



The First Word

Elkin

First United Methodist Church

August 17, 2017

Vol. XXXII, No. 15

AUGUST 27 IS BACK TO SCHOOL SUNDAY

On Sunday, August 27, 2017, we will dedicate the 10:55 am worship service to our children as they begin another school year. Part of this celebration will be a blessing of our school children for a successful, happy, and safe school year. In addition, we plan to also provide a blessing for all school personnel: administrators including central office staff and school board members, teachers, assistants, cafeteria workers, bus drivers, custodians, school resource officers and basically anyone working for the education of Elkin's children and youth.

We have extended our invitation to Elkin City Schools superintendent and school board. We extend our invitation to anyone working in education (whether in the school system or in our preschool) to come join us as we recognize and pray over you and the children during this special service.

YOUTH SHARE IMPACT OF MISSION TRIPS



On August 30 our youth and their adult chaperones shared stories of how their lives were changed this summer while serving on 3 separate Mission Trips. Our youth worked with Carolina Cross Connection (CCC) and ministered to people through home repairs in Wilkes County, built relationships with orphans in Honduras and the homeless in Asheville.

One of the youth, Emma Aldridge, spoke about pure joy and simple things. Each of our mission trips embraced this joy as we met our homeowners, played with children in the orphanages and talked with our new friends in Asheville. Emma explained that God's huge miracles are told throughout the scriptures. One of those miracles is when Jesus brought Lazarus back to life, telling him to rise up. Emma stated that God's little miracles are all around us every day. We see them in creation, we hear them in our heartbeats and we feel them in the touch of shaking someone's hand. These miracles in such simple things bring about pure joy in ours and others lives. God gives us unconditional love through His grace. During the missions weeks we were able to share that love and receive more than we ever expected.

CHRISTMAS BOXES, OTHER ITEMS NEEDED FOR PROJECT AGAPE

Christmas boxes for the children in Armenia are a highlight of Project AGAPE. Our church can participate by filling boxes in time for the next shipment to Armenia this fall. The boxes with lists of appropriate items for age groups are available in the narthex and on the table outside of the church library.

Donations may be dropped off at the church office during the week or on Sunday mornings. Deadline to return boxes to the church is September 17.

In addition to Christmas boxes Project AGAPE is always in need of other items:

- Bedding (new/used)
- Clothing Accessories
- Coats (new/used)
- Household Items
- Kitchenware
- Office Supplies
- Sewing Supplies
- Toys (New Only)
- Clothing (new/used)
- Carpentry & Tools
- Computer Equipment
- Health/Hygiene Items
- Infant Items
- School Supplies
- Shoes (new only)
- Uniforms

The following items can longer be accepted for shipments to Project AGAPE:

- Food (including candy & gum)
- Any items with batteries included
- Clothing that is worn, torn or dirty
- Furniture or large appliances
- Medical Supplies or Medicines
- Anything that is broken or needs repair

An Easy Way To Give to Elkin FUMC

PayPal Giving Fund

<https://www.paypal.com/fundraiser/charity/221649>

100% of your donation comes to the church

Announcements & Reminders

PIZZA WITH PASTOR MIKE: Middle & High School youth are invited to a combined youth meeting next Sunday, August 20 at 5:00 pm. We will have fun, fellowship and pizza. Pastor Mike will join us so everyone will have a chance to meet him if you haven't already!

LAITY SERVICE AWARD: The Laity Service Award is promoted by the WNCC Board of Laity as a means of recognizing a deserving lay person (youth or adult) whose work in the local church and community exemplifies a life of Christian stewardship. The recipient from our church will be honored during a district-wide celebration being held at Millers Creek UMC on Sunday October 15 from 3-5 pm. If you would like to nominate someone from our church please pick up a Nomination Form from the table outside of the Church Library. Please return forms to Pastor Mike by August 20.

