



FAITH *news*

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE ELDRIDGE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

CONVERSATION with Pastor Courtney

Growing up, I never really celebrated Lent. I remember having discussions with friends at school about what they were giving up for the 40 days. Sometimes I would join in and give up chocolate (one of my favorite things.) I participated but did not understand the spiritual significance. Lent is yet another sacred celebration that has found its way into popular culture. A Google search came up with a list of things to give up during Lent. For most people, it's an opportunity to try again at those New Year's diets. I also see Facebook friends posts that they are going on a technology fast.

In a conversation with my sister, I said I am going to cut out fast food to knock the habit and improve my health. She shared that she may add extra time for Bible reading and prayer. I believe this may be the best way to spend a Lenten journey. Lent is a sacrificial time and a contemplative time. It's time for us to reflect on the death of Jesus for the redemption of our sins. It is also a time for us to focus on the spiritual disciplines of reading Scripture, prayer, worship, giving and service.

I encourage you to consider any of these options this Lenten season. If you've never participated, try it this year. If you've always given something up, add a spiritual practice. My hope is that during these 40 days you will grow in the knowledge and love of God and become a more devoted disciple of Jesus Christ.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable
in Your sight, O LORD, my strength and my Redeemer.

-Psalm 19:14



2020

Lenten Observances

Starts this week!

Pastor's Lenten Bible Study: "The Walk" by Adam Hamilton

Learn 5 essential spiritual practices—worship, study, serving, giving & sharing—and how to apply them personally & to the life of the church. There are 2 opportunities to attend:

7pm *Wednesdays* at EUMC / *Mar 4-Apr 8*

1:30pm *Tuesdays* at McUMC / *Mar 3-Apr 9*

Palm Sunday (April 5)

Led by the musical praise of the CHANCEL CHOIR, join the celebration of Jesus' triumphant ride into Jerusalem! Please pick up a palm upon entering the sanctuary and take it home with you to display throughout Holy Week.

NEW!!! Holy Week Service (April 9)

This year there will not be an ecumenical Good Friday service at Cornerstone. Therefore we have developed our own special service combining Jesus' last moments with His disciples (Maundy Thursday) AND his final steps through the Garden of Gethsemane and to the cross of his crucifixion (Good Friday). Hosting our sister congregation in McCausland we will have our own 'last supper'—a full supper for the family—that will later move into the sanctuary and the solemnity of Christ's last moments at the Cross. More details will follow as the date nears and we'll be asking for your 'reservation' so we will know how much food to prepare. You are assured a memorable experience that will place you in the midst of the happenings so important to the essence of our faith.

Easter Sunday (April 12)

He is Risen! The Easter service will be filled with rejoicing in praise, song and the sharing of holy communion on this most important of Christian observances. Church is held at its usual time (9am) with good fellowship following. The Chancel Choir and the Hand Chimes Choir provide special moments of rejoicing!

STEWARDSHIP: “Utilizing & managing all resources God provides for the glory of God & the betterment of His creation.”

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT	General Operating Fund	Building Fund
2020 Pledges:	\$133,844.00	\$ 25,395.00
Anticipated 2020 Growth:	\$ 8,000.00	
TOTAL	\$141,844.00 (\$11,820/mo)	\$ 25,395.00 (\$2,166/mo)
Received in 2020:		
January	\$ 14,283.00	\$ 5,880.85
FEBRUARY	\$ 11,498.00	\$ 905.00
2020 Income To Date	\$ 25,781.00	\$ 6,785.85
Percentage of 2020 pledges	19%	27%

THANK YOU for Volunteering

DATE	GREETER	ACOLYTE	USHER	LITURGIST	Kids / Nursery	TREATS	PIANO	AV
TODAY 3/1* Dave & Stacy Muhs	Dan & Becky Esbaum	Reece & Taylor Crain	(John & Paula) Bryant Family	Linda Tubbs	Pastor / Willey Family	Donna Eudaley; Carol Haugland	Kathy Dawson	↑
3/8	Norma Neilson; Joyce Orcutt	Reece & Taylor Crain	Dana Blake; Ephram Huscko	Paula Bryant	Pastor / K.O.W. (Ms. Brenda)	Dana Blake; Janalee Keppy	Sally Riewerts	
3/15	Apple Family	Reece & Taylor Crain	Nancy Bryantt; Sondra Bulazo	Joyce Orcutt	Joyce Orcutt / Becky Esbaum	Sondra Bulazo; Judy Kilzer	CJ Albertson	Ryan Riewerts
3/22	Dave Faeth; Janalee Keppy	Reece & Taylor Crain	Dan & Becky Esbaum	Cindy Irwin	Pastor / K.O.W. (Ms. Brenda)	Paula Bryant; Kathy Dawson	Linda Reickard	
3/29	Sondra Bulazo; Cibdy Irwin	Reece & Taylor Crain	Mike & Vicki Shaw	Steve Sorensen	Becky Esbaum / Cindy Irwin	Shaws; Crains	Elizabeth Leslie	

