

The Circuit Writer

Elkton United Methodist Church

Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

Website: www.elktonvaumc.org

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Summer
2013

A word about Finances

Following on Harvey Gasser's words in this newsletter about the paying off of the Roof Repair loan (Hooray!!!) and what to do now with your pledge to that loan fund, let me just say what I have done and why. Very simply, I have taken the monthly amount that I had pledged to help pay of the roof repair loan, and rolled that into my pledge to the general budget. The reason why is that our church finances have been very tight so far this year. Indeed, we have been running an average of \$300 per week short of what we need for our budget.

What this means is that at a time of year when we should have paid almost 42% of our District and Conference apportionments, we've paid a little more than 15%. And this really is an important thing. Apportionments are our first *missional* priority as a congregation! We do great missional work and great missional giving in our local church, but we're missing our first priority.

Apportionments, given to us each year by our District and our Conference, go to support a vast array of ministries across United Methodism in the U.S. and around the world. They include everything from pensions and healthcare for active and retired clergy, to the operational expenses for UMCOR, our emergency relief agency for things like the recent tornado in Oklahoma. The amount given to us is our "fair share" based on a formula which takes into account only what we've spent in operational expenses over the previous three years. The formula is the same for every UM church.

I have sometimes heard apportionments referred to as “taxes,” but I have to say that I object to that, mainly because when I have heard it used that way it seems to imply an “us and them” mentality. There is no “us and them” in the church of Jesus Christ. “They” are “us” and “we” are “them.” and there is certainly no “us and them” in the United Methodist Church. Districts and Annual Conferences, and General Conference, which approve all of these various ministries supported by apportionments, are made up entirely by “us.” People from every local church serve as voting lay and clergy members of Annual Conference. And every four years those people elect from among themselves members to go and serve at General Conference.

So, it's all “us.” And, apportionments really are a *covenant* that “we” have all entered into together for the ministry of Christ. We need to keep our covenants.

I hope you'll consider doing with your roof repair fund pledge what I've done with mine. And together, we can begin to make up the difference on our first missional priority!

In Christ,

David

LAY READERS (11:00)

June 9...Harvey Gasser
June 16...Betty Tavenner
June 23...Ormond Painter
June 30...Jan Lorette
July 7...Winston Hensley
July 14...Tamlyn Ogden
July 21...Terri Davis
July 28...Irene Jenkins
August 4...Bob Bloomquist
August 11...Sandy Cude
August 18...Andy East
August 25...Harvey Gasser
September 1...Betty Tavenner

ACOLYTES (11:00)

June 9...Joshua Gooden
June 16...Joseph Gooden
June 23...Kevin Wedow
June 30...Joshua Gooden
July 7...Joseph Gooden
July 14...Kevin Wedow
July 21...Joshua Gooden
July 28...Joseph Gooden
August 4...Kevin Wedow
August 11...Joshua Gooden
August 18...Joseph Gooden
August 25...Kevin Wedow
September 1...Joshua Gooden

8:35 Connection Hospitality Teams schedule THRU Sept. 1

TEAM I

June 9
July 14 & 21
August 25 & Sept. 1

TEAM II

June 16 & 23
July 28 & August 4

TEAM III

June 30 & July 7
August 11 & 18

NURSERY WORKERS (11:00)

June 9...Carol Hensley
June 16...Terri Davis
June 23...Anna Campbell
June 30...Loretta Miller
July 7...Jerri MacLennan
July 14...Carol Hensley
July 21...Terri Davis
July 28...Anna Campbell
August 4...Loretta Miller
August 11...Jerri MacLennan
August 18...Carol Hensley
August 25...Terri Davis
September 1...Anna Campbell

GREETERS (11:00)

June 9...Kathleen & Don Grimes Parking lot- Marie Frey
June 16...Marie Frey & Alice Hensley Parking lot- Kathleen Grimes
June 23...Sharon & Harvey Gasser Parking lot- Richard Tavenner
June 30...Kitty & Aallen Young Parking lot -Ted Campbell
July 7...Anna & Ted Campbell Parking lot – Ditman Flory
July 14...Neill & Marvin Hillsman Parking lot – Joshua Gooden
July 21...Ormond & Joan Painter Parking lot – Kathleen Grimes
July 28...Jan & Dick Lorette Parking lot – Marie Frey
August 4...Carolyn Akers & Alice Hensley Parking lot- Joshua Gooden
August 11...Sandy & Don Cude Parking lot – Marie Frey
August 18...Kathleen & Don Grimes Parking lot – Bill Madren
August 25...Sharon & Harvey Gasser Parking lot – Sam Gentry
Sept. 1 ...Marie Frey & Alice Hensley Parking lot – Harvey Gasser

USHERS (11:00)

June 9...Sam Gentry, Marvin Hillsman
Ditman Flory, Joshua Gooden
June 16...Winston & Carol Hensley
Don & Sandy Cude
June 23...Betty Tavenner, Tamlyn Ogden
Irene Reynolds, Carolyn Akers
June 30...Mike Jenkins, Bob Bloomquist
Dick Lorette, Marvin Hillsman
July 7...Marvin & Neil Hillsman
Ed & Michelle Turner
July 14...Ted & Anna Campbell
Don & Kathleen Grimes
July 21...Ditman Flory, Ted Campbell
Bob Bloomquist, Dick Lorette
July 28...Harvey & Sharon Gasser
Don & Kathleen Grimes
August 4...Sam Gentry, Marvin Hillsman
Ditman Flory, Joshua Gooden
August 11...Winston & Carol Hensley
Don & Sandy Cude
August 18...Betty Tavenner, Tamlyn Ogden
Irene Reynolds, Caroly Akers
August 25...Mike Jenkins, Bob Bloomquist
Dick Lorette, Sam Gentry
September 1...Ted & Anna Campbell
Don & Kathleen Grimes

“IF YOU DID IT TO THE LEAST OF THESE”

...that was Jesus' measure of discipleship. So, why not try some hands-on mission work, serving the last and the least.

