00 p.m. Worship Service including Holy Communion

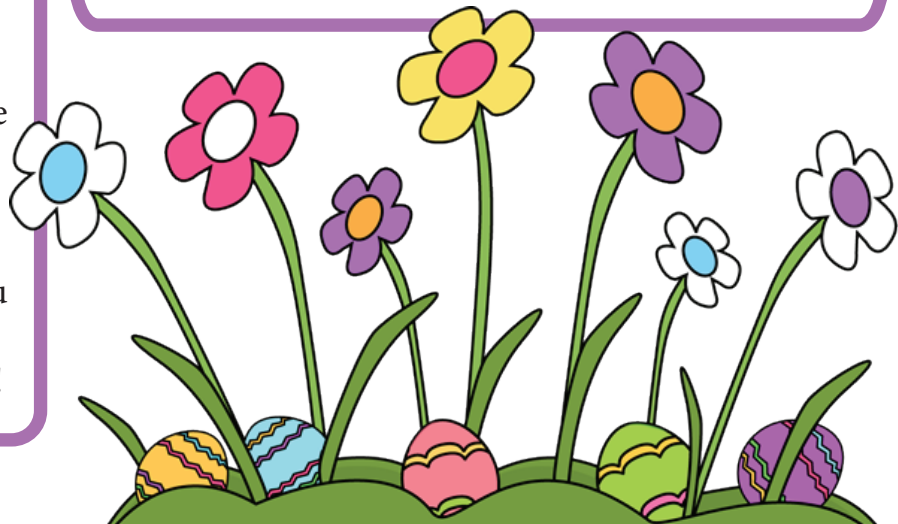
Friday, April 14th – Good Friday

12:00 noon – Community Crosswalk

Sunday, April 16th – EASTER SUNDAY!

8:30, 9:45 and 11:00 Identical Festival Easter Services

Featuring the Chancel, Men's, and Handbell Choirs
as well as organ and brass!



Missions News

Submitted by Joe Tanner, Chair

Jesus said: "Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples"

We were able to serve our community in early March by hosting the Homeless Shelter, many thanks to everyone who gave their time and their prepared food to help those at the shelter. EUMC is again forming a Walking Team to walk in the Delaware Brain Tumor Walk on April 22nd at the waterfront in downtown Wilmington. We will be remembering and honoring those who have suffered and those who have died from this horrible affliction and raising funds to support Brain Tumor research. We will be signing up walkers and looking for support for our walking team in the Hospitality Area. Also, on April 22nd, we will have clean up and repair of the EUMC cabin at Camp Pecometh. We have some repair projects that we will be looking for help with probably before the April 22nd date.

On April 23rd we will hold our 4th Blood Drive in Weldin Hall. We have had great participation in the past and have had a lot of new donors give for the first time. We will have sign-ups in the Hospitality Area but we welcome all donors to help make this a success. Our Christmas in April team will work on another project in our community on April 29th. There are two projects needing our help if we can recruit enough help.

Coming up later in the year are three travel missions that are in the planning stages: our annual trip to Kentucky, a possible mission to southern West Virginia to help repair damage done by last summer's flooding, and a mission trip to Costa Rica in early August. We will be conducting a number of fundraisers to help provide financial support for these missions, and we hope we can count on your support. EUMC is a mission loving church!!

Missions Finances

Year to date at the end of January, Missions income was \$3724 which was \$44 less than last year.

Mission expenses year to date at the end of Jan were \$1350 which were \$6 more than last year.

Costa Rica Mission Trip

Submitted by Terri Lokey

We are excited that the mission trip to Costa Rica in August is coming together! So far, seven people have made the commitment to travel to this country as a work group. Terri Lokey spent 16 days there in March and has made preparations to return on August 2-12. The group will most likely be working in the same community in Rio Cuarto, finishing up the day care building and starting a new building on the same property as the day care center, church and parsonage. The youth will also be working with the children of the community after school.

The mission team has been planning fundraising activities in order to raise money for travel, food and materials. The first fundraiser will be a dining out night at Nino's on Thursday, April 27th. Please mark your calendar to eat in or order out at Nino's that night. Flyers will be available in church and at Nino's in the evening. Other fundraising activities will be posted in the bulletin. If you would like to make a donation to the team, you can make a check out to EUMC and write Costa Rica Mission Trip on the note line of the check.

