



Elkton United Methodist Church

The Beacon



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From the pastor

By Rev. Karen Bunnell, Senior Pastor

I'm writing this letter from a hotel room in Ocean City, Maryland, where I'm participating in a retreat with all the clergy of our conference. It's nice to be able to get away for a few days and restore my soul. This past weekend many of our youth and their leaders did the same thing here in Ocean City at the Conference Youth Rally, and I'm told they've come back on fire with faith!

As I think about the upcoming events in February, it seems that there will be many opportunities for all of us to be inspired, to be restored, and to stir up the fire of our own faith. From the Joy of Faith weekend, to Unsung Heroes Sunday, to Boy Scout Sunday, to the first annual Men's Gathering at Pecometh, plus all the regular ongoing ministries – each of us will come face to face with opportunities for our spirits to be lifted and our hearts filled.

My prayer, in this month of love, is that you will take time for yourself this month and take part in these wonderful ministries. I guarantee that you will meet God on the journey, and it will be good!

“Joy of Faith” weekend on February 7-8th

Our annual Joy of Faith weekend will take place on Saturday and Sunday, February 7-8th. This year's presenters are “Ryan and Friends,” a delightful comedy and ventriloquist act from Pennsylvania. Ryan and Friends receive over 600 invitations to perform each year, but are only able to accept 130 of them. How lucky we are that they are coming to be with us!

The weekend celebration begins on Saturday with prayer breakfasts at 9:00 AM in the homes of 8 of our church families (sign-up sheets for the breakfasts will be in the Sunday bulletins, or you may call the church office to sign up). The celebration continues with a fabulous banquet dinner at 5:30 PM in Weldin Hall that Gerry Treese always prepares for us. The cost is \$8 for adults, \$4 for children, with a maximum of \$30 per family. The last day to purchase dinner tickets will be Sunday, February 1st. Following dinner, Ryan and Friends will entertain us with a program in the sanctuary at 7:00 PM (tickets are not needed for the program). On Sunday, Ryan and Friends will deliver the sermon during both morning worship services.

The Evangelism Committee tries to present a different take on the “joy” of faith each year. We've had an author, a storyteller, a comedian, a war hero, and this year, and now a ventriloquist. Invite your friends and neighbors to join in the fun – everyone is sure to be blessed by this great weekend!

“Had so many people tell me that in the 14 years we've had this program, Ryan and friends was the best ever!” Pastor, Hillside Church in Alta Loma, CA

“In this day and age, it is a breath of fresh air to find quality, wholesome, fun entertainment for all ages! That's exactly what you will find with Ryan and Friends!” Cindy Mellinger, Blue Ridge TV

February 2009

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Upcoming Events

Wedding feast for couples

February 6 (page 7)

Boy Scouts fundraiser

February 7 (page 7)

Joy of Faith Weekend

February 7-8 (front page)

Seminar for parents

February 12 (page 7)

Boy Scouts Pinewood Derby

February 14 (page 7)

Unsung heroes Sunday

February 15 (page 7)

Men's fellowship breakfast

February 18 (page 7)

Classic Christians show & tell

February 20 (page 7)

Young adults singles night

February 21 (page 7)

Boy Scout Sunday

February 22 (page 7)

Men's retreat at Pecometh

February 27 (page 7)

Community Kitchen

March 6 (page 5)

“Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast...”

1 Corinthians 13:4

Youth Rally 2009

By Sandy Wherry

Our youth are a very special group of young people! I am grateful to be able to work with such a wonderful group. Wherever we go, I am told that I am traveling with a very polite group of young people. We leave the houses we stay in as clean if not cleaner than we found them thanks to our group. I also want to thank the parents who chaperoned: Sarah Bjerke, Cindy and John Fetterolf, Terri Lokey, and Veronica Marshall. Thanks also to the young adults: Andrew Fetterolf, Wendy Gaultney, Kristi Hastings, Brett Pinder and Bek Wherry who were willing to help wherever needed.

Our weekend was exciting and fulfilling. Rev. Grace Imathiu had a very unique way of sharing the Bible with us. She spoke from her heart and made the Bible come alive! Marquis Laughlin has memorized 7 different books of the Bible and did a dramatic scripture presentation for us. He was awesome! The special worship music led by the African University Choir was spectacular. Ask the youth about Dave the Horn guy...he definitely has a different style of music!

I want to thank the youth for all the work they put into the worship service. All the sermons were written by them, the songs were chosen by Andrew with the help of the youth, the banners and tie-dyed shirts were made at my house by the young adults and some of the youth, the bulletin cover was designed by Amy and the photos were taken by Cindy, John, Terri and the youth. Thanks to Terri and Wendy for the PowerPoint presentation and to Andrew for leading us in worship. All your work was greatly appreciated.

