



8:30 Worship Service 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Service

*Pressing on with Pastor Deb* - PASTOR DEBRA DAGUE

*May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."*

**- Romans 15:13**

The word that I would use to describe EGUMC is resilience. The definition of resilient means "to bounce back." The word is associated with withstanding shock, returning to form, maintaining strength, and not giving up. Sounds like the church I have been blessed to lead the past six months.

Like Israel in their fight for the Promised Land, the EGUMC fought to bounce back after months of misfortunes within the church and today we celebrate a church who has renewed the resurrection power of Jesus that lives in them and has been using that power to be the church God has created EGUMC to be.

EGUMC revisited who they are in Christ. The leadership gathered for a workshop that set the pace towards defining the core values of the EGUMC and updating their mission and vision statements.

Over the summer we invested time in discerning the gifts that God has given to us individually and how we can use those gifts for the glory of God. People are stepping up to use their gifts not only within the walls of the church but by opening themselves up to new people and new places.

Under the leadership of Doug Whitecotton, Thursday Bible Study led 29 people into a life changing study on dynamite prayer! They are surrendering themselves into the hands of God and praying, "not thy will but your will be done," and trusting God to lead EGUMC into the future in ways we could have never imagined. Kaitlyn Folmar has taken the lead in opening our nursery at the 11am service, Bill Daniels has stepped into the leader-

ship of the United Methodist Men, Rose Ealy is teaching the Asbury Sunday School and we are excited about our newest small group, Together in Grief Group, TRIGG. In the midst of the new are the other ministries of the church that continue to grow stronger as they carry out the plan God has for them.

EGUMC is welcoming visitors, baptizing children, making disciples, and added nine new members to our family on October 29th. EGUMC is looking forward to the Christmas Season and celebrating a risen Savior that was born to bring hope, love, joy, and peace to our lives. If you have not been in worship with us recently we invite you to come home this Christmas and experience the resurrection power of Jesus with your church family. We have a place just for you!

- Pastor Deb

*Mission Statement: To make Disciples of Jesus Christ*

*Vision Statement:* Elm Grove United Methodist Church is an inviting community who loves God and loves spreading the good news to all people.

*Choir News* - ANITA CHOPS

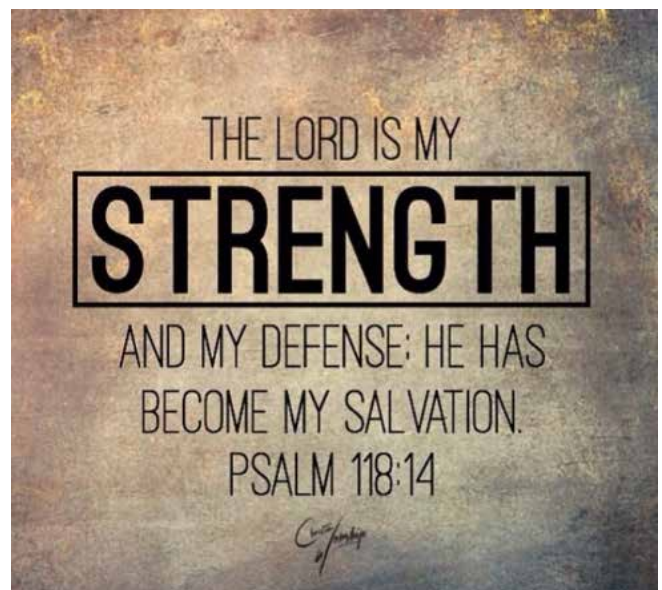
This year, the choir will be presenting a cantata at 7:00 p.m., Christmas Eve

“As the prophets had long promised, the time had finally come for the advent of Jesus, the Son of God. But could this child, born in such humble surroundings truly be the promised Savior and King? Where were the trumpets and fanfare announcing the Mighty One who would vanquish the enemy and deliver God’s people? Could the prophecy be fulfilled with the promise of love and everlasting peace? No armies? No generals? No golden carriage?”

This thoughtful, inspired, and tuneful seasonal work from the talented pen of John Purifoy comes the clear Christmas message – Jesus was indeed – **BORN A SAVIOR, BORN A KING!!**

We will also have a service at 10:00 a.m. Christmas Eve morning.

COME AND WORSHIP WITH US!!!



