

Elmer United Methodist Church



CHURCH OFFICE AND PETER'S PANTRY - 358-0135

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DAVID REPENNING, PASTOR

AUGUST 2014

Pastor's Corner

Dear Friends,

For the past month I have been studying and preaching from the story of Abraham and his family. Very briefly we have skipped from Genesis 12 to Genesis 24. In the beginning of this story, as Abraham enters the Promised Land, he stops twice to hear what God is saying to him. At each spot he builds an altar to the Lord. These altars were probably large stone structures which would last for centuries. They remained as reminders of what God did in the past and the promise God gave for the future. Through Abraham a great nation was to come and all nations would be blessed.

The last few weeks have been a time of reflection for me: reflection on my call to ministry, God's blessings in that ministry and the promise for the future. August 1st is the 30th anniversary of my appointment as a local church pastor. In that time Barb and I have served 9 different churches in 6 different appointments. On July 27th many of you joined us in remembering the past with an afternoon tea. It was a wonderful time of remembering, fellowship, and affirmation. Members of Elmer UMC were present along with folks from the St. Ann Parish and the Elmer Presbyterian Church.

I want to thank everyone who came out and especially the hard working people who prepared and served the food. Everything was beautiful, the food delicious and Barb and I thoroughly enjoyed the day with good friends. Thank you for your thoughtfulness, support and affirmation.

We also appreciate the cards and gifts you gave us. The church gift was a beautifully decorated display board with gift certificates of many eating places in Elmer. This is one of "Mayor" Joe Stemberger's favorite gifts to give. When Joe presented it he emphasized to all of us the importance of visiting these places on a regular basis to interact with everyone in our community, not just those we see in church. True ministry is done as we interact with all people in our community in our regular day to day activities. This can be at the Diner, the swim club, the hospital, work, or just walking down the street. John Wesley described it by saying, "the World is my parish." Reflecting on the past is important. It reminds us of where we have been and how God has worked in our lives to bring us to where we are today. Paul said in Philippians 3: 13b & 14 *"Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize*

for which God has called me..." We have just received our date and materials for Church Conference. This is an annual meeting to report on the past and plan for the future. In the next two months we will be reflecting on God's call for that future. We have a strong base from which to work. Start thinking now about how you serve and about your personal call as well as our call as a congregation.

There is our call to worship, work with youth, minister to the sick, reach out to the community and to personally grow in our walk with the Lord. As Barb and I begin our 5th year of ministry with you, we look forward to the great work before us as we serve together in the name of Jesus Christ and according to God's purpose.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Dave Repenning

<u>Attendance:</u>	Early	Morning	S. School
July 6	19	75	
July 13	25	83	
July 20	26	75	
July 27	29	67	

<u>Stewardship:</u>	<u>Church</u>	<u>Missions</u>	<u>S.School</u>
July 6	\$4,313.20	\$887.00	
July 13	\$3,463.02	\$512.00	
July 20	\$3,741.00	\$652.00	
July 27	\$13,982.00	\$391.00	



August Birthdays Happy Birthday to All!!!

1st	Jeff Willoughby
2nd	Tom Hill
4th	Matthew Snyder, Connor Hemsley & Michael A. Donovan
8th	Joan Hathaway
10th	Chase Elliott, Brittany Orzechowski & Blair Hathaway
11th	Ethan Nolan & Spencer McDonald
12th	Robert Halter
13th	Art Kelly
14th	Suzie Richards, Lesley Hall & Rev. John Robbins
15th	John Welsh
16th	Arthur Harper & Jesse Hunter
17th	Elyse Coyle, Debbie Schwartz, Lisa Bishop & Brooke Batten
18th	Jim Hall, George Mottola, V & Ashley Hannah
19th	Emily Greene, Zane Cooper & Linda Dilks
20th	Elden Evans & Kirby Layton
22nd	Savannah Nolan & Claire Corsey
23rd	Curtis Elliott
25th	Michael Kulig & Erica Wriggins
26th	Christian Montero & Austin Zeeman
29th	Jane Cooke
30th	Burry Timberman, Jr.
31st	Christine Hill, John Fisler & Robin Cooper

WACKY WEDNESDAYS

Family Fun each Wednesday

August 6th - Take Me Out to the Ball Game



Wilmington Blue Rocks vs. Myrtle Beach

Leaving church at 5:30pm. See Pastor Dave for tickets by July 20th. Tickets are \$8.00

August 13th - Bicycling Traveling Supper

Beginning at the Hangar at 6pm.

For more info please call Donna Stemberger (358-2509)

August 20th - Swimming, Hot Dog & Sundae Buffet



6:30pm at the Stembergers,
20 Fourth St, Elmer



Any questions, please contact Donna Stemberger
dkstembug@yahoo.com or 358-2509

Check the Sign-up Board in the back of the sanctuary!!



The Navigators

The Navigators motto is, “*To know Christ and make Him known.*” In 1933 a young man, Dawson Trotman, started a discipleship movement among US sailors that became known as *The Navigators*, and continues to actively serve the military community to this day.

Staff member, John Voros and his wife, Rachel, serve alongside Marines in Camp Pendleton, California. They host a Bible Study for couples, pray for deployments, help family who remain at home, and walk with couples through the effects of reverse culture upon return from deployment.

In the same week that Marine Corps Captain Ben and his wife, Jen, graduated from the Voros’ Bible Study, Jen announced that she was pregnant and Ben was deployed overseas. In a note from Ben he wrote, “I just came from a tough deployment. On the home front we experienced the loss of a loved one, Jen’s father, my wife’s pregnancy without my being there to support her, and a household move. Through it all, we received encouragement from the Navigators’ staff as well as the promise of Scripture. Providentially, I returned one week before our son, Marcus was born. Now that I am back, we are diving into what the Bible says about discipleship and parenting. As we enter in

the next phase of our life’s adventure, we continue to seek God’s direction for our lives.”

Your gifts to Elmer UMC’s Benevolence and Missions make spiritual relationship possible across the nation. John and Rachel, and others continue to disciple military couples. George “Corky” Eddins prays for, and is dedicated to maintaining a spiritual relationship with our government officials in Washington D.C.

Al-Jo Voeckler

Missions Chairperson/Treasurer

MMS Aviation

Preparing People and Planes
for Worldwide Mission Service

How we prepare people for missions:

At MMS Aviation, we prepare our apprentices and trainees by having them work on active mission aircraft alongside qualified aircraft technicians. Our technical goal for each person who comes to train here at MMS is to prepare people who are capable of being “general practitioners” of aviation maintenance. When an apprentice completes training here, they leave as a fully certified airframe and powerplant mechanic.

Each person serves as a full time missionary, supported prayerfully and financially by individuals, groups, and churches. This helps our apprentices to understand the nuts and bolts of being a missionary in the field, right down to raising prayer and financial support.

If you would like more information on MMS, please contact Jackie Bowers, 358-7374. **We invite you to join us for our next Missions Meeting on Monday, August 18th to learn more. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 7:00pm.**