CHILDREN'S POOL PARTY: Join us Tuesday, August 22, from 3:00-5:00 pm at the Clines' home (288 Thornecliffe Dr., State Road, 336-244-2107). Bring a towel, floatees, and sunscreen. Snacks and drinks will be provided. If your child does not swim, please come with them. Please bring school supplies for area schools.

PRESCHOOL OPEN HOUSE will be held on Tuesday, August 22 from 5:00-7:00 pm. The first day of school will be Tuesday, September 5.

SOLID ROCK CAFÉ: Join us on August 30 as we kick off fall activities at FUMC. We will have inflatables on the front lawn for the kids to play on from 5:30-7:30 pm. Peter and George will be grilling hamburgers, hot dogs and sausages for dinner at 6:00 pm (in the Fellowship Hall).

TRI-C DONATIONS NEEDED: Tooth Paste is the needed item for August. They are also accepting Bibles to give out to clients. Deposit tooth paste, Bibles, and any non-perishable food items or toiletries in the basket under the table at the administrative entrance.

CHURCH PICNIC IN THE MOUNTAINS: Our annual church picnic at Phyllis Qualheim's mountain home will be held on Sunday, August 27. We will eat around 5:30-6:00 pm. Feel free to come any time after lunch to swim in the lake or play on the beach area. Just bring food to share and folding chairs, blankets, etc. to sit on. Tea and paper products will be provided.

Directions to Phyllis' mountain home: Take Highway 21 toward Sparta / After you go under Parkway Bridge, take the first paved road to the left (Pull Tail Road/County Road 1111) / Approximately 1.5 miles on the right is Araniska Road (County Road 1112) / Pass through the open gate...Phyllis' house is the first house on the left

STEPS RENOVATION: The Trustees are moving on to the next capital project, renovation of the steps and walkway in front of the main entrance to the Sanctuary. Work will begin as soon as we raise the funds to complete the project, which will take approximately \$23,000. Prayerfully consider a contribution and designate it for the Capital Fund. For more information, contact Steve Wells, Trustees Chairperson (stevenwlls990@gmail.com).

PRAYER CONCERNS

Church Family: Bliss Vanderpool, Ann Graham, Sam Tesh, Holly Gambill, Betty Tesh, Rev. Paul McCauley, Sallie Park, Zack Trexler, Paulette McCauley, Libbi Parks, Emad Elkhayat, Ray Fencil, Larry Johnson, Walt Pettit, Hal Stuart, Bill Amburn, Glenda Brown, Ercel Carter, PJ Elkhayat, Dan Park, Brian Carroll, Family of Jimmie Taylor, Maddie Chappell, nursing home residents & homebound

Extended Care: Jim Cockerham, Mary Cockerham, Iris Amburn, Jenny Brown, Frances Harris, Mary Neil, Linda Maxey

Extended Family: Ruth Deck, Aileen Sparks, John Seats, Diana Hamm, Richard Smoot, Clifford Jordan, Ronnie Ray, Nada Sheets, Emily Stewart, Ethan Spencer, Anne Marlette, Clyde Snyder, Florence Leverett, Ana Garciana, Steve McLain, Betty Jordan, Linda Caudill, Jeff Miltner, Kristan Seaford, Sharon and Brad Watterson, Pierce & Aishling, Lonnie Snider, Priscilla Smith, Marc Bishop, Family of Rev. Bill Brown, Lynn & Dale Rose, Buck Freeman, Lorene Newman, Michael Hines

All of our military personnel and their families

OUR SYMPATHY

We extend our sympathy to the Family of Jimmie Taylor who passed away on August 2. A graveside memorial service was held on August 13 at Grassy Creek UMC. Please keep her sister, Vickie Wells and the rest of the family in your prayers.

STEWARDSHIP REVIEW

July 2017

Income: \$27,901.65

Expenses: \$32,422.67

Difference: (\$4,521.02)

January - July 2017

Income: \$223,226.52

Expenses: \$254,768.29

Difference: (\$31,541.77)

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

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

PLACE
STAMP
HERE