

# Elmer United Methodist Church



CHURCH OFFICE AND PETER'S PANTRY - 358-0135

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DAVID REPENNING, PASTOR

Date: MARCH 2012

## Pastor's Corner

Dear Friends,

Our world is reeling from "The Financial Crisis." It has affected governments, municipalities, businesses, individuals and churches. The Church often responds to crisis like the rest of the world. We panic and our earthly nature takes over: It is revealed in spending cuts, downsizing, eliminating programs, and turning inward in our vision of ministry.

I recently came in touch with several different responses to financial problems which agree with each other and were very refreshing. They are best described with a situation in Jesus life. Luke 9:10-17 tells us about Jesus teaching in the wilderness with His disciples and a group of 5,000 men. The disciples were getting hungry and seemed to be afraid they wouldn't have enough food to eat, so they told Jesus to send the people away to get something to eat. Jesus responded, saying, "**You give them something to eat.**" They argued that they only had five loaves of bread and two fish. Jesus took the five loaves and two fish, gave thanks and gave it to the disciples to feed all of the people. When they were finished eating there were 12 baskets of left overs.

The principle is that if we are willing to give completely all of ourselves and all of our possessions to God, God will make sure there is enough. Jesus' response was to make everything available to God, evaluate and organize the people, give thanks to God, and take action to use all that was available. He didn't hold back anything for later and didn't take His share first.

Another principle is to look positively on what you have. The disciples saw the limits and impossibilities. Jesus saw the abundance and the possibilities of what God could do. We often talk about that half full or half empty syndrome. For Jesus the basket was half full.

Elmer United Methodist Church has so much more than many of our neighbors. We have youth. We have generous givers. We have a vision for the future and for reaching out to the world in missions. We have many different activities. We are the center of a community. There is a strong identity, and there are many multigenerational families. We are truly blessed. May we continue to serve the Lord and this community as we grow and build on our past and the promises God has given us for our future. It will require work, commitment, willingness to grow, and change.

Now is an exciting time to be with us on the journey of faith. This month our small groups are meeting, we have a worship team helping lead our music, and we are approaching the most awesome day of the year, Easter. Be with us as we grow in Christ.

Yours in Christ,  
Pastor Dave Repenning

<b>Attendance:</b>	Early Service	Morning Service	Sunday School
Feb. 5	16	103	44
Feb. 12	18	103	43
Feb. 19	17	112	33
Feb. 26	20	147	50
<b>Stewardship:</b>	<b>Church</b>	<b>Missions</b>	<b>S.School</b>
Feb. 5	\$5,875.00	\$1,001.00	\$22.28
Feb. 12	\$2,377.75	\$302.00	\$26.81
Feb. 19	\$2,846.40	\$502.00	\$44.50
Feb. 26	\$5,642.95	\$568.00	\$39.25



## March Birthdays Happy Birthday to All!!!

1st	Sherry Cooper & Robin Riddle
3rd	Sophia Hagen
7th	Eva Platt, Shelly Stokes & Jane Pedrick
8th	Ryan Chapman & Daniel Locke
9th	Tom Daly
10th	Nicholas Larcombe
11th	Brenda Zeck
15th	Pat Hall & Lonnie Riddle
16th	Joe Stemberger
18th	Ross Lago
19th	Elinor Dilks
20th	Lisa Campbell & William Hunt
21st	Cara Hardman, Devon Dilks & Frank Garrison, III
24th	Caitlin Thomas & Lynda Davis
25th	Joanne Daly, Erin Zane & Daniel Evans
26th	Michael Hall & Kelsey Johnson
27th	Gary Bucolo
28th	Eric Bramell & Frank Locke, Jr.
29th	Kristin Dilks & Brittany Timberman
30th	Jennifer Kulig, Emily and Lucas McDonald
31st	Tricia Elliott & Chuck Greene



## Easter Bake Sale

Banana Bread (plain) \$6.00  
Banana Bread w/Walnuts \$7.00  
Coconut Muffins (1/2 Doz) \$6.00



Benefits the \*EUMC Music Fund\*

Please see any HandBell or Senior Choir Member to place your order.

**Orders will be ready for pick up on  
Sunday, April 1, 2012 directly after the 10am Service**

## Attention All Treasurers

Please submit donation/missions amounts to me for the Annual Report.  
Thank you, Linda Amme



HEALTHCARE MINISTRIES:  
STROKES, Recognizing signs,  
controlling risks.

The last time I wrote on this topic was February, 2007. This information is taken from a special report by the Mayo Clinic dated Feb. 2012.

Strokes strike about 795,000 Americans a year and is the fourth most common cause of death in the U.S. It is also the leading cause of serious long-term disability in adults. We need to control high blood pressure, cholesterol, and smoking.

A stroke occurs when the blood supply to part of the brain is suddenly altered. Brain tissue may be deprived of oxygen and nutrients or drown in blood. This can cause brain cells to quickly die or become severely damaged and result in temporary or permanent changes to your mind and body.

The signs and symptoms of a stroke--which include trouble walking, speaking, seeing, understanding or moving one side of your body--appear suddenly. The success of stroke treatment typically depends on how soon you receive medical care. Even though every minute counts, doctors still have to be sure what is causing your stroke before beginning treatment. If you have numbness, weakness or paralysis on one side of the face or body, difficulty speaking or understanding others, blurred, decreased or double vision, dizziness, trouble walking, loss of balance or coordination, a rapid-onset, severe headache—or an unusual headache accompanied by vomiting, dizziness, or altered consciousness--call 911. Someone else will likely need to do this for you.

