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Deadline for Article Submission is the 15th of Each Month

FROM THE PASTOR

Rev. Eric Warner, Senior Pastor

I love a good summer thunderstorm. I have always been fascinated by them from the time I was a kid. I do not really know why they are so riveting to me other than the fact that the power of a thunderstorm is simply awe-inspiring. The deep, rumbling thunder that shakes your home and you to the very bone. The flashing lightning strikes that zigzag in such a beautiful display. Maybe it is the thrill that comes with such an awesome display of power that makes a thunderstorm so exciting to me.

A thunderstorm also serves as a reminder to me of what an awesome God we serve. In the scriptures, with just the words, “Peace, be still” Jesus reveals his power to end the storm. David reflects in Psalm 27, “The Lord is my light and my salvation – whom shall I fear?” And In Romans 8:31 the Apostle Paul asks, “If God is for us, who can be against us?” Our God is so awesome and yet we oftentimes put our trust in other things. We trust in money and possessions to provide security. We trust in politicians to make the world a better place. We trust in unhealthy relationships to fulfill needs that are too deep for another person to meet. Yet, the one who is the creator of all things and knows the number of hairs on our head, is waiting for us to trust in him. In John 14:17 Jesus says of the Holy Spirit, “You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.”

The next time you find yourself caught up in a thunderstorm, may it serve as a reminder to you of our awesome God. May it inspire you to seek out the one who can calm the storm with a word. May the Holy Spirit fill you and make you whole.



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"

The Missions Committee is working on scheduling mission activities for the summer and fall and getting back to a number of the missions that we have done in the past. But we have to remember that we cannot be careless...get vaccinated and follow all the rules to help eliminate the spread of the Covid virus.

EUMC monthly blood drives for the Blood Bank of Delmarva: Our June blood drive had 28 donors, the same as May. While the number of donors is good, the number of EUMC donors is not nearly the majority and, in fact, we do not have many EUMC donors. Because of the 4th of July weekend, our July donation is Thursday, July 1st, noon until 5:00 pm. 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: August 6th, September 3rd, October 1st, November 5th, and December 3rd. **Donating Blood Saves Lives!**

We have six volunteers for the Spirit Lake mission trip from Sunday August 1st to Friday August 6th. They are Terri Lokey, Ted McDowell, Mike Foster, Pastor Eric Warner, Tyler Crismon, and Joe Tanner. Airline ticket prices and car rental fees have increased this year and so our costs are higher than they were in 2019. We ran a sponsorship donation program and a contribution program in the Church after services on June 20th and June 27th. We may need to continue the contribution program in July.

The Missions Committee is looking forward to running the local missions support programs that we have done in the past, including our teacher breakfast and teacher support program for Elkton elementary schools, our Community Kitchen support, and the Harvest Food Drive in September for Immaculate Conception food pantry. In addition, we will continue our support of local and non-local needs.

EUMC is a Missions loving church!!

MISSION FINANCES: The Mission Fund balance in the cash account as of June 18, 2021 was \$2,788.28, with an additional \$28,837.10 in a money market account. Thank you everyone for your generous support of EUMC's Missions program that allows us to do important things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.



CALLING ALL MEN

The Men's Breakfast takes place on the third Wednesday of every month at 7:30 a.m. at Cracker Barrel. All men of the church are invited. No sign-up is necessary. This month's Men's Breakfast will take place on Wednesday, July 21st.

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 Corinthians 4:2: "Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful."

Greetings from the Stewardship Committee! We hope this finds our congregation well! Our Committee is now hopeful to be able to finally carry out some of our planning from last year.

We're discussing having another 5K walk/run and hope to schedule it for sometime this fall at a local park, since it is such a great way to bring people together, to raise funds for brain cancer research. We are currently looking into several parks as the venue in which to hold this event. This will be in honor of Nadine Allen's great-grandson, Kameron, and the Vassalottis' great grandson, Hunter.

