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Deadline for Article Submission is the 15th of Each Month

FROM THE PASTOR

Rev. Eric Warner, Senior Pastor

Dear Friends,

I just got back from an amazing vacation to Sedona, Arizona, where I experienced the majesty of God’s beautiful creation. As I experienced the presence of God, I recognized my need for God in this broken world. God heals, restores, and strengthens us for a purpose – to go and be the hands and feet of Christ.

In this season of the Christian calendar, we have already experienced the glorious resurrection of Jesus Christ on Easter Sunday. Now we find ourselves walking through the scriptures where Jesus was present with his disciples and continuing his earthly ministry. He appeared to many witnesses and the news of his resurrection spread far and wide. However, Jesus wasn’t going to be around for much longer. He was going to ascend to heaven so he was preparing his followers to continue his ministry.

We too must always be preparing ourselves to continue Christ’s ministry. We have a community of people all around us who need the good news of God’s love in their lives. They need to hear about grace, forgiveness, and the hope they have in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Our challenge as the church is to be Christ for the world. The good news is that Jesus helps us. Jesus prays for us. Jesus is truly and mysteriously present with us in the sacraments of Holy Communion and Holy Baptism. Jesus has sent a helper, the Holy Spirit, who is God with us. God is so near to us that God is even within our hearts.

My challenge to you is to prepare yourself. This pandemic is still with us, but it will likely soon end. Now is the perfect time to seek after God in prayer and Bible study. Now is the perfect time to get out into nature and commune with the Holy Spirit. Now is the perfect time to allow God to grow you so that you are able to be a faithful witness.

May God transform you and me to be true disciples. Look for opportunities in the newsletter to serve and grow in Christ.

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"

We are hoping and it is beginning to look like some things may be getting back to normal. While some of the missions we support are still suspended, others are opening up. The committee has put together a 2021 budget for the rest of the year that supports those missions we have continued to support through the pandemic and will support some missions that have been suspended. But we have to remember that we cannot be careless, get vaccinated, wear masks, wash your hands, and observe social distancing.

- EUMC monthly blood drives for the Blood Bank of Delmarva: Our April blood drive had 35 donors, which is higher than our average has been. While the number of donors is very good, the number of EUMC donors is not nearly the majority and in fact we do not have many EUMC donors. Our next donation is May 7th from 12:00 pm 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: June 4th, July 2nd, August 6th, September 3rd, October 1st, November 5th, and December 3rd. **Donating Blood Saves Lives!**

- With more and more people being vaccinated, and the Covid problem becoming somewhat under control, the opportunities for external mission support may become more available. I've spoken with Pastor Mike Flowers at the Spirit Lake Mission in North Dakota and they are opening up for mission teams this summer. At present, they have about a third of their schedule filled. They are limiting some of the activities and accommodations to make the situation safer. The Missions Committee has decided to try to put together a Missions Team to go to Spirit Lake the first week of August if it is available and if we can get a team together. If you are interested, please contact Joe Tanner.

EUMC is a Missions loving church!!

MISSION FINANCES: The Mission Fund balance in the cash account as of April 16, 2021 was \$11,387.28 with the additional \$28,831.99 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.

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

Ecclesiastes 5:4-5: "When you make a vow to God, do not delay to fulfill it. He has no pleasure in fools; fulfill your vow. It is better not to make a vow than to make one and not fulfill it."

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. This will be in honor of Nadine Allen's great-grandson, Kameron. And, since our committee is also responsible for something special for Laity Sunday (October 17th), we are hopeful to be able to invite a speaker to our church 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 Laity Sunday! 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!

CALLING ALL MEN

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 ready to eat breakfast and have fun! This month's Men's Breakfast will take place on Wednesday, May 19th.



2022 WOMEN'S RETREAT

Good news! Planning is underway for the 2022 Women's Retreat. The retreat will be January 14th through 16th so mark your calendars. All women of the church are welcome to attend!

EVANGELISM

“He who despises his neighbor sins, but blessed is he who is kind to the needy.” Proverbs

EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

Submitted by Linda Meffley

Calling all Evangelism Committee members past and present. Please join us May 31st for the Elkton Memorial Day Parade. We will gather at the parking area near the farmer's market on Howard Street at 10:00 am. Wear your red, white and blue, and comfy shoes too! Parade starts at 11:00 am and usually runs about an hour. We will be waving, smiling and walking. All COVID safety measures will be in place. Looking forward to a fun event.



