

Elmer United Methodist Church



CHURCH OFFICE AND PETER'S PANTRY - 358-0135

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DAVID REPENNING, PASTOR

Date: APRIL 2014

Pastor's Corner

Dear Friends,

We are coming near the end of 40 days of Community, a small group study on community by Rick Warren of Saddleback Church in California. There are weekly small groups, daily devotionals and worship experiences focusing on living together. Each week's sermon has been an introduction to the week's study topic.

Some interesting things are happening as we progress through this community building theme. The number of groups and participants is exciting; 10 groups with 60 participants. People are commenting about the strength and support they are receiving from the meetings and the weekly themes. The topics are universal, with weekly comments or references about the relevance of the messages. I believe the support groups are more effective than they have been in the past. Many of our groups are beginning to turn outwards to others with service and different ways of helping our friends and neighbors.

I am also excited to see how God is working through our plans to address needs even prior to the need being expressed. It is as though God is working on the answer to problems before we are aware of them. Each week I find myself or hear someone else using a statement from the program to address a real need in someone's life. This could be called coincidence, or more appropriately, **Prevenient Grace**. Prevenient grace is God's work in our lives before we seek God. It is a reminder that God is always going ahead of us preparing the way for us. It happens when you are led to pray for someone miles away, not knowing that there is anything going on in that person's life. Or when you visit someone and enter their home just as they are picking up the phone to call you for help. Or when you hear a message that sounds like the speaker was in your home last night and knows everything about your life. The truth is these coincidences are not psychic knowledge or lucky occurrences. They are nudges from God moving to use us to minister to the needs of others. They are ways to remind us of God's awesome power in our lives each and every day.

As we go through Easter and the week leading up to Easter, look for these signs; signs of the resurrected Christ alive in our lives. Spring is a great time to see signs and wonders happening around us; flower buds swelling up and bursting forth, the ground swelling just before spring bulbs sprout and come through the surface, people asking

questions just before they make a real commitment to follow God. Know that God is active among us.

As you see the signs, let them minister to your faith and let them call you to respond by reaching out to others with service and Good News. Use the moments to witness God's power and love to the world around us. You too may be the sign someone needs as they go through a problem in their life.

Go out, be blessed, and be a blessing for someone else in Jesus' name.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Dave Repenning

<u>Attendance:</u>	Early	Morning	S. School
Mar. 2	26	104	35
Mar. 9	20	104	48
Mar. 16	24		42
Mar. 23	19	107	55
<u>Stewardship:</u>	<u>Church</u>	<u>Missions</u>	<u>S.School</u>
Mar. 2	\$6,309.00	\$1,399.00	\$34.05
Mar. 9	\$4,721.00	\$916.00	\$40.72
Mar. 16	\$4,066.00	\$333.50	\$19.25
Mar. 23	\$3,710.00	\$428.00	\$37.20



April Birthdays Happy Birthday to All!!!

1st	Jaime Pitman
2nd	Hailey Neher
4th	TJ Laury
5th	Allison Wentz
6th	Courtney Beidelman & Robert Wolfe
8th	Heidi Priggemeier & Jesse Stemberger
9th	Ian Abbey
11th	Christina Richards & Christine Bishop
14th	Arlinda Saul
15th	Evelyn Becker
16th	Herb Dilks
17th	Toby Irelan
18th	Taylor Brown & Robert Moore, III
19th	Bonnie Bishop, Rebecca Hardman & Benjamin B. Timberman
21st	Thomas Masters
23rd	Delaney Dilks, Karen Both & Ashton Mottola
24th	Catharine Wildman Parsons & Cheryl Yago
25th	Connor Richards
26th	Fletcher Nelson
28th	Hannah Hitchner & Sam Walker
29th	John Timberman

On Palm Sunday we would like to place as many palm plants on the altar as we can. If you would be interested in donating towards the purchase of the palms, please see Elinor Lubrano. (856-521-0599 or cell: 856-275-5998) After Palm Sunday's Cantata service at 4pm, please feel free to take yours home. Thank you





"On a Hill Too Far Away"

By Randy Vadar, Jay Rouse & Camp Kirkland

4:00pm Sunday, April 13, 2014

This is the story of Calvary. Calvary...It may seem that all of this occurred on a hill too far away, too far removed from our life to speak to us and our need for this great a sacrifice. We cannot stand in the distance and expect to experience the magnitude of the cross. We must draw near. We must face what we can never understand. We must confront the ravaged, spotless Lamb to gain just a glimpse of our stain of sin. The cross cannot be explained away. The cross cannot be ignored. The cross cannot be stripped of its cruelty and shame. The cross cannot and will not be denied. The invitation stands – come to the place of mercy and grace. It is the way of the cross that leads us home. Please join us as all of our choirs participate in the cantata service on Sunday, April 13, 2014 at 4:00pm. A covered dish supper will follow.

Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the Author and Perfector of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.
(Hebrews 12: 2 NIV)

Randy Vadar

Easter Lilly 2014 Dedications



Help us beautify the sanctuary as we celebrate Jesus' resurrection! Lilies may be purchased in **honor** of or in **memory** of a friend, or loved one. Elinor Lubrano (856-521-0599 or cell: 856-275-5998) will be in the Chapel on Sundays, April 6th & 13th after services to take your order. \$6.50 each. Checks (preferable) may be made out to Elmer UMC.

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*



To order, see Todd Chapman (856-692-5816)

**Orders will be ready for pick up on
Palm Sunday, April 13 after the 10am Service**



Easter Egg Hunt

10:00am Saturday, April 19th At the Church

We would appreciate donations of jelly beans, small chocolate eggs, small toys, stickers, etc. that can be used as "egg stuffers." Please leave them in the basket in the back of the sanctuary. Any questions, please see Pat Hall.