In addition, since our committee is also responsible for something special for Laity Sunday in October (10/17/21), we are hopeful to be able to invite a speaker to our church to speak in Weldin Hall 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. A member of the Elkton Police Department may be providing this for us. We look forward to being more productive this Laity Sunday!

Finally, we're hoping to schedule a Financial Peace University class for the younger folks of our congregation next spring.

We are ever hopeful we'll be able to hold some of these events at some point this year! More to come as our year unfolds! May God bless all with good health and peace!



TRUSTEES TRIVIA

Do you know what this is a picture of and where it is located in the church?

Text your answers to 443-907-3282 - be sure to tell us your name.

(Answer in next month's newsletter)



Answer to last month's trivia question: The cross on top of the baptism font in the sanctuary.



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

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Submitted by Katie Sparks, Director of Children & Education Ministries

Sunday School: Sunday school is now over for the year, but I want to give a big thank you to all who helped us keep the program going over the course of the year. Thank you to those who taught me how to edit videos, to those who recorded lessons, and those who taught in person or virtually! We could not have had a Sunday school program without you!!

We are currently recruiting volunteers to teach Sunday School next year (both children and adult classes). If you are interested please contact Katie Sparks for more information.

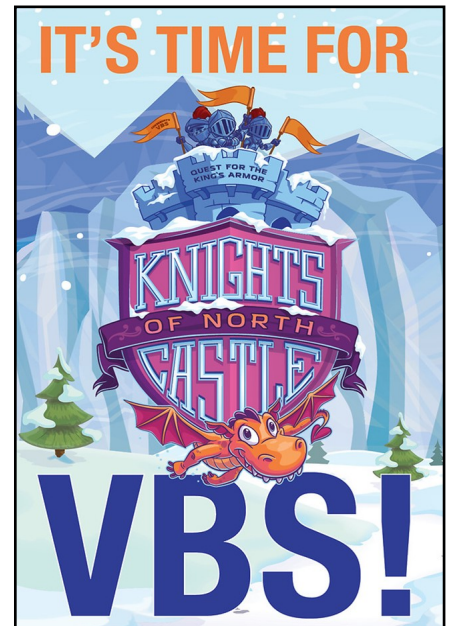
VBS: We are excited to announce that our Vacation Bible School program will be back this summer!!

All children ages 2 years through 5th grade are invited to join the Knights of North Castle where they will go on a quest for the king's armor and learn about God's strong power. Children will be guided through multiple fun stations each night and a snack will be provided each evening

VBS will take place August 8th- August 12th from 6 pm - 8 pm each evening in Weldin Hall. Since we will not be providing dinner this year, VBS is free for all children who attend. You may sign-up by visiting the church website or by picking up a sign-up form from the nursery on Sunday morning and then submitting it to Katie Sparks in the education office.

If you would like to volunteer at VBS by leading a station or group, please email Katie Sparks (katharine.gravatt@gmail.com) for more information. We are looking for both adult and youth volunteers.

Nursery News: Our nursery upstairs is open and back in the nursery during both services every Sunday morning. Yolanda is eager to see all the children again, so if you have children aged 6 weeks to 5 years old please bring them along to play!!



MUSIC & WORSHIP

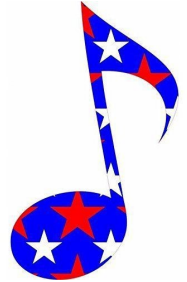
"May the LORD bless you from Zion all the days of your life..." Psalm 128:5

MUSIC MINISTRIES

Submitted by Suzette Burgess

Choir Director & Coordinator of Music Ministries

This EUMC music update comes the day after our first choir rehearsal in fifteen months - what a sense of joy and excitement! All of our choir members showed up with great big smiles on their faces and wonderful melodious voices. We cannot wait to sing for you on Sundays! If you feel that you are missing out on this unique experience, please consider joining the Chancel Choir in September. Our first rehearsal will be Wednesday, September 8th at 7 p.m. We will be participating in both worship services on Sundays (a major change) and our rehearsal on Sunday mornings will be at 7:50 a.m., not 10:15. This may free up some of you that attend Sunday School in between services. More details will follow in the upcoming newsletters!

