



Elkton United Methodist Church

The Beacon



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Phone: (410) 398-0933

From the Pastor

By Rev. Karen Bunnell, Senior Pastor

For a while, it seemed like this winter would never end. The snow at the end of my driveway lasted well into the second week of March! And now, spring has sprung! The birds are chirping, the trees are budding, and thanks be to God, the sun is brightly shining! Oh, how wonderful it is to feel the warmth of the sun on my face!

Likewise, the sadness and solemnity of Lent is coming to an end. We have remembered Jesus' journey, we have seen his path to the cross, and we have endeavored to make our own sacred paths more intentional. And now, in not

(continued on page 3)

Holy Week Schedule

Sunday, March 28th	Palm/Passion Sunday ♦ 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. – Regular worship services
Thursday, April 1st	Maundy Thursday ♦ 6:30 p.m. – Soup and bread dinner (in Weldin Hall) ♦ 7:30 p.m. – Worship service featuring communion and a cantata by our Senior Choir (in the sanctuary)
Friday, April 2nd	Good Friday ♦ Noon – Ecumenical crosswalk (see page 3) ♦ 7:30 p.m. – Good Friday worship service led by the youth of our church (in the sanctuary)
Sunday, April 4th	Easter Sunday ♦ 6:30 a.m. – Sunrise service led by the young adults of our church (in the church parking lot) ♦ 7:00-10:30 a.m. – Easter breakfast (in Weldin Hall) ♦ 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. – Festival Easter worship services featuring the Senior Choir, Men's Choir, Handbell Choir, and brass (in the sanctuary) ♦ 9:45 a.m. – Contemporary Easter worship service featuring guitar music (in the sanctuary)

April 2010

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April 2 nd	3
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To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

MISSIONS OUTREACH

"He who despises his neighbor sins, but blessed is he who is kind to the needy." PROVERBS 14:21

Missions Committee at EUMC

By Tracey Litherland

Do you know the great work the Missions Committee has been up to? As one of the newest members of the EUMC Missions Committee, I was amazed at how the group stretches our missions' funds to touch so many people in our community and far away. I thought I would highlight some of my favorites in the next few newsletters.

Shoes That Fit

One mission close to home is Shoes That Fit, and it's particularly touching. We partner with Thomson Estates Elementary School (the same school where we provide mentors). Teachers refer children who need new shoes but may not be able to afford them to the school nurse. The nurse measures their feet and contacts Nancy Mitchell. Nancy has purchased new shoes for over 25 children (and sometimes new coats, if needed). The children are so excited about their new shoes. Listening to Nancy describe the kids' reactions, it is clear that in a small way these new shoes provide dignity, hope, pride and self-esteem. That's an awful lot of good things in a small box, and I feel this is a wonderful project for our church to be a part of. If you would like to know more about Shoes That Fit or how you can help, please contact Nancy Mitchell.

Missions Committee Updates

Do you know someone that needs a helping hand? While the Missions Committee is busy helping out at home and far away, we don't want to miss the needs of our own members, their families, and friends. Sometimes it isn't easy to ask for help, and others can see the need but don't know how to help. Beginning in April, the Missions Committee will have a box in the lobby labeled "Helping Hand Requests" where anyone can request help for themselves, a friend, or a family member. There are no requirements for the requests. We will review the requests and do our best to fill the need. If you have any questions or would like to help out, please contact Ted McDowell at (410) 398-7988 or Tracey Litherland at (410) 920-6089.

Missions Trip to Haiti

The Missions Committee is exploring the possibility of sending a group to Haiti in 12-18 months. If you have any interest or just want to find out more details, please contact Ted McDowell at (410) 398-7988.

Yard Sale Planned for May 15th

Simplify your life and give to a good cause – we need your "stuff"! The Missions Committee will be holding a yard sale on Saturday, May 15th. If needed, pick-up of donated items can be arranged. Call Ted McDowell at (410) 398-7988 or Pauline Eaton at (302) 737-5031.

Christmas in April

Christmas in April is tentatively scheduled for April 24th. The project is still being determined. Talk to Ted McDowell if you are interested in participating.

Kentucky Summer Mission Trip

The Kentucky summer mission trip is scheduled for July 24th-August 1st.

Mary Randall Center

By Terri Lokey

We continue to support the Mary Randall Center by giving donations of cereal, paper products, laundry soap, and toiletries collected from Sunday School classes. Sarah Buckley organizes the classes to bring in donations on assigned weeks, and a member of the Missions Committee takes the donations to the Mary Randall Center on North Street.

