

In lieu of altar flowers a donation has been made, given to the glory of God by the Kline Family.

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Liturgist: Russ Martin
Acolyte: Lou Jurs
Ushers: Charlie and Joanne Merical
Deacon on Call: Russ Martin

FINANCIAL UPDATES

Received Last Week: \$6,795.00
Received to Date: \$549,787.27
Expenses to Date: \$550,170.90

*These are **NOT** year end numbers

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Carol Oakley 1/3
Janet Mayse 1/3
Betty Reynolds 1/4
Gretchen Wiles 1/4
Joy Rust 1/5
Colleen Gutierrez 1/6
Monica Nicholson 1/6
Patrick Sheldon 1/7

Elon Community Church Staff

Senior Pastor

Rev. Randy Orwig

Associate Pastor

Rev. Sharon Wheeler

Office Manager

Monica F. Nicholson

Finance Director

Lori Watson

Organist

Joy Rust

Choir Director

Dr. Stephen Futrell

Bell Choirs Director

Claire Jurs

Nursery Attendant

Priscilla Cotton

Custodian

Delinda Anderson



Office Hours & Contact Information

Hours: Monday—Thursday
10:00 am—4:00 pm

Address: 271 N. Williamson Ave.
PO Box 625
Elon, NC 27244

Phone: (336)584-0391

E-mail: eloncommunitychurch@gmail.com

eloncommunitychurch.org



Rev. Randy Orwig's contact information:

Cell: (336)214-1304

E-mail: RevRandyECC@att.net

**THIS WEEK AT
ELON COMMUNITY CHURCH**

Sunday 1/1—New Year's Day
10:30 am Worship Service

Monday 1/2—Office Closed
10:30 am Women's Fellowship

Tuesday 1/3
11:00 am Tara Thompson
Funeral

Wednesday 1/4
8:00 pm AA Meeting

Friday 1/6
1:00 pm Undecorating the
Church
6:30 pm NA Meeting
6:30 pm Special Fridays

Sunday 1/8
9:30 am Children's Sunday
School
9:30 am Seekers' Class
9:30 am Senior Pastor's Bible
Study
10:30 am Worship Service
3:00 pm Genesis Chimes,
JuBELLation,
InspiRING Bells
3:45 pm Children and Youth
Vocal Choirs
4:30 pm KICK
4:30 pm Young Ringers
5:15 pm Little Lights
6:00 pm Church Night
7:00 pm Church Council

Taking Down the Advent Season Decorations

The Board of Deacons will take down the Advent Season Decorations in the Sanctuary and Atrium on Friday, January 6, 2023 at 1:00 pm. If you are able to volunteer some time, it would be appreciated. Those willing to help, please meet in the Sanctuary at 1:00 pm Friday. Thanks for any assistance you can give.

Women's Fellowship - Saying Goodbye to the Sabbath and How about a Trip to Israel?

Please plan on attending the Women's Fellowship Meeting on Monday, January 2 at 10:30 in the CLC Classroom (Zoom Room). You can come in person or on Zoom. Due to unforeseen circumstances, we were not able to wrap up our Sabbath lessons in December. So, we will be wrapping up our conversation on The Sabbath on the 2nd. Lucy Saconn will be taking us to The Holy Land via photos and engaging conversation from her trip at our February meeting (Feb. 6). Whether you've been attending Women's Fellowship for years, months, or never, please join us! Contact Bev Orwig if you have any questions.

TWO CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS CALLED THIS MONTH

**JANUARY 8—FOLLOWING WORSHIP TO APPROVE
OUR SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR 2023**

JANUARY 22—ANNUAL MEETING AND 2023 BUDGET APPROVAL

Our first meeting will be a one topic brief meeting following worship to approve all our officers, Board members, and committees for 2023. They will then meet at 6 pm in the CLC for orientation and setting off the new year of ministry work. The meeting will follow the benediction and only last about 5-10 minutes. Please plan to stay. On January 22, we will plan to hold our first full POTLUCK LUNCHEON in a long time! Plan to bring an entrée and a side or dessert as we gather to receive our Annual Report, deal with a constitutional amendment regarding the Pastoral Relations Committee, and to approve our budget. Plan to attend this very important meeting.

Committee and Board Annual Reports Are Due

Annual Reports for the 2022 Yearbook are due to the church office NOW. All boards and committees are expected to submit a report. If you are uncertain whether you should submit one, please contact the church office. Thank you for your cooperation.

Can You Help With Our Job Search?

Four months have passed since our sponsored family joined us in Burlington. It has been an active four months as we move forward with assisting them living in their new country. We are now assisting Valery in his job search as he is eager to care for and provide for his family. We would appreciate leads, contacts, referrals of possible job opportunities. You may contact Keith Wiley at (336) 270-4778. Thank you for your care and concern for OUR FAMILY.

Green Church Suggestion: Thinking about a down coat? Make sure that it was processed in a cruelty-free way. Companies like Patagonia and The North Face have traceable and responsible down standards. Always research the company's practices before you buy.



Dedicated to spiritual renewal, we strive to be an accepting, thinking, and serving community of faith.

JANUARY 1, 2023

10:30 AM

SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

We welcome all guests and members who worship with us this morning. If you are a visitor, please take time to sign the visitor portion of the insert and leave it in the offering plate at either exit. Please join us at Meet and Greet immediately after worship for light refreshments and fellowship!



And he went and lived in a city called **Nazareth**, so that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled.

