

Elmer United Methodist Church



CHURCH OFFICE AND PETER'S PANTRY - 358-0135

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DAVID REPENNING, PASTOR

Date: MAY 2012



Dear Friends,

Easter was a glorious day of worshipping. At the end of worship I helped put the flowered crosses outside in the front of the church; another example of something ugly made beautiful. My afternoon and evening were spent eating, renewing old relationships and building one new relationship. However, is not that what Easter is about - God renewing our relationship with Him through the resurrected Christ and then empowering us to go forth and build relationships with others?

In some ways the relationships we build or rebuild are building blocks in the Kingdom of God. When they breakdown we feel the loss and often become disturbed or restless - perhaps because our souls are being torn from God. During my time of building relationships I have also been listening to a number of people who are suffering from broken relationships. Many of us are hurting in a variety of ways because of various relationships that are not whole.

In my last church I developed a number of relationships with people who came to church daily for AA meetings. Several became members, some became good friends, and others sought me for spiritual guidance. One of them gave me a Bible edited by Rick Warren, The Celebrate Recovery Bible. Rick has taken the twelve steps of AA and reworded them as twelve Christian steps. He has further developed these steps as Eight Principles on the Road to Recovery. The principles parallel the Beatitudes in Mathew 5:1-12. The first 5 principles work on personal growth in our relationship with God and self. Principle 6 turns to our relationships with each other.

Principle 6: *Evaluate all my relationships. Offer forgiveness to those who have hurt me and make amends for harm I've done to others, except when to do so would harm them or others.*

These steps take years to work through and a life time to finish. I have not spent a lot of time on this one, but I did take time to pray about two particular relationships in my life and spent hours writing to two people whose relationships seem strained in part by things I have done, said, or not done. I pray that we will now be able to grow into a better place with each other.

It seems that when we intentionally seek to rebuild our relationships we also build blocks for the Kingdom of

God. Many of you have been putting forth great effort to do your part in this rebuilding process. Your continued efforts are making a difference. Our efforts slowly transform us and the world around us. Sometimes it may not seem like it makes a difference, but the work continues. God promises us that one glorious day we will be changed forever and the Kingdom will be complete. So keep working and I will work on my part also. Together we can change the world, and apart we may never see God's Kingdom.

I look forward to moving on with each of you to that eternal glorious day of worship and praise being prepared for us.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Dave Repenning

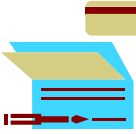
<u>Attendance:</u>	<u>Early</u>	<u>Morning</u>	<u>S. School</u>
April 1	21	137	44
April 8	29	247	32
April 15	21	89	24
April 22	26	111	46
<u>Stewardship:</u>	<u>Church</u>	<u>Missions</u>	<u>S. School</u>
April 1	\$7,015.00	\$1,153.00	\$36.25
April 8	\$4,032.80	\$474.00	\$26.00
April 15	\$2,268.85	\$226.00	\$29.00
April 22	\$3,856.00	\$394.00	\$25.75

May Birthdays Happy Birthday to All!!!

1st	Lila Hathaway
2nd	Marissa Moran, Jennifer Hall & Katharine Harper
5th	Chad Lago
6th	Courtney Wygor
7th	Stephen Slavoff, Jr.
8th	Linda Herrmann
10th	Robyn Willis, Margery Kelly & Shaun Campbell
11th	Steve Quigg, Harry Hunt, Barbara Slavoff & Robert Kanady
12th	Nick Repenning, Walt Voeckler, Jr. & Dayton Vail
13th	Paul Eller, III, Justin Timberman & Cole Batten
14th	Emily Cooke
15th	Charlotte Pfannerer & Sandra Zane
16th	Justin Harper, Sr. & Erika Harz
18th	Jesse Pike & Chris Yago
20th	Ella Shimp, Carly Rose Timberman & Kerri Bratty
21st	Scott McDonald
22nd	Carla Pitman & Anthony Baldosaro
23rd	Jennifer Richards & June Clemick
24th	James Hathaway
25th	Ben Laury
27th	Christopher Weed & Miranda Richmond
28th	Reed Bucolo, Gracie Eller & Richard Montana
30th	Dianne Wentzell



The Audit Committee is requesting that all bank books be turned into the church office **as soon as possible**. The checkbooks are all that is needed. It is necessary that **ALL** books be reviewed to maintain our non-profit status. The audit is for 1/1/11 to 12/31/11. Thank you



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American Red Cross



1:30 – 7:30pm Tuesday, May 1, 2012
In our Church Fellowship Hall
Walk in or call Florence Bramell
for an appointment 358-2191

Blood Drive

THE POWER OF PRAYER



Thursday May 3, 2012
National Day of Prayer!

