



8:30 Worship Service 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Service

Pressing on with Pastor Deb - PASTOR DEBRA DAGUE

As we enter this season of Thanksgiving and prepare our hearts for Christmas, I invite you to pause and reflect on where our focus truly belongs.

In Luke 2:10–11, the angel proclaims: “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.”

Gratitude is the heart of the season. Gratitude for the greatest gift ever given. Thanksgiving reminds us to count our blessings, and Christmas reveals the source of all of them: Jesus Christ. In a world that often rushes past reflection, let us be intentional in giving thanks not only for what we have, but for who we have, Emmanuel, God with us. As we celebrate, may we also be intentional in letting God lead us. Ask God to show you where and how you can share God’s love, hope, peace, and joy with those around you. Whether through a kind word, a helping hand, or a quiet prayer, God delights in using us to bring God’s light into the lives of others.

Whether your table is full or your days feel quiet, may you find joy in the presence of Christ and peace in God’s promises. Let’s carry the spirit of Thanksgiving into our Christmas celebrations, with hearts full of worship and hands ready to serve.

Grateful for each of you,

Pressing on.....
- Pastor Deb

November's Sermon Series - THE WORSHIP TEAM

“Anchored in Christ: Spiritual Commitments”

The Worship Team has a very enriching and exciting Sermon Series planned for November. I am sharing the theme and Scripture for each week with you. I hope that you will take time each week to prepare your heart by reading these Scriptures and sitting with Jesus in prayer.

November 2 – Gifts – All Saints Sunday

Spiritual Gifts: Romans 12:6–8, 1 Corinthians 12:4–11, Ephesians 4:11–13

Generosity and Giving: 2 Corinthians 9:6–8, Matthew 6:21, Proverbs 11:25

God's Gift to Us: James 1:17, John 3:16, Isaiah 11:2

November 9 – Witness

Acts 1:1-11

Matthew 5:13–16

1 Peter 3:13-22

Romans 10:14–15

November 16 – Service

Mark 10: 35-45

Galatians 5:13-26

Matthew 25:35–40

Philippians 2:3–7

Romans 12:11–13

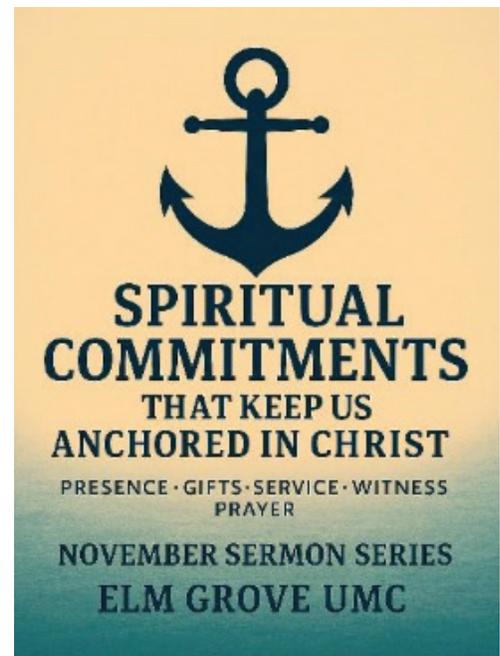
John 13:12–17

November 23 – Presence “WELCOME NEW MEMBERS”

Being present in the moment: Luke 10:41–42

Our presence with others: Romans 12:9-21

God's presence with us: Psalm 139:7–10, Exodus 33:14, Matthew 28:20



Something Sacred Is Coming

This Advent Season, we will journey together through mystery, through waiting, through hope. We'll uncover the ancient promises, the whispers of a Savior, and the unfolding story that changed everything.

Come experience this Sacred beginning November 30.



Choir Notes - ANITA CHOPS

Our choir is hard at work preparing music for our 11:00 services. While they are doing that, we are starting the CHRISTMAS CANTATA, "A THRILL OF HOPE" by Joel Raney. "A thrill of hope. The weary world rejoices!" Nothing captures the awe and wonder of Christmas better than that single phrase from John Dwight's "O Holy Night", and it serves as the cornerstone of this Christmas musical. A Thrill of Hope looks at the birth of Christ from four distinct vantage points—celebrating the HOPE he brought, the LOVE he showed, the PEACE he promised, and the JOY of Emmanuel, God with us, forevermore! The music is filled with an array of familiar carols and hymns; all arranged in a wide variety of moods and musical styles to create a riveting re-telling of the Christmas story.

