



## ELK CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

*Serving the Community Since 1813*

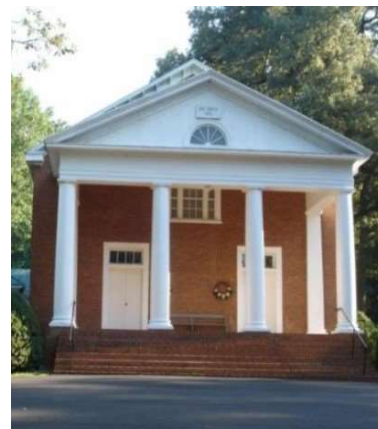
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[elkcreekbaptistchurchva.org](http://elkcreekbaptistchurchva.org)

July 2024

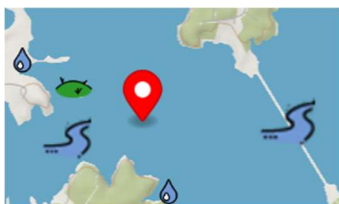


## Join the our “Freedom Flotilla”

July 6<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 pm at Busbee’s Island near Dike 2

Fireworks display kicks off at 9:20 pm

Join with friends for a “Rafting Fellowship” near Busbee’s Island on the private side of the lake. We’ll tie up together, share refreshments, hear a short devotional, and watch the fireworks.



### Freedom in God’s Word

Freedom is a big deal to people, especially in the USA. Our Declaration of Independence speaks of Freedom. Its most famous line says: *We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.*

God’s Word also addresses freedom. It is from a faith and moral perspective. Here are some its quotes.

#### Jesus’ words to his disciples:

John 8:31-32, 36 *To the Jews who had believed in Him Jesus said, “if you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you shall know the truth and the truth shall set you **free**.” :36 If the Son sets you **Free**, you will be **Free** indeed.*

#### A word about our Salvation:

Romans 3:23- 24 *For all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God, and are justified **Freely** by His grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.*

Galatians 5:1a It is for **Freedom** that Christ has set us **Free**.

**A word about new life In Christ:**

2 Corinthians 3:17 *Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is **Freedom**.*

1 Corinthians 6:12 *I have the **Freedom** to do anything, but not everything is helpful. I have the **Freedom** to do anything, but I won't be controlled by anything.*

**A word about Daily Living**

1 Peter 2:16 Live as **Free** men, but do not use your **Freedom** as a cover up for evil; live as servants of God.

Revelation 1:5a *To Him who loves us and has **Freed** us from our sins by His blood and has made us a kingdom and priests to serve His God and Father – to Him be glory and power forever and ever! Amen.*

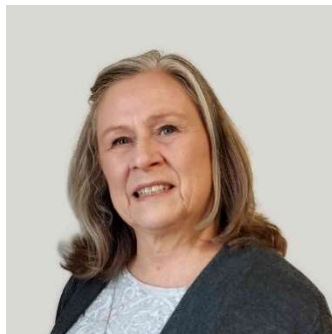
Freedom is a glorious gift to the children of God. It is to be used well as a witness for Jesus. We learn about Freedom from His Word. We live in Freedom to see others set free from the chains of sin by the grace of God through faith in Christ Jesus. May Freedom in Christ be both our message and our way of life.

Freely,

*Pastor Mike*



**Welcome Sonja Cole who joined our church family on June 9<sup>th</sup>.**



Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

--Romans 15:7



Here is a recap of June.

We held a **Kick Off to Summer picnic** on June 8<sup>th</sup>.







The **renovations** are moving forward with one outside wall repair complete; the back wall of the sanctuary is next. Repairs have re-commenced inside the Sanctuary, as well. Japanese maple trees and crepe myrtle have been planted and some additional pruning revealed colorful hydrangea.





The **Baptisms** of Paula Brewer and Linda Bridges took place during the Sunday worship on June 23<sup>rd</sup>.





Earlier in month, our Slovak neighbor church used our waterfront for several baptisms.



**“BELIEVE”**



A dedicated few endured the heat and enjoyed fellowship (and ice cream) at the ballpark on June 23<sup>rd</sup>, and were joined by a couple of our part-time worshippers (not pictured). It was agreed next time to try a night game.



## Comings and Goings –



Our **Woodchuckers** made one more delivery of wood for this season.



The **Caring Community Prayer and Card Ministry** meets next on Tuesday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 6:45 pm at the church. The meeting is open to anyone; come celebrating lives with a birthday card and praying for those on our prayer list. Questions? Call Alana Frazier, 703-282-2393.

