



*Drawing on our heritage, centered in Jesus Christ, looking to the future;  
Davis Memorial Presbyterian Church reaches out with the Gospel to our community and the world.*

July 2016

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THE WEEK AT DMPC



Sunday: Coffee in White Chapel at 9:30am  
 Christian education for all ages at 9:45am  
 Bibles, Bagels & Bites @ Bagels & Bites at 9:45am  
 Worship Service at 11:00 am and  
 Live broadcast on WDNE, 1240am

Pastor's Letter:

There is a passage in 1 Kings worth sharing in the midst of these troubled days. In this fabled story found in the 17<sup>th</sup> chapter, God tells Elijah to go stay with the widow in Zarephath (It is worth noting that the woman is never named – perhaps as a symbolic portrayal of the woman's status in society. She was a non-citizen with no societal status in ancient Israel). Elijah willingly obeys God, yet the modern reader can't help but wonder what Elijah thought as he imposed himself upon this poor family for lodging and sustenance. Eventually the poor widow's son becomes deathly ill, and we observe Elijah crying out to God - "O Lord my God, have you brought calamity even upon the widow with whom I am staying, by killing her son?". For me, I imagine Elijah being overcome by the tragedy before him, crying out in anger, frustration, or just a sense of overall helplessness of the dire situation of which he is faced.

Elijah's crying out is formulated in question – a tough question to which there are no easy answers. This story in 1 Kings reminds me of the difficult questions and sense of frustration that we have about what took place in Orlando (and in Kenya) in mid-June. Like Elijah, we too wrestle with hard questions in the midst of tragic situations. And for me, I have been wrestling with how - as people of God - are we to respond to yet ANOTHER incident of mass shooting. It seems to me that the repetitive script our country has turned to in response to these evil acts has become rather predictable and mundane. The public process goes something like this: We 1) are shocked (yet again), 2) offer our thoughts and prayers, and 3) revert to the regular political dualism that has essentially divided our country, and 4) do nothing as a society to imagine or create a more just, verdant and peaceful world.

I admit, somewhat reluctantly and embarrassingly, that I feel that I am becoming desensitized to the news and to the national

script. Like Elijah, I want to cry out to God, “have you brought YET ANOTHER calamity upon our nation!”, and then wait for the next incident of gun violence to show up in my news feed. It feels much easier to go about my daily chores as pastor and family-man while putting my head in the sand as a national epidemic of gun violence grows around us. After all, us Elkinites tend to be grateful as we repeat the phrase, “Nothing like that would happen in our small mountain town”.

But as a follower of Christ, I am sure that Emmanuel would not have me (or us) ignore or become callous to the tragedies around us. As Christ cries out for more innocent lives lost in the human predicament, we can be assured that Christ calls us to respond to such incidences of evil. If Christ died to save us from our sins, has Christ not died to save us from such senseless violence? And if Christ has died and has risen for this, ought we not embody a mindset that gets caught up in the fire of God’s Spirit who is already at work bringing reconciliation to a world that is groaning in labor pains waiting to be redeemed? Here are a few ways we can counter the useless national “script” that perpetuates a culture of sin and violence:

Be mindful of the treachery of sin that surrounds us in hatred and violence. Be mindful that sin begins in the human heart, and be mindful of the shadows of sin that lurk so closely in our own hearts.

Let’s not just say “I’m praying”. Let us actually pray and render our being to the only One who can save us from our bondage to sin, and invite others to turn towards our loving God who longs for the reconciliation of humanity.

Don’t get caught up in the divisive politics of our time. Let us build relationships with and among people who have opposing political views in comparison to ours. Maybe then we will begin appreciating the common humanity of us all.

Do something to make the world a better place. Pray. Learn our Christian scriptures. Give of your time, talent and/or treasure to teach our children about the way God desires for us to live in this. Build relationships with those who are different than ourselves. Love! And remember what love looks like in Paul’s chapter in 1 Corinthians 13.

Remember, in the midst of Elijah’s frustration toward God, he remained obedient to God in the midst of his cries and prayers. And God was faithful to Elijah (and the widow and her son). Nearing the breaking point of life’s circumstances, God offered the physical and spiritual necessities for this seemingly unusual family unit to carry on and do God’s will. In the midst of Elijah’s cries, God resurrected the widow’s child from death. My cry for God today is for the resurrection of our culture that seems to be dying (literally) in the midst of the sins of hatred and violence. May God use this senseless act of evil terror and hate in Orlando and Kenya for a moment of sinful conviction in our own hearts, and let us be faithful to God and God’s mission of redemption and reconciliation in our world.

