

Valley Views



VOLUME 25, NUMBER 1

JANUARY 2018



Pastor Mike Hill

Bring in the New Year meditating on these encouraging Bible verses chosen to inspire a fresh walk with God and a deeper commitment to living the Christian faith.

New Birth - A Living Hope

Salvation in Jesus Christ represents new birth -- a transformation of who we are. The start of a new year is a great time to reflect on the new and living hope we have in this life and in the life to come:

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. (1 Peter 1:3, NIV)

Hope for the Future

We can trust God in the year ahead, for he has good plans for our future:

Jeremiah 29:11

"For I know the plans I have for you," says the LORD. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope. (NLT)

A New Creation

This passage describes a transformation that will eventually lead to the full enjoyment of eternal life in the new heavens and new earth. Christ's life, death, and resurrection introduce followers of Jesus Christ to a foretaste of the new world to come.

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. (2 Corinthians 5:17, NKJV)

A New Heart

Believers are not merely changed externally, they undergo a radical renewal of heart. This total cleansing and transformation reveal the holiness of God to an unholy world:

Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean. Your filth will be washed away, and you will no longer worship idols. And I will give you a new heart with new and right desires, and I will put a new spirit in you. I will take out your stony heart of sin and give you a new, obedient heart. And I will put my Spirit in you so you will obey my laws and do whatever I command. (Ezekiel 36:25-27, NLT)

Forget the Past - Learn From Mistakes

Christians aren't perfect. The more we grow in Christ, the more we realize how far we have to go. We can learn from our mistakes, but they are in the past and need to stay there. We look forward toward the resurrection. We keep our eyes on the prize. And by maintaining our focus on the goal, we are pulled heavenward.

Both discipline and perseverance are required to accomplish this objective.

No, dear brothers and sisters, I am still not all I should be, but I am focusing all my energies on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, I strain to reach the end of the race and receive the prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us up to heaven. (Philippians 3:13-14, NLT)

Our fathers disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, that we may share in his holiness. No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it. (Hebrews 12:10-11, NIV)

Wait on the Lord - God's Timing Is Perfect

We can be content and wait for God's timing, for it is sure to be the right time. By waiting and trusting patiently, we gain quiet strength:

Be still in the presence of the LORD, and wait patiently for him to act. Don't worry about evil people who prosper or fret about their wicked schemes. (Psalm 37:7, NLT)

Yet those who wait for the LORD will gain new strength; they will mount up with wings like eagles, they will run and not get tired, they will walk and not become weary. (Isaiah 40:31, NASB)

He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the hearts of men; yet they cannot fathom what God has done from beginning to end. (Ecclesiastes 3:11, NIV)

Each New Day Is Special

We can count on God's never-ending love and faithfulness with each new day:

The unfailing love of the LORD never ends! By his mercies we have been kept from complete destruction. Great is his faithfulness; his mercies begin afresh each day. I say to myself, "The LORD is my inheritance; therefore, I will hope in him!" (Lamentations 3:22-24, NASB)



Shepherd of the Streets**P.O. Box 2184, Williamsport, PA 17703****Phone: 570-322-6538****Fax: 570-322-1968**

God Bless Your Generosity!

Your Gift Provides Light To Those In Crisis.

Check Number: 1471

Amount Donated: \$300.00

Date of Donation: 11/16/17

Dear Elmsport UMC

Your recent donation to the Shepherd of the Streets Ministry is deeply appreciated.

Your gift of love is the spark needed for the candle to burn brighter in the hearts of those walking a difficult road.

May the Lord bless you abundantly, and shine brightly in all you say and do.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



J. Morris Smith, Th.D.

*... he who refreshes others
will himself be refreshed..
Prov 11:25*



November 29, 2017

Elmsport United Methodist Church, Congregation
16145 S. State Route 44
Allenwood, PA 17810-9421

Dear Friends:

On behalf of the young people who live at the United Methodist Home for Children, Inc., we gratefully acknowledge your recent contribution of \$300.00. Your gift means that the Home can provide more than food, clothing, counseling, and a safe environment.

