

United Methodist Church of Elmwood
P.O. Box 477
Elmwood, IL 61529

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March 2011

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Permit No. 10
Elmwood, IL 61529

Upcoming Events:

March 1, 6:00 pm Trustees Meeting

March 4, 6:30 p.m.

Lenten Small Group at Kane's
(see rest of the schedule inside)

March 5

Elmwood All Outdoors Show

6-10 am - EEBY Breakfast at UMC

March 6, 10:30 a.m.

Couple's Small Group led by Janet Mottaz
Children's Church led by Angie Tracy

4:00 p.m.

Women's Small Group led by Michelle Dunn
Men's Small Group led by Mark Graham
(see rest of schedule inside)

March 8, 9:30 a.m. United Methodist Women

6:30 p.m. Women's Bible Study *Made to Crave*

March 9, 7:00 p.m.

Ash Wednesday Worship Service

March 10, 6:30 p.m.

Lenten Small Group led by Lois Hill & Mary Nell
Simpson (see rest of schedule inside)

March 12, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Light Kids Conference - Crossroads United
Methodist Church, Washington, IL

March 13, 5:00 p.m.

Jr. High Youth Meeting

March 15, 9:30 a.m.

United Methodist Women Circle

March 17, 6:30 p.m.

Alpha Small Group led by Connie Dalton

March 26, 4-7 p.m.

Ham & Beef Dinner

March 27, 2 p.m. Good Grief Group

March 31, 12 Noon Manna Meal

The Beacon



Study written by Adam Hamilton

Sermon Series & Small Groups

March 6 – April 24, Easter Sunday

Small Group Sign-Ups at the Church

The United Methodist Church of Elmwood

Pastor: Mark Graham

Administrative Assistant: Kris Petermeyer

Office: 742-7221 Pastor's Cell: 309-258-2258

Church e-mail: umc@elmnet.net

Church Website: www.elmwoodumc.org

We are followers of Jesus
Connecting to God and
One another, growing in
Faith and pouring our
Lives into serving others.

Opportunities for Spiritual Growth

24 Hours That Changed the World

During Lent – the 40 days leading up to Easter (April 24), the congregation is encouraged to participate in a small group emphasis entitled **24 Hours That Changed the World by Adam Hamilton** that will begin the week of **March 6**. There will be both a sermon series and small groups available for children, youth, and adults. The series will be held on the following Sundays: **March 6, 13, 20** and **April 3, 10, 17**. We will take a break from the series on Sunday March 27, during the Elmwood schools' Spring Break. Small groups will be available as follows:

Sundays at 10:30 a.m.

- Couples Group led by Janet & Ted Mottaz
- Senior High Youth led by Karla Kane (Begins March 13)
- Children's Church led by Angie Tracy

Sundays at 4:00 p.m.

- Men's Group led by Pastor Mark
- Women's Group led by Michelle Dunn

Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m.

- Elm Haven Bible Study led by Pastor Mark

Thursdays at 6:30 p.m.

- Women's Group led by Lois Hill & Mary Nell Simpson

Fridays at 6:30 p.m.

- Couple's Group led by Karla & Lawrence Kane

Sign-ups are in the Church Lobby. Childcare will be provided by request. Books are also available for purchase, \$10 per copy.

Adam Hamilton, the author, is a United Methodist Pastor serving the Church of the Resurrection in Kansas City, Kansas, one of the fastest growing United Methodist Churches in the United States. Adam gives very insightful teaching and background into the last day of Jesus earthly life.

Ham & Beef Dinner

The Annual Ham & Beef Dinner will be held **Saturday, March 26, 4-7 pm**. The menu is: roast beef, ham, mashed potatoes, green beans, salad, roll, dessert and drink. The cost is \$8.00 for adults, \$4 for children 5-10, and children 4 and under are free. Donations of food items and volunteers are needed. Look for sign-ups in the church lobby beginning in early March.



Ash Wednesday Service

There will be an **Ash Wednesday Service** on **Wednesday, March 9, at 7:00 p.m.** to begin the season of Lent. Lent is the season of 40 days plus Sundays, leading up to Easter. It is a time of reflection, confession, and reconnection with God. The service on Ash Wednesday includes the ancient ritual of the pastor marking the shape of a cross with ashes on the foreheads of those who come to worship. The ashes remind us that "from dust we were created and to dust we will return." Ash Wednesday is an opportunity for us to start fresh in our relationship with God, to be set free from sin and brokenness, and to open ourselves up to God to bring change where change is needed. I encourage you to begin the season of Lent by participating in this special service.