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

Exciting News!! More Sunday school classes are now meeting in person each Sunday morning. Drop by the Tradition and Wisdom class in the chapel or the Uppity Women’s class in room one. Both classes meet at 9:45 am. The Friendship class and children’s classes are still virtual at this time.

We are planning to hold all Sunday school classes in person come fall. If you are interested in teaching either an adult or children’s class please let Katie Sparks know.

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 by to play!!



EXPLORING REVELATION

Come join Ivan Mehosky as we open the last book of the Holy Bible, The Revelation of Jesus Christ, and study the meaning of each chapter in a clear and understandable way. This eight-week study of the “End Times” will be held in Weldin Hall every Tuesday, beginning May 4th through June 22nd, from 10 am to 12 pm. All are welcome.

MIDWEEK BIBLE REFLECTION

Every Wednesday at noontime, Pastor Eric shares some of his recent reflections from the Bible. Join Pastor Eric live on Facebook or check in later and watch the video that is uploaded to both YouTube and Facebook.





EUMC Youth

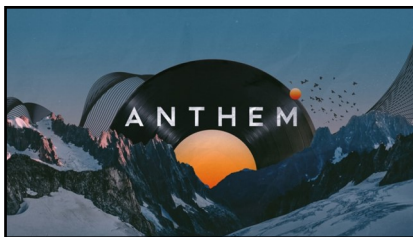
THE VILLAGE



A 4-WEEK SERIES ON DOUBTS & QUESTIONS

Sunday, April 18th through May 9th

SERIES OVERVIEW: You know that feeling you get when someone makes you a big promise? You probably feel excited, but you might feel a little skeptical too — especially when that promise gets delayed . . . and delayed again . . . and again. If you have to wait long enough for something you were promised, you might start to wonder when you’ve waited long enough. Eventually, you might even give up hope. In this 4-week series, we’ll meet a handful of people from Scripture who each spent a long time waiting on God. From the stories of Abraham and Sarah, Paul and Silas, King David, and Joseph, we’ll discover that God has a plan, but we might have to wait for it, and we’ll be reminded that, while we’re waiting, God is faithful, God is listening, and we should never give up, because God’s not giving up on us.



A 4-WEEK SERIES ON WORSHIP

Sunday, May 16th through June 6th

SERIES OVERVIEW: When you hear the word “worship,” you might think of a church building, a choir, your favorite worship song, or maybe a special tradition. Worship takes a lot of forms, but sometimes we make the mistake of thinking worship is something it’s not — or, at least, something much smaller than what it really is. You can worship through song and meaningful traditions, but when’s the last time you worshiped by going outside? Or cleaning up your neighborhood? Or making a friend? Or telling God you’re angry? In this 4-week series, we’ll explore the book of Psalms (worship songs to God) as we discover that worship might be bigger than we ever imagined. Maybe worship isn’t just an anthem we sing, but an anthem we live, by worshiping with all of creation, worshiping to remember what God has done, worshiping even when it’s difficult, and worshiping together because we’re God’s family.

There are two components to each series:

Video Lessons that will be available Sunday around service time. They will be uploaded to the church’s Youtube site as well at www.elktonumc.org/news, or on our FaceBook private group page - search Elkton United Methodist Youth Group.

Grow on the Go Discussion Groups will be available on Sunday from 1:00 pm to 1:45 pm and Thursday from 7:00 pm to 7:45 pm. The intent of this discussion groups is to engage the content and work through the scriptures, questions, and activities in each lesson. We hope you plan to attend!

Grow on the Go! via Zoom
Meeting ID: 836 3757 5807
Passcode: 372481

Finally, I would like to have a parent planning meeting around the middle of May to firm up our plans for worship, outreach, service, and engagement for the summer and up to the beginning of school. Knowing that scheduling will be one of the stickier challenges, I am prepared to offer several times. Please let me know via email what does not work for your schedule and I will propose several times that fit outside of those encumbrances.

Blessings,
Jason C.

YOUNG ADULT SUMMIT

The 2021 Annual Young Adult Summit will be held on May 15th from 9:00 am-12:00 pm via Zoom. The event is open to all of our young adults ages 18-35 and we will use our time together to discuss the effects of COVID-19 on ourselves and our communities, Racism and Social Media, and One's Own Identity.

