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Deadline for Article Submission is the 15th of Each Month

FROM THE PASTOR

Rev. Eric Warner, Senior Pastor

Happy February!

I want to encourage you to be mighty prayer warriors in this season of transition. With a new administration taking over to lead our country, the tensions of our current political atmosphere, and everything else going on in the world, we need God’s love to prevail. The scriptures encourage us in Philippians 4:6 to not worry about anything but to bring everything to the Lord in prayer. Why are the scriptures so insistent that prayer play such pivotal role in our lives?

Prayer connects us to our savior in a deep and abiding relationship. Prayer enables us to hear God’s direction for our lives. Prayer is a gift to those who are hurting and suffering. Prayer fills our hearts with gratitude and allows us to share with God how much God means to us. Prayer results in miracles, healing, redemption, forgiveness, and revival. Prayer is truly one of the mightiest of our tools against the evil powers of this world.

I encourage you to live each moment recognizing that God is with you through the Holy Spirit. You are the temple of the Holy Spirit. Draw near to God in prayer and God will transform your heart and break through into hurting world.

Paul says in 1 Timothy 2:1-4, “First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.”

Lent

40 days of preparation

The season of Lent marks the 40 day (plus Sundays) journey of Jesus from the wilderness of temptation to the glorious event of Easter. It is a contemplative season, marked by times of quiet and reflection, during which we're invited to think on the state of our souls and our relationship with the Lord. To that end, Lent is filled with many spiritual opportunities in which you're invited to take part.

Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, February 17th at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Celebrate the first day of Lent by attending this service of prayer, repentance, the imposition of ashes, and Holy Communion

Palm Sunday

Sunday, March 28th at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Celebrate the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem with the waving of palm branches and shouts of Hosanna!

Maundy Thursday

Thursday, April 1st at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Mark the final night Jesus had with his disciples before his crucifixion with Holy Communion and scripture readings

Good Friday

Friday, April 2nd at 12:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Contemplate the death of Jesus on the cross

Easter Sunday Services

Sunday, April 4th at 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ and the promise that we too will be raised with him!



Love One Another

by Nancy Crawford, Lay Leader

February, the shortest month of the year, is also the month we celebrate love. I've always chosen this as a time to celebrate all the people in my life who are special and who make me feel good every time I see them. I make sure I send a card with a heartfelt note, or make a call just to say, "I love you," and/or "thanks for being my friend." It's been my experience that nothing makes a person feel better than to know they are loved and that they hold a special place in someone's heart.

I have a poster that I kept hanging on my office wall for over 30 years. It says, "There's a ripple effect in all that we do. What you do touches me; what I do touches you." Truer words were never spoken. Our words...and our actions... have consequences. We may never know how we touched someone; how we made them feel.

When Jesus planned our personalities, He wired each of us uniquely. He made us all different, special and precious. It must tickle Him no end that no one—even identical twins—thinks and acts exactly alike. We have to remember that; we're all different.

Jesus relates personally to each of us. He scolded His disciple Peter for his lack of faith, gently instructed Martha, whose brother Lazarus had recently died, and forgave and corrected the woman caught in adultery. Every encounter was as unique as the person to whom Jesus talked. His words touched their lives. His words continue to touch our lives.

I love the way the Christian Standard Bible expresses Jesus' words in this favorite verse, "*This is My commandment, that you love and unselfishly seek the best for one another, just as I have loved you.*" Kinda gives it a whole new perspective doesn't it? I hope we can all follow this new version of Jesus' old commandment. It would be great if we all expressed tolerance and love for one another and made an effort to go the extra mile to seek the best for one another.

Happy Valentine's Day everyone! Reach out and touch someone with love!



MISSIONS

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

MISSIONS COMMITTEE

Submitted by Joe Tanner

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"

After the 2020 year of trials and unknowns we are into a new year. We are still trying to figure out what 2021 will look like, but our plan is to continue as we have in the past, supporting all the needs we have supported. With vaccines becoming available, hopefully we will be able to return to some degree of normality later this year; however, the holiday surge still seems to be with us so be careful, **wear masks, wash your hands, and observe social distancing.**

- ***EUMC monthly blood drives for the Blood Bank of Delmarva***
Our next donation is February 5th, noon until 5:00 p.m. If you wish to donate, you can sign up at delmarvablood.org or walk-ins are welcome.



