



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

Pressing on with Pastor Deb - PASTOR DEBRA DAGUE

I once heard someone describe discipleship as breathing—inhaling the Spirit of God, taking in what we need, caring for ourselves spiritually, and then exhaling—going and doing—showing the love of God to others, caring for the least, the lost, and the lonely.

I spend much of my time in ministry exhaling caring for others in their time of need. I have been with people when their loved one has just passed, when they've found out their spouse has been unfaithful, or when they just received bad news from their doctor. I sit with people when they're asking the hard questions of faith, preparing for their wedding, or welcoming a new baby. Being a pastor is a beautiful and holy profession that I love. There are no words to describe how honored I feel to exhale alongside of the people of EGUMC. Yet, I know that I can't live by exhaling alone. That is why it is important for me to spend time in different Spiritual disciplines and to take my Sabbath each week, doing my best to guard my time with God and my time of just being "me." I do admit I am not always good at protecting my Sabbath and my time with God.

What I am good at is saying how proud I am of EGUMC. On February 12th, we will officially complete our first year together. My prayer has been that we would be a people/church who would live out our vision to be an inviting community who loves God and loves spreading the Good News to all people and that we would be a people who would have just the right balance of inhaling and exhaling. I could not be any more pleased at how you have loved like Jesus, how you are sharing Jesus, and how you have grown spirituality. Yet, I know the pace we have been on and I cannot help to think that, like me, you also need to be reminded to take time to inhale.

We will soon enter the season of Lent. I encourage you to make this a time of Spiritual renewal. A time to take a big, deep, sighing breath of God's Spirit. A time to rest in God's presence and "just breathe." I encourage you to make it a time to listen for where God's still small voice is leading you to go and do. A time to find that balance of inhaling and exhaling.

I am continually amazed at the heart and soul of EGUMC. I am excited as we began this New Year of ministry together and cannot wait to inhale and exhale beside you as we love God and work together to spread the Good News to all people!

- 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

Hello all and Happy New Year. We had a great Christmas season. The choir worked very hard from September through December and the result was a fantastic Christmas Cantata, "Born A Savior, Born a King" by John Purifoy. Although we had a lot of sickness, they pulled it off without a hitch. What a wonderful group of dedicated people we have in our choir. They truly give it their all.

Now I would like to introduce to you our newest member. Her name is Rosaleah Brill. She has a beautiful voice, and we are so glad to have her in our choir.

We are now preparing for Lent and Easter. It comes quite early this year. **Ash Wednesday is on February 14, Valentine's Day. Palm Sunday is March 24, Maundy Thursday, March 28 with a service at 7:00p.m.** We will have a special event in the Fellowship Hall, with a meal and communion, and then we will have a **Good Friday service, March 29 at 7:00 p.m. Easter Sunday is March 31.** You won't want to miss any of this spectacular Holy Week, celebrating our Lord's sacrifice for us. Hope to see you all there!!! If there is anyone who wishes to participate in the choir, please give Anita Chops a call at 304-551-1414. I would love to hear from you.



Stewardship -SUSI WHITECOTTON

The Stewardship Committee is busy planning our fundraisers for the Spring. There will be a Fish Fry on Good Friday, March 29. We will have a Non-Lily sale - this gives you the opportunity to recognize loved ones on Easter Sunday. On Saturday, April 27, there will be a Quarter Auction. More information about these activities will be forthcoming.

The Financial Statements of giving for 2023 are at the church. Please feel free to stop for them. As always, we so appreciate your support. The Stewardship Committee

- Susi Whitecotton and
The Stewardship Committee

Boy Scouts - SCOTT BERESH

We have 10 Active scouts and 11 Leaders of various capacities registered for 2024. Similar to last year, we are planning a summer trip instead of Summer Camp as we don't have a local camp at the moment. On Scout Sunday which will be held at the Church on Sunday, **February 11th**, I will be giving my summary of the 2023 trip to Gettysburgh. This year's summer trip we will be going to Cave City, KY where we will visit Big Mammoth Cave, Big River Cave, Corvette Museum, Fort Knox and some other locations. A trip of this size requires a lot of planning, help and of course money. We will once again be holding Fundraisers to help pay for the trip.

