

# Valley Views



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*Pastor Mike Hill*



## The Parable of the Butterfly

by Dr. Ralph F. Wilson

As a butterfly soared overhead, one caterpillar said to the other, "You'll never get me up in one of those things."

Yet for every caterpillar the time comes when the urge to eat and grow subsides and he instinctively begins to form a chrysalis around himself. The chrysalis hardens and you'd think for all the world that the caterpillar is dead.

But one spring morning the life inside the chrysalis begins to writhe, the top cracks open, and a beautifully-formed butterfly emerges. For hours it will stand stretching and drying its wings, moving them slowly up and down, up and down. And then, before you know it, the butterfly glides aloft, effortlessly riding the currents of the air, alighting on flower after gorgeous flower, as if to show off its vivid colors to the bright blossoms. .

Somehow, the miracle of the butterfly never loses its fascination for us. Perhaps because the butterfly is a living parable of the promise of resurrection.

On Easter morning the disciples saw Jesus' grave clothes lying on the cold slab still wrapped round and round the corpse. Only the corpse was gone, much like an empty chrysalis deserted by a butterfly who has left to soar free. "He is risen as He said," an angel told the incredulous disciples. Later that day he appeared to the disciples, and then, over the course of the next few weeks, to as many as five hundred people at one time. Even "Doubting Thomas" didn't doubt for long that Jesus was really risen from the dead.

A few weeks ago I lost a friend who had become dear to me. Where she had been so full of life, now her body lay still, composed ever-so-carefully by the morticians. I looked at her and thought about my own mortality. One day I too, like her, may fight a losing battle with pain, and die.

What do we Christians say in the face of death? There are many mysteries. But two things we know for sure. First, death is an enemy. Away with the sentimentality that vainly seeks to disguise death's insult! But second, and more important, Jesus' resurrection from the grave is God's proof to us that death is not the end. The empty tomb and Jesus' Spirit within us testify that Easter morning is God's triumph over death. And ultimately, Jesus promised, God will raise from the dead us who believe in His Son.

Why do Christians gather on Easter morning? To show off their fine clothes or give a ritual tip of the hat to religion? God forbid! Rather we gather to celebrate Jesus' victory over death itself. For since He is our Lord and our Savior, His victory is our victory. In celebrating His resurrection we celebrate our own assurance of ultimate triumph over death.

Join us this Easter as we celebrate Life! And if you look closely Easter morning, you might even see a butterfly alight on the lilies.

*He is not here  
for He is  
Risen  
Just as He said.*  
Matthew 28:6





Our Parish Lenten Mission will be a food drive for Footprints of Montgomery. You may bring donations to each church during Lent or drop off at Elimsport UMC Pavilion on April 3, 2022 from 1:00-4:00. Suggestions for this drive are personal care items. Some ideas may be bath soaps, toothpastes, toothbrushes, shampoo/hair products, dish detergent, laundry supplies, razors. They also always need canned goods such as canned and creamed corn, red beets, canned potatoes, canned vegetables, canned soups, and bottled juices not needing refrigeration. Of course any donations will be accepted, but remember to make sure it is unopened and not expired. Thank you for supporting this important ministry in our area!

The PPRC Committee asks for continued prayers for Pastor Mike and his family and Pastor Dave and his family during the transition. Contact a PPRC member with any questions, PPRC Committee members are Lauren Bryson, EUMC; Christa McCormick, EUMC; Retta Moore, EUMC; Jeremy Kennedy, EUMC; Charlie Ulrich (St. John's UMC); and Gary Taylor (St. John's UMC).



The Susquehanna Conference has appointed a new pastor to serve the Elimsport Parish. Pastor David Shultz will begin service July 1st, 2022. He is an Ordained Elder, has a Bachelor of Science from Lock Haven University and Master of Divinity from the United Theological Seminary. He has served at the Liberty United Methodist Church, West Milton United Methodist Church, Chaplain for Soldiers/Sailors Hospital in Wellsboro, Pine Creek Valley, Witmers and most recently the Winterstown United Methodist Church. Messages can be sent to Pastor David Shultz at 12184 Winterstown Road, Felton PA 17322 or via email at [dshultz@susumc.org](mailto:dshultz@susumc.org).