If you are interested in joining the team to Costa Rica, the next meeting will be Monday, April 10th from 6:00-7:00 pm in the Wesley Wing. We will need a commitment in April for the trip, so please let Terri Lokey know if you are interested.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!

NINO'S FUNDRAISER FOR THE
MISSION TRIP
TO COSTA RICA

Thursday, April 27th

All Day from 9:30 am to 10:30 pm

Plan to come out and enjoy good food
and help the Mission Team



Sunday School and Education News

Submitted by Katie Sparks, Director of Children and Education Ministries



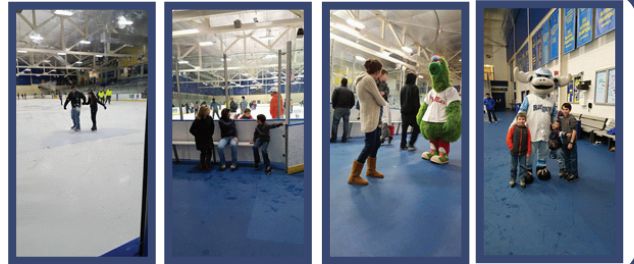
It's time for our annual Easter Egg Hunt and Potluck Luncheon! Please join us for a fun afternoon filled with food, laughter, Easter eggs, and a special presentation by the youth. The Easter Egg Hunt will take place on April 9, 2017 in Weldin Hall following the 11 o'clock service. Please bring a basket to help in egg collection and a dish to share. The sign-up sheet is located on the Sunday school bulletin board. We hope to see you there!

Volunteers Needed

We are currently looking for volunteers to assist with Vacation Bible School. We need adult volunteers to lead groups, lead a station, and help in the kitchen. We also need youth volunteers to assist the adults. VBS will run June 25th- June 29th from 5:30-8pm. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Katie Sparks. (katharine.gravatt@gmail.com)

Ice Skating Fun

On Sunday February 19, 2017 EUMC families gathered at the Fred Rust Ice Arena for a fun afternoon of ice skating! The kids had a lot of fun and were able to meet Rocky (the Blue Rocks Mascot) and the Phanatic (the Phillies Mascot).



Additional Announcements:

The education department is looking for help planning future family events. If your family has an idea for a fun monthly event that they would like to plan please see Katie Sparks so that we can make it happen!

Upcoming Events:

Bowling- May 7, 2017 from 1-3

Promotion Ceremony- June 11, 2017 at 9:45am

Vacation Bible School- June 25, 2017- June 29, 2017 5:30pm- 8pm

College Care Packages

We'll be sending out our final college care package of the year in April. You can help by providing goodies for these packages (granola bars, gum, hot chocolate, cookies, etc.). Please bring your donations to the bin in the Welcome Center area. Thanks so much for participating in this program – these packages mean a lot to our college students and remind them, in a very real way, that we're thinking of them and praying for them!

Youth News

The youth group has begun our short segments on "Life Lessons".

Linda Rittenhouse was our first volunteer, her topic: "Financing for Teens/Young Adults". Linda had them decide how much money they would need to earn to be able to save (paying themselves first), tithe, and pay their bills. The group decided on \$60,000 a year or \$5,000.00 a month; after taxes they would bring home approximately \$3,500.00. This list included: rent/mortgage, car payment, utilities, car & rent/property insurance, telephone, groceries, and gasoline. The total budgeted was \$3,500.00 with nothing left over. She also advised them to: throw away all credit card offers, (because credit can be very expensive), to be careful about spending if they wanted to stay on a budget, and what it means if they take money from savings and something unforeseen happens. It was an eye opener!

Our second presenter was Susan Starrett who talked about the reality of earning minimum wage at \$8.75 an hour an earning \$18,200 a year. This was an eye opener for the youth especially after the financial discussion the week previous and gave them one reason people stay in the shelter (it's not always because of detrimental behavior).

MaryAnn Schmidt taught the youth about making items from mosaic tiles.

We thank the parents who prepared and set lunch up after the 11 a.m. service.

We thank all those faithful people who attended the fund-raiser at Nino's in Elkton and North East all day on Wednesday March 8th. The support our youth received was tremendous. We will let you know what you were able to help us earn as soon as we have the figures. Thanks again for your support!

