

The Elkins Exchange

Volume 18, Issue 7

May 2017



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.

Inside this issue:

From the Preachers Desk	1
Information updates	1
News	2
Happenings	2
Calendar of Events	3
Church Flowers	3
Scripture Readings	4

From the Preacher's Desk

“Facts are simple and facts are straight / Facts are lazy and facts are late / Facts all come with points of view / Facts don't do what I want them to / Facts just twist the truth around / Facts are living turned inside out / Facts are getting the best of them / Facts are nothing on the face of things / Facts don't stain the furniture / Facts go out and slam the doors / Facts are written all over your face / Facts continue to change their shape.”

-from Crosseyed and Painless, on the album Remain in Light, by the Talking Heads



“You are a king then?!” said Pilate.

Jesus answered, “You are right in saying I am a king. In fact, for this reason I was born, and for this reason I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me.”

“What is truth?” Pilate asked. With this he went out again to the Jews and said, “I find no basis for a charge against Him.” (John 18:37-38)

“But I have had God's help to this very day, and so I stand here and testify to small and great alike. I am saying nothing beyond what the prophets and Moses said would happen – that the Christ would suffer and, as the first to rise from the dead, would proclaim light to His own people and to the Gentiles.”

At this point Festus interrupted Paul's defense. “You are out of your mind, Paul!” he shouted. “Your great learning has driven you insane.”

“I am not insane, most excellent Festus,” Paul replied. “What I am saying is true and reasonable.” (Acts 26:22-25)

Tina Weymouth, bassist of the band Talking Heads, when speaking about

the song Crosseyed and Painless, refers to the lyrics as “...a kind of... rap that listed things you may or may not like about ‘facts’ as if they were ‘people’.” How prophetic.

Today we treat facts like people. In that, I mean that we treat them as fickle and changing, untrustworthy and capable of being manipulated. Talking points of the government are rarely trusted, and perhaps for good reason. While all information is subject to interpretation, we seem to have moved into an era of subjective truth, where people hold to incorrect facts and truths because that is the reality they have chosen to accept. So many people do this, accepting the version of reality that they want. But should we?

In John 14:6 Jesus says “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” Again, in Acts 4 Peter says of Jesus, “Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.”

As reality statements go, those are as bold as it gets. Either Jesus alone is how we are saved or He isn't. Either this is fact or this is a lie. Despite people living in an increasingly moralistic relative world with subjective truths that vary from one person to another, the real world doesn't work like that, and neither do true facts. Gravity is an effect that still holds me down, regardless of my attempts to be a super-hero. The laws of science and physics still bind me, no matter how much I may protest their oppressive regime.

My belief in God doesn't affect His existence. My acceptance of Jesus doesn't change whether or not He is the way of salvation. Complaints don't matter; compliance does. The Bible is quite clear: follow Jesus and be saved or do your own thing and be lost. Those are the only two choices, and my thoughts on the subject don't matter. But God's thoughts matter completely. Because Jesus says “I am the way, and the truth, and the life.”

Mission of the Month

International Christian Braille Mission, Inc. (ICBM) produces and distributes New Testament Christian literature in formats readable by blind and visually impaired individuals. We want all people to read the Gospel and see Jesus! Please consider helping us help the blind for Christ.



countries worldwide, including England, Malawi, Thailand, India, Australia, Bangladesh, Cuba, and the United States.

Unfortunately, the need to produce and distribute Christian material for the blind and visually impaired is enormous, and ICBM cannot meet this massive need without additional resources. Our church will collect funds the third Sunday in May for this mission.

Michael Ray Smith, a 1975 graduate of Kentucky Christian College, established ICBM in 1975. Since then, the Lord has blessed the Mission greatly. ICBM is now the world's largest distributor, within the Restoration Movement, of Christian Braille literature for blind and visually impaired people. In fact, ICBM currently distributes material for evangelism and edification in approximately 20

Facts and Figures for April

AM Service 88

PM Service 28

Weekly Budget need: \$3449

News



Graduations:

Keaton Cooper, Elkins High School, plans to attend George Washington University and major in communications and public policy. Congratulations and best wishes.



Life group/Bible Study on Thursday evenings.

