

Valley Views



VOLUME 30, NUMBER 9

SEPTEMBER 2023



Pastor Dave Shultz

Are there any verses of scripture that have, for whatever reason stuck with you over the years? Scriptures perhaps like:

John 3:16 – For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

or

Matthew 11:28–30 – “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

or

John 1:1-5 – In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

or

John 1:14 – The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

I have many others, as I'm sure you do as well. They are just too numerous to list here. I share these because scripture can shape us, if we allow it. It speaks God's word into our lives and if we value that, it will work in us and remake us.

I say all this because we live in a very polarizing time, and we need God's word more than ever. As the church of Jesus Christ, are called to be a people who are one in Christ and yet we continue to allow ourselves to be divided over artificial lines such as Republican, Democrat, Independent, Traditional, Progressive and the list goes on.

There is another verse that I learned a long time ago that I think our world would do well to learn and take to heart. It is Micah 6:8 –

He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

Whenever I see that verse, it always sticks with me for a long time, calling to me to follow its words, and yet, its wisdom is not valued very highly today it would seem, both inside the church and without. Humility certainly is in short supply in our world and those who should be modeling it (the church) do not seem to be very adept at living it out in their day to day lives.

What is humility and why should we value it? Humility is not thinking more highly of yourself than you should, and especially it is not behaving as if you were God, and that you or your opinion is better than anyone else's. Humility keeps us from filling a situation with ourselves, our egos, our wants, our demands, and makes room for God to enter in through us. Of course, you have to truly value God for humility to mean anything to you.

Humility believes there is a greater power and authority at work and that we need, we must make room for it to be realized and lived out through us. God does not barge into our lives. God only goes where invited, and I think you can agree with me that God is desperately needed in our world today. How might this come about? It can only really happen through the church humbling itself and praying God's grace and presence into whatever situation that concerns us. Maybe it is the struggle in the United Methodist Church, maybe it is American politics, or maybe it is something much closer to home, something in your day-to-day life.

Humility opens the door for peace, joy, gratitude, love, patience, and gentleness to reign in us. I imagine this is something you want. So then, how might you act more justly, demonstrate a love for mercy and learn to walk humbly with your God? Invite God into whatever concerns you and make room for God to redeem not only others, not only a situation, but to redeem you and your way of seeing things as well.

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.

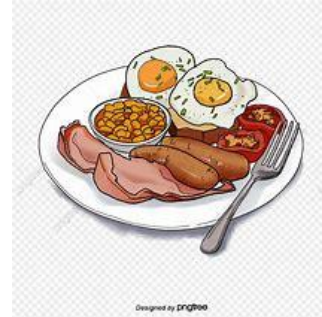
If you would like to have the monthly newsletter emailed to you, please let us know by putting your name and email address on the sheet on the table at the back of the Sanctuary.

Church News

- Items for October's newsletter are due September **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.



There will be a blood drive on Tuesday, September 26 from 2-7 in the fellowship hall.



St. John's is in need of an outside custodian. Please contact Steve Burrows at 570-337-8520 for details.

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.