



## ELK CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

*Serving the Community Since 1813*

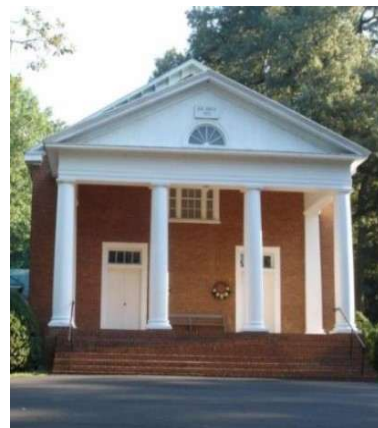
5916 Kentucky Springs Road

Mineral, VA 23117

540-967-8032

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

**March 2025**



### Focused on the Cross

In this picture of the cross taken by one of our members at our Lakeside Chapel the cross is at the center of the photo. The cross draws our attention beyond the physical beauty of the lake to the beauty of the love of Jesus to give His life painfully and sacrificially, yet freely and joyfully, for your salvation.

The cross gives a different focus to the picture. It gives a "God Lens" forseeing our community and the mission of the church. The cross reminds us of God's "finished" work on the cross for salvation from sin and of our commission to tell of the salvation Jesus went to the cross to provide.

In this time of political hyperfocus in the 24-hour news cycle, it is easy to get distracted and lose sight of the cross. Where is your focus these days: relationships, health, the future, a next purchase, retirement income, war, weather, changes, your Christian witness, next steps for Elk Creek Baptist, or simply your next meal? Life can be complicated, but the cross gives clarity.



The question remains, does the cross change the way you see the picture, not just of the lake, but of life? Looking to the cross gives perspective in this time of political, seasonal and spiritual transition as we move toward Easter, and the celebration of Jesus' resurrection. Focus

on the cross and then your remember Jesus' words to His followers.

Luke 9:23 Then He said to them all, "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me." Look to God's Masterplan for salvation that included the cross and then "take up your cross".  
*Pastor Mike*

#### March - Believe

02 <i>The Gospel in a Nutshell</i>	John 3:16
09 <i>In His Hands</i>	John 3:22-36
16 <i>Evangelism 101</i>	John 4:1-26
23 <i>True Worship</i>	John 4:23-24
30 <i>Joining God in His Work</i>	John 4:27-38

The **Valentine Dinner** on February 15<sup>th</sup> was deemed a success by those in attendance. For photos, check out the scrapbook at the end of this newsletter.



**Coming Together**

Louisa Young Life Banquet

You are invited to dinner  
**March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5:00 pm**  
**Betty J Queen Center**  
522 Industrial Dr, Louisa, VA 23093

Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ.  
- 1 Corinthians 12:12

### **From the Treasurer's Desk –**

For the second year, iWiSP, our high-speed internet provider, has sent a bill for \$0 (zero) dollars for the church. They wrote:

*"As a company we have been looking for ways that we can show support to our community. We look for ways to volunteer, sponsor charity events and even provide services to community centers. We are hopeful that our internet services provide your church a means to service its patrons better and being a Christian-based family, we feel it is important to support that. Moving forward we will no longer be charging your church for its internet service. Please note, you will still receive an invoice, but it will be for \$0. Thank you for supporting us and we hope this will support your missions moving forward.*

*Amber Smith - Project Manager"*

I feel it is important to recognize and acknowledge such a valuable gift as we benefit greatly from the service without charge.

-mb

The **Town Hall meeting** held on Sunday, February 17<sup>th</sup> was well attended with many ideas and concerns for the direction the church should follow for the future being voiced during the meeting. A copy of the handout provided at the beginning of the meeting is attached for those who were not able to attend. If you have ideas you would like considered, please contact one of the team members – Jay Canova, Rick Perks, Linda Bridges, Stan Polonsky, Coral Losinski, Jonathon Tyler, Pam Paine, Alvin Brewer, Pastor Mike.

**Spring Cleanup**, Saturday, March 29<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 am at the Lakefront Chapel in preparation for Easter. Plenty of work for everyone, so grab your work gloves and come on!

## Comings and Goings –

The **Pastor's Bible Study**: NEXT LEVEL - Growing in Knowing God's Word meets the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays, 6:45 pm at the church. Led by Pastor Mike, NEXT LEVEL means moving upward in our walk of faith out of an increased understanding of God's Word. It is a journey. We will explore more behind and beyond the sermons in John. Grow together in faith in the NEXT LEVEL study.



The **Wednesday Book Study** continues on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of the month, 6:45 pm at the church. The book, *Experiencing God*, was thoroughly updated in 2021 with seven new chapters and dozens of additional stories, so make sure to get the new edition (available at Amazon and the Christian Bookstore). For further details, contact Tony Wilson, 540-748-1159, [wilsontony540@gmail.com](mailto:wilsontony540@gmail.com).

