



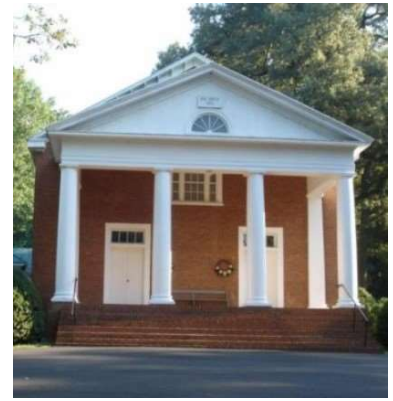
ELK CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Serving the Community Since 1813

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

elkcreekbaptistchurchva.org

JULY 2023

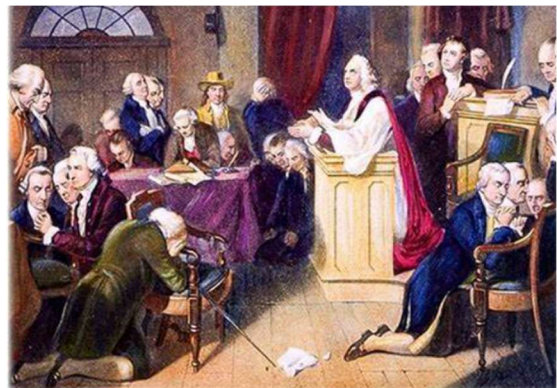


But First, They Prayed.....

When the [Continental] Congress met, Mr. Cushings made a motion that it should be opened with prayer. It was opposed by Mr. Jay of New York and Mr. Rutledge of South Carolina because we were so divided in religious sentiment – some Episcopalians, some Quaker, some Presbyterians, and some Congregationalists – that we could not join in the same act of worship.

Mr. Samuel Adams arose and said, “I am no bigot, and could hear a prayer from any gentleman of piety and virtue who at the same time was a friend of this country. “.... Mr. Duche, an Episcopal clergyman, read the Psalter which was the 85th Psalm.... It seemed as if heaven had ordained that Psalm to be read on that morning. After this, Mr. Duche, unexpectedly to everyone, struck out into extemporaneous prayer which filled the bosom of every man present:

Be Thou present, O God of wisdom, and direct the counsel of this honorable assembly. Enable them to settle all things on the best and surest foundations; that the scene of blood may be speedily closed; that order, harmony and peace may be effectually restored, and truth and justice, religion and piety, prevail and flourish among the people. Preserve the health of their bodies, and the vigor of them in this world, and crown them with everlasting glory in the world to come. All this we ask in the name and through the merits of Jesus Christ Thy Son and our Savior, Amen.



Washington was kneeling there, and Henry, Randolph, Rutledge, Lee, and Jay, and by their side there stood, bowed in reverence, the Puritan Patriots of New England, ... They prayed fervently for America, for Congress.... And who can realize the emotions with which they turned imploringly to heaven for Divine intervention.

-Excerpt of a letter from John Adams to his wife



Our outdoor worship services are going strong! Folks are taking advantage of coming by boat and tuning into FM 91.5 to hear the service. Attendance has been in the 70's!

If you are planning to come by boat, email Wayne Frazier, wr.frazier@verizon.net, for a copy of the songsheet.

We continue to be blessed with excellent supply pastors. In June, we heard again from pastors Tom Lambelet, Joe Paluszak, Roger Collier, and Brent Vickery.



The Pastor Search Committee continues to meet weekly to work through the pastor search process. Applications are currently being accepted if you know of a pastor looking for a church to shepherd.



The **Annual Kick-off to Summer Church Picnic** was held on **Saturday, June 10 at 4:30 pm** at the Church Pavillion. The food was great and the fellowship even better.

(Oops! Nobody took pictures, but here are some from previous years. Can you guess when these were taken?)

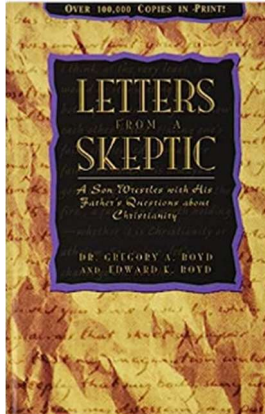




Comings and Goings –

The **Deacon Meeting** scheduled for July 9th has been postponed.

The **Quarterly Church Business Meeting** previously scheduled in July has been rescheduled. Please mark your calendar for August 13th after the 11:00 am service.



