

# Valley Views



VOLUME 25, NUMBER 2

FEBRUARY 2018



*Pastor Mike Hill*

Persecution is nothing new to the Christian. Christians have been persecuted for thousands of years to the point of death. In an effort to silence the followers of Jesus Christ, Christians were dipped in tar, hung on poles in the streets of Rome, and burned alive. Still this was nothing new for God's people. The great prophet Isaiah, who was ridiculed by his people and persecuted by them because he didn't tell them what they wanted to hear, was stuffed inside a hollow log which was then sawed in two. David, who was actually chosen by God himself, was hunted like an animal because the king was jealous of him. And then there was Paul, who was imprisoned, whipped, driven out of town, and treated poorly by his own people because he believed in Jesus of Nazareth. Today, all over the world, Christians are being put to death or imprisoned because of their faith in Jesus.

People have been and always will be offended by Jesus Christ and the message of the cross. The Gospel seems to have two effects on humanity; it either brings joy and freedom or it stirs up anger and aggressive behavior, depending on whether one accepts the truth of the Gospel or rejects that truth. Jesus often said, "I tell you the truth." The Jews were offended by Jesus' teaching that all should repent of their sins and accept Jesus as the one true way of salvation for all people. He said to them in John **8:31-32 (NIV)** "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

These days it seems that everyone is offended by one thing or another. Everyone can't be right about everything. Just because someone doesn't agree with you is not just cause to act aggressively towards them or treat them poorly. In fact, Christianity is all about showing love despite our differences. But showing love, biblically, is telling others about salvation in Jesus Christ. Isn't that the greatest act of love we can do? The sad part is, when we share our Christian faith with others, often they are offended and we are called various names and treated poorly by them. It seems the news never gives a Christian viewpoint, Christianity is pushed out of our schools and work places, and we seldom utter the name Jesus for fear it will offend someone else or alienate us from our friends.

In Deuteronomy 30:7 God tells the people that he will put a curse on those who persecute his people. Now that's offensive to many people when in fact it should cause them to sit up and listen and re-evaluate their relationship with God. Paul told Timothy in **2 Timothy 3:12-13**

"In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil men and impostors will go from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived."

Jesus said in **Matthew 5:10-12** "Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. "Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

No, persecution is not new and will not end until Jesus himself comes to set up his kingdom. May Jesus comfort you in whatever way you are being persecuted for your faith.

Blessings always  
Pastor Mike



Community Breakfast is held Wednesday mornings from 7:00 - 9:00 am at the Elmsport Church.



Parish Bible Study is Tuesday evenings at 6:30 pm at the Elmsport church. All are invited. We will be studying how we got our Bible and its origins.

An invitation to all young people who are attending our churches, confirmation classes will be forming soon for anyone ages 13 to 18 who would like to join either church. Please inform Pastor Mike if you are interested. We would like to start these classes in February.



Any adults interested in joining either churches, please let Pastor Mike know as we will be forming membership classes in February. These will be about 4-5 evening classes for those who are attending church but are not members.



Dear St. John's United Methodist Church,

Thank you so very much for all the gifts you gave monthly to the Montgomery Food Bank during the year of 2017. All your gifts you gave were very much appreciated. Thank you for caring for the needy people of the Montgomery area. May the Lord's blessings be upon you.

Thanks Again,



Footprints of Montgomery

- Items for March's newsletter are due February **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.)*



Apple dumplings are being made February 21st. Orders must be in by February 18th.



Dear Elimsport United Methodist Church & Family,

I am writing to express my sincere thank you for the Starbucks gift card and kind Christmas card. I truly appreciate all of the support during my years in college and graduate school. I recently defended my dissertation and earned my PhD in Social Work. I continue to teach at the Community College in Reading, providing education to underserved populations. I am grateful for your kindness.

Thanks

Sincerely,

Danelle R. Bower

John 15:12-13 "My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends."

