

Elma United Methodist Church

MARCH 2012

- Donations for the Relay for Life Bazaar are now being accepted in the church office.
- Attn all musicians: A Children's Choir Director is now being sought. Interested parties should speak with Pastor Daven, Keith Zimmerman, or Hank Schmidt

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Methodelma

From the Desk of the Pastor

Remaining in Lent



Daven W. Oskvig
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Greetings and grace to you all;

Annually we spend this entire month in the darkened season of Lent. As our natural surrounding begins its spring awakening, we are called spiritually to remain in a subdued penitential spirit. This is a great challenge as the rhythms of our souls often match these natural cycles to keep ourselves in Lent. And yet this challenge may lie at the very heart of our decision to take up the cross and follow.

When all is bright and warm, will we still walk this challenging path of discipleship? When the world (both its natural realities and those human created ones) sings its siren song to walk a different path, will we remain committed? Stories and poems abound concerning divergent paths and the great difference in life that comes by choosing one over another. If we choose nature's model, then it would be the path of least resistance. This is what rain drops and rivers follow. If we choose the world's path, then it would be the path of self-centered existence. If we choose Jesus' model, then it would be the path of resistance. It would be the path that swims against the current and a life that is led for others. Lent is . . . tough. It begs us through its disciplines to answer what our lives will ultimately look like when all is bright, easy and happy, but even more so when all is dark, difficult and despair.

Let us remain in this season as we walk the path of the cross together. Let us push back and away those things that seek to allure us away from the light, love and grace of God. Let us finish the journey we have begun that we may ultimately choose the only way that leads to life eternal as 'A Loving Church SERVING A LOVING GOD!'

God bless you all,

Pastor Daven

JOIN THE BELL CHOIR!! Will train! No Musical Experience Necessary!
 Contact Laura Buechi, 675-6428 for details.

Sunday Worship on March 4, 2012

Services will be held at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Scriptures: Genesis 17:1-7,15-16; Psalm 22:23-31; Romans 4:13-25; Mark 8:31-38

Greeters: John & Rose Shiesley & Hazel Wilmot	Altar Flowers: Wollen Family
Toddler Time: Nancy Gradwell, Laura & Charlotte Buechi	Ushers: Mike & Sue Brunner
Liturgist: Greg Schuetz	Acolytes: Charlotte Buechi & Alexis Murphy
Fellowship: Melissa DeGraff & Cheryl Kowalski	Communion Steward: Brunner Family

Sunday Worship on March 11, 2012

Services will be held at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Scriptures: Exodus 20:1-17; Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 1:18-25; John 2:13-22

Greeters: Christian Education Sunday	Altar Flowers: Martha Horohoe
Acolytes: Cody Lombard & Jacob Hartman	Toddler Time: Christian Education Sunday
Liturgist: Deb Coatsworth	Ushers: Christian Education Sunday
Fellowship: UMW Picnic - Buy a hot dog and support summer camps	

Sunday Worship on March 18, 2012

Services will be held at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Scriptures: Numbers 21:4-9; Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22; Ephesians 2:1-10; John 3:14-21

Greeters: Stockton Family	Altar Flowers: Doris Smith
Toddler Time: Carrie Schmitz, Bev Hornung & Cassidy Setzer	
Liturgist: Deb Mannion	Acolytes: Brooke Strausbaugh & Hailey Sugrue
Ushers: Matt & Amy Thormahlen	Fellowship: Michele Setzer

Sunday Worship on March 25, 2012

Services will be held at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Scriptures: Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 51:1-12; Hebrews 5:5-10; John 12:20-33

Greeters: Brunner Family	Altar Flowers: Schmitz Family
Toddler Time: Amy & Chloe Garbacz, Bridget Talty & Emma Fisher	
Liturgist: Tracy Wright	Acolytes: Weston Ball & Wayne Parks
Ushers: Brian & Shawn Strausbaugh	Fellowship: Fuer & Schmitz Families

Tuesday Morning Bible Study Opportunity

The Tuesday morning Bible Study group is starting a six week session with Ray Vander Laan videos on the Prophets and Kings of Israel.

All are welcome and each lesson is an independent study; perfect attendance is not necessary. Men and women are invited.

Thank you to Sarah Hill for her donation of the lovely banners that adorn the sanctuary walls. We appreciate your hard work as we benefit from the beauty.

