



ELK CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Serving the Community Since 1813

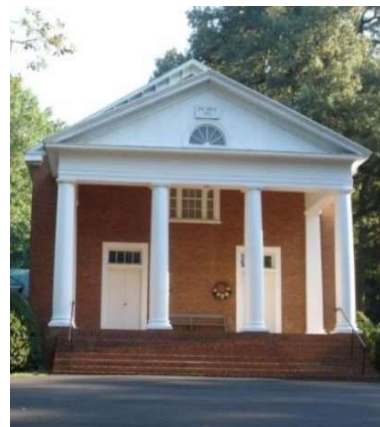
5916 Kentucky Springs Road

Mineral, VA 23117

540-967-8032

elkcreekbaptistchurchva.org

February 2024



God's Gift of Love is Jesus!

True Love is defined by Jesus' sacrifice for our sin on the Cross!



Love led Jesus to commit to the cross to provide salvation from sin by grace through faith. Jesus knew what lay ahead of Him, yet turned to go to Jerusalem because he so loved the world that He was willing to give His life that whoever believes in Him will not perish because of their sin, but have eternal life. That is good news!

Love like Jesus is the theme for my sermons in February. Love builds trust and love promotes unity within the church. Love also attracts people to a congregation. It is the key to a church being friendly, welcoming, and relevant.

I look forward to sharing messages that encourages us to *Love Like Jesus*.

God loves you,

Pastor Mike Gray

February Sermons

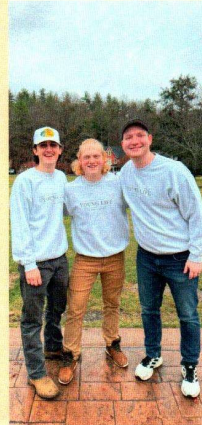
- 4th *Love God Like Jesus* Mark 12:29-30
- 11th *Love Your Spouse Like Jesus* Ephesians 5:21-33
- 18st *Love Your Church Like Jesus* John 13:34-35
- 25th *Love Your Neighbor Like Jesus* Luke 10:25-37

Invitations to Dinner.....and a Show and Spiritual Renewal

You are invited to a dinner for, **Young Life of Louisa**, a local Christian youth organization that our church supports. This is an opportunity to meet the youth leaders and learn more about the program. Susan & Dane Swenson are hosting the event on **Sunday, February 4th, 4:00 pm** at their home, 466 Ark Avenue, Bumpass. Contact Susan, 703-863-9972, for more information.

*Thank you for helping Young Life share the
hope and joy of Jesus Christ with teenagers.*

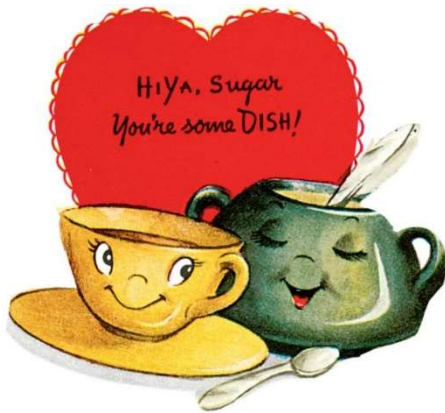
Have a Merry Christmas!



*Young Life
Vision Dinner*

FEB
SUNDAY | 4 | AT 4 PM
2024

466 ARK AVE BUMPASS, VA 23024
RSVP TO NOAH THOMPSON AT 919-815-6858

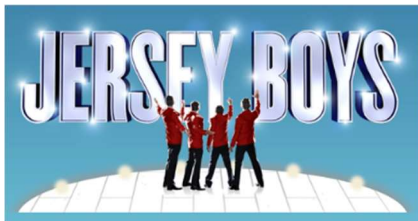


Come one, come all to the Valentine's Dinner

February 10th beginning at 4:30 pm in Duerson Hall. Menu is lasagna, bread and salad from Vito's Restaurant.

Cost is \$15 per person. A sign-up sheet is located in Duerson Hall. Pay with cash or checks made out to Coral Losinski.

Volunteers to decorate and/or provide dessert, please contact Coral, 571-366-9500.



Don't miss your chance to see "The Jersey Boys", 5:30 pm on Thursday, February 29th at the Riverside Center for the Performing Arts in Fredericksburg. Our group rate is \$81.00 that includes: show, dinner, tax and gratuity. Feel free to invite anyone else to join our group.