Please check your phones on Wednesday evenings for your Sunday youth meeting notice. If you don't receive one, please text me at 443-309-0160 to make sure we have your correct phone information. These notices go out to youth and parents. April meetings will be held on: April 2, 16, 23, and 30. Check the bulletin board for the Calendar and the program that evening. Friends are welcome...the more the better!

Spring Retreat: April 7th & 8th

Title: "Unashamed" there will be a guest speaker.

Time: Friday, 6 p.m. – Saturday 9 p.m.

Cost: \$20 (includes meals and t-shirt)

We will spend the night at church Friday night. You will need: sleeping bag, pillow, PJ's, clothes for the next day, toiletries, and Nerf gear if you have any (we will have some extra there). *Friends are welcome so invite a few!

Confirmation Reminder

The confirmation students will be confirmed on Pentecost, June 4th. Please let me know which service you will be attending. You will be expected ½ hour before the church service.

**Reminder: The Prom Boutique is open on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. – noon until the third week of May. We have some new volunteers but could always use more help, especially from the youth of the church.



Camp Pecometh is Having a Fishing Derby!

Camp Pecometh is having a fishing derby on Saturday, April 29th from 8 am until 11 am. It is open to children and youth of all ages. Cost is \$10 for those age 17 and under, and \$15 for those older than 17. The Grand Prize for the day is A FREE WEEK OF CAMP! Prizes will be handed out for different categories within each age group. Everyone has a chance to win the casting contest. A lunch of hot dog, chips and soda is included in the entry fee. Proceeds go towards Pecometh's campership fund, which helps as many kids come to camp as possible. Note: Participants 16 and older will need to bring a fishing license. To register, go to Camp Pecometh online.

Finance News

Submitted by Bill Ferringer, Chair

	FEBRUARY MONTH	FEBRUARY YTD
Income		
General Ministry & Trustees		
Operational	31,648	77,756
Non-Operational	-	-
Total Income	31,648	77,756
Expenses		
General Ministry & Trustees		
Operational	33,639	71,184
Non-Operational	-	-
Total Expenses	33,639	71,184
Net Income/(Loss)		
General Ministry & Trustees		
Operational	(1,991)	6,572
Non-Operational	-	-
Net Income/(Loss)	(1,991)	6,572

ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONALS DAY is April 26th and it provides us a great opportunity to give thanks for our fabulous Church Secretary – Kay Mortimer! Kay keeps everything running smoothly and does an incredible amount of work without seeming to break a sweat! If you have a chance, drop Kay a card or note and thank her for her incredible service to Christ through our church!



Interested in Joining Elkton UMC?

Then you're invited to attend the next New Member Orientation Class, which will be held on Sunday, April 2nd at 12:15 pm in Room 1. You'll learn about United Methodism and Elkton UMC in particular, and also what it means to be a member of the church. Lunch is included and childcare will be provided, if needed. To take part in the class, please sign up by emailing eumc@comcast.net or call the church office at 410-398-0933.

Music Ministries

Submitted by Sharon Williams, Organist/Coordinator of Music Ministries

I trust you all have plans to attend church on Palm Sunday to hear the chancel choir sing their annual Lenten cantata. This year we are singing, *Hope in the Shadows*, by Joel Raney and Lloyd Larson with Dick Gochbauer as the narrator.

Easter follows Palm Sunday and I cannot wait to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord with you on that day. We will have three identical services with the Bell Choir, Men's Choir, Chancel Choir, Brass and Organ.

Easter Sunday or the Sunday following Easter will be the last day our eighty-two year old organ will be heard in our church for worship services. The organ has served the church well for a very long time but it continues to have issues. It got us through Christmas and I keep holding my breath that we make it through Easter. I do have good news to share with all of you...a pipe organ company has agreed to remove and rebuild the old organ and console after Easter. The cost to rebuild the organ is close to the cost of our new one.

Our new Allen digital organ will be installed sometime in May. Am I excited? You can be sure I am. You will enjoy hearing the sound of the new organ and what it has to offer. The Allen Company will be having an organist perform a concert on our new organ in September or October. I will let you know the date and time as soon as I know.

Have a Happy Easter with your family and friends!



Altar Guild Ministry

Submitted by Judy Tanner, Worship Committee Chair

The Altar Guild is a ministry – a gift of time and talent to serve God in His house.

It is a very great privilege to serve God in this way. The altar guild takes care of the paraments and decorations in the church.