Here is a list of the upcoming events and fundraisers we will be doing:

February 11 - Scout Sunday Service in Church

April 4th - 6th - SPRING INDOOR YARD SALE w/ CONCESSION STAND - Table sign-up sheets will be on the welcome table at the end of February. Tables can be rented by anyone, not just church members

NOTE: There WILL NOT be a limit on how many tables someone can rent. Table location is based on the order in which you sign up.

May 4th - MULCH DAY DELIVERY. This is our biggest fundraiser of the year. Order forms will go out in the middle of March and will be on the welcome table.

June 9th - 15th - Troop Summer Trip to Cave City, KY.

We appreciate all who support this troop in the many ways that you do.

Regards,
Scott Beresh
Scoutmaster Troop 29



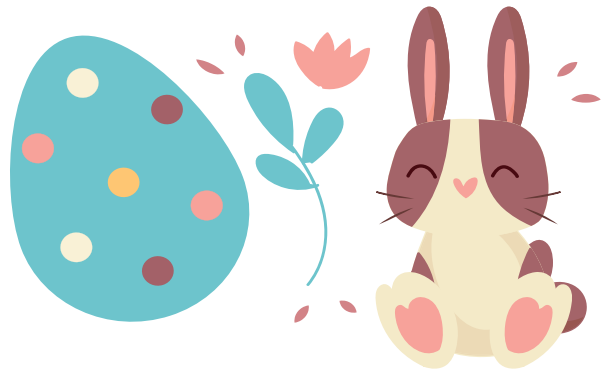
Mission News - WAYNE McCORD

The Mission team has had a busy Fall and Winter. Rather than Undies Sunday, October has become Undies Month! We collected 28 pairs of briefs, 23 t-shirts, and 16 pairs of boxers.

In honor of Veteran's Day, we collected gift cards to show our appreciation for the service they gave. The congregation came through, as always. We collected \$250.00 in Walmart gift cards and \$275.00 in Kroger gift cards.

During the month of December, we collected hats, gloves, mittens, scarves, and socks for the House of the Carpenter and Street Moms. 85 hats, 135 pairs of gloves, 50 pairs of mittens, 50 scarves, and 20 pairs of socks will be passed out to those members of our community that need a little assistance in keeping warm in the cold months ahead.

And early in January, the AMEN players presented the annual Murder Myster Dinner Theater. This year's production, titled "Mixed Nuts" was well attended and brought in approximately \$2,200.00 dollars for the Mission Team. Thank you all for your generous contributions!



Abiding Care Team (A.C.T.) - JAN COFFEY & PEGGY LAING

WELCOME ABOARD Bob Morgan! We are so appreciative of your willingness to visit with and send cards to our church members who are no longer able to come in person. We would welcome a few more team members as our list of shut-ins and hospitalized members gives us plenty of opportunities to visit and send cards even as there are fewer of us on the A.C.T. roster.

We celebrate the 2848 contacts that were made in 2023! Although card contacts continue to surpass in-person visits, we are hopeful that 2024 will be a banner year for greeting our home-bound and hospitalized members in their residences. Human touch and hearing a friendly voice are so important to folks who are living alone or in a hospital. 455 of our contacts were in-person or via phone and those numbers do not include the incredible number of visits or calls that Pastor Deb made in 2023!

For those of you who like numbers, here are the raw stats: cards = 2347; emails = 46; calls = 255; and visits = 200 which includes 33 funeral home visits. See Jan or Peggy if you would like to join us and show **Abiding Care to our church family members.**

United Methodist Men - TODD KIMPEL, PRESIDENT/SECRETARY

At the December meeting Todd Kimpel was elected President and Secretary, Chris Brown was elected Vice President and Frank Davis remains the Treasurer.

The Group meets the 1st Saturday of each month at 9 a.m. in the Old Fellowship Hall with an approximate 1-hour timeframe. Our current study is called “The Class Meeting”, by Kevin M Watson.

The United Methodist Men will be focused on Bible Study, work projects, and social events for the men. We are considering attending a Wild Things Baseball Game and will be talking about a possible trip to one of the Classic Car Auctions as a future event.