As you can imagine, our young people have the same needs as children everywhere: a new pair of jeans, a warm coat, sports equipment, along with an occasional pizza party, to name a few. In addition, we help the older teens begin their journey into adulthood with all the opportunities and challenges that entails, from attending college to finding a first job. But, more than the basics, they also need love and a sense of belonging to a family.

For 100 years, the United Methodist Home for Children has cared for and about central Pennsylvania's children, many the victims of abuse and neglect. As a friend and contributor, you are part of that extended family. Your support fuels many of the Home's programs, which in turn puts and keeps this special group of young people on a forward-looking path to success in school and life.

Thanks again for your generosity.

Gratefully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan Brannen".

Dan Brannen
President & CEO

Please retain this letter for tax purposes.
No goods or services were exchanged for this contribution.

5120 Simpson Ferry Road ♦ Mechanicsburg, PA 17050-3627
Phone: 717.766.7652 ♦ Fax: 717.766.5828
www.umhcservices.org



Awarded the
Pennsylvania Association
of Nonprofit Organizations'
Standards for Excellence Seal

The United Methodist Home for Children, Inc. is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization founded in 1917. Contributions are tax deductible to the fullest extent of IRS tax laws. The official registration and financial information of the United Methodist Home for Children, Inc. may be obtained from the PA Dept. of State by calling toll-free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

American Rescue Workers *Williamsport*

**Community Outreach Ministries**

The Men's Center Program
Men's Transitional Shelter
ARW Community Church
Retail Thrift Stores
Toys for Tots Distributor
4th Largest County Recycler
United Way partner programs:
Saving Grace Shelter
Social Service Center

Pastor Sam Astin, *Executive Director*
Dawn Astin, *Business Administrator*

November 20, 2017

Elimsport United Methodist Church
5 Gap Road
Allenwood, PA 17810

Dear Friend,

Thank you so much for your recent gift of \$300.00 to the American Rescue Workers.

Through your kindness, we will be able to assist many families and individuals with basic daily needs such as, food, clothing, shelter and financial assistance. This would not be possible without your generosity.

"for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me" - Matthew 25:35-36 NKJV

To see how your donation is helping to make a difference in the lives of so many in our community, we invite you to visit our web site at <http://www.arwwilliamsport.org>.

Thank you again, and we look forward to your continued support.

Sincerely,

Sam & Dawn Astin
Pastor/Executive Directors

♦ No goods or services were provided in consideration of this contribution.



Son Light House
130 Carpenter Street
Muncy, Pa 17756

*Elmsport United Methodist Church
16145 S. Route 44 Hwy.
Allenwood, Pa 17810*

December 8, 2017

To: Members and Friends, Elmsport United Methodist Church:

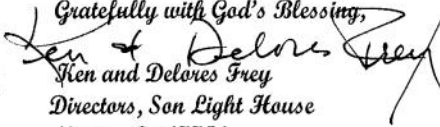
On behalf of the Recipients, Volunteers and Board of Directors at the Son Light House, Thank You for your generous donation of "Non-Perishable Food" we received on December 7, 2017. This donation will be distributed for Christmas on December 20 and 21 at the Son Light House.

"Thank You" for your support this year and a special "Thank You" to the women that have helped pack food bags every month.

The month of November, 598-Households received Food and Clothing or 1,486-Individuals, 461-Youth, 699-Adults, 326-Seniors and (16) New Households registered in November at Son Light House.

Son Light House depends on the Community and local support with both Food and Monetary donations and not to forget our Volunteers making it possible to provide this service to the many families in need during the year.

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas!

Gratefully with God's Blessing,

Ken and Delores Frey
Directors, Son Light House
Muncy, Pa 17756

There will be a Blood Drive on Wednesday, January 31st from 2 – 7 pm at the Fellowship Hall at the Elimsport Church.



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



Elimsport and St. John's Church Family,

Dear Elimsport United Methodist Church,

Thank you so very much for your gifts of \$585.00 and many boxes of food and \$20.00. Your gifts were very much appreciated. Thank you for caring for the needy people of the Montgomery area. God Bless you for helping us.

