

Raelin Carter, Lydia Teachey & Grace Harrison enjoy the inflatables on opening night of Solid Rock Café. - Below

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The First Word

Elkin

First United Methodist Church

August 31, 2017

Vol. XXXII, No. 16

“Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.” ~ Matthew 6:10

This morning I had need to go into the sanctuary and have a meeting with God at the altar. Yes, often we pastors must do that. Part of my prayer time while kneeling there was the prayer familiar to all of us; the one Jesus taught his disciples upon their request that he teach them to pray. In Jan Karon’s series of stories from her Mitford Series, Father Tim calls it the perfect prayer. John Wesley stated, “This prayer, uttered from the heart, and in its true and full meaning, is indeed the badge of a real Christian.” Well, that is no doubt true, but, we know it so well and recite it with such ease, do we truly attend to what we are saying? There is an entire series of sermons in that last statement, but my heart and mind are focused on the line quoted above.

We are asking God’s will be done as thoroughly and completely on earth as it is carried out in heaven. Do we REALLY want that? I hope and trust we do, but as I look at the behavior of Christians on the news as well as many I have been personally associated or acquainted with over the years, I question if we earnestly make that plea. It seems to me that too many of God’s people want to tell God what God’s will is rather than seek what God’s will is for them. As I watch the nightly news, that sort of attitude seems to creep out in the behavior of some “Christians” in the form of racism, sexism, ethnic biases and a number of other issues in which some of us feel certain that God stands with us in our opinions. Let’s not assume too much.

Whereas, I have yet to witness that sort of thing here at Elkin FUMC, (thank you), what does this observation have to do with us? First of all, as we pray, we had better understand and mean what we pray. Secondly, we have an obligation to teach our children that we are here to do God’s will, not that we are to plan God’s will or that God should ever abide by our ideals. Our children, and new Christians, as well must understand that we represent God in this world and how vastly important it is that we do so honestly and correctly thus providing an appropriate witness. We are called to God’s will and it seems that it would be a much better world if we lived and taught that by word and action as Christians and the people called Methodist.

Shalom, Pastor Mike

Response to Hurricane Harvey



Hurricane Harvey hit the Gulf Coast of the U.S. on August 26 affecting millions of people with multiple days of heavy rain, winds, and rising tides. The United Methodist Church is actively present, working with local and state emergency management, FEMA, and other volunteers active in disaster. The Western North Carolina Committee on Relief invites you to stand with our neighbors on the Gulf Coast during this time. Your gifts ensure that our church will be able to provide help and hope for those left homeless or otherwise affected by this disaster for years to come. **Please make checks payable to “Elkin FUMC” with the memo “Harvey Relief.”**

Ministry Volunteers

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Sunday, September 3

Lay Reader: Cindy Furr

Children's Church: Kristi Gaddis

Acolytes/Chimer: TBA

Crucifer/Banner Bearer: TBA

Greeters: J.L. Lowe, Jane Lowe, Mary Renegar, Tony Duncan,
Chris & Tammy Coley, Bob & Gail Midkiff

Ushers: Frank Beals, Rick Caudle, Glen Grider, Lon Snider,
Darryl Rhyne

Counters: Dave Johnson, Gardner Meek, Lauren Meek

Radio Commentator: Tiger Sloop

Sunday, September 10

Lay Reader: Ellen Schumak

Children's Church: Janet Canter

Acolytes/Chimer: Ella Kleinheksel, Starr Morrison, Cama Ball

Crucifer: Silas Coley

Greeters: Tom Gwyn, Steve & Vickie Wells, Martha Maier,
Emaline Cockerham, Louise Cockerham, Andy & Ann Garner

Ushers: Dan Park, Steve Wells, David VanAntwerp, George
Crater

Counters: Mike Powell, Andy & Ann Garner

Radio Commentator: Bob Midkiff

Sunday, September 17

Lay Reader: Ray Fencil

Children's Church: Melissa Cline

Acolytes/Chimer: TBA

Crucifer/Banner Bearer: TBA

Greeters: Steve Mackie, Jane Hazelman, Jake Schot, David &
Betsy Robertson

Ushers: James Freeman, David Poindexter, David Cline, Charlie
Bellia, Danny Freeman