Currently, we have 6 members in regular attendance. If you have any questions or would like to be added to the text chain, please contact Todd Kimpel at 304-639-0940.

United Women of Faith - ANITA CHOPS & JUDY BEAVER, CO-PRESIDENTS

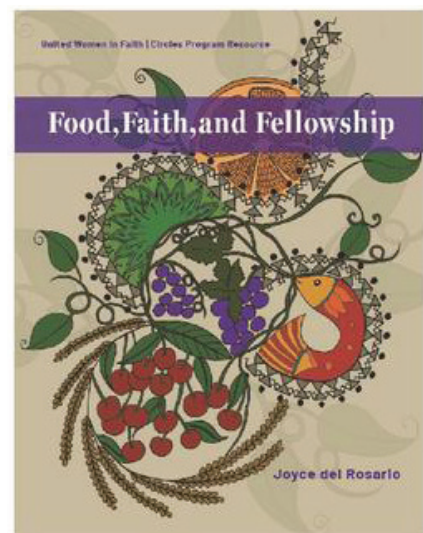
“The journey we are embarking on is about food, our spiritual practices together, and God who dwells with us at the table. This journey is inclusive and loving and hospitable. This journey is about everyone feeling welcomed and everyone is encouraged to participate. This journey is about being conscientious about feelings and anxieties that can arise around food and being aware and welcoming of each other as we journey and dine together. This is about us learning how to be good hosts as well as good guests at the table, in someone’s home, at church, at school and work, and on the created earth.”

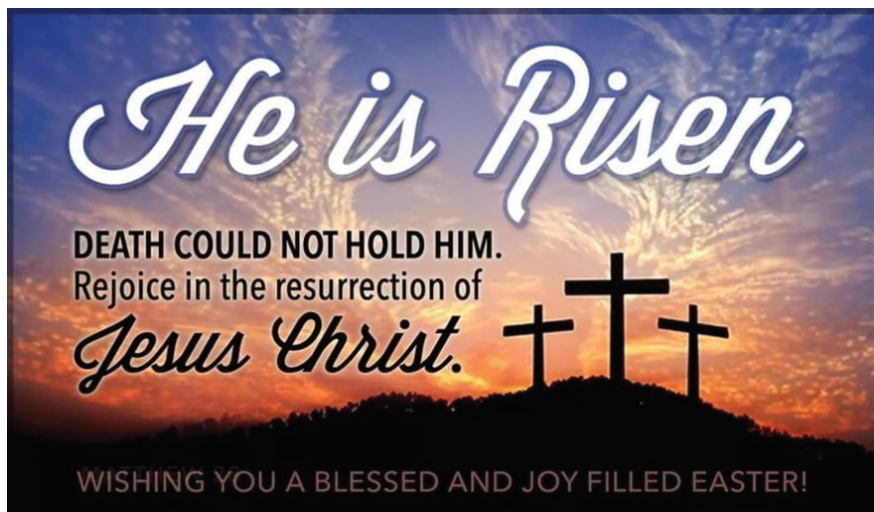
You are cordially invited to the banquet of a lifetime! “This year, we picked the theme of food and fellowship as we learned more about what it means to break bread together. This means going beyond what’s on the plate and showing respect not just for the ingredients and the hands that prepared them, but also for the local community and heritage. When we gather, we gather not just with those present at the table with us, but with all who had a hand in our meal.” (from the 2024 program resource book of the UWIF)

Our executive team has planned some very interesting meetings. We start off the year on March 14 with **Sharing/Giving/Missions**. Our speaker for this meeting is Mike Johnson from the House of the Carpenter, and Anita Chops will be the presenter. The hostess for the meeting is Linda Sandiford. We ask all guests to bring lunch for yourself at noon in the Fellowship Hall. Drinks and dessert will be provided.

Our April meeting will be **HOSPITALITY/LET US BREAK BREAD TOGETHER**. The presenter will be Judy Beaver. We are inviting members from different churches in the area. Pastor Deb will have communion with us at the meeting and we will be providing lunch for all in attendance. The executive committee will provide the dessert and beverage. We hope you will come at noon for the meeting and lunch.