Following is a listing of the nine standing committees of the Eldridge United Methodist Church and a short description of their responsibilities and goals. For more detailed information or to express interest in serving on one of these committees, see the Chairperson listed or speak with Pastor.

EUMC Standing Committees

The **ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL** is the representative body of the church. Led by the chair, the elected lay leader and the pastor, other members of the Ad Council are comprised of the chairpersons of all the standing committees (*see following*) and a small number of 'at-large' representatives. The Ad Council is responsible for maintaining the integrity of the church as it has evolved and stands today as well as setting vision and goals for its sustainability and effectiveness in the future. As the 'governing body' of the local church, Ad Council oversees coordination of the other committees and entities/activities working within the church, especially as those efforts support the ongoing mission of the church as *"a community of loving disciples who proclaim and live love of God and neighbor"*.

CHAIR: Brian Popelka
(Meets @ 6:30pm on the 2nd Thursday of each month.)

The **CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY (CYFM)** works to enhance the spiritual growth of the congregation 'beyond the pulpit'. Primarily responsible for planning and coordination of knowledge-based programming such as 'Wonderful Wednesdays', Sunday School curriculum, and Bible Study opportunities, CYFM also champions spiritual growth opportunities *outside* the local church such as bible camp, mission trips and social action events. A secondary but equally important goal of this committee is to encourage and build unity as a 'church family' by encouraging a sense of belonging and interrelatedness among its members. This is often accomplished through intergenerational activities of a more social nature such as the chimes choir, family movie nights, teen lock-ins and even the occasional potluck!

ACTING CHAIR: Pastor Courtney

The **FINANCE COMMITTEE** proposes a budget; then raises, manages and distributes the financial resources of the congregation to support and strengthen the mission and ministry of the church. The committee recommends to the administrative council proper depositories for church funds and carries out directions regarding administration and disbursement of funds and procedures for the church treasurer and financial secretary. They are also responsible for maintaining segregation of duties assigned to the treasurer, financial secretary and finance chairperson and arranging for an annual audit of financial records.

CHAIR: Kelly Cronkleton

The **MEMORIAL COMMITTEE** is responsible for identifying & communicating the areas of need within our church for the application of memorial gifts. They develop and maintain a master plan for the orderly receipt, recognition, and acknowledgement thereof.

CHAIR: Linda Tubbs

The **MISSIONS COMMITTEE** is dedicated to spreading the EUMC vision to “be the light of Christ” to those in need by supporting individuals and church outreach programs in our local community, our state, nation and throughout the world. Specifically, we serve more than 75 homeless individuals a warm dinner once every other month. During the Christmas season, we provide gifts for several local families in need, and backpacks and gift cards for local high school students. We offer financial support to local charities and missionaries that are a part of our church family. We also contribute hundreds of ‘welfare’ kits to the annual In-Gathering program through the United Methodist Church. It is the goal of the missions committee to continue to identify & remediate needs in our communities so that we can spread the light of Christ to others.

CHAIR: Steve Sorensen

The **NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE** is responsible for identifying and developing Christian leadership in the congregation. Nominations is responsible for discerning the gifts of people in the congregation and populating committees.

CHAIR: Pastor Courtney

The **STAFF / PASTOR / PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE** (SPPRC) supports church personnel through four components: (1) interpreting ministry to the congregation; (2) counseling the pastor/staff in regards to ministry; (3) evaluating effectiveness of staff to facilitate growth; (4) conferring and consulting with the pastor through transition.

C0-CHAIRS: Gary Abbas
Deb Menke

The **TRUSTEES** are responsible for the general maintenance and development of the physical plant of the church. This would include decisions regarding everything from small ‘fix-it’ jobs like repairing garbage disposals, to larger sustaining projects such as lawn-mowing or replacing worn carpeting, to full-scale projects of remodeling and/or building (new kitchen; energy efficient lighting). The trustees seek to support the work of EUMC by providing a physical environment that is safe, comfortable & user-friendly as well as efficient & cost-effective.

