



## ELK CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Serving the Community Since 1813



5916 Kentucky Springs Road

Mineral, VA 23117

[elkcreekbaptistchurchva.org](http://elkcreekbaptistchurchva.org)

March 2023

A Story for your Lenten Journey

One night a man had a dream. He dreamed he was walking along the beach with the Lord. Across the sky flashed scenes from his life. For each scene, he noticed two sets of footprints in the sand: one belonging to him, and the other to the Lord.

When the last scene of his life flashed before him, he looked back at the footprints in the sand. He noticed that many times along the path of his life there was only one set of footprints. He also noticed that it happened at the very lowest and saddest times in his life. This really bothered him and he questioned the Lord about it.

"Lord, You said that once I decided to follow you, you'd walk with me all the way. But I have noticed that during the most troublesome times in my life, there is only one set of footprints. I don't understand why, when I needed you most, you would leave me."



The Lord replied, "My son, My precious child, I love you and I would never leave you. During your times of trial and suffering, when you see only one set of footprints, it was then that I carried you."

#### Results of Special Called Business Meeting

A special called business meeting was held Sunday, February 5<sup>th</sup>, following the 11:00 am church service. It was approved to honor James Duerson, 96, for his many years of service by naming the Fellowship Hall, Duerson Hall.

At the same meeting, the members of the Pastor Search Committee were approved by the members of the church.

#### PASTOR SEARCH PROCESS

As most of you are probably aware, we recently established a Pastor Search committee. A search committee is a group of individuals in our church who are temporarily organized and assigned to find our church's next pastor. From developing a job description, screening candidates, and setting up interviews, the search committee leads the process of finding our church's next pastor. The committee members are Jay Canova, Peter Hoffman, Kathy Tyler, Lynn Edmonds, Wayne Frazier and Bobby Jones.

The committee met on Monday, February 21st with a representative from the Baptist General Association of Virginia (BGAV) to assist us in the process and provide avenues to pursue for possible candidates. Letters have already been sent to the Surgeons General of the Armed Forces soliciting possible candidates from retiring military chaplains.

In the very near future, the committee will be surveying our membership for input as to what we would like to see in, and expect of, a pastor.

The pastor search process could take anywhere from six months to over a year. So in the meantime we will seek a temporary pastor, or Interim.

As things progress, we will keep everyone informed. Please keep the Pastor Search committee in your prayers.

Blessings to all,  
Larry



O Lord, give us eyes to see, and ears to hear, and hearts to understand. May we value our time, see our opportunities, and hear and understand your voice. Help us to love you supremely, and our neighbors as ourselves. Amen

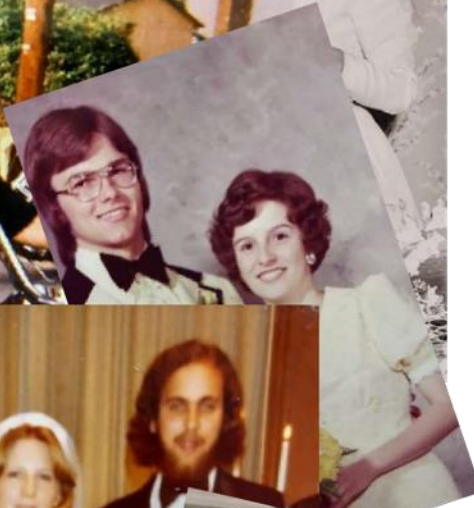
### Comings and Goings

After a hiatus of several years due to covid, our annual Valentine's Dinner was held on Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup>. The Fellowship Hall was transformed that morning,





"Sweethearts" shared first photos.





Dinner was catered by Vito's (desserts by the women of the church), entertainment was provided by the Elk Creek Band, and there were even a few door prizes.













We have been blessed with some moving sermons delivered by the guest pastors who have been leading our worship services. Clockwise from top left, Rev. Roger Collier, Rev. Chet and Nancy Smith, Rev. Doug Gibson, and Rev. John Miller who also led our Ash Wednesday service.



Lent is the sacred 40-day period prior to Easter, beginning with Ash Wednesday. Lent was originally a time of preparation for baptism. Over the centuries, it has become a time of reflection and sacrifice for baptized believers as well. (The name comes from the “Old English lencten springtime, spring” and “from West Germanic langitinaz long days or lengthening of the day.”)

We received thank you notes from the Masons and people who were given Joy Bags.



Dearest Church Family,

My blood stem cell transplant was done on January 10<sup>th</sup> and while waiting for my body to adjust, all went well. Having 1.5 liters of fluid removed from my right lung was a surprise to the doctors.

