

Our kids enjoyed playing in the corn at the Alpha Omega Corn Maze on Sept. 21. - Below

Capital Fund Update - below

Calendar - Page 4

Worship Assistants, Meetings, Solid Rock Café - Page 3

Missions - Page 2

Birthdays, Anniversaries, Prayer Requests - Page 5

Pastor Mike's Note - Page 6



The First Word

Elkin

First United Methodist Church
September 28, 2017 Vol. XXXII, No. 18

CAPITAL FUND UPDATE

As of August 31, 2017, the Capital Fund Balance was \$33,896.38. At the last Trustee meeting on September 12, 2017, the recommendation was that the \$6,075.72 in van fund donations be returned to the Church Reserve Fund. This will leave a Capital Fund balance of \$27,820.66.

The estimate for completing repair/replacement of steps and handrails at the front and East side of the Sanctuary entrances is \$25,000. The recommendation of the Trustees is that \$17,000 of the \$27,820.66 be used for the step project leaving \$10,820.66 in the Capital Fund to serve as a hedge against additional facility needs. A combination of building maintenance funds and donations will make up the additional \$8,000 necessary to complete the step project. The plan is to complete repairs/replacement by the end of this November.

Expenses for updating the sound system currently exceed donations by \$670.00, but additional funds have been pledged to cover all remaining expected costs. As of now, it is projected that it will cost between \$7,000 and \$8,000 to finish this project.

2018 Stewardship Campaign Begins Next Week

Next week, stewardship information and Estimate of Giving cards will be mailed to FUMC members. Our season of considering our Estimate of Giving is a sacred time of personal and congregational reflection on what God is calling us to do. Through our offering of our Estimates, our finance team can project what we can financially afford in the service of sharing God's love in this community and the world.

As we know, costs go up each year, so perhaps through prayer and reflection, you and your family can devise ways to step up just a bit more to keep the ministry of Elkin FUMC at a high standard for the kingdom of God. Our commitment Sunday is scheduled for November 12 as we approach the Thanksgiving season so that we might be reminded of what truly makes us thankful in our relationship with God and one another.

What are you thankful for in regards to our church that you would share with your neighbors? Pray about that and listen to what God may be calling you to do.

Please return Estimate of Giving cards to the Church Office (drop them off or mail them to PO Box 69, Elkin, NC 28621) or put them in the offering plate any time prior to commitment Sunday on November 12.

You may also make your commitment securely online at www.elkinfumc.org/stewardship.

"Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received." - I Peter 4:10

NO EARLY SERVICE OCTOBER 1

There will not be an 8:45 am Worship Service this Sunday, October 1. Everyone is invited to attend the 10:55 am service in the Sanctuary.

Missions

Little Pantries—Update

You may have seen around the community little cabinets mounted on posts with food inside free to anyone who is hungry and has nothing to eat. These are part of an effort called, “Helping Hands – Your Neighbors’ Pantry,” which provides food, personal care products and other items that are needed by those who may not have funds to purchase them.

Of the 8 pantries scattered throughout Yadkin Valley, the one located in front of Elkin City Hall is stocked by Beanie Taylor, one of our neighbors at Chatham Woods. Our Missions Team met with Beanie back in May and decided to support her by supplying personal care products that are not typically available through Tri-C Ministry or available for purchase with food stamps.

As the holidays approach Beanie has requested some specific items that will be given out to those in need during the holidays. For these special items we are requesting **full size** items and *not* travel size, if possible. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the missions project over the past few months—your donations are greatly appreciated!

The items requested for the next few months are:

- ◆ Shampoo
- ◆ Band Aids
- ◆ Kleenex
- ◆ Conditioner
- ◆ Feminine Hygiene Products
- ◆ Hand Sanitizer



Current & Ongoing Mission Projects

WORKDAY AT MRC

The WNCC Mission Response Center is in great need for volunteers to help process Christmas boxes and UMCOR kits. We have arranged for a van to go to the MRC near Mooresville on Saturday, October 21, leaving the church at 8:30 am and returning mid-afternoon. We'll be taking Christmas boxes, additional items for Project AGAPE, flood/cleaning buckets and other supplies for UMCOR. Please sign up on the Missions Board beside the Pastor's office.

BACKPACK PROGRAM SUPPLIES NEEDED

Supplies are extremely low right now as the school year begins. Each week teachers send home food for Saturday and Sunday for the students who can't afford or don't 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 church office entryway.

FLOOD BUCKETS

Please join the UMW in preparing buckets filled with supplies for families in need following the recent hurricanes. Instructions on how to create a flood bucket can be found in the narthex and on the table outside of the church library. For more info you may also visit <https://www.umcor.org/UMCOR/Relief-Supplies/Relief-Supply-Kits/Cleaning>.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE TEAM

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.

TRI-C DONATIONS NEEDED

Flour is the needed item for October. 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.