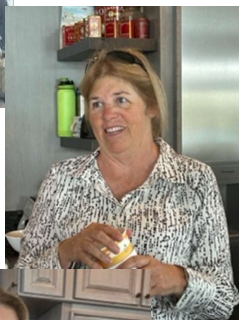
The Wednesday Book Study has started a new book titled, ***Letters from a Skeptic: A Son Wrestles with his Father's Questions about Christianity***, by Dr. Gregory Boyd and Edward Boyd.

In an attempt to address these negative issues, his son Greg, a professor of theology, asked his father to enter into a correspondence in which all of their cards would be laid on the table. Three years and more than 30 letters later this book was written.

The book study meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month. Everyone is welcome to attend at any time. Each person is responsible for buying their own book.



The **Monthly Women's Fellowship** met at the home of Jo Canova on Thursday, June 15th. They enjoyed brunch and listened to Women of Faith's Sheila Walsh. The next get together will be on Thursday, July 20th at 9:00 am at the home of Debby Burt, 439 Longway Dr, Bumpass.



Another fun **Bunco night** was held at the church on Wednesday, June 21st. The winners (and a couple of the “non-winners”) were awarded trophies that they get to keep for a month, then bring them back and defend their titles. Bunco is the third Wednesday of each month at 6:45 pm. “Boys and girls” of all ages are welcome to play.



From the Treasurer – The generosity of our congregation has once again been underscored as we surpassed our goal of giving \$750 to the Louisa Food Bank. The final tally was \$1475.00.

Looking Ahead –



The Journey Home
Transforming Lives for the Road Ahead

**Please join us for our
Annual Fundraising Banquet**

“Securing the Future”

Saturday, August 26th
Doors Open at 5:00 P.M.
To view Silent Auction
Dinner at 6:00 P.M.
Followed by testimonies from our Guests

Mineral Baptist Church in the Family Life Center
51 Louisa Ave., Mineral, Virginia 23117

\$30 per person for dinner
\$150 for a table of six
Please purchase tickets by August 16th
To purchase tickets, please go to our website –
www.journeyhomemineral.org
Or contact us at –
Debby@journeyhomemineral.org
(540)259-3627

***Let no debt remain outstanding, except the
continuing debt to love one another - Romans 13:8***

3rd Elk Creek Blood Drive: 14 Sep 12:00 to 6:00 PM

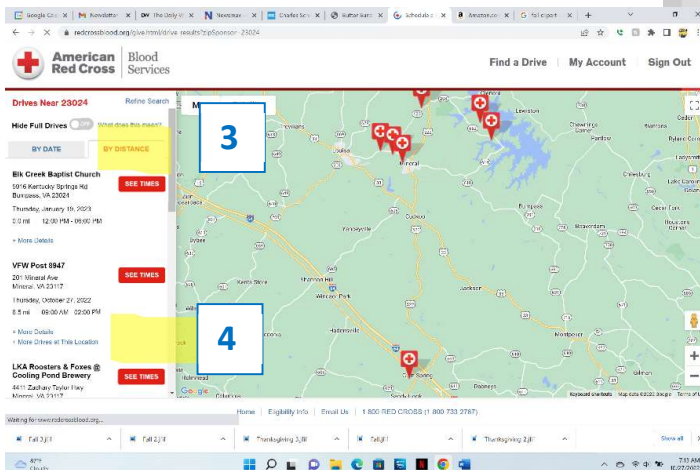
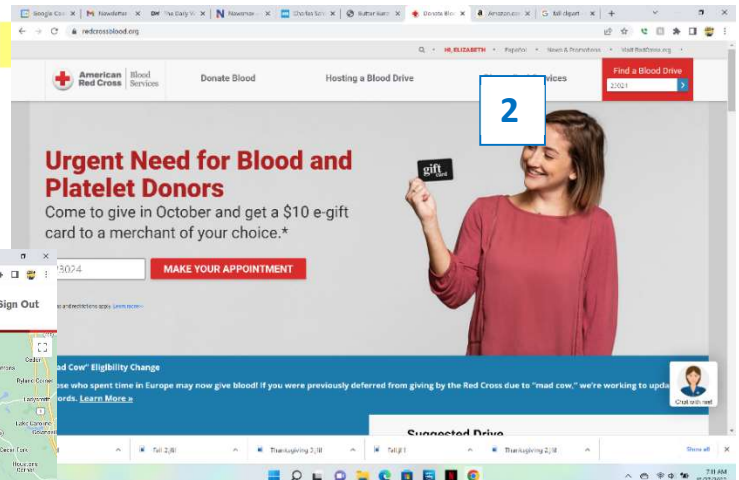
Our third drive is on the calendar. If you are a regular donor, there is a 60 day wait time between donations so please plan accordingly.

