

**ELK CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH** 

Serving the Community Since 1813

5916 Kentucky Springs Road Mineral, VA 23117 540-967-8004

elkcreekbaptistchurchva.org

May 2023



# NEWS FLASH!!

**The Lakefront is open for Worship!** The 8:30 worship service moves outside for the summer this Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup> (weather permitting). We look forward to seeing who is back for the summer in addition to our regular attendees. Boaters are welcome to dock and join us, or anchor offshore and tune in to FM . Don't be fooled by the warm temperature; you are encouraged to bring a sweater or jacket, so as not to get chilled sitting under the trees.

**Official Phone Number for the Church – 540-967-8004.** Our church now has a phone number people can call for information. It is a Google Voice number linked to the <u>elkcreeknewsletter@gmail.com</u> account. Calls will be forwarded to an "on call" designee for response.



### From the Pulpit...

Pastor Dee Whitten's sermon on April 23<sup>rd</sup> addressed the type of person who is needed during a period of transition for a church. It wasn't Peter or Paul who were strong leaders. It was Joseph (not Joseph of the coat of many colors, or Joseph, Jesus' father, or Joseph of Arimathea), who is mentioned several times in the Book of Acts, an early leader of the church, nicknamed Barnabas by the apostles meaning "son of encouragement" because he loved to encourage others. It was Joseph who By his example, we should:

- 1. Give generously. Love is giving of yourself. (Acts 4: 36-37)
- 2. Seek to be friends to those who need it. Befriended Saul (Paul) when the disciples feared him. (Acts 9: 26-27)
- 3. Provide encouragement and affirmation. (Acts 13)
- 4. Facilitate spiritual growth and ministry for others. (Acts 13)
- Practice forgiveness on a regular basis. Second chance given to Mark (Acts 15: 36-40)

#### **Pastor Search Update**

The Pastor Search Committee continues to meet on a weekly basis. We have sought counsel and training through the Baptist General Association of Virginia (BGAV). We met with Jody Faig, a field strategist from the BGAV, as well as Pastor Dee Whitten, the new Director of Missions for the Goshen Baptist Association, who also has extensive experience in the process. We have completed the Congregational Survey and truly appreciate everyone's input. Given the significant number of responders that expressed interest in a full-time pastor, we asked the BGAV to conduct a compensation study for our area. We also had a demographic study done for the area, to better understand the community that we serve. We are currently preparing a Church Profile to share with pastor candidates to help them get to know us, and will be seeking candidates to consider in the near future. Please continue to pray as we continue through this journey- pray for the committee members, pray for the volunteers that are keeping things going through this time of transition, pray for the congregation, and most importantly, pray for our future pastor.

Many blessings,

The Pastor Search Committee



**We are blessed** to have the support of the many supply pastors who have been leading our worship. The month of April we were visited by pastors John Miller, Jim Ailor, Dee Whitten (pictured), Chet (and wife, Nancy) Smith, and Roger Collier.







Holy Week began with communion on Palm Sunday served by Rev. Dee Whitten,

Followed by the solitude of Good Friday led by Rev. John Miller. Then came....



a glorious (cold) sunrise service Easter morning led by Rev. Jim Ailor. 117 people attended! And one group even came by boat!





A second service was held inside,





and in between there was a hearty Easter Breakfast and good fellowship.

## **Other Comings and Goings**

The **Monthly Women's Fellowship** met at the church on Saturday, April 15<sup>th</sup> to socialize. Alana Frazier shared a devotional. The next gathering will also be held at the church on Saturday, May 20th at 9:00 am.





### How do you define it?

Colin Williams, in a book simply titled "The Church", defines the church "as a pilgrim people moving across time and space in participation of the mission of Jesus Christ."

In a book titled "Christian Worship", written by a Baptist, William Temple, head of the Anglican Church in England in 1942, was quoted as saying that worship was :"

To quicken the conscience by the holiness of God, To feed the mind with the truth of God, To purge the imagination by the beauty of God, To open the heart to the love of God, To devote the will to the purpose of God."

Sin, according to Rev. Chet Smith, is "anything that keeps me from being the person that God has called me to be."