Pastor Kevin

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## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN...

The Presbyterian Women enjoyed an evening listening to the Mountain Winds woodwind trio at their Mother/Daughter Birthday Celebration on May 19.

Morris Kittle, Judy Wolfersheim and Rick Evans delighted the ladies with music that was popular during the Civil War era.



Our PW are at it again!

Holly Reilly, chairman of the Mission committee, delivered over 20 fabric bags filled with personal care items to the Women's Aid in Crisis center of Elkins. Donations of make-up, toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, lotions, razors, soaps, combs, brushes, towels, and washcloths filled the tables ready to be packed into colorful fabric bags for the residents of WAIC. The DMPC PW appreciate the support of all our church family for helping with this project. Thanks to Diana Kerr and Sue Chenoweth for sewing the bags and to Sue Pifer for her donation of the fabric.

## SAVE THE DATE! CLEAN THE KITCHEN DAY!...

**July 7, 2016**

All ladies willing and able are invited to meet on Thursday, July 7, at 9:00am to make our church kitchen shine! See you then! (There will be no PW Coordinating meeting that morning)

## FLOWERS IN FRONT OF CHURCH...

I try to have annual flowers planted in front of the Church sign around Memorial Day. I sent a call out for volunteers and 5 angels came and helped plant almost 200 little red and white begonias in an hour. Thanks to Julia Cassells, Monica Varchetto, Mary Moden, Betty Legg and Donna Isner! It was wonderful to have this help. I know we will enjoy the color all summer. Now the work is to keep them watered with the really hot days we have been having.

Judy Guye



## Who's in My Pew? Elizabeth (Beth) Guye Kittle

Elizabeth Guye Kittle, better known as “Beth,” has been a member of DMPC for over 70 years. She has a son, Morris Guye Kittle, and a daughter, Tanya (Shelton) Easton. Her three grandsons are: Nathan Shelton, Adam Clay Kittle, and Aaron Paul Kittle.

Beth earned a B.A. in English at Davis & Elkins College. She subsequently earned her M.A. in Guidance and Counseling from WVU. She is retired from a distinguished career at D&E where she was President Gordon Hermanson’s executive secretary until he retired in 1982. She then moved to the Development Office where she was the Director of Special Projects. She supervised the raising of funds for the S. Benton Talbott and Thomas R. Ross Chairs. In addition, for three years she served as Director of Alumni Relations. Her hobbies are writing poetry and painting in oils and watercolors. She published a book of poetry titled *The Sanctioned Fruit* in 1998. Her poems have appeared in more than twenty-five poetry journals, books and anthologies. Her latest is a published book of poems in memory of her husband, Howard Morris “Kit” Kittle, who died in 2000.

Beth has also been a member of Seneca Trail Art Guild and Delta Sigma Phi. She was a volunteer for many years at the Elkins Rehabilitation and Care Center (ERCC).

Beth’s favorite church memory is being baptized at Davis Memorial while a student at D&E. She has served on numerous committees here at DMPC over the years, although none at present. As she explained, “I will be 90 in August and I am now having to limit my activities.”



### FAITH AND SERVICE CAMP...

1. “down time”
2. Visit to the Animal Shelter
3. Trip to Stuart’s Park
4. Sara checking out the crafts





- 1 Tate Summerfield
- 2 Ed Rudy
- 2 Jeff Loudin
- 2 Danielle Ullman
- 5 Shauna Mason
- 5 Tim Price
- 7 Dana Marzolf
- 7 David Nelson
- 7 Holly Reilly
- 8 Dan Harper
- 10 Sandra Godwin
- 11 Dr. Richard Kelly
- 12 David Reed
- 13 Richard Cardot
- 14 Deb Hamrick
- 15 Lynne Harper
- 17 Ruby York
- 19 Anita Jones
- 20 Chloe Maynard
- 21 Jay Crissman
- 21 Barbara Rice
- 22 Ed Kyle
- 22 Cindy Talbott
- 24 Patrick Reilly
- 25 Jacob White
- 28 Alison Kerr
- 28 Rachel Shyrock
- 30 Julia G. Brumfield



### Happy Anniversary

- July 17 Dave & Margy Nelson  
July 24 Doug & Jan Jenkins

## DON'T FORGET!

### CHI-RHO YOUTH GROUP & KIDS CLUB

There will be no meetings in July.

### HOME PRAYER GROUP

We will not meet in July and August. God willing, we will start back up in September. See you then!

