



## PRESBYTERIAN LINK

Monthly Newsletter of the Altavista Presbyterian Church

***Bible Focused Exposition. Christ Centered Fellowship. Traditionally Reformed.***

### **An Update from Pastor Ed**

We greatly appreciate the prayers, support, and kind words of concern over the first month of Ezra's stay in the hospital. It's a true blessing to have brothers and sisters in Christ helping us to bear this burden in faith, particularly in the gifts of meals that take one thing off our mental burden.



Ezra is doing well, all things considered. He has normal and expected issues (dips in heart rate and oxygen) but usually comes out of those naturally. He's gaining weight daily, though it is only in grams and ounces, and we rejoice in every small milestone. He's getting his mother's milk, which we know is helping him grow in strength and stature. He's about to hit three pounds, and has graduated to wearing clothes as another step towards coming out of the isolette. Betsy takes every advantage to be with him, and we remain grateful to the hospital staff for taking such good care of both him and us.

Lastly, in consultation with the Discipleship Committee, I will continue to postpone Bible studies throughout Ezra's stay in the NICU. I'll reevaluate the situation when he's home. Thank you again for all the prayers during this bittersweet season.

# HIGHLIGHTS

## Altavista Presbyterian Church Session Highlights

### January 21, 2024 Meeting

Authorized applying for three Presbytery Block Grants – (1) the Campbell County Literacy Program (\$2,000); (2) the Kairos Prison Ministry Program (\$2,000) & (3) the Altavista Outreach Enrichment Program (\$1,500).

Reviewed the December, 2023 Treasurer's Report.

Approved minutes of the December 12, 2023 Stated Session meeting as presented.

Elected Kevin deBernard as Elder Commissioner & Barbie Andrews as Alternate to the February 15, 2024 Stated Presbytery meeting to be conducted via Zoom.

Approved APC's 2023 Annual Statistical Report for Presbytery.

Joys & concerns of the congregation were identified. Moderator Ed prayed for those listed & to close the meeting.

	<b>December-2023</b>	<b>YTD</b>
<b>Pledges</b>	7,505.00	85,292.00
<b>Non-Pledges</b>	3,864.80	36,154.60
<b>Plate Offering</b>	87.00	899.90
<b>Total Expenses</b>	12,361.27	147,789.79

## CELEBRATIONS

<b>February</b>	<b>Birthdays</b>	<b>Anniversaries</b>
15	Ivey Janiak	
18	Charlotte Mabry Margaret Gafford	
27	Kiernan deBernard	

# OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

A big thank you to all who participated in our Operation Christmas Child mission in 2023. Because of you, we were able to pack and send 62 shoebox gifts - Gospel Opportunities! This time our gifts went to children in Honduras and Ecuador, helping to spread the word of God's love to them and their families.

Collecting designated items each month worked well last year so we are going to do that again this year from February through September. Then we'll have the Christmas tree up in October with ornaments to choose and purchase the Wow items (balls, dolls, etc.) to finish off the gifts.

Below is the list for our collection this year. As always, if you have any questions or suggestions, please let me know.

Barbie Andrews

Co-chair Outreach Committee

## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD ITEMS

February - Hair Brushes, Girl's Hair Accessories - Hair Clips, Hairbands, etc.

March - Boy's Combs, Coloring Books

April - Small Plastic Reusable Cups

Socks for 5-9 Yr. Old Girls

Socks for 5-9 Yr. Old Boys

May - Small Flashlights with Batteries

Socks for 2-4 Yr. Old Girls

Socks for 2-4 Yr. Old Boys

June - Small Story Books for Toddlers

Socks for 10-14 Yr. Old Girls

Socks for 10-14 Yr. Old Boys

July - Bar Soap, Washcloths

August - Solar Calculators, Pencil Sharpeners, Crayons (24 count)

September - Steno Pads, Notebooks, Journals (be sure they will fit in a regular shoebox)

Erasers (pencil top or other)



## February 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<b>1</b> 4-5:30 PM Craft & Connect	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b> 10 AM Worship Communion  Collect Two Cents- A-Meal Offering	<b>5</b> 5 PM Outreach Mtg.	<b>6</b> 5 PM Outreach Mtg.	<b>7</b> 12 PM - Men's Lunch – Taste of Italy	<b>8</b> 4-5:30 PM Craft & Connect	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b> 10 AM Worship Children's Church	<b>12</b> 4:30 PM Administration Mtg.	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 4-5:30 PM Craft & Connect	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> 10 AM Worship Children's Church	<b>19</b> 7 PM DAWN	<b>20</b> 4 PM Session Mtg.	<b>21</b> 12 PM - Men's Lunch – El Cazador	<b>22</b> 4-5:30 PM Craft & Connect	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> 10 AM Worship Children's Church	<b>26</b> 4:30 PM Discipleship Mtg.  March Link Deadline	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 4-5:30 PM Craft & Connect		





# Craft and Connect

Thursdays 4:00 – 5:30 pm

February 1 - March 28

Adult Sunday School

Classroom.

Bring what you are working  
on (cross stitch, quilting,  
coloring book, macrame,  
crochet, etc.)  
and join us as  
we craft together and enjoy  
some fellowship.

Come in the middle door, go  
straight down the hallway,  
turn left.

