

Eppie Lederer, aka Anne Landers, once made some compelling comments about what she had discovered as a result of her syndicated column "Ask Anne Landers":

I've learned plenty, including most importantly what Leo Rostea had in mind when he said, "Each of us is a little lonely, deep inside and longs to be understood..." I have learned how it is with the stumbling tortured people in this world who have nobody to talk to. The fact that the column has been so successful underscores, for me at least, the central tragedy of our society. The disconnectedness, the insecurity, the fear - that bedevils, cripples, and paralyzes so many of us...I have learned that financial success, academic achievement, and social or political status open no doors to peace of mind or inner security...We are all wanderers, like sheep, on this planet. (Don Cormie)

For a bunch of people, it is "One, two, three strikes you're out at the old ball game." A lot of people are burdened with fear, fatigue and failure – Christian and non-Christian alike. The defeated state is exactly where the devil wants us to be!

My dear wife shared this incredible prayer with me some time ago. It is a prescription for the world's knock-down blows:

Father, in Jesus' name I ask You to help me to be bold and confident. Let me not look at my failures and weaknesses but consider Your strength and abilities that You have promised to give me.

Lord, You told me in Your Word to love others as I love myself. Help me to love myself as You love me and to have a good self-image. Help me to not be judgmental or condemning of myself. I forgive myself just as You have forgiven me. Let me not be critical and uptight about my shortcomings but help me to realize that I am not perfect and never will be while I live on earth. Help me to realize that living a Christian life is a journey not a destination.

You said in Your Word that greater is He that is in me than he that is in the world. Your Word says that I can be more than a conqueror through Christ Jesus. I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Father, I am bold to proclaim that I am confident because of Your work in me. I can operate in confidence in every area of my life, not because of who I am but because of who You are in me.

Thank You, Lord, for continuing that good work which You started in me. Let Your Word bring confidence and completion in my life in Jesus' name. Amen. (Scriptural Prayers for Every Day Life by Keith and Megan Provance, p. 58)

May renewed peace be yours – in Jesus' Name!

Brian

Children and Youth Ministry

Hello from the Children's Department! So far summer has been grand with an exciting series on Stewardship. Children are still wrapping up their canned food drive, and are asking adults to contribute by bringing non-perishables to the church to help them reach (or exceed) their goal! This is a wonderful opportunity to show the kids that we care about others and how they can learn to have a heart like Jesus!

We are looking forward to this year's Children's Day Camp. This is a 3-day event that is similar to VBS but will run from morning to mid-afternoon. To make this event a success we need several volunteers. Volunteers need to be background checked AND safe sanctuary trained. Please reach out to me or to Rhonda for information on this process. It is much easier than you think, and our kids are counting on us to make Day Camp a success!

God Bless!
Natasha Zirkle
Children's Director
304-704-6937

Stewardship





2022 July Newsletter Music Ministries

**"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere - in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."
Acts 1:8 (NLT)**

The theme for the 2022 Annual Conference this year was "Building Bridges, Making Connections." Through COVID, we have had to build those bridges and make those connections in different and somewhat new ways and at times, we did not know how or where to begin. But God is showing us how and where in Acts 1:8.

As you see in the scripture above, He tells us that by the power of the Holy Spirit in us we can become a witness for Him and that must first begin where He plants us. In this passage, Jerusalem was that first place. It was their homeplace where they met in the temple and worshiped together. That's where we need to start. He then says to go, share and testify in other areas like Judea which for us means to move out of our little town and into the area surrounding us. But He does not leave it there. He goes on to tell us to move out of our comfort zones to Samaria and to the ends of the earth which would be like moving on to another state or country witnessing to people of different backgrounds and viewpoints.

As daunting as that sounds, we just need to remember that if God calls us, He will then equip us and empower us through the presence of His Holy Spirit.

Our "Heart of Worship" Praise Band was empowered and equipped by His Spirit for a "Pentecost Service" in Buchanan on Sunday, June 5th which was sponsored by the Upshur Parish House. It was a beautiful evening outdoors at "Jawbone Park," and the Praise Band answered the call of God as they stepped out of their area to be a witness for Christ. Their music and testimonies built a bridge and made a connection to the people in that town. One such couple was sitting around the corner and heard the music. It compelled them to come and listen. Others were already at the park and stayed for the whole event. The Holy Spirit was present and working that evening helping us to make those connections for His glory.

Let us all remember that we are vessels used by the mighty hand of God for the building up of His kingdom. Only through the power of His Spirit in us can we impart His message of life and hope as we give our witness to all that God has done for us. May we always be willing to answer the call, build those bridges and make those connections in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Susan



"Heart of Worship" Praise Band



2022 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES!

Braxton Hull Kenney graduated from Elkins High School. He is the son of Bruce and Joelle Kenney. He is the grandson of Sandy Grahame and the late Joe Grahame, and Pat Kenney and the late Lindsey Kenney. Braxton will attend West Virginia University in the Honors Program. He plans to major in Management Information Systems and Cyber Security. He also has a National Army ROTC Scholarship and will participate in the ROTC program. His career goals are to be a software engineer, and to be an officer and aviator in the Army National Guard.

