



UMW NEWS

Mark your calendar: Elmwood United Methodist Women will have a business meeting Tuesday, **November 9th** at 9:30 am and the morning Circle will meet on **November 16th** at 9:30 am both in the Fellowship Hall of the Church. The evening UMW Circle will meet Monday, **November 15th** at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Please join us for one of these fellowship meetings.



Mark your calendar: UMW Fall Bazaar is Saturday, November 13th at the Elmwood United Methodist Church from 10 am until 1 pm. Soup and Maid Rites are available for carryout only. Soup: \$7.00 Maid rite: \$3.00

There will also be a SILENT BASKET AUCTION. BASKETS ARE AVAILABLE FOR VIEWING IN THE CHURCH FELLOWSHIP HALL. BIDS WILL START ON NOVEMBER 6TH AND END AT 1 PM ON NOVEMBER 13TH. WINNERS WILL BE NOTIFIED AFTER 1 PM ON NOVEMBER 13TH.

Our fall Bazaar is one of our fundraising projects. We help to support many missions locally, around our country and around the world. Join us at one of our Circle meetings for fellowship, fun, food and to learn more about our ministry.

Rene' Schulz

Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

November Birthdays and Anniversaries

1 Nancy Wilson	15 Tom Morse
1 Gary Fargher	19 John & Rita Callister Anniversary
1 Larry & Dixie Marsh Anniversary	20 Karissa McMillan
2 Denise Hayes	21 Patty Fincham
3 Linda Pyell	22 Dara Wagner
8 Julie Ladd	24 Jay & Chloe Martens Anniversary
9 Pastor David Pyell	25 Alicia Provence
9 Russ & Margie Clark Anniversary	26 Amanda Morse
10 Gary Bryant	26 Rachel Whitney
12 Warren "Hap" Downard	27 Beckett Morse
13 Kris Petermeyer	27 Josie Webel
13 Rachel Potts	27 Dan & Pat Keefer Anniversary
14 Bob Paige	27 Jeff & Lisa Roberts Anniversary
15 Jill Crisco	28 Gene & Joanne Endres Anniversary



Pastor's Page

Greetings Church Family in the Name of Jesus Christ.

I believe that all holidays serve as mileposts—we use them to mark the movement in our lives. We compare the pictures of the kids around the Christmas tree each year; we mark who's around the Thanksgiving table this year and who is missing. Without seasons and holidays, the calendar would be an endless highway of days with no mileposts. One of the most recent mileposts in our country is 20th Anniversary of September 11, 2001. I've not met a single adult who cannot pinpoint exactly where they were at the time the planes crashed into buildings and it seemed our nation was crumbling down around us.

September 11, 2001, marked a moment in our history. The event was loaded with fear, grief, anger, heroism, and national pride. I'm certain the terrorists considered how much the pain they inflicted on America would hurt us, but I'm not sure they rightly measured how much it would inspire and motivate us. Pain does that. It marks us, yes, but it also moves us in one direction or another. We can't often control the pain we experience, but we do have some power over where that pain points us and how it shapes who we become. I hate pain. That's the truth of it. I used to secretly believe that excessive amounts of pain in the lives of believers meant they were doing something wrong. I'm not sure where I got this idea, because every significant Bible hero from Job to Jesus has a biography marked by heartache. Tales of abandonment, barrenness, persecution, family betrayal, murder, corruption, and martyrdom run through nearly every page of the holy canon, reminding us, that life in this fallen world is short, hard, and seriously unfair . . . but God is good - ALL THE TIME! . And in His goodness, He often chooses not to shield us from all pain but to use it to make us into the heroes He alone knows we can become. So how do we do it? What makes the difference between those who grow and those who give up?

One answer is found in Paul's letter to the Romans. He writes to them near the end of his ministry, after having experienced more than a lifetime's worth of pain (see 2 Corinthians 11:24–26 if you'd like to compare affliction lists with him). Paul lays out a brilliant theology for pain management in the whole chapter, but he comes to a stunning conclusion in the very last verses:

"No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 8:37–39 NIV)

Can you feel the jostling going on here? Circumstances, situations, and the very powers of heaven and hell are all pushing and pulling, working to move us either toward or away from the God who loves us. If Paul's summation is that, despite their best efforts, none of these things can possibly separate us from the love of God, that leads me to wonder: What could? Because I know plenty of people who have experienced pain and it moved them far from faith. I think the thing most likely—and maybe the only thing with the capability—to shipwreck my faith is me. When I run into a day that marks me with an ugly scar, I must determine whether I will let it cause me to question the love of God for my life or not. I could choose to let the mark call out the hero in me and move me to a place of greater trust in God's character and deeper commitment to His purposes. I can decide, in fact, that the very thing the enemy meant to destroy me will instead inspire me to regroup and rebuild stronger than I was before. So much about who we become is determined on the painful days. How we let suffering mark and move us will be either a gift or a curse, a tragedy, or a triumph. If you decide today to lean into the pain and let it push you deep into the love of God, I feel certain you will emerge from your battle more beautiful than you have ever been. And that's how heroes are made.