Administrative Council

NOTES FROM THE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING JANUARY 9, 2012

1. Thanks were extended to all who worked so hard during the Advent season, with the Christian Ed programs, the Ecumenical Service, Advent Services, and the funerals. The Church family pulled together to make many activities successful.
2. A list has been compiled in the office of those who are willing to help anyone who needs a ride to the doctors or other appointments or who needs simple chores done. Just call the church office and arraignments will be made.
3. The Committee Investigating the Continuation of the Roast Beef Festival announced the results of the survey taken of the congregation. There were 12 responses to the question regarding helping with a Church wide festival of some kind. Five were no, and seven were yes. No one volunteered to chair the event; however, some were willing to work. Therefore, a church wide festival will not be held. Dinners, bazaars, and other events will continue, and other events will be held as needed.
4. The Trustees will purchase 25 new padded chairs for the Fellowship Hall.
5. SPARK will not be held this spring. Pastor Daven will investigate other outreach activities.
6. Committee reports include the Christian Ed's reporting that all of their activities came together beautifully; Finance reports a budget surplus for 2011; Missions is pleased with the reception of the Mission Moments and is looking into field trips to various local missions that our Church supports: The Giving Tree was successful.

NOTES FROM THE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING FEBRUARY 13, 2012

1. The surplus balance in the church ministries account has been referred to the Finance Committee meeting for suggestions. The cost of the new 25 new chairs, as well as the \$150 bonuses to the staff will be taken from this account. The suggestions will be made upon the completion of the audit.
2. The Missions and Outreach Committee has been receiving many requests for funds. We will continue supporting those we already support. The Missions and Outreach Report fully states what we are supporting.
3. The Secretary's Job Description will be updated to include the duties of Bookkeeper.
4. The SPRC is actively seeking a Junior Choir Director.
5. Cheryl Zelasko will be chairperson of the Relay for Life which will be held June 15. The Church will again have a team.
6. The UMW will have a fund raising event on March 11, raising funds for camp scholarships.
- 7.. The Visioning Team will be present at the Administrative Board's March 12 meeting to present their ideas of the Church's Vision.
8. Joan Zimmerman, Deb Coatsworth, and Shirley Schildkamp will organize a team to explore opportunities for "Don't Just Go To Church BE THE CHURCH!" on May 20. Other volunteers are needed.

MISSION MOMENTS

MISSION MOMENTS

Did you know that there are wheelchairs, crutches and walkers available at the church for those in temporary need of such items? Did you know that our church building is used by multiple organizations such as the Girl Scouts, 4H, Music with Mar, TTAC swimming and Home Bureau? EUMC continues to remain A Loving Church Serving A Loving God.

Musical Instruments are needed.

Gateway-Longview's Family Resource Center, located at 347 East Ferry Street in Buffalo, recently launched a free children's music program aimed at providing music education and instruction to disadvantaged children and youth. Instruction is provided by accomplished local musicians and certified instructors.

Gateway-Longview is in need of new or gently-used musical instruments, including string, percussion, woodwind, brass, and keyboards, for the program's young participants.

To make a donation, please call the Gateway-Longview Foundation at (716) 783-3220. Financial donations can be made visiting their website, www.Gateway-Longview.org, and clicking on the "Give a Gift" icon. (A link to gateway can be found on the EUMC webpage under the "Outreach Ministries" tab.)

ROOF RAISER



The 2012 Women's Build for Habitat for Humanity will be hosting a fundraiser on March 23, 2012 from 6 - 10 pm at Statler City, (107 Delaware Ave.). Domenic Cortese of Hammertime will be the emcee. Tickets are \$30 per person if ordered by March 8th. To order tickets or to make a donation to Women's Build 2012, send a check payable to Habitat for Humanity to 995 Kensington Ave, Buffalo, NY 14215.

Seed of Hope program for AU continues

The question is often asked, "Why is the United Methodist Church so committed to Africa University? Why are we there?" United Methodists are committed to Africa University because the New Testament tells us that we are commissioned to go into the world and teach. It's as simple as that.

Our church has its roots in the university setting. Methodism founder John Wesley loved learning and the university life, and he urged us to unite knowledge and vital piety. That's a tough thing to do, but we have done it.

Creating and supporting higher education is just something we United Methodists do. It's in our genes. We're building a university in Old Mutare, Zimbabwe, because it's needed, and we're staying there because it is meeting critical needs. We are committed to Africa University.

Partial Reprint of 2003 UMC article. See in entirety at http://archives.umc.org/umns/news_archive2003.asp?story=%7B4C6FEB86-7414-4830-BCBC-CF84A347FC3B%7D&mid=2406

*The Seeds of Hope
program for Africa
University seeks to
raise one million
dollars over 3 years.*

Christian Education & Youth

“God’s Got a Recipe to Bring Out the Best in Me!”&

Let’s Get Cookin!



