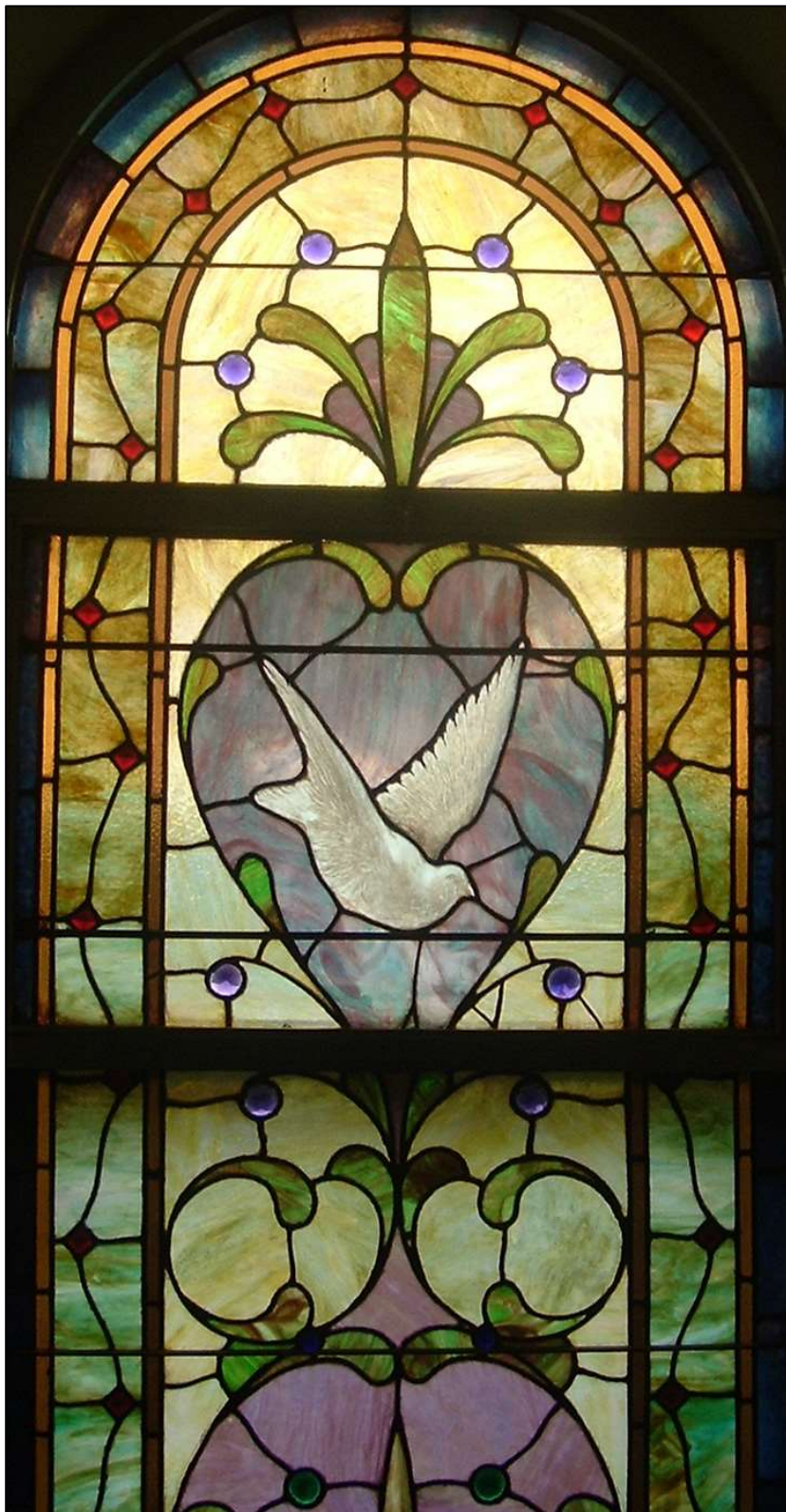


ELIAS COMMUNICATOR

Called by Christ, we live our faith in Word and Deed

August/September 2023



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From the **PASTOR**

Grace and peace to you - in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

“For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.” – Ecclesiastes 3:1 These words are accredited to King Solomon. However, my first encounter with this beautiful prose was from a song by the 1960’s folk/rock band The Byrds. They paraphrase Solomon in their song “Turn, Turn, Turn.” I’m a big fan of that genre of music and it often helps me to relax.