PROJECT AGAPE CHRISTMAS BOXES NEEDED

Christmas boxes for the children in Armenia are a highlight of Project AGAPE. **There are a few boxes left! Can you help?** 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. Please return boxes to the church ASAP.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES NEEDED

The Lydia Circle is collecting School Supplies for Missions again during October. Our donations will go to UMCOR, Tri-C, and to Elkin City Schools. Collection boxes are located in the narthex and the church office entryway.

- 1 pair blunt scissors, rounded tips, metal
- 3 packs ruled notebook paper · 1 30cm ruler
- 1 pencil sharpener · 6 unsharpened pencils
- 1 2 1/2" eraser · 1 box 24 crayons

These items may be placed in a 2 gallon zip-lock bag.

CAPS FOR NEWBORNS

Newborns at Hugh Chatham Memorial Hospital during December will receive a Christmas treat: a red and white cap made with love by members of Elkin FUMC. Louise Cockerham and Mary McCrary spearhead the group which spends many hours all year long knitting these caps for the holiday time each year. Yarn and patterns are available if you would like to participate. Please contact Louise Cockerham at 336-835-2203 for more info.

Ministry Volunteers

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Sunday, October 1

Guest Preacher: Rev. Tim Roberts

Liturgist: Cindy Furr

Lay Reader: Pam Fencl

Children's Church: Stacey Carter

Acolytes/Chimer: Miles Cline, Chandler Beals, Grace Harrison

Crucifer: Paul Grider

Greeters: J.L. & 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

Sunday, October 8

Lay Reader: Tiger Sloop

Children's Church: Mary Keller

Acolytes/Chimer: TBA

Crucifer: TBA

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

Sunday, October 15

Lay Reader: Emaline Cockerham

Children's Church: Jennifer Kleinheksel

Acolytes/Chimer: TBA

Crucifer: 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

Sunday, October 22

Lay Reader: Jennifer Martin Brown

Children's Church: Carrie Morrison & Charlotte Guyer

Acolytes/Chimer: TBA

Crucifer: 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

Sunday, October 29

Lay Reader: Dan Park

Children's Church: Kristi Gaddis

Acolytes/Chimer: TBA

Crucifer: TBA

Greeters: Carey & Cindy Bruton, James & Lisa Freeman

Ushers: UMYF Members

Counters: Joan Sanders, Jill Bellia, Stacey & Ercel Carter

OCTOBER MEETINGS

Congregational Care Team

Monday, October 2, 2:30 pm (Library)

Finance Team

Tuesday, October 3, 7:30 pm (Library)

Endowment Team

Tuesday, October 3, 8:30 pm (Library)

Vision & Leadership Team / Charge Conference

Monday, October 9, 7:00 pm (Chapel)

Trustees

Tuesday, October 10, 7:00 pm (Library)

Youth Ministry Team

Monday, October 16, 7:00 pm (Library)

Worship Ministry Team

Tuesday, October 17, 6:30 pm (Library)

Missions Team

Monday, October 23, 7:30 pm (Library)

SOLID ROCK CAFÉ

Wednesday, October 4

Menu: Stew Beef, Rice, Veggies

Desserts: Powell, Harrison, Shuford, MacDonald, McDowell

Wednesday, October 11

Menu: Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes, Cabbage

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

CHOIR SNACKS

4 yrs – K: Tuesday - 2:45 pm

October 3 - Johanna

October 10 - *No Choir*

October 17 - Alex, Mima

October 24 - Liam

October 31 - Benjamin

1st – 6th Grade: Wednesday - 2:45 pm

October 4 - Jocelyn, Jonas, Joseph

October 11 - Karlee, Erika, Alyssa

October 18 - Andrew, Charlie

October 25 - Reece, Callie

CHURCH WORK DAY

Saturday, October 7

8:30 am - 12:30 pm

Contact Steve Wells (336-835-1602) for more information.

October Calendar

ONGOING EVENTS

Sunday

8:45 am - Worship
 9:45 am - Sunday School
 10:55 am - Worship
 5:30 pm - JOY Bible Study
 - Men's 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—OCTOBER 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 World Communion Sunday	2 11:00 AM-Lydia Circle 2:30 PM-Congregational Care Team	3 6:30 PM-Girl Scouts 7:30 PM-Finance Team Mtg. 8:30 PM-Endowment Team Mtg.	4	5	6	7
8 3:00 PM-6th Graders "Get Ready" 05:00 PM-Youth Meet @ Elkin First Baptist	9 7:00 PM-Charge Conference	10 7:00 PM-Trustees Mtg.	11	12 7:00 PM-Community Chorus Rehearsal	13	14
15	16 7:00 PM-Youth Min. Team Mtg.	17 6:30 PM-Girl Scouts 6:30 PM-Worship Team Mtg.	18	19 7:00 PM-Community Chorus Rehearsal	20	21 8:30 AM-Workday at MRC
22	23 7:00 PM-Missions Team Mtg.	24	25 6:30 PM-Trunk or Treat	26 7:00 PM-Community Chorus Rehearsal	27	28
29 12:00 PM-Youth Lunch & Visit Homebound	30	31				