Paraments

Traditionally purple, representing both royalty and penitence, is used during Advent and Lent. White and gold are used at Christmas and Easter to symbolize joy and festivities.

Red symbolizes the color of fire to represent the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost and times when the work of the Holy Spirit is emphasized. During Holy Week it represents the blood of Christ. Red is also used for ordinations, church anniversaries and civil observances such as Memorial Day and Thanksgiving.

Green represents growth and is used during Ordinary Time (the season after Epiphany and the season after Pentecost).

Decorations

Decorations are used for Advent at Christmas, poinsettias during Christmas and lilies during Easter.

If you feel that this new ministry is something you would like to do, please feel free to contact me at 443-604-1218 or tannerjudy31@gmail.com.



Baptisms

If you would like to schedule a baptism, please email Rev. Bunnell at eumc@comcast.net or call the church office at 410-398-0933

Classic Christians' Bus Trip to Annapolis

The Classic Christians are sponsoring a one-day bus trip to Annapolis on Thursday, April 6th. The bus will leave at 7 a.m. and the day will end at 7 p.m. Highlights include tours of the State House and Governor's Mansion, and sitting in on sessions of both the Senate and the House. The afternoon (including lunch on your own) will be free time. Cost of the trip is \$40/person, and there's still space available! If you'd like to go, call the church office at 410-398-0933.

Book Swap 2017

Submitted by Dot Eltzroth, Stewardship Committee Chair

You never know what you may find to read at the Book Swap, so come on by Weldin Hall on May 21 and take a look! Clear off your bookshelf, bring in those unwanted books, and pick up something new to read. Here's how it works:

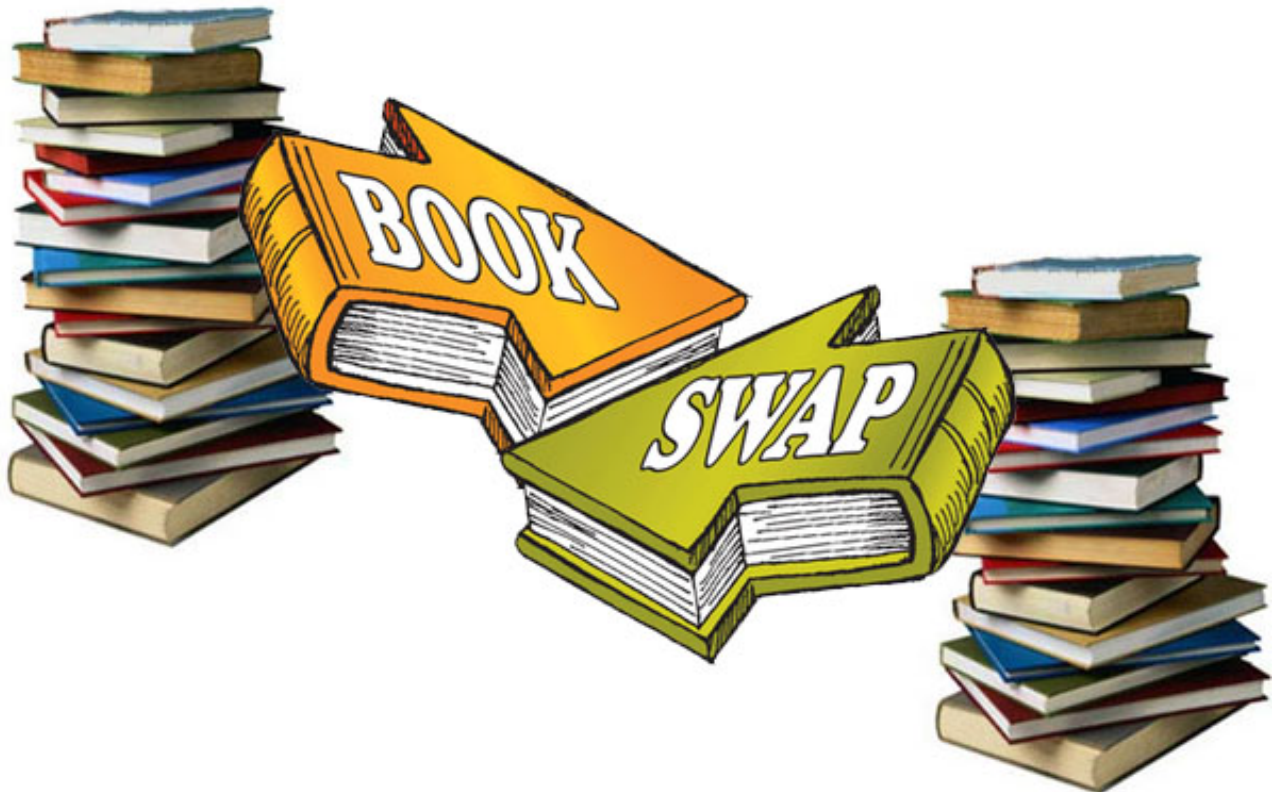
-Sunday, May 14: bring your books to Weldin Hall between 8:00 am and 12:30 pm. You don't have to bring in a book in order to get a book, but if nobody brings in a book, then this whole concept is toast, right?