The rest of the year will have some interesting and fun programs and activities. Why don’t you come and check us out? If you have questions, feel free to ask Judy Beaver or Anita Chops, co-presidents.



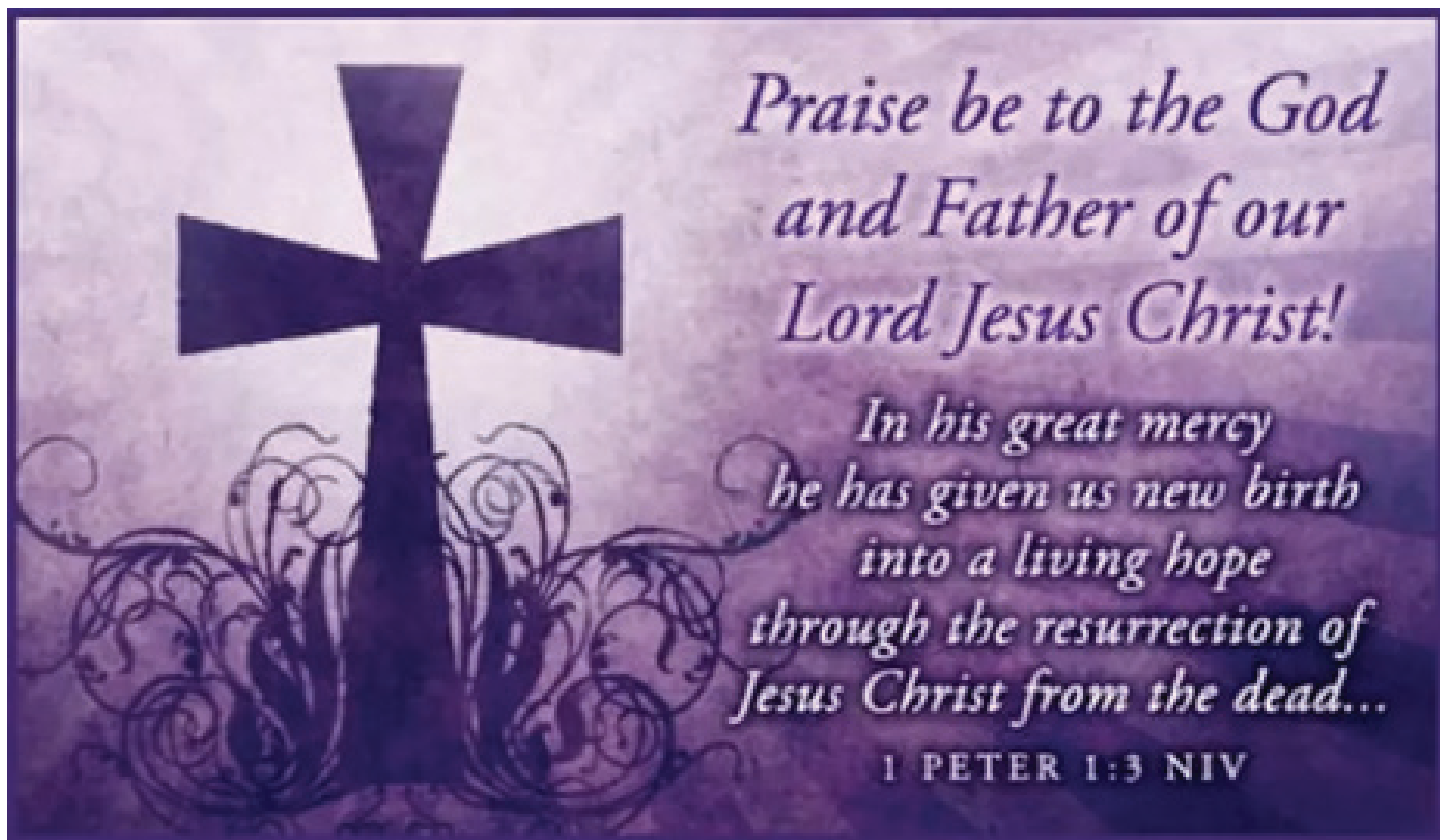


Lois's Stitches of Caring - KAREN MULDREW & KAREN STEWART

The ladies of Lois' Stitches of Caring would like to thank everyone of the Elm Grove United Methodist Church who bought and donated hats and scarves for the manger collection of the Mission Committee. We really appreciate your generosity, and we were able to purchase yarn to make baby Afghans. Should you know anyone who would like to join us, please let us know.