*6:30pm Prayer Service in the Chapel
All things are possible through Christ.*



*Mother's Day
Sunday, May 13th!!*

The Tuesday Morning Bible Study will begin a new, short term study on May 1st - *Worship and Celebration*. This should take us 6-8 weeks and then we will break for summer. If you're interested, please contact Donna Stemberger for a book (\$6.50). We meet every Tuesday from 6:30-7:30 a.m. at the Kountry Kitchen. If you'd like to join us, now is a great time as we begin a new study. You can reach Donna at 358-2509 or dkstembug@yahoo.com.

Handbell and Handchimes Concert

4:00pm Sunday May 20, 2012
Elmer United Methodist Church Sanctuary

Youth Schedule

Middlers, Junior and Senior High

Sunday, May 27th

Float Building and lunch at the Stembergers immediately following Sunday School.



Memorial Day, Monday, May 28th

Be at the Stembergers at 9am to ride on the float. Picnic and swimming at the Stembergers/Schneiders immediately following the parade.

Junior/Senior High

6:30-8pm Sundays, May 6th & 20th

Gym Nights at the Hangar

Hangar Sub Sale - \$6 each

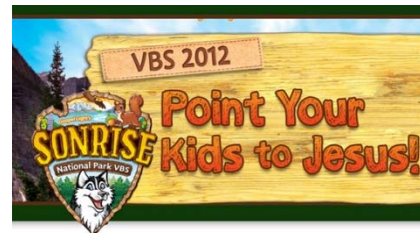
Saturday, May 19th

Pick up time: 10:30 – 11:30am

Please place your order form in the basket in the back of the church, or contact J. Gresimer, 856-297-2778 or jgresimer@yahoo.com.

Join the adventure at

ELMER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 2012 VBS



Please join all the Sonrise National Park adventurers for tons of fun!

Place: Elmer United Methodist Church

Date: July 9th-13th, 2012

Time: 5:45pm to 8:30pm

Snacks, crafts, games, friends...

Register Early! And bring a friend!

You can find forms online at

www.elmerumc.org

We still need of one more person to help run games and aides. Please contact Kim Chapman – 692-5816 or email her at mrsnj91@comcast.net if interested.

We are also in need of a few Christmas trees, large plants, fake trees etc. for the background. Please label items for returns.



HEALTHCARE MINISTRIES: CONGESTIVE HEART FAILURE

Congestive heart failure occurs when your heart is too weak to pump enough blood and oxygen to your body. With heart failure, you may feel tired or short of breath when doing your normal activities. Treatment may help your heart beat stronger, decrease your symptoms, and allow you to do what you enjoy.

The following may cause damage to your heart and lead to heart failure: The arteries that bring blood to the heart become narrow leading to poor blood flow, abnormal heartbeats, a heart attack or damage to the valves in your heart. Hypertension makes your heart work harder. Autoimmune diseases such as lupus or chronic diseases such as diabetes, kidney disease, lung disease, thyroid disease, and sleep disorders like sleep apnea may lead to heart failure.

Body toxins are substances that can cause harm to the body. These include alcohol, cocaine, and tobacco, heavy metals such as lead and mercury and radiation. Low levels of vitamins and minerals may damage your heart muscle. Loss of weight and muscle mass, high blood cholesterol, and obesity cause your heart to work harder.

Signs and Symptoms of congestive heart failure: trouble breathing during activity, tiredness, and fluid build-up, chest pain or strong, fast heartbeats, cold hands and feet, coughing up pink, foamy mucus, decreased appetite, nausea, decreased urination during the day and increased urination at night, weakness, dizziness, and confusion.

Congestive Heart Failure is diagnosed by your doctor and tests. Someone will check your weight, blood pressure, pulse, respirations, listen to your heart and lungs, check for swelling in your abdomen, ankles and feet, and check your neck veins for swelling. You may have other tests done such as: EKG, Holter monitor, blood tests, cardiac catheterization, and/or an exercise stress test to check for blockages in your arteries. CT scans and an MRI plus other tests may be done.

Weigh yourself daily, record the weights so you can talk to your doctor about them. Do not smoke or take illegal drugs. Eat a low salt diet. Get regular exercise after talking with your caregiver. Limit or avoid alcohol. Maintain a healthy weight. Avoid pregnancy. Take your medicines exactly as ordered.

Risks of congestive heart failure: Medications used to treat your heart failure may cause dizziness, low blood pressure and kidney problems. You may get a blood clot that travels to your lungs or brain. Without treatment your heart may get weaker and your symptoms worse. You may have abnormal heartbeats. You may get blood clots in your

lungs and heart. You may lose muscle and bone strength. Fluid may build up in your lungs and body making it harder for you to breathe. Your liver and kidneys could fail. Without treatment, you may die.

“Glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God’s.”

Bonnie Kanady, RN



Missions Report United Methodist Homes

One of the missions we support here at Elmer UMC is the United Methodist Homes. There are 10 homes in NJ. The closest two being Collingswood Manor and Pitman Manor.

