



2024

# ELDERTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## MAY – NEWSLETTER – 2024

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### PASTORS PAGE

#### “Remember Lots Wife”

Family values are considered the bedrock of a healthy household. Usually, they are a set of ideals that shape a family's morals, priorities, and tradition. How a family fosters or creates values of empathy and understanding is considered a family value. Prioritizing quality time spent with one another like sharing meals, playing games, or having heartfelt conversations is considered something which enhances family value. Open communication and trust are essential to building good family values. And, of course love is essential to building strong family values.

In our text, Jesus is proclaiming the ultimate family value by declaring what the kingdom of God is like and how we should interpret our lives according to new set of values that every Christian must have. Jesus Christ wants us to have a set of values that connect us to the kingdom of God. The Kingdom of God is a central element in the teaching of Jesus Christ and has formed the core of attempts to reconstruct what He taught. In Luke 17:21 we hear Jesus identifying the kingdom of God. <sup>21</sup>Some will say, 'Look, here it is!' or 'There!' for behold, the kingdom of God is in the midst of you." Jesus was identifying the power of the kingdom of God to cast out demons, in Matthew 12:28 <sup>28</sup>But if it is by the Spirit of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. In the gospel of Luke Jesus says seek first the kingdom of God. This is our priority. This is our value.

Jesus uses Lot's wife as an example of committing yourself to the right values to live and seek the kingdom of God.

Lot's Wife Constructed Life Through Her Own Values.

Lot and his family were delivered by God from the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah. The instructions of the angel to Lot and his family are specific in Genesis 19:17 "Escape for your life. Do not look back or stop anywhere in the valley. Escape to the hills, lest you be swept away." Lot and his wife are running away from the destruction but something pulls Lot's wife. I believe that is the status she is leaving that keeps pulling at her. I believe that it is the possessions that she is leaving behind that fill her heart so much that she can't help but look back and immediately turns into stone. Her death resulted from turning to look back at Sodom and Gomorrah. She is a negative illustration of the consequences of holding on to life's possessions.

We Are Sometimes Driven by Our Values Instead of Values of the Kingdom of God.

God demands of us to make choices between the kingdom of God and our desire to own things and gain status. Life is not to be constructed according to the desires of this world. We are drawn to our own status and the number of possessions we have. This is not abnormal because we are influenced by the world. Day after day the world is against God. We are called to live and pursue the kingdom of God. In other words, Jesus demands that we give him our whole lives. Losing your life is giving your life to Jesus Christ and a commitment to be his disciple.

The Value Jesus is Demanding of Lives.

Our lives are built on the values of the kingdom of God, our identities are subsumed by the Holy Spirit and it is his Spirit that drives our purpose to be the same as the kingdom of God. We have to make up in our minds that when we decide to follow Jesus, we are full steam ahead no turning back. Jesus' warning against turning back recalls the fate of Lot's wife who looked back and was turned into a pillar of salt. Trying to sustain a life without Jesus Christ is a life of illusion. If we are more concerned about our possessions and status then we are concerned about our identity which is built on Jesus, the rock of our salvation, and we spend our lives seeking security in things, we will ultimately lose our lives but if we give our lives in pursuit of Jesus Christ and his kingdom, we will save our lives.

Seeking Jesus Christ opens our eyes, sets us free, and saves our lives. Possessions and status are not to be the center of our values. Saints, do not look to status and possessions for life's worth. Remember Lot's wife and keep your eyes on Jesus.

Your Brother because of Him,

Angel

# GREETERS & ACOLYTE'S

**IF THE DATE ASSIGNED TO YOU CONFLICTS WITH YOUR SCHEDULE,  
PLEASE TRADE WITH SOMEONE ELSE ON THE LIST AND INFORM THE CHURCH OFFICE OF THIS CHANGE.**

**GREETERS** should be at the door at 10:10 AM, the bell should be rung 10 times at 10:15 and again at 10:30 AM. Please hand out the morning bulletin. Close the doors when the service begins. You will also take up the offering, get the collection plates before the service begins; they are on the first pew in the back section of the church (in the black cloth bag).