We continue to meet every Monday from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Karen Muldrew



Elm Grove UMC

Leaders & Committees 2024

Paid Staff:

Pastor - Rev. Debra Dague

Administrative Assistant - Molly Beresh

Maintenance Supervisor - Jan Coffey

Music Director - Anita Chops

Leaders/Chairpersons:

Lay Leader - Doug Whitecotton

Small Group Ministries - Doug Whitecotton

Annual Conference Alternate Lay Member -
Doug Whitecotton

District Conference Alternate Lay Member -
Doug Whitecotton

Evangelism Council Chairperson - Todd Kimpel

United Methodist Men President - Todd Kimpel

Church Treasurer - Sandy Meyer

Finance Secretary - Susi Whitecotton

United Women in Faith President - Anita Chops

Annual Conference Lay Member - Anita Chops

District Conference Lay Member - Anita Chops

Lois's Stitches of Caring - Karen Muldrew/Karen
Stewart/Sandy Morgan

Church Newsletter Editor - Joyce Kimpel

Safe Sanctuaries Coordinator - Donna Folmar

Hospitality - Becky McCullough

Youth Group Leader - TBA

Children's Group Leader - TBA

Boy Scout Scoutmaster - Scott Beresh

Girl Scout Leader - Kaitlyn Folmar

SPRC - Staff Parish Relations Committee - Chairperson: Donna Folmar

Class of 2024: Donna Folmar, Karen Muldrew, Bob Morgan

Class of 2025: Joyce Kimpel, Judy Beaver, Wayne McCord

Class of 2026: Bill Sandiford, Patty Jewett, Tammy Hewitt

Trustees - Chairperson: Brian McCullough until Feb 2024

Class of 2024: Brandon Groves, Dave Beaver, Bob Morgan

Class of 2025: Ben Kimpel, Brian McCullough, Kris Yost

Class of 2026: Chris Brown, Dave Ealy, Doug Estep

Nominations Committee - Chairperson, Pastor

Class of 2024: Dolly Blowers, Joyce Kimpel, Judy Beaver

Class of 2025: Kaitlyn Folmar, Anita Chops, Doug Whitecotton

Class of 2026: Becky McCullough, Sandy Beabout, Peggy Laing

Family Ministry Coordinator - Becky McCullough

Website/Social Media Coordinator -

Becky McCullough

Sunday School Superintendent - Karen Muldrew

Sunday School Teachers - Nancy McCord, Brian

McCullough, Rose Ealy, Bill Daniel, Tami Higley,

Becky McCullough, Donna Folmar

Children's Church - Donna Folmar/Kaitlyn Folmar

ACT's Team - Peggy Laing, Jan Coffey

Audio Visual (AV) Team - Robin Estep, Greg

Thorngate, Paula Lucas, Scott Beresh

Shepherding Team - Joyce Kimpel

VBS Director - Molly Beresh

Worship Team Chairperson - Wayne McCord

Amen Players - Wayne McCord

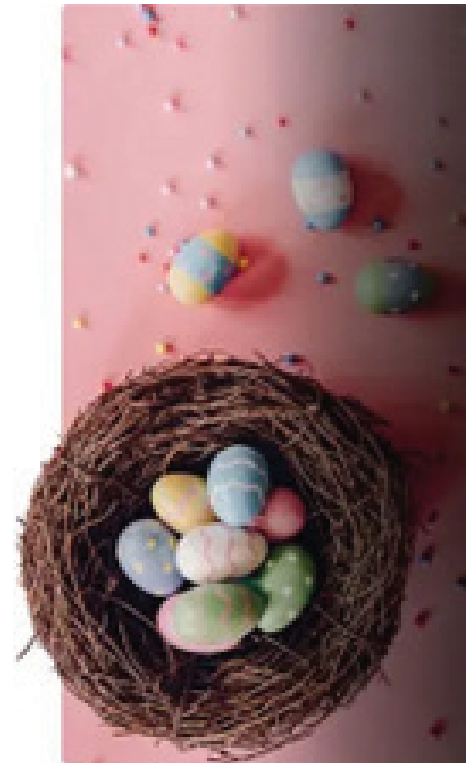