I'm doing a little more each day and getting stronger. I was discharged home on Feb. 10<sup>th</sup> and go to the VCU Outpatient Transplant Clinic every day to check labs. I'm on an anti-rejection drug which increases my need for potassium and magnesium. I didn't have to go to the clinic on Sat. Feb. 18<sup>th</sup> which was a nice treat.

I want to thank you for your care, concerns and especially prayers. Once my counts are good and I start getting my immunizations done, I'll feel better being around people but must continue to use masks, protection, etc.

Many have asked what they can do so a few small ideas are suggested: Sugar free gum and life saver mints, warm funny socks, head coverings, SPF 95 or ↑ for riding or in sun. White wash clothes, WOMAN'S DAY MAGAZINE, GIFT CARD TO GROCERY STORE. For now Phillip has to prepare my food, no take out, eating out or having others prepare, for risk of infection.

The blood drives were a BIG success and truly appreciated! Thanks for everything! Also, receiving copies of The Upper Room and Sunday School books would be nice. Thanks and Love to each of you.

J Linda and  
Phillip





Many, many thanks!



Dec. 19, 2022

Dear Church Family,

What a blessing to receive a "Joy" bag. Many hands and contributors went into the bag we received. All of the useful items, homemade goodies, Cheeser, fudge, crackers, fruit, trail mix, ornament, hand sanitizer, Pumpkin bread, popcorn, hot chocolate and more!

Also, the bag for my mom will be delivered to her today by my sister.

Thank you for your thoughtfulness! Have a blessed Christmas.

Love, Peace + Joy, Linda + Phillip

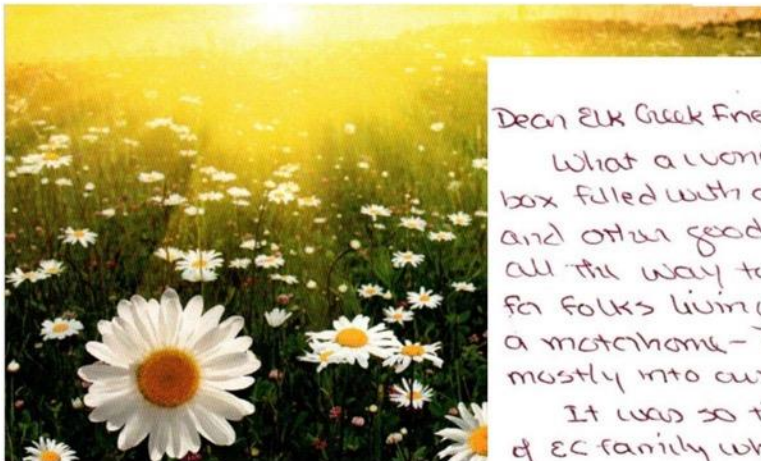


Thank You

Dear Congregation, 12/16/22

John was surprised and delighted to receive your gift box filled with so many of his favorite treats. Thank you so much for making his day brighter with your thoughtful baked goods, snacks, and the wooden nativity ornament now on our tree.

We have known and loved the Wyckoff family for decades. It was wonderful to hear that they had found a church community. We were able to experience the compassion and support Elk Creek offers - first at the celebration of life for Lee and Coral, and this year with your prayers for John's recovery. With warm appreciation, Merry Christmas! John + Carol Peckare



Dear Elk Creek Friends,

What a wonderful surprise. A very large box filled with a plethora of sweet treats and other goodies tracked up down all the way to Habana. Perfect gift for folks living with limited space in a motorhome - almost all consumable... mostly into our tummies.

It was so thoughtful of you to think of EC family who are far away. Hopefully in the spring we will find a home and settle down from our nomadic life.

Love to you all,

Rebecca P. Woody



and an invitation from Louisa County Young Life. This is an opportunity to meet the staff and learn about the program our church supports. RSVP to our table hosts Dane and Susan Swenson, 703-863-9972, [susanswenson466@gmail.com](mailto:susanswenson466@gmail.com).

