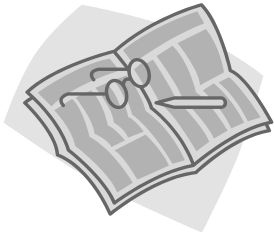


The Elkins Exchange

Volume 19, Issue 10

August 2018



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

firstchurchofchristelkins@frontier.com

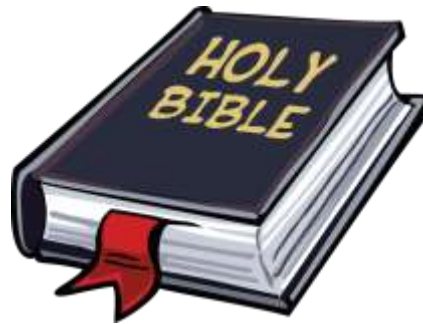
Please keep the church updated with address and phone number changes! Can give to Ruth Morgan or email.

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.

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From the Preacher's Desk



“Therefore, having laid aside falsehood, each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members of one another. Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on the cause of your anger. Do

not give the devil an opportunity. The one who steals must steal no longer; rather he must labor, doing good with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with the one who has need. You must let no unwholesome word come out of your mouth, but only what is beneficial for the building up of the one in need, that it may give grace to those who hear. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. You must put away all bitterness, anger, wrath, quarreling, and slanderous talk – indeed, all malice. Instead, be kind to one another, compassionate, forgiving one another, just as God in Christ also forgave you.”

Ephesians 4:25-32 NET

I'm sure you've noticed that lately people can be a bit mean. And if you haven't noticed that, you've managed to successfully tune out politics, Hollywood, and most of the internet (and might even be happier for it).

I don't expect non-Christians to act Christ-like. If they don't follow Jesus, why would they obey His commands in the Bible? But obviously I expect Christians to follow the Bible. We believe that the Bible is authoritative, that it tells us what God expects from us. And when I read Ephesians 4:25-32, I am convicted.

The Bible does not say that I cannot get angry. Jesus got angry with the indiscretions of the ruling class of Israel in his day quite a bit, calling them out and confronting them quite energetically. But the Bible warns me that when I get angry I am

not to sin, and to deal with the cause of my anger, rather let it fester. But I, a sinner, am bad about nurturing my anger, and using it as an excuse to act in very un-Christ-like ways. God calls me to be better than that.

The Bible says that no unwholesome word should come out of my mouth. That almost seems superhuman, es-

pecially in the world that we live in. When everybody around you is tearing everyone else down, our instinct is to join in, to be a part of our culture and speak the same way. But we are not called to be cultural, but Biblical, to fight against the tendencies of our fallen world. In our speech, we are called to be Christ-like at all times, something I fail at too often. And so God calls me to do better, to keep working on beneficial speech that builds others up.

In this text Paul describes such negativity, “all bitterness, anger, wrath, quarreling, and slanderous talk,” with the word “malice,” and he contrasts this worldly attitude with the attitude of Christ Jesus, “kind to one another, compassionate, forgiving one another.”

Forgiveness is so difficult. We are so bad about holding grudges and wrongs against others. The issue isn't whether or not someone did something wrong, but that we are the ones doing wrong in our lack of forgiveness. Forgiveness isn't about the other person, but about us. We are called to forgive others because God forgave us.

And that brings up the final thought I would mention. If we have accepted His forgiveness, we are forgiven. Too many Christians live in abject guilt over their past. They know that they would not forgive someone else for what they've done, and so they don't forgive themselves either. But in doing so, they reject the grace of God, that forgiveness that comes when Christ is our Savior. Our enemy Satan loves it when we wallow in self-hatred and despair. It makes us ineffective and cheapens the sacrifice that Christ made for us. Let us instead take to heart the forgiveness of our God and the true power that the blood of Christ has over sin.

Mission of the Month

Central West Virginia Center for Pregnancy Care freely acknowledges to the client and the community that it places value upon all human life, from conception onward. The purpose of the **CWVCPC** is to help a woman who is in a state of crisis to understand and work through the alternatives, enabling her to make an informed decision concerning the outcome of her pregnancy. Further, the Center seeks to provide support to all parties involved. For the woman who decides to carry her baby to term, the **CWVCPC** will provide emergency aid in whatever form is available and needed. The aim is to restore the woman to a normal level of coping, or to help her move from a state of crisis to a state of being in control of her life.



crisis pregnancy prevention. In addition to helping the pregnant woman in a state of crisis, the **CWVCPC** will offer programs in the community, including teen sexuality programs, encouraging and instructing those Christian virtues of abstinence and the sanctity of the marriage relationship. In addition, the **CWVCPC** may offer education to the public on abortion to enable parents to better cope with and promote healthy sexual development in their children, and to work directly with teens and pre-teens in examining and develop-

ing healthy Christian lifestyles. The money collected during Sunday school on the third Sunday will go toward this mission.

