

The Circuit Writer

Elkton United Methodist Church

Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

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March/April 2017

Some thoughts for Lent...

A Man Lost By A River

There is a voice inside the body.

There is a voice and a music,
a throbbing, four-chambered pear
that wants to be heard, that sits
alone by the river with its mandolin
and its torn coat, and sings
for whomever will listen
a song that no one wants to hear.

But sometimes, lost,
on his way to somewhere significant,
a man in a long coat, carrying
a briefcase, wanders into the forest.

He hears the voice and the mandolin,
he sees the thrush and the dandelion,
and he feels the mist rise over the river.

And his life is never the same,
for this having been lost--
for having strayed from the path of his routine,
for no good reason.

--Michael Blumenthal

I pray that this Lenten season we are sharing will be a time when you (perhaps through taking up some spiritual discipline, like regular prayer or meditation, or regular reading of scripture) let yourself “wander in the forest” and hear that “voice” and that music in your heart. I believe those are the “voice” and the “music” of Christ, who as he said, *is* life and truth. I believe that whenever we allow ourselves to “wander” and get lost in his music, even if just for a little while, it changes us. Our lives are never the same, for we start living “toward” that music, toward resurrection. May it be so, for you.

--David

Housekeeping Item – You will notice on the Nursery Attendant list for 11:00 worship, we are down to just two people...Heather Pugliese and Jessica Trimble...and they are the young mothers whose children need watching during that hour. It’s hardly fair to ask them to stay in the nursery almost any time they attend worship! So, please call Shirley Diggle and volunteer to take a Sunday a month (or less, if we get enough). Also, it doesn’t have to be just people who attend 11:00 worship who do this. If helping with children is a ministry that calls to you, no matter what service you attend, volunteer!

LAY READERS (11:00)

March 12...Harvey Gasser
March 19...Winston Hensley
March 26...Irene Jenkins
April 2...Jan Lorette
April 9...Tamlyn Ogden
April 16...Ed Turner
April 23...Andy East
April 30...Terri Davis
May 7...Harvey Gasser

8:35 Connection Hospitality Teams schedule

The 8:35 Connection Hospitality Teams have been reconfigured (if you're on one and now don't know which one you're on, talk to Shirley Diggle!) and here's the upcoming schedule:

March 5 & 12 – Team 1
March 19 & 26 – Team 2
April 2 & 9 – Team 3
April 16 & 23 – Team 1
April 30 & May 7 – Team 2

News from The Elkton United Methodist Women

Lilies will be placed in the sanctuary for Easter, April 16. If you wish to place one in memory or honor of someone, please call Marie Frey. (298-1770)

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

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

Amanda Kite Circle - 1st Tuesday afternoons at 4:00 PM

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

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

Harrisonburg District Pulpit Exchange

On Sunday, April 30th, there will be a “pulpit exchange” across the Harrisonburg District. That Sunday is a 5th Sunday in the month, so we will have one combined worship service at 10:00 AM. David Reynolds will be traveling up 340, to preach at Oak Grove UMC and Grove Hill UMC. John Senters will be coming to our church that morning to preach. (Remember: one 10:00 AM service!)

NURSERY WORKERS (11:00)

March 12...Jessica Trimble
March 19th...Heather Pugliese
March 26th...Jessica Trimble
April 2...Heather Pugliese
April 9...Jessica Trimble
April 16...Heather Pugliese
April 23...Jessica Trimble
April 30... Heather Pugliese
May 7...Jessica Trimble

GREETERS (11:00)

March 12...Josh Gooden & Sam Gentry
March 19...Irene & Mike Jenkins
March 26...Harvey Gasser & Alda Powell
April 2...Allen & Kitty Young

April 9...Ten & Anna Campbell
April 16...Ditman Flory & Alda Powell
April 23...Harvey & Sharon Gasser
April 30...Sam Gentry & Josh Gooden
May 7...Irene & Mike Jenkins

USHERS (11:00)

March 12...Sam Gentry, Tamlyn Ogden
Harvey & Sharon Gasser
March 19...Marvin & Neil Hillsman
Don & Kathleen Grimes
March 26...Sam Gentry, Marvin Hillsman
Joshua Gooden
April 2...Don & Kathleen Grimes
Mike Jenkins, Bob Bloomquist
April 9...Harvey & Sharon Gasser
Joshua Gooden
April 16...Mike Jenkins, Bob Bloomquist
Ted & Anna Campbell
April 23...Ditman Flory, Sam Gentry
Tamlyn Ogden
April 30...Marvin & Neil Hillsman
Harvey & Sharon Gasser
May 7...Don & Kathleen Grimes
Mike Jenkins, Joshua Gooden

Youth/Family Night

We are planning regular Youth/Family nights this year on fourth Saturdays of each month! The first one is from 5:00 – 8:00 PM on Saturday, March 25th.

