

# Valley Views



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Pastor Mike Hill

## Independence Day Prayer

Dear Lord,

There is no greater feeling of liberty than to experience freedom from sin and death that you provided for me through Jesus Christ. Today my heart and my soul are free to praise you. For this, I am very thankful.

On this Independence Day, I am reminded of all those who have sacrificed for my freedom, following the example of your Son, Jesus Christ.

Let me not take my freedom, both physical and spiritual, for granted. May I always remember that a very high price was paid for my freedom. My freedom cost others their very lives.

Lord, today, bless those who have served and continue to give their lives for my freedom. With favor and bounty, meet their needs and watch over their families.

Dear Father, I am so thankful for this nation. For all the sacrifices others have made to build and defend this country, I am grateful. Thank you for the opportunities and freedoms we have in the United States of America. Help me never to take these blessings for granted.

Help me to live my life in a way that glorifies you, Lord. Give me the strength to be a blessing in someone's life today, and grant me the opportunity to lead others into the freedom that can be found in knowing Jesus Christ.

In your name I pray.

Amen



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## The Ant and the Contact Lens: A True Story

Brenda was almost halfway to the top of the tremendous granite cliff. She was standing on a ledge where she was taking a breather during this, her first rock climb. As she rested there, the safety rope snapped against her eye and knocked out her contact lens.

"Great", she thought. "Here I am on a rock ledge, hundreds of feet from the bottom and hundreds of feet to the top of this cliff, and now my sight is blurry." She looked and looked, hoping that somehow it had landed on the ledge. But it just wasn't there.

She felt the panic rising in her, so she began praying. She prayed for calm, and she prayed that she may find her contact lens. When she got to the top, a friend examined her eye and her clothing for the lens, but it was not to be found. Although she was calm now that she was at the top, she was saddened because she could not clearly see across the range of mountains. She thought of the bible verse "The eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth."

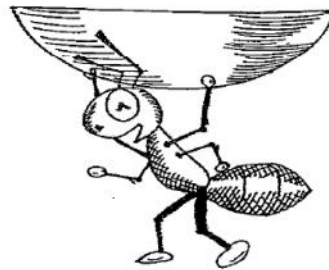
She thought, "Lord, You can see all these mountains. You know every stone and leaf, and You know exactly where my contact lens is. Please help me."

Later, when they had hiked down the trail to the bottom of the cliff they met another party of climbers just starting up the face of

the cliff. One of them shouted out, "Hey, you guys! Anybody lose a contact lens?"

Well, that would be startling enough, but you know why the climber saw it? An ant was moving slowly across a twig on the face of the rock, carrying it!

The story doesn't end there. Brenda's father is a cartoonist. When she told him the incredible story of the ant, the prayer, and the contact lens, he drew a cartoon



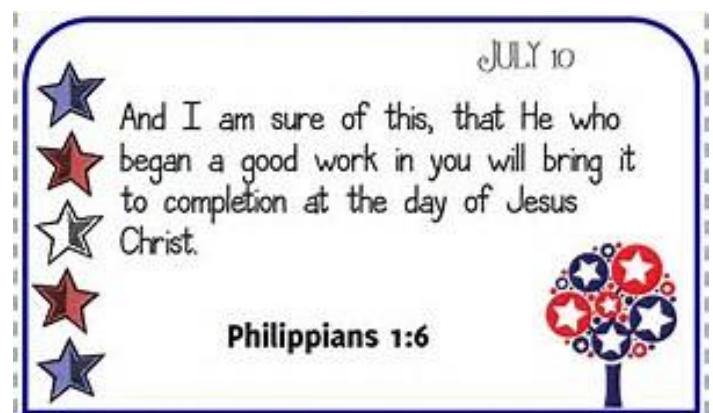
of an ant lugging that contact lens with the caption, "Lord, I don't

know why You want me to carry this thing. I can't eat it, and it's awfully heavy. But if this is what You want me to do, I'll carry it for You."

I think it would do all of us some good to say, "God, I don't know why You want me to carry this load. I can see no good in it and it's awfully heavy. But, if You want me to carry it, I will." God doesn't call the qualified, He qualifies the called.

Yes, I do love GOD. He is my source of existence and my Savior. He keeps me functioning each and every day. Without Him, I am nothing, but with Him...I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me.







Hear Ye, Hear Ye, calling all Knights, Kings, and Queens! Mark your calendars for Sunday, July 9 thru Thursday, July 13th. From 6:00pm to 8:30pm. Carnival and Closing Program Friday, July 14th at 6:00pm! Please note the new time! Yes, this years VBS is in the evening. Come and join us in this fun Medieval Adventure. While we no longer wear suits of armor, live in high towers, or walk across drawbridges - they still represent what we still need - safety. God is our King, refuge, high tower and shield! Our plan is to study the life of David. David knew that God was his refuge, strength, shield, and fortress. Let's discover the drawbridge to Our King!! Transportation will be provided by our very own Queen, Miss Kay. Anyone interested may contact Miss Kay Showers, Pastor Mike or our Leaders. Anyone interested in helping please contact our very own Knight - Pastor Mike or our Queens Taryn Myers and Andrea Hetner!

There will be a combined church service on July 9th at 9am at the pavilion at Elimsport church.



Please bring lawn chairs and finger foods for the fellowship time after the service. Our service will be led by some of the youth of our parish. Please come and enjoy the music and fellowship. There will be no Sunday School this day.



Hear Ye, Hear Ye, Calling all Knights and Sailors! The

Red Liburnian [bus] will be crossing the moat to VBS. If wanting to ride along call Kay 570-538-1855



## Elimsport Volunteers

### Greeters for July

July 2	Anderson Family
July 9	Stu Seitzer
July 16	Bobby Buss
July 23	Deanna Drick
July 30	Harry & Carol Riddell



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



# 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.