As I write this we are in the middle of a hot spell. There is a time for every season and I’m looking forward to fall weather. The seasons are not the only time of change we experience in our lives. If you have not done it already – I encourage you to read the entire chapter of Ecclesiastes 3. Solomon gives many examples of changing seasons. There is a planting season and a harvest season, times of sadness and times of laughter, seasons to save and store, and there are times to spend and give. There is also a time of new beginnings. I’m experiencing that individually and we are experiencing that collectively as I begin my new call as your pastor.

Fully aware of the rich history of Elias Lutheran Church, I cannot help but believe that God will continue to bless us as we live out our mission: “Called by Christ, we live our faith in Word and Deed.” One of the main points of the book of Ecclesiastes is that despite the season, God is in control. Through our seasons of life, individually as followers of Christ, and our seasons of life as a congregation, God promises to always be with us.

I thank you for your kindness and your encouragement. As we walk out this journey together, I look forward to seeing what God has in store for us. May you and your families be blessed as we transition from one season to the next.

In Christ,

Pastor Joe

Pastor Joe’s Installation(s)

Pastor Joe will be formally installed as the pastor of Elias Evangelical Lutheran Church and the pastor of St. John Lutheran Church of Thurmont at a joint service on Saturday, September 23, beginning at 3:00 pm. Bishop William Gohl will conduct the installations, which will be held at St. John in Thurmont.

All members of the greater Elias congregation are encouraged to attend. Further details will be announced as they are known.

Coming Events

Yard Sale/Soup-and-Sandwich Sales

Thanks to all who helped in any way with the July yard sale and soup-and-sandwich sale: those who worked at them, those who contributed materials, and those who came and bought. Thanks to your efforts, we realized a total after expenses of \$5524.50.

The next yard sale/soup-and-sandwich sale will be held on November 9, 10, and 11. Now is a great time to bring in materials for the yard sale, so that Connie Fisher and her helpers have time to get everything priced and laid out nicely. There also will be a craft table and a bake sale with all sorts of home-made goodies. Please contact Connie if you have questions, or if you can help during the sale. Deb Zimmerman is heading up the soup-and-sandwich sale; contact her if you are available to help.

Prayer Hotline

For anonymous prayer support, call the Mother Seton Prayer Line: 866-202-4934.

Food 4 Kids

Food 4 Kids is available on the first and third Saturdays of each month, 9:30 AM - 12 noon, in the big Sunday School room. You may get a FREE bag of food consisting of 4 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 4 snacks and 4 drinks for each child up to 18 years old. Please share this information with anyone you think would benefit from this program.

W/ELCA

The ladies will gather in the dining room at 10:00 AM on August 15 and September 19 for Bible study, followed by a luncheon at 11:30 and then Bingo. Please bring a friend, your bible if coming to the Bible study, and a prize for Bingo.

Flower Charts

Flower charts for 2023 are in the back window of the sanctuary (pulpit side), and there are still open dates. Flowers for the altar are \$35.00. When paying, please indicate that the money is payment for flowers. This is a meaningful way to celebrate life events or honor those who are no longer with us.

Corner

Council

Pastor Joe will be formally installed as our pastor on September 23; we hope there will be a good turnout from Elias. After all, we don't do this very often – it will be only our fifth installation in 96 years! It will be a dual installation (one pastor, two congregations), to make life easier for Bishop Gohl, and will be held at St. John in Thurmont.

Note that Pastor Joe has established his weekly schedule; it is posted on page 7. As with anything else, it is subject to change.

If you're like me, you look forward all year to the annual congregation meeting. With that in mind, it's not too early to be thinking about annual elections. There will be several slots opening up on the Congregation Council; if you might be interested in joining the council, speak to any council member.

The council has chosen Cindy Grimes, owner of J&B Real Estate, Inc., to handle the sale of the parsonage. We will share information on that process as it becomes available.

