

# Mid-Month Update



## The First Word

Elkin

First United Methodist Church

October 12, 2017

Vol. XXXII, No. 19

## FREE TRAINING OFFERED AT ELKIN FUMC



Connectedness in the 21<sup>st</sup> century is complicated. Statistically it is believed that the average person in the US possesses 3-5 different means of connecting to another person at any given moment.

As I look at my desk I have access to Facebook, Instagram, email, texting, and phone. However, as interpersonal access has increased, so have rates of loneliness and suicide. According to the CDC our nation

experiences 121 deaths by suicide each day. Annual deaths from suicide have steadily risen from 26,846 in 1980 to 44,193 in 2015. Thusly I'm inviting you to be a part of a solution.

CareNet Counseling is hosting a one day training called "Soul Shop" in the Fellowship Hall of Elkin FUMC on Wednesday, November 1 from 8:30am-3:30pm. This training is designed to equip church leaders and members to adequately respond to persons with suicidal desperation. This training is provided at no cost to anyone in the Elkin community (donations will be accepted). For more info and to register your attendance please contact me.

- Robert Willis  
336-838-1644, [rawillis@wakehealth.edu](mailto:rawillis@wakehealth.edu)

## SCHOOL YEAR OFF TO A GREAT START

The staff and students of the Elkin FUMC Weekday Programs have been already been very busy this school year. Our program continues to grow with more students (and teachers!) The kids have a lot of fun while learning, as seen in the picture at the top of the page!

In our next edition of *The First Word* we will have a full update of all the fun changes made to the rooms over the summer and what the students have been up to since school started.

## PRAYER REQUESTS

**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, Ercel Carter, Dan Park, 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, 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 Stanley, Henry Key Family, Simpson Family, Robert Miller, Joan Shuford, Dr. Richard Belcher, Dr. Gladys Campbell, Mary Harper Edsall, Nan Boyd, Kallie Hollbrook, Angie Ferguson, Gus Bellia, Family of Deanna Brooks

All of our military personnel and their families

## SOLID ROCK CAFÉ

**Wednesday, October 18**

**Menu:** Baked Chicken, Mixed Veggies, Biscuits & Gravy  
**Desserts:** Harris, Johnson, Erlandson, Coley, Petrocy

**Wednesday, October 25**

**Menu:** Loaded Baked Potatoes  
**Desserts:** Brown, Snider, Combs, Kleinheksel, Aldridge

## 2018 STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Stewardship letters and Estimate of Giving cards were mailed to FUMC members on October 4. 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.

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.

If you did not receive an Estimate of Giving card you may pick one up in the Narthex or on the table outside of the Church Library. You may also submit your 2018 Estimate of Giving online at [www.elkinfumc.org/stewardship](http://www.elkinfumc.org/stewardship).

# Announcements & Reminders

**REVIVAL AT MITCHELL’S CHAPEL:** Everyone is invited to attend the revival at Mitchell’s Chapel UMC on Center Rd. in Boonville. It begins each night at 7:00 pm, tonight through Wednesday. The revival is based on Wesley’s Definition of discipleship and Wesley’s three Rules:

- |        |                         |                    |
|--------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Sun.:  | Love God, Love Neighbor | Rev. Rebekah Ralph |
| Mon.:  | No Harm                 | Rev. Juston Smith  |
| Tues.: | Do Good                 | Rev. Tyler Hege    |
| Wed.:  | Stay in Love with God   | Rev. Mike Shuford  |

**HALLOWEEN PARTY & TRUNK-OR-TREAT:** Join us Wednesday, October 25, for a night of Halloween fun and games! Costume Parade begins in the Fellowship Hall at 6:20 pm; 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 at the church office.

**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.

**LITTLE PANTRIES IN NEED:** As the holidays approach Beanie Taylor has requested some specific items that will be given out to those in need during the holidays through the little pantries around the area. For these special items we are requesting **full size** items and not travel size, if possible. The items needed are: shampoo, conditioner, Band Aids, feminine hygiene products, Kleenex and hand sanitizer.

**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.

**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>.

**DISASTER RESPONSE TRAINING:** In response to the urgent needs of those affected by recent hurricanes, the WNCC Mission Engagement Team has scheduled Disaster

Response Training classes for those willing to provide a caring Christian presence. You must be at least 18 years old. Registration is required and space is limited, so please register early. For more information contact the church office or visit: <http://missionwncc.org/mission-connections/disaster-response/disaster-response-training>.

**TRIP TO MRC ON OCTOBER 21:** 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.

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

### Youth Ministry Team

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

### Worship Ministry Team

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

### Children’s Ministry Team

Sunday, October 22, 2:00 pm (Library)

### Missions Team

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

## STEWARDSHIP REVIEW

### September 2017

Income: \$21,050.50  
 Expenses: \$41,532.33  
 Difference: **(\$20,481.83)**

### Jan. - Sept. 2017

Income: \$267,850.71  
 Expenses: \$325,736.75  
 Difference: **(\$57,886.04)**

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**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)

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

PLACE  
 STAMP  
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