CHAIR: Don Doonan

The **WORSHIP COMMITTEE** works hand-in-hand with the pastor to enhance the worship experience of the congregation. Areas of emphasis include providing tradition & continuity as well as freshness & variety in the worship experience itself; coordinating music/musicians (choirs, chimes, special music); providing for visual beauty (flowers, banners, audio-visual use & special displays); helping to plan ‘special’ worship services (Christmas, Easter). The Worship Committee seeks not only to bring these things to the congregation but to involve them in the experience in order to make their spiritual journeys as personal and meaningful as possible.

ACTING CHAIR: Pastor Courtney

MARCH birthdays

3/01	Don Leslie
3/02	Gary Abbas
3/04	Lyman Miller Zeke Skyles
3/07	Melissa Willey
3/14	Dennis Eudaley
3/15	Jack Hawker Dennise Wullweber
3/16	Devon Reickard
3/22	Quentin Coffman
3/23	Karee Hodge
3/24	Reece Riewerts
3/25	Leona Lightner
3/28	Daisy Schoonover Ethan Stilson
3/31	David Kintigh

Birthdays & Anniversary Club

as of 2-15-2020

January/February Club Members

Kelly Cronkleton

Mike Shaw

2020 Contributions so far:

\$172

Have you signed up
to bring
ALTAR FLOWERS



**Sunday,
March 8th**
(or you'll be late
for church!)

“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life. -John 3:16

MISSIONARY MINUTE

with Brittany

Hey y'all!

Howdy from your Iowa-grown, now Texas-resident missionary!

It's official now—I have a Texas license plate and a Texas drivers license. It's been an interesting month as I've transitioned to living in Texas, settling in to an apartment I'll be at for a whole year, and figuring out what life looks like here in Corpus Christi.

I want to share with you a few things that are part of my life now!

I have a favorite Christian-owned coffee shop that is a 5 minute drive from my apartment.

I've joined two life groups/small groups—one young adult life group and one for people who have a heart for foster care and adoption.

I found a church that I LOVE. It's a bigger church, which is different from my EUMC family, but they're so inviting and have such a Biblical worldview. My church is so invested in seeing the gospel change Corpus Christi, and it's so encouraging to find people who are already doing God's work here.

I have a favorite grocery store

I can find my way around the area (not downtown, but the rest of the area) and I know where my bank and post office are!

I also want to give you a little look into my role at YWAM Ships Corpus Christi in the next few months! I've been working hard to get our social media presence consistent and promoting the Discipleship Training School that we're running in September. (This is the same school I did the first time I went to Montana in 2015.) I'm also working on designing creative material for our base—things like stickers and shirts. As we get more established and we get into a routine with social media, I'll have more time to devote to working on the plans and promotion for the Bible school I'll be leading in April 2021!! The Bible school is really where my heart is, and as I've started to work on plans and preparation for that I've gotten very excited about what God has planned for this school.

Thank you so much for your love and your support during this time of transition!

Much love,
Brittany Bunch

PRAYER requests

- **Researchers, Caregivers and Patients** of the coronavirus.
- **Vicki Hawkins**—pneumonia; recovering at the Kahl Home
- **Stevie Millage**—homeless and struggling
- **Lawmakers & Media** that they seek, speak and discern the truth in these trying times in our nation.
- Strength, healing & support for **Paul Atkins, Brenda Falck, Curt Dunn, Barb Fischer, Bernice Kinner, Cindy Irwin, Floyd Wieters** and all with cancer, and other serious health concerns.
- **First Responders and Military Personnel** who protect our country and our liberty, especially those newly deployed to Iraq.
- **Children** separated from their parents at our borders



Eldridge United
Methodist Church

Rummage

2020



FRIDAY, April 17
8:00am-5:00pm
(UMW Bake Sale, too!)

&

SATURDAY, April 18
8:00am-Noon

Everything **HALF PRICE** on Saturday,
except designated items.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED. . .

- * With initial planning & advertising - contact Janalee Keppy, 285-4123.
- * Donate items. Please think of us if you have one item or numerous items. Clean, useable items of everything from clothing, household goods, furniture to tools are needed.
- * Work a shift. Sign-up sheet will be in Gathering Area soon.
- * Attend! Find a bargain! Have a great breakfast!

