Sunday Worship Services:
- Traditional Service: 8:30 a.m.
- Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
- Blended Service: 11:00 a.m.

A Message from our Pastor:

"But you can love completely without complete understanding." "That I have known and preached," my father said.

- Norman Maclean
- "A River Runs Through It"

There is no way that you can tell the full story of a man’s life in a ten minute eulogy. There is no way to tell the full story of 35 years of ministry in a few paragraphs. Therefore I will not try. I will say this. I thank you for your devotion and dedication to the church, for your kindness, grace and friendship.

I wish you nothing but the best in the years to come.

Over the years I have come to understand what Rev. Maclean understood, that we can love completely without complete understanding. This I have also known and preached.

Now as this old preacher, who never sent a text or an email, rides off into the sunset, I bid you a fond farewell and may God be with you til we meet again.

Bryan
Choir Notes – ANITA CHOPS, MUSIC DIRECTOR

It’s that time of the year again when our choir program winds down. I am so very proud of our choirs and thankful that we have so many dedicated individuals who are willing to “make a joyful noise to the Lord”. They never complain about what I ask them to do, and they really want to do the best job they can on the music that we sing each and every Sunday.

Our groups, the Adult Choir, the Early Bird Choir, the Praise Band, the Gospeleers, the Swingin’ Angels & the Hallelujah Strings (which we will hear from this summer) have done a spectacular job. Many of these individuals participate in multiple groups and that demonstrates a special level of commitment and dedication.

Thank you one and all for making my job so enjoyable. I love each and every one of you.

I also want to acknowledge Molly Beresh and her groups; the Children/Youth Choir and the Bell Choir, for the wonderful job they have done and for their contributions to our worship services. A big thank you to their parents who make sure they are at their rehearsals on Sunday mornings.

We will be moving on to our summer schedule very soon. If you know of someone you would like us to invite to sing or play an instrument during the summer, please let me know. Or, if the individual reading this newsletter would like to sing a solo or participate in a duet or a group give me a call. Have a happy summer one and all.

Education Team – ANITA CHOPS, CHAIRPERSON

We continue to put the information about our Sunday School Groups in the newsletter for your consideration. You and your family members are invited to participate. Please encourage the children and youth in your family to join one of our groups.

CHILDREN’S GROUPS: Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grade taught by Becky McCullough, and Tami Higley
TWEENS: 3rd – 5th Grade taught by Donna Folmar and Tammy Richmond
TGIF (Youth): taught by Molly Beresh
ASBURY CLASS: taught by Jim Stultz – A multi-generational group of adults who study and discuss, in-depth, the Bible, its message, and its application in our everyday lives.
WESLEY CLASS: taught by Nancy McCord – An interactive Bible discussion group
KOININIA: taught by Brian McCullough – A group of young couples who offer care and support to one another
INTERCESSORY PRAYER: led by Ed Stewart – This group prays and discusses the needs and requests of the people of the church and our world.
PRAYER WARRIORS: Pepper Organ
We have a great group of dedicated individuals who are committed to helping people of all ages get closer to God.

Nursery Update

We are excited about the relocation of our Nursery to the first floor of the church. The Nursery was originally located in the basement near Newmeyer Hall, but it was very inconvenient for our young parents and children. So we moved it to the first floor across from the Board Room. Jan Coffey and the Youth of our church have
Nursery Update  (Cont’d from pg. 2)
designed a beautiful nursery for all of our young children to enjoy. If you have not had a chance to see it, please stop by and check it out, before or after church.

And while you are roaming around, check out all of our newly painted rooms on the first floor. Thanks to Jan’s hard work, and the work of other dedicated volunteers, the rooms are colorful, clean and so welcoming. We have tried to put our best foot forward and I hope that everyone takes a walk around the floor to see the work that was completed.

