



ELK CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Serving the Community Since 1813

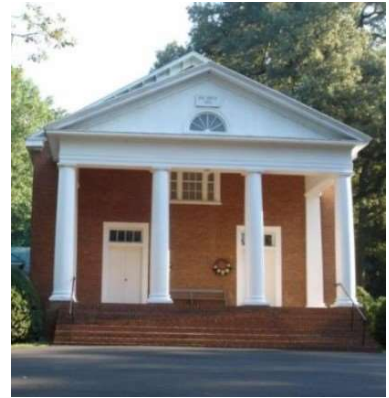
5916 Kentucky Springs Road

Mineral, VA 23117

540-967-8004

elkcreekbaptistchurchva.org

August 2023



Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. Matthew 17:20

Often I'm inspired because of nature and the unique way God made something. While sitting on my porch, I noticed a pair of beautiful butterflies fluttering on one of the azalea bushes. I began thinking about butterflies and how they emerge into the beautiful creatures they are. There is an analogy of the butterfly and new life in Christ; I love that thought. As I sat, I became curious to know more about these little creatures, so I went and read up on the subject of butterflies. I found some amazing facts which was just a reminder, once again, of how intricately God made each creature.

- Butterflies have predators! — As lovely as the butterfly is, there are other creatures out there that prey on it - wasps, birds, snakes, and frogs, to name a few. When we have new life in Christ, we have a predator too. Just like butterflies need to be aware of their surroundings and how predators can attack them, so we as Christians need to be aware of temptations.
- Butterflies need the Sun. — Butterflies can't fly if their temperature is less than 86 degrees. They cannot produce heat on their own and must rely on the Sun to warm their bodies and heat up their wings in order to move about. They have strong muscles but they can't fly without the Sun to first warm them. That explains why butterflies will sit on a branch, almost not moving for a very long time, with maybe just a slight movement of the wings. They must soak up the sun in order to take flight. As Christians, we know we can't do things on our own. We need the 'Son' to warm us, as well. We have to rely on the Lord's strength and guidance before we can accomplish anything.
- Butterflies can see ultraviolet light. - Did you know that butterflies have the ability to see things we humans cannot see? They have the ability to see ultraviolet light which helps vividly guide them to find nectar to drink. As Christians, we have a special eyesight as well and can see things others don't. We have the ability to see with the eyes of faith that illuminates our path.

- Excerpt from ECBC Women's GRACE Fellowship Devotional April 15, 2010

Comings and Goings –

Our outdoor worship services are going strong! Folks are taking advantage of coming by boat and listening on FM 91.5.

We continue to be blessed with excellent supply pastors. This past month, we heard again from pastors Jim Aillor, John Miller, and Tom Lambelet, and for the first for many of us – Rev. Jeff Cranford (who served as an interim pastor for our church years ago.)



Somewhere we know that without silence words lose their meaning, that without listening speaking no longer heals, that without distance closeness cannot cure.

Spiritual identity means we are not what we do or what people say about us. And we are not what we have. We are the beloved daughters and sons of God.

- Henry Nouwen

Music, Fellowship, Sunday School and the 11:00 service round out Sunday mornings.





The **Women's Fellowship** met at Debby Burt's house on July 18th. Those attending received a history lesson that the fellowship was previously called Women's G.R.A.C.E. Fellowship. The consensus was to re-adopt the name; the question is what does the acronym mean? Perhaps we'll find out by the next gathering which will be on Tuesday, August 15th at 6:30 pm at Mindy Ward's house, 72 Rhett Butler Drive, Bumpass.



Where two or more are gathered in my name.....

Attendance at **BUNCO** was a little light this past month; however, it was proved once again that it's not the circumstance you are handed, but what you make of it. The fellowship (and food) was just as enjoyable for those in attendance. BUNCO meets on the third Wednesday of every month at 6:45 pm at the church. Everyone is welcome.



The **Pastor Search Committee** continues to work through the search process. We continue to receive guidance and referrals from BGAV field strategists. We have also posted our opening on the BGAV site and on churchstaffing.com. We are continuing to work directly with our BGAV field strategist, Jody Faig, and with her guidance, will be working through the minister matching service that the BGAV offers. We are beginning to receive resumes and vetting interested candidates, but are early in that process. We also continue to seek an interim pastor to provide more continuity as we seek to fill the position. Please continue to pray for the committee, the church family and our future pastor as we continue through the process.