Some of the services that are offered to homeless clients at the Mary Randall Center include breakfast, showers and laundry opportunities each morning (Monday-Friday) for 40-50 people, weekly Bible study, a library, workshops on legal assistance, financial literacy, social responsibility, drug/alcohol education, and various case management services. Meeting Ground is always looking for volunteers to help with their many programs and can be contacted at (410) 620-4701.



On the 1st Sunday of each month, the Missions Committee will be collecting non-perishable food items for the Help Center. Please bring donations to the welcome center area on **April 4th**!

**FAIR TRADE
COFFEE**

will be available for purchase after each worship service on the **second Sunday** of each month:

April 11th

Congregational Meeting to be held on April 18th

By Rev. Karen Bunnell, Senior Pastor

On Sunday, April 18th, we will have a congregational meeting at 10:00 a.m. in the sanctuary for final approval of the building plans for our expansion project. At that time, we will bring reports from the bidding process and plans for financing the project. Please come and hear the details of what is to come, and let your voice and vote be heard!

Growth Task Force

By Joe Tanner

All drawings and renderings for the planned addition to the church are available online at [<https://sites.google.com/a/clarkdesigngrouparchitects.com/eumc/>]. All bids are to be submitted and will be evaluated by mid-April. A congregational meeting to review costs and financing with a final vote will be held on April 18th before proceeding.

Music Ministries

By Sharon Williams, Coordinator of Music Ministries

As I sit here writing this article for our monthly newsletter, I get chills up and down my spine in anticipation of the music that will be performed in our sanctuary the first few days of April.

On Maundy Thursday, our Senior Choir will be singing "Praise the God of Resurrection," an Easter cantata. This service will be held in our sanctuary and will include communion. On Easter Sunday, our sanctuary will be filled with beautiful music including bells, brass, organ, Men's Choir and the Senior Choir. What a glorious way to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord. I can hardly wait!

You are always welcome to come and be a part of worship music in our church. We are always looking for instrumentalists, vocalists, and choir members. Come and experience the love of God through music and worship.

Interested in Joining the Elkton UMC Family?

By Rev. Karen Bunnell, Senior Pastor

The next New Member Orientation Class will be held on Sunday, April 18th, at 12:30 p.m. in Weldin Hall. Come and learn more about the United Methodist Church, and Elkton UMC in particular. Find out about the ministries we offer and how you can use the gifts God has given you here in this place. A light lunch will be served, and childcare is available if needed. To sign up for the class, please call the church office at (410) 398-0933 or email [eumc@comcast.net], or see one of the pastors.

From the Pastor

(continued from page 1)

too many days, our great Spring will be here – Easter Sunday! The sadness will turn to joy, the clouds will roll back, the sun will shine brightly, and we will celebrate new life because of Jesus' resurrection from the dead.

Easter is the greatest day of the year for Christians! So plan now to come and celebrate at church in worship with your brothers and sisters in the faith! Plan now to come and sing and celebrate the best news ever – that death has lost its sting, that sin has been overcome, that we have been given new life! I so look forward to celebrating with you!

Community Crosswalk

The Ecumenical Community Crosswalk on Good Friday (April 2nd) is scheduled to begin at noon. Walkers will meet at the Abundant Life Church on Booth Street and will travel to various sites around Elkton. The walk will conclude at the Trinity Episcopal Church on Bridge Street at approximately 2:00 p.m.

Communion in April

By Rev. Karen Bunnell, Senior Pastor

We will not be having communion on the first Sunday of April, since it is Easter Sunday and we're having four services. We will, however, be celebrating the sacrament of communion on Maundy Thursday, April 1st, at 7:30 p.m.

MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

"May the LORD bless you from Zion all the days of your life..." PSALM 128:5

Sincere Thanks from Heidi Gaultney

I would like to thank everyone for their kind words, cards, and prayers after the death of my mother, Winnie Stanley. I felt very much loved and lifted up by all of you. Thank you all very much!

With deepest sympathy

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted." Matthew 5:4

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to the families of:

Leonard Brown
Richard Eli Jackson

Baptisms

We welcome our newest baptized friends into the Universal Body of Christ!

Fiona Ann Kelly
daughter of
Brian & Kimberlie Kelly

Olivia Nicole Wolf
daughter of
John & Holly Wolf

Upcoming baptism dates

April 18th
May 9th (Mother's Day)
June 20th (Father's Day)

To schedule a baptism, call
Rev. Bunnell at (410) 398-0933.