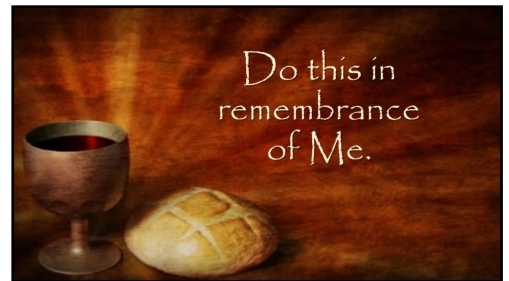


Our search continues for a new handbell choir director and handbell players. If you know of anyone who may be interested, please have them call the church office or email me at suzetteising@gmail.com. I am sure everyone would love to hear those glorious bells again.

The cicadas are finally quieting down now and I can enjoy my back deck again. Please have a relaxing and safe summer.

HOLY COMMUNION

We will no longer be using the all-in-one communion cups. Starting July 4th, we will celebrate Holy Communion in a more familiar way. Ushers will invite the congregation to come forward to receive communion at the chancel rail. Once there, you will kneel, if able, and will receive a cup with the juice and be handed a piece of bread. Those at the rail will eat the bread and drink the juice together at the direction of the pastor. You will then return to your seats. We will take care to ensure our servers have gloved hands. For those unable to come forward to receive Holy Communion, servers will be happy to serve you in your seats.



WEDNESDAY NIGHT COMMUNION

Holy Communion is offered on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month and will be held on July 14th and July 28th in the Chapel from 6:15 - 6:30 pm.

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

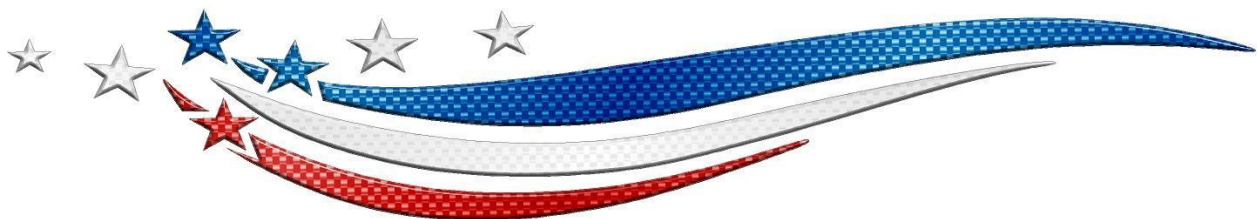
Submitted by Laurie Ruth, Treasurer

As of May 31, 2021, the Ministries Fund is still running with a positive balance. The amount of the balance is \$6,488.98. This amount is more than at the end of April, which is very good.

As you can see below, the income is down from 2020, but so are the expenses. The Church Staff line is a big contributor to the reduction in expenses, but even bigger is the Council on Ministries. The reduced amount for this is due to not having a Joy of Faith Weekend. The Utilities are less because the church has not been open to the community. As for the Church Maintenance line being lower, it also has been due to the church not being open.

Elkton United Methodist Church is very fortunate to have such a wonderful church community. Even through this very difficult time, a time that so many have faced tremendous challenges themselves, members have kept the church viable. Thank you!