PRICING DETAILS:

* Each person is to price all their miscellaneous items (household items, furniture, tools, etc.).

* For nicer clothing and books please mark with a fair price.

* You do not need to individually price clothing, shoes, & books if you are OK with the our standard prices listed in the box →

* Donations can be brought to the church between 8:30am-8pm on April 13-16 (EXCEPT large items-see next bullet). PLEASE place clothing & items on marked tables in sanctuary & side classrooms.

* Bring large pieces/furniture between 7-8pm Wed, the 15th or anytime on Thursday, the 16th.

CLOTHING	ADULT	CHILDREN
Blouses, tops & shirts	\$2.00	\$1.00
Sweaters & sweatshirts	\$2.50	\$1.50
Shorts	\$1.50	\$.75
Pants & Slacks	\$2.00	\$1.00
Jeans	\$4.00	\$2.00
Skirts	\$2.00	\$1.00
Dresses	\$4.00	\$2.00
2-piece Outfits	\$5.00	\$4.00
Sleepers & PJ's	\$1.50	\$.75
Shoes/Boots	\$3.00	\$2.00
Coats (light weight)	\$3.00	\$1.00
Coats (heavy)	\$5.00	\$3.00

BOOKS

Hardback \$.75 / Paperback \$.50 / Magazines \$.10

& PANCAKE BREAKFAST, TOO!



The men of the church will serve breakfast on Saturday the 18th from 8am-10:30am.

Volunteers & Donations will be needed.
Details? Call Dave Muhs at 563-285-6899.

** Proceeds from the breakfast go to the
Community Outreach Fund. **

reminders

1. The expert chocolatiers at McCausland United Methodist Church are getting ready to make their delicious chocolate covered **EASTER EGGS**. Big, beautiful, delicious and fairly priced, these eggs make a wonderful addition to any Easter Basket (or just 'for fun' for that matter)! A sign-up sheet is on the big table outside the window in the Gathering Area. Payment is due at time of ordering please.

2. **TIME & TALENT SURVEYS** are out and we'd really love to have them returned as soon as possible. If you didn't get one, there are extras available! Ask you usher on Sunday morning, stop by the office or get in touch with us by phone or email and we'll send you one.

3. **CARD BAGS** are readied and waiting for your kindness. This year we are sending our Easter wishes to six of our home-bound members and constituents:

- *Dale & Shirley Carey (members)
- * Lois Lampe (Paula Bryant's mother)
- * Bernice Kinner (Carol Kay's mother)
- * Vicki Hawkins (member in rehab)
- * Leona Lightner (member)
- * Helen Muhs (Dave Muhs' mother)

We'd like to include some nutritious snacks such as granola bars, pudding cups, microwave popcorn, and Easter candy, of course (*I know, I know...not 'nutritious', but come on!*). There is a more complete list of suggestions on the sign-up table in the Gathering Area.

4. **FOOD PANTRY** needs for **MARCH** include:

Pasta



Side Dishes



Please place your order no later than Mar 22. For your convenience, there will be a box for orders on the corner of the desk in the office.

Your Name _____

Best Phone # _____ or Email _____

TOTAL # of Plants I'm Ordering _____ x \$10 each = \$ _____

The Easter Lilies will be placed in the Sanctuary on Easter Sunday, April 12th. If you would like to purchase a lily, please fill out this form, attach payment & place it in the offering plate, hand to CJ, drop off at the office, or mail to the church (604 S. 2nd St). Please make all checks payable to "EUMC" noting "Lily" in the memoranda and plan to pick up your lily after Easter Sunday service.

Check	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cash	<input type="checkbox"/>

If you would like to dedicate your poinsettia in honor / remembrance of someone, please PRINT their name clearly below:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Please Check One	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Honor	Remembrance
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Honor	Remembrance
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Honor	Remembrance

More names? Continue on the back if necessary.

