

Valley Views



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JUNE 2025



Pastor Dave Shultz

Greetings,

I want to share with you something that arrived in my inbox the other day. It is the latest issue of the monthly publication *Wisbits* by my friend Jan Johnson. I really enjoyed this issue, and it makes so much sense that I felt the need to share it with you. I also invite you to visit her website, JanJohnson.org where you will find all of her monthly issues, plus recordings, teachings, meditation exercises, books, studies and more. Some that she lists at the end of this issue are free.

Jan writes: I once heard Tony Campolo say: "when you ask parents today about their grown children, they say, 'I don't care what he does; I just want her to be happy.' That's different from my parents (and other parents) said when I was growing up, 'I don't care what Tony does; I just want him to be good.'"

I've thought about this over the years and it's startling. My own experience is that trying to be happy doesn't work anyway. It works better to love God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength and to love others and treat them as we want to be treated. This creates a *goodness* which is relaxed and even attractive, who wants the best for others no matter who they are. These people are so easy to be around. Then happiness is likely to sneak up on you when you're not looking.

Dallas Willard said, "One of the standard things I tell my ethics classes is this: *Try to find something to do in life bigger than being happy.* Some years ago I had a breathless student come up to me and say, 'You mean I really don't have to be happy?' No, you don't have to be happy. And above all, you don't have to manage it so that you become happy." It actually takes a great burden off us to stop trying to be happy. We don't have to buy more things; we don't have to look more attractive; we don't have to wonder what people think of us.

I recently reread that quote and now it's burning within me again: Try to find something to do in life bigger than being happy. While I take care of medical issues and the home God has provided me, I want to do something bigger. I've always been prone to boredom and what has saved me has been asking myself (OK,

actually God), What would it look like to love You for the next 10 minutes? What would it look like to love the person next to me (or whomever comes to mind) for the next 10 minutes?" What follows within a few minutes is an idea of someone to text, to call, to invite to go with me somewhere. *Something bigger than myself!* My boredom evaporates and good ideas start flowing.

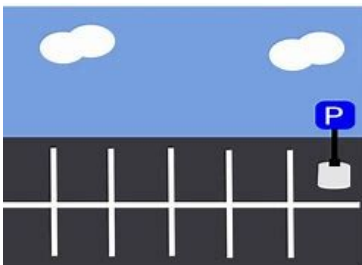
She closes by adding, by the way, if you haven't downloaded my free audio meditation of Psalm 23, Psalm 16 or Psalm 27, you're welcome to do so. It's impossible to soak in these and not be content.

I really like the wisdom in this post, and I hope you found some valuable insight in it as well. Feel free to share this with another and better yet, share with the the web-site. It will give you lots to talk about.

Blessings,
Pastor Dave



Hooray!! Vacation Bible School!!! It's that time of year again! Our theme this year is called True North- trusting Jesus in a wild world. Let's take our kids on the ultimate Alaskan adventure where the Northern Lights shine over mountains, rivers and glaciers. Guiding them toward Jesus, True North will teach us that Jesus is a faithful friend we can always trust. Jesus is our True North! **VBS will be Sunday, June 22nd through Thursday, June 26th from 6-8:30pm. Dinner will also be provided at 5:30pm. Friday, June 27th will be our closing program and carnival at 6pm.** Ages preschool through entering 7th grade. Anyone interested in helping or if you have any questions please contact, Christa McCormick, Sharon Heintzelman or Taryn Myers. We are looking forward to spreading Jesus's love throughout our community!!



The parking lots at St. John's will be sealed in the next few weeks and will be roped off following the resealing. Parking lots will be available for Sunday service.

Congratulations to Jackson Springman for graduating from Montgomery Area High School.



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 July's newsletter are due June **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.

Donations are needed for VBS. There is a sign up sheet at each church. Thank you for your generosity.



There will be a blood drive on **Tuesday, June 3rd from 2-7** at the Elimsport fellowship hall.

Our combined service will be on Sunday, June 15th at 9am in the Elimsport UMC Pavilion. Bring your own chair. Breakfast refreshments will be available. All are welcome to come for a time of fellowship and worship.



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.