The tentative dates for the remainder of 2021 are: March 5th, April 9th, May 7th, June 4th, July 2nd, August 6th, September 3rd, October 1st, November 5th, and December 3rd.

- ***The Emergency Rotating Shelter***
Meeting Ground was looking for volunteers to provide meals (namely dinner) for homeless individuals staying in motels in the area this winter. EUMC's goal was to provide meals for 14 of the 60 nights needed. EUMC volunteers have met that goal and are providing meals for 34 homeless individuals on those 14 evenings. Thank you EUMC for your generous contribution and hard work!
- Wrights AME Church has developed a very serious mold and mildew problem that will require a considerable amount of financial support to solve the problem. EUMC will be working to provide financial support to assist them in solving the problem.

MISSIONS FINANCES: Due to a number of Christmas and end of the year contributions, there was a substantial gain in the mission fund. The Mission Fund balance as of January 15, 2021 was \$12,403.14. Thank you to all who made an end of year contribution.

EUMC is a Missions Loving Church!!



FELLOWSHIP & STEWARDSHIP

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

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Submitted by Ellen Gruebel, Committee Chairperson

1 Peter 4:10 *"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms."*

Greetings from the Stewardship Committee! We hope this finds our congregation well! Our Committee is busy discussing things we'd like to do this year that we had hoped to do last year. For Earth Day Sunday, April 25th, we've been working with the education director to select several projects for the Sunday School classes that are related to Earth Day. We've chosen three craft projects which we think the students will enjoy. We're also discussing another 5K walk/run this Spring, since it is such a great way to bring people together, to raise funds for brain cancer research. This will be in honor of Nadine Allen's great-grandson, Kameron. Due to the virus, we may look into a 'virtual' 5K. In addition, since our committee is also responsible for something special for Laity Sunday, October 17th, we may invite a speaker to discuss a topic of importance. At this time, we're leaning towards the topic of Personal Security since it is so important to all of us, regardless of age. We look forward to being more productive this year on Laity Sunday!

May God bless all with good health and peace in the new year!



CALLING ALL MEN

Don't forget, on the third Wednesday of every month at 7:30 a.m. the Men's Breakfast takes place at Cracker Barrel. All men of the church are invited to take part in this time of food, fellowship and discussion of a new topic every month. No sign-up is necessary, just show up at 7:30 ready to eat breakfast and have fun! The breakfast is usually over in an hour. This month's Men's Breakfast will take place on Wednesday, February 17th.

ANGEL TREE 2020

Submitted by Millie Jones & Kathy Keithley

EUMC has been a part of the Angel Tree Giving Program for 20 years.

Thank you all once again for supporting the children of the Angel Tree program. This year we were able to give 42 gifts to these children.

A very special thank you to our special helpers, Jessica and Kristina.



EDUCATION

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

*Congratulations to
Katie & John!*

Aubrie Nicole Sparks
Born January 19, 2021



YOUTH

"Guide me on your truth and teach me, for you are God my savior, and my hope is in you all day long" Psalm 25:5

CONFIRMATION CLASS 2021

Please help us to gauge interest in Confirmation classes this spring. Confirmation is for young people in grades 6-8. The students would learn about their faith in a series of classes and at the end of the classes, there would be a special worship service to profess their faith and enter into membership in the church. Young people who have not been baptized are oftentimes baptized at that time as well. The classes would be held on Sundays, scheduled around our worship services. If you are interested in having your child confirmed this year, please let us know by contacting the church office or emailing Pastor Eric at pastoreric@elktonumc.org.