Emergency treatment depends on whether you are having an ischemic or hemorrhagic stroke. When a blocked artery causes an ischemic stroke, doctors aim to quickly restore blood flow to your brain. Tissue plasminogen activator (TPA) is a potent clot-busting drug which needs to be given within 4 ½ hours after the stroke has occurred. To treat a hemorrhagic stroke, doctors focus on controlling bleeding and reducing pressure in your brain. Once the bleeding stops, treatment involves bed rest and supportive medical care while your body absorbs the blood. If the area of bleeding is large, surgery may be needed.

The care that follows emergency treatment focuses on helping you regain your strength, recover as much function as possible, and return to independent living. This is typically done in a rehabilitation program, which may include physical, occupational, speech therapy, and psychological counseling.

A stroke is a life-changing event that can affect your emotional well-being as much as your physical function. Feelings of helplessness, frustration, depression, and apathy aren't unusual. Maintaining your self-esteem, connections to others and interest in the world are essential parts of your recovery. These strategies may help both you and those who care for you: Don't be hard on yourself. Accept that physical and emotional recovery may be tough

and take some time. Aim for a "new normal" and celebrate all your progress. Allow time for rest. Get out of the house--try to not be discouraged if you move slowly and need a cane, walker or wheel chair to get around. Meeting with others who are coping with the impact of a stroke lets you get out and share experiences and forge new friendships. Let friends and family know what you need-- People may want to help, but may not be sure how to do so.

*"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer."*  
*Romans 12:12*

*Bonnie Kanady, RN*

## Youth Schedule

### Middlers

#### Retreat to Ocean City

Staying at the Davis' Ocean City home.

Fri. March 2<sup>ns</sup> – Sat, March 3<sup>rd</sup>

We'll be leaving the church parking lot at 6pm. There will be swimming, games, and the arcade. Don't forget your permission slip, bathing suit, PJ's, change of clothes, and Bible.

### Junior/Senior High

#### Gym Nights at the Hangar

6:30-8pm Sundays, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>

### All Youth Groups

#### Ranch Hope Bowl-a-thon

Sunday, March 18<sup>th</sup>

Meet at the Hangar at 4:30pm.

Registration forms available from any leader. You need \$30 in donations to participate. See any youth leader if you need help getting donations.

*The Adult Fellowship* will meet at the church to go out to dinner on Monday, March 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm.



## Missions Report

TWR: Gregowske Newslines  
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671-989-7004  
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Greetings from Guam

Out of the darkness of a late November evening on Guam, God's light shown through with a ground-breaking live broadcast of the 250,000-watt digital-capable Thomason transmitter. This night was the culmination of years of planning, financial giving, and preparation involving men and women throughout the TWR ministry and friendship network.

Through the advanced technology using digital output, TWR Guam has the ability to cover much of a spiritually needy region, including China and southeast Asia, with a robust, quality signal. A fantastic benefit is that signals can reach beyond our target area as evidenced by reports received from New Zealand, France, Sweden, Germany, Austria, and Russia. This shows how our spiritual footprint around Asia (and the world) has been increased.

We have been blessed to be a part of God's work at TWR Guam, but we want you to know that YOU also can call yourself blessed since in the whole scope of things, you have been just as important because of your faithful giving and prayers. ON behalf of present and future listeners – those who know the name of Jesus because of shortwave radio – we thank you.

It's that time again. We will be heading stateside this spring to begin a six month furlough. We are really looking forward to seeing so many of you, getting reacquainted, and even making some new friends. And now that we are empty-nesters, we are looking forward to seeing all our children. In fact, we are taking a brief vacation to spend time with Scott and Ahn in California before heading east. Our time in the States will be from March 27 to October 16, 2012.

Speaking Hope to the World  
Paul and Kathy Gregowske

Submitted by  
Bill Hunt  
Missions Committee

## "Lord of Light"

An Easter Cantata  
By Bruce Greer and Nancy Gordon  
4pm Sunday, April 1, 2012



Hear Peter, the Woman at the Well, a Jewish Rabbi, a Jerusalem child and others tell of their personal experience of meeting Jesus, and how He transformed their darkness into glorious light. Through contemporary worship songs, hymns and compelling monologues and narrative, the Easter story is told in fresh tones.

Please join us as all the choirs participate in the cantata service as we "proclaim the message of Easter hope with 'Lord of Light' on Sunday, April 1<sup>st</sup> at 4:00pm.



## Quench Your Thirst for Life

by Chip Ingram

### Christian Lenten Study Listing of Small Groups

- |                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| <b>Sunday Evenings</b>       | 7:00pm<br>Parsonage<br>358-7491   |
| <b>Tuesday Evenings</b>      | 7:00pm<br>Home of Harry & Bill Hunt<br>408 Broad Street, Elmer<br>358-6301                        |
|                              | 7:30pm<br>Home of Linda & Herb Dilks<br>20 Philip Avenue, Franklinville<br>694-0090               |
| <b>Wednesday Evenings</b>    | 7:00pm<br>Elmer UMC Parlor  |
| <b>Thursday Evenings</b>     | 7:00pm<br>Home of Jane & Dave Cooke<br>86 Madison Road, Elmer<br>358-6393                         |
| <b>Friday &amp; Saturday</b> | Open at the time of printing.<br>Please check Sunday church bulletin for any updates to schedule. |