## Stewardship -SUSI WHITECOTTON

The Stewardship Committee is pleased to report that because of your help with selling and buying tickets, with baking, with making donations, with working in the kitchen and dining room and helping with desserts, we cleared a profit of \$3,569.34. Your help was greatly appreciated.

Our next fundraising endeavor is the Susie Hewitt Memorial Sweets Auction to be held November 19, the Sunday before Thanksgiving. We will have one service at 11:00 with a covered dish lunch to follow. The auction will follow. Please stay and enjoy the fun and you'll have the opportunity to meet our own Vanna White. The auction will give you the opportunity to get rolls and/or desserts for Thanksgiving dinner. There will also be a great Chinese Auction. Look for information in the bulletin as to how you can help.

In December, we will have a non-poinsettia sale to recognize our loved ones in the Christmas bulletin.

Susi Whitecotton and  
The Stewardship Committee

***“Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.”***

**- Hebrews 11:1**

## Boy Scouts - SCOTT BERESH

We have 10 active scouts!

### **Upcoming Events:**

1. We will again do our annual food drive in November where collections will be divided between Elm Grove UMC and House of the Carpenter.
2. Scout Sunday is Feb. 4, 2024.
3. Spring Indoor Yard Sale April 5 & 6. Table Reserve sign-up sheets will go out in March. There will not be any restrictions on how many tables a person can rent.
4. Mulch Day is May 4, 2024. Order forms will go out in April.



Troop Picture

# Mission News - WAYNE McCORD

The Mission Committee is always so impressed with the generosity of the congregation of Elm Grove United Methodist Church! Over the summer we focused on 3 monthly missions and as usual, you people came through!

July was the Ohio County Animal Shelter. You contributed 15 bottles of bleach, 10 bottles of Pine-Sol, 8 large bags of dry pet food, and 14 medium bags of dry pet food. Along with these items, blankets, towels, and sheets were dropped off at the shelter.

For the month of August, the focus was on hygiene products for the Wheeling Housing Authority. Elm Grove UMC donated 25 units of soap, 28 units of deodorant, 112 razors, and 14 cans of shaving cream.

To end the summer, September was dedicated to Application Outreach. We collected 295 boxes of zip lock bags, 17 tubes of toothpaste, 91 8-packs of tissues, 18 bottles of shampoo, and several hundred Christmas Cards.

Thank you, again, for all your support!



## Trunk-or-Treat

Our church was more than ready for the 150 + trunk or treat visitors Sunday night, Oct. 29th. Everyone had a fantastic time. Thank you to all of the volunteers and candy donators!

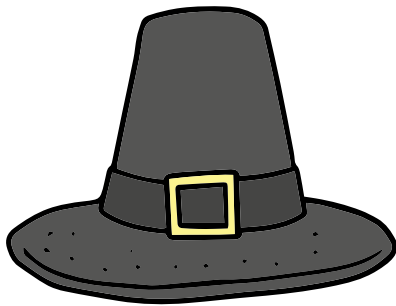


Girl Scouts serving hot chocolate at trunk or treat

## *Shepherding News* - JOYCE KIMPEL

The Shepherding Team has had a few changes. We say goodbye to Charlene Stultz who has served with me on this team for over 20 years. Thank you, Charlene, for your countless calls to members, cards, prayers, and care. Your dedication to our team has been such a testament to your faith and love of our church. Patty Jewett, one of Charlene's sheep will take over the list of families. Welcome Patty and thank you for your service to our team.

If you need a Shepherd, or if you don't know your Shepherd, please contact me.  
Joyce Kimpel, Shepherding Chair at 304-639-0588 or t.kimpel@comcast.net



## *United Methodist Men* - BILL DANIEL

The United Methodist Men are meeting the first Saturday of each month at 9 in the Old Fellowship Hall. We held a Spaghetti Dinner at the end of August and made \$1,000 profit to help fund repairs to the church building. We always have a devotional and are planning upcoming service projects and fundraisers. All men in the church are welcome to attend!

