



FAITHnews

Monthly Newsletter of Eldridge United Methodist Church

NOVEMBER 2023

Dear Friends!

"For everything there is a season, and a time for every activity under heaven. A time to be born and a time to die. A time to plant and a time to harvest..." (Ecclesiastes 3:1-2)

I hope things are going well for you. I don't know about you, but I am the type of person looking for what lies ahead. Entering into a new season brings me so much excitement, except for this time of changing season, EARLY NOVEMBER in particular when the weather gets colder and gloomy, which makes me tired and feel down. As a Christian, I want to live every day with joy and gratitude. So, there are things I do around this time of the year: Making some CHANGES or ADJUSTMENTS in ADVANCE, rather than waiting until I feel forced to do something. I add an extra cover on my bed, along with a very warm and soft winter blanket. When I wake up in the morning, it helps me feel so cozy and warm, ready to welcome another cold day. I also buy some extras at the grocery store for the kitchen food pantry to make my winter soul soup at any time to nourish my body and soul. There are a few more things I do to prepare myself for this season, in order to live more fully in spite of the fact that I don't like this season.

As November is approaching, what are the things that we need to do differently for the next few months? There are things we do personally and there are things we do together as the family of God. With All Saints Sunday (the 1st Sunday in November), and Thanksgiving approaching (3rd Sunday in November), I am challenged to reflect on my life and ministry differently. I hope and pray that you are, too. In my reflection, I have found the things that I need to let go of and the things that I need to work on. I am missing those who have passed away throughout the year. I want to love all of you as much as possible and serve God's church better because our time together is very limited. I am also working on myself to grow healthier during this changing season that brings forth a new season, because healthy leaders build healthy churches. I want you to know that Jesus is calling you to grow healthy as his body because a healthy body of Christ is built on healthy church members. So, think about what necessary changes or adjustments are to be made as the body of Christ in order to grow healthier into the new season that awaits you. And my prayer goes out for us that we will all grow together as the body of Christ.

Blessings to you all, Pastor JaeHee Lee

**The Church Office will be CLOSED
Thursday, November 23 & Friday, November 24
for the THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY**



1. **STEWARDSHIP MONTH** – You will soon be asked to pick up your envelope explaining our Stewardship drive for 2024: “50 Years *plus*: The Journey Continues...” If you are unable to pick yours up, we’ll grab it and stick it in the mail. In the meantime, please begin to think and pray on how you can help us to maintain Christ’s church here in Eldridge.
2. **FOOD PANTRY** items this month are: **Cake & Brownie Mixes --- Frosting --- Hot Cocoa**
3. **WORSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING** – Wednesday, 1st at 1:00pm
4. **44th Annual MISSION INGATHERING KITS for 2023** – THANK YOU again for everyone’s part in providing items for kits or monetary donations to complete them. As a result, we were able to send 80 School Kits, 20 Layette Kits, and 25 Personal Hygiene Kits!
5. **NOV. 5 – ALL SAINTS SUNDAY WORSHIP (Communion)** – Please be thinking of loved ones from your family or close friends (or with a special tie to EUMC) who have passed away this year. If you have not already done so, give those names to the office no later than Wednesday, November 1st to be remembered specifically during our worship that day. When turning in the name, please list in the way you want to have them listed— ‘Peter’ or ‘Pete’ for example—and with correct spelling.
6. **CHOIR REHEARSAL** – regular 1st Sunday rehearsal at 4pm this Sunday, Nov 5th
7. **CITY/SCHOOL ELECTION DAY** – We are a polling place, 7am-8pm on Tuesday, the 7th. *As much as possible*, please save your office or church building business for another day in order to save close parking spots and keep confusion to a minimum...but Vote!
8. **Tuesday Morning BIBLE STUDY** will meet at 10am on the 7th but in Room 9 instead of library.
9. **ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL** meets Thursday, the 9th at 6:30pm.
10. **3rd Annual VETERANS’ SALUTE!** – Friday, Nov. 10th at 7pm. ALL are invited to come join us for this wonderful event in honor of our church and local Veterans. . . no reservations necessary (*but appreciated, though*).
11. **MEN’S BREAKFAST** is Saturday, November 11th – 7am at Tasty Café.
12. **NOV. 12 – GUEST PASTOR, Joye Chizek.** Joye is a new member at McCausland and has training and experience filling the pulpit. Pastor will be on RETREAT Nov.12 – 18.
13. Due to Thanksgiving week, **UNITED WOMEN OF FAITH (a.k.a. ‘UMW’)** will meet a week earlier than usual at 3pm on Wednesday the **15th**; an important part of their time together will be sorting and preparing for the upcoming Christmas service (Dec 3rd).
14. **NOV. 19 – THANKSGIVING SUNDAY WORSHIP**

15. OFFICE CLOSED for the Thanksgiving Holiday on Thursday and Friday the 23rd & 24th.
(FYI – North Scott Schools are closed on the 22-24th)

16. NOV. 26 – CONSECRATION OF GIFTS WORSHIP – As I mentioned earlier, we are asking you all to take a hard look at your monetary gifting for 2024. We are asking that you turn in your PLEDGE CARDS at our special service on November 26th. If you'd like to turn it in to the officer earlier, we'll just make sure it is added to those on that day for a special blessing of consecration.

17. NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES:

11/7 **Gary & Bea Abbas**

11/11 Wendy Popelka
Jan & Flow Veldhuis-Kroeze

11/13 Dietrich Muhs
Grayson Schoonover

11/15 Sue Cannon

11/17 Randy Kinney

11/22 **Bill & Linda Tubbs**

11/25 Nancy Bryant

11/27 Norma Neilson



18. Here is the WORSHIP TEAM SCHEDULE for the month of NOVEMBER:

NOVEMBER	Hosts	Liturg.	Treats	Piano	TV	Flowers
*5	<u>Doonans</u>	Trish R	Kate B & Joyce O	Kathy	CJ	Abbas
12	Nancy B & <u>Norma N</u>	CJ	Sondra B & Rheta A	Linda	Trish	?????
19	<u>Schoonovers</u>	Linda T	Christie & Doug	CJ	Stacy	Tubbs
26	<u>Sondra B</u> & Betty F	Joyce O	Linda R & Kathy D	Tom L	CJ	Tubbs
*COMMUNION PREPARER/SERVERS (5 th): David Smith & Stacy Muhs						

19. Looking ahead to Sundays in DECEMBER:

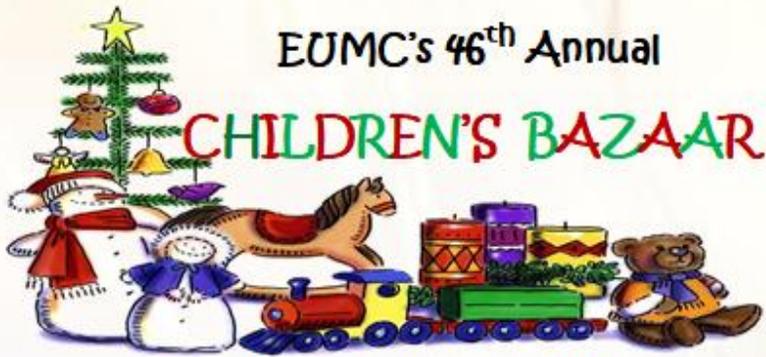
3rd CHRISMON SERVICE w/Communion

17th CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

24th (am) CHANCEL CHOIR CHRISTMAS CANTATA

(pm) CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE @ 8pm

31st Christmas Carol Sing-A-Long: "Go Tell It On The Mountain"



EUMC's 46th Annual

CHILDREN'S BAZAAR

Saturday, December 2 – 9am to 1pm

(Snow Date, December 9)

Children shop for Family, Teachers, Friends and Pets

All gifts are priced at \$3.00 or less!

Information and Ways You Can Help

- **Donations:** A display is set up in the Gathering Area with items we need to have donated. Please bring by Nov. 13th.
- **Adult volunteers:**
 - Needed for Set Up on Thursday, Nov 30 & Friday, Dec.1
 - Needed on the day of the bazaar to work a designated area, wrap gifts or to help the younger shoppers select presents.
 - Needed to help with clean up immediately after the bazaar on Saturday.
- **Youth Volunteers (5th grade through high school):** We need "shopper assistants". Ask you grandkids, your friendly neighborhood kids ... And of course, they get to come early do their shopping before doors open to the public!
- **Sign-up sheets & instructions:** Make sure to continue to check the display in the Gathering Area EACH WEEK as new information is added the closer we get to the big day! Get out the word!
- **Assembling Workshops:** Our elves are ready to begin to "put things together" and YOU can help. No particular 'artsy skills' are necessary—just a willingness to lend a hand to a great event for the kids! Please come help as much or as long as you can on:

Tuesday, Nov 15 9:00 am

Wednesday, Nov 16 9:00 am

Thursday, Nov 17 9:00 am (if needed)

Questions?

Call Janalee 285-4123 or Judy 285-8157

SALUTE to VETERANS

Friday,
November 10
7PM

- *Honor Guard
- *Guest Speaker
- *Recognitions
- *Patriotic Music
- *Treats



RSVP appreciated:

Call 285-4314 or email to

eldridgeumc@csteldridge.com

See you in church!

CJ Albertson

Office Manager/Editor