If you are interested in having a SPECTACULAR MUSICAL EXPERIENCE this Christmas, come and join us on Wednesdays from 7:30 – 8:00 at Elm Grove UMC. However, in mid-November, we may be practicing longer to 8:30 to make sure we get everything just right. Call Anita Chops at 304-551-1414.



Active Mission Prep (AMP) – PEGGY LAING

If you are looking for a small group to join, please consider AMP. We only meet once a month on the 3rd Monday from 10:00-12:00, in the Fellowship Hall just down three steps from the Center Street entrance. If you can trace a pattern onto cloth, cut out a pattern, use an iron, flatten plastic bags or cut strips from plastic bags, you will be welcomed with cheers and great conversation.

In just ten months, this group has made and distributed 30 duffle bags to local organizations to use for children/youth moving into or out of foster care situations. These bags went to YSS, Helenski Center, House of the Carpenter, Madison Elementary, Mary and Martha House, and Florence Crittenton. Thanks to our Stitches of Caring group, each of the bags now also includes a handmade blanket.

The plastic bags that are cut into strips are used by Nancy Kish to make mats for the unhoused people. If you knit, you could learn how to make mats. The need is great as that population continues to grow locally. AMP can find a way for you to help make lives better for people in stress. PLEASE JOIN US.

Stewardship – SUSI WHITECOTTON

Because of everyone's help – bakers, callers, ticket sellers and buyers, cooks, kitchen helpers, take out handlers, waiters and waitresses, money changers, the sign makers and sign posters, the donors, the chicken dinner garnered a profit of \$4700.00. Thank you all very much.

Susie's Sweets Auction, in loving memory of Susie Hewitt, will be held on Sunday before Thanksgiving, November 23, 2025. We will have one service at 10:00 AM with a covered dish lunch to follow. Then, the excitement begins. With Wayne McCord as our auctioneer, we will have cakes, pies, cookies, candies, rolls, etc. to be auctioned. So, once again I am calling you for help. We need cookies, pies, rolls, cakes, candy, or anything else you would like to contribute to be auctioned. We also will have a Chinese auction and would appreciate any basket or item you can contribute.

Hospitality – BECKY MCCOLLOUGH

Trunk or Treat was an enormous success! We had twenty trunks, and we estimate that we saw over three hundred children with their families! It was a spooky fun time with Halloween tunes that got the crowd boppin', and we saw lots of smiles with tons of gratitude.

THANK YOU to all who participated, including Ohio County Sheriff Harry Nelson Croft, Jr., and thank you to all who donated candy. It was a tremendous help!

If you missed participating this year, consider joining us next year! We would like to expand this event and offer free hot cocoa & cookies to all the little ghouls and goblins.

If you are interested in spearheading this effort, see Molly Beresh or Becky McCullough.





Lois's Stitches of Caring - KAREN MULDREW

Have you ever wondered what happens to all the lap afghans, hats, scarves, and prayer shawls that the ladies of Lois's Stitches of Caring make?

Since October 2024, 18 lap blankets were donated to the Trinity/First English Lutheran Church for Christmas giveaway. 18 Lap blankets to Liza's Place. 18 Lap blankets to Middle Creek School. Lap blankets were given to Sherry Nolan, Linda Beisner, Jack Yost, and Karen Kittle. One lap afghan to the Quarter Auction, and four to Rosella Ealy for Sand Hill United Methodist Church.



The following were put in bags for the Active Mission in Prep (AMP): four to Florence Crittenton Home, five to Madison Elementary School, five to Mary & Martha House, three hat & scarves sets, along with 27 hats to Pine Ridge Reservations, and five additional blankets to Peggy Laing to put in bags for AMP. Just a reminder: If school is cancelled, we are cancelled.

United Methodist Men - TODD KIMPEL PRESIDENT/SECRETARY

We recently agreed to change from a regular monthly meeting to meeting when we have a project for our Church or a community event that would be central to our purpose. If you have any questions, please reach out to Todd Kimpel at 304-639-0940.