The **Packing Team** that pre-bags groceries for the Resource Council is scheduled at the Resource Council on Friday, March 21<sup>st</sup> and Friday, August 15<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am to noon. If you would like to be part of the team, contact Mindy Ward, 301-335-8315.

Our **Woodchuckers** were busy this past month with several deliveries of wood. On one particular day, four deliveries were accomplished. Most work and deliveries are accomplished on Tuesdays and Fridays. Contact Rick Perks, 301-704-2743, for more information or to get involved.





The **Caring Community's Prayer and Card Ministry** wants to pray for you on your birthday. If you have not received a greeting from us on your special day, please let us know. We meet the last Tuesday of the month at 9:00 am at the church. The meeting is open to anyone; come celebrate lives with a prayer and a birthday card, and pray for those on our prayer list. Questions? Contact Alana Frazier, 703-282-2393, with any questions or to ask for prayers.

The **Bi-monthly Men's Breakfast** is Tuesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 am at the church.

The **Women's GRACE Fellowship** was cancelled in February due to the weather. The next meeting will be Thursday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 am at the church.

## Looking Ahead

**Palm Sunday** is April 13<sup>th</sup>

**Easter Sunrise Service**, 6:30 am at the Lakefront Chapel followed by a potluck breakfast. Regularly scheduled worship at 8:30 am in the sanctuary.

**Save the Date!** *Jesus Christ Superstar*, April 17 at 5:30 pm, at the Riverside Center for the Performing Arts in Fredericksburg. Contact Anna Jones, [annajones1122@gmail.com](mailto:annajones1122@gmail.com), by March 15<sup>th</sup>, to make a reservation or be added to the notification list. Our group rate is \$81.00 pp. Your ticket includes: show, dinner, tax and gratuity. You are welcome to invite anyone you wish to attend.



**October 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>**  
**Lynchburg, VA**



Join with 5000 women at the Thomas Road Baptist Church worshipping and praising God. Chris Tomlin will be headlining the Friday night concert. Speakers on Saturday include Lysa Terkeurst, Jenny Allen, and Margaret Feinberg. For more information, check out <https://ewomen.net/Lynchburg-VA-2025>.

We have 20 tickets reserved at a discount until March 31<sup>st</sup>. The Time is NOW to reserve your seat as this event sells out very quickly. Contact Mindy Ward, 301-335-8315 for instructions on how to join our group.

## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

\*Changes to the published calendar are posted on the website – [elkcreekbaptistchurchva.org/calendar](http://elkcreekbaptistchurchva.org/calendar).

\*\*Send dates of meetings/events to [treasurer@elkcreekbaptistchurchva.org](mailto:treasurer@elkcreekbaptistchurchva.org)

### **March**

Sun 2<sup>nd</sup> Communion  
Wed 5<sup>th</sup> Lent begins  
Wed 5<sup>th</sup> Bible Study, 6:45 pm at the church  
Thu 6<sup>th</sup> Band Practice, 5:00 pm at the church  
Thu 6<sup>th</sup> Deacon's Meeting, 7:00 pm at the church  
Sun 9<sup>th</sup> Daylight Savings Time begins (Spring Forward)  
Wed 12<sup>th</sup> Deadline for monthly report to Goshen Association, Tony Wilson,  
[wilsontony540@gmail.com](mailto:wilsontony540@gmail.com)  
Wed 12<sup>th</sup> Book Study, 6:45 pm at the church  
Thu 13<sup>th</sup> Band Practice, 5:00 pm at the church  
Sat 15<sup>th</sup> Deadline to sign up for Jesus Christ, Superstar at Riverside Theater  
Mon 17<sup>th</sup> Goshen Missions Dinner, 5:00 pm at Mineral Baptist Church  
Tue 18<sup>th</sup> Men's Prayer Breakfast, 8:00 am at the church  
Wed 19<sup>th</sup> Bible Study, 6:45 pm at the church  
Thu 20<sup>th</sup> Women's GRACE Fellowship, 9:00 am at the church  
Thu 20<sup>th</sup> Deadline for newsletter articles and photos, [elkcreeknewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:elkcreeknewsletter@gmail.com)  
Thu 20<sup>th</sup> Band practice, 5:00 pm at the church  
Fri 21<sup>st</sup> Packing Team, 9:00 am at Louisa Resource Council  
Sun 23<sup>rd</sup> Louisa Young Life Banquet, 5:00 pm at the Betty Queen Center  
Tue 25<sup>th</sup> Caring Community Prayer and Card Ministry, 9:00 am at the church  
Wed 26<sup>th</sup> Book Study, 6:45 pm at the church  
Thu 27<sup>th</sup> Band Practice, 5:00 pm at the church  
Sat 29<sup>th</sup> Spring Clean-up, 9:00 am at the Lakefront Chapel

