

PROJECT AGAPE SUNDAY



This ministry of the Western NC and North Carolina Conferences serves the Kashatagh region, the sole humanitarian aid partnership licensed by the Republic of Artsakh (Nagorno-Karabakh) govt.

Project AGAPE is a dynamic ministry resulting from the partnership between Armenian Apostolic Christians and United Methodists throughout North Carolina.

It is a WNCC Advance Special and a Special Sunday is designated each year by the Annual Conference of Western North Carolina.

North Carolina United Methodists are the only humanitarian aid relief in the Kashatagh region. Under the invitation of the oldest Christian Church in the world, Project AGAPE has helped serve a people rocked by earthquake, genocide, economic collapse, continuous blockade and extreme poverty.

Donations to Project AGAPE support and/or provide:

- Two orphanages/children’s homes;
- Educational and training opportunities for children, youth and adults at the AGAPE Christian Education Center in Berdzor;
- Distribution of the only outside humanitarian aid: food, clothing, school supplies, Christmas Shoe Boxes (Samaritan’s Purse does not help in this region), and medical relief (all of which comes from the people of North Carolina);
- 2xC Projects - the Cattle Project and the newly launched Chicken Project (Heifer International does not help in this region) that helps families earn a living;
- The local priest;
- The head doctor at the AGAPE Hospital.

In 2017, families received the following help from United Methodists in North Carolina (partial listing):

- 5,176 children received Christmas Shoe boxes at a value of \$79,717;
- 25 families benefitted from the Cattle Project, including the veterinarian's salary for a total value of \$21,133;
- 62 families participated in the Chicken Project at a value of \$10,841;
- 1,200 families received clothing, shoes, school supplies, backpacks, food, etc.
- Total value of all humanitarian aid distributed was \$495,302;

PROJECT AGAPE COLLECTION WEEK

This coming week (April 23-26) is the Project AGAPE Spring collection week for the Western North Carolina Conference. You may place items in the Narthex or drop them off to Ben Wallace in the church office. Deadline to bring donations is Sunday, April 29.

Here are a few things currently needed by the residents of Armenia: Bedding, clothing, coats, infant items, kitchenware, office supplies, school supplies, sewing supplies, shoes (new only) and toys (new only). Children’s clothing has been listed as a priority need for early 2018. Please remember that we can **not** accept the following items: food (including candy & gum), any item with batteries, clothing that is worn, torn or dirty, medicines, electrical items of any size.

You may also make a financial contribution with a check payable to “Elkin FUMC” and write “Project AGAPE” on the memo line.

2018 ELKIN FUMC LEADERSHIP

CHURCH VISION AND LEADERSHIP TEAM

Lay Leader/Facilitator of the Team: James Freeman
Staff-Parish Chair: Jeff Seaford
Finance Chair: Herb MacDonald
Trustees Chair: Steve Wells
Treasurer: Ellen Schumak
Lay Member to Annual Conference: Joan Sanders
Nurture Coordinator:
Outreach Coordinator: David Van Antwerp
Witness Coordinator: Sharon Harvey
At-Large: Mary Keller, Randy Hunsucker, Gardner Meek
Pastor: Mike Shuford

TEAMS AND COORDINATORS

Weekday Programs: Gail Midkiff (’18), Ali Wells (’19), Lauren Meek (’20) [Board elects chair]
Lay Leadership: Tammy Coley (’18), Loretta Cash (’18), Linda MacDonald (’18), Betsy Robertson (’19), Louise Cockerham (’19), Gina Peterson (’19), Nancy Ball, (’20), Larry Johnson (’20), Emaline Cockerham (’20) plus Lay Leader (James Freeman), Pastor, Chair (Mike Shuford)
Trustees: George Brown (’18), Eris Ball (’18), Dave Johnson (’18), Steve Wells, chair (’19), Jake Schott (’19), Mike Smith (’19), Charles Bellia (’20), Steve Brown (’20), Martha Smith (’20)
Staff-Parish: Jeff Seaford, Chair (’19), Bob Midkiff (’18), Jill Bellia (’18), Bern Schumak (’18), Trish Grider (’19), Ray Parker (’19), David Ackerman (’20), Steva Bledsoe (’20), Birdie Johnson (’20) plus Lay Leader (James Freeman), Lay Member to Annual Conference (Joan Sanders), Pastor (Mike Shuford)
Finance: Herb MacDonald, Chair (’20), Larry Irwin (’18), Ann Merlo (’18), Carey Gupton (’19), Birdie Johnson (’20), plus Treasurer (Ellen Schumak), Lay Leader (James Freeman), Lay Member to Annual Conference (Joan Sanders), Trustees Chair/Rep, Staff-Parish Chair/Rep, Pastor (Mike Shuford), Carol McDowell [non-voting]
Endowment: Gambill Aldridge (’18), David Robertson (’19), Bill Green (’20), Trustees Chair/Rep, Finance Chair (Herb MacDonald), Treasurer (Ellen Schumak, Missions (David Van Antwerp), Pastor (Mike Shuford) [Endowment elects chair]
Parsonage: Steve Wells (’18), Omegia Seaford (’18), Marian Green (’19), Donna Thompson (’19), Martha Maier (’20), Randy Bledsoe (’20) [Trustees elect chair]
Worship Coordinator: John Kennedy
Outreach (Missions) Coordinator: David Van Antwerp
Witness Coordinator: Sharon Harvey Social Action: TBA

