



UMW NEWS

UMW will meet April 10 at 9:30am in the fellowship hall. Coffee will be served by Connie Dalton and the program will be given by Janet Mottaz.

In May, we will again be making strawberry jam. We make over 300 jars and appreciate donations of pint jars, lids (flats and rings), sure jell and sugar.

Evening Circle will meet on April 16 at 7pm at the church. Morning Circle will meet at the home of Carolyn Stevens on April 17 9:30am. Please meet at the church at 9:15 to car pool.

Please join us -
Carol Kemper

Couples Night

We had a great time eating the corned beef, cabbage and Rubeen sandwiches in March. We were a small crowd but we had great fellowship!

April will be at the home of Roland and Cathy Ekstrand. Keep your eye out for sign-up sheets for food to bring along and to RSVP for the evening. Steve and Nancy Davis are in charge of devotions. I'm sure the Ekstrands will have something fun cooked up for our entertainment.

Hope to see you there!



“Get the Camp Ready”

April 21, 2018

Leave church at 8:00am or
be at camp by 8:30am

Sign up!

In Church Foyer

Help with projects like:

Repair wooden walkways, rake campground, trim trees, clean cabins, paint low vision lines, paint storage building, clean boats, sweep out storage sheds, seal tables and decking, update fishing equipment, check docks and much more.

OR

Prepare and Serve Lunch

Contact: Karla Kane

309-231-3084



Greetings Church family in the name of Jesus Christ!

I have a question. Why do we hide them?

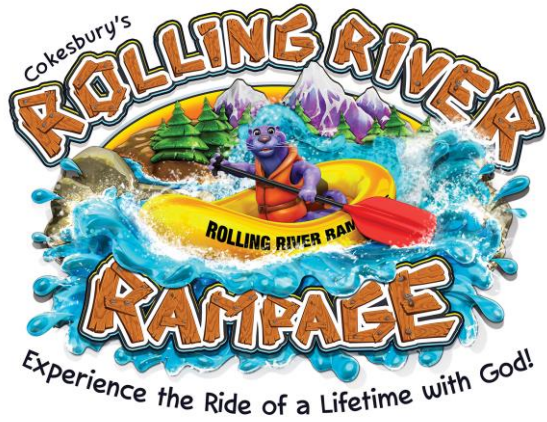
When I was growing up in Pomona, California, my parents and grandmother would hide our Easter eggs around our property, so that we could hunt for these brightly colored eggs among the shrubbery and stones that were liberally scattered around our yard. The day before, we would boil a couple of dozens of eggs and sit around the kitchen table dying and drying these eggs. Once dried, they would be placed in the refrigerator until Easter morning, when we would rush around with our Easter baskets seeking to find every last egg, only to return them to the refrigerator. Following Easter, we would be treated to a week-long feast of hard boiled and colorful egg salad sandwiches.

For a young child, it was always challenging to find every egg that was hidden behind every bush or under every tree. With my sister, we would always do our best, but occasionally we would miss an egg or two only to eventually discover their locations by the smell of rotting eggs. Today, of course, the eggs are often plastic and filled with candy. There is something to the idea, however, of perishable Easter eggs. Historically, the egg is recognized as a symbol of new life. By hiding this symbol in various places around our world, we seem to be saying that God has placed opportunities for life all around us. Moreover, it is our task to seek out these beautiful opportunities before they spoil and disappear. I like this better than hiding plastic eggs and prepackaged candy. These hard-boiled eggs are eggs of fragile and temporary beauty. With their brightly colored shells, they announced themselves to the world. These eggs want to be found, precisely because they do not last. You must find me, they say, and collect me in your basket, before I am gone.

I wish I lived every day like it was Easter, realizing that God has placed new life all around me, and that every day is filled with new joyful opportunities to celebrate life. How about you? Do you seek out the opportunities hidden around you? Or do you leave them to rot? Are you constantly looking and believing that God has strategically placed life-giving opportunities for you? Do you approach your life like a child eagerly seeking some new surprise?

Remember, Jesus has come to give us new life and an abundant life. Christ has risen-He has risen indeed!

Happy Easter! PD!



Wow! We are excited about VBS this year! The music is great, the stories are AWESOME, the crafts/science are cool and games are crazy! PD has so many ideas to transform the church into an outdoor adventure land! The dates are Saturday, July 21 for pre-K and July 22 – 26 for K – 6 so mark your calendars!

Online registration has already begun for both volunteers and “rafters” is available on the website, www.elmwoodumc.com. It's not too early to register!!



Looking for Gardeners!

