



## ELK CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

*Serving the Community Since 1813*

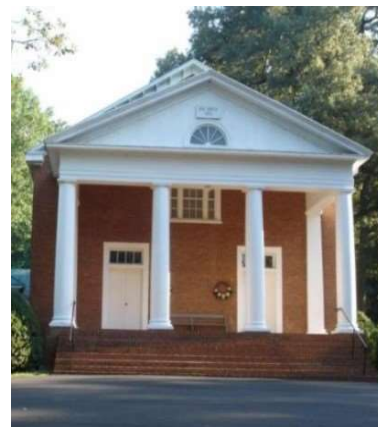
5916 Kentucky Springs Road

Mineral, VA 23117

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

**August 2024**



**Don't miss Movie Night, Wednesday, August 7<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>, 6:30 pm at the church.**

(More info on page 2.)

**Fall Clean-up, August 24<sup>th</sup>. Homecoming Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>. Spread the word!**



### Thoughts about Truth: Words for Encouragement

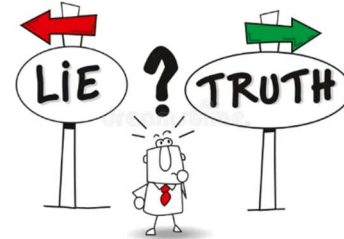
In this very political year, accusations and lies are flying about us. People wonder who and what they can believe in. Don't be surprised; the Bible told us this would happen in the end times. For a short refresher, check out: Matthew 24; 1 Timothy 4:1-5; 2 Timothy 3:1-5; 2 Peter 3.

False teachings, false messiahs, masquerades, and lies are all around us. They are part of the end times. In Revelation, it paints a picture of people amidst the confusion, chaos and destruction that lies bring, looking for anyone who can bring what is thought to be order, peace and prosperity. Today, you don't have to look far to hear someone claim they will save you, our nation and the world. They can't.

There is only one Savior, and His name is Jesus. This calls for faith. The scriptures warn of false teachers in 2 Peter 2, false messiahs in 1 John 2, and a spirit of falsehood in 1 John 4. Revelation 13 speaks of an unholy three (Satan, Antichrist, False Prophet) who will lie to manipulate people and bring in one world order. The Bible rightfully calls Christians to be alert, be ready, and test the spirits.

So, where do we find truth to comfort, encourage and give hope, for strong faith? We trust in the Word of God that tells us in Hebrews 6:18, "...it is impossible for God to lie". He always and only tells the truth! Verse :19 follows with: "We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure."

Jesus said in John 14:6: "I am the way, the truth, and the life...". 1 John 5:20 calls Jesus, "Him who is true" and "the true God." Revelation 19:11 says when Jesus returns, He will be called "Faithful and True." For discerning truth, we turn to Jesus and His Word, the Bible.



The Bible is divinely inspired truth from God for faith. It is “God breathed,” 2 Timothy 3:16. “No prophecy of scripture came about by the prophet’s own interpretation. For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit,” 2 Peter 1:20-21.

God speaks only truth, and His Word is inspired truth, providing certainty, and confidence for faith. Don’t let the times in which we live discourage you or bring doubt. Nothing that is happening is a surprise to God, and He has a plan. God’s Word will help you through each daily news cycle and give hope for tomorrow.

We are facing many uncertainties about people and the future in this year, but in God we trust, in Jesus we believe, and in His Word we find truth to live faithfully day by day.

As Paul said to his protégé, “...as for you, continue in what you have learned and become convinced of...” 2 Tim. 3:14. And as 2 Peter 3: 11, 14 says about looking forward to Jesus’ return: “...live holy and godly lives... make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with Him.” Truth for today and tomorrow.

Blessings,  
*Pastor Mike*

**Sermons for August**

4 No Doubt about Jesus	Mark 9:1-13
11 With God All things are Possible	Mark 10:23-31
18 A Lesson from a Tree	Mark 11:12-14, 20-24
25 Guest Speaker	



**Two Movie Nights in August in Duerson Hall.** Gathering at 6:30 pm; movie starts at 7:00 pm. Two opportunities to beat the heat, and enjoy some fellowship. Feel free to bring a lawn chair.



Wednesday, August 7<sup>th</sup> - Homemade ice cream social and movie, The story of Ruth (produced by Sight and Sound Theater). Looking for volunteers to provide/help with ice cream churns; please contact Mindy Ward, 301-335-8315, if you have one.



Wednesday, August 21<sup>st</sup> - The story behind the beloved hymn, Amazing Grace. It’s fresh fruit night; bring some chilled watermelon, cantaloupe or berries to share. And maybe some chocolate whipped cream!

**A Business Meeting was called July 28<sup>th</sup>** to address the fact that our well has gone dry, answer questions and approve funding for the new well. In record time, a contractor was consulted, a new well site approved (where Jay Canova is standing) and permits acquired. It was shared that no trees need to be removed, an original concern due to cost. Since the meeting, water was reached at 450 feet. The well has been drilled with plumbing work to be completed soon. The old well will be filled in to avoid accidents.



**July 14<sup>th</sup> Business Meeting Follow Up Discussion on Worship** - A very amenable conversation took place with James & Dorothy Duerson about worship options that could include people who are unable to attend the early service. They agreed to pray along with the congregation. The conversation will be continued shortly. Our discussion is pointing toward a new opportunity of worship and Bible study. Keep praying; God is in this. Details soon.



**A Request from our Treasurer** - Our Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 begins on October 1. In order to bring all of the budget categories together, I need to meet with each stewardship team leader beginning in early September to work with them on their expense predictions to come up with the budgets for the new year. This means that each team should get together over the next few weeks to plan and come up with projected needs. I can be available to come to your meetings to provide historical numbers for you to use in your planning session. Just email or text me with your planned meeting times in August so I can have it on my calendar.

