

# Elm Grove United Methodist Church



September 18, 2022

15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome

Prelude

Anita Chops

\*Call to Worship

*One:* You have come to a community of love and hospitality.

***All:* Here, God entreats us to see strangers as angels in disguise.**

*One:* You have come to a community of worship.

***All:* Here, praising God is more important than puffing ourselves up.**

*One:* Here, you are God's honored guest.

\*Hymn

*"Christ for the World We Sing"*

UMH #568

\*Opening Prayer

**Teach us, God of abundant mercy, to treat others as we would have them treat us.**

**Help us show hospitality to strangers, for by doing so, many of us have entertained angels without knowing it.**

**Remind us to visit those who are imprisoned, as if we ourselves were in prison.**

**Give us the courage to speak out against torture, as if we ourselves were being tortured.**

**May we never neglect to do good, or to share from our abundance, for such sacrifices are pleasing in your sight.**

**In your holy name, we pray. Amen.**

Sharing Joys & Concerns  
Pastoral Prayer

The LORD'S Prayer

UMH #895

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Offering of Gifts, Prayers, & Tithes

*You may mail in your offering or drop it in our locked mailbox that is to the right of our front glass doors.*

Special Music

*"Be Thou My Vision"*  
*Chancel Choir (11:00)*

by G. Young

Presentation of our Gifts

\*Doxology

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

UMH #95

\*Prayer of Dedication

**LORD God, let me give until it helps the poor and needy, let me love until it changes the abused and doubtful, and let me serve until it blesses the least and the oppressed through my tithe, time, talent, and testimony. Amen.**

\*Hymn of Preparation

*"The Gift of Love"*

UMH #408

"Let's Talk" Time

\*Gospel Lesson

Luke 14:1-14

Message

*"Don't Put Down The Shades"*

Rev. Debra Dague

Prayer of Confession

**God, we come today confessing our love and obedience to you.**

**The seeds of “healthy competition” sown in childhood have borne misshapen fruit in adulthood.**

**We love the best seats, bask in recognition, and covet the “edge” that brings us honor.**

**Forgive us, God, when our competitiveness yields more pride than excellence.**

**Forgive us, God, when we forget that we work for you, and not for ourselves.**

**Forgive us, God, when we forget the humility and hospitality are close relatives, and that those who would be your disciples are called to hold hands with the stranger.**

**Make us less eager to fight for power and position and more willing to make room for those who have neither name nor strength. Amen.**

*Words of Assurance*

Those who exalt themselves will be humbled, but those who humble themselves will be exalted.

In faith, you have made your humble confession before the living God who continues to offer us forgiveness through Jesus Christ, who is the same yesterday, today and forever.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Amen.

\*Hymn

*“Together We Serve”*

TFWS #2175

\*Sending Forth

*One:* Go from this place, remembering that God thinks highly of the lowly and the stranger.

***All:* Today we leave with a renewed commitment to take the lowest seat, to be content with what we have, and be kind to those who can never repay us. Amen.**

\*Postlude

Anita Chops

*“The United Methodist Hymnal”* © 1989

*“The Abingdon Worship Annual 2014”* © 2013

*“The Abingdon Worship Annual 2016”* © 2015

*“Worship & Song”* © 2011

*“The Faith We Sing”* © 2000

## TEN MOST WANTED LIST

Ten people I covenant to pray for and to invite to church/church events.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_

7. \_\_\_\_\_

8. \_\_\_\_\_

9. \_\_\_\_\_

10. \_\_\_\_\_

For pastoral care during Pastor Cindy's absence, please contact Rev. Neil Leftwich  
or  
Rev. Debra Dague.

# MISSION OF THE MONTH

## BLESSING BOX

Non-Perishable Food Items

\*ABSOLUTELY NO EXPIRED OR OPENED ITEMS  
WILL BE ACCEPTED

Not ready to attend in-person worship,  
but still want to help out our mission group?  
You can mail in monetary donations to the church anytime,  
just mark the memo line of your check "Mission Group".



If you would like to send Cindy a card, please send it to the parsonage and someone will get it to her. If you need the address, contact Molly in the office.



It's been over two years and the quiet little town of Elm Grove has remained relatively.....quiet.

But on **October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022** that will all change!!!!

For one night only, a very special red-carpet event will take place.

**“Mischief, Mirth, and Mayhem:  
A Murder Mystery Retrospective”**  
is coming to Elm Grove United Methodist Church!

Enjoy canape's, hors d'oeuvres, and beverages while mingling with the stars of the AMEN Players.

Relive some of the love, romance, action, adventure, and of course, laughs from previous years.

Be a part of this special celebration marking the return of the AMEN Players to the extensive list of activities at Elm Grove United Methodist Church.

**Doors open at 7:00 pm. Tickets \$10.00 per person.**

Tickets available from one of the members of the Mission Committee or contact the church office. See you there!



### **CHICKEN & BISCUIT DINNER**

**September 30, 2022**

**4:00pm to 6:30pm**

**MENU:** Chicken Ala-King over biscuit, Green Beans,  
Jell-O Salad, Dessert & Beverage

**Adults \$10.00, Children (under 10) \$7.00**

**EAT IN/TAKE OUT**



## **TRUNK OR TREAT IS BACK!**

October 30th, 6:00-7:00pm

If you would like to decorate your vehicle and join in the fun, please sign up in the Narthex or call the office, 304-242-1206.

We are also asking for bags of candy, any variety.  
Place your donations in the basket by the office.

Thank you for helping us reach the youth of this community!