

FUMC Prepares for Holy Week -  
Below

Announcements,  
Reminders & Youth  
Schedule - Page 2

Birthdays & Anniversaries - Page 3

Project AGAPE Donations Being Collected - Page 4

Usher Training, Trail Workday - Page 4

A Letter from our D.S. - Page 5

College Student Care Packages - Back Page



*The First Word*

*Elkin*

First United Methodist Church

March 26, 2018

Vol. XXXIII, No. 6

## Holy Week at Elkin First United Methodist



**Holy Thursday, March 29**

**7:00 pm – A Celebration of The Eucharist and Tenebrae Service**

“Maundy” comes from the Latin word for “commandment.” Before His crucifixion, Jesus celebrated the Passover for the last time with his disciples. “Tenebrae” is Latin for “shadows.” The Tenebrae service dates back to the eighth century and commemorates the passion and death of Jesus Christ. We will begin with subdued lighting. As the candles are extinguished, the darkness deepens. The service will conclude by stripping the sanctuary. After the benediction you are invited to leave in silence to honor this solemn occasion.

**Saturday, March 30**

**10 am – Easter Egg Hunt**

Children need to bring eggs to dye and a basket. Crafts, dyeing supplies, games and snacks will be provided.

**Easter, April 1**

**8:45 am – Service of First Light**

Gather around the fire in front of the Chapel for the lighting of the Paschal Candle and process inside singing “Alleluia!”

**10:55 am – Easter Worship in the Sanctuary**

Bring fresh flowers for the Easter cross as we celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Following the service Larry Irwin will be glad to take your photo at the cross.

### ***EASTER EGG HUNT***

Everyone is invited to our Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 31 from 10 am - 11:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. Crafts, butterfly release, pretzel making, egg dyeing, egg hunting and refreshments. **Everyone is asked to bring a basket and eggs to dye.** 5th and 6th graders please come at 9:30 am to help hide the eggs.



**One Call Now**

**NEW MESSAGING  
SYSTEM AT FUMC**

We are now using a company, One Call Now, for our phone message system that keeps friends, family, and committee members up to date with reminders of meeting times, special service times, prayer requests and so on. If you would like to be added to the list or if you need to update your contact number, visit [www.elkinfumc.org/one-call-now](http://www.elkinfumc.org/one-call-now) or contact Ben Wallace at the church office.

## APRIL MEETINGS

### Congregational Care Team

Monday, April 9, 1:45 pm (Library)

### Vision & Leadership Team

Monday, April 9, 7:00 pm (Library)

### Trustees

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

### Children's Ministry Team

Sunday, April 15, 2:00 pm (Library)

### Finance Team

Tuesday, April 17, 7:00 pm (Library)

### Missions Team

Monday, April 23, 7:00 pm (Library)

## OUR SYMPATHY

We extend our sympathy to the family of Gary Maxey who passed away on Saturday, March 24. Arrangements are incomplete at the time of production of *The First Word*. Please keep Linda and the family in your prayers.

## APRIL YOUTH SCHEDULE

<b>Sun 4/1</b>	9:45 am: Sunday School No Afternoon Activities
<b>Wed 4/3</b>	Spring Break—No Activities
<b>Sat 4/7</b>	8:30 am: Elkin Trails Workday
<b>Sun 4/8</b>	9:45 am: Sunday School 4:00 pm: Confirmation 5:00 pm: Middle & Sr. High Youth
<b>Wed 4/11</b>	6:00 pm: Solid Rock Café 6:45 pm: Youth Devotional & Games
<b>Sun 3/15</b>	9:00 am: Worship at Wesley Chapel UMC 4:00 pm: Confirmation 5:00 pm: Middle & Sr. High Youth
<b>Tues 4/17</b>	4:45 pm: Maple Springs UMC Food Pantry
<b>Wed 4/18</b>	6:00 pm: Solid Rock Café 6:45 pm: Youth Devotional & Games
<b>Sun 4/22</b>	9:00 am: Mass at St. Stephen Catholic 4:00 pm: Confirmation 5:00 pm: Middle & Sr. High Youth Assemble College Care Packages
<b>Wed 4/25</b>	6:00 pm: Solid Rock Café 6:30 pm: Volunteer at The Ark