Thanks again,

Thank you so much for the wonderful college care package I received! The goodies are nice to have to snack on while I study for finals. It is such a blessing to know that so many people care. Thank you all for your prayers and continuous support.

Thanks

Ellen Hill



Footprints of Montgomery

Elimsport Volunteers

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

Greeters for January

January 7 Jeremy & Joann Kennedy & Family
 January 14 Carlene Moore
 January 21 Dave & Peg Kennedy
 January 28 Katy Moser

JANUARY

A big thank you to Emily Miller who helped us get some exercise by leading Zumba. We wish her the best as she goes back to school for nursing! We all had a great time while exercising and will really miss her! Zumba is on hold for now until we can find someone else to help with that. If you know of any certified instructor please let Christa McCormick or Sharon Heintzelman know.



Thanks to our parish for the amazing job on warming of the tree! We started out with 11 kids but we ended up with 17 because they kept calling with more families in need. Because of you 17 kids from the Montgomery School District are going to have presents to open on Christmas Day! A big thank you to Deana Drick for getting all the ornaments ready for on the trees and for all the behind the scenes work she did!!!!

Dear Elimsport Church,

Thank you for the bag of good stuff. It really helped get me through finals. Thank you for remembering me.

Kyle Becher



Thanks to all who contributed to the college care packages, the kids love to know we are thinking of them while at college. Continue to keep them in your prayers!



Thanks to all who donated to the Montgomery food pantry. A truckload was taken to help out with families in need. They were happy for all the items we donated!

Thanks also to the ones that contributed to the Montgomery Christmas committee they were happy for the gifts for the children and the monetary donations from the parish go to their food bill of around \$8,000 dollars. They make sure each family gets a Christmas meal and the kids get toys!



Council of Ministry meeting will be held at the Elimsport church on Thursday, January 18th at 6:30pm. This is a parish event and all are invited to come and help us plan for the future events of our parish. New ideas are appreciated!

Pastor Mike & St. John's UMC,

Thank you to all Grace's church family for your prayers, visits, cards and flowers during the past year. Also thank you to the Helping Hands for making the beautiful afghan for Grace. Your presence at her Memorial Service meant so much to us. Grace was an inspiration to all of us. Love and Blessings to all.

Dorothy Tilburg
Gloria & Rod

Gifts from Warming of the Tree



'Jesus is the reason for the season'
Sharing, loving, caring, helping
That's what Jesus wants us to do
Thank you for sharing, loving, helping
and caring this 2017 season
MERRY CHRISTMAS
from the Craft team at Red Bird Mission





Red Bird Notes

DECEMBER 2017

606.598.3155

WWW.RBMISSION.ORG

God Sightings

"God sightings." It's a term heard in church circles. It's used to recognize examples where God is at work in someone's life, and often is displayed in an action by one of God's followers. It's not too hard to see God sightings at Red Bird Mission and Red Bird Clinic.

At Red Bird Christian School – The most obvious God sighting comes from the student artwork posted on this page. Jade's drawing is spectacular but even more spectacular is the verse she chose, John 1:14. For Jade and her fellow students at Red Bird Christian School, they understand that God came in the flesh as Jesus to teach us how to live and sacrifice for others.

And the Word was made flesh,
and dwelt among us,
and we beheld his glory...
John 1:14

Jesus
is the gift
that's perfect!



At Red Bird Mission Community Outreach – You'll find God sightings and compassion as Elderly Ministries staff provides care as if each person served is their mother or grandfather. You can see God as Outreach staff provides needed food or clothes, but they also dig in to help individuals find a way to break

out from dependency to self-sufficiency.

You can also easily find God sightings in the Community Store, Work Camp, Craft Store, and in every ministry. Why? Because the people of Red Bird understand God loved us enough to come live in the flesh to teach us how we should love and encourage others to be God's agents of love and encouragement, too.

You are included in the God sightings of Red Bird Mission and Red Bird Clinic. Why? Because you love the people of southeastern Kentucky enough to give to these ministries and pray for continued success.

And, what is the result of all these



for those in need of dental care. He is continually advocating for the patients and searching for funds to extend care to everyone. You can also hear that same compassion overflowing in the support staff as they couple dignity with treatment.