Project Crossroads...our week in southwest Virginia serving the poor is set for Sunday, June 30 through Friday, July 5. This will be our church's 18th straight year of sending a mission team to Project Crossroads! If you would like to be part of the team, or would like more information, please call Richard or Amy Morris! (540) 209-6970 or (540) 209-4165.

WE DID IT!!! Full \$ amount raised for Overlook Scholarships

Through the generosity of our congregation and through the hard work by all those who organized, worked and donated goods for the church yard sale, we raised enough money to send **all 14** of our Elkton UMC kids who wanted to go to camp this summer, **fully paid!** What a wonderful thing, 1) that we have *fourteen* kids from our congregation going to camp, and 2) that we are sending them for “free” and can support them and their families in this way!

News from The Elkton United Methodist Women

WE HAVE boxes of notecards with pictures of our church's stained-glass windows and our church on them for sale at \$10.00 a box. To purchase, see Marie Frey.

AN ICE CREAM SOCIAL is planned for Saturday, June 15, from 2:00-4:00 PM.

THE MAD HATTERS' TEA is planned for Saturday, July 20th at 1:00 PM.

We love having guests at our circle meetings! Come join us in fellowship and service.

Wesleyan Circle: 1st Tuesday nights at 7:00 PM
Amanda Kite Circle: 1st Monday nights at 7:00 PM
Elsie Cover Circle: 2nd Thursday afternoons at 1:30.

We urge everyone to please remember the shut-ins by your visits, cards and calls.

Prayer Concerns...

(as known)
Edward Turner, Sr.
Jenna Turner
Bud & Pat Fitzwater
Bill & Jean Madren
Anita McGregor
Ruby Hildebrand
Woody Tutwiler
Ruth Reynolds
Nioka Morris
Chancellor Lough
the family of Lewis Lindamood
Irene Reynolds
Neill Hillsman
Sam Gentry

COURAGEOUS DADS RETREAT June 14-15

Make this Fathers' Day a day of commitment to your family. The Courageous Movie is a powerful story of four police officers, called to serve and protect. But the heart of the movie is their realization that as fathers they have an even higher calling to serve and care for their families.

For more information, see David Reynolds, or go to www.CampOverlook.org

OUR CHURCH'S LOAN FOR
REPLACING THE ROOF,
Plus other repairs--
is paid off!

Thanks to all of you who have given faithfully for the past four years towards this early retirement of our debt. So what now?

The Administrative Council has concurred with the finance committee that we will continue a Building Repair Fund account, separate from the general budget. Any offering marked for the "Roof/Repair" or "Building," as listed on the offering envelopes, will go into this account. The intent is to have the money available as needed for upkeep of the church building and grounds, knowing that with an old building there is always something that needs to be fixed.

I should add that I personally encourage giving to the Church Budget, as our general needs are much greater, and building expenses not covered by the Building Repair account will be drawn out of the budget anyway.

As an aside, we got our repair loan from the Virginia United Methodist Credit Union, a full service financial cooperative serving the church members, clergy and churches of the Virginia Conference of the United Methodist Church. The folks there are very pleasant and easy to work with, and I promised them I'd put in a good word. You can check out their website at <http://vumcu.com/>

Harvey Gasser, Chair, finance committee

Camp Heifer, 2013!

Our VBS, Camp Heifer will be held *August 5-9*, from 6:00 – 8:30 PM.

Still Needed: teacher for the K-1st kids (Please speak to Sandy Cude if you can help!) But, all the other teachers are already staffed! Thankfully, many of the folks who worked last year are doing so again this year.

Our goal is to help the children understand hunger in our world. We want our kids to develop a desire to help these starving people, through the Heifer organization, which gives families around the world hope by giving them the animals and the training for their care.

We appreciated the participation of our church family last year and look forward to even more folks coming out on Friday evening, Aug. 9, to help us celebrate an awesome week together!

8:35 Hospitality Teams Roster

Team I

Sandy Cude – Team leader & Door Greeter
Don Cude – Parking Greeter
Carol Hensley – Hostess
Terri Davis – Nursery

Team II

Sandy Cabbage – Team Leader & Door Greeter
Kenny Cabbage – Parking Greeter
Travis Cabbage – Parking Greeter
Richard Morris – Parking Greeter
Amy Morris - Door Greeter
Jeri MacLennan – Hostess
Brian or Lisa Kriel – Nursery

Team III

Pat East – Team Leader & Door Greeter
Andy East – Parking Greeter
Jan Lorette – Hostess
Mary Ripley – Nursery