

Valley Views



VOLUME 33, NUMBER 1

JANUARY 2026



Pastor Dave Shultz

The new year is finally here and so is the time to think about putting away the trappings of Christmas. One thing I hope we don't pack up is the message of Christmas. We talked and sang a lot about the promise of Emmanuel, God with us. If you are convinced that is just a Christmas thing, then by all means, pack it up until next year. But if you are willing, spend a little time thinking about what it might mean for you to really know that God is always with you, in all situations.

One thing it doesn't mean is that you will be really lucky and that everything is always going to go your way. It does mean that you can depend upon the faithfulness of God, upon God's loving kindness, his patience, gentleness, goodness, and generosity. Especially if you are willing to wait upon the Lord and to be one who strives after his kingdom.

Something though I think is very important for us to understand is that it is not all about us and a feel-good attitude. Neither is it about doing stuff to get heaven. Rather it is about what God desires most for us and that is connecting with him, coming to know him, to let him love you, and to let him love others through you. This is the whole point of the incarnation, God becoming flesh and blood, like us in Jesus. We talked about that at Christmas too.

Since God did all this in and through Jesus, it means that God is totally committed to us and has given his all for us and still is. What this means for the church is that we now are the ones through whom God makes all of this real. We are the ones that join with God now present among us and we are to be paying attention and looking for ways to care for others among us, stranger and friend alike. This is the only way we will truly know God with us.

I want to share with you a portion of a devotional from the Henri Nouwen Society for December 24th. It was taken from Henri's book *Sabbatical Journey*.

I think that we have hardly thought through the immense implications of the mystery of the incarnation. Where is God? God is where we are weak, vulnerable, small, and dependent. God is where the poor are, the hungry, the handicapped, the mentally ill, the elderly, the powerless. How can we come to know God when our focus is elsewhere, on success, influence, and power? I increasingly believe that our faithfulness will depend on our willingness to go where there is brokenness, loneliness, and human need. If the church has a future it is a future with the poor in whatever form.

- Taken from the devotional for December 24, , 2025 by The Henri Nouwen Society

God desires for all of us to know him, for in knowing him is eternal life. We are told this in Jesus' prayer to his Father in the garden of Gethsemane. In John 17:3 Jesus says, *Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.* So, we are invited to enter into that life now and come to know God who is walking among us, caring for his people. We don't come to personally know by cramming our heads full of Bible knowledge, but rather through getting dirty in the stuff of the lives one another. There we get covered with the love of God in action, the God who is always with us.



There is job opening as a part-time Administrative Assistant for the District Superintendent in Williamsport. This position supports the ministries of the District Superintendent (DS), the Ministry Assistant, and the pastors and churches of their district in order to fulfill the vision of the Susquehanna Conference. It is a 30-hour-per week job. See pastor Dave for a job description.

Thank you for all who participated in our Hanging of the Greens services. It was a beautiful service as we celebrated the coming of Jesus Christ. May the joy of Christmas be felt as we continue the advent season in the reassurance of Christ's birth on Christmas day.

Jean Shultz

Thank you for all the food, small gifts and money donations given toward the Holiday Gift Boxes for our shut-in folks. We gave 10 boxes and poinsettias this year. The recipients were appreciative of our remembrance and kindness.

Jean Shultz

I would like to thank the church family for my finals package, I appreciate it very much and has come in handy with studying. Thank you very much.

Love, Cecelia Beckley

Thank you everyone that donated for my college care package! I appreciate it very much, and will come in handy during finals!

Thanks again, Jackson Springman

Thank you guys for the bag full of snacks and treats. I really appreciate it and I am thankful you guys were thinking of me.

Thanks again, Lucas Pearson

Thank you very much for the goodie bag! It was very generous and kind of you all. It will definitely help me through finals week!

Allyia Kennedy

Thank you for the snack bag for finals week! I appreciate you thinking of me during the stressful week of finals. The snacks were great and I'm so thankful!! Thank you all again!

Chloe Kennedy



Thanks to all who supported the Giving Tree in our churches! Because you cared about families in our school district many children will experience the special feeling of celebrating on Christmas morning. May the Spirit of Christmas stay with all of us this Christmas and in the days of the coming year.

Pastor Dave and Jean express their thanks and appreciation to all of you for your gifts this Christmas. May you continue to have a blessed Christmas season and new year.



St. John's,
Thank you so very much for your generous Christmas gift. It is very much appreciated. Happy New Year!

Jackie Klopp

Elimsport UMC,

Thank you so much for thinking of me at Christmas! Your generosity is very much appreciated! Happy New Year!