	Thru May 2021	Thru May 2020	Difference
Income	156,404.01	170,242.26	-13,838.25
General Expenses	24,135.35	26,597.87	-2,462.52
Church Staff	95,158.42	102,089.23	-6,930.81
Council on Ministries	508.74	7,928.42	-7,419.68
Education	0.00	810.40	-810.40
Youth Programs	0.00	0.00	0.00
Rental Property	0.00	0.00	0.00
Church Utilities	10,851.40	13,397.20	-2,545.80
Insurance	4,482.90	4,125.39	357.51
Church Maintenance	11,307.58	25,599.61	-14,292.03
Parsonage Expenses	3,470.64	3,151.94	318.70
Miscellaneous	0.00	-0.01	0.01
Gain (Loss)	6,488.98	-13,457.79	



CHURCH NEWS

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

NEWS FROM THE SPRC

Now that we are working to get back to normal, there have been some changes to the staff of the church.

Donna Horgan retired last year from her position as assistant sexton due to her added responsibilities in Annapolis. Joseph Gordon has taken on her assignments in the church.

Jason Cornish’s responsibilities as an air traffic controller have been greatly increased since President Biden travels to Delaware. Jason will be often traveling to New York for extra training. This added workload cuts into his time working with the youth. Therefore, Jason has resigned from the youth director position. There are some new ideas being considered for this position that will be coming out later.

Paul Deemer has moved to Pennsylvania and has resigned as director of the bell choir. We will be looking for a new director as well as bell ringers. If there is anyone interested, or knows someone who would be interested in being part of the bell choir, let the office know.

The Lord has always provided us with the right people for the right time. Prayers will be greatly appreciated as we work to fulfill our staffing needs.

IMPORTANT DATES IN CHURCH HISTORY

Submitted by Ivan Mehosky

Turning Points The Council of Chalcedon (451 A.D.)

Even after Nicea and the Nicene Creed, Christendom was still unsettled. The church had not had an easy road because the Eastern and Western branches of the church had cultural differences and there was an environment of strife 127 years later!

On May 23, 451, Emperor Marcian summoned an Ecumenical Council of bishops in hopes of defining the true faith for all times. There were about 520 bishops attending and for one month, they wrestled with the following question: How could Jesus be fully human and fully divine and how did that humanity and that divinity coexist? The Chalcedon Council’s answer has stood the test of time. Jesus was “one person” consisting of “two natures.”

Although there would still be disputes in the centuries to come, the Council of Chalcedon was a critical turning point in the history of Christianity because although fiercely divided, they were able to reach so vital an agreement.

CHURCH NEWS

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

INDEPENDENCE DAY

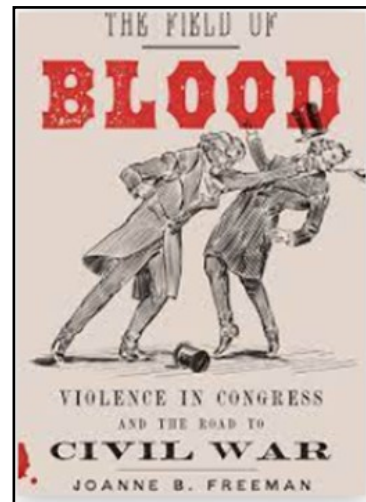
Submitted by Nancy Crawford

By the time this newsletter is published, many of us will be making plans for the impending July 4th holiday weekend—traveling, welcoming company, having or going to cookouts, grabbing some rest and relaxation, and, oh yes, fireworks!

If you’re like me, and have more than a passive indifference towards politics, current events, and our young nation’s impressive and hard-won history, I must strongly suggest you grab a copy of “The Field of Blood—Violence in Congress and the Road to Civil War” by Joanne B. Freeman. Spoiler alert: it is not for the faint of heart, but it is a must-read to learn the historic truth behind our political culture and fragile democracy. A read that will put a new light on our celebrations.

If you think politics today is a freak show and enough to make you want to move to Switzerland, you might change your mind by reading this portrait of American politics during its most rowdiest years... the very early days when spittoons were more often than not missed by gobs of tobacco juice making the carpeting in the capitol building squish when it was walked upon; the days when canings, overturning furniture and out-and-out fisticuffs were daily occurrences in Congress. Today’s political atmosphere pales by comparison in the decades leading up to the Civil War when politics was not only verbally contentious, but rife with physical conflict on any given day. Understand why there was a Civil War and why violence is as American as cherry pie and such a big part of our American culture.