(Incidentally, we needed \$235 to purchase a license to show movies at these events and providentially, when we checked the special offering plate in the back and counted up the checks and cash that had been donated for this project, it came to EXACTLY \$235! So, thank you to all who donated and know that the hand of God was involved.)

Games, movies, fellowship...come join the fun.

Chili Cook-Off a success!

We had ten different pots of chili to taste and upon which to vote! There were thirty people voting and David Reynolds *finally* managed to win one of these cook-offs, but even so it was very close. A good time was had by all. Thanks to Laura Johnson for putting this together.

Holy Week and Easter

Services

MAUNDY THURSDAY...

6:30 PM - "Silent Supper" Beef/Barley soup and selected scripture readings.
7:00 PM - Service of Holy Communion, remembering Jesus' Last Supper.
Chancel Choir singing.

GOOD FRIDAY...

7:30 PM - A Contemporary Service of "The Stations of the Cross," remembering Jesus' journey carrying his cross to Golgotha.
Praise Band playing.

EASTER SUNDAY...

6:30 AM – Our Sunrise Service on the front lawn, followed by a covered-dish breakfast in the Fellowship Hall.
8:35 AM – The 8:35 Connection worship
11:00 AM – Traditional Worship

Join Us for Sunday School!

Sunday School classes meet Sunday mornings from 9:45 – 10:45, fall through Memorial Day. All are welcome. You do not need to be a member to attend, and you do not need to commit to attending each week.

ANGELS – Age group 5-8 year olds
Leader: Christy Allamong

Class description: The Angels class provides a foundation for our younger children learning how to be

Disciples. This year, we're working to become "Bible Black Belts." This program features different color belts that focus on one main passage of scripture. Each week offers activities including games, reflection, movement and rhythm.

FISHERMEN – Age group 9-16

Leaders: Harvey Gasser & Ditman Flory

Class description: The class follows the Bible Lessons 4 Youth (BL4Y) Curriculum, a six-year program that helps teens apply the Bible to their real life. This fall we're exploring the sovereign nature of God as seen through the eyes of the authors of Isaiah, Hebrews and Revelation. The course offers options for younger and older youth..

FELLOWSHIP – Age group Adult

Leaders: Ed & Michelle Turner

Class description: The Fellowship Class uses a quarterly curriculum base on *Adult Bible Studies*. This fall the lessons follow the "Sovereignty of God," and will be exploring Isaiah, Hebrews and Revelation. The class meets in the assembly room on the main floor.

UPPER ROOM – Age group Adult

Leader: Tim Allamong

Class description: Using the NIV Serendipity Bible for Study Groups, the class takes a deeper dive into that week's sermon, further exploring David's message and how the scripture influences and informs our daily lives. The class meets upstairs.

Annual Church Yard Sale

The Annual Church Yard Sale is scheduled for Friday and Saturday, May 5 & 6. As always, all proceeds go to help send our kids to church camp at Camp Overlook this summer. This summer we are also hoping to send a child from the community as well, who would not be able to afford to go, otherwise. The average cost for a week at camp is \$400. Please consider this worthy ministry in your giving (of items for the yard sale, or of monetary donations, or of your time)!

Lewis Lindamood 5K Run-Walk

The Lewis Lindamood 5K Run-Walk is scheduled for Saturday, May 13th. As always, all

proceeds will be donated to Re-building Together, (a Project Crossroads-type ministry that works locally in our community).

ALSO...speaking of **Re-building Together**, watch and listen for further details, as our church may be participating in a Re-building Together project on the last Saturday in April.

Prayer Concerns...

(as known)

Jenna Turner

Bill Madren

Anita McGregor

Ruby Hildebrand

Jim Reynolds

Nioka Morris

Patty Life

Frank Adams

June Thompson

Lynn Flory

Ed Turner

Carolyn Gooden

8:35 Hospitality Teams Roster

Team I

Carol Hensley
Winston Hensley
Charlene Grogg
Bob Grogg

Team II

Holly Sanders
David Sanders
Nathan Smith
Megan Smith

Team III

Patty Life
Mickey Life
Laura Johnson

Please NOTE: If you have been serving on a Hospitality team and are able and willing to continue in this role, but your name is not listed, please talk to Shirley Diggle! There is room for you! We need more people on each team.