

The Beacon

March 2018

UMW NEWS

UMW will meet March 13 at 9:30am in the fellowship hall. Coffee will be served by Laurie Leadley and the program will be given by LaVonne Haney.

Evening Circle will meet on March 19 at 7pm at the church with Denise Hayes giving the program, Linda Pyell will bring refreshments and Cathy Ekstrand will bring our devotions. Morning Circle will meet at the home of Carolyn Stevens on March 20 9:30am. Please meet at the church at 9:15 to car pool.

The District Mini-mission will be held on March 19 at Mossville UMC. The cost is \$10.00. I will call in reservations after our meeting on March 13. Please let me know if you can go.

Blessings -
Carol Kemper



Maundy Thursday is an alternate name for Holy Thursday, the first of the three days of solemn remembrance of the events leading up to and immediately following the crucifixion of Jesus. The English word "Maundy" comes from the Latin *mandatum*, which means "commandment." As recorded in John's gospel, on his last night before his betrayal and arrest, Jesus washed the feet of his disciples and then gave them a new commandment to love one another as he had loved them (John 13:34).

Thursday March 29th @ 7pm, we will have a "Special Service" of Holy Communion and worship. I am hoping you to attend this special time. Come experience something you won't soon forget.

Couples Night

We had a great time playing the Newlywed Game with our "not so newlyweds" in February! There was much laughing and fellowship shared that evening!

March is in the hands of Kent & Georgia Stevens. Since we are meeting on March 17, on the menu is corned beef and cabbage and Rubeen sandwiches. Not sure what they have cooked up for our entertainment, but it is sure to be a good time!

There is a sign-up sheet for items to bring and RSVP

Hope to see you there!





Greetings in the Name of our Risen Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

What difference does it make?

We have heard that question asked concerning various topics, and while a person may ask this concerning the Resurrection, we must realize it makes ALL the difference in the world... and in eternity! From the moment Adam and Eve sinned and plunged humanity into a place of “lostness”, the plan of redemption was already being put in place for a Redeemer to come and take the penalty of death so that we would not have to. The Bible clearly lets us know that the “wages of sin is death”, and just a casual reading of stories in the Old Testament reveal the value of sacrifice. When the sacrifices took place, they were looking forward to the day when the perfect, sinless Savior would die for our sins. Yet, the fact that Christ lived this sinless life meant that death had no hold on Him! Acts 2:24 (NKJV) 24 whom God raised up, having loosed the pains of death, because it was not possible that He should be held by it.

So what difference does it make?

The Resurrection proves without question that Christ was without Sin because the penalty of death could NOT hold Him in the grave! Because He lives, we can live as well! Yet, this life only comes when we come to Christ in repentance, and as we ask for forgiveness for our sins. When we accept His death and resurrection, we are putting ourselves in a place to receive that “amazing grace”. This grace we receive empowers us to live a life of devotion to the Lord, and empowers us for service to Him as we remain open to the moving of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

The Resurrection makes ALL the difference.

Christ was the only one who ever arose from the dead, and He is the only one who offers freedom in this life, and eternity in Heaven in the next life!

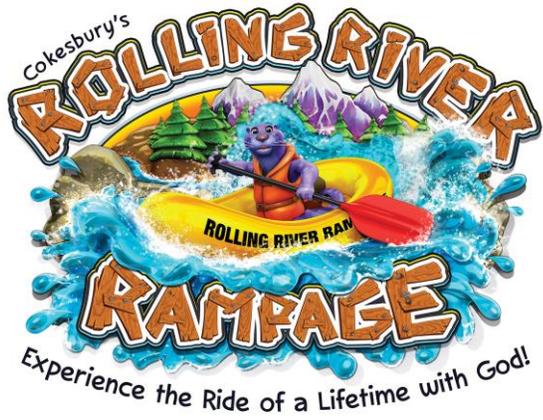
What a wonderful Savior we serve!

The events leading up to Easter Sunday give us a good foundation understand the POWER of the resurrection Please attend as many of not all our special services this Easter season:

- Maundy Thursday service Thursday, March 29 at 7 pm. at United Methodist Church of Elmwood.
- Good Friday Service Friday, March 30 at the Cross Roads Church. Fellowship hour from 6-7pm provided by Cross Roads, service with Pastor Dave preaching at 7pm.
- Easter Sunrise Service Sunday, April 1 at the United Presbyterian Church of Elmwood at 7am with Pastor Tim preaching. Breakfast provided by Presbyterian Church to follow.
- We invite you to attend with us on Easter Sunday (Resurrection Sunday) to worship our risen Savior. Our services begin at 9 & 10:30am

We look forward to seeing you and your loved ones!

Blessings in Christ, Pastor David



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!!



“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



Between youth group, Sunday School, confirmation classes, and our new youth band “Strong Tower”, God’s love is in full swing! I have such joy in my heart seeing our youth so actively involved in our congregation. We have a lot going on in March, so take note! Here are some important “save the dates” to remember...

- ✚ **March 3rd:** J-Squad is hosting a biscuits and gravy breakfast from 6:30-9:30am. This is a free will donation, and proceeds will benefit Jr/Sr High youth retreats and leadership training.
- ✚ **March 4th:** J-Squad is meeting here at the church from 4-5:30pm.
- ✚ **March 29th:** Winter Jam at the Peoria Civic Center. It is \$15(cash only) at the door, and it starts at 7pm. There are 11 bands performing that night, so loads of fun is in store! Elmwood does not have school the next day, so it works out perfectly! If you are interested, please contact me as soon as possible. Everyone is invited, we just need to coordinate transportation and times to meet.

