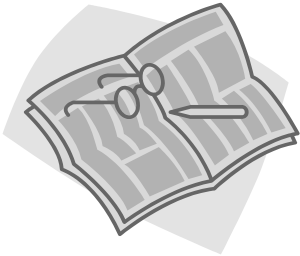


# The Elkins Exchange

Volume 19, Issue 5

March 2018



If anyone would like to receive the newsletter via email please send a note to Ruth at: [firstchurchofchristelkins@frontier.com](mailto: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



“When did it all go wrong?”

This was a question recently asked by one thoughtful Hollywood actor that I like, and the answers that he got were quite insightful. The majority of answers said that our country took a turn in the wrong direction somewhere back in the 60's. Since then, we have had more crime, more poverty, and more despair. As a society we're not getting "better," and most Americans agree we're heading in the wrong direction, and that we have been for decades now. This is not about politics; we get enough of that everywhere else. But I do want to look briefly at a comparison between where our society was and where we are now.

There was a time when we were a "Christian nation". Yeah, not everyone went to church or was a Christian, but the majority of our country claimed Christianity. But over time that changed, and maybe it really did come to a boiling point in the sixties. As a people, we wanted to live without God's restrictions and rules on our lives. We would become a people freed from the tyranny of a God who held us back and told us what to do. Instead, as Paul says in Romans 6, we became slaves to sin, and freed from all righteousness. As a culture, we didn't progress. Oh, sure, we continue to advance the boundaries of science and technology, and there's no question that I am most grateful for the advances in medicine and the conveniences that our advanced technology brings us. But if I had to choose between a moral culture and an advanced culture, I know I would prefer the former.

Just one of many ways we saw this change was when prayer was taken out of the schools in 1962. Now, allow

me to add that I am not a fan of making people pray, and especially making non-Christians pray. But it does get me to thinking... I wonder if prayer was taken out of more than just the schools. See, I worry that too many Christians actually don't read their Bibles at home. If the church was to be closed on a Sunday, they would miss more than just the weekly meeting of the Saints and the Lord's Supper. They would miss their weekly reading of the Bible and their only time in prayer. I hope this isn't so, but I wonder.... Do we as a people really need someone standing over our shoulders to make us do the right thing? See, I don't think our schools should ever have been the ones to make us pray; I think we should be able to do that on our own. I don't think we need the church to read the Bible for us; we should be able to do that on our own as well.

The majority of Americans were Christians. Why did that change? And the simple answer is that people didn't want to be Christians anymore. Previous generations did a poor job showing the next generations the joy of Christ and our need for His salvation. And so here we are today, with the lowest number of Christians ever. So there is no surprise that crime is the crisis that it now is. And it will only get worse until we display Jesus Christ; not in our schools, but in our lives, when we show our kids and grandkids and neighbors and coworkers that God's salvation through Jesus Christ really is the best way, the way of joy and forgiveness. Because if Jesus can be any priority, then He can be the lowest priority, or even no priority at all. Only when we show that Jesus is our highest priority will we see the world become a better place, because only with God can any of us do better. And we can't just talk about that; we have to live it.

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## Mission of the Month

SPEAK UP FOR THOSE WHO CANNOT SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES; ENSURE JUSTICE FOR THOSE BEING CRUSHED. YES, SPEAK UP FOR THE POOR AND HELPLESS, AND SEE THAT THEY GET JUSTICE.

PROVERBS 31:8,9, NLT

The Rapha House founded in 2003 in Joplin Missouri is a mission to fight child traffick-



ing and sexual exploitation. It is a ministry founded on I John 3:18 to love and rescue children from the sex trafficking industry. Anyone wanting to donate may do so with the Sunday school mission collection on March 19th.

**Facts and Figures for February**  
 AM Service **66**  
 PM Service **23**  
 Weekly Budget need: **\$2205**

## News



**Shipwrecked, Rescued by Jesus** is this year's VBS theme from Group. Beth Cooper and Patsy Nelson will be this year's directors. More information will be upcoming soon. Volunteers will be needed.



**Life group/Bible Study on Thursday evenings.**

- Mark Morgan at his home, Beverly/Dailey area. 7 pm "Churches of Revelation "



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



Don't forget **time**. Spring's ahead on Sunday March 11th!

### Holy Week Announcement:



Community Easter Service is Monday March 26th thru Friday March 30th, noon to 1pm at the Woodford Memorial United Methodist church.