Send check Anna and Steve Jones, 39 Deep Creek Circle, Bumpass, VA 23024 or Venmo@stevej840.



Men! Join Pastor Mike for a Men's Retreat at Thomas Rhoads Baptist Church in Lynchburg, VA, March 8th & 9th. Lots of spirit-lifting activities planned.

Sign up on the bulletin board in Duerson Hall or contact Pastor Mike, 804-815-2786, for more information.



Women!! You still have an opportunity for an extraordinary worship experience. Sign up by February 28th to get a discount on the registration.

The Extraordinary Women 2024 event is **October 4th & 5th, in Lynchburg, VA**. I have reserved 15 tickets at the discounted price of \$59.00. In order to take advantage of the discount, you need to register with our group - **Elk Creek with Grace** - and pay for your ticket no later than February 28th.

There are 6 reservations still available in our group and we can ask for more, but hotel rooms are quickly becoming a premium.

To sign up, follow these directions.

1. Click (or copy and paste onto the URL line) this link to register for the event with our group. If needed, the passcode is **HeLives**.

<https://brushfire.com/ewomen/conferences/563788/register?group=c74a9dc0-0b87-467b-89bf-d1168b353583>

You should see a blue line with the words - **Registering as a part of: Elk Creek with Grace** - and the words **Your Group** next to the **Basic Group On-Site** ticket price of \$59.00.

3. Add the number of tickets you would like and click **Continue**. (With the fee, the total will be \$64.00 at checkout.)

4. Enter your name and email address. Verify in the bottom left corner the number of tickets you ordered and click **Continue**.

5. Provide your contact information, create a password and enter your credit card information, then click **Place Order**.

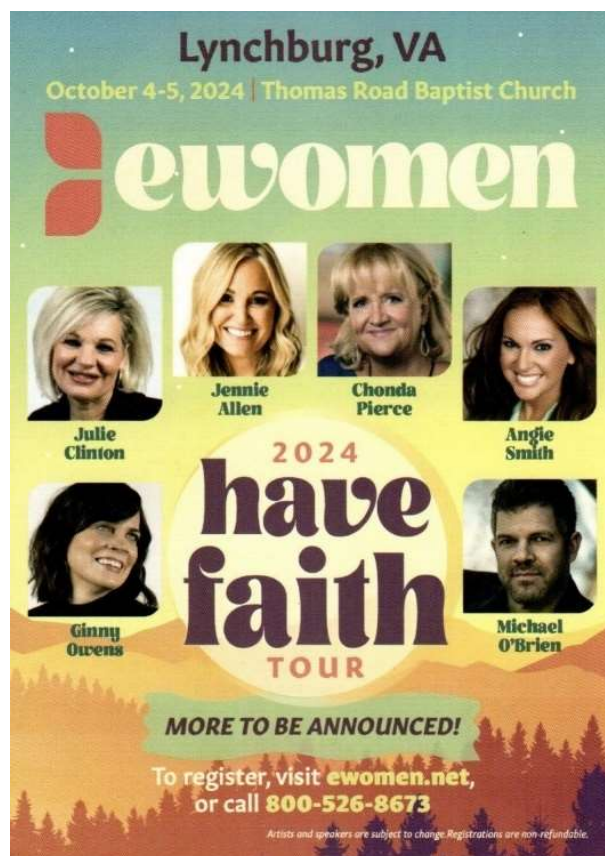
Let me know when you have registered and I will make sure you are assigned to our group.

I am going to try to reserve some hotel rooms now. The rooms we had before were approximately \$200 each. Let me know if you would consider sharing a room with up to four other women save money.

Feel free to pass this along to others.

If you have questions or need help registering, please call or text me, 301-335-8315

Mindy Ward



New Church Phone Number: 540-967-8032. This number is for information/business matters from outside the congregation and rings to Pastor Mike. Within the congregation, Pastor Mike's personal number, 804-815-2786, is still best for conversations or texts.



IMMEDIATE NEED! We are in need of volunteers to help with the cleaning of our church. If you are interested, please email Linda Bridges, lindasbridges@gmail.com, and she can provide further information on what is involved.



Highlights from the 1st Quarter 2024 Business Meeting

From the Pastor's Report, Pastor Mike announced regular office hours of Monday and Wednesday, 9:00 am to noon.