Let’s Get Cookin!

Sunday School 9:00 a.m.—10:00 a.m.

Adult Class - Library

3 & 4 yr. olds—Mark Room

2nd—4th grade—Luke Room

High School Class—Youth Room

K—1st grade—Matthew Room

5th—7th grade—John Room

Confirmation—Study Room

Christian Education Sunday—March 11th

On **March 11th** Christian Education Sunday will be held. All ages of youth are welcome to participate in the 10:30 Worship Service. There are many ways you can participate: acolyte, usher, greeter, call to worship, pray, sermon, sing, and play an instrument, or we can creatively create a place for you. Please see Deb Coatsworth for any area you would like to be involved with.

**SPAGHETTI DINNER
TRAIN & Hobby DISPLAY**



Saturday, March 31st
4:30-7:00



Elma United Methodist Church
2991 Bowen Road, Elma
Adults \$8.00 Children 4-8 \$5.00

Buy Tickets
Pre Sale or
At The Door



Proceeds Benefit
Mini Youth
Work Camp

January & February Highlights

- * Erie County Home: Acoustic Angels & Puppet Ministry
- * Drive Thru Chicken BBQ: \$1,160.50 Profit
- * Vacation Bible School Workshop presented at Catch the Spirit: Thank you to Sue Brunner, Cheryl Buechi, Carrie Schmitz, Rose Shiesley, and Erika Wargula for helping & providing the spirit of VBS at Catch the Spirit.
- * Mini Youth Group Sub Sale: \$270.43 Profit
- * Souper Bowl of Caring: \$204.80 (Thank you for your donation toward the Souper Bowl of Caring! The money raised goes to FISH of East Aurora.)
- * Family Event: Ice Skating at East Aurora Ice Rink
- * Guest Speaker Karen Peterson in Adult Sunday School Class
- * Mini & Senior Youth Retreat at Camp Findley



Women's Retreat—May 11th—12th

Women's Retreat: **May 11th – 12th at Camp Asbury.** Please sign up on the bulletin board by the Fellowship Hall if you are able to attend. The cost of the retreat is \$84.00 per person. This includes a great room with your own bathroom, 3 meals that you don't have to make, the retreat itself, fellowship and worship with one another, and time to rock on the front porch while looking out at the beautiful lake. Please see Deb Coatsworth if you have any questions and to give her your payment to reserve your spot.

Community Wide Drug & Alcohol Task Force—March 13th

Community Wide Drug & Alcohol Task Force Meeting—March 13th @ 6:45 p.m.
Elma Senior Center located at 3007 Bowen Road, Elma NY 14059

Agenda/speakers

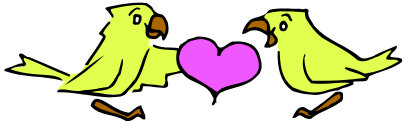
- • Parents' legal rights and responsibilities—Judges Joe Sakowski and Dave Wzykowski
- • Speaker on schools' rights and responsibilities
- • Signs, symptoms, visuals, and current drug trends—Kaleida Health and ICS Kids Escaping Drugs
- • Tentative—drug trends in the community—DEA Officer
- • Time for questions and answers

MARCH

APRIL

1	Christian Education Mtg, 9:30 a.m.	1	Senior Youth Group Mtg. 12:30—2:00
4	Senior Youth Group Mtg. 12:30—2:00	5	Christian Education Mtg. 9:30 a.m.
11	Christian Education Sunday	8	Easter Sunday Pancake Breakfast & Easter Egg Hunt 9:00—10:00
11	Mini Youth Group Mtg. 12:30—1:30	15	Senior Youth Group Mtg. 12:30—2:00
13	Community Wide Drug & Alcohol Task Force Mtg. 6:45 p.m. at Elma Senior Center—3007 Bowen Rd.	22	Mini Youth Group Mtg. 12:00—1:30
15. 15	Youth Net Mtg. at Williamsville UMC 10:00 a.m.	29	Mini Youth Group Mtg. 12:00— 1:30
18	Senior Youth Group Meeting 12:30—2:00		
25	Mini Youth Group Meeting 12:30—1:30		<u>EVERY WEEK</u>
30	6:30 Set up trains & hobby displays		Sunday School 9:00—10:00 a.m.
31	10—12:30 Set up tables & salad prep		Tuesday Morning Bible Study 9:30—10:30 a.m.
31. 31	4:30—7:00 p.m. Spaghetti Dinner/ Train & Hobby Show (Fundraiser for Mini Youth Group Work Camp in July)		Wednesday Lectionary Study 10:00—11:00 a.m.