This book was a finalist for the Gilder Lehrman Lincoln prize, a semifinalist for the Pen/John Kenneth Galbraith Award, an NPR Best Book of the Year, and a Smithsonian Best History Book of the Year winner. Enjoy!



July 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)

7/1 Tina Vassalotti
7/2 Julianne (Julie) Gibson
7/2 Evelyn (Claire) Griffith
7/2 Jerry McNabb
7/5 Elizabeth McCarthy
7/5 Colin O'Neal
7/6 Terri Allen
7/7 Barbara Tenney
7/8 Susan Johnson
7/9 Dorothy Eltzroth
7/9 Andrew Kosinski
7/10 Wendy Eller
7/10 Shirley Robinson
7/12 Patricia Corder



7/15 Mike Noll
7/15 Paul Stark
7/17 Randall Cebula
7/17 Barton Funke
7/18 Kathie Gray
7/19 Nancy Leathrum

7/19 Megan O'Neal
7/19 Adam Slak
7/20 Henry Fehlman
7/20 Kyle Fennemore
7/20 Edward Marsilii
7/22 Lauren Neely
7/24 Carole Seifred
7/24 Susan Smith
7/25 William Mackie
7/28 Brian Ingram
7/28 Wanda Jackson
7/28 Roger Robinson
7/30 Joseph Tanner
7/31 Judith Tanner

July Anniversaries

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



7/3 Ray & Katie Whiteoak
7/6 James & Susan Zimmer
7/7 Robert & Linda Meffley
7/9 William & Mary Mackie
7/11 Richard & Lorraine Jones
7/15 Michael & Kimberly Edler
7/17 Larry & Heidi Gaultney
7/19 Robert & Susan Johnson
7/21 Robert & Jane MacDonald, Sr.
7/30 Philip & Rita Norman

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

July 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4 8:30 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Worship Service	5 Office Closed 6:00 PM Cub Scouts	6	7 6:00 PM Girl Scouts 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	8 8:00 PM AA Meeting	9 10	17
11 8:30 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Worship Service	12 6:00 PM Cub Scouts	13	14 6:00 PM Girl Scouts 6:15 PM Communion 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	15 August Newsletter Deadline 8:00 PM AA Meeting	16	24
18 8:30 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Worship Service	19 6:00 PM Cub Scouts	20	21 7:30 AM Men's Breakfast 6:00 PM Girl Scouts 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	22 6:00 PM Stewardship Comm Mtg (@ the Gruebel's) 8:00 PM AA Meeting	23	31
25 8:30 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Worship Service	26 6:00 PM Cub Scouts	27 6:30 PM Missions Comm Mtg	28 6:00 PM Girl Scouts 6:15 PM Communion 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	29 8:00 PM AA Meeting	30	

T M N W Q J E T A R B E L E C D Y
 I M T Q H H Y M Q R Q U D U E I A
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 I A S V Y E M R E D R E M M U S E

America

Blue

Britain

Celebrate

Declaration

Fireworks

Flag

Fourth

Freedom

Holiday

Independence

July

Liberty

Parade

Picnic

Red

Sparklers

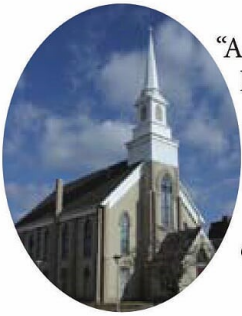
Stars

Stripes

Summer

United

White



“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

8:30 am & 11:00 am

Contact Information

219 East Main Street
 Elkton, MD 21921

(410) 398-0933

Email: eumc@comcast.net

Website: www.elktonumc.org

Church Office Hours

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

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.