Iney's Pre-Loved Boutique - JAN COFFEY

WINTER HOURS
3rd Saturdays Only
December through April
9:00 - 12:00
FREE COMMUNITY LUNCH — 11:00 - 12:00

Mission News – WAYNE MCCORD

Mission in Action!

We've had a busy summer. July, we looked out for our fine, four-legged friends who may have been displaced due to the rains and high waters of June. We collected four 15-pound bags of dry dog food, three 15 pounds of dry cat food, 56 cans of cat food, a 10-pound box of dog biscuits, and two small 1-pound boxes of dog biscuits. 26 leashes, a combination of 45 animal toys, three dog sweaters, and \$303.00 for medication.

In August, our thoughts turned back to school items. Pencils, markers, and glue sticks were delivered along with our September collection of winter clothing items for the school kids. We collected for Elm Grove Elementary, Bridge Street Middle, and Ritchie Elementary. Ritchie received one pair of boots and three pairs of slippers. The following items were too numerous to keep accurate counts. All three of the schools received hats, gloves, coats, shirts, and socks.

For October we collected undergarments for shelters. Thank you for your donations in the baskets guarded by "Mr. Bones".



United Women of Faith – ANITA CHOPS & JUDY BEAVER CO-PRESIDENTS

Our November meeting will be on Tuesday, November 13, at noon. Please bring lunch, and refreshments will be provided by Cathy Jones and Sandy Beabout. Our program is our WORLD THANK OFFERING presented by Alice Runkle. Please bring your World Thank offering to the meeting. Our Pledge Service will be presented by Judy Beaver.

Our December meeting will be our annual Christmas luncheon. It will be a covered dish, so bring something for everyone to enjoy. The hostesses for this meeting will be our executive committee. We will have games and prizes and caroling. It truly is a lot of fun. ALL ARE INVITED TO ATTEND!!! Call Anita Chops or Judy Beaver. There's a sign-up sheet on the welcome table.

Thursday Music Club Invitation – ANITA CHOPS

I would like to take this opportunity to invite any women in our church or in the community to join the Thursday Music Club and/or chorus. A lot of our women belong, and it's a wonderful organization. The dues are \$20.00 a year. The meetings take place at Char House on Bethlehem Boulevard on the first Thursday of each month. Lunch is \$20 and includes lunch, dessert, coffee, and/or tea. But the best part of the meeting is the entertainment each month. If you are interested, talk to Anita Chops, Peggy Laing, Alice Runkle, Susi Whitecotton, Linda Sandiford, Sandy Loughman or Judy Beaver.

Vacation Bible School - MOLLY BERESH

Vacation Bible School will be here before you know it, and we are tentatively planning on a date in June 2026. Before that happens, we have some exciting news! An Eagle Scout project has found its way to our doorstep. We were in desperate need of a workroom and storage space because as VBS continues to grow, we are always striving to make it bigger and better each year. That means bigger, more elaborate sets and the means to create and store our projects. This fall, one of our Scouts from Troop 29 is going to be transforming the bell room into a workroom and storage space for that need. No longer will VBS supplies be scattered in every nook and cranny in the church. We will have dedicated space to create and store our projects.



**“RAINFOREST
FALLS”
COMING
JUNE 2026!**

Thank you to the Administrative Council for approving this project, and thank you to Anita Chops for being willing to move the bell choir to another location.

Planning for VBS 2026 will begin after the holidays. If you are interested in being a part of this awesome team, see Molly Beresh for volunteer opportunities.

Embrace Ministry - A Vision of the EGUMC Evangelism Team

SUBMITTED BY: PASTOR DEB

Embrace Ministry is dedicated to creating a joyful, inclusive space where individuals with disabilities and their families can encounter God and be part of a loving community. Rooted in the vision of Elm Grove UMC and supported by a WV UMC Foundation Grant and community partnerships, Embrace has already hosted meaningful outreach events during the Easter and fall seasons, and a Vacation Bible School.

Coming Soon:

EMBRACE WORSHIP - “A Service for EVERY BODY”

November 20, at 6:30 PM

Elm Grove United Methodist Church

In collaboration with local group homes, Embrace Worship will offer a multi-sensory worship experience—featuring Scripture, storytelling, music, crafts, and many ways for people to worship in their own way. This service is designed to be accessible, engaging, and spiritually enriching for all.

