



ELK CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Serving the Community Since 1813

**5916 Kentucky Springs Road
Mineral, VA 23117**

elkcreekbaptistchurchva.org

February 2023



From the desk of Larry Edmonds, Chairman of the Deacon Board

I'm a PK (preacher's kid) as are at least a couple others in our church family. I was raised in the Church of God which was very strict. It seemed to me as a teenager that anything fun was a sin. Like many others, I don't remember the time and place when I first accepted the Lord and I don't recall being baptized although my mother years later told me that I had been baptized. When I left home and joined the military I left all that church and Jesus stuff behind. I shut the Lord out of my life for quite some time. Then along came our good friend and neighbor Claudia Chisholm. For at least two years Claudia tried to get us to start coming to church at Elk Creek. She was gently persistent. Finally we gave in and started attending in 1998. Not long after that the Lord touched our hearts and we made a public profession of faith and let Jesus back into our lives.

About 5 years ago our youngest granddaughter had come to accept Jesus as her Lord and Savior and wanted to be baptized in the lake. Since I couldn't remember my original baptism I took advantage of the opportunity and was also baptized that day.

Hope for the Future:

Today our church faces some challenges as we enter into a new year and begin our search for a new pastor. The Bible tells us there is hope for the future: "If anyone is in Christ, He is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new." 2 Corinthians 5:17.

We must put our trust in God, put aside our petty differences, and continue to work together for the good of our church and God's kingdom. We're here to serve and bring glory to God and reach out to those who don't know Jesus as their Lord and Savior.

God bless each of you and God bless our church,

Larry Edmonds

More from the Chairman of the Deacon Board....

Myself and the other Deacons are here to serve. I provided Deacon contact information in a previous email but wanted to put it out again in the newsletter.

The following contact information is being provided should you have a prayer concern, spiritual need, questions or any other need that the Deacons might be able to help you with in the absence of a regular pastor.

- Kathy Tyler: 804-690-0709 ktyler0011@comcast.net
- Peter Hoffman: 540-454-1949 afgen@aol.com
- Linda Mason: 804-370-1793 lmason4732@gmail.com
- Tom Pitcher: 540-872-0271 tkp525@gmail.com
- Mary Virginia Polonsky: 517-217-8411 mvpolonsky@aol.com
- Larry Edmonds, Chairman: 540-872-1250 lynnandlarrye@aol.com

Please don't hesitate to call.



Notice of Special Called Business Meeting

A special called business meeting is scheduled for Sunday, February 5th, following the 11:00 am church service. The topics to be voted on are an honorarium for James Duerson and a vote to approve the pastor search committee members who have been selected by the Board of Deacons.



**You are cordially invited to
Elk Creek Baptist's Valentine Dinner
February 11th starting at 4:30 pm
\$15.00 per person**

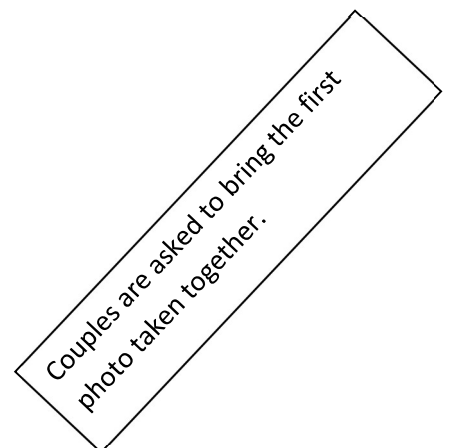
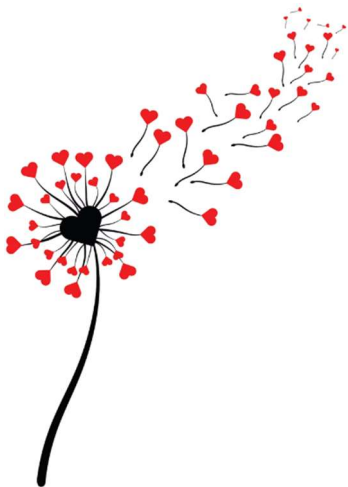
RSVP by February 7th
Sign up in the Fellowship Hall or
Text Coral Losinski, 571-366-9500

Menu catered by Vito's

Lasagna
Salad
Bread
Desserts
Drinks

Entertainment provided by the Elk Creek Band.