Silas Anthony Cochran graduated from Elkins High School. He is the son of Shawn and Keri Cochran. He is the grandson of Dale and Glenda Cochran and Karen Anthony. Silas will attend the Statler College of Engineering at WVU in the fall. He participated in WVU's first year adventure trip with the honors college.



Congratulations to Ross and Sarah Ware upon the birth of their daughter, Lilah Rose Ware, (June 14, 2021), and to grandparents Jeff and Donna Trulik.

Congratulations to Tyler Kenney and Ashley VanCamp upon their marriage on June 18, 2022. Best Wishes!





Mission Team

June 12, Trinity Sunday, was an awesome, joyful day. The Community Brunch provided great fellowship, eight boxes of food staples and almost \$700 in donations. Elkins Family Worship Center did a "Bumper Blessing" by gathering personal hygiene items for the Basic Needs Ministry. Here are the totals from EFWC:

900 rolls of toilet paper
376 bars of soap
344 toothbrushes
165 tubes of toothpaste
136 deodorants
121 shampoos/bodywashes

37 paper towel rolls
3 boxes of tissues
3 laundry detergent
2 shaving creams
1 dish soap
1 baby wipes

"Our neighbors from "Lunch with Neighbors" thank the United Methodist Men and the Women in Faith (formerly United Methodist Women) for their purchase of two stove griddle tops. Chef Marshall uses them almost every day. Today we are having hamburgers and watermelon!

Do you enjoy doing laundry? Many of our neighbors must use laundry mats. It costs \$5 to wash and dry a small load and \$7.75 for a large load. We are looking for volunteers to help in a laundry ministry. We will provide dirty laundry bags and baskets for clean cloths. Many neighbors use donated clothes and then throw them away when dirty because they can't afford laundry mats. Contact me if you are interested in helping the neighbors.

Due to the church picnic on July 17 provided by the United Methodist Men, there will be no Community Brunch until August 21. Invite a friend!

Over the month, "Lunch with Neighbors" has provided 365 meals for an average of 72 meals per lunch. We also hit our new high mark - 93 meals!

Be a Blessing, Receive a Blessing!

Greg Johnson

417-489-1283

gdjohnson055@gmail.com



Our participation in the “Safe Sanctuaries” program helps ensure a safe environment for your children and youth as they grow in their faith.

Reminder: For those who wish to help with the various upcoming Children/Youth events please stop by the church office to fill out the background check form.

Also, there is an excellent 60-minutes training video provided by the WVUMC that our volunteer/ staff must complete every 5 years. This is an excellent training program and will certainly be an asset to you as you work with our children/youth in any capacity for their safety and your safety. Contact the church office for the paperwork which illustrates the step-by-step log on instructions or have it emailed.

Operation Christmas Child

100 gifted filled shoe boxes have been filled to date. We especially need the following items: crayons, Bic Stick Pens, stuffed animals, dolls, toothbrushes, soap and wash cloths.

The official kick off will be featured in both services with a Christmas in July presentation on Sunday, July 24.

Volunteers are needed year round for us to surpass our goal of reaching 1,100 children in need.

For more information contact Bob Cowgill at 304-636-6367.



UNITED METHODIST MEN



United Methodist Men and United Women in Faith are hosting a church picnic in the big pavilion in Elkins City Park on Sunday, July 17 after the 11 am service. Tickets will be available, please ask an usher on Sunday mornings or pick up a ticket for each family member in the church office. Menu: Hotdogs, hamburgers, baked beans, chips, and watermelon. Come join us!



United Women in Faith

United Women in Faith (formerly United Methodist Women) met for our regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, June 8 at 11:30 am.

We had a guest speaker, Nancy Dotson, who is the Volunteer Coordinator for WV Caring Hospice. She presented information on the services available from hospice including end of life care and respite care, which can take place in one's own home or in the Hospice residence on Diamond St. in Elkins. She also discussed all the ways people can volunteer with hospice.

A Father's Day themed devotional was given by Penny Friddle. Kathy Hitchcock read the minutes of our May meeting and Carolyn Channell shared the treasurer's report. Our group paid for one of the new griddles in the kitchen. The Methodist Men purchased the other one.

We discussed how we will honor the 2 recipients of this year's scholarship for high school graduates. Our presentation will be part of Senior Sunday on June 26.

Beverly Armentrout brought cards for members to sign which she will mail to shut-in members.

We discussed Vacation Bible School which is scheduled for August 8-11. Everyone who volunteers to help at VBS needs to complete a form for a background check as well as the 1 hour online training.

Our group will collect baby items to be taken to Davis Medical Center as a gift for the 4th of July baby.

Kathy Hitchcock is now organizing funeral dinners & asked for volunteers she can call on to work at those or can bring a salad or dessert.