Spring is coming, believe it or not! It will be time to clean up the church's flower gardens to prepare for spring. I would love to have a team of flower lovers who would be willing to help me maintain the landscaping this summer. This will include a day of mulching, weeding and of course planting those pink petunias. Throughout the summer, there will be watering and dead heading to keep those beauties thriving. It would be great to have a team of people who can help when needed. Please call or email me: 678 -9586 or gtaylor5409@gmail.com

Thanks, Gayla Taylor



April Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 1 Mike Case
- 1 Nicole Shoop
- 2 Paul Caulkins
- 5 Brandon Bryant
- 5 Janet Mottaz
- 6 Sarah Caulkins
- 8 Connie Dalton
- 8 Roland & Cathy Ekstrand
Anniversary
- 11 Sara Kane
- 12 Gary & Cindy Fargher
Anniversary
- 15 Mary Nell Simpson
- 15 Emily Webel
- 16 Steve & Nancy Davis
Anniversary
- 18 Kayla Mitchell
- 20 Shelli Shoop
- 21 Madeline Koll
- 21 Ian Smith
- 23 Tom & Denise Hayes
Anniversary
- 24 Jade McMillan
- 24 Megan Perryman
- 25 Rachel Cummings
- 25 Sydney Seipel
- 29 Jake Callister





The Summer of Love - Spoon River

Our Conference Our Kids is an initiative to help youth in our conference. These innocent and vulnerable children need love and support. If we followers of Jesus will not help, who will?

Celebrate with music and joy this summer

Come to UMC of Elmwood for sharing sessions and plan four summer events around the Spoon River District. Bring your stories to share and let us unite to make this a special year for our district; leave with a plan and a purpose.

April 14th from 9 AM to 1 PM – Lunch at 12:15

Music Ministries plan
four outdoor concerts

Youth Activity sessions
lead by actual youth

Outreach Sessions
service in community

Tech Tips to help your
church's presence

Conflict Resolution no
joy without peace

Flourish and grow
even in Rural Churches

Share your story and
we will video it

Presentation software
and tools sessions

Child Care and
Youth Games

Lunch at 12:15
Then go home happy

Sculpture tours and
Elmwood History

UMC Elmwood
821 W Main St 61529

309 742 7221
umchurch@frontier.com

Steve Davis
shiresteve@gmail.com

SERVING ON GOD'S TEAM

9 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE

April 8, 2018

GREETERS: Gene/Peggy Gibson
USHERS: Gerri Pettit/Sara Kane
LITURGIST: Denise Hayes
ACOLYTES: Megan Johnson/Katie German
VIDEO: Chuck Stevens
MUSICIANS: Closer To Free
NURSERY: Candy Hall/Lisa Doubet
COFFEE BAR: Need Volunteer
COMMUNION: Sherry Powers/Kris Petermeyer

April 15, 2018

GREETERS: Mary Drone/Gail Sprout
USHERS: Kent/Georgia Stevens
LITURGIST: Sandy Cantu
ACOLYTES: Ty McFarland/Ian Smith
VIDEO: Jason Hahn
MUSICIANS: Tom & Tom
NURSERY: Jill Crisco/Cathy Ekstrand
COFFEE BAR: Need Volunteer

April 22, 2018

GREETERS: Veva Windish/Jennifer Wilson
USHERS: Leann/Mike Sweeney
LITURGIST: Curt Smith
ACOLYTES: Baron Case/Lee Kosowski
VIDEO: Kent Stevens
MUSICIANS: New Day Worship Team
NURSERY: Megan Perryman/Laurie Leadley
COFFEE BAR: Kolls

April 29, 2018

GREETERS: Denise Hayes/Georgia Stevens
USHERS: Janet Vallas/Sherry Powers
LITURGIST: Cathy Ekstrand
ACOLYTES: Addi Powers/Cassidy Case
VIDEO: Chuck Stevens
MUSICIANS: Strong Tower
NURSERY: Bill/Michelle Seipel
COFFEE BAR: Need Volunteer

SERVING ON GOD'S TEAM

10:30 A.M. Worship Service

April 8, 2018

GREETERS: Winifred Horney/Laurie Leadley
USHERS: Charlotte Haley/Mary Howard
LITURGIST: Mary Nell Simpson
ACOLYTES: Megan Johnson/Katie German
PIANIST: Charlotte Booth
NURSERY: Celene Duley/Alana Parm
COUNTERS: Ruth Arnold/Diana Ladd

April 15, 2018

GREETERS: Meade/Betty Montgomery
USHERS: Sherry Powers/Mary Nell Simpson
LITURGIST: Janet Mottaz
ACOLYTES: Ty McFarland/Ian Smith
ORGANIST: Bobbi Staples
NURSERY: Nancy Davis/Katie Parm
COUNTERS: Kanes

April 22, 2018

GREETERS: Dan/Pat Keefer
USHERS: Celene Duley/Chris Stevens
LITURGIST: Nancy Davis
ACOLYTES: Baron Case/Lee Kosowski
PIANIST: Kris Petermeyer
NURSERY: Gene Gibson/Angie Ladd
COUNTERS: Alana Parm/Celene Duley

April 29, 2018

GREETERS: Nancy Wilson/Charlotte Booth
USHERS: Chuck/Connie Johnston
LITURGIST: Karla Kane
ACOLYTES: Addi Powers/Cassidy Case
ORGANIST: Bobbi Staples
NURSERY: Shelli/Nicole Shoop
COUNTERS: Ruth Arnold/Diana Ladd