- Thank you to Rev. Chet Smith for sharing these thoughts.

**It was a quite a celebration of life and love!** The rain could not dampen the occasion as Linda and Philip Mason celebrated 52 years of marriage, and the completion of Linda's year-long treatment for leukemia on April 22nd. There was lots of good food, music, a dancing tiger, and popsicles!













Phil and Linda asked that they be given no gifts. Instead, they asked that any gifts be directed to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society in memory of Amy Monahan, the Stan and Mary Virginia Polonsky's daughter, and/or Liz Keller, Linda's aunt, who both had Acute Myeloid Leukemia.

To make a donation, copy this link into your browser - <a href="https://www.lls.org">https://www.lls.org</a> Choose DONATE in the upper right corner of the screen. Choose One Time Gift, unless you would like to make a recurring monthly donation. Choose your amount with from those listed or fill in the amount in the USD Box. Click ADD next to "Dedicate My Donation" and fill in the following information. In Memory of LIZ KELLER and/or AMY MONAHAN Recipient's email: <a href="https://www.lls.org">lmmason4732@gmail.com</a> Recipient's Name: Phillip and Linda Mason Your message: add a personal message, if you wish Select your form of payment

Complete the donation



The **Quarterly Business Meeting** was held on April 23<sup>rd</sup>. The agenda included various reports and updates that can be reviewed in the minutes of the meeting.

With the recent visits by families with children, there was much discussion about whether to offer an ongoing children's education program. While a room has been set up for this purpose, there are issues that need to be addressed, including availability of teachers, logistics, security and legal issues. Peter Hoffman shared the results of his initial research, and Mike Bridges answered the question that the church's insurance policy covered any liability. However, it was agreed further analysis was in order. Anyone interested in working with children and are willing to help with the research are asked to contact Peter Hoffman, 540-454-1949 or Mindy Ward, 301-335-8315.



Bloopers in the bulletin

- Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our community and church.
- Potluck supper Sunday at 5pm prayer and medication to follow.
- Life groups meet on Wednesday evening at 7:00 pm for food, fun, and fellowwhipping.



There's a **new look to the Fellowship Hall**. New tables have replaced the old ones. The couches have been removed and cafe tables loaned for the fellowship hour.

The first room on the right has been repurposed as a children's classroom.



**Laurel Hill Baptist Church,** our sister church whose history is linked with our church, celebrated the 20<sup>th</sup> pastor anniversary of their pastor, Rev. Barry



#### Treasurer's Corner:

It always amazes me the generosity of the church family. Many of you purchase items needed for the church without expecting reimbursement and that shows a loving heart and spirit. Having said that, I would appreciate you saving your receipts when you do purchase things we need and get them to me with your name on them. Two benefits accrue for doing so.

1 - I will acknowledge your gift in kind and add it to your annual donation statement for your tax purposes so long as it qualifies, and most will.

2 - We will be able to understand what is needed financially to operate the church from a budgetary and expense standpoint. This is already proving true and being reflected in the financials.

Finally, I have established arrangement with many of our vendors to be exempt from Virginia state sales tax. When items are purchased by the church, many times we can take advantage of this benefit. Keep that in mind as we move forward. You can always cover the cost of the items via your ordinary contributions. Let me know if you have questions and need me to order something for the church that you'd like to, in turn, pay for and I may be able to save us both money! Blessings to you all brothers and sisters!

### Mike



### Highlight on the programs ECBC supports

**HopeTree Family Services** is supported by the Virginia Baptist Children's Home & Family Services Foundation, and is a mission partner of the Virginia Baptist Mission Board. It offers a wide range of ministries for at-risk children and youth and their families across Virginia, including:

(1) HopeTree Foster Care introducing children who need stable, loving homes to families who can provide them. They operate Treatment Foster Care offices in Salem, Chester, and Martinsville, and Richmond.

(2) HopeTree Academy providing a fully-accredited secondary educational program for their residents and day students from surrounding jurisdictions while they cope with their individual circumstances.

(3) HopeTree Therapeutic Group Home program in Salem providing opportunities for the spiritual, social, psychological, and emotional growth of at-risk youth.