Mission Team - Nancy McCord

Outreach Coordinator - Rose Ealy

Iney's Pre-Loved Boutique - Jan Coffey

Community Luncheon - Nancy McCord/Sandy
Loughman

Funeral Dinner Ministry - Jan Coffey/Karen Stewart



Elm Grove UMC

Easter Season Schedule



Ash Wednesday 7p.m.

Palm Sunday 8:30a.m./11a.m.

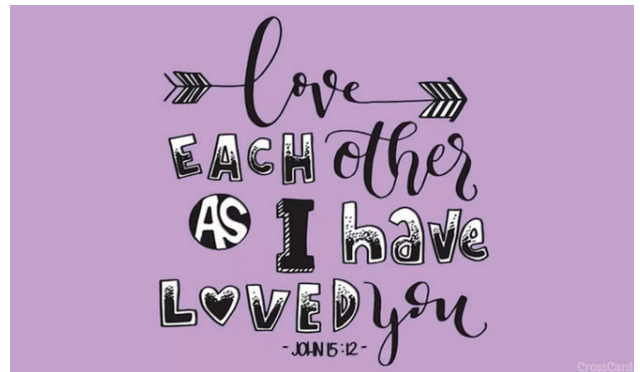
Maundy Thursday 7p.m.

Good Friday 7p.m.

Easter Sunday 8:30a.m./11a.m.

*“For God so loved the world, that he gave
his only Son, that whoever believes in him
should not perish but have eternal life.”*

- John 3:16



Vacation Bible School

June 24-28

9:00a.m. - 12:00p.m.

Grades K-5



We are asking for monetary donations to help defray the cost for VBS supplies.

Donations can be placed in the “SCUBA” can found near the Narthex.

See Molly for questions, or if you would like to volunteer at VBS.

THANK YOU for your support!

Worship Service Attendance

Date	8:30 a.m.	11 a.m.	Sunday School
October 29 (one service)		64	23
November 5, 2023	27	54	22
November 12, 2023	33	55	21
November 19, 2023 (one service)		73	18
November 26, 2023	32	58	25
December 3, 2023	36	48	24
December 10, 2023	35	49	22
December 17, 2023	35	42	21
Blue Christmas Service (7:00p.m.)		15	
December 24, 2023 (one morning service)		82	
Christmas Eve Service (7:00p.m.)		82	
December 31, 2023 (one service)			
January 7, 2024	30	49	
January 14, 2024	13	27	
January 21, 2024	19	38	17

Our Deepest Sympathy

With heavy hearts, we acknowledge their death...

Lois Jean Martin **November 25, 2023**

Betty Ann Coulling **January 10, 2024**

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

Memorial Gifts

TO TRUSTEE FUND

In memory of Jean Martin
Edward & Patricia Helal
Jennifer Long
Past Matrons & Past Patrons of the
Miriam Chapter No. 1, OES
Jane Noble
Lynette & Robert Blake
Betty Griffin

In memory of Betty Coulling

Cheryl & Raymond Zadd
Ed Gompers
David & Karen Muldrew
Michael & Lisa Toman
Daniel & Katherine Bruno

To the Music Fund

In memory of Jean Martin
Peggy Laing
David & Karen Muldrew



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

February

KING, Nancy	02/01
BEISNER, Bryce	02/04
RANDOLPH, Kelly	02/07
SCHRAMM, Summer	02/08
STEWART, Alison	02/09
CAREY, Christian	02/12
MCLAUGHLIN, Henry	02/13
OLIVER, Stacey	02/15
MATTHEWS, Eddie	02/19
SANDIFORD, Bill	02/19
BERESH, Grayson	02/21
PATTERSON, Tanner	02/22
HEWITT, Tamara	02/23
SUTER, James	02/25
BROWN, Gillian	02/27
FOGLE, Delores	02/27