Thanks.  
Mike B.



**Like new!** – The sanctuary is looking much better these days now that the repairs have been completed, the exposed walls closed up and a new coat of paint applied.





**Baptisms** were held during morning worship on July 21<sup>st</sup> with a record number (121) in attendance to witness the event. Congratulations to Lynn Edmonds, and Carol and Tom DeZorzi.





Prayer vigil by cell phone light. That was the **Caring Community Prayer and Card Ministry's** experience on July 2<sup>nd</sup>. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, August 6<sup>th</sup>, 6:45 pm at the church. The meeting is open to anyone; come celebrate lives with a birthday card and pray 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 August 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<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.



The **Men's Bi-monthly Breakfast** was held on Tuesday, July 16<sup>th</sup>. The next breakfast will be Tuesday, September 17<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 am.

**BUNCO** is back in August. 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.



The monthly **Women's GRACE Fellowship** met at the church on July 18<sup>th</sup>. The discussion of the devotional about Hagar took an interesting turn to focus on the role of the angel in the story and our role in life. The next fellowship is scheduled for Thursday, August 15<sup>th</sup> at the church.



**Congratulations to Sarah Tyler** on being hired to teach special education at Linkhorne Middle School in Lynchburg, VA this Fall. We wish her all the best for a successful school year.



Do you have some exciting news to share? Email your news and/or photo to [elkcreeknewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:elkcreeknewsletter@gmail.com).

## 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).



For those of you who donate using the recurring option via the online site. Should you find you need to make any changes or updates to your online giving setup, simply cut and paste link into your browser's address line.

<https://giving-update.carrd.co/>

and complete and submit the form. The GiveinJoy team will respond to your request quickly and efficiently. As always, if you encounter issues, let me know. And, thank you for your committed support of our church family.

Mike B.



*I wouldn't god the way God gods, but I recognize that He loves in ways I don't understand. The older I get, I think life proves itself to be tragic and God proves himself to be faithful.*

-Annie F. Downs, Christian author and podcaster



## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

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

### **August**

**Mission Project:** Black Notebooks for GWCC

TBD Communications Stewardship meeting  
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> Audio-Visual Stewardship, 3:30 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

### **September**

**Mission Project:** Alma Hunt Offering for State Missions

Sun 1<sup>st</sup> Communion  
Tue 3<sup>rd</sup> Women's GRACE Fellowship, noon at Katrina Northcraft's home,  
61 Alexandra Ct, Bumpass  
Tue 3<sup>rd</sup> Caring Community Prayer and Card Ministry, 6:45 pm at the church  
Thu 5<sup>th</sup> Deacon's Meeting, 7:00 pm at the church  
Sun 8<sup>th</sup> **HOME COMING**  
Wed 11<sup>th</sup> Book Study, 6:45 pm at the church  
Mon 16<sup>th</sup> Bunco, 6:30 pm at the church  
Tue 17<sup>th</sup> Men's Bi-monthly Breakfast, 8:00 am at the church  
Fri 20<sup>th</sup> Deadline for newsletter articles and photos, email [elkcreeknewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:elkcreeknewsletter@gmail.com)  
Wed 25<sup>th</sup> Book Study, 6:45 pm at the church

## BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARY

### August

Pam Mossburg	4	Pam & Dave Mossburg	24
Mary Frances & Doug Chewning	7	Roy Saettel	24
Chris Sullivan	9	Rebecca Sullivan	24
Penny Jenkins	9	Julie & Mike Gaumond	24
Peggy Muller	9	Jeffrey Marsh	25
Jeff Dick	13	Wanda Vancampen	25
Lynn Edmonds	14	Rebecca Sullivan	26
Pamela Hale	14	Susan & Larry Croce	27
Bunnie & Gerry Wyckoff	14	Caitlin Rapp	28
Cheryl & Rick Teller	15	Tammy Whitehouse	28
Jo & Jay Canova	16	Lynn & Larry Edmonds	29
Linda Bridges	16	Kathy & Jon Tyler	29
Peter Hoffman	18	Rita & Bobby Jones	30
Mike Bridges	19	Holly & Scott Goodson	30
Jon Tyler	19		

### September

Alana Frazier	1	Joyce Myers	17
Gerald Paine	1	Paula & Alvin Brewer	17
Kristin & Doug Barmoy	3	Carolyn Brown	18
Alana & Wayne Frazier	7	Dale Goodrich	19
Wanda & Marc Vancampen	7	Lee Stahl	21
Patty & Joe Mahoney	7	Bill Powers	21
Carol & Tom DeZorzi	8	Ella Pritchard	22
Peggy & Gary Muller	10	Layna Ebersole	23
Debbie Lovette	14	Patty Mahoney	23
Martin Koenig	15	Bernie Marsh	24
Doug Ward	15	Chip Burt	25
Cheryl Teller	15	Janice Powers	28
Joyce & Richard Myers	15	Susan Croce	30



Prayers for our country and leaders, Sarah Tyler, Tom DeZorzi, Buddy Gilliam, Samantha Stampo, Harry Veatch, Doug & Barbara Duff, Rodney Brown, Bob Halsey, Lauren Cole, Scott McAlexander, Rick Perks, Mary Giddens, Donna Duerson, Sherri Martin, Mya Thompson, Donna Madden, Robert Mason, Robert Goodson, James Pittman, Sherida, Susan Gracik, Lori Scarff, Mary Kay, Buddy Gilliam, Barbara Moore, Isabella Bungay, Eddie LaTour, Mikayla Carter, Jerry Bridges, Carol Fleshman, Vickie Spence, Cheryl Hayes

## 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)