

ELAM E-NEWS

June 25, 2021



Randy Schaffer Announces Her Retirement in August 2021

It is with great sorrow we announce that Randy has informed the Pastor-Parish Relations Committee she will be leaving Elam in August. She began working at Elam in the fall of 1999 as Pastor of Nurture and Caring with Pastor Sharon Vandegrift. During this time Pastor Sharon encouraged Randy to attend Oasis Ministries, a 2-year program in Spiritual Direction for Spiritual Guides. As a result, her responsibilities expanded to include offering individual Spiritual Guidance, group retreats and Spiritual Formation groups. During Pastor Clyde's time at Elam, Randy's work included administrative projects as well as serving on the committee to develop Elam Hearts and Hands Preschool. When Pastor John arrived, several additional responsibilities were added, including staff liaison to our Care Team, organizing Pastor John's homebound visitations and scheduling Sunday worship liturgists and Coffee hour volunteers. Over the years, Pastor John and Randy have also worked together to plan special Holiday worship experiences.

Randy was also an integral part of a group of Elam women who came together to develop GROW (God Renewing Our Women), and one of her duties included planning and scheduling speakers for its monthly meetings. During Covid restrictions, Randy found various ways to reach out to members via a variety of online studies as well as personal phone calls and postcards to those who didn't have access to computers. Also, because our children could not get together, Randy found ways to keep in touch with them by sending mailings with fun things to do on various holidays. Children love to receive "snail mail".

Randy's call to service happened many years ago, but was not fulfilled until 1999 when she became an essential part of our Elam family and worked tirelessly on our behalf. We are truly blessed to have had her serve in all of the vital roles she has played here since that time.

Needless to say, making the decision to retire was not an easy one for her, but following times of discernment and long periods of prayer, God turned her heart to YES. Despite knowing that there will be a sense of grief and loss in the good-byes, it is with great reluctance she knows it is time for her to step aside from this treasured ministry. Her heart is filled from the love and support she has received here. We wish her years of happiness and fulfillment as she looks forward to finding new ways to use her special gifts. Our love and best wishes go with her.

MEREDITH LAWLER TRANSITIONS FROM YOUTH COORDINATOR TO CHILDREN'S DAY OUT COORDINATOR



Meredith has reluctantly resigned as Youth Coordinator to be able to spend more time with her family. She poured her heart into our youth program and is now going to pour her heart into the Children's Day Out Program as its Classroom Coordinator. She has a Bachelor's Degree in Liberal Arts with a minor in Professional Education and another minor in Elementary Education. She has taught in the early childhood setting for nine years and then, after her maternity leave, returned as the director of the center for three years to help the school achieve Keystone Stars status and eventually NAEYC Accreditation. Meredith has a passion for children and their hands-on learning, she loves science and music, and is gentle and patient. Meredith will be working 5 days a week, which will be wonderful for the children to have this consistency within the program.

Homebound:

Marie Stickley, 1343 W. Baltimore Pike, Apt. D134, Media, PA 19063

Prayer List

Beth Heroux	Pat Howard	Karrie McCall	Tom Conner
Michael Leddy & Family	Family of Michael Daniel, Sr.	Mike Sweeney	

Don't forget that after 2 weeks these names will be removed from the list. Those with asterisks are people who need continuous prayer and they can be added to your list at home.

MEDITATION

Summer is upon us! I know we've all heard the term "lazy, hazy days of summer". Those words remind me of vacation days when our daily routines are set aside and we relax usually in a place away from home. These days might be a good time to try meditating. In the past, I've suggested numerous ways of meditating in the silence, focusing on your breathing, using a word that will still your mind. I've also suggested meditating on scripture by finding a quiet spot and a Bible verse to focus on. For many years we heard these words of benediction at the conclusion of our worship services;

"The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord cause his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace."

These beautiful words are from Numbers 6:24-26. As we take time this week to reflect on this passage let us think of it as a blessing upon our loved ones or upon ourselves. Let us meditate on the words and replace YOU with ME. May the Lord give us peace.