Counters: Frank Beals, David & Betsy Robertson

Radio Commentator: Frank Beals

Sunday, September 24

Lay Reader: Richard Brinegar

Children's Church: Rachel Eidson

Acolytes/Chimer: TBA

Crucifer/Banner Bearer: TBA

Greeters: Rob & Gina Peterson, Gambill Aldridge, Jennifer
Martin Brown, Sam Tesh

Ushers: Gary Conrad, Gerald Combs, Steve Brown, Tiger Sloop,
Randy Hunsucker

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

Radio Commentator: Tiger Sloop

SOLID ROCK CAFÉ

Wednesday, September 6

Menu: Roast Beef, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans

Desserts: Powell, Harrison, Shuford, MacDonald, McDowell

Wednesday, June 13

Menu: BBQ, Slaw, Baked Beans

Desserts: Lowe, Sanders, Andrew, McCrary, Parker, Dent

SEPTEMBER MEETINGS

Staff Parish

Wednesday, September 6, 5:30 pm (Library)

Children's Ministry Team

Sunday, September 10, 2:00 pm (Library)

Vision & Leadership Team

Monday, September 11, 7:00 pm (Library)

Trustees

Tuesday, September 12, 7:00 pm (Library)

Vision & Leadership Team

Sunday, September 17, 12:15 pm (Library)

Lay Leadership Team

Sunday, September 17, 6:30 pm (Library)

Youth Ministry Team

Monday, September 18, 7:00 pm (Library)

Worship Ministry Team

Tuesday, September 19, 6:30 pm (Library)

Finance Team

Tuesday, September 19, 7:30 pm (Library)

Missions Team

Monday, September 25, 7:00 pm (Library)

Trips to Mission Response Center Set To Meet Urgent Need

The Mission Response Center near Mooresville desperately needs volunteers to prepare the next shipment for Project AGAPE and UMCOR shipments. We are answering the call by inviting you to go with us to help sort and pack on the following dates:

- **Tuesday, September 12**
- **Saturday, October 21**

We will leave the church at 8:30 am and return soon after lunch. This is open to ages 12 and above. We will also be taking down some of the things we've already gathered for Project AGAPE.

A sign-up sheet is located on the Missions Bulletin Board outside of Pastor Mike's office. If you have any questions please contact Missions Chair, David VanAntwerp at 336-244-1808.

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

Congregational Care

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

September 1 - Ray McCrary, Lauren Meek, Erin Mason
 September 2 - Carey Bruton
 September 3 - Bill Green
 September 4 - Loretta Cash, Al Sartain
 September 6 - Jake Schot
 September 7 - Miles Cline
 September 8 - Grace Harrison, Ann Merlo
 September 10 - Melissa Cline, Reva Combs
 September 11 - Lucas Keller
 September 12 - Louise Cockerham, Ashley Hunsucker
 September 13 - Kaitlin Rhyne
 September 14 - Greta Wallace
 September 15 - Chay Blanco-Bullen, Alexa Maxey, Gail Midkiff
 September 16 - Kennedy Freeman, Alan Payne, Diane Pettit
 September 17 - Tammy Bullen, Judy Deck
 September 19 - Brad Edwards
 September 20 - Jeff Payne, Martha Smith
 September 21 - P.J. Elkhaiat, Zach Rhyne
 September 22 - Luke Bellia, Amy Johnson
 September 23 - Zack Trexler
 September 24 - Nicole Freeman, Mike Shuford
 September 26 - Lilly Walker
 September 28 - Randy Love, Darryl Rhyne, Betty Tesh,
 Donna Thompson
 September 29 - Brent Kleinheksel, Braxton Eller
 September 30 - Hill Canter, Holt Canter

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

September 3 - Gary & Linda Maxey, Sam & Betty Tesh
 Jeff & Janet Canter
 September 4 - Bob & Gail Midkiff
 September 8 - Ben & Rynne Wallace
 September 11 - Ed & Karen Chappell
 September 16 - Mike & Tonya Smith
 September 28 - Chris & Tammy Coley, Jim & Louise Cockerham

OUR SYMPATHY

Sympathy is expressed to Dan Whelan's family; his mother passed away earlier this month in Texas. Please keep Dan and the rest of the family in your prayers.