This is a FREE event and there is no pre-registration required.

To join us on May 15th simply go to:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86030930882?pwd=QjJHUTRvZkdud0RRCnlJITWtkZDgzQT09>



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

I am writing this as I am aboard a flight to Atlanta to visit my son, his wife, and their two children (one of which was born in February!). It is a dreary day, and during the takeoff we went through about 5 minutes of fog and heavy clouds. The plane finally broke through, the sun came out, and I can see the fluffy white carpet below, a truly beautiful sight. It occurred to me that maybe we are still stuck in the fog of this pandemic and are waiting to break through to the beautiful sunlight. It is coming! I am anxiously looking forward to the day when we can come together as a choir again and praise God with all of our voices. Thank you for your continued support for our music program. All of your encouraging words to myself, Brian, and our worship musicians mean more than you probably realize. Hopefully more faces will start to appear as the vaccine is distributed and people begin to feel comfortable coming back to in-person worship. I always welcome new talent, so if you've always wanted to perform in church on an instrument or by singing, now is your chance!



WEDNESDAY NIGHT COMMUNION

Holy Communion will be offered on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month beginning in May and will be held on May 12th and 26th 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

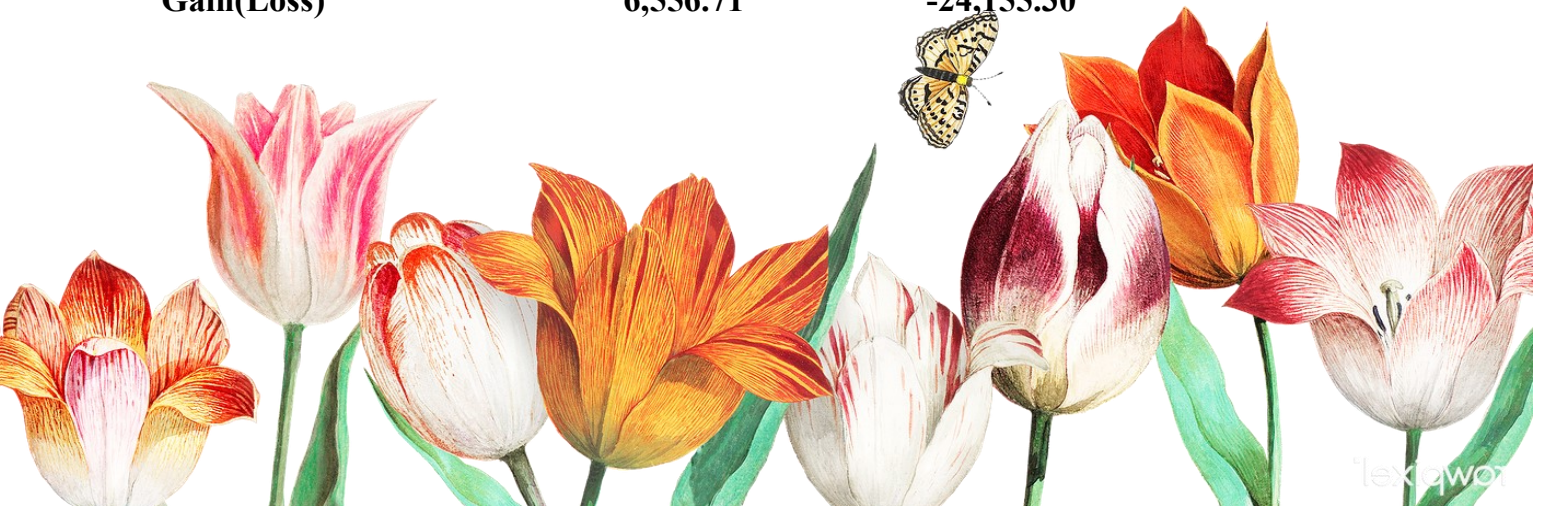
Submitted by Laurie Ruth, Treasurer

The year-to-date actual figures for the Ministries Fund through March are still in the positive. As of March 31, 2021, the gain is \$6,556.71. This is down from February, but still very good. The second quarter insurance bill was paid in March and the insurance went up by \$52.00 per quarter.