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

**THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED** on Monday, April 2 in observance of the Easter holiday.

**LYDIA CIRCLE** will meet on Monday, April 9 at 10:30 am in the Parlor. Following the meeting, we will attend the Young at Heart lunch in the Fellowship Hall. All women of the church are invited to attend.

**THE YOUNG AT HEART** will have another gathering on Monday, April 9 at 11:30 am. We will have Cream of Broccoli Soup, Chicken Salad Sandwiches & Dessert. Master Gardner, Sharon Poindexter will present a program on gardening in small spaces. Cost is \$5 per person. Please RSVP to Cindy Furr (336-835-2323, cfurr@elkinfumc.org) by Wednesday, April 4.

**ON THE MOVE DAY TRIP:** The Young at Heart will be on the move Friday, April 27. We will travel to Hiddenite, NC. We will see Moravian Falls (from the bus), visit the Hiddenite Arts & Heritage Center, have lunch at The Yellow Deli and visit the Emerald Hollow Mine. Cost is \$10 for a bucket at the mine plus money for lunch. Please register and pay Cindy Furr by April 24. Make checks payable to FUMC and note on the memo line "Hiddenite."

**6TH GRADERS GET READY—SERVICE PROJECT:** Following our Wednesday night dinner together we will ride the church van over to The Ark to play games with the children. We plan to return to the church by 7:30 pm.

**SUPPLIES BEING COLLECTED:** The UMW are collecting supplies to help students in memory of Lynn Sloan Barnes and in memory of Nina Tharpe. Needed items include: deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, shower gel, shaving cream, razors, feminine products, soap and hand sanitizer. UMW collection boxes are located in the narthex and in the Fellowship Hall.

**ALDRIDGE & COLEY TO SERVE ON CCC STAFF:** Emma Aldridge and Austin Coley will be serving on staff with Carolina Cross Connection this summer. CCC is a ministry that our youth group has attended each summer. CCC's mission is to serve homeowners in need in Western NC by completing home repair projects such as yard work, painting, and building wheelchair ramps. As staff members, Emma and Austin will be responsible for meeting with homeowners, organizing projects, and facilitating camp activities. Another responsibility is to raise a portion of their summer salary through Staff Partnerships. They would be grateful for love and support from our church family through donations to their partnerships as well as continued prayers and encouragement for this summer! Please make checks payable to "First UMC" with memo line "Austin and Emma CCC." We will be accepting donations until Sunday, April 22.

## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

April 1 - Janet Canter, Bonnie Stuart  
 April 3 - Amelia Wrenne Canter, Bern Schumak  
 April 5 - Maddie Chappell  
 April 6 - Jordan Chatham, Sharon Harvey  
 April 8 - Clyde Colwell  
 April 10 - Ray Fencil  
 April 11 - Lisa Freeman, Mary Tayloe  
 April 12 - Andy Garner, Jane Hazelman  
 April 13 - Amy Aldridge  
 April 14 - Stephanie Gup-ton  
 April 16 - David Robertson, Annabelle Walker  
 April 17 - Iris Amburn, Flynt Payne  
 April 20 - Alex Duncan, Janice Powell, Kathy Gentry  
 April 22 - Becky O'Connell  
 April 24 - Jeff Canter  
 April 25 - Melissa Smith  
 April 26 - Maggie Walker  
 April 27 - Chris Coley, Reid Turner  
 April 28 - Mary Ann Osment  
 April 30 - Steve Mackie

## APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

April 1 - Gambill & Amy Aldridge  
 Jake & Rita Schot  
 April 7 - J.L. & Jane Lowe  
 April 10 - Ray & Mary McCrary  
 April 21 - Lance & Ali Wells  
 April 30 - Darryl & Jeanie Rhyne

## SOLID ROCK CAFÉ

### Wednesday, March 28

**Menu:** Apricot Pork Tenderloin, Baked Beans, Slaw

**Desserts:** Brown, Snider, Combs, Kleinheksel, Aldridge

### Wednesday, April 4

*No Wednesday Night Meal or Activities*

## CHOIR SNACKS

### 4 yrs - K:

**Tuesday - 2:45 pm**

April 3 – *Spring Break-No Choir*  
 April 10 – Brooklyn  
 April 17 – Johanna  
 April 24 – Alex, Mima

### 1st – 6th Grade:

**Wednesday - 2:45 pm**

April 4 – *Spring Break-No Choir*  
 April 11 – Wyatt, Callie  
 April 18 – Avaya, Victoria, Starr  
 April 25 – Heston, Holt, Hill

## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

### Sunday, April 1

**Lay Reader:** Ercel Carter

**Children's Church:** Mary Keller

**Acolytes/Chimer:** Zena Petrocy, Grace Harrison, Raelin Carter

**Crucifer/Banner:** Claire Grider, Alex Duncan

**Cross Bearer:** Henry Freeman

**Counters:** Dave Johnson, Gardner & Lauren Meek

**Greeters:** Marian & Bill Green; J.L. & Jane Lowe; Mary, Michael, Lucas & Sadie Keller; Alison & Dave Ackerman

### Sunday, April 8

**Lay Reader:** Claire Grider

**Children's Church:** Jennifer Martin Brown

**Acolytes/Chimer:** Lydia & Granger Teachey, Lucas Keller

**Crucifer:** Zara Petrocy

**Counters:** Mike Powell, David & Betsy Robertson

**Greeters:** Ann & Andy Garner; Steva & Randy Bledsoe, Vickie & Steve Wells; Grace Harrison; Peggy, Zara & Zena Petrocy

### Sunday, April 15

**Lay Reader:** Jane Hazelman

**Children's Church:** Stacey Carter

**Acolytes/Chimer:** Grant Leeds, Charlie & Matthew Pelkey

**Crucifer:** Paul Grider

**Counters:** Frank Beals, Andy & Ann Garner

**Greeters:** Carol & Alex Snyder; Betsy & David Robertson; Steve Mackie, Rande Dent; Gerald Combs

### Sunday, April 22

**Lay Reader:** Ellen Schumak

**Children's Church:** Jennifer Kleinheksel

**Acolytes/Chimer:** Miles Cline, Grace Harrison, Cama Ball

**Crucifer:** Ashley Hunsucker

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

**Greeters:** David Poindexter; Danny Freeman; Gina & Rob Peterson; Gambill Aldridge; Joseph, Kristi, Wyatt & Hadley Gaddis; Randy, Yvonne, Ashley & Kelly Hunsucker

### Sunday, April 29

**Lay Reader:** Margaret Freeman

**Children's Church:** Charlotte Guyer, Carrie Morrison

**Acolytes/Chimer:** Zena Petrocy, Paul Brinegar, Bronwyn Sloop

**Crucifer:** Alex Duncan

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

**Greeters:** James, Lisa, Henry & Margaret Freeman

### Ushers:

Gambill Aldridge, Frank Beals, Charlie Bellia, Gary Conrad, George Crater, James Freeman, Henry Freeman, John Kennedy, J.L. Lowe, Steve Mackie, David Poindexter, Alex Snyder, David VanAntwerp