A note from your pastors

In these very tough economic times, we know that many of you are struggling to make ends meet and are worried about what lies ahead. We are very concerned about you, and especially those of you who are suffering in silence and feeling all alone.

If you are hurting in any way because of the current economic situation and you need someone to talk to, please know that we are here for you. Sometimes we have even been able to help people out in very practical ways. So if you need a confidential listening ear, please give either Karen or Don a call.

Want to join our newsletter team?

The Communications Committee is looking for several people to join our newsletter team. If you have any of the following skill sets and feel moved to join, please contact Karen Bunnell.

- Editorial skills (someone to plan, request and edit articles each month)
- Writing skills (someone to write feature articles, i.e. interviews, event follow-ups, etc.)
- Graphic design skills (someone to assist with the layout and production of the monthly newsletter)

Listen!

By Sandra Holland

Do you hear what I hear?

A voice, a note, ringing through the air.
Who could it be
and coming from where?

Singers are detected
at our service each week.
Come out from your hiding
and don't make us seek.

There are empty spaces, right here in the choir.
You are needed – come join us!
Soprano, alto, tenor, and bass
at practice and on Sunday – we'll save you a place.



Guess Who?

This little girl traded her ball for a Bible, and her smile still wins the hearts of everyone she meets.

(see page 6 for the answer)

Free tax preparation assistance

Free tax preparation assistance will be offered to qualified taxpayers through April 15th. This service includes e-filing your taxes, so refunds can be received quickly.

You do not have to be 55 – we prepare taxes for all ages! You do not have to be a member of AARP. One-on-one appointments are held at EUMC as well as various other locations, including North East, Chesapeake City, Rising Sun, and Cecilton.

To make an appointment, please call the Elkton branch of the Cecil County Public Library at (410) 996-5600 (ext. 471) to leave a message including your phone number so a volunteer can contact you.

We are sponsored by AARP, and we are trained and certified by the IRS. We did over 1,200 *free* tax returns last year and, given the current economic situation, we are looking forward to helping a lot of people this year!



Tenebrae Service rehearsals begin

On April 10th, the senior choir will present a Tenebrae Service entitled “Behold the Darkness.” We will begin rehearsals on Wednesday evening at 6:30 PM in the sanctuary. Please join our band of wacky warblers (especially all of you secret sopranos!) to present this meaningful work for the congregation.

Financial seminar: Saving for college tuition

By the Stewardship Committee

The Stewardship Committee will sponsor a financial seminar focusing on saving for college tuition. The seminar is still in the planning process, but will probably be offered in late February or early March. Watch the church bulletins for more details!

Walking for Wellness: Final Count!

<u>Team</u>	<u>Minutes</u>
1. The Rovers	30,398
2. Golden Gait	22,732
3. Gaz Family	15,095
4. Geezers R Us	14,475
5. Team White	12,440
6. Quatro Amigos	11,635
7. Bob’s Band	9,454
8. Gilmore Girls	9,157
9. Pro-Walkers	8,605
10. Naughty Choristers	7,983
11. Methodist Roadrunners	7,015
12. Walking Great-Grammies Plus One ...	6,766
13. Wonderful Walkers	5,691
14. Down to the Wire	5,664
15. BEAT Bob’s Band	5,637
16. Hikers in the Heights	5,104
17. Bob’s Bunch	4,360
18. Welsh Dragons	4,310
19. Just a Walk Away	3,830
20. Ed’s Harem	3,575
21. Walks and Wogs and Jogs-WooHoo ...	3,520
22. Ding-o-Lings	3,515
23. Canal Walkers	3,510
24. The Canastas	3,155
25. The Heelers	2,501
26. The Young and the Wretched	2,400
27. Walkie Talkies	2,360
28. Our Spirited BEST	1,929
29. Team Truckin’	1,665
Total Minutes Walked	218,481

That’s almost 507 hours!



The grand total is almost 3,641 hours!

MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

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

February Birthdays

2/2 Ben Bruso
 2/2 Margaret Boulden
 2/2 Alyse McKeown
 2/3 Hannah Lightcap
 2/3 Travis Neff
 2/4 James Watts
 2/4 Michael Murray
 2/4 Dawn Spencer
 2/5 Donna Cloud
 2/5 Edgar Pugh
 2/6 Gerald (Rex) Sizemore
 2/6 James Boulden Jr.
 2/6 Savannah Henry
 2/7 Samuel Darron
 2/8 David Webster
 2/8 Robert Dalrymple
 2/9 Cindy Healy
 2/9 Misty Clugston
 2/10 Joyce Gallucci
 2/10 Stanley Cebula
 2/10 Steven Gilmore
 2/12 Fiona Smith
 2/12 Daniel Deemer
 2/15 Katie Hastings
 2/15 Ruth Ingle
 2/15 Constance Johns
 2/15 Jacqueline McGuirk
 2/15 William (Kevin) White
 2/16 Grace Achuff
 2/16 Jackson Hill
 2/16 Donna Horgan
 2/16 William Moffitt
 2/17 Eric Pressler
 2/18 Lorlean Murray

2/18 Joanne Barrett
 2/18 Mary Anne Gustafson
 2/18 Connor O'Malley
 2/19 Alan Barnes
 2/19 Edith Conrad
 2/20 Jacob Spencer
 2/20 Heather Blackiston
 2/21 Janet Forney
 2/21 Emily Jayne
 2/22 Cory Watson
 2/22 Cossie Gibson
 2/23 Randall Ferrell
 2/23 Bailey Pressler
 2/24 Elizabeth Strunk
 2/24 Lillian Armstrong
 2/24 Brian Gilmore
 2/24 Frank Knowles
 2/24 William McKeown
 2/24 Rachel Miller
 2/24 Miles Neff
 2/25 Aimee McLewin
 2/26 Donald McLewin
 2/26 Deanna Copenhagen
 2/26 Jessica Denney
 2/26 Brett Pinder
 2/27 Derek Cloud
 2/27 Ashley Fetterolf
 2/27 Helen Hanel
 2/27 Michael Micklesavage
 2/27 Donna Perkins
 2/28 Melanie Reiss
 2/28 Linda Truitt
 2/28 Allyson Veasey

February Anniversaries

2/2 Carol & Hobert Halsey
 2/2 Sheila & Edward Hendricks
 2/5 Sandy & Paul Smith
 2/6 Jane & Frank Cebula
 2/6 Betty & Frank Deibert
 2/8 Leslie & Daniel Slak
 2/9 Margaret & Edwin Haines Jr.
 2/14 Nancy & James Herczeg
 2/14 Tracey & Brian Simmons
 2/14 Sharon & Gerald Slayman
 2/20 Sandra & Thomas Lewis
 2/21 Lanita & Doug Raczkowski
 2/22 Julie & David Parrack
 2/22 Dawn & Scott Spencer
 2/28 Vivian & David Gaz
 2/28 Carol & Edward Sise

FAITH
hope and
LOVE - THE
GREATEST
of these is
LOVE

We Welcome Our Newest Members!

"You are welcome at my house."
JUDGES 19:20

Crystal Bamberger
Mike Noll
Brad Schreffler
Marjorie Simmons

We celebrate a new arrival!



Congratulations to the following family on their precious new arrival!

Julianne Marie Czarnecki
 daughter of
Phil and Kristen Czarnecki

Baptisms

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

Ava Grace Hitchens
 daughter of Alexander Hitchens
 and Diana Simmons

Upcoming Baptism Dates

February 15th
 March 8th
 April 19th

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

CHRISTIAN OUTREACH

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

COMMUNITY

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat..."

MATTHEW 25:35

Next Community Kitchen:

March 6th

at the

Elkton Presbyterian Church

Interested in donating food?

Please contact Nancy Fetterolf

at (410) 398-5838.

KITCHEN

Free spring clothing exchange (something for everyone !)

By the Stewardship Committee

Have clothes you can't use – or need clothes you can't quite afford? Most of us fit in one or both of these categories. With your help, the Stewardship Committee would like to redistribute clothing, putting it in the hands of those who can make better use of it.

If you have gently used adult's or children's clothing to give away, please bring it to Weldin Hall between Sunday, April 26th, and Friday, May 1st, anytime the church is open (8:00 AM to noon and 1:00-3:00 PM on weekdays). If possible, put a size on items that are not clearly labeled (extra hangers will also be appreciated). Please do not bring shoes, purses or anything that is not clothing.

We will offer the clothing *free* to anyone who can use it (in the church or in the community) on Saturday, May 2nd, from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM or until the clothing is gone, which ever comes first. In order to serve many people in the community, we will limit the amount any person can take, depending on how many items we receive. So clean out your closets and give those unwanted items a new home!

College Packages

By Andee McKenica

College packages will be mailed on Sunday, February 8th. If you would like to help fill the boxes, please join us in Weldin Hall after the 8:30 AM service.