Good Grief Group

The good grief group will continue to meet on the 4th Sunday of each month at 2 p.m. This group is for support and encouragement among those who have experienced grief and loss. The next meeting will be **Sunday, March 27**. Bert Haskell and Mark Graham will be co-leading.

Imagine No Malaria

The United Methodist Church is responding with Christ-like compassion to a worldwide effort to end malaria deaths. This ministry, called Imagine No Malaria, is our opportunity to rethink how we reach beyond our church to connect with our brothers and sisters in Christ. Just as the cross is a sign to us of God's love, we are working together to be a sign of God's love and commitment to the world.

Uniting Faith and Works

Imagine No Malaria is an extraordinary effort of the people of The United Methodist Church to raise \$75 million to eliminate death and suffering from malaria in Africa by 2015. This comprehensive approach to beating malaria will engage the passion of 11.5 million United Methodists worldwide and will empower an entire continent to achieve a sustainable victory over malaria through prevention, education, communication and treatment.

Why are we focused on malaria?

Malaria is a global health problem, affecting more than 500 million and killing more than one million every year. Every 30 seconds a child dies of malaria. Malaria disproportionately affects young children and pregnant women. The people of The United Methodist Church have the unique opportunity to put discipleship into action to make a difference. Malaria is a treatable and preventable disease and it is a fight we can win.

Why Africa?

More than 90 percent of the one million malaria deaths each year occur in sub-Saharan Africa. One in five children who

dies before age five will die of malaria. Malaria was eliminated in the United States in the 1950s, but it remains a serious health issue across the globe, particularly in developing African countries. The United Methodist Church has been operating hospitals and clinics across Africa for more than 160 years, allowing us to reach the most remote areas; providing care and treatment where people need it most.

Can we really achieve this goal?

Yes. The world already possesses the treatment and preventative measures to eliminate deaths from malaria. Working with a Christ-like compassion, 11.5 million United Methodists are opening doors to those who need it most.

How much of my contribution will go to fighting malaria?

Thanks to a generous grant from the United Nations Foundation that will pay for all administrative costs of Imagine No Malaria one hundred percent of contributions to this ministry will go to the fight against malaria.

The United Methodist Church of Elmwood Administrative Council has approved for 2011 to give \$390.00 (\$3 per active member) for the Imagine No Malaria mission project. As small groups, children's ministry, and youth groups consider mission projects they might support, it is hoped that our church will do even more this year to address this important effort to eliminate malaria.

Check out the website:

www.imagenomalaria.org



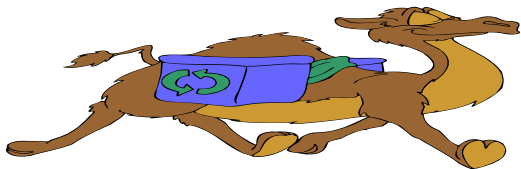
Elmwood Community Vacation Bible School is Back!

This year we will be traveling back in time to *Hometown Nazareth: Where Jesus Was a Kid!* Elmwood Community VBS will be held at our church again starting with our Pre-K session on Saturday, July 23, from 9 to 11 a.m. The regular session for kids entering Kindergarten through 6th grades will be July 24 – 28, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. each evening. Mark your calendars now and start collecting those school supplies for our mission project, Pleasant Hill School in Peoria. (VBS registration information for both participants and volunteers will be announced soon and there will be an online option again.) Please note the following important dates:

March 13 VBS Area Leaders Meeting at 11:30 a.m.

June 26 VBS All Staff Training at 3 p.m.

JULY 1: FINAL REGISTRATION DATE. ALL VBS REGISTRATIONS ARE DUE BY THIS DATE.



Jr. High Youth Group: The Jr. High Youth Group **will only be meeting one time in March** due to Spring Break. We will meet March 13 from 5 to 6:30 p.m. at the church. We look forward to seeing you there! If you have any questions, feel free to contact Karla Kane at 446-9454 or kckane@s-pelmwood.com.

Sr. High Lenten Study: High School (grades 9-12) this is for you. Follow along with the church lenten study entitled *24 Hours That Changed the World* for 5 weeks beginning March 13 and ending April 17. Here is a chance to do a small group study with people your age and dig into scripture that has shaped the Christian Faith. We will meet at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings. Please note that we will not meet March 27th because of Spring Break. If you have any questions, please contact Karla Kane. You can text me at 309-231-3084.

Children’s Church for Lent: In conjunction with the lenten study *24 Hours That Changed the World*, we will offer Children’s Church during the 10:30 a.m. service. We will be doing a children’s version of the study so that the entire family can participate. Children’s Moment will not be offered during this study so children may go to the fellowship hall a few minutes before 10:30 a.m. so parents may get to the worship service or the small group they are attending. If you have any questions, please contact Angie Tracy or Karla Kane.