### Fellowship Hall Entrance:

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday:** Jennifer Kleinheksel

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday:** Charlie Bellia

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday:** George Crater

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday:** Gambill Aldridge

**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday:** Joan Sanders

## STEWARDSHIP REVIEW

### February 2018

Income: \$35,264.65

Expenses: \$34,169.89

Difference: \$1,094.76

### Jan - Feb 2018

Income: \$63,165.50

Expenses: \$69,003.80

**Difference: (\$5,838.30)**



## Now Accepting Project AGAPE Donations

It is that time of year again. Project AGAPE Sunday is April 22 when you will have an opportunity to contribute to Project AGAPE. You may also bring in donations to be shipped to Armenia during the next pick-up described above. For items needed and instructions, a handout is available on the table near the Chapel entrance and posted on the Missions bulletin board beside the pastor's office. Online information may be downloaded at [www.wnccumc.org/project-agape](http://www.wnccumc.org/project-agape). Please deliver all donations by Sunday, April 29.

### Project AGAPE is always in need of:

- 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
- **Donations of children's clothing (new & used) is a priority for early 2018.**

### The following items can no 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

## THANK YOU

Dear First Methodist Family,

I would like to thank all who contributed to the Costa Rica Mission Trip. It was happily received and put to good use purchasing supplies that were needed to complete our mission. Thanks to you we completed our different projects and brought the church back to standard the city of San Jose wanted it to be.

I am planning to do a PowerPoint presentation on a Wednesday night sometime after Easter. I will cover the different work projects and some interesting photos around San Jose.

Once again "Thanks so much" for all your help.

- Jon Garing

## USHER TRAINING SET FOR APRIL 11



Our ushers are a wonderful and important part of ministry at Elkin FUMC. These members are some of the first people you see on Sunday mornings. They not only greet others with a smile, they work behind the scenes making sure our services run smoothly!

We will hold an information/training session for our Ushers (new and old) at 6:45 pm on Wednesday, April 11 in the Sanctuary (following the Wednesday night meal).

Please contact Ben Wallace at the church office for more info or if you will be unable to attend this training session.

## 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, Dan & Sallie Park, Laura Gwyn, Gary Conrad, Bonnie Stuart, Cindy Furr, Loretta Cash, Family of Gary Maxey, nursing home residents & homebound

**Extended Care:** Mary Cockerham, Iris Amburn, Mary Neil

**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 Staley, Robert Miller, Joan Shuford, Dr. Richard Belcher, Dr. Gladys Campbell, Mary Harper Edsall, Nan Boyd, Gus Bellia, Lonnie Snider, Teresa Shook, Millie Joyce, Martha Key, Kidd Family, Phyllis Lowe, Family of Margaret Poole Griffin, Deborah S. Smith, Judy Moody, Family of Bruce Morton, Andra Hankey, Abe Heath

**All of our military personnel and their families**

## TRAIL WORKDAY

The Elkin Valley Trails Association invites you to a trail workday on Saturday, April 7, 8:30 am. Elkin FUMC will be working with Elkin Presbyterian Church to work near Carter Falls. The work day will focus on a 100 yard switch back section from the high bank to the top of the falls. It has a limited view of the falls and it features the water sounds of the falls.

Volunteers of all capability are needed to build this section. Raking ground duff, cutting trail back slope, moving soil and finishing the foot bed are the main activities scheduled. However, limited logging will be done, with a few sapling/rock removals. All tools needed for the workday will be provided. We will meet at 8:30 am at Byrd's Branch Campground (225 Martin Byrd Road, Elkin). For more information contact Herb MacDonald at 336-835-6078.



Rev. Dr. Carl Arrington  
District Superintendent

February 22, 2018

Dear First (Elkin) United Methodist Church family,

Congratulations and thank you for your faithfulness in making a full contribution of your Apportionments for 2017. Because of your great generosity and support, we are able to accomplish great things in our partnered ministry within The United Methodist Church and the Appalachian District in particular.


