

Elgin Congregational Holiness Church

Newsletter Editor:

Pat Davis

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Men's Fellowship: Free Breakfast is the First Saturday of every month at 9am. Everyone Welcome! See Rev. Richard Abram for more information.
- Women's Meeting: Third Thursday of every month. Speak to Sis. Judy Hensley to help or if you have any ideas
- EPIC Youth Night is the First Friday of every Month from 7-10pm. See Melinda Abram for details.
- Remember our youth: They need our help. Contact Sis Melinda Abram to see how you can help.
- Want to write or help with the newsletter? Contact Pat Davis Email: zipzapitsme@gmail.com

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

The Planted Seeds	2
And then It is Winter	3
Announcements	4
Calendar of Events	4
Contact Us	4

Pastor: Rev. Wesley Luke
Asst Pastor: Rev. Judith Luke

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Visit us on the web:

<http://elginchc.weebly.com/>

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*"For when you were
baptised, you were
buried with Christ, and
in baptism you were also
raised with Christ."*

Colossians 2:12

Water Baptism at Elgin Congregational Holiness Church April 7, 2013 at 6 p.m.

The act of water baptism (being immersed in water in response to receiving salvation) is a very important first step in the Christian life. In Matthew 3:13-17, we see the Lord Jesus Himself coming to His cousin John to be baptized, in order to "fulfill all righteousness." He then went on to establish baptism as an eternal ordinance for His church, calling every believer to follow in His footsteps (See Matthew 28:19.)

In our modernized, "comfort zone Christianity," we do, sad to say, tend to take God's commandments far too lightly. As Chuck Colson points out:

"Most Westerners take baptism for granted, but for many in the world the act requires immense courage. In countries like Nepal it once meant imprisonment. For Soviet or Chinese or Eastern bloc believers, it was like signing their own death warrant."¹

A wedding ring is an outward sign that a person is married. A military uniform is an outward sign that a person is involved in that particular branch of service. Similarly, water baptism is a symbol designed by God to identify a person as a disciple of Jesus Christ.

However, I use the word "symbol" here with caution. To say that it is "just a symbol" takes away from the depth and beauty of water baptism. Baptism is a symbol, but it is so much more than that.

When we are saved, we are spiritually baptized into Christ (Galatians 3:27,) and into His Body, the church (1 Corinthians 12:13.) Baptism in water is an outward representation of these inward realities. In Biblical symbolism, water represents inner cleansing (Ephesians 5:26, Hebrews 10:22,) and spiritual rebirth (John 3:5,) both of which are central themes of baptism.

Water baptism is, in essence, a funeral. It is an act of faith in which we testify, both to God and to the world, that the person we were before is dead and buried, and we are raised as a new creation in Christ. This is beautifully illustrated by these Scriptures:

"Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life."- Romans 6:4

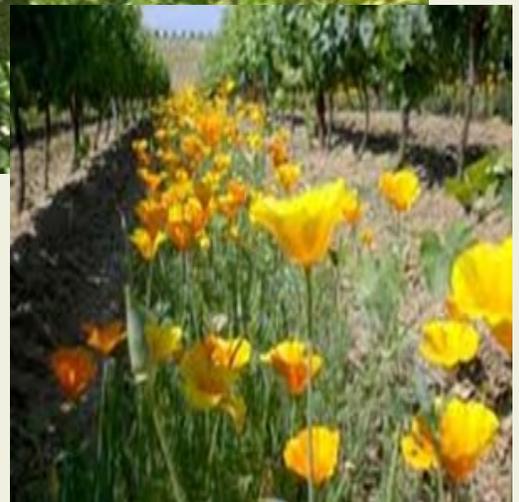
"Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead."-Colossians 2:12

The Planted Seeds



There once was a family that planted seeds in the ground
 They hoped that one day there would be flowers around
 They waited with joy day and night
 They could not wait to see this beautiful sight
 Then an unexpected storm came and they knew the cost
 For their precious flowers would surely be lost
 They went on through the days
 with their hearts filled with doom

They walked out the door one sunny new day
 Something caught their eye where their seeds once lay
 They stood in amazement as they turned around
 For there were dozens of flowers there on the ground
 All the plowing and labor they had done in that dirt
 Was done with such care that no storm could hurt
 The very same thing that nearly tore them apart
 Is now such a beauty that it has captured their heart



Written by
 Jennifer Gill
 (Sister Luke's
 daughter)

And Then It Is Winter

You know, time has a way of moving quickly and catching you unaware of the passing years. It seems just yesterday that I was young, just married and embarking on my new life with my mate. Yet in a way, it seems like eons ago, and I wonder where all the years went. I know that I lived them all. I have glimpses of how it was back then and of all my hopes and dreams.