Our July meeting will be on Wednesday July 13 at 11:30 am in the Family Life Center. Our regular August meeting would fall during VBS so we plan to have a potluck picnic in the park instead, scheduling that on a weekend so that members who are normally working on Wednesday can attend.

Meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

JULY BIRTHDAYS		8	Bus Conaway, II	18	Katie Kerns	24	Leslie Elmore
1	Terry Harmon	8	David Sims	18	Zach Baker	24	Jonathan Elmore
1	Jacqueline Stalnaker	8	Dorsey Shreve, III	19	Valerie Voge	25	Tim Channell
2	Ward Cox	8	Matthew Holland	19	Clark Evans	27	Wally Edgell
2	Charlie Friddle	9	Jim Ritter	19	Kelsie Westfall	27	Deborah Stout
2	Jon Mohoney	9	John Wanless Jr.	20	Jerry Anderson	27	Logan Stewart
3	Lonnie Wolfe	9	Beth King	20	Sonya Parks	28	Rebecca Hammer
3	Mark Rosencrance	10	Ken Bucher	20	Jillian Barnett	28	Janet Myles
3	Daniel Morici	10	Megan Stocks	20	Beck Kirkpatrick	28	Kayleigh White
3	Logan Spears	12	Betty Walden	21	Jeff Willaims	28	Grayson Teets
3	Elly Schumacher	13	Emma Sneed	21	Richard Holland	29	Phillips Robey
4	Kevin Widney	13	Nathaniel Doerr	21	Shannon Bennett-Campbell	31	Sue Mallow
5	Sherri Smith	14	Ryan Biller	21	Debbie Tysor	31	Chuck Preusch
5	Susie Gainer	14	Alexander Lawson	21	Christina Jackson	31	Jennifer Wanless
5	Rich Kisner Jr.	15	Dyer Barger	21	Nick Leombruno	31	Leslie Parks
6	Terry Jackson	15	Carolyn Rice	21	Peyton Teets	31	Judy Riffie
6	Michael Jackson	15	Larel Teter	21	Emily Wanless	31	Kristin Satterfield
6	Timothy Santoro	15	Isaac Chenoweth	22	Judy Kittle		
6	Ethan Channell	15	John Barger, II	22	Riley McDowell		
6	Andrew Hofmann Jr.	16	Joshua Downs	22	Brendan Barnett		
7	Joyce Hawse	16	Jodie Hart	23	Derek Bailey		
7	Katie Smith	16	Brant Hyre	23	Linda Sponaugle		
7	Hannah Gongola	16	Ann Marie Patella	23	Debby Berdine		
8	Charlene Snodgrass	17	Kathy Coers	23	Paul Oldham		
8	Jerry Trimboli	17	John Barger	23	Hayden Long		

JULY ANNIVERSARIES		12	Michael & Christine Jackson	28	Warren & Rhonda Elmer
1	Greg & Sue Lewis	14	Terry & Brenda Jackson	28	David & Katy Karpik
1	Roger & Debbie Tysor	14	Bob & Karen Wilmoth	31	Ed & Bobbi Phares
1	Tim & Marsha Channell	16	Chris & Patty Gow		
3	Mike & Kelli Dyer	17	Buddy & Mary Rowan		
3	Brian & Susan Seders	21	Garry & Cheri Shiflett		
4	Matt & Jaymie Wilfong	22	Lonnie & Sue Wolfe		
4	Wayne & Jodie Hart	22	Ryan & Kim Urban		
7	John & Bridgette Wilson	23	Dick & Carmen Casey		
8	Matt & Stephanie White	23	Lanny & Paula Doerr		
9	Todd & Ann Wilfong	24	Mark & Tabitha Richardson		
10	Charles & Julie George	25	Bob & Donna Jones		
10	Dan & Anna Chenoweth	26	George & Li Corley		
11	Steve & Loleta Yardley	26	Chris & Diana Patells		
12	Craig & Shelley Hyre	26	Anthony & Teresa Goddard		

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY
*to the families of
 Jack Calain, LaDonna Frost,
 and Jan Hagarty.*

THE UPPER ROOM
*Upper Rooms for July – August 2022
 are available. Pick up your copy
 outside the double mahogany doors
 on the rolling cart Monday – Thursday
 from 9 am – 3 pm or from the Usher’s
 podium on Sundays. Thank you!*

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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ELKINS, WEST VIRGINIA 26241-3852

The Circuit Rider

July 2022

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FIRST U.M. CHURCH

ELKINS, WV

PERMIT NO. 14

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

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blseders@gmail.com

Office Manager/Treasurer: Rhonda Elmer
rhonda@fumcelkinswv.com

Youth Minister: Natasha Zirkle

Financial Secretary: Julie Civiello

Music Director: Susan Seders

Pianist/Handbell/Choir Director: Susan Seders

Pastor Emeritus: Basil Hensley

Custodian: Donna Abbott

Nursery Supervisor: Tammy Casto