Greetings to all of you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Jean and I are looking forward to meeting all of you, joining in worship with you, and to beginning a very special time of ministry together. This is going to be a new endeavor for all of us and I sense that God has something special in store. In our many years of ministry, we have seen people grow in their relationship to God and embrace the gift of their identity in Christ. Both of us have grown up not too far away from here and in many ways it feels as though we are coming home. We are pleased to know that we will become a part of your lives and you are part of ours. Blessings to you and we will see you in July, David & Jean Shultz

**Various means to keep updated:**

website: evpumc.org

Face book: Elimspport United Methodist Parish

Electronic sign at Elimspport church

email Pastor Mike: hjebm@comcast.net

email church: elimspportumc@gmail.com

Call Pastor Mike: 570-547-1386

Text Pastor Mike: 570-974-8590 (please identify yourself when texting)

Be pro-active in getting the word out to others in the church.

Please be sure to check the church website [evpumc.org](http://evpumc.org) and Elimspport United Methodist Parish face book for up to date church news.

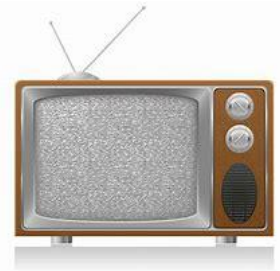


It's that time of year again. VBS 2022 will be held Sunday, July 10th

through Thursday, July 14th from 6 to 8:30 pm. Dinner provided. Kids ages preschool thru kids entering 7th grade. Friday, July 15th will be our closing program and carnival at 6pm. This year's theme is Monumental- Celebrating God's Awesomeness!! Kids will explore the vastness of God's power and the depth of his love for each of them. Let's go off road for a Monumental adventure through the colorful canyons and sun baked trails of the Southwest. Discovering epic adventures that will help kids encounter God's power and love!!! Any questions please contact Taryn Myers, Christa McCormick, or Sharon Heintzelman.

Anyone leaving items on the back pew at St. John's please label where the items are to go. (Footprints of Montgomery, Son Light House, etc)

There is a TV, VCR and TV cart available at St. John's church. A donation is appreciated.



Connect Steve Burrows if interested.



- Items for May's newsletter are due April **20th**.
- Items for the weekly bulletin's need to be to the church office by **Wednesday morning** each week. (Items received after these dates are not guaranteed to be printed.)

Acolyte Schedule:

- 4/03/22 Samuel & Garrett
- 4/10/22 Elizabeth & Mitchell
- 4/17/22 Jackson & Mallorie
- 4/24/22 Garrett & Mitchell



Maundy Thursday Service is on Thursday, April 14th at 6:00 at the Elimsport church

Good Friday Service at Elimsport on April 15th at 7:00.

Easter Sunrise to be announced.

Easter Services at each church during normal worship time.



Elimsport Administrative Council will meet Monday, April 11th at 6:30.

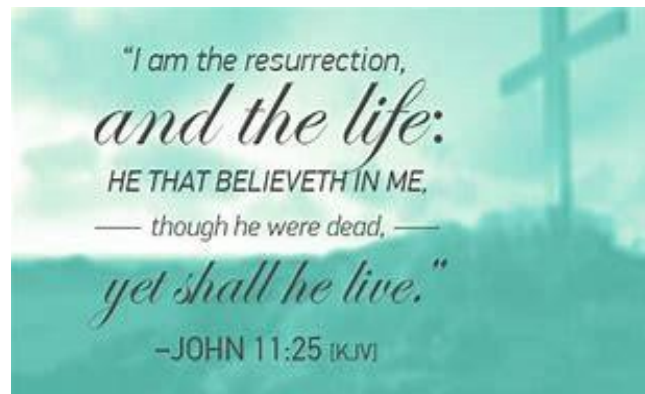


Join us Saturday, April 16th at 10 am at the ball field for an Easter Egg Hunt.