Starting January 2026, EMBRACE WORSHIP will be held monthly on the 3rd Thursday, at 6:30 PM.

Get Involved! If God is calling you to use your gifts in this ministry, let me know. There is a place for EVERY BODY in Embrace Ministry.



Thank You for Being the Hands and Feet of Christ -PASTOR DEB

“And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.”
Hebrews 13:16 (NIV)

It has been four months since devastating flooding impacted our community, and while the waters have receded, the journey of recovery continues. Elm Grove United Methodist Church has been blessed to be part of that journey thanks to your generous support.

Whether through your prayers, monetary donations, or food contributions, you have helped us extend Christ's love in tangible ways. From shoes to water heaters, EGUMC has provided for a wide range of needs. We remain committed to walking alongside our neighbors for the long haul.

Troop 29 - SCOTT BERESH

Eagle Scout Project at EGUMC by Spencer Carnahan-Custer

Spencer will be transforming the old bell room into a Vacation Bible School (VBS) work room and storage space. Currently there is not a good space for the VBS team to be able to make the props that transform the entire church into a special theme during VBS week. Most of the VBS items are reused each year, and they are currently in multiple locations throughout the church. This newly designed room will provide enough storage for all the VBS items to be in one location which will open these other spaces for other storage items.

This project will include a 4'x8' work platform, organized storage capacity, and the ability to work on VBS projects continuously. Spencer plans to have this project completed by the first week of December at an estimated total cost of \$1,500.

If you would like to donate your time or money to the project, please let me know. As always, the troop appreciates how this church supports us in all of our activities. Thank you for your support on this Eagle Scout Project and also the benefit it provides to the church.

Troop Upcoming Events:

March 27 & 28, 2026 - Spring Indoor Yard Sale

April 25, 2026 - Quarter Auction Concession Stand

June 14-20, 2026 - Troop Summer Trip

Worship Service Attendance

Date	8:30 a.m.	11 a.m.
Sept 7	29	56
Sept 14	30	49
Sept 21	35	49
Sept 28	35	50
Oct 5	30	50
Oct 12	30	47
Oct 19	29	50
Oct 26	30	55

New Members

If you have been thinking about joining the Elm Grove Church Family Membership, please contact Pastor Deb or the church office. 304-242-1206

