



The First Word

Elkin

First United Methodist Church

November 16, 2017

Vol. XXXII, No. 21

FRESH LOOK FOR PRESCHOOL

This is a very special THANK YOU to all involved in making our preschool a brighter, happier place. By open house it felt like a brand new "building", even our parents and children commented as they entered for the new school year. We are all so thrilled with what has been done by the church volunteers to help make our program better. So many graciously volunteered their talents and time to paint walls, murals and scripture and hang new bulletin boards in the hallway. We even unmasked an old painting that was created during VBS week back in 1979 (seen at the right.)

At this point we are having to utilize all of the rooms that are on our "wing" of the church; we have a whopping 55 kids enrolled in our program this year! Our church Weekday Program has grown significantly in the last 5 years and that is due to my wonderful and faithful staff, the terrific families that have entrusted us with their children, your prayers and support, and the word of mouth that travels in our small community! Thank you all for supporting us and helping us grow, we can't thank you enough! - Beth Darnell, Weekday Programs Director



"Deck the Halls" for Advent & Christmas! Make a dedication in honor or memory of someone special.

Once again, we will decorate our Sanctuary and Chapel with poinsettias and wreaths. If you wish to contribute to the fund for these decorations, in memory or in honor of a loved one, please make a donation by November 30.

For a donation of \$10 per dedication, we will include it in the bulletin on Sunday, December 24.

Forms may be placed in the offering plate or sent to the church office.
Make checks payable to "First UMC" and note "Poinsettias/Wreaths."



In Honor of _____	In Honor of _____
In Memory of _____	In Memory of _____
By _____	By _____



Announcements & Reminders

PASTOR MIKE ON MEDICAL LEAVE: Pastor Mike is out of the office on medical leave. He plans to return to the office around December 11 (depending on his recovery). We regret any inconvenience this will cause, please feel free to call Ben Wallace at the church and he will direct you to the proper staff person or to one of the two pastors we have on call. Thanks so much for your understanding.

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE: Everyone is invited to the Community Thanksgiving Service on Sunday, November 19 at 7:00 pm at Wesley Chapel UMC (210 Oak Grove Rd in Elkin). Anyone who would like to sing in the community choir should arrive at 6:15 pm for rehearsal of a simple anthem. Please bring non-perishable food items for Tri-C.

THANKSGIVING OFFICE HOURS: The Church Office will be closed on Thursday, November 23 in observance of Thanksgiving.

TRIP TO BILLY GRAHAM LIBRARY: The *Young at Heart* will be on the move Thursday, November 30. We will take the church bus to the Billy Graham library in Charlotte. There is no cost, but you will need to bring \$10 for lunch. RSVP to Cindy Furr (336-835-2323 or cfurr@elkinfumc.org) by Monday, November 20.

2018 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN: If you have not turned in your 2018 Estimate of Giving Card, please do so today. You may drop your card in the offering plate or go online: <http://elkinfumc.org/stewardship>.

NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY: Elkin FUMC is in the process of producing a new church directory and we need you to be a part of it! Dates for photo sessions are December 18, 19 and January 5 from 2:00 - 8:40 pm and January 6 from 10:00 am - 4:40 pm You may go online to schedule your session at www.elkinfumc.org/news/directory or paper sign-ups will be available on Sundays following the worship services.

CHATHAM WOODS CHRISTMAS: It is time again, to ask for your help in providing a special Christmas gift for our friends at Chatham Woods. The gift cards we are providing to help them with their grocery purchases continue to be popular and appreciated. The gift cards give the recipients the flexibility to buy foods of their choice, which is especially nice for those with special dietary needs. These gift cards are restricted and only used for food or household needs. Depending on the contributions received, we also like to include a gift. To have your gift applied toward the Christmas effort at Chatham Woods, we need to receive donations by December 10. For more information contact Linda MacDonald at 336-835-6078.

YOUTH FUNDRAISER

On Wednesday, November 29 the youth will be preparing the meal for Solid Rock Café. They will begin serving at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. The menu will be breakfast casseroles.

As always, a suggested donation of \$5 for adults, \$2 for kids (ages 4-12) is suggested. Extra donations will be accepted and will benefit the youth's 2018 Summer Mission Trips.

SOLID ROCK CAFÉ

Wednesday, November 22

No Wednesday Evening Activities

Wednesday, November 29

Youth Fundraiser

Menu: Breakfast Casseroles

Desserts: Furr, Robertson, Tucker, Irwin

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Missions Team

Monday, November 20, 7:00 pm (Library)

Worship Ministry Team

Tuesday, November 21, 6:30 pm (Library)

Finance Team

Tuesday, November 21, 7:00 pm (Parlor)

Congregational Care Team

Monday, December 4, 2:30 pm (Library)

PRAYER REQUESTS

Church Family: Bliss Vanderpool, Ann Graham, Sam Tesh, Holly Gambill, Betty Tesh, Rev. Paul McCauley, Zack Trexler, Paulette McCauley, Libbi Parks, Emad Elkhayat, Ray Fencil, Larry Johnson, Walt Pettit, Hal Stuart, Bill Amburn, Ercel Carter, Family of Ed Chappell, Family of Jim Cockerham, Dan & Sallie Park, Mike Shuford, nursing home residents & homebound

Extended Care: 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, Robert Miller, Joan Shuford, Dr. Richard Belcher, Dr. Gladys Campbell, Mary Harper Edsall, Nan Boyd, Angie Ferguson, Gus Bellia, Lonnie Snider, Family of Lillian Johnson

All of our military personnel and their families

STEWARDSHIP REVIEW

October 2017

Income: \$42,403.78

Expenses: \$28,974.99

Difference: \$13,428.79

Jan. - Oct. 2017

Income: \$310,254.49

Expenses: \$354,711.74

Difference: **(\$44,457.25)**

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 Website: www.elkinfumc.org
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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
HERE