Bishop Taylor Manor-- East Orange
Bristol Glen -- Newton (Sussex County)
Collingswood Manor-- Collingswood
Covenant House ---- Plainfield
Francis Asbury Manor-- Ocean Grove
Pine Ridge of Montclair-- Montclair
The Shores at Wesley Manor-- Ocean City
Wesleyan Arms-- Red Bank
Wesley by the Bay-- Ocean City

(a map showing the Homes in NJ is online at www.umh-nj.org/communities/)

The United Methodist Homes are beautiful facilities. They are homes - not what you might think of as traditional nursing homes. The Homes have an “aging-in-place” approach to Senior care that has its advantages. The less restrictive care giving model does not require support, even as needs change. Additionally, the continuum of care permits residents to have all their health needs fulfilled at the Home. The residents benefit from the Fellowship Fund which assures that they will never be asked to change their accommodations or leave due to the inability to pay the total cost of care giving.

There is an 18th Annual Nancy Gilbert Rhodes Walk for All Ages scheduled for Sunday, June 10, 2012 at 1 pm. It will be held in Ocean Grove (meet at the Great Auditorium at the Pilgrim Pathway.) For a schedule for the event and to sign up, you can find information online at www.umhfoundation.org/events/walk/ or call 732-922-9800 for information. The funds raised goes into the Fellowship Funds for the Homes.

Submitted by Barb Repenning
Missions Committee



It was quiet that day, the guns and the mortars, and the land mines for some reason hadn't been heard. The young soldier knew it was Sunday, the holiest day of the week. As he was sitting there, he got out an old deck of cards and laid them out

across his bunk. Just then an army sergeant came in and said, "Why aren't you with the rest of the platoon?" The soldier replied, "I thought I would stay behind and spend some time with the Lord." The sergeant said, "Looks to me like you're going to play cards." The soldier said, "No, Sir. You see, since we are not allowed to have Bibles or other spiritual books in this country, I've decided to talk to the Lord by studying this deck of cards." The sergeant asked in disbelief, "How will you do that?"

"You see the Ace, Sergeant? It reminds me that there is only one God.

The Two represents the two parts of the Bible, Old and New Testaments.

The Three represents the Father, Son, and the Holy Ghost.

The Four stands for the Four Gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.

The Five is for the five virgins - there were ten but only five of them were glorified.

The Six is for the six days it took God to create the Heavens and the Earth.

The Seven is for the day God rested after making His Creation.

The Eight is for the family of Noah and his wife, their three sons and their wives - the eight people God spared from the flood that destroyed the Earth.

The Nine is for the lepers that Jesus cleansed of leprosy.

He cleansed ten, but nine never thanked Him. The Ten represents the Ten Commandments that God handed down to Moses on tablets made of stone.

The Jack is a reminder of Satan, one of God's first angels, but he got kicked out of heaven for his sly and wicked ways and is now the joker of eternal hell.

The Queen stands for the Virgin Mary.

The King stands for Jesus, for He is the King of all kings.

When I count the dots on all the cards, I come up with 365 total, one for every day of the year.

There are a total of 52 cards in a deck, each is a week - 52 weeks in a year.

The four suits represent the four seasons: Spring, Summer, Fall, and Winter.

Each suit has thirteen cards - there are exactly thirteen weeks in a quarter.

So when I want to talk to God and thank Him, I just pull out this old deck of cards and they remind me of all that I have to be thankful for."

The sergeant just stood there. After a minute, with tears in his eyes and pain in his heart, he said, "Soldier, can I borrow that deck of cards?"

Please let this be a reminder and take time to pray for all of our soldiers who are away, putting their lives on the line fighting. Of all the gifts you could give a Soldier, prayer is the very best one.

Prayer for the Military.

Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands.

Protect them.

Bless them and their families.

I ask this in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior.

Amen

Graduate Recognition Sunday is June 17th. If you or a loved one is graduating from 6th, 8th, 12th grade or college, please contact Barbara Repenning by June 3rd and let her know as she will be compiling the list this year. Please give her the student's name, Grade and place he/she is graduating from and future plans if known. You may email her at njbrep@gmail.com or call her at 856-358-7491. Thank you

Althea Bates Scholarship

Applications are now being accepted for the Althea Bates Scholarship. As a member of our church, if you are, or will be, a college student studying for education or ministry, \$1,000 could be yours to help pay for tuition. **Please submit a letter by June 10, 2012** expressing your interest in the scholarship and how your course of study is preparing you for a career in ministry or education. Address your letter to Donna Stemberger, Youth Coordinator, Elmer United Methodist Church, PO Box 375, Elmer, NJ 08318. All applications will be reviewed and the scholarship will be awarded on June 17th.

Malaga Camp Brochures, Registration Forms, and EUMC

Camp Scholarship Forms are now available in the back of the sanctuary. Please return completed forms and monies to Barbara Repenning by May 27th.

Our church provides Camp Scholarships each year to help our youth participate.

Also, if you would like to make a donation towards these scholarships, it would be greatly appreciated. Thank you