Blessings Dear Friends, Randy C. Schaffer

MUSIC FOR SUNDAY – Hymn No. 87

What Gift Can We Bring

Verse 1

What gift can we bring,
what present, what token?
What words can convey it,
the joy of this day?
When grateful we come,
remembering, rejoicing,
what song can we offer
in honor and praise?

Verse 2

Give thanks for the past,
for those who had vision,
who planted and watered
so dreams could come true.
Give thanks for the now,
for study, for worship,
for mission that bids us
turn prayer into deed.

Verse 3

Give thanks for tomorrow,
full of surprises,
for knowing whatever
tomorrow may bring,
the Word is our promise
always, forever;
we rest in God's keeping
and live in God's love.

Verse 4

This gift we now bring,
this present, this token,
these words can convey it,
the joy of this day!
When grateful we come,
remembering, rejoicing,
this song we now offer
in honor and praise!

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

**Psalm 130
2 Corinthians 8:1-15**

THIS WEEK'S SPECIAL MUSIC

Bill Simmons will be playing "Gift of Finest Wheat"

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Almighty God you are the creator of the bounty of summer bursting forth around us. We see evidence of fields cleared, seeds planted and green growth happening. Flowers are showing their colors and filling the air with fragrance. Birds have built nests and waterfowl eggs are hatched. These tiny fuzzy creatures will sing to your glory and soon fly through the air. Bees and butterflies flit from blossom to blossom fulfilling their purpose in your plan. The warmth of days cause plants to mature and produce fruits and vegetables. God we lift our voices to you in praise and thanks for the rich bounty of this season. The sun rises and sets and the moon lights the night time sky. These colors bless us and remind us that you have created such beauty to nurture our souls. Though you have created all of these wonders of summer, you are still with us whenever we remember to call on you. How amazing that you know us and love us as your children. Thanks be to you Holy Lord. Amen

A SUMMER SERIES – LITTLE KNOWN WOMEN OF THE BIBLE

HANNAH- THE MOTHER OF SAMUEL

In the First Book of Samuel Chapter 1 we are introduced to Hannah and her husband Elkanah. Elkanah has another wife named Peninnah who has given birth to several children. Hannah felt that Peninnah was her rival because Hannah was unable to have children. Annually the family went to the temple to give offerings and Hannah prayed diligently for a male child. Hannah made a promise to God that if she was given a male child she would return the child to the priest Eli in the temple to work for the Lord all his days. Hannah's prayers were answered and she gave birth to Samuel. When he was weaned he was taken to the temple to serve the Lord.

The first 10 verses of 1 Samuel record a song of praise to the Lord for answering her and giving her Samuel. This song or poem of thanks and praise, written by Hannah, is considered classical Rabbinical literature. It contains prophecy which predicts that Samuel would become a prophet and that her great grandson would become a musician in the temple. In Judaism this song is considered a prime role model for how to pray and it is read the first day of Rosh Hashanah. It also has some features common with the Magnificat which Luke records in his Gospel as the song of praise and thanks to God sung by Mary for choosing her to give birth to Jesus. Both Hannah and Mary gave birth to sons through divine intervention.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

If you wish to send a card to any of these persons, please call or email the church office at 610-459-2911 or mary@elamumc.org for addresses.

BIRTHDAYS

06/05	Hailey Morrisroe	06/15	Samantha Riemenschneider
	Jen Munro		Matthew Rustark
	Jennifer Sabol	06/18	Denise St. Germain
	Norma Jean Welsh		Jonathan Vandenberg
06/06	Jacqueline Glanfield	06/20	Brad Hudock
	Olivia Hineman	06/22	Gary Horsch
	Pat Howard		Robin Salvatore
	Taylor Schively	06/23	Isabella Rogers
	Stephen Simunov	06/24	Susan Mozzani
06/07	Denise Carter		Michele Verratti
06/10	Sharon Hartley	06/25	Brian Rogers
06/11	Beckie Davis		Brenton Wyman
	Tyler Heintz	06/26	Heather Hogan
	Matthew McGrath	06/28	Ryan Hughes
06/12	Mike Bufano		Christian Reichert
	Wendy Landry	06/29	Janet Roushey
06/13	Thomas Baird	06/30	Robert Chivalette
06/14	Craig Mathisen		Jack Fouraker
06/15	Mitchell Kelly		Joey Sweeney
	Teagan Kelly		
	Sean Kirkpatrick		