Administrative Council Meeting –February 13, 2020, 6:30 PM

Members present: Pastor Courtney, Kelly, Brian, Bill, Keith, Joyce, Mike, Deb Steve, Judy

1. Prayer - Pastor Courtney
2. Minutes from Jan meeting: Correction: Joyce was present in Jan; Joyce made 1st motion; Mike 2nd; Approved as corrected. Devotion schedule was sent around the table
3. Pastor's Report
 - 3.01 March 2 in Ames is pastor's interview day with Board of Ordained Ministry . Prayers requested
 - 3.02 Brian will send out information to committees
 - 3.03 Need to report to the congregation monthly
4. Finance/Treasurer report
 - 4.01 Becky would like to increase the internet for the office to 10 megabites from 4. Would be a \$20 increase. Approved.
 - 4.02 Becky also reported attendance trend: 2017-121 ave; 2018-105 ave; 2019- 92 ave.
 - 4.03 Committee: Becky Esbaum, treasurer; Trish Reisener, Financial Secretary; Kelly Cronkleton, Financial Chairman; Laura Reth, birthday club.
5. CYFM Report- Pastor Courtney
 - 5.01 No report
 - 5.02 Advisory Task Force: Cindy Crain, Kelly Cronkleton, Joyce Orcutt, Dave Prochaska, Deb Menke, Brenda Sorensen, chair
6. Trustee's Report...
 - 6.01 New Microphone has been purchased by Keith (his birthday gift to the church)
 - 6.02 Committee: Don Doonan chairmen; CJ Albertson, Cory Crain, Dennis Eudaley, Larry Haugland, Randy Kinney, Lynn Reth, Jan Veldhuis-Kroeze
7. SPPRC Report –
 - 7.01 Met Feb 12 at 6:30 and to meet Feb 17 at 6:30
 - 7.02 Let congregation know this is a work in progress. Committee is working on it.
 - 7.03 Need to find out who the members are so they can vote.
 - 7.04 Committee: Gary Abbas, co-chair with Deb Menke; Brian Popelka, Judy Kilzer, David Muhs, Joyce Orcutt, Mike Shaw
8. Missions Report
 - 8.01 No report
 - 8.02 Committee: Steve Sorensen chair; Paula Bryant, Dee Childers, Kathy Dawson, Donna Eudaley, Janalee Keppy, Kathy Rhinehart, Laura McLain
9. UMW Report – Joyce Orcutt
 - 9.01 Valentine Cookie orders to be fulfilled on Thursday, Feb 13
10. Other: Question came up as to what happened to the Time and Talent sheet. Pastor reported they will be handed out Sunday, Feb 16.
11. Closing Prayer: Joyce

Next meeting: 6:30 PM Mar 12

Respectfully, Judy Kilzer

MARCH 2020



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 1st Sunday in Lent Communion Sunday 9:00 Worship 10:10 Sunday School 4:00 Confirmation 4:30 Choir Practice 6:00 CCT Board mtg	2 Office Closed 6:00 Lion's Club	3 7AM-8PM V-O-T-I-N-G @ eumc (Swimming Pool) 10:30 Bible Study 6:30 HiSET (GED) Mentoring	4 6:00 WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY 6:30 Lent Study #1	5 5-7 Compass "BYOS"	6 3-8pm Eagle Scout Award Banquet 6pm Faith & Family Night @ Hockey Game	7
8 2nd Sunday in Lent  Spring Ahead 8:00 Choir Practice 9:00 Worship/KOW 10:10 Sunday School 4:00 Confirmation	9 Office Closed 6:00 Lion's Board	10 10:30 Bible Study 6:30 HiSET (GED) Mentoring	11 10:00 Pastor to Grand Haven 6:00 WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY 6:30 Lent Study #2	12 6:30 Admin. Council mtg.	13	14 7am Men's Breakfast in Argo
15 3rd Sunday in Lent 8:00 Choir Practice 9:00 Worship 10:10 Sunday School 4:00 Confirmation	16 Office Closed	17 10:30 Bible Study  St. Patrick's Day 6:30 HiSET (GED) Mentoring	18 6:00 WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY 6:30 Lent Study #3	19 Deadline for APR. FaithNews submissions	20 EUMC serves at NS Food Pantry	21
						
22 4th Sunday in Lent 8:00 Choir Practice 9:00 Worship/KOW 10:10 Sunday School 4:00 Confirmation	23 Office Closed	24 10:30 Bible Study 6:30 HiSET (GED) Mentoring	25 3:00 UMW mtg. 6:00 WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY 6:30 Lent Study #4	26 Pastor to Columbus Junction (all day)	27 North Scott 2hr. early out	28
29 5th Sunday in Lent 8:00 Choir Practice 9:00 Worship/KOW 10:10 Sunday School 4:00 Confirmation	30 Office Closed	31 10:30 Bible Study 6:30 HiSET (GED) Mentoring				



LOOKING AHEAD:
 2020
RUMMAGE SALE
 is set for
 April 26 & 27
(see details elsewhere in this newsletter)