The **Central West Virginia Center for Pregnancy Care** committed to Christian action, especially in regard to the prevention of abortion; therefore, the **CWVCPC** directs attention to the positive alternative of

Facts and Figures for August

AM Service 72

PM Service 24

Weekly Budget need: \$2205

News



New Directories are available now in the church library. You can use your old binder or pick up a new one. See Nancy Messer if you have any questions. A picture was missed for the Harper family, that new page is available for everyone also in the library. Please keep Ruth Morgan updated with address and phone changes so we can keep our records accurate.



Life groups/Bible study on Thursday

The groups will start up again in September. Details will be in the next newsletter.



Kids Own Worship

Will resume on Wednesday evenings after Labor Day. More details next newsletter.



Our Annual Congregational Meeting will be held **Sunday Morning September 30th** immediately after morning services. Only current members can vote on the ballot issues. If

anyone has any suggestions for deacons or elders in the upcoming year please let an elder or Jason know.



Volunteers from our church help out with the "Common Ground" food service on July 7th.

Calendar of Events

August 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 *Jason & Pamela Brandon	4 *Robin Price
5 *Vincent Licwov	6	7 Board Mtg 7pm *Nicole Wyatt	8	9	10	11 *Anita Lockett
12	13 *Aaron Channell	14 Guild 6pm	15	16 	17 *Tom Fuhrman	18 *Lauren Wilmoth
19 Mission Sunday	20	21	22 *Taylor Pingley	23	24	25 *Quinlynn Harper
26	27	28 Elders Mtg 7pm	29	30 *Kenny & Candy Lehman	31	

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 Classes 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. summer break
Small Groups Summer break



Visit your
church
website
at:

firstchurchofchristelkins.com

Scripture Readings for August

1 st	Luke 12:49-59 2Thess3:14-18 Psalm 150 2 Chron 34-36	2 nd	.Luke 13:1-9 1 Tim 1 :1-11 Prov 1 Ezra 1,2	3 rd	Luke 13:10-21 1 Tim 1: 12-20 Prov 2 Ezra 3
4 th	Luke 13:22-35 1 Tim 2 Prov 3 Ezra 4, 5	5 th	Luke 14:1-14 1 Tim 3:1-10 Prov 4 Ezra 6	6 th	
8 th	Luke 14: 15-24 1 Tim 3: 11-16 Prov 5 Ezra 7	9 th	Luke 14:25-35 1 Tim 4 Prov 6 Ezra 8	10 th	Luke 15:1-10 1 Tim 5:1-15 Prov 7 Ezra 9
11 th	Luke 15: 11-32 1 Tim 5: 16-25 Prov 8 Ezra 10	12 th	Luke 16:1-9 1 Tim 6:1-10 Prov 9 Neh. 1,2	13 th	Luke 16:10-18 1 Tim 6:11-21 Prov 10: 1-16 Nehemiah 3
15 th	Luke 16:19-31 2 Tim 1 :1-7 Prov 10: 17-32 Nehemiah 4, 5	16 th	Luke 17:1-10 2 Tim 1 :8-18 Prov 11: 1-1 5 Nehemiah 6	17 th	Luke 17:11-19 2 Tim 2:1-13 Prov 11: 16-31 Nehemiah 7
18 th	Luke 17:20-37 2 Tim 2: 14-26 Prov 12:1-14 Nehemiah 8	19 th	Luke 18:1-8 2 Tim 3: 1-9 Prov 12: 15-28 Nehemiah 9	20 th	Luke 18:9-17 2 Tim 3: 10-17 Prov 13: 1-12 Nehemiah 10
22 nd	Luke 18: 18-30 2 Tim 4 Prov 13: 13-25 Nehemiah 11	23 rd	Luke 18:31-43 Titus 1:1-9 Prov 14:1-18 Nehemiah 12	24 th	Luke 19:1-10 Titus 1: 10-16 Prov 14: 19-35 Nehemiah 13
25 th	Luke 19: 11-27 Titus 2:1-10 Prov 1 5: 1-17 Esther 1	26 th	Luke 19:28-38 Titus 2:11-15 Prov 15: 18-33 Esther 2	27 th	Luke 19:39-48 Titus 3:1-8 Prov 16: 1-16 Esther 3, 4
29 th	Luke 20:1-8 Titus 3:9-15 Prov 16:17-33 Esther 5, 6	30 th	Luke 20:9-19 Phile 1-11 Prov 17:1-14 Esther 7, 8	31 st	Luke 20:20-26 Phile 12-25 Prov 17: 15-28 Esther 9, 10