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Pastor - Michael A. Shuford (mshuford@elkinfumc.org)
Director of Discipleship - Cindy Furr (cfurr@elkinfumc.org)
Director of Music & Children’s Ministries - Amy Johnson (ajohnson@elkinfumc.org)
Parish Life Coordinator - Benjamin Wallace (bwallace@elkinfumc.org)
Director of Weekday Programs - Beth Darnell (bdarnell@elkinfumc.org)
Custodian - Pat Trexler (ptrexler@elkinfumc.org)
Assistant Custodian - George Brown (gbrown@elkinfumc.org)



Order of Worship

Fourth Sunday of Easter
April 22, 2018

10:55 am

Follow Jesus, Make Disciples, Transform the World

Welcome to worship at First United Methodist Church.
We especially welcome those who are guests today.

ENTRANCE AND PRAISE

Gathering Music
Welcome, Sharing of Prayer Concerns, and Announcements
Invitation to Worship
Chiming of the Trinity
Prelude - “Psalm” - Young

✠ Call to Worship
Let us worship the Lord, our Good Shepherd
The Lord will lead us and restore our souls.
What if we should walk through the dark valley?
The Lord will lead us and comfort us.
A feast table awaits us on the other side.
God will anoint us as God’s children.
It is there that we shall dwell.
Forever!!

—Adapted from Psalm 23

✠ Processional Hymn No. 162 - “Alleluia, Alleluia”
✠ Invocation

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Children’s Time
(Children, age 4 - 2nd grade are welcome at Children’s Church)

Prayer for Illumination - In Unison
God of mercy and grace, you speak of loving others. Let your Word remind us of that commandment, but let it not be burdening obligation for us, but rather a joy for us to respond thusly to your words of love and kindness for us. Amen.

Holy Scripture I John 3:16-24 (Pew Bible, p. 226)
✠ John 10:11-18 (Pew Bible, pp. 97-98)
The Word of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God!

✠ Affirmation of Faith No. 885 - “A Modern Affirmation”

Anthem - “Love Comes from God” - Pote
My friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. And every one who loves is a child of God and knows God. No greater love have you than this, than to lay down your life for a friend. Jesus has said, “Love one another as I have loved you.” But they who do not love do not know God, for God is love. He sent his only begotten Son, so that we might live through him. Peace be with you, my friends.

Sermon - “Love Abides”

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Hymn No. 572 - “Pass It On”
(Children return from Children’s Church)

Call to Prayer - “Jesus Loves Me Still Today”
Jesus loves me still today, walking with me on my way, wanting as a friend to give light and love to all who live. Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord’s Prayer - No. 895

The Offering - “I Am the Vine” - Pote
I am the vine and you are the branches, abide in me and I will abide in you. Then you will bear much fruit for without me you can do nothing. As the Father has loved me, so I love you. Go then and love one another. Keep this commandment, for no greater love have you, than to lay down your life for your friends. Go then and bear much fruit; go abide in my love.

✠ Doxology - Lasst uns erfreuen
Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

✠ Prayer of Thanksgiving

SENDING FORTH

✠ Benediction

✠ Choral Response - “Blessing of Light” - Martin
Go now in peace and let your light so shine; go now in hope and warm the cold of night. Go now in joy with hearts ablaze; walk in the light and live in praise. Go now in peace; go now in hope; go now in joy; go now in love. Go and change the world with grace. Amen.

✠ Hymn No. 549 - “Where Charity and Love Prevail”

✠ Chiming of the Trinity

✠ Postlude - “Carillon Toccata” - Young

✠ Please stand as you are able

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Pastor - Rev. Michael A. Shuford

Director of Music & Children’s Ministry - Amy E. Johnson

Gathering Music - Allison Foster Edwards

Children’s Time - Kristi Gaddis

Lay Reader - Ellen Schumak

Children’s Church - Jennifer Kleinheksel

Acolytes / Chimer - Miles Cline, Grace Harrison, Cama Ball

Crucifer - Ashley Hunsucker

Counters - Gambill Aldridge, Margaret Tucker, Steve & Vickie Wells

Greeters - David Poindexter; Danny Freeman; Rob & Gina Peterson; Gambill Aldridge; Taylor, Kristi, Wyatt & Hadley Gaddis; Randy, Yvonne, Ashley & Kelly Hunsucker

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CAMP TEKOA REGISTRATION: Dates for 2018 United Methodist Camp Tekoa have been set. Located near Hendersonville, NC, Camp Tekoa offers camps for children age 7 through high school. Hiking, rock climbing, ropes course, fishing, boating and evening camp fires are included. Scholarships and early registration discounts are available. For more information visit www.camptekoa.org.