God sightings?
We see God's
glory dwelling
among us.



Red Bird Mission

Homecoming Heroes Sighted

The superheroes theme for the current school year at Red Bird Christian School Elementary was adopted as the theme of Homecoming Heroes for the 2017 Red Bird School Alumni Association Homecoming on October 14th. Homecoming Hero sightings were made throughout the day's activities.

The day kicked off with 17 heroes from the Class of 1967 returning to the Beverly Campus for a group photo that morning before registrations. Twenty-one of the 44 that graduated that year met for a reunion dinner the Friday evening. Several continue to be very active in leadership for the mission and the school.

A consensus hero for Red Bird Christian School was honored during the first agenda item of the day with the dedication of the Dr. Olen Taylor Collins

High School Wing. Dr. Collins' son, Joshua Collins, lifted up the ways that Dr. Collins had given of himself throughout his career to advance education and the welfare of others. Special music by staff and students along with personal memories from those gathered accented the ceremony led by Mr. Marcus Collett, retired guidance counselor and principal of RBCS.

Everyone was fully alert during the inspiring, after-lunch testimony and prophetic message from two modern-day heroes, Sierra Nantz Frost, Kindergarten teacher in Knox County, KY, and Odie Carroll Asher, bi-vocational pastor of Our Father's House in Pineville, KY. Heroes recognized by the alumni association annual awards were Bischoff Award – Eugene Hundley, Alumni Award – Vernon Collett, Jr., and Teacher of the Year Award – Loraine Hicks.

Heroes present and those unable to attend answered the call to donate funds for the current school year. Gifts received and pledges made to the Homecoming Heroes financial appeal totaled \$113,310, surpassing the total given during the same period the previous year.

We're still looking for Red Bird Heroes during the school year. Even if you gave for the Homecoming Heroes campaign, we could use your monthly gift. Contact us if you'd like to set up a recurring donation from you bank account or by credit card.



Red Bird Valley Kitchen Open for Business

Our new kitchen is poised to provide 13 Grow Appalachia participants with a 'Value Added Farm or Market' certification. The kitchen will allow those certified to sell commercially at any certified Kentucky Farmer's Market or Roadside Stand such as our Queendale Campus Craft Store.

The project allows families to use the knowledge they have gained with their God given talents to provide for their families. The program will have a positive effect on the local economy since revenue created would go directly into the pockets of our participating farmers.



The Red Bird Christian School 2017 Boys Cross Country team finished fourth at the regional meet qualifying to compete at the championships. Support for our school and athletics program enables students to build character through teamwork and discipline.

Red Bird Mission • 70 Queendale
(606) 598-3155 • www.rbmis.org

Advance Project Numbers • Red Bird Clinic #773724 • Red Bird Mission #773725

Red Bird Clinic Dental Clinic Goes Mobile

It seems to be within his DNA because Red Bird Dental Clinic Director Dr. Bill Collins, DMD, has a history of going where people need dental care rather than wait until they can find his clinic. In 2007, he began doing what he refers to as "RAM Clinics" to isolated areas in Tennessee with Remote Area Medical, a nonprofit formed by Stan Brock, co-star of Mutual of Omaha's Wild Kingdom.

Dr. Bill came to Red Bird Dental Clinic because he knew people living in remote areas served by Red Bird needed access to dental care. While many with serious problems will come to the clinic, Dr. Bill had a vision to take dental care to locations such as senior centers, nursing homes, community centers, and schools.

Dr. Bill said, "The mobile dental clinics provide access to care. We need to get out to the people when the people can't get to us."

Avēsis, a managed care organization, granted funds to purchase mobile dental equipment that can be transported in a mini-van and perform most dental procedures in any space. The idea of a nonprofit doing remote dental clinics was new for state licensing officials, but Dr. Bill persisted to get the necessary license to visit these sites.

An area of special focus for the mobile clinics will be nursing homes and adult day care centers in the region around Red Bird Clinic. Dr. Bill explained that Kentucky does a good job of covering children but dentists don't go to nursing homes because there is



little or no dental coverage for low-income adults.