Payment may be in cash or a check made out to Coral.
Direct any questions to Coral, as well.



Goings and Comings



2nd ECBC Blood Drive is a success!!

Elk Creek Baptist church held their second semi-annual blood drive on 19 Jan 2023. At the drive 32 units were collected bringing Elk Creek donations to 63, with 20 donations coming from first time donors.



Members of the Elk Creek Baptist Church donated blood, set up and cleaned up the facility and assisted throughout the day with registering donors. These donations can be a lifesaving gift for over 120 individuals.

Thank you to all who donated blood and/or volunteered time.



Welcome to Eileen Perks who became a member of our church family on Sunday, January 1st.

ECBC Road Crew

Under the leadership of Jody Korman, Tom and Carol DeZorzi, volunteers collected 442 bags of trash and executed over 305 volunteer hours between March 2022 and December 31, 2022. This also led to the creation of Lake Anna Beautification Friends Adopt A Highway Program for Kentucky Springs, Pottiesville, Johnson, Carrs Bridge, and Burruss Mill Roads.

If you would like to help, please contact Jody Korman, 804-502-1128, or Carol DeZorzi, 703-582-5446.



Book Study — The 2nd and 4th Wednesday Night Book Study continues a discussion of ***Sessions with Corinthians***, by Michael D. McCullar. If you don't have a book yet, for ordering their own hard cover, paperback or Kindle copy from Amazon (Smile) or the Helwys website:

<https://www.helwys.com/sh-books/sessions-with-corinthians/>

Or call directly - 478-757-0564. If you need assistance, please contact Peter Hoffman, 540-454-1949.



The **Woodchuckers** have been splitting and stacking firewood that will be drying for the next winter season. They have delivered wood to several families and currently have about three cords of seasoned firewood for anyone in need this winter season.



Look What's Re-newed at the Lakefront

Thank you to Clorese and Joey Vaughn for the new gate and the boundary fence extension which will, hopefully, mitigate the chance of another dented fence



And thank you to the anonymous donor for the new podium.



"Time is a monster that cannot be reasoned with. It responds like a snail to our impatience then races along like a gazelle when you can't catch your breath. "

-From the movie, **Simon Burch**

The **Women's January Fellowship** met at the home of Jo Canova and were treated to scrumptious brunch and a devotional for the New Year (reprinted below).

The next gathering will be at the church on Saturday, February 18th at 10:00 am.



15 Blessings To Help You Laugh & Prosper.

Happiness depends upon your outlook on life;
Attitude is just as important as ability;
Passion is a sister of success. May you find yours this year!
Positive thoughts make everything easier;
You are unique, with special gifts: use them;

New beginnings start now. Start your new life today!
Enthusiasm is the foundation of happiness. Have joy!
Wishes are good. Plans to implement them are better.

Yoke yourself to something spiritually higher. May you find happiness within;
Energy is the spice of life. May you have lots of it;
Appreciate that life is what you make it: choose happiness!;
Relax (sleep) & laugh lots. It's really good for you!

Let us forget the sorrows of the past, and make up our minds not to dwell on them in the New Year. With determination and unflinching will, let us renew our lives, our good habits, and our successes.

If the last year has been less than you wanted – let it go, the past is the past. The New Year will be filled with new opportunity, friendship, and serendipity

News from Goshen Association

Aubrey DeWitt "Dee" Whitten, Jr. proposed for Director of Ministries, Goshen Association.

The Board of Directors unanimously voted in favor of recommending the candidate to the Advisory Council (January 30). If the candidate is affirmed by the Council, a Special Called Business Meeting will be held at Mineral Baptist in the white historic church (51 Louisa Ave., Mineral) to meet Dee on Tuesday, February 21 at 7 p.m. and all eligible messengers may cast their votes.