Because of your continued dedication to the church, we are able to carry on without difficulty, which is a marvelous thing. The members of this community are such a blessing.

Below you will see a comparison of the income and expenses for 2021 versus 2020.

	Thru March 2021	Thru March 2020	Difference
Income	99,854.89	96,918.50	2,936.39
General Expenses	14,273.53	15,997.27	-1,723.74
Church Staff	55,720.83	62,010.35	-6,289.52
Council on Ministries	228.03	6,495.65	-6,267.62
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	7,213.80	8,628.04	-1,414.24
Insurance	4,482.90	4,549.65	-66.75
Church Maintenance	9,016.32	20,616.73	-11,600.41
Parsonage Expenses	2,362.77	1,965.72	397.05
Miscellaneous	0.00	-0.01	0.01
Gain(Loss)	6,556.71	-24,155.30	



CHURCH NEWS

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

IMPORTANT DATES IN CHURCH HISTORY

Submitted by Ivan Mehosky

Council of Nicea - Part 1

Almost 300 years passed since the Church began. By this time, Christianity had spread to Europe, Africa and Asia. The Roman Empire still dominated the known world, but Christians were being violently persecuted by the Jews, mobs, kings, rulers, and emperors. Thousands and thousands of Christians of all ranks were murdered for their faith in Jesus Christ.

But this all changed when “a brighter prospect was opened to the Christian world.” The year was 323 A.D. when the Emperor Constantine defeated the tyrant Licinius and tranquility was established for the church. Constantine enacted laws to protect and strengthen the church by recalling those who had been banished for profession of the faith; restored property and goods of those banished. He also decreed that old churches would be restored and new and more splendid ones built. The Emperor commanded that the clergy should be held in honor and protected from foreign enemies. The people were exhorted to give up idolatry and embrace the true Christian religion. It became the religion of the Roman Empire.

Now, while Constantine was zealously overseeing this great work, a dissension arose in the very heart of the Christian world that began to cause such division and animosity that it got the attention of Emperor Constantine.

The dispute started in Alexandria, Egypt between Bishop Alexander and one of his presbyters by the name of Arius over the nature of the Holy Trinity.

To be continued in Part 2 next month...



CHURCH NEWS

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



TRUSTEES TRIVIA

Can you figure out what this is a picture of and where?
(Answer in next month's newsletter)



Answer to last month's trivia question: In the sanctuary, above the organ pipes, you will see this square plate. It is a reflector for the laser beam that comes from the back of the church as part of our smoke/fire alarm system for the sanctuary. If the beam is interrupted by smoke or fire, the alarm goes off.

CHURCH NEWS

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



We are looking for some more volunteers since we are back to two in-person worship services. We need...

Ushers: If you're interested please reach out to the church office. Bart Funke is organizing this effort.

Greeters: If you're interested please reach out to the church office or Millie Jones. Millie is organizing this effort.

Parking Lot Attendants (Knights): These people would greet you at the back door and help people get into the church safely. Please reach out to the church office if you're interested in helping in this way.

Tech Booth Assistants: Are you good using a video camera? Are you comfortable around electronics and recording equipment? Well, we've got an opportunity for you to serve your church community by volunteering in our tech booth. Training is provided and you will always be working with another technician. See Roger Robinson or Joe Buckley to sign up today!



May 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)