### Speakers:

- Monday– pastor Scott Hamby, First Baptist Church
- Tuesday– pastor Brian Seders, First Methodist Church
- Wednesday– chaplain Dina Andrews, Davis Memorial Hospital
- Thursday– pastor Jeremiah Jasper, Woodford Memorial United Methodist
- Friday– chaplain Laura Brekke, Davis & Elkins College

### Resurrection Sunday is April 1st!



*Dear church Family,*

*We want to take a minute and say thank you for supporting us with all of our projects. Your support with the Food Collection for Community Food Bank has been wonderful. Your help with the many church dinners has made our jobs much easier and more "fun". We were able to give 36 \$10 gift cards at Christmas to our great kids and almost all the party expenses were covered.*

*If you would like to be a part of the Ladies Guild, we meet on the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30. We help support many Missions including Howells Mill, the Kalbs and Mountain Mission School. We would love to have you join us for fellowship and ministry!*

*Thanks again! Ladies of The Guild*

Calendar of Events

# March 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 *Dave & Kris Wilmoth *Josh Manley	3 *Lionel Lilly
4	5 *Nancy Weese	6 Board Mtg 7pm *Cindy Carr	7 *Patsy Nelson *Debbie Phillips	8	9 *Jaden Cross	10 *Donna Blackwood *Casey Jones
11 *Carrie Barger 	12 *Chandra Robinson	13 Guild 6:30pm	14 *Lois Kimble	15	16 *Jean Weeks	17 
18 Mission Sunday *Golden Day *Justin White *Hazel Roy	19 *Lee Hart	20 *Lisa Moudry	21	22	23	24 *Kitty Smith
25	26 *Clark Kendall	27 Elders Mtg 7pm	28 *Andrew Carroll	29	30	31 *David Dotson
 <p>Holy Week Services</p>						

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 Group. . . . . Thursday 7pm



Visit your church website at:

[firstchurchofchristelkins.com](http://firstchurchofchristelkins.com)

## Scripture Readings for March

1 <sup>st</sup>	Matt. 21:1-11 Acts 28:1-16 Psalm 46 Lev. 24, 25	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Matt. 21:12-22 Acts 28:17-31 Psalm 47 Lev. 26, 27	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Matt. 21 :23-32 Rom. 1 :1-17 Psalm 48 Numbers 1
4 <sup>th</sup>	Matt. 21:33-46 Rom. 1: 18-32 Psalm 49 Numbers 3, 4	5 <sup>th</sup>	Matt. 22:1-14 Romans 2 Psalm 50 Numbers 5, 6	7 <sup>th</sup>	Matt. 22:15-33 Romans 3 Psalm 51 Numbers 7, 8
8 <sup>th</sup>	Matt. 22:34-46 Romans 4 Psalm 52 Numbers 9-11	9 <sup>th</sup>	Matt. 23: 1-12 Romans 5:1-11 Psalm 53 Num. 12-14	10 <sup>th</sup>	Matt. 23:13-24 Romans 5: 12-21 Psalm 54 Num. 15-17
11 <sup>th</sup>	Matt. 23:25-39 Rom.6:1-14 Psalm55 Num. 18-20	12 <sup>th</sup>	Matt. 24:1-14 Rom. 6: 15-23 Psalm 56 Num. 21, 22	14 <sup>th</sup>	Matt. 24: 15-35 Rom. 7:1-12 Psalm 57 Num. 23-25
15 <sup>th</sup>	M Matt. 24:36-51 Rom. 7:13-25 Psalm 58 Num 26, 27	16 <sup>th</sup>	Matt. 25:1-13 Rom. 8: 1-17 Psalm 59 Num. 28-30.	17 <sup>th</sup>	Matt. 25: 14-30 Rom. 8:18-39 Psalm 60 Num. 31, 32
18 <sup>th</sup>	M Matt. 25:31-46 Rom. 9:1-18 Psalm 61 Num. 33-36	19 <sup>th</sup>	Matt. 26:1-16 Rom. 9: 19-33 Psalm 62 Deut. 1-3.	21 <sup>st</sup>	Matt.26:17-35 Romans 10 Psalm 63 Deut. 4, 5
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Matt. 26:36-56 Rom. 11: 1-24 Psalm 64 Deut. 6-8	23 <sup>rd</sup>	Matt. 26:57-75 Rom. 11:25-36 Psalm 65 Deut. 9-12	24 <sup>th</sup>	Matt. 27:1-10 Rom. 12: 1-8 Psalm 66 Deut. 13-17
25 <sup>th</sup>	Matt. 27:11-26 Rom. 12:9-21 Psalm 67 Deut. 18-21	26 <sup>th</sup>	Matt. 27:27-44 Romans 13 Psalm 68 Deut. 22-26	28 <sup>th</sup>	Matt. 27:45-56 Romans 14 Psalm 69:1-18 Deut. 27,28
29 <sup>th</sup>	Matt. 27:57-66 Rom. 15:1-13 Ps. 69: 19-36 Deut. 29-31	30 <sup>th</sup>	Matt. 28:1-10 Rom. 15:14-33 Psolm 70 Deut. 32	31 <sup>st</sup>	Matt.28: 11-20 Romans 16 Psalm 71 Deut. 33, 34