Happy Birthday to... 3/1 George Blair, Jr., 3/4 Ty Talty, Pat Sommersdorf 3/6 Bryan Green, Cody Lombard, Charles Majeski 3/7 Kathy Majeski 3/11 Matthew Baker, Phil Hill 3/12 Martha Horohoe 3/15 Hazel Wilmot 3/17 Debbie Wilson 3/18 Chris Erhardt 3/19 Ray Piscitelli 3/22 Allison Pitman, Tim Wantuck 3/25 Chloe Garbacz 3/26 George Hake, Brian Krah 3/28 David Schaff, Greg Fuer 3/29 Belle Jacobs 3/30 Debbie Dustin, Leah Schmitz 3/31 Scott Zimmerman, Barbara Jones, Emma Fisher



Happy Anniversary to... 3/3 Joe & Betty Boofer 3/27 Thomas & Nancy Kronthaler 3/29 Bill & Karen Cordes

Birthdays and anniversaries are published by the office. Please call 652-5427 with any corrections or omissions.

Hot Dog Sunday - United Methodist Women Fundraiser

Buy a hot dog and support the Summer Camp Scholarship program.

Hot dogs, chips, drinks and dessert will be served after the 10:30 am Christian Education Sunday service (March 11th) for your donation to the UMW fund to help send our youth to summer camps.

Garage Sale Update

Please continue to save those garage sale treasures! The Garage Sale will take place on Saturday, May 5th. Please mark your calendars to help with the set up which will begin Sunday, April 29th after 2nd service.

SAVE THE DATE!!

UMW District Communion Breakfast at Eden UMC is Saturday, March 31st at 9:30 am. There will be a sign up sheet on the bulletin board for women interested in attending.

Bricks available on the path to the Labyrinth

EIGHT BRICKS have been sold, and the Memorial Committee is eager to place the engraving order. Please consider buying a brick in our Memorial Walk. Forms are available on the table inside the south entrance.

All Invited to Dinner

Corned Beef and Cabbage is on the menu for March 15th at 6 pm here in the Fellowship Hall. Help will be needed with preparing the dining hall & food, and with clean up. Devotions will be led by Joan Zimmerman. There are sign up sheets on the bulletin board for those attending and also those who are able to help. Please sign up early to ensure enough is purchased for all.

Elma United Methodist Church

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E-mail:
eumcSecretary@gmail.com

Pastoral Care:
Reverend Daven W. Oskvig
eumcPreacher@gmail.com

EUMC STAFF

Dir. Of Music:

John Mitton

Acoustic Angels:

Jessica Budzynski - interim

Bell Choir:

Laura Buechi

Dir. of Christian Education:

Deb Coatsworth

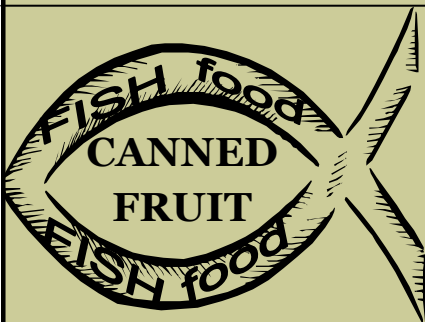
Secretary:

Cheryl Zelasko

Custodian:

Jim Coatsworth

Deadline for next publication is the third Sunday of the month prior. July/August issue deadline is third Sunday in June.



Easter Flower Order Form

Flower Type	Color Choice				Total ordered	Price per	Amount Due	
	Yellow	Red	Pink	White				
TULIPS						\$5		
Daffodil	no color choice					\$5		
Lily	no color choice					\$7		
Regal Geranium	no color choice					\$7		
Total Due								

Ordered By: _____

In Honor of: _____

In Loving Memory of: _____

Those wishing to donate a blanket to Church World Service may do so at a donation of \$5 each. Please either use this form for information or enclose a slip in the Tools & Blankets envelope with the names of those that are to be honored or memorialized. All checks should be made payable to EUMC with either flowers, blankets or flowers & blankets in the memo line. **Please place all orders by March 25th.**



Are You Ready to Relay?

The EUMC Team for the 10th annual Relay for Life of Elma and Surrounding Communities is forming NOW!! There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board. All team members will be assigned one week to work our bazaar table between services/ after services, selling stars, moons, luminaries, and other donated items as well as accepting financial donations for the American Cancer Society. Any questions should be directed to Cheryl Zelasko in the church office. Thank you for your continued support.