



ELK CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH NEWSLETTER

July-August 2018

From the Pastor's Study...

We are fast coming up on the anniversary of an event that shook not only the world, but also our own community: The Alt-Right march that consumed Charlottesville on the night of August 11, and the next day's fatal tragedy. That weekend reminded us, if we still needed reminding, that much work remains undone to achieve what Will Campbell described as *reconciliation* work—"be reconciled" he famously said and wrote, over and over. That weekend we were reminded of the wisdom of his words. For it still remains for us to 'reconcile' ourselves to many of the gospel teachings, in this case best summarized by Paul himself: "*There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male or female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.*"

In my previous church, a young lady that worked for the town once asked me about coordinating a large group of churches—different denominations, Black churches, and so forth—for some event we were planning; I had been running the rural county's clerical organization for nine years and knew all the contacts, so when I answered, "Sure, no problem," she said finally, "What about Jews?" "Charisse, if you find one in this area, let me know, because I want to see that!"

Our little corner of heaven is similar. We may not find many synagogues around here. (I think of them because they were the chosen target for the Alt-Right ire those days.) No mosques or Hindu temples, either (or for that matter, few houses of worship from any other faiths that migrated from foreign shores). But we do have one opportunity to address our need for reconciliation—and it's an opportunity they've already launched for us....

In 1868 Laurel Hill Baptist Church broke from our own, a common event in the south during that time (this wasn't the first time I've preached at a Black church's anniversary!). On May 20th they invited us to provide the worship leadership as they celebrated their 150th, and the Elk Creek Boys (along with Mindy that day) were a hit. I was introduced by Linda Mason, I was afforded the chance to preach, and many from our church family enjoyed food and worship with the members there. In June we were invited for another special event, and recently we returned the favor by inviting Laurel Hill to our Summer Kickoff Cookout, where we did what Baptist churches do: eat.

These were occasions obviously blessed, and in accord with the demand for us to reconcile ourselves to the teachings of the gospel. So the question to ask now is, What fruit have they borne us? It's not one I will try to answer, at least not alone. I am only a small part of the community of faith that is Elk Creek. So as part of our fellowship, and more importantly as part of the Kingdom of God yourself, I ask you:

Do we stop there? Or do we continue in joining with the kingdom's commands? In what way?

Mickey

The Financial Report from January-June 2018 was presented at the June business meeting and if anyone would like a copy, please see Lee Stahl. A few copies are on the table in the Fellowship Hall.

DATES TO REMEMBER

July

Mission Project:	CBF Global Missions Offering
04	Independence Day
07	Neighbors connecting Neighbors - Lakefront 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. (See note below)

August

Free Month - HA!

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

July

Brown, Brad & Doty	02
Kidd, Madeline	02
Weeks, Jerry	05
Strevig, Gerald	07
Woods, Frances	07
Good, David	10
Kidd, Aubrey	10
Taylor, Bill	13
Burghardt, Amity	14
Hawkins, Kathy	15
Duerson, James & Dorothy	16
Talley, Jerry	18
Mickens, Elsie	19
Wyckoff, Gerry	19
Ashwood, Connie	26

August

Chewning, Doug & Mary Frances	07
Mickens, Ron & Elsie	07
Jenkins, Penny	09
Mullins, Betty	09
Scanlon, Patrick	12
Klingenberg, Jane	13
Edmonds, Lynn	14
Hale, Pamela	14
Keene, Linda	14
Wyckoff, Gerry & Bunnie	14
Mickens, Ron	18
Vancampen, Wanda	25
Croce, Larry & Susan	27
Rapp, Caitlin	28
Edmonds, Lynn & Larry	29

NEIGHBORS CONNECTING NEIGHBORS

On Saturday, July 7th, Elk Creek Baptist Church is sponsoring "Welcome to Lake Anna---Neighbors Connecting Neighbors" at the lakefront from 9 am until 1 pm with free refreshments. This is the same day as the fireworks so it is a great time to meet friends and neighbors. We welcome donations of finger foods such as fruit, donuts, muffins, cupcakes or cookies. Either bring them to the lakefront that morning or contact Bunnie Wyckoff 202-286-8954 for other arrangements. Please stop by that day and invite your family, friends and neighbors to join us. Come by car or by boat!!

NOTE ABOUT SUNDAY SCHOOL

If you haven't attended an adult Sunday School lately, I encourage to try it. We meet in the Fellowship Hall and have a wonderful time learning the history of the bible and how to apply it to our daily lives. We are all beginners when it comes to the bible and there is so much to learn. Our class is led by Wayne Frazier and Tony Wilson who study very hard to bring a wonderful lesson each week. Booklets are available to anyone who may want one. Last week we studied Deuteronomy 6: 4-16 and Tony gave us his interpretation of scripture for our Elk Creek Family. ENJOY!!

Hear, O people of Elk Creek, the Lord is our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give to you today are to be upon your heart. Recite them to your grandchildren and talk about them when they come to visit you at your lake home and when you are at their home, when they lie down and when they rise. Bind these words as signs on the walls of your house, wear them on your wrists, and write them on the deck of your house and your boathouse. When the Lord has brought you by his grace into the Elk Creek environment you now enjoy - a home of comfort and safety filled with all sorts of goods that he has blessed you with, and the dear friendships of the Elk Creek family, take care that you do not forget the Lord who called you to belong to Jesus Christ, called you to live in peace, called you to be free, called you to a holy life - not because of anything you have done but because of his own purpose and grace.

CHURCH PICNIC WITH OUR SISTER CHURCH LAUREL HILL

JUNE 2018















Together in Christ.

Alana Frazier