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



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



Mother's Day Banquet will be May 6th at 6pm. Diane Ware will be the guest speaker. The subject will be "Survive or Thrive"



June 11-15

- It's VBS time! This year's theme is **Character Under Construction**. Director's are Patsy Nelson and Beth Cooper.
- Volunteers are still needed for crew leaders; moving children from station to station.
- Daily fresh items for snacks will be purchased by directors, monetary donations appreciated for this.
- Cookies and bars are needed for closing reception on Thursday. Donations can be brought in anytime during the week.
- Please pray for success of this year's program!



Women's Guild would like to announce some changes to the Food Pantry. Contributions will now be collected once a month, **the last Sunday of the month**. These items will be donated to the local food bank. For our own membership needs please give cash to Nancy Messer or Etta Jean Kendall.

Calendar of Events

May 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<i>1</i> *Elijah Coop	<i>2</i> Board Mtg 7pm	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i> Mother's Day Banquet 6 pm
<i>7</i> *Patrick Morgan	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i> Guild 6:30pm	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i> *Owen & Shelba Lowe	<i>12</i> *Melodee White	<i>13</i> *Gloria White *Everley Harper
<i>14</i> Mission Sunday Mother's Day	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>17</i> *Patty Pingley *Gary & Etta Jean Kendall *Calypso Brandon	<i>18</i> *Frances Lewis	<i>19</i>	<i>20</i> *Ann Phillips *Jean Kelley
<i>21</i> *Jaylea Herron *Larry & Marilyn Owens	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i>
<i>28</i> *Helena Morgan	<i>29</i> Memorial Day *Beth Cooper	<i>30</i> Elders Mtg 7pm	<i>31</i>			

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 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. Wednesday 6:30 pm
Small Groups Thursdays, various times & locations



Visit your
church
website
at:

firstchurchofchristelkins.com

Scripture Readings for May

2 nd	Mark 9:1-13 1 Cor.15:29-58 Psalm 93 Ruth 2; 3	3 rd	Mark 9: 14-32 1 Cor. 16 Psalm 94 Ruth 4	4 th	Mark 9:33-50 2 Cor. 1: 1-11 Psalm 95 1 Samuel 1, 2
5 th	Mark 10:1-16 2Cor.1: 12-24 Psalm 96 1 Sam. 3-5	6 th	Mark 10:17-34 2 Cor. 2 Psalm 97 1 Samuel 6-8	7 th	Mark 10:35-52 2Cor. 3 Psalm 98 1 Samuel 9,10
9 th	Mark 11:1-11 2 Corinthians 4 Psalm 99 1 Sam. 11-13	10 th	Mark: 12-26 2 Cor. 5 Psalm 100 1 Samuel 14	11 th	Mark 11:27-33 2 Cor.6 Psalm 101 1Sam. 115,16
12 th	Mark 12:1-12 2 Corinthians 7 Psalm 102 1 Sam.I 17, 18	13 th	Mark 12:13-27 2 Cor. 8 Psalm 103 1 Sam.I 19, 20	14 th	Mark 12:28-34 2 Cor. 9 Psalm 104 1 Sam. 21-23
16 th	Mark 12:35-44 2Cor.10 Psalm 105 1 Sam.I 24, 25	17 th	Mark 13:1-13 2 Cor. 11:1-15 Ps. 106:1-23 1 Sam. 26-28	18 th	Mark 13:14-31 2 Cor.11:16-33 Ps. 106:24-48 1 Sam. 29-31
19 th	Mark 13:32-37 2 Cor. 12: 1-10 Psalm 107 2 Samuel 1, 2	20 th	.Mark 14:1-11 2 Cor12:11-12 Psalm 108 2 Samuel 3, 4	21 st	Mark 14:12-31 2 Cor. 13 Psalm 109 2 Samuel 5-7
23 rd	Mark 14:32-42 Galatians 1 Psalm 110 2 Samuel 8-10	24 th	Mark 14:43-52 Galatians 2 Psalm 111 2Sam.11, 12	25 th	Mark 14:53-65 Gal. 3:1-14 Psalm 112 2 Samuel 13
26 th	Mark 14:66-72 Gal.s 3: 15-29 Psalm 113 2 Sam.I 14, 15	27 th	.Mark 15:1-15 Gal. 4: 1-20 Psalm 114 2 Sam. 16, 17	28 th	Mark 15:33-41 Gal. 4:21-31 Psalm 115 2 Sam. 18,19
30 th	Mark 15:33-41 Gal. 5:1-12 Psalm 116 2 Sam. 20, 21	31 st	Mark 15:42-47 Gal.5: 13-26 Psalm 117 2 Samuel 22		