But, here it is... the winter of my life and it catches me by surprise... How did I get here so fast? Where did the years go and where did my youth go? I remember well seeing older people through the years and thinking that those older people were years away from me and that winter was so far off that I could not fathom it or imagine fully what it would be like.

But, here it is...my friends are retired and getting grey...they move slower and I see an older person



My brother, Thomas Churchwell, shared this message with me via e-mail so I decided to share it with ya'll. I guess this is one of those naps he was talking about.

Pat Davis

now. Some are in better and some worse shape than me...but, I see the great change...Not like the ones that I remember who were young and vibrant...but, like me, their age is beginning to show and we are now those older folks that we used to see and never thought we'd be. Each day now, I find that just getting a shower is a real target for the day! And taking a nap is not a treat anymore... it's mandatory! Cause if I don't on my own free will... I just fall asleep where I sit!

And so...now I enter into this new season of my life unprepared for all the aches and pains and the loss of strength and ability to go and do things that I wish I had done but never did!! But, at least I know, that though the winter has come, and I'm not sure how long it will last...this I know, that when it's over on this earth...its over. A new adventure will begin!

Yes, I have regrets. There are things I wish I hadn't done...things I should have done, but indeed, there are many things I'm happy to have done. It's all in a lifetime.

So, if you're not in your winter yet...let me remind you, that it will be here faster than you think. So, what ever you would like to accomplish in your life please do it quickly! Don't put things off too long!! Life goes by quickly. So, do what you can today, as you can never be sure whether this is your winter or not! You have no promise that you will see all the seasons of your life...so, live for today and say all the things that you want your loved ones to remember...and hope that they appreciate and love you for all the things that you have done for them in all the years past!!

“Life” is a gift to you. The way you live your life is your gift to those who come after. Make it a fantastic one.

**LIVE IT WELL!
ENJOY TODAY!
DO SOMETHING FUN!
BE HAPPY !
HAVE A GREAT DAY**

Remember “It is health that is real wealth and not pieces of gold and silver.”

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APRIL 2013						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4 Wm's	5 Ladies Bible Study	6 Men's Bkfst 9am
7	8	9	10 Junior epic	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20 BBQ Chicken Dinner 11-2 pm
21	22	23	24 Junior epic	25	26	27
28	29	30				



BBQ

Elgin Congregational Holiness Church

1331 Smyrna Rd. Elgin S.C.

11:00A.M. — 2:00P.M.

Plates: \$7.50

Drinks: \$1.00

**1/2 Chicken - Potato Salad-Green Beans
Bread - Dessert**

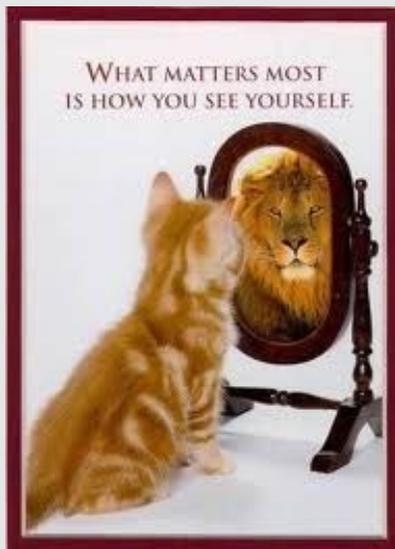
All tickets purchased have a chance to win a hand made afghan or other gift vouchers.



We deliver too!
For more info call:
397-0914
410-3054

elginchc.weebly.com

Profits go toward the building of a new sanctuary for Elgin Congregational Holiness Church.



Sunday
10:00AM Sunday School
11:00AM Worship/Preaching
6:00PM Worship/Preaching
Every 5th Sunday
6:00 PM Youth Service
Wednesday
7:00PM Worship/Preaching
7:00PM Youth Group



WM's Home Bible Study
on the Book of Titus

Date: April 5, 2013
Time: 7pm

See Sister Judy Hensley
or Tangy Sims for location