If you have questions, need assistance, or want information regarding platelet donation, contact Beth Larson at u2skyhag@gmail.com

STEPS for signing up:

1. Go to redcrossblood.org
2. Enter 23024 in “find a blood drive”. Click blue arrow

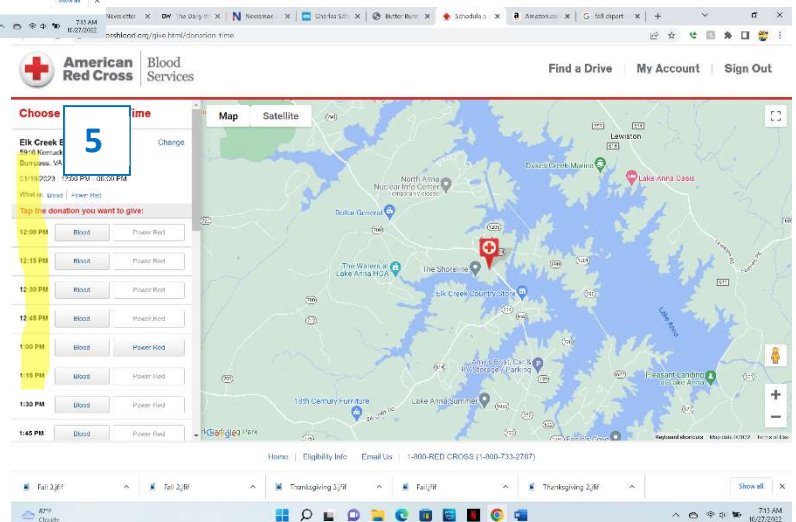
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3. Select “By Distance” tab
4. Select “See Times” next to Elk Creek Baptist Church

5. CHOOSE your time. Blood is a traditional donation. “Power Red” is similar to a whole blood donation, except a special machine is used to allow you to safely donate two units of red blood cells during one donation while returning your plasma and platelets to you. It takes about 30 minutes longer than a normal donation.

6. Then you either sign in, or create an account if you haven’t done this before. The steps are straight forward.



Get Involved in Stewardship. Coordinators are needed. Contact Donna Duerson Evans (buglady8@yahoo.com) and let her know you want to get involved in the life of our church.

Audio-Visual -

Building and Grounds – Jay Canova, chair

Caring Community – Alana Frazier, chair

Communications and Publicity – Donna Duerson Evans, chair

Finance - Mike Bridges, chair

Hospitality - Coral Losinski, chair

Missions and Community Outreach

Pastor-Staff-Church Relations

Spiritual Education

Worship – Mindy Ward, chair



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, susanswenson466@gmail.com.
- **LouisaClean** – Contact Jody Korman, 804-502-1128, Jody@Jodyshomes.com, to be notified when a road cleanup is scheduled.



Mission Opportunities through Baptist Goshen Association (BGAV) - The Hands of Christ: Serving, Growing, and Cooperating

Are you getting the BGAV newsletter each month?

If not, email Larry Edmonds, lynnandlarrye@aol.com.

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 Stitches** – 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.
 - **Disaster Response Baby Boxes** - collect all sizes of name brand diapers (25-35 Count) and pull ups (17-25 count). This is an ongoing project.
 - ***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.
- **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 www.swvpartnership.org
 - **Little Dresses for Africa**: littledressesforafrica.org
 - **Romania: Ministry to Roma People** at Ruth School. Collecting warm clothes now to ensure the very poor Roma students get the warm clothes and shoes needed for the coming winter.



Perfect scripture for a church nursery - 1 Corinthians 15:51

"Behold, I tell you a mystery; we shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed."