### Nominations Committee

Taryn Myers	(19)
Sandy Chamberlain	(19)
JoAnn Stainbrook	(19)
Jen Springman	(20)

## Audit Committee

Peggy Kennedy  
Carol Riddell  
Donna Taylor

### Parish Officers

PPRC

Christa McCormick (20)  
Retta Moore (20)  
Jeremy Kennedy (20)  
Lauren Bryson (19)

Parsonage Committee

Mary Moore(treas)	(20)
Anne Finck	(18)
Jeremy Kennedy	(18)
Deanna Drick	(18)

### Lay Member to Annual Conf

Kay Showers from St. John's

## Vacation Bible School

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Taryn Myers

Parish Treasurer      Marcia Rhone(SJ)

Council on Ministries Christa McCormick

**2018 OFFICER NOMINATIONS**  
**ST. JOHN'S UM CHURCH**

**CHURCH COUNCIL**

Marie Kenendy	Chairperson
Becky Burrows	Secretary
Kay Showers	Lay Leader

**CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS AT LARGE:**

Marvin Shaffer, June Engle, Bill Rhone, Bill Kennedy, Dick VanHorn, Kay Showers, Patty Shaffer, Glenn Shadle, Nancy Shadle, Charles Ulrich, Marie Kennedy, Jack Kroft, Gary Taylor, Joann Kroft, Betty Mathias, Charles Mathias

**HONORARY MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH COUNCIL**

Dorothy Tilburg, Deanie Rhone,

**FINANCE COMMITTEE:**

Dave Guyer - Chairperson  
 " " " - Church Treasurer  
 Marie Kennedy - Church Council Chair  
 Kay Showers - Lay Leader  
 Marcia Rhone - Sunday School Treasurer  
 Deb Kennedy - Financial Secretary  
 Jennifer Kennedy - Building Fund Treasurer  
 Steve Burrows - Trustee Representative

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES:**

Jeff Heintzelman	(18)
JoAnn Kroft	(18)
Donna Satteson	(18)
Brandon Ulrich	(19)
Glenn Shadle	(19)
Bill Rhone	(19)
Steve Burrows (chair)	(20)
Bud Drick	(20)
Charlie Ulrich	(20)

**TREASURERS:**

CHURCH - Dave Guyer  
 BUILDING FUND - Jennifer Kennedy  
 SUNDAY SCHOOL - Marcia Rhone  
 FINANCIAL SECRETARY - Deb Kennedy

**AUDIT COMMITTEE:**

Kelly Showers  
 Sharon Miller  
 Dave Bower

**MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY/ CHURCH HISTORIAN** - Kay Showers

**COMMUNION STEWARDS** - Bill and Marie Kennedy, Dave and Judy Bower

**NURTURE AND MEMBERSHIP CARE CHAIRPERSON:** Judy Bower

**SUNDAY SCHOOL LEADER-**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL SECRETARY** - Michele Drick

**MUSIC** - Deb Waughen  
 Joanne Deland

**HEAD USHER** - Dick Vanhorn  
 Hal Drick, assistant

**COMMITTEE ON LAY LEADERSHIP:**

Pastor Mike Hill - Chairperson  
 (20) Sharon Miller  
 (20) Dave Bower  
 (20) Suzette Ulrich  
 (19) Karen Delany  
 (19) Dave Guyer

**2018 ELIMSPORT / ST. JOHN'S**  
**PARISH OFFICERS**

**LAY MEMBER OF ANNUAL**  
**CONFERENCE** – Kay Showers

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL:**

Taryn Myers	Elimsport
Andrea Hetner	St. John's

**PARISH TREASURER** – Marcia Rhone

**PARSONAGE COMMITTEE:**

Gary Taylor	(20)
Hal Drick	(19)
Bonnie Cromley	(19)

**PASTOR / PARISH RELATIONS**

**COMMITTEE:**

Kay Showers SJ (Lay Member to Annual Conference)

Retta Moore	E	17
Christa McCormick	E	17
Hilda Sampsell	E	17
Lauren Bryson	E	19
Julie Taylor	SJ	19
Bonnie Cromley	SJ	19
Charlie Ulrich	SJ	19

**COUNCIL ON MINISTRIES CHAIRS:**

Christa McCormick (Elimsport)  
 Sharon Heintzelman (St. John's)

# 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)



**LOVE** is patient,  
is kind.  
It always protects, always trusts,  
always hopes, always perseveres.  
**LOVE NEVER FAILS**  
1 Corinthians 13:4,7-8

get more quotes at [THEAILYQUOTES.COM](http://THEAILYQUOTES.COM)

### **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.