March

CLARK, Mary	03/01
HUFF, Mary Sue	03/01
MCCULLOUGH, Brian	03/01
BREIDING, Evelyn	03/03
WARD, Donald	03/04
OLIVER, Zachary	03/06
PATTERSON, Danielle	03/11
HARVILLA, Doris	03/17
KIMPEL, Laura J. (LJ)	03/18
FOLMAR, Lainey	03/19
SCHRAMM, Courtney	03/19
REED, Kimberly	03/22
CALDWELL, Mary	03/30
MCCORD, Keith	03/31
MEYER, Sandra	03/31

April

ELLIOTT, Charles	04/01
CAREY, Carrie	04/02
PATTERSON III, William	04/04
GENTHER, Jerry	04/06
BEISNER, Linda	04/07
DENTZ, Christina	04/07
LAING, Kate	04/10
KIMPEL, Todd	04/12
BEABOUT, Russell	04/13
WADDELL, David	04/14
PATTERSON, Dawn	04/16
BARNES, Benjamin	04/20
KIMPEL, Joyce	04/20
WELSH, Lynn	04/30

*revised 1/11/2024

Wedding Anniversaries

February

NO ANNIVERSARIES

March

BERESH, Scott & Molly	03/05
BAYZA, Sam & Rose Mary	03/11
BROWN, Christopher & Danielle	03/12
BEAVER, David & Judy	03/31

April

NOLAN, Michael & Sherry	04/02
CARPENTER, Bryan & Beverly	04/06
BEABOUT, Russell & Jill	04/18

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

Upcoming Events & Updates

Elm Grove UMC Easter Schedule

Ash Wednesday 7p.m.
Palm Sunday 8:30a.m./11a.m.
Maundy Thursday 7p.m.
Good Friday 7p.m.
Easter Sunday 8:30a.m./11a.m.

Vacation Bible School

June 24-28
9:00a.m. - 12:00p.m.
Grades K-5

We are asking for monetary donations to help defray the cost for VBS supplies. Donations can be placed in the "SCUBA" can found near the NatheX. See Molly for questions, or if you would like to volunteer at VBS.

THANK YOU for your support!



Iney's Pre-Loved Boutique - JAN COFFEY

We have had some wonderful people come through our doors, and we've been blessed by their enthusiasm & friendship. It has been a humbling and wonderful experience to help those who have needed a little extra care.

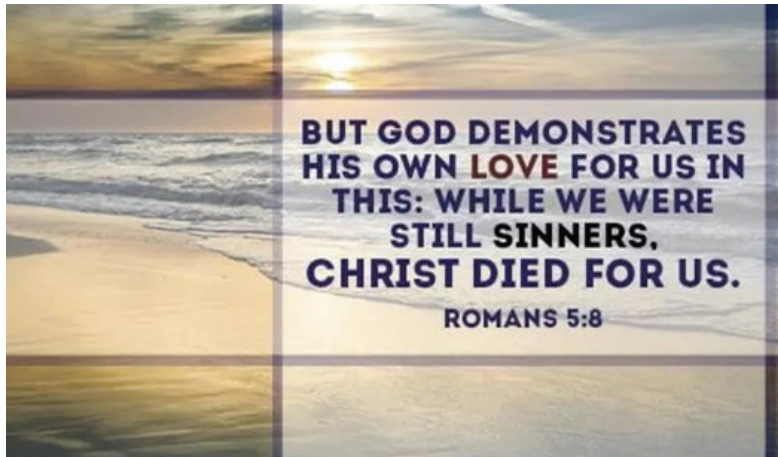
We're so pleased how far we have come and look forward to expanding this much needed ministry.

If you are interested in helping in the Boutique, contact Jan Coffey at 304-242-6842.

The boutique is opened the 1st & 3rd Saturdays of every month from 8:30a.m. to 12:00p.m.

If you have donations to drop-off, we ask that you call the church office before arriving, 304-242-1206. Donations will only be accepted Tuesdays & Wednesdays from 9:30a.m. – 12:30p.m.

Please do not leave any donations outside of this time.



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 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



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125 Kruger Street
Wheeling, WV 26003

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