Memorial Gifts

MEMORIALS TO THE TRUSTEES FUND

In Loving Memory of Mary Lou McKain

Mr. and Mrs. David Muldrew
Debbie and Linda Slike
Ruth Millard

In Loving Memory Of Virginia Rogalski

Friends at Woodview Apartments
Karen and David Muldrew



MEMORIALS TO THE ENDOWMENT FUND

by an anonymous donor in Loving Memory

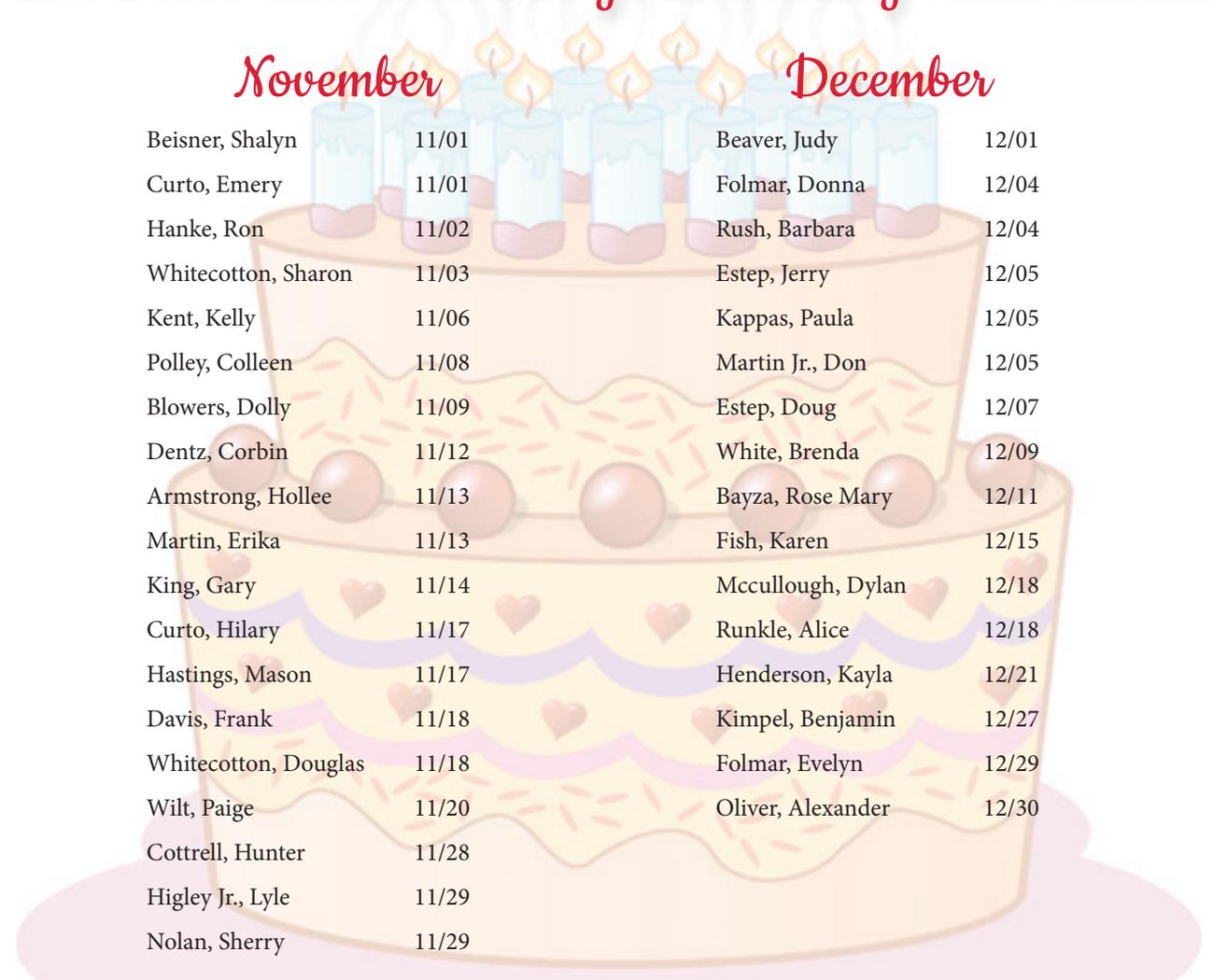
Mr. and Mrs. Rose & Bob Grimes, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Wm. K. Grimes
Mr. and Mrs. Russell Albert
Mr. and Mrs. Donald Jones
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Clawson
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Marshall
Ms. Susan Perry
Mr. Irwin Bailey
Mr. and Mrs. Hollis Robinson
Mr. and Mrs. Abner Wolfe

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Grimes, Sr.
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Imes
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Sieber
Mr. and Mrs. Leon Fisher
Mr. and Mrs. Willard Marshall
Mrs. Jo Ann Marple-Masucci
Mr. Thos. E. Irr
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Prager
Mrs. Ruth Douglas