Many Blessings,
The Pastor Search Committee

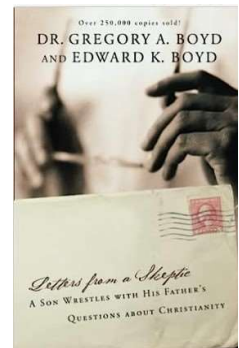


Backpacks for School Drive. Thank you to everyone who signed up to provide school supplies to fill the backpacks of the 7 children currently living at Journey Home. Please bring the supplies to church by next Sunday, August 6th. Coral Losinski is coordinating this effort.



Book Study continues on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month. The current book is *Letters from a Skeptic* by Dr. Gregory Boyd and Edward Boyd. Note that there are study questions that are not included in the hardback copy of the book.

If you would like to lead (and provide refreshments) for one of the sessions, please contact Tony Wilson, 540-748-1159.



Congratulations to **Louisa Clean** who received a grant from Keep Virginia Green that will be used to purchase reflective vests and sturdy grabbers for volunteers to use as they work to keep our roads free of debris.



The **Caring Community Team** now meets the first Tuesday of each month to discuss how best to serve the current needs of our church family, and to pray together for those on our prayer list. The meeting is open to anyone interested in helping with visitation, the card ministry, providing a meal, or praying for those on our prayer list. Please contact Alana Frazier, wr.frazier@verizon.net, 703-282-2393, for more information.

To better support those in need, folks can now record their prayer request(s) so it can be announced from the pulpit. (Requests will also be taken during worship.) This will make it easier for someone from the team to follow up.

This form can be used at any time, not just on Sunday.

CARING COMMUNITY REQUEST FOR SUPPORT

PLEASE PRINT

Date _____

Person Making Request _____

Phone/Email _____

Person(s) Needing Prayers _____ Relationship _____

Prayer/Praise Request _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Request Meal(s) _____ Yes/No

Request Card of Encouragement _____ Yes/No

Request Visitation _____ Yes/No

Other _____

To submit a new request or update an existing one during the week, please call the church and leave a message. - 540-067-8004



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 Thank you

Thank you for your support of
our mission projects.



Elk Creek Baptist Church
5916 Kentucky Springs Road
Route 652
Mineral, VA 23117

July 10, 2023

Dear Elk Creek Baptist Friends,

Thank you for your generous gift of \$250 in support of hunger relief. Your gift will be matched 100% by our corporate sponsor and designated for operating expenses at the Resource Council. Please relay my sincere gratitude to the members of your congregation.

All gifts received between May 1st and June 30th count toward our 12th annual Lake Anna Sprint Triathlon. Through individual donations like yours and our corporate matching campaign, we aim to surpass \$1 million in donations since we started the TRI 11 years ago! We appreciate your partnering with us to help meet this goal.

Continuing to cover steadily rising operating costs during these tough economic times coupled with increasing client numbers is a challenge. We are confident that we can continue meeting the growing needs of this community with the help of our dedicated donors that never fail to help those in need.

It is my privilege to work with this wonderful organization, to assure good stewardship of every gift, and to see first-hand the positive impact your donations have on the lives of our neighbors who need help. On behalf of those we serve, I thank you

In His Name,

Lloyd Runnett
Executive Director

cc: Earl Mielke, Chairman of the Board

P. O. Box 52 • 147 Resource Lane • Louisa, VA 23093 • 540-967-1510 • www.louisaresource.org

louisaresource@gmail.com

The Journey Home

12 JUL 2023 PM 4 L
PO BOX 482 Mineral, VA 23117



Elk Creek Baptist Church
5916 Kentucky Springs Rd
Mineral, VA 23117

Thank You for Your Support

journeyhomemineral@gmail.com journeyhomemineral.org

Dear Elk Creek Baptist Church Family,
We are so grateful for your support of The Journey Home. Your prayers and your faithful financial support are greatly appreciated.
Your investment in the lives of others is truly making a difference as we transform lives at TJH. Three new families moved in during May and June. We are grateful to you with you in helping others rebuild their lives.

Blessings,
Sincerely,
for TJH Staff

A special thank you to Stan Polonsky for his service to the church as a representative to the Goshen Association Advisory Council.



According to the GBAV "Book of Reports", the duties of the Advisory Council representative are:

1. Attend all meetings of the Advisory Council (usually quarterly)
2. Assist the pastor in keeping the church informed of forthcoming activities of the Association.
3. Encourage and promote attendance at association activities.
4. Serve as a contact person when certain reports and surveys are needed by the association.
5. Provide the nominating committee with suggestions for potential leaders for association work.
6. Report to the church, in business session, following meetings of the Council.
7. Assist the pastor in informing messengers of upcoming business to be presented at association meetings (i.e., proposed budget and other matters to be voted upon).

