

The Circuit Writer

Elkton United Methodist Church
Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.
Website: www.elktonvaumc.org

The Rev. David T. Reynolds, Pastor
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Elkton UMC Study Committee
For Church Building Projects
August 23, 2014

OVERVIEW:

Purpose of Study Committee - To determine the need to make our church building a more welcoming, safe, accessible and comfortable place for everyone gathering here (groups and individuals.) The formal process for this study was explained in the Pastor's request for us to join this committee. A longer version of this Report (on our website) will be presented to the District Superintendent at the Annual Charge Conference on October 26, 2014.. We seek your comments to these findings and recommendations (see back of this page). NOTE: If the Charge Conference approves the *need* for a building project, they will then nominate a Building Committee. That committee's responsibility is to develop architectural plans, secure an estimated cost of the construction, and develop a financial plan.

DISCIPLINARY REQUIREMENTS FOR BUILDING PROJECTS:

Needs of the Church:

1. We need a more welcoming, safe, and defined entrance.
2. We need handicapped accessible bathroom(s).
3. We need a handicapped accessible Fellowship Hall.
4. We need an improved and safer space for our nursery.
5. We need a more accessible and larger choir practice room.
6. We need a larger, safer, more modern kitchen.
7. We need better/different space for the Adult Sunday School currently meeting on the main floor.

Needs of the Community:

1. The Boy Scout troop needs improved storage space for equipment and materials and a safer environment to gather.
2. The Wednesday Walkers need better storage space and a safer environment to gather.
3. The Elkton Lions meet in our Assembly Room twice each month; they need to store supplies.
4. There are numerous gatherings for planned events and our space is not accessible for all.
5. Less frequent activities for the community (Ice Cream Social, VBS, Trunk or Treat) need a safer and more modern space with handicapped accessibility.

What is the future potential membership and average attendance:

Elkton projects zero growth for the near future. The town has not realized any growth within the last few years, but the birth of our Contemporary Service contributed to an increase in our average Sunday attendance from 67 people per week to 98 or more. We anticipate a 5-7% increase in our congregation and continual expansion in attendance to our community events over the next few years.

Our program of ministry was developed at our Annual Retreat in January.

Large printed sheets were on the back of the doors in the Gathering Room for many months; copies are now printed and available in the back of the Sanctuary with this brief report.

(Report continued on the back.)

...continuation of Building Study Committee report...

Develop an accessibility plan.

We need to evaluate existing handicap access to see what does and does not meet current ADA Standards, including the following:

1. Entry Ramp Railings
2. Side Entrance Railings and Stairs
3. Existing bathrooms (main floor, and basement)
 4. Fellowship Hall - we have no access for wheelchairs at this time.
 - a) Stair railings need to be evaluated
 - b) Determine the possibility of stair lifts
 - c) Determine placement for a potential elevator
 5. Upstairs Choir Room and Sunday School rooms – no access for wheelchairs.
 - a) Stair railings need to be evaluated
 - b) Determine the possibility of stair lifts
 - c) Determine placement for a potential elevator
6. Kitchen is not accessible to anyone handicapped
7. Evaluate Access for the following:
 - a) normal access from the parking lots to the Sanctuary
 - b) normal access to and from the Sunday School rooms
 - c) normal access to the downstairs bathrooms
 - d) normal access to the Fellowship Hall /Kitchen/Furnace Room
 - e) need for signage for newcomers to find their way

JMU may have students who could help with this analysis.

Please share your comments or questions about this report or process in the space below and place in the offering plate. You are also welcomed to telephone the Committee Chair, Tamlyn Ogden, at 540-383-5286.

LAY READERS (11:00)

Sept. 14...Sandy Cude
Sept. 21...Ed Turner
Sept. 28...Andy East
Oct. 5...Harvey Gasser
Oct. 12...Ormond Painter
Oct. 19...Jan Lorette
Oct. 26...Winston Hensley
Nov. 2...Tamlyn Ogden

8:35 Connection Hospitality Teams schedule THRU Nov. 9

TEAM I

Sept. 14
Oct. 19 & 26

TEAM II

Sept. 21 & 28
Nov. 2 & 9

TEAM III

Oct. 5 & 12

Charge Conference

Our annual Charge Conference is scheduled for Sunday, October 26th, at 6:00 PM. All Administrative Council members are voting members of the Charge Conference and so their attendance is expected. Any others are also welcome to attend. We review where we've been in ministry over the last year and look to the year ahead and take care of some formal business. Our District Superintendent is on hand to preside.

Of special note: the report from the Building Accessibility Study Committee will be presented for approval at the Charge Conference. If approved, a Building Committee will be nominated to proceed with our plans to meet the ministry and accessibility needs for our physical facility.

Hallowe'en Community Outreach

In conjunction with the town of Elkton's Hallowe'en celebration, our church will once again offer a "haunted maze" for children to go through and more importantly, we will offer welcome and music and hospitality to all the families who come up. We will be serving them refreshments, and

offering them the use of our facilities, and our 8:35 Connection Praise Band will be playing contemporary Christian music! It's a wonderful opportunity for us to be able to serve and offer our church's hospitality and musical witness to so many! Sign up to help!