# A TIME TO BUILD

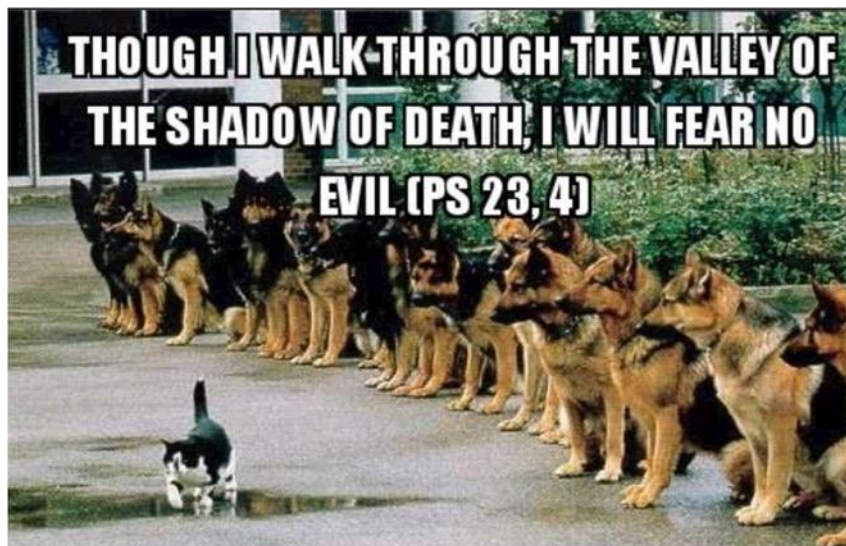
**Louisa County  
Young Life's Annual  
Fundraising Banquet  
Sunday, March 26th,  
2023 at 5:00 p.m. at the  
Betty Queen Center**

**"THERE IS A TIME FOR EVERYTHING, AND A  
SEASON FOR EVERY ACTIVITY UNDER HEAVEN...  
A TIME TO TEAR DOWN AND A TIME TO BUILD."  
-ECCLESIASTES 3:1-3**



Please RSVP to your Table Host or email  
[YoungLifeLouisaVA@gmail.com](mailto:YoungLifeLouisaVA@gmail.com)  
For more information:  
[louisacounty.younglife.org](http://louisacounty.younglife.org)





The Women's Fellowship tested out a new time and location meeting at the church on Saturday, the 18<sup>th</sup>. It was nice to see some new faces. Varying the time and day seems to give more women a chance to participate.



The next gathering will be Thursday, March 16<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am at the home of Susan Croce, 136 Old Mine Road, Mineral.



The Woodchucker's Wood Ministry had a busy month with several deliveries and



chopping more wood.



Art for Donation - If anyone is interested in a framed hand painted nature scene, we have some that were donated to the church by a previous attendee. They were given to support the church and any donation would be appreciated. Please contact Wayne and Alana Frazier, 703-282-2393, [wr.frazier@verizon.net](mailto:wr.frazier@verizon.net) and we can make arrangements for the paintings to be seen.



Lilies for Easter – Place a lily in the sanctuary for Easter in honor or in memory of someone or something. Orders need to be submitted by April 2nd. The cost per lily is \$12.00; make checks payable to Elk Creek Baptist Church and marked for “lily donation”, or order online through our website, [elkcreekbaptistchurchva.org](http://elkcreekbaptistchurchva.org). Select “online giving”, then “Special Occasions/Activities”. For assistance, call Mindy Ward, 301-335-8315.

The Quarterly Men’s Breakfast is scheduled for Tuesday, March 14<sup>th</sup> at the church at 8:00 am. Stan Polonsky and Steve Jones will be serving up Eggs Benedict.



Book Study – The 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday Night Book Study continues a discussion of Sessions with Corinthians, by Michael D. McCullar. Everyone is responsible 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.

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.

### 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](mailto: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](mailto: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 418 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 11<sup>th</sup>, 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](mailto: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.



A true believer....

A fourth grader celebrated his birthday on crutches, so he couldn’t carry the cupcakes into school without help. Asked to help his brother, Noah, a sixth grader, replied, “I could but I prefer not to.” Spotting a teaching moment, his father asked Noah, “What would Jesus do?” Noah answered, “Jesus would heal him, so he could carry his own cupcakes.”

Get Involved in Stewardship. Contact Donna Duerson Evans ([buglady8@yahoo.com](mailto:buglady8@yahoo.com)) and let her know you want to get involved in the life of the church.

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.

#### DATES TO REMEMBER

March

Mission Project: RuraLove

2<sup>nd</sup> Road Clean-up, 9:30 am starting at the church

8<sup>th</sup> Book Study. 6:45 – 8:00 pm, at the church



12<sup>th</sup> Daylight Savings Time (Spring Forward)  
 13<sup>th</sup> Worship Stewardship Meeting, 1:00 pm at the church  
 14<sup>th</sup> Quarterly Men's Breakfast, 8:00 am at the church  
 18<sup>th</sup> Women's Fellowship, 9:00 am at Susan Croce's house, 136 Mine Road  
 20<sup>th</sup> Deadline for articles for newsletter  
 22<sup>nd</sup> Book Study. 6:45 – 8:00 pm at the church