Confirmation Class of 2017

On April 16, 2017 the following young men were confirmed as members of Elm Grove United Methodist Church in a ceremony conducted by Rev. Bryan Carpenter:

- Hayden Beresh  Son of Molly & Scott Beresh
- Gavin Beresh  Son of Molly & Scott Beresh
- Jacob Hastings  Son of Jennifer & Dale Hastings
- Cooper Curto  Son of Hilary & Tony Curto
- Logan McCullough  Son of Becky & Brian McCullough

Members of the 2017 Confirmation Class, from left to right: Cooper Curto, Logan McCullough, Rev. Carpenter, Hayden Beresh, Gavin Beresh and Jacob Hastings.

Youth Group

The Youth Group is alive and well, and GROWING. We have a wonderful group of young people who participate every Sunday. Thanks to Scott and Molly Beresh, the young people participated in STOP HUNGER NOW, on March 25th and attended HE’S ALIVE at the Capitol Theatre on Palm Sunday. They are planning a visit to the Good Shepherd Nursing Home as well as some other projects during the summer.

The Youth are also sporting a new look. They have some stylish new T-shirts to wear when they go out into the community, to generate awareness of their group and show their commitment to our church. We hope that wearing the shirts will help them get noticed and perhaps entice other young people to inquire about the group and want to see what we are about.

If you have any ideas or projects that we can work on, we are very open to any and all suggestions.

The Youth will meet on June 25, July 23, and August 27, which will also be a church wide family fellowship night with the youth. We held this event last summer and everyone had a great time. COME AND PARTICIPATE for a night of SHARING, FELLOWSHIP, SNACKS AND FUN!

Our Youth have worked on some paintings that are displayed in the Narthex near the church offices. Stop by and see what they created.
Mission Committee – Peggy Laing

Before we MARCH into May, June and July we must share the great news about a MARCH activity in which the Mission Committee and The Vibe Youth Group participated. On Saturday, March 25, eight of us went up to the Community Center in West Alexander to help fill emergency energy food bags for Stop Hunger Now. We joined over 200 people who worked this event that came complete with loud music, very friendly people, and much exercise. We put labels on bags; manned a work station putting rice, barley, vitamin packets and dried vegetables into plastic bags; and/or carried 50-pound sacks of rice or barley to replenish each work station. Our Mission Committee donated $1000 towards the purchase of supplies and shipment of the finished food packets. In just under 3 hours we filled, sealed and labeled 65,000 packets that will be eaten by malnourished people in Nicaragua. We all were thoroughly impressed and plan to participate every year.

While we are looking back to March, Jan has recorded all your generous donations each month. The count is impressive! In February 560 rolls of toilet were given for House of the Carpenter. Your March donation to the food pantry at St. James Lutheran Church in downtown Wheeling included 6 large jars of jelly, 41 jars of peanut butter, 30 boxes of crackers and 130 cans of soup. THANK YOU!

We have finished the diaper/wipes collection for April and those numbers will be included in the next newsletter. Looking forward to May and June, we are collecting for House of the Carpenter both months. In May we are asking for laundry detergent and in June we are collecting paper towels. July will continue to be supplies for the Ohio County Animal Shelter. Watch for Jan’s announcement board in the Narthex for specific items.

In addition to everything already mentioned, the Mission team has served lunch to an UMCOR training class, served dinner to and attended NOVA Services at House of the Carpenter in February and March (and will do so again on April 27), and made chili for the Soup Luncheon fundraiser at House of the Carpenter. Also, some of you have joined us in packing weekend food backpacks for each child at Madison Elementary. Elm Grove UMC has been blessed by God with so many generous members and each time we serve, we are blessed by that experience. Praise be to God!

United Methodist Women – Anita Chops, President

We have finished our regular programming for this half of the year, however, we will be holding our annual MOTHER/DAUGHTER/FRIEND DINNER ON TUESDAY, MAY 9TH AT 6:00 P.M. Everyone is welcome to attend, male or female.

Our menu will be baked chicken breast, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, rolls, dessert and beverage. The dinner is free, but if you can make a donation we would greatly appreciate it. We will have the FRIEND’S GOSPEL MUSIC GROUP from Wintersville, Ohio for our program. If you wish to attend the dinner, please sign the list on the Welcome Table in the Narthex. The final date to register is May 7th. No reservations will be taken after that time.