Please contact Tony Wilson, 540-748-1159, our remaining representative to the Advisory Council, and let him know you are willing to serve in this capacity.



Other 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.

Invitation to a Family Fun Day at Laurel Hill Baptist Church.



LAUREL HILL BAPTIST CHURCH

PASTOR
REV. BARRY CARPENTER
CHURCH: 540-894-5400
RESIDENCE: 540-948-3921

CHURCH MAILING ADDRESS
P.O. Box 624
7652 KENTUCKY SPRINGS ROAD
MINERAL, VIRGINIA 23117

CHURCH CLERK
JOYCE JOHNSON ALLEN
RESIDENCE: 540-894-3949
FAX: 540-872-0201
joyce.johnson814@gmail.com

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ,

Laurel Hill Baptist Church will be having a Family Fun Day on August 19th, 2023. This day will consist of a day of fun games for all ages, and a school supply give away.

There is no charge involved. Just come out and help us enjoy the day. It is our hope that this day will allow our church and community to come together and fellowship with other churches in the area.

We are reaching out to businesses in our community seeking prize donations, vouchers, or school supplies to be given away at this event. If you are associated with a non-profit organization that may be able to donate gifts for this program, please contact Sibyl Wynn at 540-748-4321.

Thank you for your time.

Sibyl Wynn
Event Coordinator

Rev. Barry Carpenter, Pastor



is welcomed!

An invitation to dine with The Journey Home.



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***

For Theater and Movie Enthusiasts.

From Anna Jones, an opportunity to enjoy musical theater.

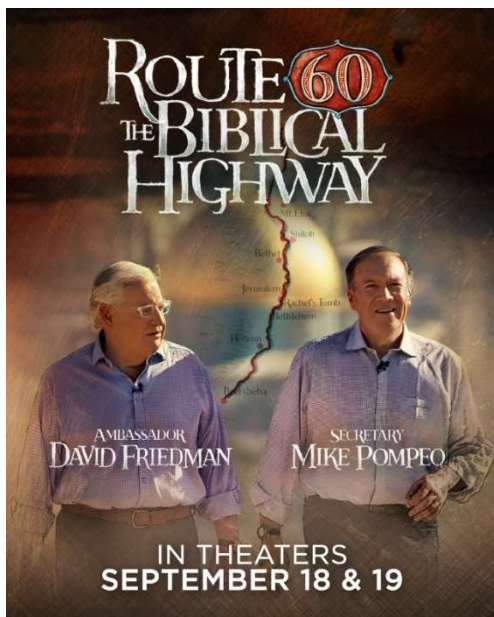
Don't miss your chance to see **"42nd Street"** at **5:30 p.m. on Thursday, September 7th** at the **Riverside Center for the Performing Arts** in Fredericksburg. We do get a group rate of **\$71.30pp**. Your ticket includes: show, dinner, tax and gratuity. You are welcome to bring guests as this is a show for the whole family to enjoy. Feel free to share this information with your friends. Here is the link for more information:



<https://www.riversidedt.com/42ndstreet-2023>

"Come along and listen to the lullaby of Broadway! "42nd Street" celebrates Broadway, Times Square, and the magic of show biz with humor and pizzazz. This Riverside production stars Andrea McArdle (the original Annie on Broadway) who will be playing Dorothy Brock. The score is full of Broadway standards including: "You're Getting to be a Habit with Me," "We're in the Money," "Lullaby of Broadway," "Shuffle Off to Buffalo," and "Forty-Second Street."

Please let me know **ASAP**, annajones1122@gmail.com, and send check to 39 Deep Creek Circle Bumpass, VA or **Venmo@stevej840**.



From Linda Mason, two showings in September.

Weaving its way through the heart of the Holy Land is a well-worn path that once felt the footsteps of our biblical faith heroes: Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, King David — and Jesus! Join David Friedman and Mike Pompeo for an inspiring journey along this historic road as ancient as the land of Israel — and as modern as the hope of its future.

Take a close-up look at Israel, the land of the Bible, as you've never seen it — on Route 60, the Biblical Highway.