DATES TO REMEMBER

July

Missions Project: CBF Global Missions Offering

Sun. 2th: Independence Day Sunday Celebration

Tue. 4th Independence Day

Sun. 9th Deacon's Meeting

Sun. 9th Caring Community Stewardship Meeting, 12:00

Wed. 12th Book Study, 6:45 pm at the church

Sun. 16th Quarterly Business Meeting 3rd Quarter

Wed. 19th Bunco, 6:45 pm at the church

Thu. 20th Women's Fellowship, 9:00 am at Debby Burt's, 439 Longway Dr, Bumpass

Wed. 26th Book Study, 6:45 pm at the church,

August

Mission Project:

Wed. 9th Book Study, 6:45 pm at the church

Wed. 16th Bunco, 6:45 pm at the church

Thu. 17th Women's Fellowship, 9:00 am at the church

Wed. 23rd Book Study, 6:45 pm at the church

Sat. 26th Fall Cleanup, 9 am



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSERIES

July

Sonny Hill	2
Jerry Weeks	5
Frances Woods	7
Tom DeZorzi	14
James & Dorothy Duerson	16
Jerry Talley	18
Kevin & Lesia Norwood	18
Gerry Wyckoff	19
Judy Davis	23
Carol DeZorzi	24
Connie Ashwood	26

August

Doug & Mary Frances Chewning	7
Penny Jenkins,	9
Peggy Muller	9
Lynn Edmonds	14
Pamela Hale	14
Gerry & Bunnie Wyckoff	14
Rick and Cheryl Teller	15
Jay & Jo Canova	16
Linda Bridges	16
Peter Hoffman	18
Mike Bridges	19
Wanda Vancampen	25
Larry & Susan Croces	27
Caitlin Rapp	28
Lynn & Larry Edmonds	29

POTLUCK! – Here is a new twist on a summer favorite shared by Mary Virginia Polonsky.

S'mores Dip

Ingredients

- 6 Hershey chocolate bars
- 60 marshmallows*
- 1 c. water
- red, white, and blue sanding sugar
- Graham crackers, for serving (or pretzels)

Directions

Step 1 Preheat oven to 450°.

Step 2 In a 9X13 glass pan, place 6 Hershey chocolate bars to cover the bottom of the pan.

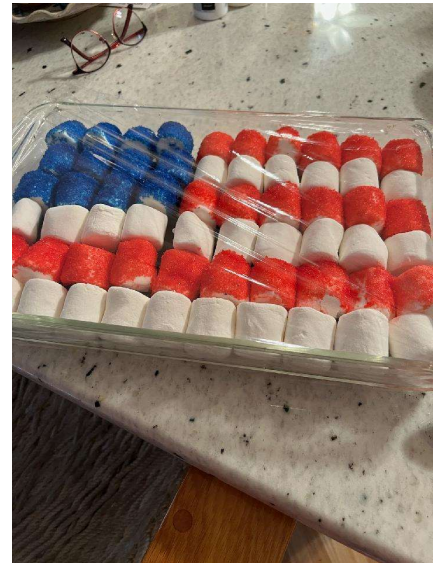
Step 3 Dip 12 marshmallows in water and roll them in blue sanding sugar. Place on parchment paper to dry.

Step 4 Repeat this process to make 22 red marshmallows and 26 white marshmallows.

Step 6 Place marshmallows cut side down on the chocolate to form a flag.

Step 7 Bake for 8 to 10 minutes

Step 8 Serve with graham crackers for dipping.



*An alternative is to use 30 marshmallows cut in half and placed cut side down in the pan.

Do you have a favorite recipe or one that people ask for each time you make it? Share it through the newsletter; email it to elkcreeknewsletter@gmail.com.



Families in crisis, Pastor Search Committee, The people of Ukraine, Syria and Turkey, Ian O'Brien, Kathy Monro, Andrew Croce, Allen Lewis, Tom Polonsky, Windsor Lovette, Frank Hamlin, Condolences to the Alan Hill family, June and Bob Seelinger, John Fugett, Gus Ortiz, Don Gartrell, Coy Bailey, Annette Padron & son, Bill Fiore, Doug Chewing, Eileen Perks, Rev. Chet Smith, Andy Seelinger, Ryan Pack, Eileen Smith, Peter Holden, Dee Bailey, Carol Cipura, Michael Wright, B.M. Seal, Grace Grecco, Teri Kulakowski, Shirley Griffith, Lori Gunter, Kelly Pitcher, Kelsey Cullen, Sandy Roberts, Linda & Phil Mason, Frank Hammond, John Murphy, Cindy & Lee Morrell, Betty Jean Jones, Greg Laurent, Doug & Ellen Hewitt, Joyce Myers, John Pescatori, Rosalyn Cook, Jerry & Emma Kay Talley, Mike Fleck, 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: DaystarPastoralCounseling@gmail.com



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 (and 8:30 am when indoors) 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 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 Frazier

elkcreeknewsletter@gmail.com