Jackie Klopp



St John's,

Thank you so much for the bag of goodies. It really helped get me through finals week.

Brianna Winter

Thank you for the college pack age. I love the snacks and also the penguin. Thanks for thinking of me.

Addi Muhl

Thank you all so much for the generous college care package! I appreciate your generosity and am grateful for a church family that supports me as I further my education. I am truly blessed, thank you again!

Sincerely, Mallorie Myers



**American
Red Cross**

American Red Cross
431 18th Street NW
Washington, DC 20006
redcross.org/care

November 18, 2025

¹⁸
ELLMSPORT UNITED METHODIST
5 GAP RD
ALLENWOOD PA 17810-9422
[Barcode]

Dear Red Cross Supporter,

On behalf of the American Red Cross, thank you for your generous gift of \$400.00 on November 12, 2025, which will be applied to Where It Is Needed Most. Support from companies like yours is truly making an impact in the lives of those we serve every day.

During their darkest hours, people know they can turn to the Red Cross for comfort and care. Our humanitarian mission of preventing and alleviating human suffering in the face of emergencies depends on the compassion of our generous donors.

Red Cross Supporter, I am deeply grateful for your commitment to the lifesaving work of the Red Cross. Thank you once again for standing with us to help turn heartbreak into hope. If you have questions about your donation, including how it was applied, please visit redcross.org or call 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

Sincerely,

Cliff Holtz
President and CEO, American Red Cross

To learn more about our privacy policy and how your data is used, please visit us at www.redcross.org/privacy-policy.

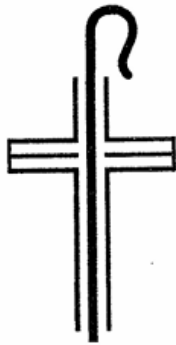
Please keep this page for tax purposes

As required by IRS regulations, we provide the following information: The American Red Cross is a 501(c)(3) not for profit organization. Our federal tax identification number is 53-0196605. As no goods or services have been provided in connection with this gift, the full amount is deductible to the fullest extent provided by law.

Donation Total: \$400.00

Donation Date: November 12, 2025

Will be applied to: Where It Is Needed Most



Shepherd of the Streets

A Ministry of the United Churches of Lycoming County

P. O. Box 2184, Williamsport, PA 17703

Telephone: (570) 322-6538

Mark D. Brumbach, Shepherd.
shepherd@uclc.org

Yvonne Shenuski, Administrator
shepherd-office@uclc.org

Thank You!

Your generosity is appreciated, and it is making a difference in people's lives.

Check Number: 1676
Amount Donated: \$400-
Date of Donation: 11-6-25

Dear *Elmsport UMC*

I give sincere thanks to God for laying upon your heart the ministry of the Shepherd of the Streets. We continue to serve our clients at their point of need through your generous support. Today people in need in our Lycoming County community are receiving their medications and traveling to their medical appointments because of your gifts to the Shepherd ministry. Also, today some of our clients are able to see clearly through the glasses that we have helped them to purchase. Finally we have been able to provide many of our neighbors in need with the gift of various hygiene items, which help to promote their general health and personal care.

I pray that God will abundantly bless you as you continue to serve Him through your generous giving.

In Christian Love,

Pastor Mark

Rev. Mark D. Brumbach
Shepherd of the Streets

*Helping others
is like helping Jesus.
Be a sheep!!
Matt 25:34-40*

Jesus said, "Give, and it will be given to you.

A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over,
will be poured into your lap.

For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."

Luke 6:38

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 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.)

Wednesday morning breakfast at the Elimsport church is Wednesday mornings, from **7:30 am to 9:00 am. Please note time change.**



A Facebook page for our churches has been set up. It is called Elimsport Valley Parish. Use it for announcements and news of upcoming events and other information to edify our life together.

The next blood drive will be on Tuesday, **January 27th** from 1-6 at the Elimsport fellowship hall.



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.

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

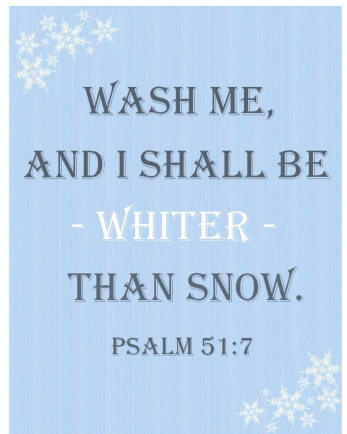
Parish Website:

www.evpumc.org

Parish email:

elimsportumc@gmail.com

www.evpumc.org



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.