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

The first screenshot shows the American Red Cross Blood Services homepage. A blue box labeled '1' highlights the search bar where the zip code '23024' is entered. A blue box labeled '2' highlights the 'MAKE YOUR APPOINTMENT' button. The second screenshot shows the search results for '23024'. A blue box labeled '3' highlights the 'By Distance' tab. A blue box labeled '4' highlights the 'SEE TIMES' link next to the 'Elk Creek Baptist Church' listing.

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.

The screenshot shows the 'Choose time' section of the website. A blue box labeled '5' highlights the 'Blood' and 'Power Red' options. The 'Blood' option is selected. The 'Power Red' option is also visible. The 'Elk Creek Baptist Church' listing is visible on the right side of the screen.



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 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.
- **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.

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. I.e, 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 who assist as approved by the deacons under the direction of the Treasurer.

DATES TO REMEMBER

August

Mission Project: TBD

Sun. 6th Deacon's Meeting
Wed. 9th Book Study, 6:45 pm at the church
Wed. 16th Bunco, 6:45 pm at the church
Sun. 13th Quarterly Business Meeting
Tue. 15th Women's GRACE Fellowship, 6:30 pm at Mindy Ward's house
Sat. 19th Family Fun Day at Laurel Hill Baptist Church,
Sun. 20th Deadline for newsletter postings and pictures
Aug. 23rd Book Study, 6:45 pm at the church
Sat. 26th Fall Cleanup, 9 am
Sat. 26th The Journey Home Annual Fundraiser Banquet, doors open 5:00 pm

September

Missions Project: Alma Hunt Offering for State Missions

Mon. 4th Labor Day
Tue. 5th Caring Community Coordination and Prayer Vigil, 9:00 am at the church
Tue. 5th Women's GRACE Fellowship, noon at Katrina Northcraft's house
Sat. 9th Men's Quarterly Breakfast, Time TBD at the church
Sun. 10th Homecoming (Combined Service 11am)
Wed. 13th Book Study, 6:45 pm at the church
Wed. 20th Deadline for newsletter postings and pictures
Wed. 20th Bunco, 6:45 pm at the church
Wed. 27th Book Study, 6:45 pm at the church

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSERIES

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
Jeffrey Marsh	25
Wanda Vancampen	25
Larry & Susan Croce	27
Caitlin Rapp	28
Tammy Whitehouse	28
Lynn & Larry Edmonds	29

September

Alana Frazier	1
Gerald Paine	1
Kristin and Doug Barmoy	3
Alana & Wayne Frazier	7
Wanda & Marc Vancampen	7
Raheleh Kabari	7
Tom and Carol DeZorzi	8
Debbie Lovette	14
Doug Ward	15
Martin Koenig	15
Cheryl Teller	15
Mike DiFrancos	16
Joyce Myers	17
Alvin and Paula Brewer	17
Carolyn Brown	18
Lee Stahl	21
Bernie Marsh	24
Chip Burt	25
Jim Koslow	26
Susan Croce	30
Jim & Lori Koslow	30

POTLUCK! – From Sunday Fellowship, Susan Croce was asked by several people for this recipe. So here it is!

Chiles-Cheese-Quiche

1/2 cup butter or margarine

10 eggs

1/2 cup flour

1 tsp. baking powder

1 dash salt

1 8 oz. can chopped green chiles (4 or 8 oz. – your choice)

2 cups cottage cheese (small curd)

1 1lb. jack or cheddar cheese



Beat eggs lightly adding flour, baking powder and salt. Blend well together. Add melted butter and remainder of ingredients. Pour into a greased and floured 13x9 glass pan (you can substitute Pam instead of grease and flour.) Bake for 15 minutes at 400 degrees and then 30 minutes for 350 degrees. Great right out of the oven or for leftovers.

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Families in crisis, Pastor Search Committee, The people of Ukraine, Syria and Turkey, Julie Parker, Lauren Cole, Steve Smith, Dr. Gary Schultz, Susan Croce, Mary-Margaret Ward, Rev. Tom Lambelet, Dora McRae, Jessica & James West, Nancy E., Sandy Moore, Steve Ostrander, Kim Ridley, Ian O'Brien, Kathy Munro, Andrew Croce, Allen Lewis, Windsor Lovette, Frank Hamlin, June and Bob Seelinger, John Fugett, Don Gartrell, Coy Bailey, Eileen Perks, Rev. Chet Smith, Eileen Smith, Dee Bailey, Carol Cipura, Michael Wright, B.M. Seal, Grace Grecco, Teri Kulakowski, Shirley Griffith, Lori Gunter, Kelly Pitcher, Kelsey Cullen, 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.

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