Congregational Care

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

October 4 - Cama Ball, Margaret Tucker
 October 6 - Pam Irion, Larry Johnson
 October 7 - Andy Andrew, Jenny Brown, Tammy Coe
 October 8 - Jim Harrell III
 October 9 - Rosylyn Jackson
 October 10 - Tony Duncan
 October 14 - Danny Freeman, Anna Taylor
 October 15 - George Crater
 October 16 - Barbara Chatham
 October 18 - Laura Gwyn
 October 20 - Linda MacDonald
 October 22 - Mike Keller, Molly Smith
 October 25 - Addison Carter
 October 27 - Isaac Powell, Ray Arnold
 October 28 - Tom Gwyn
 October 30 - Ali Wells, Scott Hanson, Billie Payne,
 Matthew Schumak

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

October 1 - Gardner & Lauren Meek
 October 8 - Brent & Jennifer Kleinheksel
 October 9 - John & Dale Kennedy
 October 10 - Donald & Chelsea Maines
 October 27 - Jim & Barbara Meek

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 Fencl, Larry Johnson, Walt Pettit, Hal Stuart, Bill Amburn, Glenda Brown, Ercel Carter, PJ Elkhayat, Dan Park, Brian Carroll, 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, 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, Nan Boyd, Kallie Hollbrook, Angie Ferguson

All of our military personnel and their families

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REMINDERS

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

On Sunday, October 1, our congregation will join others around the globe in observing World Communion Sunday promoting Christian unity and ecumenical cooperation. Our church uses this Sunday to receive one of the denominational special offerings. This offering funds graduate racial-ethnic scholarships, with at least one-half of the annual amount reserved for ministries beyond the United States. Donations also provide for undergraduate U.S. Ethnic Scholarship and Ethnic In-Service Training programs. For more information on World Communion Sunday, go to <http://www.umcsgiving.org/wcs>.

LYDIA CIRCLE MEETING

Lydia Circle will meet on Monday, October 2 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 our Flood Bucket mission project that is underway.

BAPTISM

James Gardner Meek, IV, son of Gardner & Lauren, was baptized by Rev. Mike Shuford on September 17 during the 10:55 am worship service.

THANK YOU

The family of Jimmie Ann Miller Taylor shall always remember with deep gratitude your comforting expressions of sympathy. Thank you for all of the prayers, calls and cards.

Sincerely,
 Vickie Wells and Family



HALLOWEEN PARTY

TRUNK-OR-TREAT

Join us **Wednesday, Oct. 25**, for a night of Halloween fun and games!

Costume Parade begins in the Fellowship Hall at 6:20pm; the fun continues in the front driveway. Please remember to bring food items appropriate for the school backpack program. Carts and wagons will be available for your gifts.

We'd love to have lots of trunks/truck beds/mini-van hatches/trailers decorated to pass out candy. **Can you supply one? Use your imagination: movie theme, fall, harvest, Halloween, whatever!** If you can help in this way, please contact Amy Johnson or a team member: Meredith Snider, Janice Powell, Mary Keller, Dosha Teachey, Stacey Carter, Kristi Gaddis, Charlotte Guyer.



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.

“A woman had ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, she lights a lamp. Sweeps the house, and searches carefully until she finds it? When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.” Luke 15:8-10

Jesus' parable tells about a woman for whom one coin is vital to her existence. Perhaps it has taken her a long time to save this much money for an essential purpose. She panics, because without it, she cannot provide whatever requires that full amount. We are left to wonder what necessary thing she, or perhaps her children, would have to sacrifice because that one coin simply was not there.

How sad it would be if we could not provide the essential ministries to our church family and community if that one coin was simply not there. That is why we carefully plan the ministries we can do based on the income we hope to receive. Thus we make our estimates of giving to help discern just what our church can do for our church family and our neighbors. Are we willing to search out our whole house to provide that one extra coin? Maybe our sacrifice is one less dinner out this month or one less trip to the movie. How much might we save by drinking an extra glass of water a week rather than buying that 20 ounce Coke? We can be so imaginative in saving just a penny or two more to upgrade the ministries of our church. Then angels will rejoice at one person who enters the fellowship of God's family through our efforts.

Well that's not much money you're talking about there, Preacher! No. It isn't. Consider this: Take one cent, ONE CENT, and put it in a jar. Then every day, double the amount in the jar, the second day you would have a whole TWO CENTS! By day thirty, the sum in your jar would exceed \$10.7 MILLION. Yes, that is correct, you do the math. Imagine what could be accomplished starting with just one coin. Got a penny?

Shalom,
Pastor Mike