We will blossom the Cross for Easter Sunday morning again this year. If you have flowers in your yard that you can bring with you that morning we would appreciate your contribution.

Holy Week Services

Palm Sunday, April 13th

4pm Cantata Service

"On a Hill Too Far Away"

By Randy Vadar, Jay Rouse & Camp Kirkland

Holy Thursday – April 17th

7:30pm Community

Communion Service

Elmer Presbyterian Church

Good Friday - April 18th

12 Noon - 3:00pm

"Seven Last Words of Christ"

Elmer United Methodist Church

Easter Egg Hunt – April 19th

10:00am

Elmer United Methodist Church

Easter Sunday – April 20th

6:30am Easter Sunrise Service

Home of Fritz & Joan Harz

Mill St, Elmer

(In the Back Yard by the Lake)

Breakfast will follow at the

Elmer Methodist Church

8:30 & 10am Morning Worship Services

11:15am Sunday School

Wacky Wednesdays

Please contact Donna Stemberger, youth coordinator, with your ideas for the return of Wacky Wednesdays this summer (dkstembug@yahoo.com). There will be a meeting in the Fellowship Hall on Monday, April 7th at 7:00pm for anyone interested in helping to set up this program for the summer.



The Sub Sale held on Saturday, April 19th

will benefit the Hangar after school program. Pick up at the church is 10:30 to 11:30am. \$6.00 each

RESERVE THIS DATE

Soup and Baked Potato Supper and Silent Auction

Saturday, May 3rd 6pm – Fellowship Hall

Benefit Malaga Camp Scholarships

Tickets \$10 For info and tickets call 609-501-0351

or email zwpl@aol.com

*Handbell and Handchimes
Choir Concert*

Elmer United Methodist Church

4:00pm Sunday, April 27th



*Admission is free
A freewill offering will be received*

Cinderella Cheesecake!!

The Hangar is selling Cinderella Cheesecakes for Easter Plain, Almond Amaretto, Mango, Washington Cherry, Pineapple, White Chocolate Peanut Butter, Southern Pecan, Pumpkin, and Egg Nog - \$18 each

No Sugar Added

(all natural plain, gluten and trans fat free) - \$21 each

Sampler - 2 slices of each flavor except the Egg Nog - \$21

Contact Jenn 856-896-8510 to order by April 9th

Pick up is April 17th



Paul and Kathy Gregowske Trans World Radio

Word was recently received from Paul and Kathy Gregowske who serve with Trans World radio in Guam. The Antenna Switcher Project is progressing slowly but steadily. Last September the concrete pad for the project was scheduled to be poured with trucks ready to go but the weather did not cooperate. The day brought a record rainfall of almost seven inches which inundated the site. In the days that followed even more rain continued so that trucks could not get in and the pour was postponed.

Much of the work is dependent upon the weather and available supplies so they have to be flexible. Since it was the rainy season Paul was able to get a lot of work done on indoor maintenance.

Finally in February a break in the weather came and after six months of waiting and nine days of dry weather the field was ready for the concrete to be poured. On February 14 the long awaited pad was completed and the following week the antenna switches arrived. There is wiring and changes to antenna lines yet to be done but the project is moving forward.

Trans World Radio is communicating the Gospel in more than 230 languages, in 160 countries, from multiple high-power radio transmitters, FM and AM stations, and digital sources to media devices able to access the internet.

TWR is celebrating the anniversary of TWR Cambodia. On January 15 they celebrated 14 years of reaching the Cambodian people with the Gospel of Jesus. The Gregowskes say that they are privileged and blessed to be a part of this ministry for eight years.

Over 60 years ago on February 22, 1954 TWR International began broadcasting the Gospel into Europe from Morocco. Fifty years ago broadcasts began from Swaziland reaching Africa. Later came broadcasts from Guam to Asia, then Sri Lanka, and the Indian subcontinent. Next came transmitters in Benin, which covers N. Africa. In 2013 transmitters were able to reach Pakistan, Afghanistan and North India.

Trans World Radio speaks Hope the World.

Submitted by
Al-Jo Voeckler
Missions Chair



HEALTHCARE MINISTRIES TYPES OF ANXIETY

Everyone experiences anxiety from time to time. Generalized Anxiety Disorder (GAD) is the most common type. People who experience GAD constantly feel uptight and nervous. They tend to worry about everything and complain about feeling restless, irritable, and that their life feels out of control.

Social Phobia is an irrational fear of being in social situations. These people feel watched and judged when around others. They may be uncomfortable eating in public and have fears of public speaking.

Agoraphobia is the fear of unfamiliar places. People with this disorder are afraid to go anywhere that is new, so can be hostages in their own homes.

A Panic Disorder includes psychological and physical symptoms. It is characterized by a general feeling of impending doom. They feel numb or weak, and sweat, and feel like they are having a heart attack. These people will drive miles out of the way to avoid a bridge.

Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD) involves a fearful thought that can't be shaken. You may have a compulsion to wash your hands with a new bar of soap every time.

Anxiety disorders are common. To receive an accurate diagnosis and treatment, it is important to be evaluated by a professional.

Symptoms of GAD will manifest differently in each person. Typically a person experiences mental/emotional and physical symptoms including: lack of concentration, restlessness, inability to fall asleep or stay asleep, easily startled, depression, substance abuse, fatigue, headaches, muscle tension and aches, trembling, difficulty swallowing, sweating, lightheadedness, hot flashes, breathlessness, palpitations, and nausea.

GAD can be treated by a mental health professional. Behavioral therapy, cognitive therapy, medications, stress-management techniques, and family support may be needed to help maintain one's quality of life.

"Casting all your care upon Him; for He careth for you."

I Peter 5:7.

Bonnie Kanady, RN