Through your willingness to share the financial resources with which God has blessed your congregation, we have been able to touch lives with the love of Jesus Christ by providing support in the following ways:

- Appalachian State University Wesley Foundation and Common Ground Campus ministries
- New church starts in our District and Conference
- District Missional Engagement Grants
- Congregational Vitality Grants
- Appalachian District Weaver UMAR Home for our brothers and sisters with intellectual and developmental disabilities
- Clergy leadership training
- Gifted, talented and committed District and Conference support and ministry staff
- Ministry with youth within our District and across our Conference
- Reaching out in new and creative ways to reach people with the gospel and love of Jesus Christ

Congratulations again on your great achievement of financial faithfulness.

Your giving is proof that we can do so much more together for the cause of Christ than we can working apart from one another.

May God continue to open up to you even more exciting and life-giving ways to reach others with the life-transforming love of Jesus Christ.

  
Rev. Dr. Carl Arrington  
Appalachian District Superintendent

*Thank you so much for your  
great generosity!  
Blessing to you!*



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](http://www.elkinfumc.org)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/elkinfumc](http://www.facebook.com/elkinfumc)

**Email:** [office@elkinfumc.org](mailto:office@elkinfumc.org)

#### Church Staff:

Rev. Michael A. Shuford, Pastor ([mshuford@elkinfumc.org](mailto:mshuford@elkinfumc.org))

Cindy Furr, Director of Discipleship ([cfurr@elkinfumc.org](mailto:cfurr@elkinfumc.org))

Amy Johnson, Director of Music/Children's Ministries ([ajohnson@elkinfumc.org](mailto:ajohnson@elkinfumc.org))

Benjamin Wallace, Parish Life Coordinator ([bwallace@elkinfumc.org](mailto:bwallace@elkinfumc.org))

Beth Darnell, Director of Weekday Programs ([bdarnell@elkinfumc.org](mailto:bdarnell@elkinfumc.org))

Pat Trexler, Custodian ([ptrexler@elkinfumc.org](mailto:ptrexler@elkinfumc.org))

George Brown, Assistant Custodian ([gbrown@elkinfumc.org](mailto:gbrown@elkinfumc.org))

Submit articles/photos to the Church Office or email [office@elkinfumc.org](mailto:office@elkinfumc.org)

To receive *The First Word*, send an email to [office@elkinfumc.org](mailto: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 are good stewardship of God's resources.

## Time to Care and Share with College Students

As the end of the academic semester and final exams approach, nothing lifts the spirits of a college student more than a care package from home. Once again, the youth are collecting goodies to go in care packages for about 26 college students from our congregation.

You are invited to help them out by bringing 26 of the same item(s) and drop them off at Cindy Furr's office before Sunday, April 22 when the youth will assemble them for mailing.

Items you may consider are Rice

Krispies® treats, gum, homemade cookies, candy, popcorn packages, a note of encouragement, something homemade, or anything that you think they would like. This is just a small gesture of our love and care for these wonderful students as they prepare for a challenging time in the semester.



## MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID CLASS

Join in the conversation and community effort to reduce stigma and the silence that surrounds mental illness by taking an Adult Mental Health First Aid Class April 24

and May 1 from 3:30 - 8:00 pm.



1 in 4 Americans will experience mental illness and/or substance use disorder this year. Understanding, knowledge, and skills learned in class can result in giving hope and even in saving lives. It is an eight hour class which prepares participants to recognize signs and symptoms of mental health concerns and then assist the person with a five step action plan.

**This class is open to everyone—professionals and lay persons.** Participants receive a certificate from the National Council for Behavioral Health. The class is presented by CareNet Counseling of Wilkes: a faith based counseling non-profit affiliate of Wake Forest Baptist Health, through a grant from The Health Foundation. This class will be in the Fellowship Hall of Elkin FUMC. Cost of the class is \$25.00 which includes a resource manual (scholarships available). Please call 336-838-1644 or email [bwsmiththey@gmail.com](mailto:bwsmiththey@gmail.com) for information and to register.