Mother’s Day May 14th
Father’s Day June 18th
Lois’ Stitches of Caring – KAREN STEWART

Lois’ Stitches of Caring is busy working on a big project to honor Veterans. We have been asked to make 250 Red, White and Blue scarves to be given to Veterans who run in the Lois Stobbs Memorial Veterans Day 10k Run Walk in November. We have already started making the scarves but would welcome some additional help. If you can help by making a scarf or donating to this project we would appreciate your contribution. It’s a great way for our church and its members to honor our Veterans. Each scarf will have a tag attached to it with the words Lois’ Stitches of Caring - Elm Grove United Methodist Church. If you would like more information about our group, or would like to make a donation to our scarf project please contact Karen Muldrew, Sandy Morgan or Karen Stewart.

Open House Celebrating Thelma Lennex’s 90th Birthday

A very special celebration is planned to honor Thelma Lennex on reaching the milestone of 90 years. Please join us on May 21st from 2 to 4 p.m. at Brookpark Place Community Room. All are invited to attend. Cards only please.

Vacation Bible School – SANDY LOUGHMAN

Maker Fun Factory will make its appearance at EGUMC the week of July 17 through 21, 2017. Our Elm Grove Community Vacation Bible School will be held daily from 9 a.m. to Noon. Children age 4 through Grade 5 are invited to attend. Please invite and encourage your nieces, nephews, grandchildren, and neighborhood children to participate.

We are already making decorations, planning activities, choosing snacks, lining up workers and preparing to make this year’s Vacation Bible School an awesome experience. We STRONGLY urge folks to register children online at myvbs.org/2017. It is very simple to use the site. Pre-registration helps us know how many kids to plan for, AND prevents the madness of registering 70 or 80 children during the first morning.

We still need some adults and/or teens grade 6 and up to help take groups of kids to the stations at VBS. If you are interested you can sign up online as well at the same site.

A list of materials we need donated will be in the bulletin, on the church website, and on the big screen at church. Also, VBS is a big expense so financial contributions are welcomed and encouraged.

Make sure you attend church the Sunday before VBS (July 16th) to see the sanctuary transformed into The Maker’s Fun Factory! sandyloughman@yahoo.com

Bragging Rights

Hugh Stobbs is proud to announce his granddaughters’ upcoming graduations:
Betsy Brossman will be graduating from Wheeling Park High School. She is planning to attend Fordham College this fall.
Lucy DeFrucio will be graduating from Point Park College with a Masters Degree in Journalism and Communication.
Annie DeFrucio just completed her first year of Medical school at Marshall University.

A Special Note of Thanks

Logan McCullough would like to thank Rev Carpenter, Molly Beresh, Anita Chops, Garnell Butler, and the Elm Grove United Methodist Church for the confirmation cards and gifts. He is truly blessed to be a part of this church family.
Ron Retzer Trio Coming Back to Elm Grove UMC
The Family Fellowship Committee will host the Ron Retzer Trio on Saturday, September 2nd. Those who were able to attend their last performance at our church were blessed by their beautiful music, Christian message and personal testimonies about God working in their lives. We look forward to their return with great anticipation!

Sanctuary Quilt Share | May 20th
Elm Grove United Methodist Church will be host to the Fort Henry Piecemakers for their Sanctuary Quilt Share, on Saturday, May 20th from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Quilt show admission is $5 per person with proceeds being used to purchase fabric for the group’s charitable projects: dresses for girls in Haiti; neck pillows for the Pittsburgh Veteran’s Hospital; Quilts of Valor for soldiers returning home; baby quilts for area hospitals and the One Million Pillow Case Challenge for Children’s Hospitals.

A drawing will be held for a quilt during the day and it will be given to someone attending the event. If you have any questions or need additional information please contact Patty Jewett at 304-242-3827.