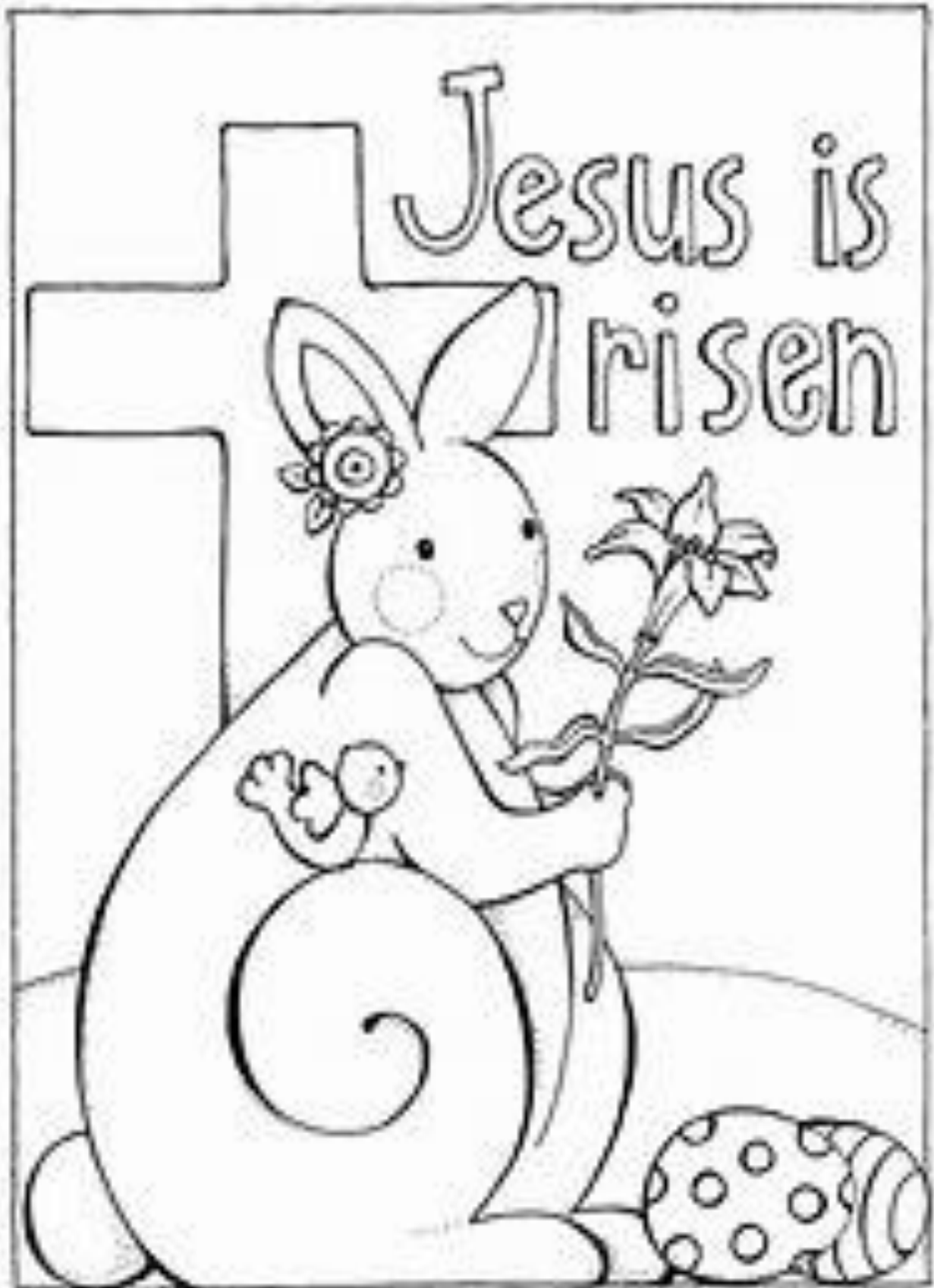
Wednesday morning breakfast at the Elimsport church is Wednesday mornings, from 7:30 am to 9:30 am.



There will be a blood drive on Tuesday, April 12th from 2-7 at the church fellowship hall.



# Kid's Corner



# **ELIMSPORT VALLEY UNITED METHODIST PARISH**

## **Worship Schedule:**

### **Elimsport UMC**

Worship 9:00 am  
Sunday School 10:30 am

### **St. John's UMC**

Sunday School 9:15 am  
Worship 10:30 am

### **Parish Youth Group**

Check weekly Bulletin for current schedule and events  
(at Elimsport)

### **Parish Bible Study**

Varies according to the season.

### **Parish Office:**

16145S. RT 44 HWY  
Allenwood, PA 17810

### **Parsonage Phone:**

(570) 547-1386

### **Pastor Mike's Cell:**

(570) 974-8590

### **Parish Website:**

[www.evpumc.org](http://www.evpumc.org)

### **Parish email:**

[elimsportumc@gmail.com](mailto:elimsportumc@gmail.com)

[www.evpumc.org](http://www.evpumc.org)



### **Our Mission Statement at Elimsport UMC**



**We gather together as a community of Christian believers to worship, fellowship, and to learn more about God. By the unity of the Spirit and the support of each other, we are able to reach out to the community and the world.**

### **Our Mission Statement at St. John's UMC**



**The purpose of St. John's is to both evangelize and nurture. We are called to show God's love in our world by giving aid and by spreading the Good News of Christ. We in turn provide an atmosphere for nurturing where Biblical truths are shared enabling people to become spiritually enriched. By providing this, people will learn and through learning, become more effective witnesses.**