If anyone is interested to help teach Children’s Church this Summer, there will be a sign up sheet in the foyer. We would only need you to teach about one Sunday a month. Easy lesson plans to follow and tons of fun with the younger kids. If you have any questions, please let me know.

God Bless!
Kelly Hoffman



Easter is on April 1st this year, when we will celebrate the Resurrection of Christ. The Worship Committee will be selling Easter Lilies to place at the altar on Easter Sunday. We will have a sign-up sheet available and will be accepting payment for the plants on Sunday, March 11th and 18th.

You can designate the lilies in honor or in memory of a loved one, and we will include a list in the bulletin on Easter Sunday. You are welcome to take the lilies home with you any time after second service on Easter



March Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 1 Lavonne Haney
- 2 Anna Webel
- 3 Ruth Arnold
- 4 Denise Dalton
- 5 Elizabeth Paige
- 5 Laurel Leadley
- 6 Veva Windish
- 7 Carrie Koll
- 10 John Callister
- 10 Winifred Horney
- 14 Patrick Tracy
- 17 Russell Clark
- 19 Lawrence & Karla Kane Anniversary
- 26 Dennis & Cheryl Whitehurst Anniversary
- 26 Jonathan Gibbs
- 27 Wayne Callister
- 27 Al Dorich
- 27 Wendy Ewalt
- 27 Hannah Parm
- 29 Logan Whitney
- 30 Larry & Heidi Ennis Anniversary
- 31 Debie Himegarner

Community Day 2018

On: March 23, 2018

LET US HELP!!!!

(If the forecasted weather is predicted as unpleasant for the 23rd, community day will be pushed backward to March 22nd)



The students of Elmwood High School would like to help Elmwood city residents with basic yard cleanup or other small outdoor tasks. If we can help, please call Michele at Elmwood High School, 742-2851 by Tuesday, March 20th.



Thank you so much to everyone who came to the Noodles for Poodles dinner for the Stray Animal Midway Shelter (SAMS) on February 10th. We really appreciate your support of our shelter and our mission to find loving homes for the dogs, cats and other animals living at the shelter, as well as to provide spay/neuter assistance to pet owners. Thank you also to Justin and Melissa for cooking the delicious meal, the Methodist Church for letting us use their great facility, and to all who donated time, auction and bake sale items and to those who purchased all the goodies we had to offer. Also a huge thank you to our volunteers who helped make the event possible.

Kris

SERVING ON GOD'S TEAM

9 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE

March 4, 2018

GREETERS: Janet Vallas/Gail Sprout
USHERS: Bob Paige/Sherry Powers
LITURGIST: Don Forrest
ACOLYTES: Katy German/Faith Foster
VIDEO: Aaron Miller
MUSICIANS: Closer To Free
NURSERY: Laurie Leadley/Mary Drone
COFFEE BAR: Janet Davis
COMMUNION: Sherry Powers

March 11, 2018

GREETERS: Jennifer Wilson/Gerri Pettit
USHERS: Kent/Georgia Stevens
LITURGIST: Rusty Koll
ACOLYTES: Megan Johnson/Ashlynn McFarland
VIDEO: Chuck Stevens
MUSICIANS: Tom & Tom
NURSERY: Gene Gibson/Megan Perryman
COFFEE BAR: Need Volunteer

March 18, 2018

GREETERS: Mary Drone/Laurie Leadley
USHERS: Mike/Leann Sweeney
LITURGIST: Denise Hayes
ACOLYTES: Baron Case/Lee Kosowski
VIDEO: Jason Hahn
MUSICIANS: New Day Worship Team
NURSERY: Janelle McFarland/Abie Davis
COFFEE BAR: Need Volunteer

March 25, 2018

GREETERS: Denise Hayes/Georgia Stevens
USHERS: Roland/Cathy Ekstrand
LITURGIST: Curt Smith
ACOLYTES: Ty McFarland/Ian Smith
VIDEO: Kent Stevens
MUSICIANS: Strong Tower
NURSERY: Lexi/Ellie Claerhout
COFFEE BAR: Need Volunteer

SERVING ON GOD'S TEAM

10:30 A.M. Worship Service

March 4, 2018

GREETERS: Diana Ladd/Ruth Arnold
USHERS: Celene Duley/Nancy Davis
LITURGIST: Mary Nell Simpson
ACOLYTES: Katy German/Faith Foster
ORGANIST: Bobbi Staples
NURSERY: Shelli/Nicole Shoop
COUNTERS: Lawrence Kane/Alana Parm

March 11, 2018

GREETERS: Diane Malott/Nancy Wilson
USHERS: Chris Stevens/Charlotte Haley
LITURGIST: Nancy Davis
ACOLYTES: Megan Johnson/Ashlynn McFarland
PIANIST: Kris Petermeyer
NURSERY: Angie Ladd/Alix Steele
COUNTERS: Ruth Arnold/Diana Ladd

March 18, 2018

GREETERS: Lary/Mary Garrett
USHERS: Mary Howard/Chris Stevens
LITURGIST: Janet Mottaz
ACOLYTES: Baron Case/Lee Kosowski
ORGANIST: Bobbi Staples
NURSERY: Michala/Emily Schauble
COUNTERS: Alana Parm/Celene Duley

March 25, 2018

GREETERS: Meade/Betty Montgomery
USHERS: Chuck/Connie Johnston
LITURGIST: Karla Kane
ACOLYTES: Ty McFarland/Ian Smith
PIANIST: Charlotte Booth
NURSERY: Laurie Leadley/Nancy Davis
COUNTERS: Kanes