Community Dinners are held every third Saturday at Elm Grove UMC. The dinners are open to the community, free of charge. These dinners offer a wonderful time of fellowship and an opportunity for our church to reach out to our community in ministry. Dinner starts at 6 p.m. Please invite your family and neighbors to join us.

May 20th     June 17th     July 15th

Spring/Summer Rummage Sale Cancelled
Our Spring/Summer Rummage Sale scheduled for May 12th and 13th has been cancelled due to many scheduling conflicts. Our next rummage sale will be held in the Fall. Please watch for announcements on Sunday mornings regarding the upcoming sale date and deadline for dropping off your items.

Confirmands helped Rev. Carpenter serve communion during the Maundy Thursday Service.

Members of our Adult Choir greeted church members and the community before services on Palm Sunday.
**Easter Thoughts by Betty Boyd**

I thought of Easter as I sat here in my room  
Of all that had happened, all the gloom.  
It was night and Thursday, and Jesus was in pain.  
His disciples were with Him, what was He to gain?

They were going to the garden of Gethsemane.  
He must talk to His Father, what was to be?  
Sit here and wait, while I go to pray.  
I must get this done before break of day.

We all know what happened, no need to tell.  
Jesus was crucified, dead and buried, went through hell.  
But He arose and is now with His Father above.  
His Father saved Him, isn’t that true love?

It’s coming Easter again and everything is so bright.  
The daffodils and all are blooming. What a delight!  
The grass is growing and the trees coming in leaf.  
God did it all for you, for me, and for love and peace.

**Our Deepest Sympathy**  
With heavy hearts we acknowledge their deaths...  
*Patricia Sokos ~ January 15, 2017*  
*Clara Rine ~ March 17, 2017*  
*Dale Hoffman ~ March 22, 2017*

**Memorial Gifts**  
To the Trustee Fund In Memory of John Cummings  
Clara Rine  
Pepper Organ

To the Trustee Fund In Memory of Clara Rine  
Jim and Charlene Stultz  
Myra and Tom Musser

**Baptisms**  
April 16, 2017 Amanda Richmond, daughter of Tammy and Brent Richmond

**Worship Service Attendance**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>8:30 a.m.</th>
<th>11:00 a.m.</th>
<th>Sunday School</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 22, 2017</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 29, 2017</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 5, 2017</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 12, 2017</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 19, 2017</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 26, 2017</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 1, 2017 Ash Wed.</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 5, 2017</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 12, 2017</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 19, 2017</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 26, 2017</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 2, 2017</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 9, 2017</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 13, 2017 Maundy Thurs.</td>
<td>60</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 16, 2017 Easter</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A Letter from our Bishop

Elm Grove UMC (60530)
Bryan D. Carpenter
28 Hurst Ave
Wheeling, WV 26003-5404

Dear Friends:

Thank you for paying 100% of your conference apportionment for 2016! I know that this achievement took an intentional effort on your part, and I deeply appreciate your faithfulness and your commitment.

Apportionments are a portion meant for God, for God’s ministry and mission. The apportionments are the heart and soul of our denominational and conference ministry. They underwrite Christian ministry and mission around the world, but most importantly, you need to know that the majority of your apportionment giving supports people, ministry, and mission right here in our own backyard.

Apportionments fund ministry and mission that would not happen without churches like yours, which take seriously giving beyond themselves for God’s work. For instance, the payment of the apportionment makes possible the seven conference mission projects and supports Burlington United Methodist Family Services, Inc. Because of faithful apportionment payment, we now have the gift of Shea James working with our youth and outdoor ministries. As a matter of fact, the only reason we can do conference youth and outdoor ministries is because of faithful people who make a commitment to see that the apportionment is paid in full. Because of apportionment payments, the West Virginia Conference has been able to play a large and significant role in flood recovery. Because of your faithfulness, many people in West Virginia are getting the food, shelter, clothing, and medical care that they need. Through apportionments that have supported Reaching New People trainings, Fresh Expressions, training and resourcing for district clergy and laity, many new people have been reached for Christ. We are well on our way to achieving the goal of reaching 2400+ professions of faith.

