First United Presbyterian Church 201 W. Evergreen St. PO Box 259 Elmwood, IL 61529

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



2023







Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

The world is filled with hope!

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CALENDAR





2023



§ >						N. Contraction of the Contractio
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
PALM SUNDAY  Communion  9:00 AM Adult Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Service  Worship Cmmtt Mtg. following Worship	3 HOLY WEEK	4	5 9AM-4PM Quilt Club	9:00 AM Prayer Group  Maundy Thursday  Meal @ 6pm Service @ 6:45pm	7 Fellowship @ 6:30pm Service @ 7pm	8
9:00 AM Adult Sunday School 9:30 AM Kids Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Service Easter Egg Hunt following Worship	10	11	12	9:00 AM Prayer Group Session Meeting 6:30 PM	14	FREE MOVIE & Free Popcorr Hoosiers @ 2:30pm at the Palace Theater
9:00 AM Adult Sunday School 9:30 AM Kids Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Service Stevie Flynn's Baptism Deacons Mtg. following Worship	17	18	19	9:00 AM Prayer Group	21	22
9:00 AM Adult Sunday School 9:30 AM Kids Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Service Coffee Hour following Worship 30 9:00 AM Adult Sunday School 9:30 AM Kids Sunday School 10:30 AM 5th Sunday Fellowship	6:00 PM PEO	25	26	9:00 AM Prayer Group	28	29

## SCHEDULES



#### Announcements

#### **Elder to Assist with Communion**

April 2nd ..... Emily Roberts

#### Elder to be Liturgist & Assist Treasurer

April 2nd	Emily Roberts
April 9th	Brett Stevens
April 16th	Steve Winslow
April 23rd	Anita Asbell
April 30th	Calie Stalter



1st: Zach Carter

16th: Mitchell Webster

2nd: Caleb Stevens

18th: Pat Althiser

5th: Elizabeth Shoop

22nd: Chad Jordan

6th: Steven Cox

23rd: Kevin Lueschow Richard Schrimp

9th: Dylan Pash

25th: Cathy Meyers

10th: Roger Kepple

27th: Cathe Carter

12th: Matthew Jordan

Pat Gomes



12th: Ed & Judy Cosby 25th: Hap & Nancy Howard 27th: Wayne & Anita Asbell





Thursday morning Bible Study & Prayer Group Thursday's @ 9am in the Fellowship Hall.



#### **Adult Sunday School**

Adult Sunday School meets Sunday Mornings @ 9:00am

Evervone is Welcome!



## Children's Sunday School

Children's Sunday School for ages 5 and up meets Sunday Mornings @ 9:30am

\*Youth S.S. will not be meeting on April 2nd



Maundy Thursday ~ April 6th Meal around the tables @ 6pm Service @ 6:45 pm

> Good Friday ~ April 7th Fellowship @ 6:30pm Service @ 7pm

\*\* Presbyterian only ~ not a community event \*\*

Easter ~ April 9th Service @ 10:30am Easter Egg Hunt following Worship

\*\* Presbyterian only ~ not a community event \*\*





#### FREE MOVIE & FREE POPCORN

Hoosiers

April 15th @ 2:30pm at the Palace Theater







#### ST. JUDE'S RANCH FOR FAMILIES & CHILDREN

Our congregation contributed 255 front covers of used cards and 160 new unused cards. Nice job! We'll do this again at the end of the year so keep your cards until then!

#### ~ IN LOVING MEMORY ~

Jim Nixon passed away on March 23, 2023

A service will be held at a later date & Memorials are to be made to the church.

#### "A CHILD OF MINE"

by Edgar A. Guest

I'll lend you for a little time, a child of mine, He said.

For you t olove while he loves, and Mourn when he is dead.

It may be six or seven years, or Twenty-two or three.

But will you, till I call him back, take care of him for me?

He'll bring his charms to gladden you, and shall his stay be brief,

You'll have his lovely memories as solace for your grief.

I cannot promise he will stay, since all from earth return,

But there are lessons taught down there I want this child to learn.

I've looked the wide world over in my search for teachers true

And from the throngs that crowd life's lanes, I have selected you.

Now will you give him al your love, nor think the labor vain,

Nor hate me when I come to call, to take him back again?

I fancied that I heard them say, Dear Lord, Thy will be done.

For all the joy Thy child shall bring, the risk of grief we'll run.

We'll shelter him with tenderness, we'll love him while we may;

And fir the happiness we've known, will ever grateful stay.

But shall the angels call for him much sooner than we planned,

We'll brave the bitter grief that comes, and try to understand.



# Congratulations

Coach Gregg Meyers, Liv Meyers & the EHS Girls Basketball Team



Congratulations to Liv Meyers on being named to the Class 1A third-team all-state girls basketball squad selected by the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association.

Congratulations to
Coach Gregg Meyers,
Liv Meyers, and the
EHS Girls Basketball team
on winning their
2nd Straight Regional
Championship this year!



The Thursday morning Bible Study/Prayer Group has begun a study of Genesis. As we have studied about Noah, the topic came up of the Creation Museum and the Ark in Kentucky. With Session's permission, the group is looking at going on an existing trip sponsored by Peoria Charter & Travel August 25-27th. It's a three day trip which will include 2 nights at a Hampton Inn, luggage handling, entrance to both of these attractions, plus 2 breakfasts, one lunch and one dinner. They have reserved 10 seats for us but only for one month. See information sheet at the back of the sanctuary.

During the Blue & Gold Banquet on March 9th Cub Scout Master Ben Jansky & former Cub Scout Master Lindsey Gilles presented Pastor Marla a framed copy of the Charter for Pack 3058. They gratefully acknowledge the support & encouragement of the First Presbyterian Church of Elmwood.