## April

Mission Project: TBD

1<sup>st</sup> Spring Clean-Up 9:00 AM  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Palm Sunday  
 5<sup>th</sup> Passover  
 7<sup>th</sup> Good Friday Service Time TBD  
 9<sup>th</sup> Easter Sunrise Service Time TBD followed by potluck breakfast  
 16<sup>th</sup> Deacons Meeting  
 20<sup>th</sup> Deadline for articles for newsletter  
 23<sup>rd</sup> Quarterly Business Meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter



## BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSERIES

### 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

### April

Paula Brewer	1
Larry Edmonds	4
Rodney Wood	7
Kathy Tyler	9
Phillip & Linda Mason	10
Lori Koslow	11
Norman & Lee Stahl	13
Michele DiFranco	13
Sonny and Cherry Hill	20
Lesia Norwood	22
Sharon Anderson	25
J.B. Vaughan	29
Sandra Wilson	30
Rita Jones	30

POTLUCK!! Peter and Cecelia Hoffman served this delicious casserole and fruit salad at our Sunday Fellowship time.

Egg Noodle Sweet Casserole with Raisins

## Ingredients

- 1 (12 ounce) bag of egg noodles
- 1 (16 ounce) container of sour cream
- 12 ounces of cottage cheese
- $\frac{3}{4}$  cup of white sugar
- $\frac{3}{4}$  cup of light brown sugar
- 1 cup of unsalted butter, melted and cooled
- 2 apples – peeled, cored, and disced (don't cut up pieces too small)
- 6 large eggs, beaten
- $\frac{2}{3}$  cup of golden raisins
- $\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoon ground cinnamon, or to taste



## Directions

- Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F.
- Generously grease a 9 x 13-inch baking pan – I use Pam spray
- Fill a large pot with lightly salted water and bring to a rapid boil o Cook egg noodles at a boil until tender and yet firm to the bite
  - 7-10- minutes
  - Drain and set aside\
- While noodles are cooking, mix sour cream, cottage cheese, sugar, and butter together in a large bowl
- Add drained egg noodles and cinnamon – stir until well combined.
- Pour into the prepared pan.
- Bake in the preheated oven until slightly golden brown and custard has set, about 1 hour o You may want to place 9x13 on a cookie sheet to catch spillage overflow □ Cool for 10 to 15 minutes before serving.

## FRUIT SALAD

- 1 can of pineapple chunks
- 2 cans of Mandarin oranges
- 1 cup of raisins – Golden or black, or mix
- 1 cup of shredded coconut
- 1 cup of nuts (prefer pecans)



Families in crisis, The people of Ukraine, Syria and Turkey, Pastor Search Committee, Martin Koenig, the family of Chase Luck, Gabe Froschauer, Sammy Anderson, Jacob fifer, Shane Dunkum, Bob and Vicki Welty, Paula Barwick, Sherri Martin, Grace Grecco, Ashlie Pack, James Duerson, Donna Duerson, Teri Kulakowski, Butch Weaver, Sandy Roberts, Kim Berryman,



Steve Mumma, Shirley Griffith, Terry Graham, Jenn Kerr, Lori Gunter, Kelly Pitcher, Kim Ridley, Julie Ann Love, Darcy Hummell, Justine Borseth, Kelsey Cullen, Sandy Roberts, Mark Franklin, Pam Robertson, Linda & Phil Mason, Samantha Nolan, Carolyn Brown, Frank Hammond, Terri Myers, Nick Murphy, John Murphy, Cindy & Lee Morrell, Betty Jones, Greg Laurent, Chris Ashwood, Ronnie Robertson, John Pixley, Ray Hart, Doug & Ellen Hewitt, Joyce Myers, Cheyenne Bungay, John Pescatori, John Fugett, Rosalyn Cook, Jerry & Emma Kay Talley, Mike Fleck, Mya Thompson, Lyla Christie, Dennis McFarlane, Doug McFarlane, Alfred Sletton, Catherine Proffitt.

#### 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](mailto: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](http://elkcreekbaptistchurchva.org) – and like us on our Facebook page.
- Need access to our secure online directory? Email the webmaster, [web@elkcreekbaptistchurchva.org](mailto:web@elkcreekbaptistchurchva.org), for access to the secure directory.
- Check out the Goshen Baptist Association website – [www.goshenassociation.com](http://www.goshenassociation.com)

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

P.S.

There is an email address now specifically for articles and photos for the the newsletter. Please have all submissions by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month for the next month's newsletter.

[elkcreeknewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:elkcreeknewsletter@gmail.com)