Elm Grove U.M.C. Birthdays & Wedding Anniversaries

November

December

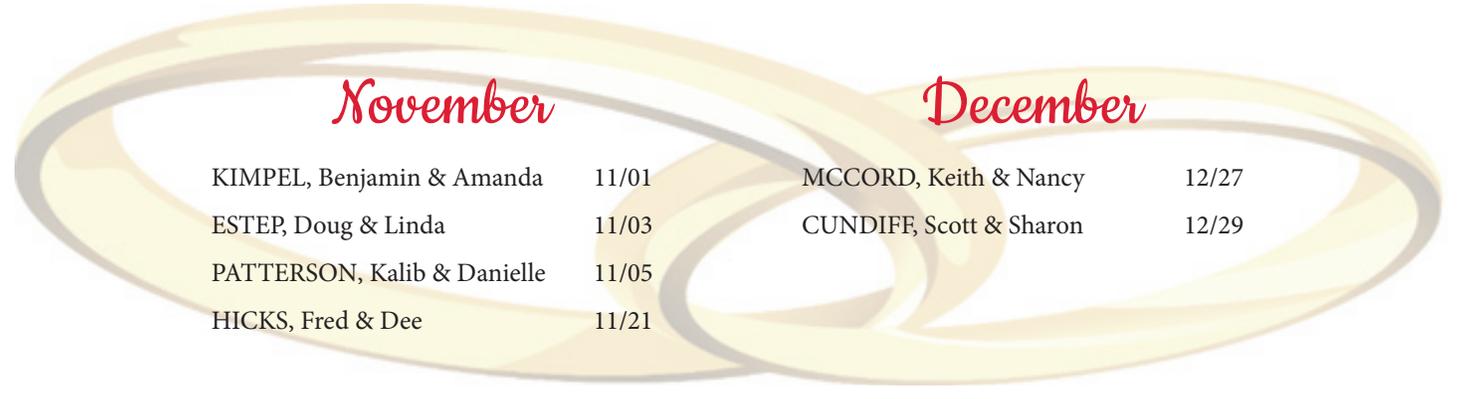


Beisner, Shalyn	11/01	Beaver, Judy	12/01
Curto, Emery	11/01	Folmar, Donna	12/04
Hanke, Ron	11/02	Rush, Barbara	12/04
Whitecotton, Sharon	11/03	Estep, Jerry	12/05
Kent, Kelly	11/06	Kappas, Paula	12/05
Polley, Colleen	11/08	Martin Jr., Don	12/05
Blowers, Dolly	11/09	Estep, Doug	12/07
Dentz, Corbin	11/12	White, Brenda	12/09
Armstrong, Hollee	11/13	Bayza, Rose Mary	12/11
Martin, Erika	11/13	Fish, Karen	12/15
King, Gary	11/14	Mccullough, Dylan	12/18
Curto, Hilary	11/17	Runkle, Alice	12/18
Hastings, Mason	11/17	Henderson, Kayla	12/21
Davis, Frank	11/18	Kimpel, Benjamin	12/27
Whitecotton, Douglas	11/18	Folmar, Evelyn	12/29
Wilt, Paige	11/20	Oliver, Alexander	12/30
Cottrell, Hunter	11/28		
Higley Jr., Lyle	11/29		
Nolan, Sherry	11/29		

Wedding Anniversaries

November

December



KIMPEL, Benjamin & Amanda	11/01	MCCORD, Keith & Nancy	12/27
ESTEP, Doug & Linda	11/03	CUNDIFE, Scott & Sharon	12/29
PATTERSON, Kalib & Danielle	11/05		
HICKS, Fred & Dee	11/21		

*If you see a mistake on this list, please contact the church office so we can update our database.

Thank you!

We Have Great News - JOYCE KIMPEL

Danielle Seabright has agreed to take charge of the Sparks Newsletter. She is very excited to handle this project. I am eternally grateful. Thank you, Danielle.



Gratitude for a Faithful Servant & Welcome to a New Chapter - PASTOR DEB

Elm Grove UMC extends our heartfelt thanks to Joyce Kimble for her faithful service and leadership in producing our church newsletter. Joyce has been a true servant leader—dedicated, creative, and committed to keeping our congregation informed and inspired. Her work has been a blessing to us all.

As Joyce steps back, we celebrate the thoughtful way she has prepared Danielle “Dee” Seabright to take on this important role. Dee comes to us with a deep passion for writing and a heartfelt desire to use her gifts to serve God and our church family. We are excited to see how her voice and vision will shape the newsletter in the months ahead.

We’re also grateful that Bill Daniels, Sandy Beabout, and Linda Biesner will continue to serve alongside Dee, offering their support and experience to ensure the newsletter remains a vibrant reflection of our church’s life and mission.

Please join us in thanking Joyce, welcoming Dee, and praying for this team as they continue to share the good news through the written word.

We hope you like our Newsletter!!

Your Newsletter Team- Danielle Seabright, Bill Daniel, and Luke from RSQP Print & Design. Please send all submissions to Danielle at dseabright@gmail.com by the 15th day of the month prior to printing. Sparks will print quarterly. Winter Jan-Mar, Spring Apr-June, Summer July-Sept, and Fall Oct-Dec.

Thank You:

Sandy Beabout and Linda Beisner for labeling and mailing the Newsletters.

Denise Williamson for printing the labels and getting the Newsletter to bulk mailing.

Becky McCullough for placing the digital copy on the website.

All of our contributors.

Church Phone 304-242-1206



SPARKS

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SPARKS

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2025

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