From Buildings and Grounds, Jay Canova spoke to the issue of parking, landscaping and the aging brick wall that needs maintenance without any specific decisions being made. It was agreed to remove the bushes around the sanctuary as a first measure to solving the dampness in the walls.

The deacons will now be "meeting monthly to more aggressively address issues"



Donations in memory of Linda Mason can still be made to either the Leukemia Society [@GIVENOW.LLS.ORG](https://www.givenow.org) or Cancer Society [@CANCER.ORG](https://www.cancer.org). For donation notification, list: epmason4732@gmail.com

Comings and Goings –



The **Caring Community Team** in conjunction with the **Women's GRACE Fellowship** is carrying on Linda Mason's legacy of sending cards for special occasions to let folks know they are thought of. If you would like to help, please come the first Tuesday of the month, 6:45 pm at the church. The next Caring Community meeting will be on Tuesday, Feb 6th. Questions? Call Alana Frazier, 703-282-2393.



The monthly **Women's GRACE Fellowship** met in Duerson Hall on January 11th in Duerson Hall. After a devotional about the women role models in the Bible, discussion turned to remembering Linda Mason by continuing her card ministry. It was decided that it could best be accomplished when the Caring Community meets. The next Women's Fellowship gathering will be Thursday, February 22nd, 10:00 am at the home of Jean Brannon, 1120 Anna Coves Blvd, Mineral.



The **Bi-monthly Men's Breakfast** was bravely held on January 23rd during the recent snow storm that saw many activities cancelled. It was a good turnout with some new attendees. The breakfast will now be held on the second Tuesday every other month with the next being on March 12th.



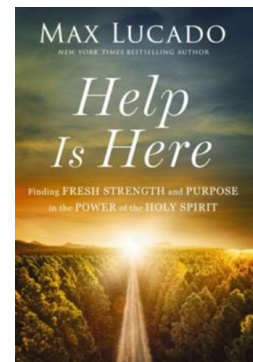
The **Woodchuckers** have been busy splitting and delivering wood this past month. Pastor Mike officially became a Woodchuck with the presentation of a Woodchucker T-shirt.



Wednesday Book Study began a new book the end of January. *Help Is Here*, a study on the Holy Spirit by Max Lucado, is available on Amazon and Christian Bookstore. For further details, contact Tony Wilson 540-748-1159, wilsontony540@gmail.com.

The study meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month; however, the meeting Feb 14th has been cancelled for Valentine's Day.

Reminder: Please keep refreshments to one or two simple snack/dessert items (cookies, cake, peanuts, etc).



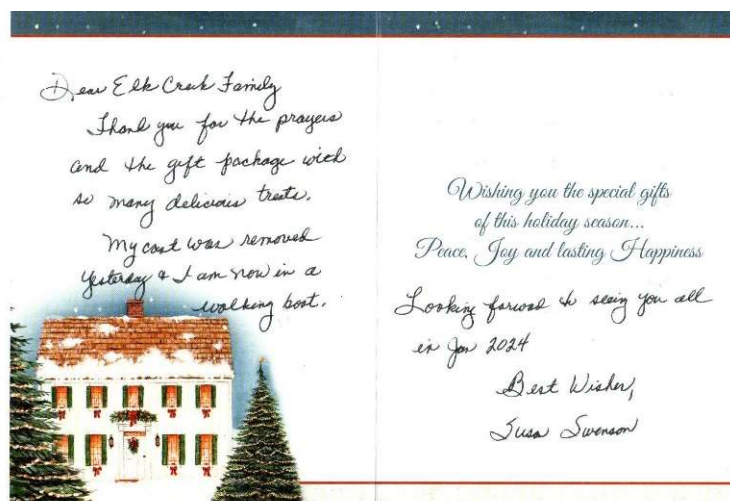
From the Buildings and Grounds Team

Should you see something that needs to be repaired, or would like to lend a hand, please contact Jay Canova, 703-624-9802.

Volunteer Opportunities

- **Church Cleaning Teams.** We are in need of volunteers to help with the cleaning of our church. Contact Linda Bridges, lindasbridges@gmail.com, for more information.
- **Food providers for Sunday morning fellowship** after the 8:30 service. Sign up in kitchen, 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. Remember to bring gloves, wear long pants, and boots, if available. Grabbers, security vests, and hats will be given out while supply lasts. Group photos are requested to share with Keep Virginia Green.