Donations for the college packages can be dropped off in the box located in the hospitality area. Suggestions for this mailing are tissues, ChapStick, Valentine candies and, of course, we always welcome homemade goodies! Thanks to all who are so generous in giving to this ministry.



Emergency Numbers for Assistance

In case of emergency, use this list of emergency numbers.

No operator assistance is necessary.

Air time minutes are free.

All lines to heaven are open 24 hours a day!

- When in sorrow call John 14
- When men fail you call Psalms 27
- When you have sinned call Psalms 51
- When you worry call Matthew 6:19-34
- When you are in danger call Psalms 91
- When God seems far away call Psalms 139
- When your faith needs stirring call Hebrews 11
- When you are lonely and fearful call Psalms 23
- When you grow bitter and critical call 1 Corinthians 13
- When you feel down and out call Romans 8:31
- When you want peace and rest call Matthew 11:25-30
- When the world seems bigger than God call Psalms 90
- When you want Christian assurance call Romans 8:1-30
- When you leave home for labour or travel call Psalms 121
- When you want courage for a task call Joshua 1
- When you think of investment and returns call Mark 10
- If you are depressed call Psalms 27
- If your pocketbook is empty call Psalms 37
- If you are losing confidence in people call 1 Corinthians 13
- If people seem unkind call John 15
- If discouraged about your work call Psalms 126
- If self pride/greatness takes hold call Psalms 19
- If you want to be fruitful call John 15
- For understanding of Christianity call 2 Corinthians 5:15-19
- For a great invention/ opportunity call Isaiah 55
- For how to get along with fellow men call Romans 12
- For Paul's secret to happiness call Colossians 3:12
- For dealing with fear call Psalms 34:7
- For security call Psalms 121:3
- For assurance call Mark 8:35
- For reassurance call Psalms 145:18

Special studies coming soon!

Our popular Beginnings classes are now forming. This class is a 10- to 12-week study based on the fundamentals of the Christian faith. There are three different classes. The first is an introduction to the Christian faith, the second explores the spiritual "Habits of the Heart," and the third explores the importance of community in the Christian faith. (Beginnings 2 or 3 may be taken after Beginnings 1 has been completed.)

Back by popular demand is our Disciple Bible Study. This will be an 8-week study of the new testament. This study entitled "Invitation to the New Testament" is the first in a series of short-term Bible studies. Using Matthew's gospel as a starting point, this study shows how the new testament writers and the early Christian community wrestled with the implications of the story of Jesus for their lives and their communities of faith. They invite Christians to study afresh this story of Jesus to learn more about their calling to discipleship and to community.

If you are interested in either of these special studies, please contact Melinda Grablis at (410) 620-2345 or via email at [melindagrabis@comcast.net] or you may contact the church office.

New short-term study

By Melinda Grablis

Join us during the Sunday School hour for a new short-term study entitled "Christianity and World Religions." This is a fascinating multimedia study that will satisfy your curiosity by answering common questions people ask about other religions, including why we should believe the claims of Christianity over those of other faiths. This 7-week study begins on February 8th and will meet upstairs in Room 21.

Looking ahead to Lent

Lent is just around the corner! This is an awesome time for each one of us to pause, reflect, and renew our relationships with God. Beginning in March, we will be having a Lenten lunch and learn gathering on Wednesdays and a Lenten Bible Study in the parlor during the Sunday School hour. Watch the church bulletins for more information.

Winner of Name the Newsletter Contest

Congratulations to Jamie Treese who won our Name the Newsletter Contest by supplying the winning name, The Beacon. Jamie receives free tickets to the United Methodist Men's spaghetti dinner in the fall!

Word Search Solution
(from back page)

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



Solution to Cryptogram

(from back page)

For the lord loves the just and will not forsake his faithful ones.
PSALM 37:28

Biblical Couples

1. Adam & Eve
2. Isaac & Rebekah
3. Joseph & Mary
4. Zacharias & Elisabeth
5. Samson & Delilah
6. Ahab & Jezebel
7. Abraham & Sarah
8. Jacob & Rachel
9. Boaz & Ruth
10. Moses & Zipporah

"Guess Who" answer



The young lady is none other than our very own pastor, Karen Bunnell!

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 show & tell night

The Classic Christians "show and tell" night will be on Friday, February 20th, at 6:30 PM in Weldin Hall. All Classic Christians (50+) and friends (any age!) are invited to take part in a potluck dinner and "show and tell" evening.

Bring a covered dish to share and something of your own to show and tell us about. It can be an antique, a momento from a special trip, a collectible, a treasure, a trinket, or something from your own personal history – anything you want to tell us about!