Confirmation Class



MUSIC & WORSHIP

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

MUSIC MINISTRIES

Submitted by Suzette Burgess

Choir Director & Coordinator of Music Ministries

My hope is that our music here at EUMC continues to be an inspiration and comfort in these troubled times. Many thanks again to all who have participated in the month of January: Paul Humphrey, Jake and Debbie Schneider, Sid Bledsoe, Jerry McNabb, Darrin Peters, and especially our incredible accompanist and organist, Brian Willmore! Thank you also to Pastor Eric for researching and writing the hymn stories. I continue to welcome any and all musical contributions, both in person and previously recorded. I am praying that the vaccine will enable the future homecoming of our wonderful choir safely. Please be safe and look forward to warmer weather!



HOLY COMMUNION

Don't forget that Holy Communion is not only offered on the first Sunday of every month during morning worship, but it's also celebrated every other Wednesday night in the Chapel at 6:15 p.m. All are invited and welcome to take part! Wednesday night communion will take place on February 10th and 24th.

ALTAR FLOWERS

If you would like to provide altar flowers in memory or honor of someone, please put your name on the sign-up sheet located on the bulletin board across from the office or you may call the church office at 410-398-0933 to request a date. Many dates are still available, including:

February 21 st	March 7 th	April 25 th	May 2 nd	June 20 th
	March 14 th		May 9 th	
	March 21 th		May 16 th	July 4 th
	March 28 th		May 23 rd	July 18 th



Remember, if a date you'd like is already taken, you can choose to place flowers on the organ with a dedication in the bulletin.

FINANCE & GIVING

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

FINANCE NEWS

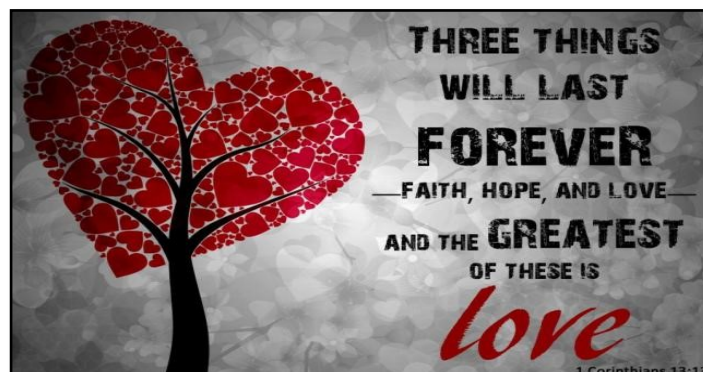
Submitted by Laurie Ruth, Treasurer

Thanks to a very generous congregation, EUMC ended the year on a good financial note. As you can see below, the year ended in the black by \$29,203.45. The figure would have been less without the Payroll Protection Plan that the church received in the amount of \$27,431.75. Without receiving the funds from the PPP, the church would have ended the year with a gain of \$1,311.60. This is amazing and only due to the continued dedication of the congregation to support EUMC. For the past several years, the church has ended the year with a deficit. Ending the year on a positive financial note is all due to the dedication of the congregation and the diligence of the staff to take conservative measures in spending.

Below you will see a comparison of the income and expenses for 2020 versus 2019.

	<u>Thru Dec 2020</u>	<u>Thru Dec 2019</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Income	432,549.84	434,160.29	-1,610.45
General Expenses	62,347.28	66,732.07	-4,384.79
Church Staff	232,746.92	262,540.81	-29,793.89
Council on Ministries	8,894.17	9,857.07	-962.90
Education	890.35	5,547.44	-4,657.09
Youth Programs	0.00	930.69	-930.69
Rental Property	0.00	884.73	-884.73
Church Utilities	25,536.97	25,045.79	491.18
Insurance	8,556.27	9,384.62	-828.35
Church Maintenance	54,655.86	55,233.78	-577.92
Parsonage Expenses	9,718.58	9,432.76	285.82
Miscellaneous	-0.01	218.45	-218.46
Gain(Loss)	29,203.45	-11,647.92	

Thank you, the congregation of Elkton United Methodist Church, for your continued dedication to the church community. As with our Lord and Savior, you make all things possible.



