

The Elkins Exchange

Volume 19, Issue 6

April 2018



If anyone would like to receive the newsletter via email please send a note to Ruth at:

firstchurchofchristelkins@frontier.com

Please keep the church updated with address and phone number changes! Can give to Ruth Morgan or email.

Please give any news, pictures, happenings, etc. that you would like to see in the newsletter to Ruth Morgan by the third Sunday of the month.

From the Preacher's Desk



“Now if Christ is being preached as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is futile and your faith empty. Also, we are found to be false witnesses about God, because we have testified against God that He raised Christ from the dead, when in reality He did not raise Him, if indeed the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is useless; you are still in your sins. Furthermore, the dead in Christ have also perished. For if only in this life we have hope in Christ, we should be pitied more than anyone. But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have died.”

- I Corinthians 15:12-20 NET

A friend of mine recently explained to me the reason he could not accept Christianity, although it was certainly an excuse I have heard before. “I find the claims of Christianity outrageous. People don’t walk on water or rise from the dead. The odds that what the Bible says is truth are too much to be believed. Christians are foolish to believe such a fairy-tale.”

Well, frankly he’s right. Under normal circumstances people don’t walk on water or rise from the dead. It is outrageous; I think we all understand this. We recognize that in the natural world these things simply don’t happen, that the Bible is full of accounts of supernatural events that defy the laws of physics. That’s rather the point.

So you know what else is beyond belief? Life. Abiogenesis is the scientific study of how life could be created from non-life. Now I won’t begin to claim to under-

stand this complex theoretical science, but from what I’ve read, scientists estimate that the chance of life developing from chemicals on any given habitable planet (the number of which themselves are debated) involves 1 in... well, a number ending in somewhere between 20 and 40 zeros. That’s a

pretty small number, but one with a lot of variables, and this because, obviously, we haven’t found any life in the universe anywhere else to this point.

In other words, if you believe that there is intelligent life on earth, you already believe in some pretty outrageous odds. According to abiogenesis, our existence borders on the unbelievable. But of course we believe in life on earth, because here we are.

Do I believe in the claims of the Bible? Yes I do. The grace that God shows us in the Bible transforms lives, freeing people from the shackles of sin and despair. Simply put, the Bible works, despite the outrageous, even foolish claims of the supernatural that it makes.

Our faith hinges on these outrageous and so-called foolish claims, that God created us in His image, that He offers us eternity with Him through the substitutionary sacrificial death and resurrection of His Son Jesus Christ. Critics call it unbelievable foolishness to believe in the claims of Christianity, but I’ll take those odds, not because I am some sort of deluded dreamer who hopes fairy-tale endings are true, but because history shows us that when people become Christ-like they become better, happier, and more fulfilled. Christianity works because it is what we were made for. “Taste and see that the Lord is good.” Having tasted in His goodness, I have seen that He is good.

“We preach about a crucified Christ, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles. But to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ is the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.”

- I Corinthians 1:23-25

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Mission of the Month

The Mission of the Month for April is the **KYOWVA Evangelistic Association**. KYOWVA began in 1950 & represents the three states of the tri-state area: KY, OH, & WV. This mission works with both independent Christian Churches & Churches of Christ & has extended to more than twenty states in the United States. The reason for this mission is to begin new or assist existing congregations. They have successfully done this with over fifty congregations & four camps.

The association's Board of Directors is made up of members from within the Tri-State area of Ashland, KY; Ironton, OH; & Huntington, WV. They meet on a monthly basis.



A new work was started in September 2001 & is working to save souls under the leadership of George Hall. The goal of this new church is to save souls & to provide this area with a New Testament Church. A New Testament Church where Jesus is proclaimed as Lord, immersion for the forgiveness of sins & the gift of the Holy Spirit is preached, the Lord's Supper will be served every Sunday & an instrument accompanies the singing.

We are asked to support KYOWVA with our Sunday school offering on the third Sunday of April.

Facts and Figures for March

AM Service **75**

PM Service **29**

Weekly Budget need: **\$2205**

News



We are saddened to announce the passing of Walter Burdick, husband of Virginia Burdick on March 23rd.



Life group/Bible Study on Thursday evenings.

- Mark Morgan at his home, Beverly/Dailey area. 7 pm
"Churches of Revelation"
- Jason Brandon 6:30 at the church in Elkins, Studying the book of Matthew.

Kid's Own Worship: each Wed. 6:30pm @ Church.