We would love for everyone to bring something to show and tell, but even if you don't, come hear the great stories! Please sign up for this event at the sign-up sheet on the table across from Rev. Bunnell's office.

Young adult singles

By Sandy Wherry

The young adult singles have been getting together for dinner out. If you are single and under 40, please join us. We would also like some other suggestions of places to go. Call Sandy at (443) 309-0160 with ideas or questions. Our next outing will be on February 21st. We have been to an Irish pub and the Casablanca so far this year.

Unsung heroes Sunday

During both services on Sunday, February 15th, our Stewardship Committee will help us celebrate the unsung heroes in our midst. This much anticipated celebration takes place on the Sunday closest to Valentine's Day, since what these heroes do is share love in wonderful ways. Most of the heroes have already been selected, but if you have an idea for a recognition, please call Ken McCoy at (410) 398-9156 or Rev. Bunnell at (410) 398-0933.

"Generation 2 Generation" seminar for parents

By Sandy Wherry

Dr. David Olshine, director of Student Ministries at Columbia International University, will present a *free* seminar for parents on Thursday, February 12th, at 7:00 PM in the Red Lion Church sanctuary in Delaware. As parents, we are very good at organizing events, getting our kids to soccer practice and music recitals, but when it comes to passing on the baton of faith, we don't do too well. Visit [www.youthmincoaches.com] for more information about David Olshine.

Young adult couples

By Sandy Wherry

All couples between 19 and 40+ are invited to our 2nd annual wedding feast on Friday, February 6th, at 6:00 PM. Child care with dinner will be provided. Come out and share this special night with each other. We had a great time last year, and we have taken great care to make this an exceptional evening for all of you.

Men's fellowship breakfast

By Rev. George Leathrum

The men of our church are invited to a fellowship breakfast on the third Wednesday of each month. We meet at the Elkton Diner at 6:30 AM for breakfast, devotions and discussion, and we are on our way by 7:30 AM.

Hope to see you soon on one of these dates:

February 18th

March 18th

April 15th

Come and Be Set Free!

Be part of the 1st annual
**Elkton Men's Weekend
Gathering at Pecometh**

February 27th - March 1st

Total cost is \$75.

Call Michael Petkewec
at (301) 367-8267 to register.

Scouts fundraisers

Pack 443 is having a fundraising pasta dinner on February 7th from 5:30-7:30 PM at the Rock Presbyterian Church on 3301 Singerly Road. The cost is \$7 per adult, \$4 per child, or \$25 for families of 5 or more. Please come support our scouts.

On February 14th from 8:00 AM to noon, we will be having our annual Pinewood Derby car race in Weldin Hall. Feel free to come and see what the fun is about!

Visit our web site for more details
www.pack443elkton.org.

Boy Scout Sunday



On Sunday, February 22nd, we'll celebrate Boy Scout Sunday here at Elkton UMC. Our worship will include boys from Cub Pack 443 and young men from Troop 443. The scouts will read the gospel lesson and serve as our ushers. We will hear about their activities and adventures from their leaders, and we will renew our covenant with them for the coming year. The scouts will also host their annual pancake breakfast (which is always delicious!) all morning in Weldin Hall. Come join in the celebration of Boy Scout Sunday!



“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

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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

Nursery Care Professional:
Mary Ann Schmidt

Secretary:
Kay Mortimer

Organist:
Sharon Williams

Director of Music:
Paul Deemer

Treasurer:
William Vassalotti

Sexton:
Donald Ewing

Office Hours

Monday through Friday:
8:00 AM - Noon
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Sunday Worship Services

8:30 AM - 9:30 AM
11:00 AM - Noon

Wednesday Prayer Service

5:30 PM - 6:30 PM (Room 1)

Contact Information

Phone: (410) 398-0933
Email: eumc@comcast.net
Web site: www.elktonumc.org

Sunday School (for all ages)

9:45 AM - 10:45 AM

Youth Fellowship

Sunday evenings: 6:00 PM

Biblical Couples

For an additional challenge, match the husbands with their wives when you're finished the word search (answers are on page 6).

ABRAHAM
ADAM
AHAB
BOAZ
DELILAH
ELISABETH
EVE
ISAAC
JACOB
JEZEBEL
JOSEPH
MARY
MOSES
RACHEL
REBEKAH
RUTH
SAMSON
SARAH
ZACHARIAS
ZIPPORAH



Bible Verse Cryptogram

(solution is on page 6)

XTZ BKP CTZJ CTUPM BKP SGMB EIJ LWCC ITB XTZMEAP KWM

XEWBKXGC TIPM.