### **Congratulations Frank!**

Frank Davis, Vice President, and Treasurer of Elm Grove United Methodist Men, received the Cross and Flame Award from the men's group on July 30. Pastor Deb Dague and Frank's nephew and Elm Grove United Methodist Men President and Secretary Bill Daniel presented him with a medal, certificate, and pin. While a Boy Scout in Troop 29, Frank served as Senior Patrol Leader and earned the rank of Eagle Scout and the God and Country Award. He was also a member of the Order of the Arrow. Frank went on to serve as a Webelos Leader and Assistant Scoutmaster in Troop 29 when Bill was an active member. He taught orienteering and knot tying, assisted with the Scouting for Food program, assisted Scouts, including Bill, with Order of the Arrow Initiation and the planning and carrying out of their Eagle Scout projects, and directed and participated in work projects at Sandscrest Scout Reservation.



# United Women of Faith - ANITA CHOPS & JUDY BEAVER

On Sunday, October 15, The United Women in Faith had a special service honoring 3 individuals that they recognized for outstanding work in our church and as individuals.



At the 8:30 service, we recognized Nancy McFarland for her giving nature of fixing soup, jellies, heading up the funeral lunches, cooking for every dinner we have and just being an outstanding Christian in God's service.

At the 11:00 service, we recognized Susi Whitecotton for her talents in getting the fish fry, chicken dinners, quarter auction, and Susie's Sweets Auction. She is the treasurer for the church, serves on the Evangelism Council, is a member of UWIF, and does countless other things to help the church further God's Kingdom on earth.

The next person was Wayne McCord. He is so talented in the ways of decorating our altar and church for every season, he is the head of the Worship Team, on the Evangelism Council, helps with the Community lunches each month, cooks for the dinners (his green beans are to die for), and sings in the choir. He is always willing to sing in the summers whenever Anita asks him.

He is a wonderful Christian and he is the recipient of a MIRACLE FROM GOD. We are so glad to give these three people an award which they are so deserving of.

Our November 16th meeting will be at 12:00 noon. Our Program will be our **WORLD THANK OFFERING** presented by Alice Runkle. The ladies are asked to bring their World Thank Offering boxes. Also at this meeting will be our annual **PLEDGE SERVICE** "Who is Jesus and What does He have to do with my Money?" Presented by Judy Beaver.

We ask the ladies in the group to bring a lunch and refreshments will be served by our hostesses, Sandy Meyer and Karen Muldrew.

Our December 14th meeting will be our **ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TEA/LUNCHEON** at noon. This year we will do as we did last year, ladies are asked to bring a specialty dish to share with everyone. We will have special games and prizes, and a little caroling. A special visitor may show up, NOT SURE WHO YET!!!! The executive committee will be the hostesses.

**ALL WOMEN OF THE CHURCH ARE INVITED AND PLEASE BRING A GUEST.**

- Anita Chops and Judy Beaver



## *Lois's Stitches of Caring* - KAREN MULDREW & KAREN STEWART

Lois Stitches of Caring was started by Lois Stobbs and Betty DeSimone at the Elm Grove United Methodist Church in Wheeling, WV. Both are now gone, but their legacy lives on. Currently we meet every Monday from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. and we all have formed a strong bond. There are 8 to 10 women who have produced 289 items from January 2023 through the end of September 2023.

Our current project is making scarves (shown above) for Operation Gratitude for the military and the Red Scarf Project for children in Foster Care. We also craft hats, scarves, lap robes, baby Afghans, and prayer Shawls. New members of the church receive one of our scarves. Leftover yarn has been turned into premie hats and Prayer Squares.

We recently donated 25 Blankets to Madison Elementary School for the Pre K children. We donated 16 Blankets to Ritchie Elementary School for Special Needs students. 40 hats were taken to the Wheeling Soup Kitchen; 20 hat and scarf sets and 100 hats were mailed to Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota. Scarves were also donated for new members. We also donated some items to Hope United Methodist Church. They were in need and have only a couple of ladies to knit items.



***“But those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.”***

**- Isaiah 40:31**

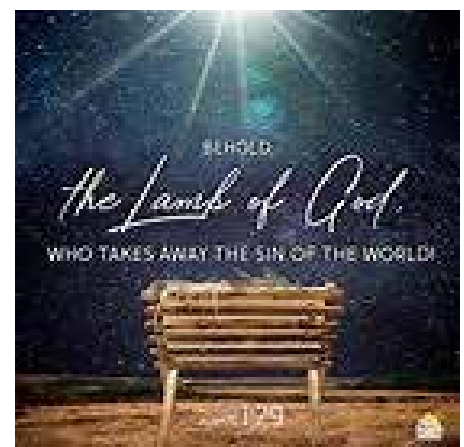


## *Bible Study* - PASTOR DEB

### Grieving Through the Holidays

The holiday season can be difficult for those who have recently lost someone they love. Ken Doka, PhD, grief researcher, shares that the most important things griever's can do for themselves during the holidays are the three Cs:

- Choose what works for you.
- Communicate what you need.
- Compromise with others who want you to engage in holiday traditions.