-Sunday, May 21: come by Weldin Hall after worship service, relax, browse awhile, and take home as many books as you'd like. We'll even have book bags for you!

After the Swap is over, any remaining books will be donated to local organizations such as senior centers, veterans' and children's hospitals, and elementary schools. If you have a favorite local organization that you recommend for a book donation, let us know at the Book Swap on May 21.

Now is the time to start gathering books that you're ready to part with – books for all ages! -- and make room for books you'll find at the Swap.

One more thing: put a little comedy in your day and find 14 book genres in this paragraph. It's not a mystery what the Stewardship Committee is cooking up for May 21: Book Swap 2017! It would be a true crime if you missed all the action and adventure in Weldin Hall on May 21. You might even make history, and for sure drama, if you find romance in the stacks. So give your mental health a boost, get your poetry in motion, and travel on by after worship services. New age, teen age, all-the-rest age, come discover the art of reading. See you there!



Boyscout Sunday



C O S E L P I C S I D C H U R C H Y
 S R N E S A C R A M E N T E S A A S
 G T U T H F F P B U N N Y D U D E R
 G T N C R O A A P M E M A S S R N A
 E E T I I S L A S U O E D E E Y O F
 L C D N S F R Y C T R T N T J A I E
 P A N O E A I H W B I D U A F D T S
 Y A V E D M A X T E E N S L A S C T
 D E L E T R A S I W E N G O M R E I
 R Y A M I I I T H O O K R C I U R V
 C A S S S R N S S I N O I O L H R A
 A D T T H I A E T E A R O H Y T U L
 L I S C N I C I P S T C E C S A S I
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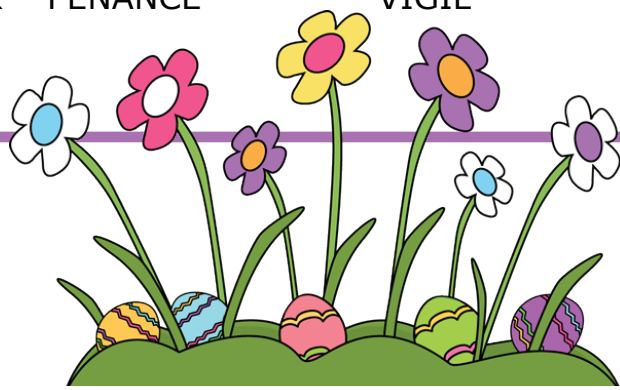
ASH WEDNESDAY
 BREAD
 BUNNY
 CALVARY
 CELEBRATION
 CHOCOLATE
 CHRIST
 CHURCH
 CROSS
 CRUCIFIXION
 CUSTOM

DEATH
 DISCIPLES
 EGG HUNT
 EGGS
 EUCHARIST
 FAMILY
 FASTING
 FESTIVAL
 FRIDAY
 HOLIDAY
 HOLY WEEK

JESUS
 LAST SUPPER
 LENT
 MARY
 MASS
 MEAL
 NEW TESTAMENT
 PALMS
 PARADE
 PASSOVER
 PENANCE

PENITENCE
 PRAYER
 RESURRECTION
 ROAST
 SACRAMENT
 SATURDAY
 SUNDAY
 THURSDAY
 TOMB
 TRADITION
 VIGIL

Crossword puzzle solution on page 12!