The apportionments represent people, transformed lives, and hope for tomorrow. This commitment strengthens our evangelism efforts, stimulates church growth, expands Bible studies, and enriches spiritual development. By giving 100% of your apportionment, you help shape the lives of present and future leaders and proclaim our Christian faith.

I give thanks to God for your congregation. I give thanks for your ministry and mission. I give thanks for a Christian dedication that calls you to reach out beyond the walls of the church you attend. May God continue to bless you abundantly, and may you continue to be an abundant blessing that brings the presence of Christ to others.

Peace,

Sandra L. Steiner Ball
Resident Bishop
### PERSONAL CELEBRATIONS

#### May Birthdays
1. Dale Hastings
2. James Jones, Sr.
3. Jodi Prager
4. Matt Kimmel
5. Brooke Cole, Adrianna Dunn, Karen Stewart
6. William Daugherty, Gresh Laing, Will Simonetti
7. Adam Clark
8. Betty Fordyce, Stephen Harvilla, II, Nancy McCord
9. Kerrie Wisvari
10. Betty Boyd
11. Summer Gallentine, Sandy Loughman, Ashley Ward
12. Steve Harvilla, Sr., Diana Hughes, Hannah Martin, Mark McCoy, Robert Miller, Jr., Benjamin Orth
13. Therma Lennex
14. Jacob Carpenter, David Oliver, Trevin Tush
15. Danielle Coleman, John Fadoul
16. Laura Kimpel-Matthews, Judith Kinney, Clara Morse, James Stoflinsky
17. Haleigh Carey, Jenna Foose
18. Cassandra Doty, Pepper Organ
20. Brianna Carroll, Ruth Finsley, Julia Gardner, Erich Harvilla, James Stultz
22. Dave Blowers
23. David Doty, Cindy Foose, Paul Gossett, Janet Greaves

#### June Birthdays
1. Brandon Groves
2. Mary Lu Adams, Aria Kimpel, Trevor Stewart, Jessica Temple
3. Robin Estep, Cassidy McCord
4. Richard Clark, Nancy Norman
5. Susie Hewitt, Cody Phillips
6. Jared Henderson, Lori Petri, Virginia Rogalski
7. Brain Foose, Dorothy Shook
8. Elizabeth Clay, Elliot Ferrell, Emily Kimpel
9. Anya Ritz
10. Dawnette Lemasters, Lollyanne Ward
11. Heather Simonetti
12. Travis Harvilla
13. Robert Bright, Don Ward
14. Kristina Doran, Richard Pottersnak, Dianna Smith
15. Joyce Ward, Sawyer Williams
16. Corwin McCord
17. Debra Parsons, Charlene Stultz
18. Erin Orth, Vicky Posey, Keith Wade, Jessica Ward
19. Jenny Kimpel
20. Jayna Simms
21. Gavin Beresh
22. Nancy Harvilla, Carson Kimpel
23. Declan Jones
24. Christy Adams, Deborah McCord
25. Mary Olako

#### July Birthdays
1. Tifini McClausland
2. Luke Simonetti, Debra South
3. Brian Dickman, Amy Hughes
4. Tanya Gardner, Anthony Pottersnak, Stella Sylvis
5. Amy Ritz
6. Jennifer Greaves
7. Janice Coffey, Tim Hartong, Jr., Norma Kraft
8. Jennifer Bandy, David Beaver, Sally Hodgpikss
9. Chelsea Folmar, Catherine Jones
10. Shaun Doty
12. Carol Suter
13. Hunter Armstrong, Caroline Carey, Pat Dickman, Thomas Strawn
14. Richard Beisner, Ruth Millard
15. Amy Chase, Zachary McKennen
16. Shirley Wade
17. James Geer, Montana Hartong
18. Laken Liddle, Mason Rowe
19. Jean Kripp, Charles McCord, Sandy Morgan, Ross Parsons
20. Lisa Templeton
21. Sara Applegarth, Trisha Bailey, Eric Clay, Jr., Louise Gray, Phyllis Reed, Christopher Suter
22. Sean Forester, Jennifer Hastings, Carolyn Stoflinsky
23. Cooper Curto, Steve McFarland, Kristen Waseman
24. Donna Minger
25. Kathy Meyer

### Wedding Anniversaries

#### May
- **5/05**: Brian & Jeanie McFarland
- **5/06**: Tom & Donna Minger
- **5/17**: Dale & Jennifer Hastings
- **5/20**: Eric & Amy Clay, Sr.