RuraLove is in need of: twin & full-sized mattress sets, bed frames (metal or wood in all sizes), toasters & microwaves electric stoves, refrigerators & washing machines.



From the Treasurer's Desk, One more time, in case you missed it.

To conserve time and money, I will be emailing your 2022 giving statements as PDF attachments. If you need me to mail a copy, please email me with your current address and I will send it to you via snail mail.

Happy New Year!

Mike Bridges



**I walked a mile with Pleasure;
She chatted all the way;
But left me none the wiser
For all she had to say.**

**I walked a mile with Sorrow;
And ne'er a word said she'
But, oh! The things I learned from her,
When Sorrow walked with me.**

-Robert Browning Hamilton



A car does not run on air and a church is only as effective as the stewards who fulfill its mission. Let Donna Duerson Evans (buglady8@gmail.com) know how you can help?

Worship – reviews and evaluates the worship services with a view to enhancing and strengthening them; includes - services, bulletins, music, communion, and decorations/flowers.

Pastor-Staff-Church Relations – works with the pastor in keeping the covenant between the pastor and church up-to-date and abiding by the guidelines adopted for the relationship as noted in the covenant agreement. Serves in support of the pastor, and staff for the needs of the church.

Spiritual Education – coordinates Sunday School teachers, Bible Study leaders and Pastor-led studies, for the understanding of the Bible and spiritual growth.

Audio-Visual – volunteers with the knowledge and assistance of the audio/visual equipment. Responsible for seeing to the maintenance, security and use of any audio/visual equipment owned by the church for the enhancement and broadcasting of services as appropriate.

Building and Grounds – Responsible for the cleanliness, maintenance, security and beautification of the church's building and grounds including the Lakefront Worship area. Periodically, inspects the facilities for possible repairs and upgrading as well as scheduling work days for the purpose of maintaining the building and grounds. Major areas of focus are: Electricity, HVAC, General Maintenance, Facility Protection, and Cleaning Teams.

Communications and Publicity –Responsible for providing liaison between the church, and the media to include: Website, Facebook, Twitter, newsletter, directory, newspapers, television, radio, etc., updating posted information to include planned special events, services and ministries. Maintains the email distribution list of active attendees used by the pastor and those who provide information to the congregation on behalf of church leadership.

Missions and Community Outreach – Responsible for planning and promoting mission ministries with Goshen Baptist Association, Baptist General Association of Virginia, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, and other agencies as appropriate through special emphases or direct hands-on involvement; includes coordinating and promoting the annual mission offerings, and promoting a ministry to contact and share the message of Christ and our church with the Lake Anna Community.

Hospitality– Areas of focus to include: Kitchen needs for adequate supplies and special events. Planning, coordination and promotion of church dinners, and special events such as church's Anniversary/Homecoming, Valentine Fellowship, special concerts, and programs.

Caring Community – Service includes: Prayer Ministry, Card Ministry, and meal coordination, when needed. Volunteers will provide assistance with the selection of gifts as needed for special occasions such as graduation, recognition of special accomplishments, etc.

Finance–The Treasurer is an elected officer in the church who is responsible for church finances and other related duties. An assistant and others can assist as approved by the deacons under the direction of the Treasurer.

Volunteer Opportunities

- **Food providers for Sunday morning fellowship** after the 8:30 service. Sign up in the Fellowship Hall, or call Coral Losinski, 571-366-9500, or Bunnie Wyckoff, 202-286-8954, for more information.
- **Wednesday Book Study Snack and Study Leader(s)** to facilitate discussion of the current book on specific Wednesdays. Contact Tony Wilson, 540-748-1159, wilsontony540@gmail.com, for more details.
- **The ECBC Woodchucks** who provide firewood to families in need can always use an extra pair of hands. If you have any questions about this ministry or would like to get involved, contact Rick Perks, 301-704-2743.
- **RuraLove Ministry**, an outreach of Goshen Association, welcomes volunteers. Contact the Ministry Center for more information, 540-894-8440. (Or Coral Losinski, 571-366-9500)
- **Young Life of Louisa can always use your help.** Contact Susan and Dane Swenson, 703-863-9972, susanswenson466@gmail.com.