February 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)

2/3 Hannah Lightcap
2/8 Robert Dalrymple
2/8 Charlotte Mehosky
2/10 Stanley Cebula
2/11 Jack Starrett
2/11 Robert Waddington
2/13 Lauren Davis (Hanel)
2/15 William (Kevin) White
2/16 Grace Achuff
2/16 Donna Horgan
2/16 William Moffitt
2/17 John Baynes
2/19 Mark Grunert
2/20 Heather Blackiston



2/21 Grant Neely
2/22 Cossie Gibson
2/23 Arlene Zappo
2/24 Rachel Miller
2/24 Brian Willmore
2/25 Carolann Lewis
2/25 Gary Lewis
2/26 Denita Catron
2/27 Helen Hanel-Gray
2/27 Donna Perkins
2/28 Linda Truitt
2/28 Allyson Veasey
2/29 Ben Dalrymple

February Anniversaries


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



2/2 Carol & Hobert Halsey
2/2 Sheila & Edward Hendricks
2/6 Betty & Frank Deibert
2/8 Emilie & Bob Waddington
2/13 Debbie & Gary Storke
2/14 Sharon & Gerald Slayman
2/28 Carol & Edward Sise

If we missed your birthday or anniversary please accept our sincerest apologies and let the church office know so we can correct our information.

February 2021

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
	1 6:00 PM Cub Scouts	2 6:30 PM Missions Comm Mtg (Zoom)	3 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	4 8:00 PM AA Meeting	5 12:00 PM Community Blood Drive	6
7 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Tradition & Wisdom Class 12:00 PM Friendship Class (Zoom)	8 6:00 PM Cub Scouts	9	10 12:00 PM Ruth-Sarah Circle 6:15 PM Communion 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	11 8:00 PM AA Meeting	12	13
14 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Tradition & Wisdom Class 12:00 PM Friendship Class (Zoom) 	15 Office Closed 6:00 PM Cub Scouts	16 March Newsletter Deadline	17 Ash Wednesday 7:30 AM Men's Breakfast 7:00 PM Worship Service 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	18 8:00 PM AA Meeting	19	20
21 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Tradition & Wisdom Class 12:00 PM Friendship Class (Zoom)	22 6:00 PM Cub Scouts	23	24 6:15 PM Communion 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	25 8:00 PM AA Meeting	26	27
28 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Tradition & Wisdom Class 12:00 PM Friendship Class (Zoom)						

A V U A N G C A N D Y Q E I Y N J E T F
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 A Q U H S X L I C S A B E R Y H C G O U

Valentine

Friend

Be Mine

Pink

Candy

Cupid

Hearts

Red

Chocolate

Cuddle

Card

Roses

February

Hug

Love

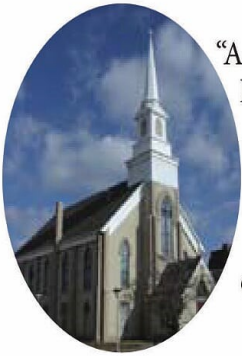
I Love You

Flowers

Kiss

Arrow

Sweet



“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. Eric Warner
Children & Education Ministries Director	Katie Sparks
Youth Ministries Director	Jason Cornish
Organist	Brian Willmore
Choir Director/Coordinator of Music Ministries.....	Suzette Burgess
Nursery Care Professional.....	Yolanda Gomez
Treasurer.....	Laurie Ruth
Secretary.....	Beth Gullion
Sexton.....	Joseph Gordon
Web Designer	Jeff Bunnell

Sunday Worship Service

10:00 am

Contact Information

219 East Main Street
 Elkton, MD 21921
 (410) 398-0933

Church Office Hours

Monday - Friday
 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Email: eumc@comcast.net

Web site: www.elktonumc.org

Elkton UMC Welcome Statement

The Elkton United Methodist Church is a family of God dedicated to worshiping, learning, and serving our immediate community and beyond as we embrace Jesus Christ’s message of love and acceptance. As a United Methodist Church, we stand fully behind the statement, “Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors.” Building on our tradition and the welcoming of those who have come before, we celebrate our diversity and invite all persons regardless of age, racial or ethnic background, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, marital or socioeconomic status, nationality or physical or mental ability into full participation as children of God in the life of this community of faith.