In order to cover the costs associated for dental procedures necessary Dr. Bill and others have been seeking grants but those funds are falling far short of the general need of uncovered patients and will be expended by the end of the year with no hope for grant renewal until July. Donations are greatly needed now, and a donation during the holiday season would be a gift that literally would help put a smile on a patient's face.

Alternative Gift Suggestions

A gift given in honor of someone can be for general support of Red Bird Mission Red Bird Clinic, but below are some suggestions that might bring a little more significance for you or the honoree. Include the address of the honoree, and we'll send them one of our student Christmas cards, or we'll send it to you for a more personal exchange.

Red Bird Mission

- \$30 – Cover Gap Food Pantry food costs for one family visit
- \$35 – Educate a child for one day at Red Bird Christian School
- \$85 - Partners with a family to cover ECD tuition
- \$90 – Provide meals for an elderly person for one month at DeWall Senior Center/Meals On Wheels

Red Bird Clinic

- \$50 – Partner with a patient to pay uncovered costs for one visit at Red Bird Dental Clinic
- \$70 – Cover costs for five people served by Red Bird Clinic Community Health Nurse

Red Bird Crafts for Christmas

A gift from Red Bird Mission Crafts is not only a high-quality handmade item made in the Appalachian Mountains of Kentucky, but it provides needed income to our crafters and helps our overall economy. Shop online - www.crafts.rbmission.org.

le Center • Beverly, KY 40913

ion.org • rbm@rbmission.org

Bird Mission #773726 • Red Bird Mission School #773728



70 Queendale Center
Beverly, KY 40913-9607

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LONDON, KY
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701

Elmsport Valley Umc Youth Fund 1
433 Gap Rd 2
Allenwood PA 17810-9331

RBCS Anna Meredith Brock Gives Back

Meredith has lived in the Red Bird community her entire life. She attended Red Bird Christian School PreK-12th grade, graduated in 2012, and began serving as an AmeriCorps member at Red Bird Mission Community Outreach in 2015.

After 2 ½ years of AmeriCorps service she was hired as the Community Aid Ministry Coordinator. In

position, Meredith is responsible for the distribution of emer-

services, managing the front office, providing case

management, and grant monitoring and research, along with several other programs.

Her focus while providing these services is advocating for her clients, particularly women, and promoting the resilience that is present within our community. She is currently assisting with the Call to Prayer and Self Denial Women at Work in Appalachia Grant, the Global Health Ministries Rural Food Security Grant, and the NIFA CFP

Commercial Kitchen Grant.



"I Will Be Back"

Nancy Gothard's journey to Red Bird Mission began decades ago in Wisconsin. While still raising a family, they attended a week long mission trip to the Red Bird Mission-Beverly Campus. She felt the call from God to return to Red Bird Mission after that first week. Nancy promised then she would be back. She continued to serve God in various roles at her local church and in the community.

Eventually, her husband's health declined, and while she was caring for him, he let her know towards the end that he expected her to attend the upcoming mission trip regardless of his health. Nancy's husband passed days later and Nancy did make that trip. She then found herself living in Alabama with quite a bit of free time on her hands. She

became a full time volunteer for UMCOR in Pensacola. Three years of service later UMCOR releases her from her contract.

Nancy then is given a mission team leader role through her church. At the direction of the church minister Nancy leads a team to Red Bird Mission in 2005. Currently Nancy calls Red Bird Mission Volunteer Quarters her home, spending more time here than her permanent address in South Carolina.

Nancy did make it back all in God's timing. She is a full time volunteer working with our rewards programs for Campbell's Soup Labels and General Mills Box Tops.



Ways to Support

Secure online donations - www.rbmission.org
Donations by phone - 888-726-3459 (toll free)
Donations by bank transfer - 888-726-3459 (toll free)
Copy paper & USB drives for school

Furniture & household items
Amazon Smile - Support Red Bird Mission or Red Bird Clinic
Tyson A+ labels, Boxtops for Education
Sponsor an Appalachian Craft Fair in your church

For a more complete listing of needs, click "Support" on our home page

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

Parish email:

elimsportumc@gmail.com

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.