HopeTree also serves the needs of adults with intellectual disabilities and their families through their Developmental Disabilities Ministry, which operates nearly 20 community-based group homes across Virginia.

Their Christian Education ministry provides opportunities for their youth and adults to participate in regular chapel services and bible studies on campus and throughout the community. Ministry groups and individuals from local churches and organizations also volunteer their time to provide programs and activities for their residents.



Dear Est Creek and Same, appreciated by the generosity is greatly your support and prayers are naking a big difference in the line hauts and retried they grow in their their since for bauts and retried their einis An the neft steps in their yourse for whank you for partnering with the in did's work. Belessing The Journey Home 30 MAR 2023 PO BOX 482 Mineral, VA 23117 When TIH Board morenal, Thank You for Your Support journeyhomemineral@gmail.com journeyhomemineral.org



LouisaClean Wants Your Help - Our last push before SUMMER.

SATURDAY, MAY 13 SATURDAY 8 A.M. MEET AT LAKE ANNA TAPHOUSE. We will try and get as much done on 208/522 and around Lake Anna Taphouse.

Bring heavy gloves, if possible heavy boots. The grass is getting long along the roads. If you have grabbers, vests, please bring them.

This is the BIG EVENT for the LOUISACLEAN efforts. HITTING LOUISA AND SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY AREAS AROUND THE LAKE.

For more information, or to sign up, email Jody Korman, Jody@JodysHomes.com



**BUNCO!!** Wednesday, May 17<sup>th</sup> starting at 6:45 pm at the church. I know you've heard the word. Now come and learn how easy it is to play. (Experienced players welcome) Looking for 12 to 16 people for an evening of fun and fellowship. Contact Mindy Ward, 301-335-8315 for more information or to RSVP.



#### **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 Woodchuckers** 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, <u>susanswenson466@gmail.com</u>.





# Mission Opportunities through Baptist Goshen Association (BGAV)

Are you getting the BGAV newsletter each month? If not, email Larry Edmonds, <u>lynnandlarry@@aol.com</u>. There's lots of information and opportunities to put your talents to work locally, around the country and the world.

Besides RuraLove which our church is heavily involved with, here are a few others.

- **Mission Stitchers** Meet the second Saturday of each month from 9:00 am-2:00 pm 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 Boarders. Note: Bottles should be rinsed and labels removed.

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

- **Southwest Virginia Partnership Inc.** based in Nickelsville, VA and ministering in Clinch Valley, Powell River and Wise Counties. Register a team of volunteers or get info at <u>www.swvpartnership.org</u>
- Little Dresses for Africa: littledressesforafrica.org
- **Romania: Ministry to Roma People** at Ruth School Brittany Garton: Brittany.garton@project-ruth.org or see: www.project-ruth.org





WEEK OF PRAYER FOR GOSHEN MISSIONS May 21-28 & GOSHEN MISSIONS OFFERING **Get Involved in Stewardship.** +Contact Donna Duerson Evans (buglady8@yahoo.com) and let her know you want to get involved in the life of the church.

**Worship** – Mindy Ward, chair - 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** – 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. Volunteers with the knowledge and assistance of the audio/visual equipment.

**Building and Grounds** – Jay Canova, chair - 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** – Donna Duerson Evans, chair - Liaison between the church and the media to include: Website, Facebook, Twitter, newsletter, directory, newspapers, television, radio, etc. Updates 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** – Plans and promotes 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**– Coral Losinski, chair – Ensures kitchen has adequate supplies. Plans and coordinates church dinners and special events such as church's Anniversary/Homecoming, Valentine Fellowship, special concerts, and programs.

**Caring Community** – Alana Frazier, chair – Coordinates Prayer Ministry, Card Ministry, and meal coordination, when needed. Provides assistance with the selection of gifts as needed for special occasions. Ie, graduation, recognition of special accomplishments.

**Finance**– Mike Bridges, chair - Responsible for church finances and other related duties. Chaired by the Treasurer, elected by the church members, includes an assistant and others can assist as approved by the deacons under the direction of the Treasurer.