Hard-working Homeless

By Faye Camors

I have worked with the Rotating Shelter for four years, and the two gentlemen that I am writing about are the most hard-working residents that I have met. I have written about Toby before, and he has worked with me for almost four years. Several members of our congregation have worked with Toby over the last year and are very happy with his work, his attitude, and the joy of being around him. If you would like to contact someone who has worked with Toby, you can speak to Cathy Gohlke, Rick Ceresini, Dave Gaz, Sandy Wherry, or Betty Evans.

There is now a young man named Steven. He is new to the homeless situation, and I do not feel he will be there long. He's a big, strong man and he is very anxious to have a permanent job, but wants to work until that happens. He is ready and willing to do anything. He has moved furniture, finished drywall (beautifully, I might add) and shoveled snow for me. He is very knowledgeable about home repair and getting things done. Steven is pleasant, personable and a hard worker.

If you need help cleaning up after all of our winter storms, general spring clean-up, home repairs, or any other type of assistance, I would love to introduce you to these two gentlemen. Please call Faye Camors at (410) 392-5548.

One Great Hour of Sharing

Thank you for your generous support of the One Great Hour of Sharing offering. After just one Sunday, you have given over \$4,000 to the United Methodist Committee on Relief through this offering. That means that between this offering and the offering for Haitian earthquake relief given earlier, you have given over \$10,000 to disaster relief already this year. Thank you so very much!



GUESS WHO?

This woman's mission is to care for all of God's creatures.

(answer on page 6)



We are happy to announce the following marriage!

**Rebecca Friesner and
Daniel Svoboda**

"A man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one."
EPHESIANS 5:31

FELLOWSHIP AND STEWARDSHIP

"We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us." II CORINTHIANS 5:20

Celebrate Spring with Beautiful Music

By Rev. Karen Bunnell, Senior Pastor

The Cecil County Choral Society presents their Spring Concert in the auditorium of Elkton High School on Sunday, April 18th, at 4:30 p.m. The Elkton Town Band presents their Founders Concert in the auditorium of Elkton High School on Sunday, April 25th, at 7:00 p.m. Many members of our church are in both of these groups, so come and support them and enjoy great music at the same time!

Men's Gathering at Camp Pecometh

By Michael Petkewec

Praise to God for all his many blessings! The second annual men's gathering at Camp Pecometh from March 5-7 was an inspiring success because of the hard work and dedication of many. Twenty-one men gathered for an entire weekend retreat of fellowship, worship, music, recreation, prayer, education, food, and fun! There were many personal stories that helped and inspired. We truly found out *why real men love God!* There is an action plan in place to make next year's event even bigger and better.

As chair of the Core Guidance Team for the men's gathering for yet another year, there are a few key people that I believe should be thanked who went above and beyond by providing leadership to make the weekend a success: the Core Guidance Team comprised of the Rev. Don Hurst, Dave Pugh, Bob Gilmore, Ed Sprague, Bill Fazio, Mike Noll, Ted Deboda, Gerry Treese, and Ed Lynerd; Bill Alphin for photography during the event; Judy Pugh, Connor O'Malley, Larry Gaultney, and Rick Ceresini for acting as guest speakers and leading the seminars; Mike Noll, Dave Wherry, and Ed Lynerd for being covenant group leaders; Ted Deboda, Ed Lynerd, Tom White, and Bill Moffit for performing as our praise band; Mike Noll for leading the morning prayers; Rev. Don Hurst for leading worship; and Gerry Treese for being our fantastic retreat chef along with Jake Jacobs as Gerry's trusty assistant. All of us hope that many more men will join us next year!

Men's Fellowship Breakfast

By Rev. George Leathrum

All men in our church are invited to join us for breakfast on the third Wednesday of each month. Plan to arrive at 6:30 a.m. at the Elkton Diner to enjoy breakfast and conversation with other men of the church. After a time for devotions and fellowship, we are on our way by 7:30 a.m.

April 21st

May 19th

Offering Envelopes

Please remember to put your offering envelope number on the memo line of your offering checks. It helps the counting team tremendously! It's also helpful if you don't seal the envelopes.

Blood Pressure Screenings on April 11th

Available on the 2nd Sunday of each month in the parish nurse office!



FINANCIAL REPORT		
	February 2010	Year to Date
Income	\$33,875.64	\$67,553.34
Expenses	\$32,582.37	\$70,885.78
Balance	\$ 1,293.27	\$-3,332.44

Hallelujah
**CHRIST IS
 RISEN!**

Vacation Bible School

By Melinda Grablis

This summer at Vacation Bible School, kids will have the chance to “join forces with God” at This program features five who are often overlooked. how God can use them in any situation! Vacation held on July 19-23 from Mark your calendars! on May 1st. If you have contact Melinda Grablis at [melindagrabis@comcast.net].