Frank Schmearsal

Officers for 2023

PresidentFrank Schmearsal
Vice PresidentCindy Rohrbaugh
Secretary.....Deb Zimmerman
TreasurerCortney Wiles
DeaconsNina Dolly, Bob Hampson, Judy Manahan, Matt
Provance, Cindy Rohrbaugh, Frank Schmearsal, Nita
Shank, Shaun Shriner, Deb Zimmerman

School Daze

Well, it's back to school, again! I'm retired from teaching, and I do miss it. I especially liked many of the returning days, such as when Carlos got new glasses and told me, "Mrs. Buckham, you looks good with my glasses on, but you looks better with um off." Yes, I miss it!

Anyway, years ago, and I do mean years ago, I became certified to teach Pre-K through 12th grade. Then, after years of teaching Elementary Special Education students, I wanted to teach high school students. I was supposed to teach English and Reading, which thrilled me. However, on the opening day of school, I was told that another teacher wanted to teach those subjects, and as the new teacher, I would be teaching Social Studies instead. I was no longer enthused.

I actually always hated Social Studies, because of all of the dates I was supposed to remember. Now, I could remember how to spell CAT, but I just could not remember any dates, other than 1492, and that was merely due to the Columbus poem. So, I really never saw any reason for my trying to remember various dates, but I do now. Yes, I really do now, and fortunately I can also check out dates on a cell phone, rather than my having to lug out the encyclopedia. That is what I used to have to do to find out dates. Dates, which I now have to know during my numerous conversations about historical events. Of course, I could make it easier on myself, and stick to hysterical events, which need no dates, or I could just make up some!!

So, I realized that Social Studies is important, and that this subject can be taught in many thrilling ways. Making up catchy tunes, such as the Columbus one, became one thing we always did, and this type of activity can make returning to school exciting for all each year.

I also found that role-playing lessons could be done often, such as when I taught one particular chapter in the textbook. It stated that the ships, which carried the slaves, had those people layered like sardines. For this, I had my one girl student be in charge of the others, as the boys laid on the floor in a line. We only role-played this for a few minutes, because they thought this was a cruel, evil way to treat people. Lesson accomplished. I remember this lesson, as well as many others, and I feel my students do too.

Teaching Social Studies became extremely interesting, and later when I taught Elementary Students again, I super-charged those lessons. You should have seen us on the playground fighting the Civil War during Grandparents Day!

Again, I learned that God does work in strange ways. I feel it certainly had to be His plan to have me teach Social Studies, so that I could learn that it encompasses so much more than dates. However, there is one year I can always remember. That is the year in which I was born, though I have changed it twice, and because of this I may soon be the youngest of three children rather than the oldest!

Mary-Elizabeth Buckham

Called to *Serve*

HEAD DEACONS

August – Matt Provance

September – Nita Shank

ALTAR CHAIRPERSONS

August – Nita Shank

September – Nita Shank

LECTORS

August 6 – Nina Dolly

August 13 – Paul Harner

August 20 – Matt Provance

August 27 – Renata Provance

Sept. 3 – Frank Schmersal

Sept. 10 – Nita Shank

Sept. 17 – Deb Zimmerman

Sept. 24 – Nina Dolly

October 6 – Paul Harner



Elias Lutheran Church Stewardship Report

Facts and Figures



Attendance	2023
Total Sunday attendance through July 23, 2023	924
Average Sunday attendance (30 services)	31
Total Wednesday attendance through July 26, 2023	244
Average Wednesday attendance (25 services)	10
Average weekly attendance	41

Pastor Joe's Schedule

Pastor Joe's schedule is as follows:

Monday – Elias home visits

Tuesday – at St. John, Thurmont

Wednesday – at Elias, Emmitsburg

Thursday – at Elias or working from home

Friday – off

Saturday – sermon preparation (at home)

Sunday – services at St. John and Elias, then off

He can be reached by the church phone at 301-447-6239, by his cell phone at 443-255-5229, or by email at jherb1@yahoo.com.

Deadline for the August/September issue is
Sunday, September 17

Elias Communicator

is a bi-monthly newsletter of
Elias Lutheran Church.

Services: **Sunday Worship – 10:30 a.m.**
Sunday School – 11:45 a.m.
Wednesday Worship – 9:30 a.m.

All are welcome to attend
and share God's word.