NURSERY WORKERS (11:00)

Sept. 14...Terri Davis
Sept. 21...Anna Campbell
Sept. 28...Jerri MacLennan
Oct. 5... Heather Pugliese
Oct. 12... Jessica Trimble
Oct. 19... Terri Davis
Oct. 26... Anna Campbell
Nov. 2... Jerri MacLennan

GREETERS (11:00)

Sept. 14...Kathleen & Don Grimes
Sept. 21...Irene Jenkins & Alda Powell
Sept. 28...Ditman Flory & Jan Lorette
Oct. 5...Ted & Anna Campbell
Oct. 12...Marie Frey & Alice Hensley
Oct. 19...Allen & Kitty Young
Oct. 26...Joshua Gooden & Sam Gentry
Nov. 2...Bob Bloomquist & Harvey Gasser

USHERS (11:00)

Sept. 14...Ted & Anna Campbell
Don & Kathleen Grimes
Sept. 21...Don & Sandy Cude
Winston & Carol Hensley
Sept. 28...Harvey & Sharon Gasser
Irene Reynolds, Ditman Flory
Oct. 5...Sam Gentry, Marvin Hillsman
Ditman Flory, Joshua Gooden
Oct. 12...Don & Sandy Cude
Dick Lorette, Joshua Gooden
Oct. 19...Harvey & Sharon Gasser
Don & Kathleen Grimes
Oct. 26...Mike Jenkins, Bob Bloomquist
Dick Lorette, Joshua Gooden
Nov. 2 ...Marvin & Neil Hillsman
Ed & Michelle Turner

Great Fellowship Events coming up!

SENIOR "SPOIL DAY"...to honor our senior citizens, we're planning a senior "spoil day" on Wednesday, Oct 1st at 6:00 PM. There will be refreshments and some of our younger women will be offering free pedicures to any of our older women who'd like one!

PUMPKIN CARVING FOR KIDS... Children of all ages are invited for a pumpkin carving event, with light refreshments, Friday, Oct. 24th, at 6:00 PM! Invite the neighborhood kids and their families and bring them with you!

CHILI COOK-OFF & GAME NIGHT...back by popular demand, on Saturday, Nov. 8th, at 6:00 PM! Bring your friends!

Wednesday Walkers

We are looking for volunteers to serve as tutor/mentors for our Wednesday Walkers after-school tutoring ministry. It involves giving about an hour and a half of your time on Wednesday afternoons, from 3:15 – 4:30, to help at-risk 1st and 2nd graders with basic reading and math skills. You really can make a difference in the life of a child! Call Marie Frey to volunteer or get more info. (298-1770)

News from The Elkton United Methodist Women

THE MAD HATTERS' TEA...was a great success. We had 22 women all wearing their favorite hat!

DESSERT BOOTH...We will be sponsoring a dessert booth at the Elkton Autumn Days celebration, October 18 – 19. The UMW invite each church family make a dessert or a contribution, as this is the UMW's major fundraiser for the year! For more information on how to help, contact Marie Frey 298-1770

CHURCH NOTE CARDS...We still have some boxes of notecards featuring our church and our stained glass windows. They are \$10 per box. See Marie Frey if you like to purchase some.

We are happy to report that we have given away 76 quilted lap robes. We continue to make them for elderly and shut-ins. Anyone interested in helping with this project, please see Marie!

Please continue to remember the shut-ins by your visits, cards and calls.

As always we love to have guests attend our circle meetings. Come join in fellowship and service.

Wesleyan Circle: 1st Monday mornings at 10:30 AM

Amanda Kite Circle: 1st Monday nights at 7:00 PM

Elsie Cover Circle: 2nd Thursday afternoons at 1:30.

Don't Forget EAUS!

Don't forget that our congregation is collecting food for Elkton Area United Services (EAUS) every Sunday. Jeremy & Beth Hildebrand are heading up this mission effort and keeping us informed as to what items are most needed at the time. **Right now, we are currently collecting fruit, soup and soap!**

Don't forget. You can make a difference for people in Elkton who are having a hard time affording food.

Summer Picnic a great success!

Special thanks to Sandy Cabbage, and Kenny and *all* her other helpers. Good food, good fellowship, good weather and a great time was had by all at our Summer Picnic.

And...we had 70 people in attendance!

River Bend Readers

You are invited to become a member of River Bend Readers. The project's goal is to enhance the literacy needs of River Bend students. If you'd like more information and how to become a mentor, please contact Katie Shifflett by calling 298-5301 or via email:

katieshifflett@rockingham.k12.va.us

The volunteers read aloud to a small group of kindergarten and first grade students one morning a week in designated locations. All materials are provided for volunteers. Volunteers and/or community groups are asked to read at least one Tuesday a month; however you are welcome as often as you are able to come. River Bend Readers hopes to begin in mid October and run till the end of April.

Prayer Concerns...

(as known)
Jenna Turner
Bud & Pat Fitzwater
Bill Madren
Anita McGregor
Ruby Hildebrand
Woody Tutwiler
Ruth Reynolds
Nioka Morris
Irene Reynolds
Patty Life
Danielle Mauck
Alan & June Thompson

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
Jerri 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