Hero Headquarters. unlikely Bible heroes Children will discover to make a difference Bible School will be 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Registration will begin any questions, please

Baccalaureate Service

By Sandy Wherry

The baccalaureate service for graduating seniors from high school or college will be held on Sunday, May 16th, at 6:00 p.m. Please invite your family and friends to attend. A reception will be held afterward for all those in attendance.

Graduates and Families

By Sandy Wherry

It's that time of year again—graduation! I need all your graduation information. Please email the name of the school, graduation date, and information on what you're planning to do after graduation, etc. to [slwherry@comcast.net]. I would also like to have 5 pictures from birth to graduation for our baccalaureate service. These pictures will be returned after our baccalaureate service.

Youth Group News

By Sandy Wherry

Thank you for all your hard work planning the Good Friday service. Thanks for continuing to invite your friends to join our group. We always enjoy having more people fellowship with us.

Young Adults News

By Sandy Wherry

Thank you for your special attention to the planning of our Easter sunrise service. It is such a wonderful celebration of new life, especially remembering ours in Jesus Christ.

WORD SEARCH SOLUTION

(from back page)

S	S	J	E	Z	E	A	V	B	V	S	E	I	A	K
E	P	I	V	M	S	N	O	D	B	N	E	N	N	V
S	N	N	M	C	W	R	O	M	Z	D	L	O	G	M
N	U	E	E	O	T	O	A	T	I	N	I	B	E	R
G	U	N	L	A	N	L	S	S	Y	L	B	L	H	
I	D	D	A	Y	P	C	L	F	V	A	A	S	O	
S	S	R	U	M	D	I	E	I	O	P	G	R	Z	L
S	I	Z	D	S	P	G	R	T	Y	F	F	Q	L	Y
L	M	N	R	L	R	O	A	U	E	E	O	W	Q	S
P	E	A	E	Y	L	C	N	M	H	R	A	V	Z	P
T	C	S	T	G	L	I	J	U	Y	D	E	Y	B	I
S	F	F	I	S	H	I	N	G	Q	R	S	P	Y	R
T	E	N	D	M	Y	S	H	E	E	P	A	F	Z	I
S	A	M	O	H	T	O	M	B	N	S	L	M	O	T
T	S	E	F	I	N	A	M	T	B	S	O	H	T	A

Solution to Cryptogram

(from back page)

“For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.”

Ephesians 2:10

“Guess Who” Answer



The young lady is Faye Camors!

Men Loving God

By Rev. Don Hurst, Associate Pastor of Visitation Ministries

The 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. worship services will be led by the men's gathering chorus, praise band and speakers on Sunday, April 11th. Come for a great spiritual lift on the Sunday after Easter – every day is Easter from now on!

SPECIAL EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

"Finally, all of you, live in harmony with one another; be sympathetic, love as brothers, be compassionate and humble." 1 PETER 3:8

Classic Christians' Upcoming Events

By Rev. Karen Bunnell, Senior Pastor

The next Classic Christians (50+) gathering will be on Friday, April 16th, at 6:30 p.m. It will be a potluck dinner and movie night. We'll watch *The Bucket List* together and follow it up with a discussion. Please bring a dish to share. Sign up to attend on the sheet across from Rev. Bunnell's office.

The May event for Classic Christians is the bus trip to Vermont. In June, we'll be sailing around Annapolis on a harbor cruise (see Don Hurst for information about this wonderful opportunity). Our annual picnic will be on July 16th and our annual crab feast will be on August 20th.

Our fall kick-off meeting will be on September 17th. In October, we'll be off on another bus trip – this time to the beautiful Hudson River Valley. This three-day, two-night trip will feature visits to West Point, the Culinary Institute of America, and a Hudson River cruise. Come to the Classic Christians' gatherings to hear more about it, or call John Anderson at (410) 378-3773.

United Methodist Women's 7th Annual Mother's Day Tea

By Nancy S. Stubbs, UMW Secretary

We hope you will plan to join us at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 8th, as women of all ages come together to celebrate mothers everywhere. Refreshments will include fruit, tea sandwiches, tea cakes, bars and cookies, lemonade, and hot and cold tea. Our theme this year is "Alice in Wonderland."

The children of our Sunday School, under the guidance of Janet Forney and Susie Smith, will entertain us with a skit about Alice in Wonderland.

Wear your favorite hat, bring a pretty teacup and saucer, and let's enjoy tea and cookies while we fellowship together at our annual Mother's Day tea celebration. Don't forget your camera!

