

Valley Views



VOLUME 31, NUMBER 8

AUGUST 2024



Pastor Dave Shultz

Greetings,

August has arrived and another summer is nearly behind us. This also means that Vacation Bible School is in the rear-view window, the decorations are down, packed away, and all those who volunteered are resting up and maybe enjoying vacations of their own. Thank you to all who helped out, taught, donated time and money to make this year's VBS a fun and blessed time. New relationships were started with many children for whom this was their first experience with VBS. We had singing, and story time, outdoor games, crafts, snacks, and lessons where they learned how God is our friend and is with us all the time.

The theme of VBS was SCUBA: Diving into friendship with God. This is a very important lesson that is never too early to learn. Because it was an undersea adventure theme, the kids were introduced to some undersea friends. Michell Myers, and Westin Taylor dressed up in inflatable shark outfits and interacted with the kids. You can see them here resting in the sanctuary. Pastor Dave also got in on the act as Sidney the Shark and helped to close out each night.

VBS is a lot of fun because of the spiritual connections we are able to make with the children. These are connections that need to continue to be built upon at home and in church. For some this is the only place some of these children ever hear anything positive about God, that God loves them, and wants for them to be friends of God. Sometimes I think adults need VBS even more than the kids do.

While it is a lot of fun, it is also a lot of work and requires for all of us to come together to pull it off, which we did. Both of our churches did a great job joining together to accomplish this and it reminds me of a verse from Philippians 4:13 (NKJV), that says, *I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.* This effort took a lot of people who not only believe this, but who also put their belief into action.

Paul wasn't thinking about VBS when he wrote this scripture, instead he was referring to the suffering he had to endure for the sake of the Gospel. VBS does take a lot of effort, planning, commitment of time and energy, and most of all a personal devotion to the Good News of Jesus Christ, and to see it nurtured in the lives of our children. Through it, lives are impacted in ways we cannot always see or realize, but seeds are being planted, and a lot of those seeds have the faces of the people who interacted with the kids, and these will live on for a long time.



VBS is just one of our needs, and I am so thankful that Jesus just doesn't invite kids to come and have fun in his presence, he also invites us to dive into eternal friendship with Him, where we come to know Him as one who is always with us and is working for our good. I hope you believe that God is truly working for your good. That doesn't mean everything goes as you want it to or that you won't suffer or experience disappointment. But your needs are being cared for. God has not abandoned you regardless of the circumstances. You can count on that. The apostle Paul affirms this in Philippians 4:19, where he says, *and my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.*

Our biggest need is daily connection with God and through Jesus all of this is made possible. This requires us then to act like all this is true. Engage then in mission to your church and its ministries, reach out to your community, connect with your neighbors and friends. Give of the goodness of grace and love that has been made possible through the love of God made real in Jesus Christ. And through it all, know that the riches of God's glory are being poured out upon you through Christ Jesus who lives in you and delights in you.

VBS is done, but there is so much more to engage in, to learn, so many more ways to connect with each other and know the goodness and love of God made real through our love and connection with each other. Let God lead you into it as we grow as the church of Jesus Christ here in this place.

Blessings,
Pastor Dave

Various means to keep updated:

website: evpumc.org

Face book: Elimsport United

Methodist Parish

Electronic sign at Elimsport church

email Pastor Dave: dshultz@susumc.org

email church: elimsportumc@gmail.com

Call Pastor Dave: 570-547-1162

Text Pastor Dave: 570-439-0004 (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 and Elimsport United Methodist Parish face book for up to date church news.

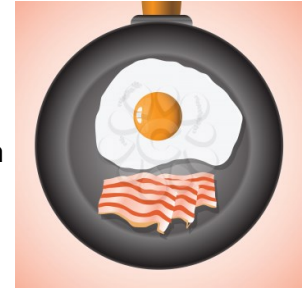
If you would like to have the monthly newsletter emailed to you, please let us know by putting your name and email address on the sheet on the table at the back of the Sanctuary.

Church News

- Items for September's newsletter are due August **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.)

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



Church Softball schedule:

Aug 6

Elimsport Baptist vs. Elimsport UMC (Elimsport)

PPRC Committee Meeting Scheduled for Monday, August 12th, at 6:30pm at the Elimsport Church. PPRC Committee members are: Lauren Bryson, Christa McCormick, Retta Moore, Jeremy Kennedy, Fred Kennedy and Donna Satteson.

Elimsport Board of Trustees Meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 5th, at 6:30pm at the Elimsport Church. Board of Trustee members are: Lauren Bryson, Bobby Buss, Frank Cleaver, Teresa Flick, Christa McCormick & Chris Ulrich.

Elimsport Ad Council meets the second Monday of the month at 6:30.



St. John's Ad Council meets the second Thursday of the month at 6:30.

Sunday, August 18th

St. John's picnic hosted at Charlie and Suzette Ulrich's. Grilled hot dogs and table service provided. Please bring picnic food and a lawn chair for relaxing after the meal.



Time: right after St. John's worship.

Family and friends are welcome

We had a wonderful Vacation Bible school again this year! A big thank you to everyone who helped decorate, undecorate, teach, donate, serve dinner and all who volunteered their time! The kids had a great time diving into their Friendship with God! They sang, enjoyed making crafts, doing experiments and listening to the word of God each night. Along with nightly visits from Sydney the Shark!! Everyone 's help was greatly appreciated!! This community outreach is a team effort and couldn't have been done without each one of you!!! Thank you all again for letting us share this amazing under sea adventure with our children!!!



God Bless,

Taryn



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) 547-1162

Pastor Dave's Cell:

(570) 439-0004

Parish Website:

www.evpumc.org

Parish email:

elimsportumc@gmail.com

www.evpumc.org

*I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of
God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy,
acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.*

Romans 12:1

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.