Be Blessed in Jesus!

PD

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Thank you to the SPPRC and Elmwood Congregation for the Pastor appreciation gifts to my family and me. We are truly grateful and humbled by your generosity. We thank you for your support, love, and prayers as we work together to serve the Lord!



Let's get fit so we can serve!

Monday – Wednesday – Friday
8am – 9am
Elmwood UMC Fellowship Hall

JOIN US! We have “changed up” our exercise routines. In addition to some of the original routines, we are following several different exercise videos. This provides extra cardio and strength moves. Come “sweat” with us!

Please enter through the west door as we did last year. Due to the Covid cases rising, please wear your mask into the building. You may remove it once you reach your exercise spot. We will continue to social distance.

No experience necessary! I will show you modifications for exercises to address all levels.

Questions? Please call or text Rene Schulz at 309-696-6174 or email at tbearschulz@gmail.com. Or contact Janet Vallas at 309-712-3935.



Confirmation classes begin Sunday, November 7th at 11:45 am. This class is open to all students, 7th grade and up. Please contact the Church at 309-742-7221 or Pastor David ASAP.



November 7th at 2 am Daylight Savings Time ends. Remember to set your clocks back 1 hour before going to bed!



Pecan Pie Slab

- 1 Box (14.1 oz) refig. Pillsbury Pie Crusts (2 count), softened as directed on box. (Or make your own crust.)
- 4 Eggs
- ½ Cup butter, melted
- 1 ¼ Cups light corn syrup
- ¾ Teaspoon Salt
- 3 Cups Pecan halves or pieces

1. Heat oven to 375 degrees. Remove crust from pouches. On lightly floured surface, unroll and stack crusts one on top of the other. Roll to 18x12 inch rectangle. Fit crust into ungreased 15x10x1 inch pan, pressing firmly into corners and sides, stretching dough to fit, if necessary. Fold extra crust underneath and slightly on top edges of pan. Flute or crimp edges. Bake 7 minutes.

2. In a large bowl, beat eggs, melted butter, corn syrup, brown sugar, and salt with whisk until well blended; stir in pecans. Pour evenly into prebaked crust.

3. Bake 25 to 30 minutes or until center is set. Cool completely, about 2 hours. Cut into 4 rows by 4 rows. Store in refrigerator.

****If anyone has a recipe they would like to share, please email the office at: umchurch@elmwoodumc.com**



The First Presbyterian Church of Elmwood is sponsoring a public presentation with the Antioch Group, a Contemporary Christian Counseling and Psychological Service, in Elmwood on November 13, 2021, at 1:00 pm. The Church is located at 201 W. Evergreen, Elmwood, IL. There will be two simultaneous sessions. One for adults and one for students. Everyone is welcome!

For additional information call the Church at 309-742-2621.



Sunday **SCHOOL**

ROOTED IN GOD'S WORD
Growing in Faith Together

Following a Rally Carnival kick off, we had 28 kids sign up for Sunday School and 15 attending Sunday School September 26th.

The kids have been learning about Fruits of the Spirit - (Galatians 5:22) Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, Self-control, and how we, through Jesus' help, can practice this in daily life.

We did not have a lot of Teacher Volunteers sign up this year, yet our talented teaching staff has successfully divided our small group of kids into 3 classes - Pre-K - 2nd and 3rd - 8th and Senior High with Nursery service available.

Many thanks to Gayla Taylor, Laurie Leadley, Rachel Cummings, Curtis Smith, Linda Pyell, Terri German, Janet Mottaz, Karla Kane, and Emily Brunnelson for helping make this year great!

Sue Gallegos



ADVENT BIBLE STUDY



Advent Bible Study will be on Wednesday mornings at 10 am and Sunday evenings at 6 pm. Soup will be provided on Sundays. The dates are the following:

Wednesdays – 12/1, 12/8, 12/15, 12/22

Sundays - 11/28, 12/5, 12/12, 12/19

The Advent Bible Study for this year will be “*The Heart That Grew Three Sizes*”. We as a congregation will look at Dr. Seuss’s beloved children’s story, “How the Grinch Stole Christmas!” in a new way – through the lens of faith. This beloved Christmas classic will help us understand the redemption and salvation offered to us in Christ, and how the birth of God’s son brings hope, peace, love, and joy. Whether we identify with the Grinch, sympathize with him, or feel aversion to his character, we can learn from his journey as he comes to understand that Christmas is more than what he thought.

In our 4-part Message series and 4-week study sessions we will look at the following themes:

Week 1 – When Everything Is Wrong

Week 2 – When Christmas Isn’t Christmas

Week 3 – When Light Shines

Week 4 – When Joy Is Our Song

Please try and join one of these Bible Study sessions.



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

FALL FAIR

DATE: SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13

TIME: 10 AM - 1 PM

**WHERE: UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
821 W. MAIN
ELMWOOD, IL**

**LUNCH: COST: SOUP \$7.00
 MAID RITES \$3.00
(CARRYOUT ONLY)**

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