June 10-14

- It's VBS time! This year's theme is **Shipwrecked, Rescued by Jesus**. Director's are Patsy Nelson and Beth Cooper.
- Volunteers are needed for all areas, please let Beth and Patsy know if you can help out.
- Please pray for success of this year's program!



Ladies:

Mother's Day Banquet will be May 12th at 6pm. Wendy Tooley will be the guest speaker. The guys will be preparing the banquet and serving all ladies not just the mothers.



Calendar of Events

April 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Resurrection Sunday *Bryn Cooper 	2	3 Board Mtg 7pm *Broady Thompson	4 Kids Own Worship *Jack Hasselaar	5 *Shawn Channell	6	7
8	9	10	11 Kids Own Worship	12	13	14 *Joyce Pudder
15 Mission Sunday *Loretta Hart	16	17	18 Kids Own Worship *Karen Reed *Kris Wilmoth	19	20 *Angela Lall	21
22 *Crystal White *Frelie Dotson	23 *Cindy Talbott *Cassie Hinkle *Brianna Worles	24 Elders Mtg 7pm	25 Kids Own Worship *Marilyn Owens	26 *Kathleen Price *Pamela Brandon	27	28 *Jayme Herron
29	30					

Church Flowers given this month

Thank you to Sandra Lilly for the seasonal silk flower arrangements for the pulpit. We still encourage donations in memory or special occasions. Please make your own arrangements with florist and let Mary Ann Kyle know.

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST

300 Main Street
Elkins WV
26241



Phone: 304-636-1590

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another. John 13:35

Preaching Minister Jason Brandon
Bible School Sunday 9:30 am
Worship Service Sunday 10:30 am
Choir Practice Sunday 5:00 pm
Youth Meetings. Sunday 6:00 pm
Evening Service. Sunday 6:00 pm
Kids Own Worship. Wednesday 6:30 pm
Small Groups Thursdays, various times & locations



Visit your
church
website
at:

firstchurchofchristelkins.com

Scripture Readings for April

		1 st	Matt. 28: 1-10 Rom 15:14-33 Psalm 70 Deut. 32	2	Matt. 28:11-20 Romans 16 Psalm 71 Deut. 33, 34
3 rd	Mark 1 :1-8 1 Cor. 1: 1-17 Psalm 72 Joshua 1, 2	4 th	Mark 1 :9-20 1 Cor. 1:18-31 Psalm 73 Joshua 3-5	5 th	Mark 1 :21-34 1 Cor. 2 Psalm 74 Joshua 6, 7
7 th	Mark 1 :35-45 1 Cor. 3 Psalm 75 Joshua 8, 9	8 th	Mark 2:1-12 1 Cor. 4 Psalm 76 Joshua 10-1 2	9 th	Mark 2:13-17 1 Cor. 5 Psalm 77 Joshua 13, 14
10 th	Mark 2:18-28 1 Cor. 6:1-11 Psalm 78: 1-39 Joshua 15-17	11 th	Mark 3:1-19 1 Cor. 6:12-20 Ps.78:40-72 Joshua 18, 19	12 th	Mark 3:20-35 1 Cor. 7:1-16 Psalm 79 Joshua 20, 21
14 th	Mark 4:1-20 1 Cor. 7:17-40 Psalm 80 Joshua 22, 23	15 th	Mark 4:21-41 1Cor. 8 Psalm 81 Joshua 24	16 th	Mark 5:1-20 1 Cor. 9:1-12 Psalm 82 Judges 1-3
17 th	Mark 5:21-43 1 Cor. 9: 13-27 Psalm 83 Judges 4, 5	18 th	Mark 6:1-13 1 Cor. 10:1-13 Psalm 84 Judges 6, 7	19 th	Mark 6: 14-29 1 Cor.10:14-33 Psalm 85 Judges 8
21 st	Mark 6:30-44 1 Cor. 11:1-16 Psalm 86 Judges 9	22 nd	Mark 6:45-56 1 Cor. 11 :17-34 Psalm 87 Judges 10-12	23 rd	Mark 7:1-23 1 Cor. 12:1-13 Psalm 88 Judges 13-15
24 th	Mark 7:24-37 1 Cor.12:14-31 Psalm 89:1-18 Judges 16	25 th	Mark 8:1-13 1 Cor. 13 Ps.89:19-52 Judges 17, 18	26 th	Mark 8:14-21 1 Cor. 14:1-25 Ps. 90 Judges 19
28 th	Mark 8:22-30 1 Cor.14:26-40 Psalm 91 Judges 20, 21	29 th	Mark 8:31-38 1 Cor. 15:1-28 Psalm 92 Ruth 1	30 th	