Christmas Boxes 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 10.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REMINDERS

TRI-C DONATIONS NEEDED

Jello and Instant Pudding are the needed items for September. They are also accepting Bibles to give out to clients. Deposit Bibles and non-perishable food items or toiletries in the basket under the table at the administrative entrance.

LYDIA CIRCLE MEETING

Lydia Circle will meet on Monday, September 11 at 11:00 am in the parlor. Following the meeting, join us for lunch. All women of the church are invited to attend. Please remember to bring baby bottles and coins for Life Line Pregnancy Help Center.

NOMINATIONS PROCESS BEGINS

If you feel called to a particular leadership position and wish to be considered, please contact one of the members of the Lay Leadership Team (Kathy Gentry, Reva Combs, Peter Graham, Tammy Coley, Loretta Cash, Linda MacDonald, Betsy Robertson, Louise Cockerham, Gina Peterson, James Freeman, Mike Shuford). Current leadership listings are on the Vision bulletin board near the choir room.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

If you are aware of a member of FUMC who would like a visit, a card or a call from a member of our Congregational Care Team, please contact Sharon Harvey at 336-835-2510. One of our goals is to keep in contact with all shut-ins. We always welcome new members to our team. Our next meeting will be on Monday, October 2 at 2:30 pm in the Church Library.

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 Elkhaiat, Ray Fencil, Larry Johnson, Walt Pettit, Hal Stuart, Bill Amburn, Glenda Brown, Ercel Carter, PJ Elkhaiat, Dan Park, Brian Carroll, 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, 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, Lynn & Dale Rose, Buck Freeman, Lorene Newman, Michael Hines, Dennis Stanley, Henry Key Family, Carl Rose Family, Simpson Family, Robert Miller, Amy Shuford, Joan Shuford, Dr. Richard Belcher, Dr. Gladys Campbell, Mary Harper Edsall

All of our military personnel and their families

September Calendar

ONGOING EVENTS

Sunday

8:45 am - Worship
 9:45 am - Sunday School
 10:55 am - Worship
 5:30 pm - JOY Bible Study
 - Mens' Bible Study

Youth Activities (unless listed otherwise)

5:00 pm - Middle School Youth
 6:00 pm - Youth Dinner
 6:30 pm - High School Youth

Monday-Thursday

9:00 am - 1:00 pm - Weekday Programs

Monday

6:30 pm - Cub Scouts
 6:45 pm - Boy Scouts

Tuesday

9:00 am - Morning Bell Choir
 12:00 pm - JOY Bible Study
 2:45 pm - Kids' Choir (4 yrs - K)

Wednesday

2:45 pm - Kids' Choir (1st - 6th grade)
 6:00 pm - Solid Rock Café Fellowship Meal
 6:45 pm - Adult Bible Study
 Activities for Children & Youth
 Evening Bell Choir
 7:30 pm - Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday

10:00 am - Adult Bible Study

Friday

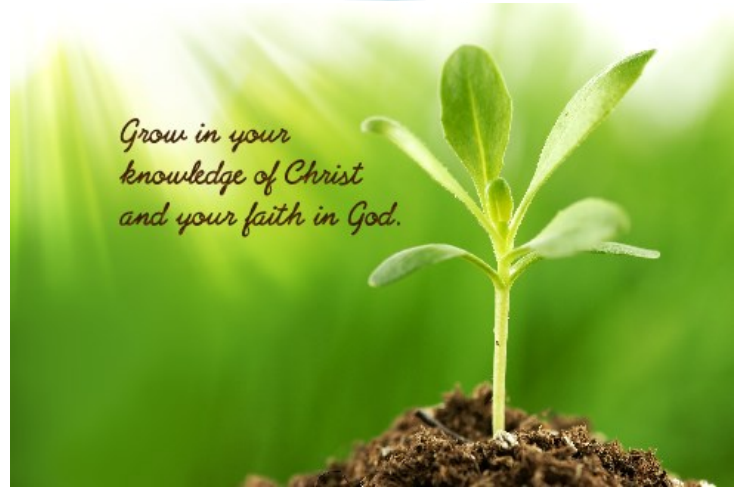
Church Office Closed

MEETINGS & SPECIAL EVENTS—SEPTEMBER 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 No Youth Activities	4 LABOR DAY— Church Office Closed	5 6:30 PM- Girl Scouts	6 5:30 PM-Staff Parish Mtg.	7	8	9
10 2:00 PM- Children's Min. Team Mtg.	11 11:00 AM- Lydia Circle 7:00 PM-Vision & Leadership Team	12 8:30 AM- Workday @ MRC in Terrell 7:00 PM-Trustees Mtg.	13	14	15	16
17 12:15 PM- Vision & Leadership Team 6:30 PM-Lay Leadership Team Mtg.	18 7:00 PM-Youth Min. Team Mtg.	19 6:30 PM- Worship Team Mtg. 6:30 PM- Girl Scouts 7:30 PM-Finance Team Mtg.	20	21	22	23
24	25 7:00 PM- Missions Team Mtg.	26	27	28	29	30

Fall Faith Formation

Faith formation is at the heart of what the Christian life is all about. As children of God, we are encouraged to explore and learn more about our relationship with God.



We believe the need to learn never stops, no matter what your age — especially when it comes to faith formation. That's why Elkin FUMC offers many growth and development opportunities for children, youth and adults, from on-going studies to short-term topic specific studies. For more information on any of the below Fall 2017 studies please contact the church office at 336-835-2323.

ADULTS

SUNDAYS

9:45am Sunday School

Forum Class

New Life Class "Parables Remix"

Explorers Class "Romans"

5:30 pm JOY Bible Study
(Jesus, Others, You)

"It's Good to Be Queen" by Liz C. Higgs

5:30pm Men's Bible Study

"RENOVATE" Building a Life with God by
Jacob Armstrong

TUESDAYS

11:30am JOY Bible Study
(Jesus, Others, You)

"It's Good to Be Queen" by Liz C. Higgs

WEDNESDAYS

6:30pm Bible Study

"The Cost of Discipleship" by Dietrich
Bonhoeffer

THURSDAYS

10am Women's Bible Study

"If You Want to Walk On Water You've
Got To Get Out Of The Boat" by John
Ortberg

YOUTH

SUNDAYS

9:45am Sunday School

"I Am" Sayings of Jesus



"Road Trip"

Journey With Jesus

5pm Middle School Students

6pm Dinner/ Middle & Sr. High

6:30pm Sr. High Students



6th graders
3pm 2nd Sunday of each
month

WEDNESDAYS

6:30pm Bible Study

Romans "I Am Not Ashamed"

****Other events/worship/missions

as scheduled

CHILDREN

SUNDAYS

9:45am Sunday School

Nursery- Newborn thru 4's

Mrs. Chatham's Class-

5's thru 6th grade -learn
about the Sacrament of
Communion



11:15 am
(Library)



4's-2nd grades

TUESDAYS

2:45 pm Cherub Choir 4's-K



WEDNESDAYS

2:45 pm Spirit Singers 1st-3rd grades

Gods Squad 4th-6th grades

Bible Study-Jesus & His Disciples

6:30 pm Nursery

Children's Class 4's-6th grades
(Mrs. Chatham's Classroom)



First United Methodist Church

PO Box 69 ▪ 340 Hawthorne Road ▪ Elkin, NC 28621

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

PLACE STAMP HERE

Church Office: 336-835-2323

Fax: 336-835-8035

Website: www.elkinfumc.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/elkinfumc

Email: office@elkinfumc.org

Church Staff:

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

Submit articles/photos to the Church Office or email office@elkinfumc.org

To receive The First Word, send an email to office@elkinfumc.org with The First Word in the subject line. In the body, please indicate your method of receiving it: email only, postal mail only or both. Remember, email copies save the church postage and is good stewardship of God's resources.



LABOR DAY HOLIDAY

The church office will be closed on Monday, September 4 for Labor Day.



Urgent Need For Backpack Program Supplies

School is back in session and we are once again collecting items for the Backpack Program at the local schools. Supplies are extremely low right now as the school year begins.

Each week teachers send home food for the students for Saturday and Sunday who can't afford or have access to food for the weekend.

Suggested items are: flip top canned items or peel off lids (ravioli, spaghetti, soups, mac-n-cheese, fruit cups, pudding). They also need: cereal, granola bars, peanut butter, jelly, fruit gummy snacks, "Lance" crackers and juice boxes.

The collection box is located in the entryway near the Church Office.