If you would like to join the prayer chain and be notified of prayer requests, please email Mindy Ward, [dm3ward@gmail.com](mailto:dm3ward@gmail.com).



The **Wednesday Book Study** continues discussing the movie, **The War Room** on July 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> at the church. The accompanying study guide is available online. For further details, contact Tony Wilson, 540-748-1159, [wilsontony540@gmail.com](mailto:wilsontony540@gmail.com).

The study meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of the month.





It's time for another **Men's Breakfast** Tuesday, July 16<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 am at the church. Bring a \$5.00 donation to cover the cost of food.

The monthly **Women's GRACE Fellowship** met at the church on June 23<sup>rd</sup> where we listened to a devotional about Esther that was prefaced and followed with lively conversation. The next fellowship is scheduled for Thursday, July 18<sup>th</sup> at the church.



**BUNCO** is taking July off. Mark your calendar for Monday, August 19<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 pm at the church and join in the fun; contact Mindy Ward, 301-335-8315.



**Movie Nights** in August. Two opportunities to beat the heat, and enjoy



fellowship and popcorn. Mark your calendar for Wednesday, August 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> at the church. Gather at 6:30 pm; movie starts at 7:00 pm.



**Opportunities to get involved in the life of our church.....**

- **Church Cleaning Teams.** Contact Linda Bridges, [lindasbridges@gmail.com](mailto:lindasbridges@gmail.com).
- **Food providers for Sunday morning fellowship** after the 8:30 am service. Sign up in Duerson Hall, or call Coral Losinski, 571-366-9500, or Bunnie Wyckoff, 202-286-8954.
- **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).
- **The ECBC Woodchuckers** provide firewood to families in need and can always use an extra pair of hands. No set schedule; contact Rick Perks, 301-704-2743, to get involved.
- **Young Life of Louisa** introduces middle and high school students to the love of Christ. Contact Susan and Dane Swenson, 703-863-9972, [susanswenson466@gmail.com](mailto:susanswenson466@gmail.com).





Cleaning out a closet? Keep RuraLove Thrift Store in mind. Open to the public to purchase clothing and yard sale items on Wednesdays (year-round) and the first Saturday of the month April-November from 8:00 am - 12:30 pm.

587 Mica Road  
Mineral, VA  
540.894.8440

Have you ever considered being a driver or helper on one of the RuraLove vehicles? RuraLove has experienced increased requests for picking up donated items and deliveries and could still use more volunteers. If you would consider this, it would help out tremendously. Please call 540.894.8440 and a coordinator will return your call.

***Used medicine bottles are no longer being accepted. Thank you to everyone who donated them.***



Three good friends went for a swim.  
The one who was fat wished she was thin.  
The one who was curvy wished she was clever.  
The one who was clever wished she swam better.  
The really good swimmer wished she was witty.  
The one who was witty wished she was pretty.  
All three friends thought the other two were just fine.  
If only they let their own bright light shine.  
So throw on your swimsuit if you're fat or you're thin.  
Enjoy fun and friendship.....love the skin you're in.



## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

Worship each Sunday, 8:30 am  
Sunday School each Sunday, 10:00 am

### **July**

**Mission Project:** CBF Global Missions Offering

Tue 2<sup>nd</sup> Caring Community Prayer and Card Ministry, 6:45 pm at the church  
Thu 4<sup>th</sup> Independence Day  
Sun 7<sup>th</sup> Communion  
Wed 10<sup>th</sup> Book Study, 6:45 pm at the church  
Thu 11<sup>th</sup> Deacon's Meeting, 7:00 pm at the church  
Sun 14<sup>th</sup> Quarterly Business Meeting, TBD  
Tue 16<sup>th</sup> Men's Bi-monthly Breakfast, 8:00 am at the church  
Mon 17<sup>th</sup> Bunco cancelled  
Thu 18<sup>th</sup> Women's GRACE Fellowship, 9:00 am at the church  
Thu 18<sup>th</sup> Deacon's Meeting, 7:00 pm at the church  
Thu 20<sup>th</sup> Deadline for newsletter articles and photos, email [elkcreeknewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:elkcreeknewsletter@gmail.com)  
Wed 24<sup>th</sup> Book Study, 6:45 pm at the church  
Thu 25<sup>th</sup> Deacon's Meeting, 7:00 pm at the church