Compassion Sunday

By Terri Lokey

On Sunday, April 11th, EUMC will be celebrating Compassion Sunday, which is a sponsorship drive for Compassion International. During each service, you will hear a little bit about the wonderful things that Compassion does to assist children in third-world countries. Compassion International exists as a Christian child advocacy ministry that works through local churches in villages to assist children with health needs,

food, educational funds, and spiritual needs. You will have the opportunity before and after each service to choose a child to sponsor. You can write to your child and receive letters from him or her. Over 30 families in our church already sponsor a Compassion child. Be sure to stop by the Compassion table to learn more about the many ways Compassion releases children from spiritual, economic, social, and physical poverty.

THANK YOU!



Administrative Professionals Day

By Rev. Karen Bunnell, Senior Pastor

On April 21st (Administrative Professionals Day), and every day, we give God thanks for our administrative professional, Kay Mortimer, for the wonderful work she does in our church office. She keeps the place humming, and turns out an incredible volume of work every week. We are so blessed to have her as our church secretary. When you see her, give her a pat on the back for a job well done!

If you would like more information or want to share ideas on how to write letters to your Compassion child, there will be a luncheon at noon on Sunday, May 2nd. It will be an informal lunch with time to share new ideas to help you write letters to the children you sponsor. There is a sign-up sheet on the table near Karen's office for anyone who is interested. You may also contact Terri Lokey if you have questions.



“A place to know Jesus, be known by Jesus, and make Him known to others.”

Elkton United Methodist Church

219 East Main Street
Elkton, MD 21921

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Elkton, MD 21921
(410) 398-0933
Email: eumc@comcast.net
Web site: www.elktonumc.org

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.
11:00 a.m. - Noon

SUNDAY SCHOOL (ALL AGES)

9:45 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

Sunday evenings at 6:00 p.m.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday

8:00 a.m. - Noon
12:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Friday

8:00 a.m. - Noon

WEDNESDAY PRAYER SERVICE

5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. (Room 1)

CHURCH STAFF

- Senior Pastor Karen F. Bunnell
- Associate Pastor of Visitation Ministries Don Hurst
- Children & Education Ministries Director Melinda Grablis
- Youth & Young Adults Ministries Director Sandy Wherry
- Organist/Coordinator of Music Ministries Sharon Williams
- Adult Choir Director Steven Gilmore
- Adult Handbell Director Paul Deemer
- Children’s Choir Director . . . Nicole Stauffer
- Nursery Care Professionals Mary Ann Schmidt
Yolanda Gomez
- Treasurer William Vassalotti
- Secretary Kay Mortimer
- Sexton Donald Ewing

John 20-21 (The Empty Tomb and the Miraculous Catch of Fish)

(solution is on page 6)

- ANGELS
- ASCEND
- DISCIPLES
- FISHING
- FOLLOW ME
- GLORIFY
- HOLY SPIRIT
- LINENS
- MANIFEST
- MARY MAGDALENE
- RABBONI
- SCARS
- SEA OF GALILEE
- SIGNS
- SIMON PETER
- STONE
- TEND MY LAMBS
- TEND MY SHEEP
- THOMAS
- TOMB

S	S	J	E	Z	E	A	V	B	V	S	E	I	A	K
E	P	I	V	M	S	N	O	D	B	N	E	N	N	V
S	N	N	M	C	W	R	O	M	Z	D	L	O	G	M
N	U	E	E	O	T	O	A	T	I	N	I	B	E	R
G	U	N	L	A	N	L	L	S	S	Y	L	B	L	H
I	D	D	A	Y	P	C	L	F	V	A	A	S	O	
S	S	R	U	M	D	I	E	I	O	P	G	R	Z	L
S	I	Z	D	S	P	G	R	T	Y	F	F	Q	L	Y
L	M	N	R	L	R	O	A	U	E	E	O	W	Q	S
P	E	A	E	Y	L	C	N	M	H	R	A	V	Z	P
T	C	S	T	G	L	I	J	U	Y	D	E	Y	B	I
S	F	F	I	S	H	I	N	G	Q	R	S	P	Y	R
T	E	N	D	M	Y	S	H	E	E	P	A	F	Z	I
S	A	M	O	H	T	O	M	B	N	S	L	M	O	T
T	S	E	F	I	N	A	M	T	B	S	O	H	T	A

Bible Verse Cryptogram

(solution is on page 6)

“UKV AF RVF JLG AKVZHRXGJLS, EVFRCFB LX EJVLCG WFGNG
UKV DKKB AKVZG, AJLEJ DKB SVFSRVFB OFUKVFJRXB, CJRC AF
GJKNQB ARQZ LX CJFH.”