ON THE MOVE DAY TRIP: The Young at Heart will be on the move Friday, April 27. We will travel to Hiddenite, NC. We will see Moravian Falls (from the bus), visit the Hiddenite Arts & Heritage Center, have lunch at The Yellow Deli and visit the Emerald Hollow Mine. Cost is \$10 for a bucket at the mine, plus money for lunch. Please register and pay Cindy Furr by April 24. Make checks payable to FUMC and note on the memo line “Hiddenite.”

SUPPLIES BEING COLLECTED: The UMW are collecting supplies to help students in memory of Lynn Sloan Barnes and in memory of Nina Tharpe. Needed items include: deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, shower gel, shaving cream, razors, feminine products, soap and hand sanitizer. UMW collection boxes are located in the narthex and in the Fellowship Hall.

TRI-C REQUESTS SALTINE CRACKERS: Thanks to the abundance of Toilet Tissue donated by our church (1,442 rolls in 3 months), Tri-C has enough on hand to last until July. They have asked if we can begin donating Saltine Crackers instead of Toilet Tissue. Please place crackers in the basket in the entryway of the church office.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: Mark your calendar, VBS will be held July 13-15. More info coming soon on flyers around the church and in the newsletter.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Church Family: Bliss Vanderpool, Ann Graham, Sam Tesh, Holly Gambill, Betty Tesh, Rev. Paul McCauley, Zack Trexler, Paulette McCauley, Libbi Parks, Emad Elkhaiat, Ray Fencel, Larry Johnson, Walt Pettit, Hal Stuart, Bill Amburn, Ercel Carter, Dan & Sallie Park, Laura Gwyn, Gary Conrad, Bonnie Stuart, Cindy Furr, Loretta Cash, Family of Gary Maxey, nursing home residents & homebound

Extended Care: Mary Cockerham, Iris Amburn, Mary Neil

Extended Family: Ruth Deck, John Seats, Diana Hamm, Richard Smoot, Clifford Jordan, Ronnie Ray, Nada Sheets, Emily Stewart, Ethan Spencer, Florence Leverett, Ana Garciana, Steve McLain, Betty Jordan, Linda Caudill, Jeff Miltner, Sharon and Brad Watterson, Pierce & Aishling, Priscilla Smith, Marc Bishop, Lynn & Dale Rose, Buck Freeman, Lorene Newman, Michael Hines, Dennis Staley, Robert Miller, Joan Shuford, Dr. Richard Belcher, Dr. Gladys Campbell, Mary Harper Edsall, Nan Boyd, Gus Bellia, Lonnie Snider, Teresa Shook, Millie Joyce, Martha Key, Kidd Family, Phyllis Lowe, Family of Margaret Poole Griffin, Deborah S. Smith, Judy Moody, Family of Bruce Morton, Andra Hankey, Abe Heath, Betsy Robertson’s Mother, Andrew Reece, Family of Daniella Suarez

All of our military personnel and their families

CALENDAR FOR APRIL 22 ~ 29

Sunday

8:45 am - Early Worship (Chapel)
9:00 am - Confirmands Mass at St. Stephen Church
9:45 am - Sunday School
10:55 am - Worship (Sanctuary)
5:00 pm - Middle & Sr. High Youth (Youth Room)
5:30 pm - JOY Bible Study (Parlor)
- Men’s Bible Study (Forum Class)

Monday

9:00 am - Weekday Programs
6:30 pm - Cub Scouts
6:45 pm - Boy Scouts

Tuesday

9:00 am - Weekday Programs
- Morning Bells (Sanctuary Balcony)
11:30 am - JOY Bible Study (Parlor)
2:45 pm - Choir for 4 yrs - Kindergarten

Wednesday

9:00 am - Weekday Programs
2:45 pm - Choirs for 1st - 6th Grades
6:00 pm - Solid Rock Café (F. Hall)
Menu: BBQ, Baked Beans, Slaw
6:45 pm - Youth Volunteer at The Ark
- Children’s Bible Study (SS Classroom)
- “Cost of Discipleship” Study (Chapel)
- Evening Bells (Sanctuary Balcony)

Thursday

9:00 am - Weekday Programs
10:00 am - No Adult Bible Study

Friday

9:00 am - *On the Move* Trip to Hiddenite

Sunday

8:45 am - Early Worship (Chapel)
9:45 am - Sunday School
10:55 am - Worship (Sanctuary)
4:00 pm - Confirmation (Youth Room)
5:00 pm - Middle & Sr. High Youth (Youth Room)
5:30 pm - JOY Bible Study (Parlor)
- Men’s Bible Study (Forum Class)

VOLUNTEERS FOR THE WEEK OF...

April 22

April 29

Tues. Choir Snacks

Alex, Mima

Liam

Wed. Choir Snacks

Heston, Holt, Hill

Evan, Callie

Wed. Night Desserts

Brown, Snider, Combs, Kleinheksel, Aldridge

Powell, Harrison, Shuford, MacDonald, McDowell