

The Elkins Exchange

Volume 19, Issue 7

May 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.

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

During those days another large crowd gathered. Since they had nothing to eat, Jesus called His disciples to Him and said, "I have compassion for these people; they have already been with me three days and have nothing to eat. If I send them home hungry, they will collapse on the way, because some of them have come a long distance."

His disciples answered, "But where in this remote place can anyone get enough bread to feed them?"

"How many loaves do you have?" Jesus asked.

"Seven," they replied.

He told the crowd to sit down on the ground. When He had taken the loaves and given thanks, he broke them and gave them to His disciples to set before the people, and they did so. They had a few small fish as well; He gave thanks for them also and told the disciples to distribute them. The people ate and were satisfied. Afterwards the disciples picked up seven basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over. About four thousand men were present. And having sent them away, he got into the boat with His disciples and went to the region of Dalmanutha.

-Mark 8:1-10

So many questions jump out from this passage. Why on earth did four thousand men (Matthew tells us that number does not include the women and children present) leave home for three days without enough food? I mean, I get a few people forgetting to plan, but all of them? Seems more than a bit foolish. But then, it's probably only been a few months since Jesus fed five thousand (men, plus women and children) with five loaves, just two chapters earlier in Mark. I have a sneaky suspicion that that the



crowds specifically did not bring food because they assumed it was Jesus's job to provide for them. Or so they assumed.

Likewise it seems unreasonable for me to assume that His disciples would have forgotten that He fed larger numbers just a few months earlier.

"Where can we get that kind of food?" they ask, but I have to believe that they knew where the food was going to come from. I mean, people in the Bible seem possessed of incredibly short memories, and the Twelve can be kind of clueless at times, but I just can't buy that they're this much in the dark. I think they knew what Jesus was planning.

See, I think the crowds of four thousand (plus) expected food from Jesus, and I think His Twelve did too. But just because Jesus could work a food miracle doesn't mean that He was the Son of God. The Old Testament is full of amazing miracles, and some quite a bit more showy than all-you-can-eat fish sandwiches. So when it came time to choose sides, the crowds turned against Him, and His disciples fled. The food ran out, and besides, miraculous food is one thing, but claiming to be God incarnate on earth is another thing entirely. So maybe we can put ourselves in their shoes and understand that there was a big jump between loaves and fish and the Bread of Life.

But what about us? See, we know what the full claims of Christ are, and that following Him really is all or nothing. We don't come to church for free food, but for the Bread of Life. We recognize that Jesus is either Lord of everything or He has no value to us at all, because this is what Lordship means. Do we expect too little from Him? I think some people just want free food or blessings in this life, and leave when the free blessings run out. They want to go to heaven, but not to be with God for eternal. Given the Bread of Life, they'd rather have a fish sandwich. I pray that isn't us.

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 83

PM Service 28

Weekly Budget need: \$2205

News



Graduates:

Shaina Morgan, Elkins High School will be attending WVU and majoring in elementary education

and mathematics

Lauren Wilmoth, Elkins High School will be attending Univ. of Pittsburgh and majoring in Materials Engineering



June 10-14



Life group/Bible Study on Thursday evenings.

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



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

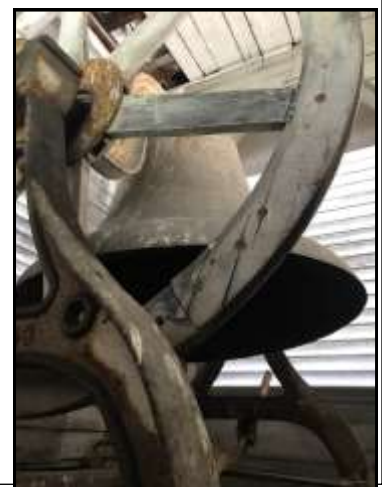
- It's VBS time! This year's theme is **Shipwrecked, Rescued by Jesus**. Director's are Patsy Nelson and Beth Cooper.
- Volunteers are still needed for cutting and making some backdrop items.
- Daily refreshment supplies will be needed, there will be a sign-up list in the vestibule in the upcoming weeks or give cash donations to Beth or Patsy.
- Cookies are needed for closing reception on Thursday. There will be a sign-up list.
- Please pray for success of this year's program!



Mother's Day Banquet will be May 12th at 6pm. Wendy Tooley will be the guest speaker. Theme is *Joy of Christian Living*. She has been involved in ministry for over 25 years.

In 2012 she and her husband Tracy and two boys planted the reGeneration Church in Huntington, WV. She has a passion to speak to women of all ages.

During some recent security upgrade renovations some pictures were obtained from the inside of the church's bell tower. We wanted to share one here.



Calendar of Events

May 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i> Board Mtg 7pm *Elijah Coop *Luke Dotson	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>6</i>	<i>7</i> *Patrick Morgan *Brennen & Alexis Kelly	<i>8</i> Guild 6:30pm	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i> *Owen & Shelba Lowe	<i>12</i> Mother's Day Banquet 6 pm *Melodee White
<i>13</i> Mission Sunday Mother's Day *Gloria White *Everley Harper	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i> *Kayla Arbogast	<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> *Dani Hinkle *Hadley McElroy	<i>24</i> *Shayna Zirkle	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>
<i>27</i>	<i>28</i> Memorial Day *Helena Morgan	<i>29</i> Elders Mtg 7pm *Beth Cooper	<i>30</i>	<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		