TGA Dear Friends of Elk Creek Baptist Church,
Thank you for the lovely and heartwarming note. The assortment of goodies will bring joy and comfort. I am so appreciative of your thoughtfulness. Linda's visit was a bonus!
Merry Christmas,
Candy



DATES TO REMEMBER

February

Mission Project: Grace Inside Offering

Sun 4 th	Communion
Tue 6 th	Caring Community Prayer and Card Ministry, 6:45 pm at the church
Sat 10 th	Valentine's Dinner, 4:30 pm at the church
Wed 14 th	Valentine's Day. Book Study cancelled.
Wed 14 th	Beginning of Lent
Tue 20 th	Deadline for newsletter articles and photos
Wed 21 st	Bunco, 6:45 pm at the church
Thu 22 nd	Women's GRACE Fellowship, 10:00 am, 1120 Anna Coves, Mineral
Wed 28 th	Book Study, 6:45 pm at the church
Thu 29 th	Riverside Dinner Theatre, Jersey Boys, 5:30 pm, Fredericksburg

March

Mission Project: RuraLove

TBD	Women's GRACE Fellowship
Sun 3 rd	Communion
Tue 5 th	Caring Community Prayer and Card Ministry, 6:45 pm at the church
Tue 12 th	Bi-monthly Men's Breakfast, 8:00 am at the church
Wed 13 th	Book Study, 6:45 pm at the church
Wed 20 th	Bunco, 6:45 pm at the church
Wed 20 th	Deadline for newsletter articles and photos
Sun 24 th	Palm Sunday
Wed 27 th	Book Study, 6:45 pm at the church
Sun 31 st	Easter Sunday - Sunrise Svc, TBD, Potluck Breakfast and 11:00 am Svc

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSERIES

February

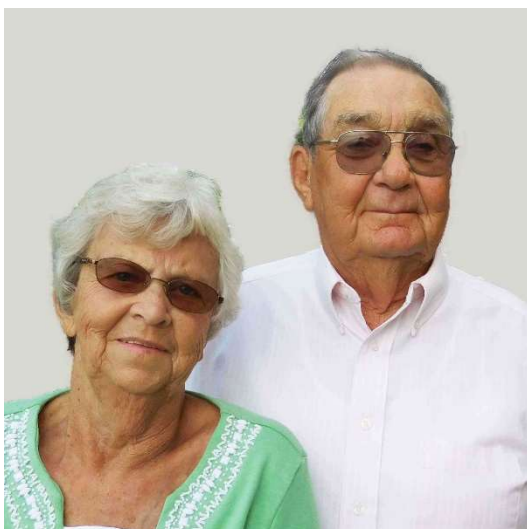
Larry Croce	1
Earl Eck	8
Bunnie Wyckoff	16
Wayne Frazier	26
Barry Hash	28
Penny & Woody Jenkins	28

March

Cherry Hill	3
Andrew Kimball	4
Brian Burghardt	5
Coral Losinski	6
Duerson Donna	8
Bob Klingenberg	10
Jo Canova	12
Stan Polonsky	12
Kelly Pitcher	14
Eileen Perks	15
Clorese & Joey Vaughan	16
Karen Andrews	19
Barbara McKenny	23
Mindy & Doug Ward	26



Best wishes to James Duerson, our oldest member, who celebrated his 97th birthday on January 14th. (James got a big birthday hug from Cecilia Hoffman.)





Those affected by the war in Israel and Ukraine, Lee Stahl, Sarah & Rob Zolla, Janelle & Stephen Beckwith, Rudy DeZorzi, Sherri Martin, Alan Harris, H L Wenger, Bishop Aubrey Bougher, Maureen O'Hara, David Herring, Terry Graham, Mya Thompson, Barkley Seal, Shannon Muller, Raymond Boley, Frida Kim, Teri Kulakowski, Pat Welty, Josiah Castillo, Linda Sheid, Linda Lacy, Robert Belk, Hugh Iwanicki, Joan Canan.



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 attend 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 Facebook.
- **Need access to our secure online directory?** Email the webmaster, web@elkcreekbaptistchurchva.org, for access to the secure directory.
- **Are you getting the GBA 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.



Together in Christ,

Mindy and Doug Ward, Beth Larson, Alana and Wayne Frazier

elkcreeknewsletter@gmail.com