We are located at
100 West North Ave.,
(P.O. Box 465)
Emmitsburg, MD
(301) 447 – 6239

E-mail: eliasluth@gmail.com

Website: www.eliaslutheranchurch.org

Pastor: Rev. Joe Herb



ELIAS LUTHERAN CHURCH IS A PRAYING CONGREGATION. WE HOLD IN COMMUNAL PRAYER THE PEOPLE LISTED HERE AND THOSE IN OUR HOMES, WORKPLACES, AND COMMUNITIES.

Prayers for Healing:

Harriet Buhrman, Elwood Carney, Brenda George, Harry “Bub” Hahn, Fred Hoff, George Hoffman, AJ, Cynthia Knight, Dave Little, Ronda Buhrman Olsen, Gene Stitely, Dustin Winfield, and Sharon Winfield.

Ongoing Prayer Concerns:

Nancy Andrew, Erma Bechtol, Alan Brauer, Brent Cluster, Rex Davis, Annie Eyler, Rosie Eyler, Dani Fink, Dick Fisher, Bev Frushour, Bob Frushour, Kathe Givler, Judy Hale, Paul Hoffman, Betty Leatherman, Annabelle Moffitt, Bobby Moser, Matthew (Pete) Shank, Linda Shields, Diane Shockey, Ernie Shriver, Kenny Slick, Richard Smith, and John Wilhelm.

For those serving in the Military:

Logan Councillor, Jacob Fannin, Jimmy Hoffman, Nathan Jeffcoat, Noretta Kime, Lucas Mort, Austin Schaeffer, Ashley Shank, Sally Shank, Sam Shank, Jacob Whitney, and Kailey Williams.



Prayer shawls and blankets are available!

If you know anyone, on this prayer list or not, who would benefit from a prayer shawl or prayer blanket, please contact Deb Zimmerman (717-334-8318).

August 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 CHURCH COUNCIL 7:00 pm	2 9:30 am – Holy Communion 8:00 pm – AA	3	4 8:00 pm – AA	5 9:30-Noon - Food 4 Kids 8:00 pm – AA
6 10:30 – Holy Communion Lector: Nina Dolly 11:45 – Sunday School	7	8	9 9:30 am – Holy Communion 8:00 pm – AA	10	11 8:00 pm – AA	12 8:00 pm – AA
13 10:30 – Holy Communion Lector: Paul Harner 11:45 – Sunday School	14	15 10:00 am – Ladies’ Bible study, lunch, and Bingo	16 No Wednesday Service 8:00 pm – AA	17	18 8:00 pm – AA	19 9:30-Noon - Food 4 Kids 8:00 pm – AA
20 10:30 – Holy Communion Lector: Matt Provance 11:45 – Sunday School	21	22	23 9:30 am – Holy Communion 8:00 pm – AA	24	25 8:00 pm – AA	26 8:00 pm – AA
27 10:30 – Holy Communion Lector: Renata Provance 11:45 – Sunday School	28	29	30 9:30 am – Holy Communion 8:00 pm – AA	31		

September 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 8:00 pm – AA	2 9:30-Noon - Food 4 Kids 8:00 pm – AA
3 10:30 – Holy Communion Lector: Frank Schmursal 11:45 – Sunday School	4	5 CHURCH COUNCIL 7:00 pm	6 9:30 am – Holy Communion 8:00 pm – AA	7	8 8:00 pm – AA	9 8:00 pm – AA
10 10:30 – Holy Communion Lector: Nita Shank 11:45 – Sunday School	11	12	13 9:30 am – Holy Communion 8:00 pm – AA	14	15 8:00 pm – AA	16 9:30-Noon - Food 4 Kids 8:00 pm – AA
17 10:30 – Holy Communion Lector: Deb Zimmerman 11:45 – Sunday School	18	19 10:00 am – Ladies’ Bible study, lunch, and Bingo	20 9:30 am – Holy Communion 8:00 pm – AA	21	22 8:00 pm – AA	23 3:00 pm – Pastor Joe’s Installation 8:00 pm – AA
24 10:30 – Holy Communion Lector: Nina Dolly 11:45 – Sunday School	25	26	27 9:30 am – Holy Communion 8:00 pm – AA	28	29 8:00 pm – AA	30 8:00 pm – AA



SEE YOU AT ELIAS...IN THE MEANTIME, WE ARE UNITED IN CHRIST OUR LORD

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Elías Communicator
P.O. Box 465
Emmitsburg, MD 21727