Jean Snedegar

### DATES TO REMEMBER

Every Wednesday @7:00pm Al-Anon

There is not a separate calendar for July.

### COMMUNITY CUPBOARD

To help us fill the community cupboard, we have a special offering of non-perishable food on the first Sunday of the month to help us think about communion, sharing bread, and the message of Jesus at the communion table. You are invited to bring your food offerings to church on the first Sunday of the month (when we have communion) and bring it to the communion table at the beginning of the service. This collection of food will go to the community cupboard, as well as serve as a symbol of God's people bringing the gifts of God for the people of God.

Join us for this on the first Sunday of the month!

## **HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWS CORNER...**

We would like to extend our condolences to Greg Schumacher's family on the death of his Father, Herman Schumacher. Herman died at the age of 98-1/2 on June 1 in Wisconsin. Herman attended services at Holy Trinity when he stayed with Greg and Nancy for four months.

Mr. Don MacVean, a long-time member of Holy Trinity, passed away on June 3. Funeral Services were held at Holy Trinity on June 8 with Rev. Kevin Starcher officiating. Don served with the Elkins Fire Department for more than 35 years. He will be missed.

Jan Hazer, Greg Shumacher and Rev. Starcher attended the WV-Western Maryland Synod meeting held in Bridgeport on June 3 and 4. A total of 150 people were present. Some interesting facts: there are 9,300 ELCA congregations with 3.7 million members. There are presently 600 vacancies and a future projection of 1,000 vacancies. We added 63 new congregations in 2015.

Items discussed at the June Church Council meeting:

Future outreach programs that will be considered include Community Lutheran Partners Hunger Program in which members put together hunger packages.

Also, the Road to Renewal program to help strengthen the church in its mission.

Other items discussed were refinishing the church front door, modernizing our sound system, "God's Work Our Hands" work day to be coordinated with the entire Elkins church wide area clean up day.

We would like to thank the Davis Memorial Presbyterian church for inviting us to their picnic in June. Everyone had a great time.

During the month of July, the Women of the ELCA will be collecting non-perishable items for the DMPC food pantry. Please place your items in the narthex.

**REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:** Mary Beck Kisner and Arlene Williams

**HAPPY JULY BIRTHDAY TO:** Denise Campbell on July 14

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## **SUMMER CAMPS & CONFERENCES...**

July 3-9	Elementary and Youth trip to Camp Bluestone
July 23-30	New Wilmington Mission Conference
July 24-30	Trinity Youth conference (High School and College)

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**JOE'S PICNIC...**



**A DAY TO GIVE THANKS...**

**FOR FOOD...AND MORE FOOD!**



**...FOR YOUTH**



**...FOR SUNSHINE, SHADE, & A PLACE TO SIT!**



**...FOR CHILDREN,  
WATER & ROCKS!**



**...FOR OUR NEIGHBORS IN CHRIST**

**...FOR ALL GOD'S CREATURES!**



**THE HELMETED GUINEAFOWL  
& WALNUT, THE DOG!!**

Ministers	Rev. Dr. Peter Vial Rev. Kevin Starcher
Director of Music	Dr. Melody Meadows
Assistant Organist	Mark Armentrout
Church Secretary	Marsha Gardner
Clerk of Session	Mark Armentrout
Treasurer	Dr. Larry Wing
After School Program	Monica Varchetto
Chi-Rho Youth Group	Ginny Simmons
Kids Club	Chrissy Starcher
Church office	304-636-2788
Peter's Cell	304-621-8282
Vial e-mails	<a href="mailto:pvia1623@gmail.com">pvia1623@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:minister@dmpr.org">minister@dmpr.org</a> <a href="mailto:tinamvial@gmail.com">tinamvial@gmail.com</a>
Kevin's e-mail	<a href="mailto:kevin@dmpr.org">kevin@dmpr.org</a>
Kevin's Cell	304-704-7406

**CIRCLE MEETINGS**

**CIRCLE 1** Jan Burr & Mina Cupp, Chairs  
**CIRCLE 5** Sue Chenoweth, Chair  
 We will not meet this month

**CIRCLE 2** Judy Guye Swanson & Linda Rudy, Chairs  
 We will not meet this month

**CIRCLE 6** Sonja Corbin, Chair  
 July 13@7pm at Roberta Dye's home

**THERE WILL NOT BE A  
 COMMUNITY KITCHEN IN JULY**



Join us on [Facebook](#)! Join the Group "Davis Memorial Presbyterian Church" to receive current announcements, discuss topics, see our growing photo gallery, and generally stay in touch.