—Matthew 2:23, ESV

Gathering God's People

CHIMES

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP—Please Sign In

PRELUDE

The Call

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Praise GOD!
All: Praise GOD from heaven! Praise God on the heights!
 Leader: Praise God, all you messengers! Praise God, all you heavenly forces!
All: Sun and moon, praise God! All of you bright stars, praise God!
 Leader: God set them in place always and forever. God made a law that will not be broken.
All: Let all of these praise GOD's name because only God's name is high over earth and heaven.

† HYMN 165 Love Came Down At Christmas WHITNEY

*Love came down at Christmas, Love all lovely, Love divine;
Love was born at Christmas; star and angels gave the sign.*

*Worship we the Godhead, Love incarnate, Love divine;
Worship we our Jesus, but where is God's sacred sign?*

*Love shall be our token; love be yours and love be mine;
Love to God and neighbor, love for plea and gift and sign.*

† CALL TO CONFESSION

Leader: Holy One, You sent Jesus into a world where children are at risk; where they, Holy Innocents, suffer, And their parents, like Rachel, weep for them. When we forget that The Holy Family was a poor family:
All: Lord, have mercy.
 Leader: When we forget that The Holy Family was a refugee family:
All: Christ, have mercy.
 Leader: When we forget that The Holy Family was an immigrant family:
All: Lord, have mercy.

(a moment of silent prayer)

† ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Hear the good news: Jesus, savior from sin, is present with us in the painstaking work of the Reign of God opening our hearts and our eyes, rebuilding our relationships, restoring our joy, and leading us to recognize the Holy Child in the places of greatest need.

† PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The Peace of God be with you.
All: And also with you
 Leader: Let us celebrate this great grace by offering to one another a sign of Christ's peace.

*Please let people know what you wish by waving, a fist out to bump,
or if you are open to a handshake or even a hug.*

† GLORIA GLORIA
Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Encountering the Sacred Word

SCRIPTURE LESSON Isaiah 63:7-9 Page 679 (OT)

Leaders: Through this scripture God is still speaking.
All: And we are listening!

CHILDREN'S TIME Little Children Come Unto Me SILER

**Little children come unto me, Little children come unto me.
You are made in God's image so perfectly.
Little children come unto me.**

GOSPEL READING Matthew 2:13-23 Page 2 (NT)

SERMON Time To Change Randy Orwig

THE RITUAL OF LETTING GO AND LETTING GOD

Responding to the Word

SHARING OF JOY AND CONCERNS
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Unison. "Forgive us our **trespasses...**")
*Please address God in the way that is most comfortable to you:
"Our Father," "Our Father and Mother," "Our God," etc.*

PRESENTING TO GOD OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES
The Call to Give
The Symbolic Giving of Tithes and Offerings

OFFERTORY

† THE DOXOLOGY AT THE STABLE CRANHAM
**What can I offer, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb.
If I were a wise one, I would do my part;
But what can I offer: all my heart.**

† OFFERTORY PRAYER

The Table

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Leader: May God Be with you.
All: And also with you
 Leader: Lift up your hearts.
All: We lift our hearts to God.
 Leader: Let us give thanks to God.
All: It is right to give thanks and praise.
 Leader: God of wonder and mystery, we remember in this meal how you are present with us in every age.
All: Into the gloom of fear, you bring light; into emptiness, you bring abundance; into the cold of oppression, you bring warmth.
 Leader: Into the hardness of the world, you bring the greatest power we have known, in the seemingly powerless form of an infant.
All: Enter now, Holy One, among us and within us, and move us to joyful adoration of your mystery and wonder
 Leader: This meal is open to all as we draw near to this table, we are filled once again.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

Please come forward and pick up a small cup holding the bread to partake, then choose a cup of juice to drink. There is a place to dispose of these before you return to your seat.

The servers will be masked. There will be some traveling Deacons who can bring this communion to you or you can use the pre-packaged communion pack that you picked up when you came in.

COMMUNION MUSIC 139 The First Nowell THE FIRST NOWELL

*The first Nowell. The angel did say,
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.*

Refrain: Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell, Born in a manger, Emmanuel.

*They looked above and saw a star
shining in the east, beyond them far,
And to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night. (R)*

*And by the light of that same star
three sages came from country far;
To seek for a king was their intent,
and to follow the star wherever it went. (R)*

*This star shone bright in the northwest,
o'er Bethlehem it seemed to rest,
And there it did both stop and stay,
right over the place where Jesus lay. (R)*

*Then entered in those magi three,
and bending low upon their knee,
They offered there, in great reverence,
their gold and myrrh and frankincense. (R)*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AFTER COMMUNION

Sending God's People

† HYMN We Three Kings KINGS OF ORIENT

*We three kings of Orient are, Bearing gifts we traverse afar
Field and fountain, moor and mountain, Following yonder star.*

**Refrain: O star of wonder, star of night,
Star with Royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light.**

*Born a king on Bethlehem's plain, Gold I bring to crown him again,
King forever, ceasing never Over us all to reign. (R)*

*Frankincense to offer have I, Incense owns a diety nigh;
Prayer and praising, all men raising, Worship him, God on high. (R)*

*Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume Breathes a life of gathering gloom:
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, Sealed in the stone-cold tomb. (R)*

*Glorious now behold him arise, King and God and Sacrifice;
Alleluia, alleluia! Sounds through the earth and skies. (R)*

† BENEDICTION

† POSTLUDE † *You are invited to stand as able at these moments.*