Mission Opportunities through Baptist Goshen Association (BGAV)

- **Disaster Response Baby Boxes** – Part of the BGAV's new disaster response program for supply distribution, Goshen is collecting supplies to fill 240 baby boxes so families can have the essentials to care for their baby during a crisis. This is a brand new idea and Goshen is the first to put together these needed supplies. Plans are to pack boxes in the spring (depending on donations) to be prepared for hurricane season 2023. The boxes (will be provided) are to contain: a tube of Desitin (4 -ounce), 1 pacifier (in packaging), 1 bottle (8-ounce in packaging), 1 blanket, 1 sm. box of disposable diaper sacks or 4 gal trash bags, 3 packs of unscented wipes (50-100 count each), 2 packs of name brand diapers (25-35 depending on size). For any questions, contact the Goshen Ministry Center and Tammy will return your call. 540-894-8440.
- **Hope for Appalachia** (<http://hfavateam.com>) - make "Hope Boxes" for students age 4-18 to be given out with salvation message at schools in Kentucky in the spring and fall. Also, fleece blankets (new-if making, should be two 1 1/2 yard pieces tied), clean current style prom dresses (new or used), and Hope Boxes (all due by Feb. 1st each year). See website for more info on any of the above ministries or how you could be a mission team.
- **Mission Stitchers** - All are invited on Sat, February 11th, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m at the Goshen Ministry Center, 587 Mica Rd, Mineral. Bring a lunch or about \$10 for lunch. Bring your machine and tools or fabric scissors to cut out the patterns. For more information on this ministry contact Terry Graham, 540-661-6268 or email mrsjrg@aol.com.
- ***Old prescription eye glasses and men's neckties** being collected for a missionary in Guatemala.
- ***Old prescription bottles and non-prescription bottles (aspirin, vitamins, etc.) for Doctor's Without Borders.** Note: Bottles should be rinsed and labels removed.

*Note: Donations may be left in the baskets in the Fellowship Hall.

DATES TO REMEMBER

February

Mission Project: Grace Inside Offering

TBD Men's Breakfast

8th Book Study. 6:45 – 8:00 pm, at the church

11th Valentine's Dinner 4:30 pm

12th Special Called Business Meeting, 12:00 pm

18th Women's Fellowship, 10:00 in the Fellowship Hall

14th Valentine's Day

20th Presidents' Day

20th Deadline for articles for March newsletter

22nd Lent Begins - Ash Wednesday service, 5:00 pm

22nd Book Study. 6:45 – 8:00 pm, at the church

March

Mission Project: RuraLove

8th Book Study. 6:45 – 8:00 pm, at the church

12th **Daylight Savings Time** (Spring Forward)

18th Women's Fellowship, 9:00 at Susan Croce's house,

20th Deadline for articles for newsletter

22nd Book Study. 6:45 – 8:00 pm, at the church



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSERIES

February

Larry Croce 1

Adam Lunsford 3

Bunnie Wyckoff 16

Wayne Frazier 26

Woody & Penny Jenkins 28

March

Cherry Hill 3

Coral Losinski 6

Donna Duerson Evans 8

Bob Klingenberg 10

Jo Canova 12

Stan Polonsky 12

Kelly Pitcher 14

Eileen Perks 15

Clorese & Joey Vaughan 16

Mindy & Doug Ward 26

Pam Robertson 27

POTLUCK!! This was a hit at the Women's Fellowship last month.