**Please lock the front doors of the church at 10:30. Pull to make sure the door is latched, use the small "key" found on the window ledge, insert it into the bar of the door and turn until the bar pops out.**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>GREETERS</u>	<u>ACOLYTES</u>
May 5	Sue and Lee Pierce	Aaron Quinn
May 12	Bob and Kim Anderson	Mia Scrips
May 19	MaKayla, Mia, Liam and Jonah Scrips	Emily Johns
May 26	Joe Scrips and Bob Griffin	Liam Scrips
June 2	Cory and Melissa Grantz	Copper Grantz



## FLOWERS FOR MAY

May 5 and 12 –Blythe Johns  
May 19 and 26 – open  
May 26 – Linda Prugh – table arrangement  
June 2 and 9 - open

Joanie Riggle is the contact person for the flower calendar. If anyone wishes to request a date for chancel flowers or for an organ or table arrangement, please schedule with Joanie 724-954-1671.



Red is the color of Pentecost.  
Celebrating the descent of the Holy Spirit  
on the disciples of  
Jesus after his ascension.  
The color symbolizes joy and  
the fire of the Holy Spirit.

Please join us as we celebrate  
**Pentecost Sunday, May 19, 2024**

We will have communion and celebrate  
by wearing red and/or white.

## GRADUATING FROM HIGH SCHOOL OR COLLEGE?

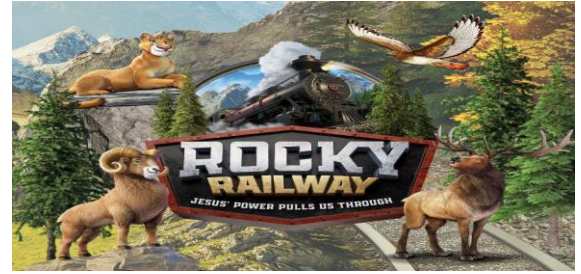


If you are graduating from high school, college; business school, master's degree, etc.

please contact the church office  
724-354-3117

An information packet will be mailed to each graduate.

Please return the completed information to the church office by June 12, 2024.



Elderton Presbyterian Church will host  
Vacation Bible School

June 3-7, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm.

Emily Spencer and Barbara Johns  
will direct the program.

We need volunteers to help make this a success.

If you are interested in helping, please contact  
Emily Spencer 724-954-4591

To register your child,  
visit: [eldertonpc.org](http://eldertonpc.org)  
and print the registration form



## Holy Baptism

### THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

On Sunday, April 14, 2024,  
we participated in the baptism of

Shawna Taylor

In a spirit of thanksgiving and promise,  
let us commit ourselves to Shawna's  
nurture and guidance in the Christian faith.



## SUMMER CAMPS

June 16 - 21 – Calling all Harry Potter Fans: Wet -n-Wild

June 30 – July 5 – Sports Mania & Exploration Camp

July 7 – 12 – Music Camp

July 14 – 19 – Family Camp A

July 21–26 – Family Camp B

July 28 – August 2 – Family Camp C

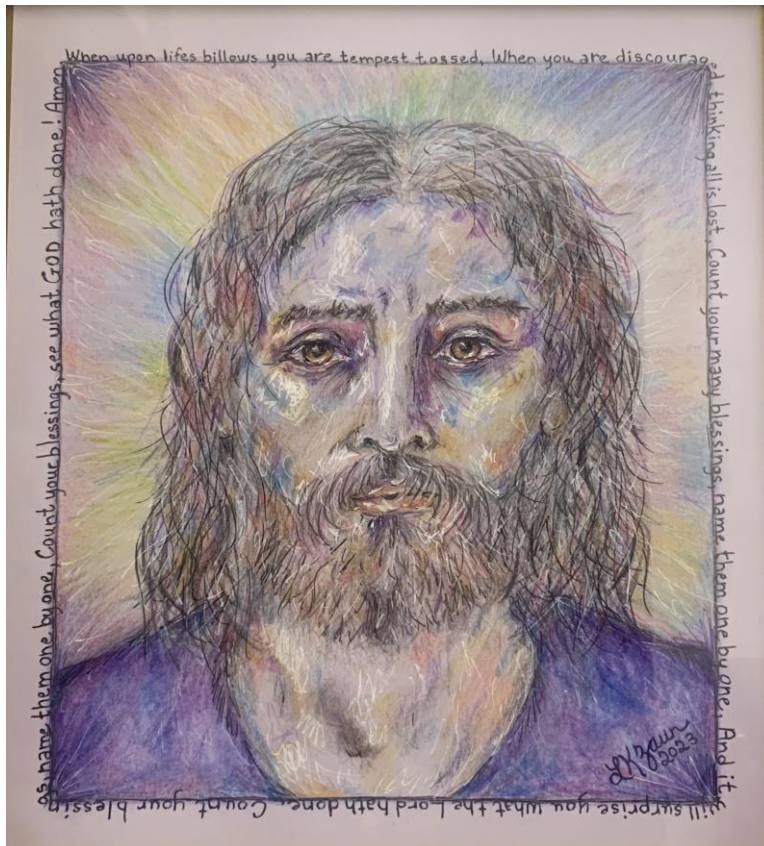
For more information, and registration  
please contact the church office  
724-354-3117