### **April**

Wed 2<sup>nd</sup> Bible Study, 6:45 pm at the church  
Thu 3<sup>rd</sup> Band Practice, 5:00 pm at the church  
Thu 3<sup>rd</sup> Deacon's Meeting, 7:00 pm at the church  
Sun 6<sup>th</sup> Communion  
Wed 9<sup>th</sup> Book Study, 6:45 pm at the church  
Thu 10<sup>th</sup> Band Practice, 5:00 pm at the church  
Sat 12<sup>th</sup> Deadline for monthly report to Goshen Association, Tony Wilson,  
[wilsontony540@gmail.com](mailto:wilsontony540@gmail.com)  
Sun 13<sup>th</sup> Business Meeting, 11:00 at the church  
Wed 16<sup>th</sup> Bible Study, 6:45 pm at the church  
Thu 17<sup>th</sup> Women's GRACE Fellowship, 9:00 am at the church  
Thu 17<sup>th</sup> Band Practice, 5:00 pm at the church  
Thu 17<sup>th</sup> "Jesus Christ Superstar", 5:30 pm at Riverside Center, Fredericksburg  
Sun 20<sup>th</sup> EASTER! Services, 6:30 am at lakefront, breakfast and 8:30 am at church  
Sun 20<sup>th</sup> Deadline for newsletter articles and photos, [elkcreeknewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:elkcreeknewsletter@gmail.com)  
Wed 23<sup>rd</sup> Book Study, 6:45 pm at the church  
Thu 24<sup>th</sup> Band practice, 5:00 pm at the church  
Tue 29<sup>th</sup> Caring Community Prayer and Card Ministry, 9:00 am at the church  
Wed 30<sup>th</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> Wednesday Movie Night, 6:45 pm at the church

## BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

### March

Cherry Hill	3		
Andrew Kimball	4	Clorese & Joey Vaughan	16
Brian Burghardt	5	Karen Andrews	19
Coral Losinski	6	Trevor Sullivan	22
Duerson Donna	8	Rachael Shipp	22
Jo Canova	12	Barbara McKenny	23
Stan Polonsky	12	Diana Condon	24
Kelly Pitcher	14	Janet Martin	25
Eileen Perks	15	Mindy & Doug Ward	26

### April

Paula Brewer	1	Abi Bell	19
Larry Edmonds	4	Cherry & Sonny Hill	20
Noah Kimball	6	Lesia Norwood	22
Rodney Wood	7	Brenda & Earl Eck	22
Gary Harkins	8	Sharon Anderson	25
Kathy Tyler	9	Sandra Wilson	30
Barbara Moore	9	Rita Jones	30
Lee & Norm Stahl	13	Andy Seelinger	30
Amy Bryk	19	Ted Kopp	30



Will Begendorf, Matthew Croce, Woody Jenkins, Dave Mossburg, Doris Malcolm, Debbie Lovette, Mary-Margaret Ward, Richard Thompson, Ed Carnahan, Chuck Troup, Patsy Reardon, Holly Matthews, Vickie Spence, Brian Giddens, Aubrey Weigand, Mary Weigand, Alan Harris, Butch Weaver, Tom Horne, Sonja Peterson, Dillon & Chrissy, Mike Yanizeski, Jerry Hopkins, Sally Thornberry, Sharon Brown, Jim Brew, Norm Stahl, Hannah Hargrove, Sue Kelly, Graham, Brenda Weigand, Michael Ward, Diana Condon, Sandra Garcia, Paul Arnold, Jimmy Ryders, Devin Simmers, Joey Vaughan

## 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.
- **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, Alana and Wayne Frazier, Steve and Anna Jones*

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

# FEBRUARY SCRAPBOOK

## Thank You notes for the Joy shared at Christmas



12/16/24

Dear Bunnie

Thank you for the wonderful gift bag, full of goodies. I know you must have had help so please pass my thanks on to the others. It is wonderful + so many delicious things. Thank you also for looking after me.

Yours  
Frances

Dear Friends,

Before it is all gone we wanted to thank you for our wonderful Christmas box. Goodness, we kept opening and opening. So many, many yummy treats. Obviously a labor of love to put all of that together. Can we actually say thanks for the calories?

We do know that we can and must thank you all for your kind words and promises of prayers and assistance as we begin our journey into Woody's serious healthcare. That meant so much to each of us over the last few days. We will stay in touch.

Most especially know that you are loved !!

Renee & Woody

Dear Bunny

Please thank the ladies for the beautiful care bag. I have enjoyed everything so much.

Dorothy



# Valentine's Dinner February 15<sup>th</sup>