Church Camp Fundraiser: For students who are interested in selling Little Caesar’s Pizza kits to earn money for church camp, order forms will be available beginning this Sunday, February 27. Please see Karla Kane to pick up forms. All orders need to be returned to Karla by Sunday, March 13. Pizzas will be available March 25th for pickup. Camp brochures are available in the office to help you choose the camp you would like to attend.

EEBY Troop Fund Breakfast:

The EEBY Troop Fund will hold a breakfast at the United Methodist Church of Elmwood on Saturday, March 5, from 6 a.m. to 10 a.m. in the fellowship hall. The breakfast is being served in conjunction with the Elmwood All-Outdoor Show taking place at the school and proceeds will benefit the EEBY Troop Fund which sends packages to active military personnel from the surrounding area. Volunteers are needed to help with the breakfast. If you are interested in helping or donating items, please sign up in the foyer or contact Lavonne Rushing at 742-8010.

Please Let us Know: If you or a family member is in the hospital or a care facility and would like to receive a visit from the church, please notify the church office or Pastor Mark to let us know that you are in the hospital, etc. The hospitals do not automatically notify the church of your admittance due to privacy issues. We don’t want to miss anyone, but if we don’t know we can’t respond. Thanks.

Dishes: There are several dishes in the fellowship hall waiting to be taken home. Thanks.

UMW:

I want to thank everyone who baked cookies and helped in any way at the Valentine party at Country Manor in Farmington on February 13th.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, March 8, at 9:30 a.m. The social will be provided by Winifred Horney and Bev Keefer. The program and devotions will be by Evelyn Dorich. This will be our yearly “Prayer and Self-Denial” program.

Thanks again and hope to see you on March 8th.

Carol Kemper, President



We would like to thank Lori Johnson and our church family for the “Welcome Home” reception for Jeff. It meant a lot to us to have your support and prayers while he was deployed and then to honor his service upon his return. It was honestly one of the hardest things our family has ever been through and we can’t imagine how much harder it would have been without people like you in our corner!

Jeff, Lisa, Jared and Emily Roberts

SERVING ON GOD’S TEAM 9 AM WORSHIP

March 6, 2011

GREETERS: Sherry Powers/Janet Vallas
USHERS: Kent/Georgia Stevens
LITURGIST: Mandy Garrett
0-5 NURSERY: Stephanie Webster
Alex Vallas
COFFEE BAR: Tracy Family

March 13, 2011

GREETERS: Bev Keefer/Mary Stenwall
USHERS: Andy Bartlow/Bob Paige
LITURGIST: Rachel Potts
0-5 NURSERY: Amy Deppe/Sara Kane
COFFEE BAR: Potts Family

March 20, 2011

GREETERS: Marge Camp/Jill Williams
USHERS: Norma Bowhay
Lavonne rushing
LITURGIST: Kurt Webster
0-5 NURSERY: Alana/Hannah Parm
COFFEE BAR: Haskell Family

March 27, 2011

GREETERS: Roland/Cathy Ekstrand
USHERS: Don/Marge Haahn
LITURGIST: Michelle Dunn
0-5 NURSERY: Julie Bartlow/Betty King
COFFEE BAR: **Need Volunteer**

**SERVING ON GOD'S TEAM
10:30 AM Worship Service**

March 6, 2011

GREETERS: Dean/Becky Hunt
USHERS: Wayne Callister/Tom Morse
LITURGIST: Carol Kemper
ACOLYTES: Ben/Emmie Crisco
0-5 NURSERY: Shelli Shoop/Chelsea Morse

March 13, 2011

GREETERS: Chuck/Connie Johnston
USHERS: Danny/Marilynn Bowhay
LITURGIST: Don Forrest
ACOLYTES: Shelby Glover/Emily Roberts
0-5 NURSERY: Alana/Hannah Parm

March 20, 2011

GREETERS: Gary/Kathryn Fincham
USHERS: Mary Nell Simpson
Chris Stevens
LITURGIST: Jerry Wilson
ACOLYTES: Katie Parm/Nicole Shoop
0-5 NURSERY: Michelle/Ian/Taylor
Armbruster

March 27, 2011

GREETERS: Ruth Arnold/Diana Ladd
USHERS: Dean/Sandy Cantu
LITURGIST: Chelsie Forrest
ACOLYTES: Deanna Cantu/Kaitlynn Vallas
0-5 NURSERY: Robin Furrer/Catie Tracy



ATTENTION: If you are unable to serve on the day given, find someone from the list to trade with. Please let the office or Alana Parm/Robin Furrer (nursery) know if you no longer wish to serve or if you wish to add your name to the list and which service you attend. **THANK YOU!**