Prepared. For Life."

Charter

Granted to

First Presbyterian Church of Elmwood

Upon application through authorized representatives to carry on the Scouting program for character development, citizenship training, leadership, and mental and physical fitness. Subject to the provisions of the Charter and Bylaws and the Rules and Regulations of the Boy Scouts of America for the period ending

December 31, 2023

Pack 3058 F

Elmwood IL

Serving youth for 2 years

In testimony whereof the Boy Scouts of America has caused this charter to be issued and its corporate seal to be affixed.

Roge C. Wholey
Chief Scout Executive/President & CEO



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA Incorporated February 8, 1910

Chartered by Congress June 15, 1916

138 06

524-407 2022 Revision

#### NEWS



# FROM THE PASTOR

April 2023

<sup>28</sup> One of the teachers of the law came and heard them debating. Noticing that Jesus had given them a good answer, he asked him, "Of all the commandments, which is the most important?" <sup>29</sup> "The most important one," answered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. <sup>30</sup> Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' Mark 12:28-30

My Dear Friends, as we begin the month of April we have Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter Sunday right upon our doorstep! Usually Pastors write about the meaning of these observances in their April newsletter article, but for me, I'm going to focus on how much God loves us and how we are to love the Lord our God.

But if you think about it, that's the truest most pure form of Christ's sacrifice on the cross. When we were young in Sunday School the teacher would ask, How much does God love you? And we would all stretch our arms out indicating Christ's death on the cross and say This much! And that's the message we gain from Good Friday, the day of crucifixion, and Easter Sunday. Because of his love we, in return, love God back!

And we're given a description of HOW to love God back: with all our heart, our soul, our mind and all our strength! So a question must arise from this---how are we doing in loving God with heart, soul, mind and strength? What does that look like? Sounds difficult! Sounds like a lot of thought and planning. But really, I think this is it: every day we are to live and love God as through he was sacrifice on the cross for our sins. We realize how unworthy we are to receive it, but Christ insists that we receive it. This is called Grace. Remember in all we do, say, think and act that Jesus' death on the cross is his gift to us. So on Palm Sunday, services during Holy Week and the Easter Service, let's remember that because of God's love.... He Is Risen!

Blessings of our Loving Lord, Pastor Marla

# First United Presbyterian Church, Elmwood, IL Session Meeting Minutes February 9, 2023

A regular meeting of the Session of First United Presbyterian Church of Elmwood was held in the Fellowship Hall on February 9, 2023. The meeting was opened with devotions and prayer by Anita Asbell at 6:33 p.m.

Elders present: 2023 - Emily Roberts and Mike Shissler

2024 - Julie Barrett

2025 - Anita Asbell and Steve Winslow

constituting a quorum. Absent was Calie Stalter and Brett Stevens . Rev. Marla Bauler moderated the meeting. The guidelines for a quorum were established at the January 12, 2023 Session Meeting as the presence of 50% of currently serving Elders.

Elder Training: Anita Asbell led the discussion of our church's strengths and weaknesses.

The meeting agenda was reviewed and approved.

Committee chairs were reviewed. The only change is to include Julie Barrett as Co-Chairperson for Building and Grounds.

The Deacons Report dated January 29, 2023 was reviewed.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer's Report for January 2023 was reviewed. Approved.

#### Clerk's Report

The minutes from the January 12, 2023 were reviewed & approved with minimal changes. Correspondence from The Great Rivers Presbytery regarding Per capita was read.

#### Pastor's Report

Pastor Marla gave a formal report which listed her monthly ministry activities.

Communion was postponed until February 12, 2023.

Pastor installed the new Deacons and Elders on January 29, 2023.

Elders: Anita Asbell (1st term); Steve Winslow (2nd term).

Deacons: Cindy Alcaraz, Mary Beth Hitchcock & Pam Paige (all 2nd term).

#### **Committee Reports**

#### Finance/Personnel: Chair - Emily Roberts

Finance: Approved to have Finance Committee begin a review and rewrite of Jonah funds usage. Motion made. Seconded. Approved.

Personnel: Brandi Teel's annual raise has been given.

#### Worship/Membership/Christian Ed: Co-Chairs – Calie Stalter & Anita Asbell

Worship: Reorganized Christmas containers for easier decoration take down and put away. Fifth Sunday Fellowship was held on January 29th with 29 in attendance. We played trivia and included popcorn for snacks.

Christian Ed: Adult Sunday School reports the following financial accounting: Beginning Balance as of 1/01/2023 = \$3,964.83. Deposits: \$135; \$45; \$51; \$33. Spent: \$500 (John Mumma family for house fire relief); Ending Balance = \$3,728.83 as of 1/31/23.

Missions: Co-Chairs - Mike Shissler & Brett Stevens

Several thank you notes were read.

The free movie on January 21, 2023 was Driving Miss Daisy and 27 people were in attendance. April's movie will be Hoosier's on the 15th. There will be four movies for 2023. Next meeting will be on March 5th.

Marketing and Evangelism: Chair - Brett Stevens

No report.

Building and Grounds: Chair - Steve Winslow; Asst. - John Alcaraz

March 12, 2023 will be Spring cleaning day for both inside and outside.

#### **New Business**

Discussed the blood drive that Brandi worked so hard on and then it was cancelled. It was decided that we would no longer host these blood drives unless a member of the congregation volunteers to chair it.

There being no further business to come before the session, the meeting adjourned with a short prayer offered by Pastor Marla at 7:25 p.m.

The next session meeting is March 9, 2023 with Devotions & Prayer by Steve Winslow.

Moderator.

Rev. Marla Bauler

Submitted with prayer by,

Anita W. Asbell, Clerk of the Session bdt