

# **HYLAND LAKES PARISH NEWS LETTER**

**August 2019**

**Elcho Congregational UCC/Kempster Congregational UCC**

***No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey you are welcome here***

## **From the Interim Minister**

Our first month worshipping and serving God together has been eventful. The biggest event was the storm on July 19<sup>th</sup> that caused a lot of damage around the area. I was impressed by the way people came together to help with the clean-up. Both neighbors and strangers alike joined to help each other in the recovery. That recovery will continue for some time and it's a heart-warming response to a tragic event. We can give thanks for the efforts of everyone helping and be thankful there were no serious injuries.

I'm settling in as your interim minister with the various responsibilities. I continue to get more comfortable sitting at a desk and operating the computer. I have started making visits to folks who are unable to get to church for worship or other activities. I'm still learning who these people are, so if you know of such individuals, please share that information with me so that I can contact them.

I've been doing some study to help begin the "Search and Call" process. The first big step is developing a "Local Church Profile" for our two congregations. The profile claims and conveys our vision, calling, and diverse gifts for the discernment of ministerial candidates. It is structured to ask three primary questions: Who are we? Who is our neighbor? & Who is God calling us to become? It is a blend of employment and spiritual work that can take a year or more before the best match is found to be "called" as our next minister. It is a spiritual journey guided by the Holy Spirit with participation from everyone in both congregations.

Reverend Wanda and I sold our Wood County home in July. That is a relief for us as we don't have to worry about maintaining it. Rev. Wanda is and will be staying with parishioners from her churches when she's not with me.

We are struggling a bit to rid ourselves of all the extra belongings. Luckily, some friends and neighbors took some, Goodwill and St. Vincent De Paul benefitted, and an auction house is selling quite a bit. However, we still have too much “stuff” at our Post Lake home that we need to sort through. We plan to get that done during August and September.

Rev. Wanda and I will be working at Back Bay Mission in Biloxi, MS from September 28<sup>th</sup> through October 26<sup>th</sup>. We hope to load up our car with needed supplies for their ministries. There are still openings for the work week that starts September 29<sup>th</sup>. Let me know if you're interested.

### **GRIEF AND LOSS GROUP**

Grief and loss are a part of life. Sometimes we think we have finished but then an anniversary comes or something reminds us of the loss again. Sue Mackowski, Bereavement Specialist and Consultant will lead the group. For additional information call her at 715-275-5399.

#### *2019 Grief Support Schedule*

- 8/10/19 Physical, Spiritual, & Emotional Healing
- 9/14/19 What's Normal
- 10/12/19 Honoring Our Memories
- 11/9/19 Grief and the Holidays
- 12/14/19 Grief and the Holidays

### **WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP NEWS**

Rummage Sale will be held:

Friday August 16 from 8a.m. – 6p.m.

Saturday August 17 from 8a.m. – 4p.m.

As you do your spring cleaning please set aside gently used items you wish to donate. They may be stored in the church garage. We cannot accept electronics.

Drop off items at the Pavilion on August 13, 14, or 15 from 9a.m. – 4p.m. Please volunteer to assist in the setup.

Contact Information: Linda Klopfer, 262-312-4331 or Betty Tampa, 715-275-3519

*Back Pack Give-A-Way* will be on August 24.

Brooms are still available for purchase at \$7.00 each. Supplies are limited. Contact Kris, Betty, or Sue M. to get yours

## **MEN'S CLUB NEWS**

### *Friday Fish Fry*

This month's Friday Fish Fry will be on August 9. Doors open at 4:00 p.m. with dinner service beginning at 5:00 p.m. Cost is \$10-\$12 depending on your choice of meal. Come, join us and bring a friend or two!

### *End of Month Dinner*

Join us for our Dinner on Wednesday, August 28 Doors open at 4 p.m. Food service begins at 5 p.m. Cost is \$12. Bakers are asked to provide a dessert.

### *Music in the Park*

Grab a lawn chair or blanket and join us in front of the Pavilion for our free concerts. Food service beginning at 5:00 p.m. is provided by local groups as a fundraiser. Music begins at 6:00 p.m. All concerts are rain or shine. Wednesday August 21 – Entertainment by: ***Slidin' On Ice***

## **CHURCH CALENDAR**

Please check the calendar on our website:

[elchokempsterucc.org](http://elchokempsterucc.org)