April 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)

4/1	Ethan Gaz	4/12	Frank Cebula	4/22	Jen Laning
4/1	Gail Piazza	4/12	Patti Ann Patterson	4/23	Matthew Funke
4/1	Emma Veasey	4/14	Phillip Czarnecki	4/23	Ada Mackie
4/2	Gerald Treese	4/14	Lawrence Gaultney	4/24	Casey Andrews
4/3	Lydia Hill	4/14	Tiffany Graham	4/24	Carson Cebula
4/4	Alexandria Gautsch	4/14	Caleb Neely	4/24	Connor Cebula
4/7	Courtney Chambers	4/14	Wendy Schweiker	4/24	Alice McCool
4/7	Jane MacDonald	4/14	Ronnie Smith	4/24	Libby Treese
4/7	Edward McKeown	4/14	Connie Wilkinson	4/24	Paula Trout
4/8	Jacob Cain	4/15	Joyce Browne	4/24	Jacob Vassalotti
4/8	Caitlin Healy	4/15	Roger Cebula	4/27	Bailey Racine
4/10	Catherine Grablis	4/15	James Zimmer	4/28	Ellen Gruebel
4/10	Marsha Perrine	4/19	Bud Crossan	4/28	George Leathrum
4/10	Katherine Zimmer	4/19	Scott Hill	4/29	Celeste DiSciullo
4/11	Edward Hendricks	4/21	Michael Gravatt	4/30	Vanita Carroll
4/11	Charles Werner	4/22	Stanley Cebula, Jr.	4/30	Dianne Thompson
4/12	John Anderson	4/22	Kyle Gravatt		

April Anniversaries

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

4/8	Gifford & Virginia Biles	4/21	Wayne & Wendy Eller
4/15	Jack & Cathy Williams	4/21	Gary & Carolann Lewis
4/16	William & Barbara Pinder	4/22	Charles & Mary Werner
4/17	Lee & Barbara Clugston	4/26	Stanley & Vickie Cebula
4/17	Ronald & Nancy Fetterolf	4/27	Mike & Jennifer Noll
4/18	Larry & Sandra Holland	4/30	Thomas & Crystal Campbell

April

		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
2 <i>Communion</i> 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Service 12:15 PM New Member Class PM Youth Group	3 6:00 PM Cub Scouts 7:00 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM Handbell Choir	4 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 2:30 PM Elkton Rehab (Betty Budrow's Team)	5 12:00 PM Lenten Lunch 6:15 PM Communion 6:30 PM Men's Choir 7:00 PM Chancel Choir	6 7:00 AM Classic Christians' Trip to Annapolis 8:00 PM AA Meeting	7	8 10:00 AM-12:00 PM Chancel Choir Cantata Rehearsal					1		
9 <i>Palm/Passion Sunday</i> <i>Baptism</i> <i>Blood Pressure Screenings</i> 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Service 12:00 PM Easter Egg Hunt/Luncheon PM Youth Group	10 6:00 PM Cub Scouts 7:00 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM Handbell Choir	11 9:30 AM Staff Meeting	12 10:30 AM Tele-Care Committee Meeting 12:00 PM Lenten Lunch 1:00 PM Ruth Sarah Circle Meeting 6:15 PM Communion 6:30 PM Cub Scout Committee Meeting 6:30 PM Men's Choir 7:00 PM Chancel Choir	13 <i>May Newsletter Deadline</i> <i>Mauindy Thursday</i> 6:00 PM Soup/Bread Dinner 7:30 PM Worship Service 8:00 PM AA Meeting	14 <i>Good Friday</i> 12:00 PM Ecumenical Cross Walk	15							
16 <i>Easter Sunday</i> 7:30-10:30 AM Easter Breakfast 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:45 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Worship Service	17 <i>Easter Monday</i> <i>Office Closed</i>	18	19 6:30 AM Men's Breakfast 5:00 PM Relay For Life Committee Meeting 6:15 PM Communion	20 8:00 PM AA Meeting	21	22							
23 7:30AM-12:30 PM Blood Drive 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:30 AM College Outreach 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Service PM Youth Group	24 6:00 PM Cub Scouts 7:00 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM Handbell Choir	25 9:30 AM Staff Meeting	26 6:15 PM Communion 6:30 PM Men's Choir 7:00 PM Chancel Choir	27 Nino's Day/Night Out For Missions 8:00 PM AA Meeting	28	29 Christmas in April							
30 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Service PM Youth Group													2017



“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.....Lee Collins
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 afternoon

12:30-3:00 p.m.