- FISHING
- TOURNAMENT
- SPORTING
  CLAYS SHOOT
  (AMMO
  PROVIDED)
- AXE THROWING
- TURKEY SHOOT



- CORNHOLE
  - TOURNAMENT
- SIDE X SIDE
  RIDES
- LIVE MUSIC
- BBQ (5:30PM)
- OUTDOORSMAN MESSAGE

EVENTS START 1:00 PM AT THE JOY CENTER 5478 YANCEYVILLE RD, LOUISA VA

# MENS BIG OUTDOOR SPRING EVENT

BRENT ALAN HENDERSON IS A NATIONWIDE SPEAKER, PUBLISHED AUTHOR, PROFESSIONAL OUTDOORSMAN, JOHN MAXWELL CERTIFIED LIFE COACH, ORDAINED PASTOR, NATIONAL RECORDING ARTIST, AND THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF UNLEASHED MEN. HE'S TOURED WITH DOVE AND GRAMMY AWARD WINNING ARTISTS INCLUDING STEVEN CURTIS CHAPMAN, SANDI PATTI, AVALON, AND CRYSTAL LEWIS. BRENT UNDERSTANDS WHAT MAKES MEN TICK. HOW TO CAPTURE AND HOLD THEIR ATTENTION, AND HOW TO MOVE MEN TO ACTION. HIS TRANSFORMATIONAL MESSAGE HAS MOVED OVER 13,000 MEN TO RECEIVE CHRIST IN JUST THE PAST DECADE ALONE.

PRIZES FOR WINNERS OF TOURNAMENTS

FEATURING GUEST SPEAKER BRENT HENDERSON

FREE ENTRY!!! (MUST BE 13 YEARS OR OLDER) Facebook- @Crosspoint Outdoorsman Instagram-@crosspoint\_outdoorsman Email- crosspointoutdoorsman@gmail.com Or call (479) 799-6735 with any questions

### DATES TO REMEMBER

#### May

Missions Project: Goshen Missions Offering (GMO)

- TBD Woodchuckers Ministry
- Sun. 7<sup>th</sup> 8:30 am Lake Front Services Begin
- Wed. 10<sup>th</sup> Book Study, 6:45 pm at the church
- Sat. 13<sup>th</sup> LouisaClean Road Cleanup, 8 am at the Taphouse
- Wed. 17<sup>th</sup> Bunco night, 6:45 pm at the church
- Sun. 14<sup>th</sup> Mother's Day
- Sat. 20<sup>th</sup> Women's Fellowship, 9:00 am at the church 21<sup>st</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> Week of Prayer for Goshen Missions++
- Wed. 24<sup>th</sup> Book Study, 6:45 pm at the church
- Sun. 28<sup>th</sup> Memorial Day Celebration

#### June

<b>Missions Pro</b>	ject: Louisa Food Bank Offering
TBD	Woodchuckers Ministry
TBD	Women's Fellowship
TBD	Quarterly Men's Breakfast
Sat. 10 <sup>th</sup>	Spring picnic
Wed.14 <sup>th</sup>	Book Study, 6:45 at the church
Sun. 18 <sup>th</sup>	Father's Day
Wed, 28 <sup>th</sup>	Book Study, 6:45 at the church

### **BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSERIES**

#### May

Mary Virginia Polonsky	7
Mary Virginia i Olonsky	
Robert Brown	9
Randy Bock	9
Martin & Phoebe Koening 1	1
Bill & Janice Powers 1	1
Jamie Eder 1	4
Mickey & Pam Robertson 1	9
Steve O'Connor 1	9
Matthew DiFranco 2	21
Jeff & Jean Martin 2	22
John & Beth Larsen 2	22
Tom & Kelly Pitcher	
Marc Vancampen 3	31

#### June **Rick & Eileen Perks** 1 Kevin Eble 1 Kevin and Yvonne Eble 3 Al (Popeye) Roberts 4 Anna & Steve Jones 7 Emma Kay Talley 12 Kevin Norwood 13 Jennifer Byers 13 Jean Martin 14 Phoebe Koenig 16 Mike & Linda Bridges 16 Kevin & Robin Bass 17 Debby & Chip Burt 18 John Larsen 24 Nancy Moser 18 Yvonne Eble 27 Lee & Cindy Morrell 27



**POTLUCK!** - This easy baked pancake recipe with peanut butter and jelly ribbons swirled through the batter is like a PB&J tapped with a magic wand. For beautiful swirls, space alternating dollops of peanut butter and jam evenly on the batter, then pull a skewer or the end of a spoon through to create a pretty marbled pattern. Use a deeply colored jam for maximum color contrast.