#### June
- **6/03**: Mark & Penni Joseph
- **6/05**: David & Leeann Doty
- **6/05**: Bob & Sandy Morgan
- **6/05**: Ed & Karen Stewart
- **6/08**: Doug & Bridget Lucas
- **6/12**: Todd & Joyce Kimpel
- **6/12**: Randy & Ginger Morgan
- **6/14**: Ross & Sharon Parsons
- **6/16**: Henry & Janice McLaughlin
- **6/17**: Eric & Christina Harvilla
- **6/19**: David & Karen Muldrew
- **6/20**: James & Carrie McNeely
- **6/30**: Phil & Joyce Geer
- **6/30**: Tim & Jenny Kimpel

#### July
- **7/03**: Don & Mary Sue Huff
- **7/04**: Steve & Nancy Harvilla, Sr.
- **7/15**: Donald & Beth Mercer
- **7/15**: Marc & Linda Rafa
- **7/16**: Wayne & Tammy Feick
- **7/16**: Don & Sharon Ward
- **7/17**: Robert & Keri Griffith, Jr.
- **7/17**: James & Catherine Jones, Sr.
- **7/17**: Steve & Melanie McFarland
- **7/22**: David & Stacey Oliver
- **7/25**: Rodney & Debra South
- **7/26**: Gary & Nancy King
- **7/26**: Jerry & Heather Williams
- **7/27**: Tom & Donna Folmar, Jr.
- **7/27**: Gresh & Kate Laing
Hair Nail and Skin Salon

(304) 243-1305
132 1/2 Kruger Street
Wheeling, WV 26003

Becky Yahn Droginske, Owner

Securities Offered Through LPL Financial, Member FINRA/SIPC. Investment Advice offered through Commonwealth Financial Services LLC, a registered investment advisor and separate entity from LPL Financial.

Todd E. Kimpel
ChFC, CLU

21 Warden Run Road, Suite 201
Wheeling, WV 26003

voice 304.230.2384
fax 304.230.2385
toll-free 866.266.5955
e-mail todd.kimpel@cfswv.com
**Sassy Dogs**
1073 McCulloch Street • Wheeling
304-232-0414

Loving Care for Pampered Pets
Convenient Hours/
By Appointment
Full Service Grooming
Vet Recommended

**Richardson Copy Concepts**
TOSHIBA
COPY-FAX-PRINT

Full Color & Black & White Quick Print
Blue Print Copies
Guaranteed to match any price,
including overnight copies.
24-hour Service

72 East Cove Avenue, Wheeling, WV
304-242-1030

**NORTHERN PANHANDLE HEAD START, INC.**
School Readiness • Comprehensive Services

Partners with local school systems to support the 4-year old
WV Universal Pre-K Initiative. Services provided in most areas.
Prenatal to age 3 programs also available.
Call TODAY for enrollment details.

304-233-3290 OR 1-877-732-3307
WWW.NPHEADSTART.ORG

**How can we help?**

- Complete Funeral Arrangements
- Flexible Cost Options
- Pre-Planning Assistance
- Grief Support Resources
- Cremation Services
- Out-Of-Town Arrangements
- Video Tribute
- Available 24 Hours
- Renpek Pet Memorials

Serving the community from five convenient locations: Downtown Wheeling • South Wheeling • Woodsdale • Elm Grove • Warwood
(304) 232-5110 www.kepnerfuneral.com

Co-Presidents:
John D. Kepner and James B. Kepner
Larry Dean, COIC

**Kepner**
FUNERAL HOMES & Crematory