The Area Agency on Aging of Armstrong County  
offers home delivered meals.

You can receive seven frozen meals delivered every Friday, 8:00 am – 12:00 pm.  
You must be over 60 to qualify, donations are accepted but not expected.

For more information and to sign up please call 724-548-3290.



We would like to thank Larry and Linda Prugh for donating a picture of Jesus to the church.

The picture is hanging in the front vestibule, please take a moment to look at it.

The picture was drawn by our local artist Linda Zahn.

### MAY BIRTHDAYS

Brooks Fleming – 2nd  
Bobby Anderson – 2nd  
Paul Meyers - 4th  
Jamey Brumbaugh – 6th  
Chad Taylor – 7th  
Rodney Howard – 9th  
Kaely Klonowski – 10th  
Amanda Schrecengost – 10th  
Emily Johns – 10th  
Katherine Amanlou – 10th  
Steven Hankey – 13th  
Russell Schall – 14th  
Tandi Spencer – 14th  
Kris Hilty – 15th  
Peg Rowan – 16th  
Mark Schrecengost, Jr. – 16th  
Dewey Hixenbaugh – 17th  
Jennifer Johns - 18th  
Jodi Rearick – 20th  
Kurt Flickinger – 20th  
Braden Tutak – 21st  
Adam Quinn – 23rd  
Rylee Riggle – 23rd  
Blythe Johns – 24th  
Luke Schrecengost – 24th  
Melissa Rupert – 26th  
Evan Hilty – 28th  
Carmen Myers – 31st

### MAY ANNIVERSARIES

Will and Val Orr – 1st, 2007  
Rod and Kathy Burns – 2nd, 1981  
Lee and Sue Pierce – 17th, 2014 – **10 years**  
Vaughn and Margie Wood – 16th, 1967  
Nick and Jenny Shultz – 20th, 2000  
Denny and Heather Bell – 21st, 2004 – **20 years**  
Colton and Shelby Fairman – 21st, 2022  
Tim and Brandi Bertolino – 23rd, 1998  
Dan and Lisa Brumbaugh – 23rd, 1981  
Larry and Linda Prugh – 26th, 1979 – **45 years**  
Adam and Ashley Quinn – 28th, 2011  
Roy and Colleen Cessna – 30th

## May 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 10:00 – 3:00 Helping Hand	3	4
5 9:30 – Sunday School 10:30 –Worship Service	6	7	8 1:00 – Circle Meeting- Nancy Schrecengost's house	9 6:00 – Session meeting 6:00 – Deacon's meeting	10	11
12  Mother's Day 9:30 – Sunday School 10:30 –Worship Service	13	14	15	16	17	18 9:00-12:00 Helping Hand
19  Pentecost Sunday 9:30 – Sunday School 10:30 –Worship Service – Communion	20 9:00 -Butterfly Hill Toddler Time Promotion	21 9:00 and 11:00 - Butterfly Hill Caterpillar Class Promotion  10:00 – 3:00 Helping Hand	22 9:00 and 11:00 - Butterfly Hill Butterfly Graduation	23 6:00 – Christian Ed Meeting	24	25
26 9:30 – Sunday School 10:30 –Worship Service	27 Memorial Day  11:00 – Elderton Fireman Parade	28	29	30	31	

### MEMORIAL DAY....

**THE DAY THAT'S SET ASIDE TO REMEMBER WITH GRATITUDE AND PRIDE  
ALL THOSE WHO SERVED AND DIED FOR OUR COUNTRY AND OUR FREEDOM.**