

Elm Grove United Methodist Church



October 29, 2023

Holy Humor Sunday

Announcements

Prelude

“Wake Up, Church, Wake Up!”
Chancel Choir

by P. Choplin

Skit

“Joy Epidemic”
Amen Players

by R. Benjamin

Welcome

Rev. Debra Dague

*Call to Worship

Leader: Joy is loose,

***All:* in the wiggles of the children,**

Leader: the whispers of the youth,

***All:* the smiles of the adults.**

Leader: We praise God for this glorious day.

***All:* Let the praise break forth in the most unlikely places and in silly ways.**

Leader: Joy and praise fills our hearts and in our songs.

***All:* Let the laughter be deep, for we are God’s people.**

*Hymn

“He Has Made Me Glad”

TFWS #2270

*Opening Prayer

O Great Laughing God, we come into your presence with joy and longing to be surprised. We thank you that you have given to us the gift of laughter and delight. These things give hints as to the nature of your purpose for us and for all the earth. May we find that in giving up to laughter there is healing and hope and abundance and blessing. Open our minds to the endless possibilities you create for growing closer to you with a giggle. Open our eyes to your presence in all things, allowing us to respond in joy. Amen.

Joys, Stories and Holy Ha-Has

Prayer 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.

Reception of New Members

BOW #93-94

<i>Kayla Britton</i>	<i>Sharon Cundiff</i>	<i>Scott Cundiff</i>
<i>Robert Helmbright</i>	<i>Dee Hicks</i>	<i>Fred Hicks</i>
<i>Kelly Kent</i>	<i>Amanda Kimpel</i>	<i>Lynn Welsh</i>

Offering of Gifts, Prayers, & Tithes

Presentation of our Gifts

*Doxology

"In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful"

TFWS #2195

*Prayer of Dedication

God of joy and laughter, we thank you for the lasting happiness you give, which we cannot earn or buy. In gratitude we bring these gifts, our offerings and your tithes, with the prayer that you will use them to spread the joyful gospel of your great love for all people. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Special Music

“A Place in the Choir”
Chancel Choir

by B. Staines

Dismissal of Children’s Church

Various Scripture Readings

Message

“Holy Laughter”

Rev. Debra Dague

Confession and Creed

by Rev. Robert M. Thompson

Pastor: We believe in God, who made us in His image.

***All:* We live, we love, we laugh, because we are like Him.**

Pastor: We believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, our LORD and Savior.

***All:* He had the last laugh on the devil when He rose from the dead.**

Pastor: We believe in the Holy Spirit, co-equal and co-eternal with the Father and the Son.

***All:* Our counselor, our guide, our motivator— He is our joy!**

Forgive us, LORD, when we take ourselves too seriously, when we don’t claim the happiness that is rightfully ours as your children, when we forget that you will have the last laugh in this world.

Restore to us the joy of our salvation, through Jesus Christ our LORD. Amen.

*Hymn

“Lord of the Dance”

UMH #261

*Sending Forth

The Laughing One called us together so we could share in the laughter of life.

The Laughing One sends us out, to carry the joy of life and love to the world.

Go out to laugh, to live, to love. And when you hear a good joke...remember that sharing is a great thing! **Amen.**

*Postlude

Anita Chops

“The United Methodist Hymnal” © 1989

“re-worship.blogspot.com/2012”

MISSION OF THE MONTH



GIFT CARDS for VETERANS

WALMART or KROGER gift cards only.

You may drop your donation at the church during regular office hours or Sunday mornings.

Monetary donations are always welcome,
just mark the memo line of your check "Mission Group".



TONIGHT!
6:30-7:30pm

It's not too late to decorate your trunk and join in the fun!

THANK YOU to all who donated candy!
This event reaches hundreds of kids and their families and we could not do it
without your help.



Our Nursery is OPEN!
Nursery Services for infants to 5th grade.
The children will hear a bible story, make a craft
and have lots of fun!

Can you spare a Sunday to help?

Please sign-up at the Welcome Desk, or see Kaitlyn Folmar for questions.

Effective November 1st

Jan's work hours:

Mon & Tues. - 7:00am to 2:00pm

Wed. - 7:00am to 1:00pm

***For questions, please see Doug Whitecotton**



NEW GROUP MEETING

“Together in Grief”

1st meeting is November 5th
12:30pm

Snacks will be provided.

Anyone is welcome to come, share
and get support.