5/1 Richard Achuff

5/1 Lauren Zimmer

5/2 Linda White

5/4 Fred Herron

5/9 Richard Jones

5/11 Nathan Hanel

5/12 Audrey Leathrum

5/12 Denise Lee

5/12 Sarah Schmook

5/13 John Clark

5/13 Ashlee Crawford

5/13 Barbara Pinder

5/15 Philip Norman

5/17 Robert Cornett

5/18 Virginia Corona

5/18 Larry Garber

5/18 Alison Sprague



5/19 Amanda Cornett

5/19 Romie Jones

5/20 Kelly Eddinger

5/21 Paul Humphrey

5/22 James Gravatt

5/23 Grace Starrett

5/25 Connery Eddinger

5/25 Marlene Gautsch

5/25 Robert Meffley

5/27 Carolyn McCardell

5/27 Gerald Slayman

5/28 Robert Perkins

5/28 John (Mikey) Sparks

5/28 Rebecca Winkowski

5/29 Virginia Biles

5/30 Charlotte McCool

5/31 Amanda Herron

May Anniversaries

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



5/3 James & Lynn Dech

5/3 Donald & Pamela Stepler

5/4 John & Kelly Thompson

5/10 Edward & Kelley Marsilii

5/17 Brian & Deborah Ingram

5/17 Roger & Carol Robinson

5/20 Keith & Andrea McKenica

5/23 Kevin & Linda White

5/24 Dick & Lea Gochnauer

5/26 Buddy & Faye Camors

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

May 2021

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
						1 10:00 AM Communion Element Pickup
2 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:45 AM Adult Classes 11:00 AM Worship Service 12:00 PM Friendship Class (Zoom)	3 8:00 AM AARP Tax Aide 6:00 PM Cub Scouts	4 10:00 AM Bible Study 6:30 PM Missions Comm Mtg	5 12:00 PM Bible Reflection w/ Pastor Eric 6:00 PM Girl Scouts 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	6 8:00 PM AA Meeting	7 12:00 PM Community Blood Drive	8
9 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:45 AM Adult Classes 11:00 AM Worship Service 12:00 PM Friendship Class (Zoom)	10 8:00 AM AARP Tax Aide 6:00 PM Cub Scouts	11 10:00 AM Bible Study	12 12:00 PM Bible Reflection w/ Pastor Eric 12:00 PM Ruth-Sarah Circle 6:00 PM Girl Scouts 6:15 PM Communion 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	13 8:00 PM AA Meeting 6:30 PM Stewardship Comm Mtg 6:30 PM Dorcas Circle	14	15
16 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:45 AM Adult Classes 11:00 AM Worship Service 12:00 PM Friendship Class (Zoom)	17 <i>June Newsletter Deadline</i> 8:00 AM AARP Tax Aide 6:00 PM Cub Scouts	18 10:00 AM Bible Study	19 7:30 AM Men's Breakfast 12:00 PM Bible Reflection w/ Pastor Eric 6:00 PM Girl Scouts 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	20 8:00 PM AA Meeting	21	22
23 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:45 AM Adult Classes 11:00 AM Worship Service 12:00 PM Friendship Class (Zoom)	24 6:00 PM Cub Scouts	25 10:00 AM Bible Study	26 12:00 PM Bible Reflection w/ Pastor Eric 6:00 PM Girl Scouts 6:15 PM Communion 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	27 8:00 PM AA Meeting	28	29
30 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:45 AM Adult Classes 11:00 AM Worship Service 12:00 PM Friendship Class (Zoom)	31 <i>Office Closed Memorial Day</i>					



Spring

W H M Z A L K R S G U B E C H T Q I
F T U L Y I J B E P Q N O P A S D X
S J N I B O R H L V M C S U T L E K
P E D W G X E K J O A Z R M C Q F B
R C Y Q U S A V N T S I E K H R O L
O L A M B F D T E U P S W G X T J E
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T B E J D W P Q I S G X L M F P A U
V M Z C A I K D H B N U F S E B R T
D K Y T L X G O R F P E J Q B W O A
E P G L E B S U A M O C H I C K S N
B N A R F Y O J T H Z M T D L I P G
G R K E N R T S N A I L Q W U S R V
A D O N P H E M B J S T C E S N I F
K W U F I N L T Q E R M E A Y O N D
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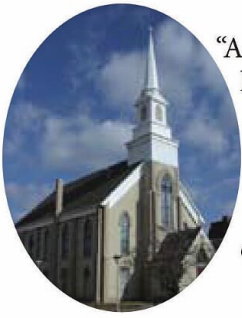
BIRDS
BLOSSOM
BUGS
BUNNY
BUTTERFLY

CALF
CATERPILLAR
CHICKS
FLOWERS
FROG

GARDEN
GRASS
HATCH
INSECTS
LADYBUG

LAMB
NATURE
NEST
RABBIT
ROBIN

SNAIL
SPRING
SPROUT
TULIP
WORM



“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
 OrganistBrian Willmore
 Choir Director/Coordinator of Music Ministries..... Suzette Burgess
 Nursery Care Professional Yolanda Gomez
 TreasurerLaurie Ruth
 Secretary Beth Gullion
 SextonJoseph 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.