ANNIVERSARIES

06/12/2010	Megan & Kyle Browne
06/21/1985	Shirlann & Michael Clarke
06/06/1981	Jean & Jay Dingle
06/29/1963	Marilyn & Al Eelman (new)
06/06/1992	Nancy & Todd Frey
06/24/1972	Susan & Rich Gatchell
06/21/2009	Nancy & Larry George
06/18/1994	Suzanne & Ron Hineman
06/01/1963	Anne & Irv Hollingsworth
06/16/1978	Nancy & Mike Mekenney
06/30/2012	Katie & Neil Roushey
06/18/1995	Randy & Wayne Schaffer
06/26/1999	Judy & Todd Springer
06/27/1987	Michele & Nicholas Verratti
06/20/1987	Marilyn & Daniel Wiechecki

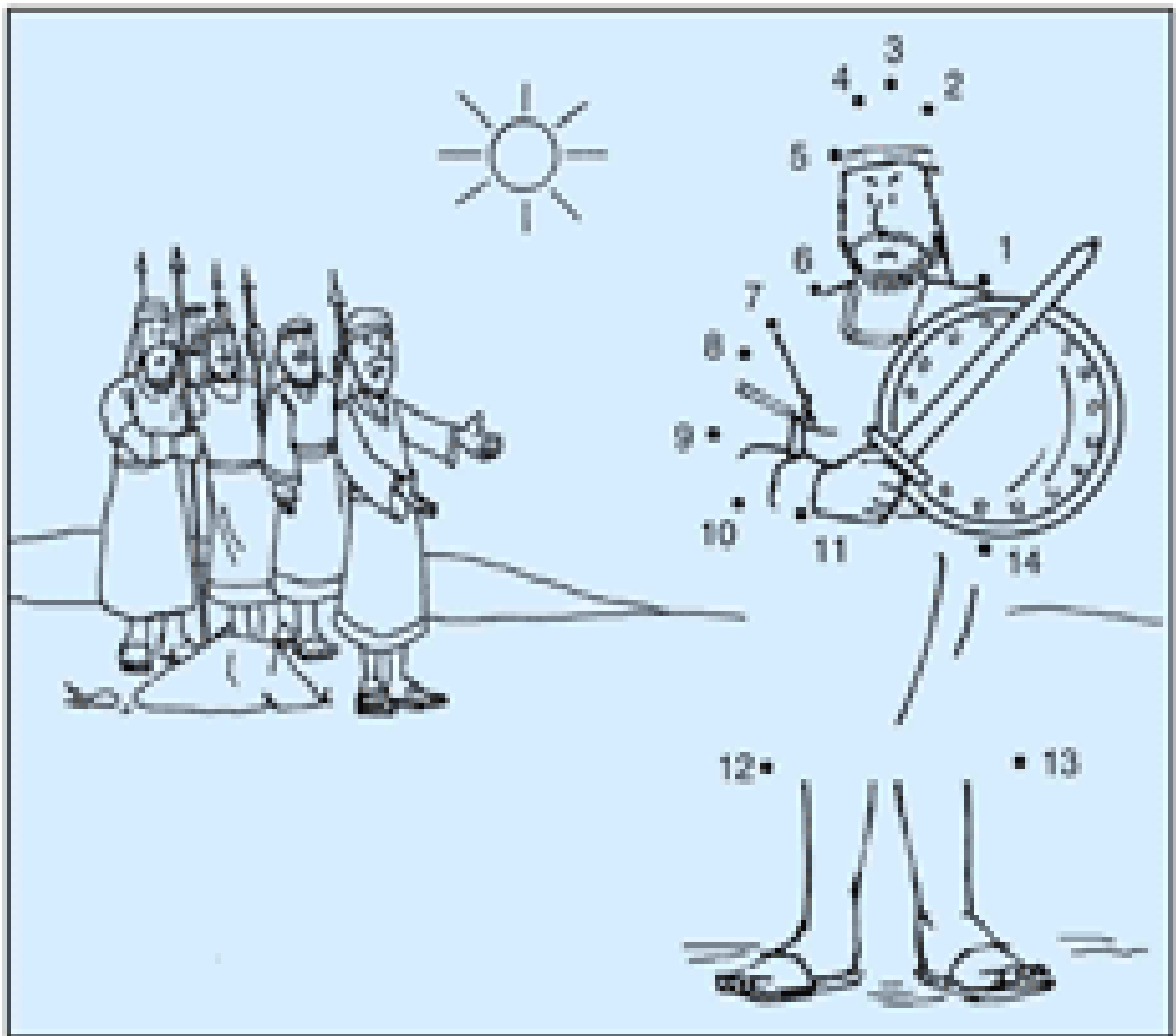
If your name is not listed here and you have a June birthday or anniversary, please contact Mary at 610-459-2911 or mary@elamumc.org, and you will be added to our records. Please also let us know if we have an incorrect anniversary or birthdate.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