### **August**

**Mission Project:** Black Notebooks for GWCC

Thu 1<sup>st</sup> Deacon's Meeting, 7:00 pm at the church  
Sun 4<sup>th</sup> Communion  
Tue 6<sup>th</sup> Caring Community Prayer and Card Ministry, 6:45 pm at the church  
Wed 7<sup>th</sup> Movie Night, 6:30 pm at the church  
Thu 8<sup>th</sup> Deacon's Meeting, 7:00 pm at the church  
Wed 14<sup>th</sup> Book Study, 6:45 pm at the church  
Thu 15<sup>th</sup> Women's GRACE Fellowship, 9:00 am at the church  
Thu 15<sup>th</sup> Deacon's Meeting, 7:00 pm at the church  
Mon 19<sup>th</sup> Bunco, 6:30 pm at the church  
Tue 20<sup>th</sup> Deadline for newsletter articles and photos, email [elkcreeknewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:elkcreeknewsletter@gmail.com)  
Wed 21<sup>st</sup> Movie Night, 6:30 pm at the church  
Thu 22<sup>nd</sup> Deacon's Meeting, 7:00 pm at the church  
Sat 24<sup>th</sup> Fall Cleanup, 9 am  
Wed 28<sup>th</sup> Book Study, 6:45 pm at the church

### **Looking Ahead**

**Homecoming is Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>.**



## BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARY

### July

Sonny Hill	2	James & Dorothy Duerson	16
Joe Mahoney	3	Kevin & Lesia Norwood	18
Jerry Weeks	5	Jerry Talley	18
Frances Woods	7	Gerry Wyckoff	19
Mike Gaumont	12	Judy Davis	23
Amity Burghardt	14	Carol DeZorzi	24
Tom DeZorzi	14	Connie Ashwood	26
Rodd Andrews	16		

### August

Pam Mossburg	4	Jon Tyler	19
Mary Frances & Doug Chewning	7	Pam & Dave Mossburg	24
Chris Sullivan	9	Roy Saettel	24
Penny Jenkins	9	Rebecca Sullivan	24
Peggy Muller	9	Jeffrey Marsh	25
Jeff Dick	13	Wanda Vancampen	25
Lynn Edmonds	14	Susan & Larry Croce	27
Pamela Hale	14	Caitlin Rapp	28
Bunnie & Gerry Wyckoff	14	Tammy Whitehouse	28
Cheryl & Rick Teller	15	Lynn & Larry Edmonds	29
Jo & Jay Canova	16	Kathy & Jon Tyler	29
Linda Bridges	16	Rita & Bobby Jones	30
Peter Hoffman	18	Holly & Scott Goodson	30
Mike Bridges	19		



Prayers for our country and leaders, Donna Madden, Arthur McKenny, Robert Mason, Pam Paine, Maggie Carnahan, Robert Goodson, James Pittman, Sherida, Rick Perks, Susan Gracik, Lori Scarff, Mary Kay, Buddy Gilliam, Barbara Moore, John Fugett, Brenda Parsons, Isabella Bungay, Alex Byers, Eddie LaTour, Aubrey Weigand, Samantha Stampo, Vickie Spence, Sonja Cole, Cheryl Hayes, Eileen Perks, Teresa Dobson, Lee Stahl, Mary Cardenas, Chase Archer, Lauren Cole, Sherri Martin, Wendy Thurman, Alvin Wood, the Koenig family, Brenda Sizer, Mikayla Carter, Kendall Malone, Scott McAlexander, Mya Thompson, Doug McFarlane



God of Mercy and Compassion, thank you for the gift of life with all its ups and downs; teach us to have grateful hearts for the ups and patience for the downs. Thank you for the gift of medical care and for those who offer it. Please bless and comfort each person who is receiving care that they find strength and healing. In Christ's name, Amen.

## 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 directories.
- **If you cannot attend in person**, tune at 8:30 am on Mixlr app. Download the app on your mobile phone or computer, select “Listen” and search for ECBC-5916.
- **For those attending the outdoor service by boat**, tune into FM 91.5 to hear the service.
- **Visit our website** – [elkcreekbaptistchurchva.org](http://elkcreekbaptistchurchva.org) –
  - Check out the archived church newsletters.
  - Make an online donation.
  - Email the webmaster, [web@elkcreekbaptistchurchva.org](mailto:web@elkcreekbaptistchurchva.org), for access to the secure directories.
  - Check out the monthly Goshen Baptist Association newsletter for lots of information and opportunities to put your talents to work locally, around the country and the world.
- **Like us on Facebook.**



*Together in Christ,*

*Mindy and Doug Ward, Beth Larson, Alana and Wayne Frazier, Steve and Anna Jones*

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