

AUGUST 2026

LAMPLIGHTER

First United Presbyterian Church

201 W. Evergreen St.
P.O. Box 259
Elmwood, IL 61529

elmwoodpresbyterian@gmail.com
rev.marla.elmwood.pc@gmail.com
www.firstpresbyterianofelmwood.org



HE says I am™

Shielded

We put our hope in the Lord.
He is our help and our shield.
Psalms 33:20 ~ NLT





August 2026



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 church reserved for Baby Shower Noon-5:00 PM
2 Communion 9:00 AM Adult S.S. 10:30 AM Worship	3 Pastor Marla will be out of the office August 3-7	4 Pastor COM Mtg 10:30 AM (zoom)	5 Quilt Club 8 AM - 4 PM	6 Bible Study 9:00 AM	7	8
9 9:00 AM Adult S.S. 10:30 AM Worship Deacons Mtg	10 EBW 6:00 PM	11	12	13 Bible Study 9:00 AM Seesion Mtg 6:30 PM	14	15
16 9:00 AM Adult S. S. 10:30 AM Worship Worship Cmmtt Mtg	17	18 Pastor PGR Assembly 10 AM - 2 PM	19 Quilt Club 8 AM - 4 PM	20 Bible Study 9:00 AM	21	22
23 9:00 AM Adult S. S. 10:30 AM Worship Rev. Kerry Bean preaching Coffee Hour ----- 30	24 PEO 6:00 PM Brandi will be out of the office August 24-28	25	26	27	28	29

Upcoming Events

Bible Study.

Thursday Mornings @ 9AM

Adult Sunday School

Sunday Mornings @ 9AM

Children's Sunday School

Children's Sunday School is off for the summer and will resume in September

Out of the Office

Pastor Marla will be out of the office
August 3rd thru the 7th

Quilt Club

August 5th 8AM – 4PM
August 19th 8AM – 4PM

Deacons Meeting.

August 9th

Session Meeting.

August 13th @ 6:30PM

Guest Preacher

Rev. Kerry Bean will be preaching
on Sunday, August 23rd

Out of the Office

Brandi will be out of the office
August 24th thru the 28th

Coffee Hour

on the 4th Sunday of each month
following worship

TEXT PRAYER CHAIN

The church's text prayer chain is a great way to communicate prayer needs outside of our usual Sunday prayer request times. Keep in mind that prayer texts need to be brief. Please have the person's permission to share their request (after the text goes out it is PUBLIC) so be careful what details are shared. Also, do NOT reply to the texts with questions or comments--replies are not monitored. You may contact either Pastor Marla (217-828-1866) or Anita (309-251-9537). We will do our best to get the prayer request out in a timely manner.

Happy Birthday.

August 1st

Cory Alcaraz

August 8th

Amy Kepple

August 19th

Brandy Stevens

August 22nd

Mike Shissler

August 26th

Afton Bauler

August 28th

Stuart Bauler

Happy Anniversary.

August 25th

Larry & Diane Criswell



A Letter From The Pastor



Psalm 95:6-7 – “Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!
For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, the sheep of his hand

Greetings, my friends!

We are coming into August and the insufferable heat, humidity and –dare I say it—beginning of the school year. We are sagging a bit! And we see evidence of this in our worship attendance as well! People are traveling, their families are coming in, there’s lake visits and weekend trips and other things that conflict with our Sunday mornings. And even from the pulpit, it’s evident that folks are sagging, so I wanted to share with you some helpful tips on **How to Stay Alert in Church** (from *The Presbyterian Handbook*).

1. **Get adequate sleep:** late Saturday nights are Sunday morning’s worst enemy. (Aren’t you getting a little too old to be such a party animal?)
2. **Drink plenty of water** (though not too much!): it’s easier to remain alert when you’re well hydrated. (one bathroom visit OK, more than that...well...)
3. **Eat a high-protein breakfast:** carbohydrates force your body to metabolize food into sugars which can make you drowsy. (No donuts!)
4. **Arrive early and find the coffee pot:** or consider a caffeinated beverage. (Caffein— not just a new parents’ or college student’s best friend!)
5. **Focus on your posture:** sit up straight with your feet planted firmly on the floor. (Yes, mom!)
6. **If you have difficulty focusing on the service,** divert your attention, occupy your mind, not your hands: look around the sanctuary for visual stimuli while still listening. (Yes, the Pastor will see you counting the light fixtures but will be grateful that you’re not snoring!)
7. **Stay alert by flexing muscle groups in a pattern:** clench toes and feet, flex calf muscles, thighs, glutes, abdomen, etc. Avoid shaking, rocking or other movements that may attract attention. (A great way to get a workout in!)
8. **If all else fails, consider pinching yourself:** dig your nails into the fleshy part of your arm or leg. (Try not to cry out or your church family will think that you’re ready to testify!)

I hope these tips help you in your next worship experience! (comments in parentheses are from me!)

Blessings,

Rev. Marla Bauler