David and Goliath

The Philistine army sent out their champion, Goliath. Saul's men were afraid to go out and fight him.

Connect the dots. 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14



Jesus Calms the Storm



Jesus was sleeping on the boat and a storm came. What did the disciples do?

Write the name of each picture. Then fill in the blanks below.



12 6



10 1



17 15



8



19 5 16



4 2



7 14 11



18 13 3 9

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 5 8 9 3 6

10 11 12 3 2 5 13 14 15 4

6 14 5 4 1 11 2 5 13

1 3 14 7 2 3 16 4 11 15 1

17 11 18 7 14 16 3 5 19

10 3 4 16 11 10 15

1000



REMINDERS

YOUR SHOPPING CAN SUPPORT ELAM'S WOMEN'S MINISTRY



AmazonSmile is a simple way for you to support our charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you.

AmazonSmile is available at smile.amazon.com on your web browser and can be activated in the Amazon Shopping app for iOS and Android phones. When you shop with AmazonSmile, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added benefit that AmazonSmile will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to Elam's Women's Ministry.

After logging on to smile.amazon.com, choose Elam United Methodist Church as your charity. If you have an existing account with amazon, you can use the same account information for logging in.

Any questions, please reach out to Janine Phillips @ 610-905-6674 or Janineglitters@verizon.net

UPDATED CHURCH DIRECTORIES AVAILABLE

Copies of an updated church directory are available from the desk outside the church office. Please check your listing to make sure it is accurate. Also, if you see **any** listing that is incorrect, please contact me at mary@elamumc.org or 610-459-2911 so that it can be corrected in the next update. Thank you.

LOAVES OF LOVE (LOL) FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

The following is the wish list for the Loaves of Love Food Pantry:

Canned carrots	Canned fruit	Canned mixed vegetables	Cereal
Chef Boyardee	Pancake mix	Syrup	

Food donations may be dropped off in the outside bins at Siloam UMC, 3720 Foulk Road, Garnet Valley and also at Elam weekdays from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Thank you for your support!

Now that we are getting vaccinated, we are open to more volunteer opportunities at the pantry. If you would like to help stock the shelves or fill bags, please call Janet Pace at 610-497-0209 or email jpace924@gmail.com.

Only the regular print edition of the July/August Upper Room is currently available from the usher's desk outside the sanctuary. We await the large print edition, which should be here shortly.

Options for watching Sunday Services Live:

1. Go to the ElamUMC.org and click on the Livestream button on the right side of the screen.

Livestream

2. Go to the ElamUMC.org and click on the Facebook icon on the right side of the screen.



3. Go to the ElamUMC.org and click on the YouTube icon on the right side of the screen.



“Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

Philippians 4:6-7