OVERNIGHT BLUEBERRY FRENCH TOAST CASSEROLE

Prep Time: 30 Minutes

Cook Time: 1 Hour 15 Minutes

Additional Time: 8 Hours

Total Time: 9 Hours 45 Minutes

Ingredients:

1 (8 ounce) Package Cream Cheese, softened

1 Cup Confectioners' Sugar

2 Tablespoons Milk

1 Tablespoon Vanilla Extract, divid

2 Pints (32 ounces) Blueberries, divided

2 Loaves French Bread, cubed

2 Cups Milk

8 Eggs

1 Tablespoon Ground Cinnamon

½ Teaspoon Ground Nutmeg



Directions:

Step 1: Mix cream cheese, confectioners' sugar, 2 tablespoons milk, and 1 teaspoon vanilla extract in a bowl until smooth and creamy, fold in 1 pint blueberries.

Step 2: Cut bread into approximately 1 inch cubes. Spray 13 x 9 baking dish with PAM, cover bottom with a layer of bread cubes, spread cream cheese mixture over bread layer, top with remaining bread cubes.

Step 3: Whisk 2 cups milk, eggs, 2 teaspoons vanilla extract, cinnamon and nutmeg together in a large bowl, pour over bread mixture. Sprinkle 1 pint blueberries over bread-egg mixture. Cover dish tightly with aluminum foil and refrigerate 8 hours to overnight.

Step 4: Remove dish from refrigerator 30-60 minutes before baking.

Step 5: Preheat oven to 375 degrees F (190 degrees C).

Step 6: Bake covered dish in preheated oven for 45 minutes. Remove foil and continue baking until the center is set, about 30 minutes.

Step 7: Remove from oven, sprinkle with confectioner's sugar. Serve.





Families in crisis, The people of Ukraine, James Duerson, Teri Kulakowski, Butch Weaver, Tony Wilson, Sandy Roberts, Teri Kulakowski, Kim Berryman, Eileen Perks, Steve Mumma, Shirley Griffith, Terry Graham, Jenn Kerr, Lori Gunter, Ted and Audrey Stallard, Jason Koenig, Kelly Pitcher, Jonelle Borseth, Kim Ridley, Julie Ann Love, Darcy Hummell, Justine Borseth, Louisa County Sheriff's Office, Jennifer Robertson, Jody Robertson, Kelsey Cullen, Sandy Roberts, Mark Franklin, Sherri Martin, Pam Robertson, Erin Robertson Weekley, Linda & Phil Mason, Samantha Nolan, Carolyn Brown, Frank Hammond, Terri Myers, Nick Murphy, John Murphy, Cindy & Lee Morrell, Betty Jones, Greg Laurent, Kim Ridley, Chris Ashwood, Ronnie Robertson, John Pixley, Ray Hart, Doug & Ellen Hewitt, Joyce Myers, Krista Seltzer, Cheyenne Bungay, John Pescatori, John Fugett, Rosalyn Cook, Diane Eakin, Jacob Reeves, Jerry & Emma Kay Talley, Mark Robertson, Mike Fleck, Butch Weaver, Mya Thompson, Lyla Christie, Dennis McFarlane, Doug McFarlane, Alfred Sletton, Catherine Proffitt.



Looking Ahead to April – Mark Your Calendar now

Sat. 1 st	Spring Clean-Up 9:00 AM
Sun. 2 nd	Palm Sunday
Wed. 5 th	Passover
Fri 7 th	Good Friday Service 5:00 pm
Sun 9 th	Easter Sunrise TBD followed by potluck breakfast



STAY TUNED (IN)....

- **If your contact information changes**, please remember to notify the church. Send changes to your address, phone number and/or email address to Mindy Ward, dm3ward@gmail.com, 301-335-8315, so we can update our directory.
- **If you cannot come in person**, tune into the 11:00 am service on Mixlr app. Download the app on your mobile phone or computer, select "Listen" and search for ECBC-5916.
- **Visit our website** – elkcreekbaptistchurchva.org – and like us on Facebook page.
- **Need access to our secure online directory?** Email the webmaster, web@elkcreekbaptistchurchva.org, for access to the secure directory.
- **Check out the Goshen Baptist Association website** – www.goshenassociation.com

*Together in Christ. Mindy and Doug Ward, Beth Larson,
Alana and Wayne Frazier*