In addition to the Cs, I found other tips that helped me through the holiday season.

1. Be kind to yourself. Find the balance between what needs to be done and what you are capable of doing. Try not to judge yourself if you have to say no.
2. Accept your feelings. Be mindful about feelings of sadness and loneliness; just acknowledging these difficult feelings will often allow them to pass more quickly than if you keep avoiding them.
3. Ask for help. Turn to your family and friends when you need support.
4. Take care of yourself physically. Eat well and get plenty of sleep. Try to get moderate physical exercise. Try relaxation exercises when you feel tension in your body.
5. Change something. So many things have already changed. Be open to changing some traditions.
6. Let go of perfectionism. Release your vision of what a perfect holiday needs to be. Open yourself up to spontaneity and unexpected moments.
7. Consider a ritual. Consider a new ritual to recognize the absence of a loved one. A candle lighting, a symbolic gift, a tree planting or writing a letter to a loved one can be new family traditions to help you connect to your beloved departed.
8. Look for joy in the moment. Joy happens when you look for it. Live in the present.

I have learned in my own journey through grief that it can be difficult to attend some of the traditional holiday services. I am pleased that Elm Grove United Methodist Church will be offering a Blue Christmas Service. A Blue Christmas Service is about comforting those who are grieving and struggling to find joy and hope during the season. If you find that the holidays hurt, I hope you will join us for a **Blue Christmas Service on December 17th at 7p.m. or attend our Together in Grief Group, TRIGG. Our first meeting will be November 5th at 12:30p.m.**

*O Come Emanuel and bring peace to your children who grieve.*

*Pressing on..... Pastor Deb*

## *New Members*

On Sunday October 29th, with joyful hearts we welcome New Members:

Kayla Britton

Kelly Kent

Robert Helmbright

Lynn Welsh

Debbie Page

Sharon Cundiff

Scott Cundiff

Dee Hicks

Fred Hicks

Amanda Kimpel



Kayla Britton, Robert Helmbright, Kelly Kent, Amanda Kimpel and Lynn Welsh



Fred and Dee Hicks



Scott and Sharon Cundiff



## Worship Service Attendance

<b>Date</b>	<b>8:30 a.m.</b>	<b>11 a.m.</b>	<b>Sunday School</b>
July (one service)	50		
August 6	32	39	19
August 13	34	47	19
August 20	32	49	23
August 27	32	55	23
September 3	30	39	14
September 10	28	32	18
September 17	20	41	18
September 24	24	55	18
October 1	29	40	22
October 8	27	36	9
October 15	39	47	23
October 22	29	52	20

## Our Deepest Sympathy

With heavy hearts, we acknowledge their death...

**Dolores "Dodie" Marie Scherich** August 1, 2023

**Marjorie Irene Higley** September 11, 2023

**Donald Harry Waddell** September 25, 2023

*Our thoughts and  
prayers are with you  
in your time of grief.*

## Memorial Gifts

### TO TRUSTEE FUND

#### In memory of Pat Shamblin

Susi Whitecotton

#### In memory of Marjorie Higley

Susi Whitecotton

John, Stephanie & Shane Mallet

Leo & Donna Higley

Jim & Charlene Stultz

Dennis & Cindy Hartlieb

Shirley Wade

Lois's Stitches of Caring

#### In memory of Don Waddell

Tammy Carney

Tammy Hewitt

David & Karen Muldrew

Susi Whitecotton

Linda Grub

Betty Griffin

David & Elaine Kelvington

Peggy Laing

Jim & Charlene Stultz



# Elm Grove U.M.C. Birthdays & Wedding Anniversaries

## November

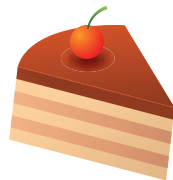
BEISNER, Shalyn	11/01
CURTO, Emery	11/01
HANKE, Ron	11/02
WHITECOTTON, Sharon	11/03
KENT, Kelly	11/06
BLOWERS, Dolly	11/09
DENTZ, Corbin	11/12
STEWART, Ed	11/12
ARMSTRONG, Hollee	11/13
MARTIN, Erika	11/13
KING, Gary	11/14
CURTO, Hilary	11/17
HASTINGS, Mason	11/17
DAVIS, Frank	11/18
WHITECOTTON, Douglas	11/18
WILT, Paige	11/20
HIGLEY Jr., Lyle	11/29
NOLAN, Sherry	11/29