# Peanut Butter and Jelly Sheet-Pan Pancake

#### TOTAL TIME: 25 minutes ACTIVE TIME: 10 minutes MAKES: 16 squares

#### Ingredients

- 3 heaping tablespoons jam of your choice, such as a berry jam
- 3 tablespoons crunchy or smooth peanut butter
- Cooking oil spray
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 3 tablespoons granulated sugar
- $\frac{3}{4}$  cup whole milk
- 2 large eggs
- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- Confectioners' sugar, for dusting (optional)



### Directions

- 1. Place jam in a microwave-safe bowl and heat in 10-second bursts, stirring each time, until mixture is liquid enough to swirl around. (We're not trying to warm it up.) Repeat this process with peanut butter, taking care to avoid adding too much oil from the jar, as this will make the pancakes greasy. Set jam and peanut butter aside.
- 2. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Spray an 8-inch square baking pan with cooking oil spray.
- 3. In a mixing bowl, whisk together flour, baking powder, salt, and sugar. Make a well in the center and add milk, eggs and oil. Whisk together until you have a thick batter. (You can make the batter in advance and store it in the fridge overnight.)
- 4. Pour batter into prepared pan and spread out evenly. Take dollops of jam and spoon them in sporadically. Repeat with peanut butter. With the end of a spoon or a skewer, swirl the dollops together slightly to create a marbled effect.
- 5. Bake in oven until the surface of the pancake looks matte and is not wobbly anymore, about 25 minutes. As soon as pancake is done baking, remove it from oven and cut into squares. Dust with confectioners' sugar, if using, and serve. These are great on the go, but you can also freeze any leftover squares in plastic wrap.

—Adapted from "Time To Eat" by Nadiya Hussain (Clarkson Potter)



Families in crisis, Pastor Search Committee, The people of Ukraine, Syria and Turkey, People suffering loss from the recent tornadoes, Chip Burt, Ryan Zayn, Rev. Chet Smith, Andy Seelinger, Ryan Pack, Eileen Smith, Peter Holden, Mary-Margaret Ward, Dee Bailey, Reave Hillery,

Carol Cipura, Michael Wright, B.M. Seal, Barbara (K.Tyler), Jonelle Borseth, John & Tessie Fugett, Al Roberts (Popeye), Martin Koenig, Jacob Fifer, Paula Barwick, Grace Grecco, James Duerson, Donna Duerson, Teri Kulakowski, Butch Weaver, Shirley Griffith, Terry Graham, Jenn Kerr, Lori Gunter, Kelly Pitcher, Kim Ridley, Julie Ann Love, Darcy Hummell, Justine Borseth, Kelsey Cullen, Pam Robertson, Sandy Roberts, Linda & Phil Mason, Carolyn Brown, Frank Hammond, Terri Myers, John Murphy, Cindy & Lee Morrell, Betty Jones, Greg Laurent, Ray Hart, Doug & Ellen Hewitt, Joyce Myers, Cheyenne Bungay, John Pescatori, Rosalyn Cook, Jerry & Emma Kay Talley, Mike Fleck, Mya Thompson, Lyla Christie, Dennis McFarlane, Doug McFarlane, Alfred Sletton, Catherine Proffitt.



# Do you know someone who needs counseling?

BGAV offers Christian Counseling Daystar Pastoral Counseling, Samantha J. Reynolds, BS, MSW, PAC, LCSW. Reasonable fees. For appointment availability call 540.308.7500 or Email: <u>DaystarPastoralCounseling@gmail.com</u>



### 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, <u>dm3ward@gmail.com</u>, 301-335-8315, so we can update our directory.
- **If you cannot come in person**, tune into the 11:00 am service on MixIr 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 our 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 Frazieer <u>elkcreeknewsletter@gmail.com</u>