## December

BEAVER, Judy	12/01
FOLMAR, Donna	12/04
RUSH, Barbara	12/04
ESTEP, Jerry	12/05
KAPPAS, Paula	12/05
MARTIN Jr., Don	12/05
WHITE, Brenda	12/09
BEABOUT, Jill	12/14
MCCULLOUGH, Dylan	12/18
RUNKLE, Alice	12/18
HENDERSON, Kayla	12/21
KIMPEL, Benjamin	12/27
FOLMAR, Evelyn	12/29
OLIVER, Alexander	12/30

## January

GRAY, Clifford	01/01
JONES Jr., James	01/01
QUIGLEY, Mary	01/02
TAYLOR, Sue	01/02
WARD, Sharon	01/04
MCCULLOUGH, Becky	01/05
CHASE, Courtney	01/11
DAUGHERTY, Melinda	01/11
ROWE, Maggie	01/11
CUMMINGS, Leona	01/13
NICKERSON, Dorothy	01/16
FOLMAR, Kaitlyn	01/20
BERESH, Scott	01/25
REED, George	01/25
ZOECKLER, Joyce	01/25
KIMPEL, Amanda	01/26
RAY, Kathryn	01/29
ARMSTRONG, Shellee	01/31
BERESH, Molly	01/31
POSEY, Carey	01/31



## Wedding Anniversaries

### November

KIMPEL, Benjamin & Amanda	11/01
HICKS, Fred & Dee	11/21

### December

MCCORD, Keith & Nancy	12/27
CUNDIFF, Scott & Sharon	12/29

### January

BERESH, Hayden & Savannah	01/02
KAPPAS, Mark & Paula	01/02

*\*If you see a mistake on this list, please contact Molly so we can update our database. Thank you!*

## Upcoming Events & Updates

### November

- November 5** All Saints Sunday
- November 5** Together in Grief Group, TRIGG. 12:30pm  
Fellowship Hall
- November 12** Miracle Sunday
- November 19** ONE Service – 11am –  
Susie Sweets Auction and covered dish
- November 26** Hanging of the Greens TIME???

### December

- December 17** Blue Christmas Service 7pm
- December 24** One Service 10:30 Christmas Eve  
7pm Christmas Eve – Cantata
- December 31** One Service 10:30am

**Dec 1st 5-7p.m. ELM GROVE Light Up Night**

Osiris Shrine - EGUMC will be providing the Hot Cocoa

## *Jney's Pre-Loved Boutique* - JAN COFFEY

We are in the process of switching the clothing over from summer to fall/winter. The boutique is open the 1st & 3rd Saturdays of every month, 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Workers are always needed, please contact Jan at the church, 304-242-1206 or 304-242-6842.

## *Free Community Luncheon* - MISSION TEAM

We opened our doors several months ago to those who would like a good meal and even better fellowship.

It is held the 3rd Saturday of every month from 11:00am to 12:00pm.

If you would be interested in helping with this most rewarding experience, contact Nancy McCord or just stop in and meet your neighbors.



## *We hope you like our Newsletter!!*

Your Newsletter team; Joyce Kimpel, Bill Daniel, and Luke from Rich and Shirley's Quickprint

Please send all submissions to Joyce at [t.kimpel@comcast.net](mailto:t.kimpel@comcast.net) by the 28th day of the month prior to printing. We will print quarterly, November 15, February 15, May 15, and August 15 unless we have so much news we need to print more often!!!

## **Church Phone 304-242-1206**

Thank You to...

Sandy Beabout and Linda Beisner for labeling and mailing the Newsletters

Molly Beresh for printing the labels and getting the Newsletter to bulk mailing

Becky McCullough for placing the digital copy on the website

All of our contributors



# SPARKS

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