

Elmwords

PASTOR'S CORNER

"Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me." Psalm 23.4 KJV

"After I am raised up, I will go ahead of you to Galilee." Matthew 26.32

Yikes! This is scary. No doubt about it. We don't want to be alarmist by talking about death, but we are definitely in a very dark valley. Covid is casting a shadow over everyone's life. People are working from home as much as possible. We feel for folks who cannot and therefore have no income. Schools are closed, which makes perfect sense, but what do working parents do about childcare? People balance shopping for "just a few things" with the risk of contamination.

Personally, I feel it is far better to take extreme measures to "flatten the curve", than to find out later that we should have done more. By now you are aware that Elmwood has closed the office, suspended in-person worship and all gatherings. I hope you also know that we are posting a few messages each day on our Facebook page. Check it out. Thanks to Jerry Gray, we also recorded and posted a "sermonette" last Sunday and will continue to do so until things return to normal.

So... what can we do until this crisis ends? PRAY! Pray for it to end. Pray that political leaders make good decisions. Pray for people to take any and all measures, even if it calls for making sacrifices. Pray for courage and faith; pray for laughter and joy no matter what. Pray for medical folks, police, fire, rescue, and ambulance folks. Pray for strangers and loved ones. Pray for one another. Just pray! Don't worry about the words, Jesus knows what is in every heart. Why not make an effort to look after folks who might need help. Stay in touch with friends and family, maybe even renew old acquaintances.

This month brings us Easter, that joy-filled, life-giving celebration of Christ's Resurrection. Easter is only a few weeks away, yet a time of bright joy seems very far away indeed. It feels very far from the dark valley to the heights of gladness Easter brings. Remember, Jesus spoke the above words BEFORE he was betrayed, denied, tortured and killed. The ordeal lay before him. Who can say what lies before us? It may be an ordeal, or it may merely be an inconvenience. The Crucifixion and Resurrection show that God can and will bring life from death, joy from sorrow, and give hope where none seemed possible. Whatever comes, let us each do what we can, secure in the faith that God's love is the most powerful force in the universe.

Peace, joy, and health,

Pastor Dave

**THERE WAS NO COUNCIL
MEETING IN MARCH**

ON A PERSONAL NOTE

APRIL/MAY BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

April

03 Ginger Croxall
03 Betty Hoyt
04 Carol Coffin
12 Rod Tyler
16 Kristina Wittchen
17 Shirley P. Marshall
22 Viola Brown
26 Lauren Pierce Matava
Anniversaries
05 Cynthia & Norman Carter
09 Brian & Cindy Gauthier
20 Ernestine & Patrick Nobou

May

05 Gail O'Connor
09 Johanna D'Ambrosio
10 Mark Janas
14 Daysha Haxton
24 James Coffin
26 Kate Cunningham
Anniversaries
08 Kriss & Layne Brown
19 Charles Shorter & Barbara Hinds
19 Susan & Mike McLarney
19 Edie & Jerry Gray



MISSIONS

The following are the South Park dates 2020.

May 17
July 19
September 20
November 22

We are looking for donations of sandwiches or sandwich fixings. If you would like to make sandwiches, please contact Carol Alberti at pier224@aol.com



College scholarship forms will be collected during the month of April. Forms can be picked up at the church office. The due date for applications is **May 13**.

Carol Alberti

Bible Study



Bible Study is suspended until further notice.

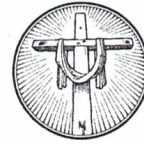
NOTE:

Good Friday

There is NO meditation in sanctuary on Good Friday this year.

Elmwood Cleanup date is tentatively scheduled for April 25. Because of the COVID situation, check with the church prior to the date to confirm it is still on.

We still plan to order Easter plants!



EASTER PLANTS



It's that time already to be thinking about ordering your Easter Plants. Easter Plant orders and **payment must be in and paid for by SATURDAY, 4/4.** If you are paying by check, please make check payable to the Elmwood Community Church and indicate Easter Flowers in the memo field.

Prices are as follows:

<u>Size</u>	<u>Plant</u>	<u>Cost**</u>
6" pot	Easter Lily	\$10.00
6" pot	Tulips	\$9.00
6" pot	Hyacinths	\$9.00

****We have not gotten final pricing for flowers. We will notify you if there is a price change for this year.**

Choice of Plant: _____

In Thanksgiving for _____

In Memory of _____

Given By: _____

I would like to take the plant home _____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Your Name: _____

Address: _____

Thank you for helping to provide one of the many Easter Symbols used to decorate our church. Alleluia!

Peace and Love, Your Deacons

**SCHEDULE FOR
HOLY WEEK
AND EASTER**

10 a.m. PALM SUNDAY - April 5

Palm Sunday is the gateway to Holy Week. We remember the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. Worship will include giving of Palms and special music.

7 p.m. MAUNDY THURSDAY – April 9

A Service of Holy Communion and Tenebrae. A most meaningful and moving experience.

12 Noon GOOD FRIDAY – April 10

to 3 p.m. The Sanctuary will be open from noon to 3:00 pm for meditation and prayer. The Prayer Group will host. Please feel free to come and go as you need to.

6:30 a.m. SUNRISE SERVICE – April 12

A time to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ at Elmwood Community Church in the Memorial Garden.

10 a.m. EASTER WORSHIP – April 12

Easter Worship with special music by our choir, a trumpet player, and an array of Easter Flowers. The children will distribute Easter eggs.

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ON A PERSONAL NOTE



Council approved the suggestion to have a weekly focus for collecting for the food pantry. Each Sunday of the month will have a different theme.

First Sunday: Dinner Basics: canned fish and meats (stew, ravioli) baked beans

Second Sunday: Kids Favorites: cereal, granola bars, mac & cheese, peanut butter & jelly.

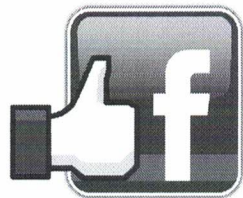
Third Sunday: Fruity Feast: canned and jarred fruit, dried fruit, fruit cups, jelly & jam.

Fourth Sunday: Exciting Extras: fun stuff: coffee, tea, cooking oil, condiments.

Fifth Sunday: Most Wanted: pasta sauce, rice, cereal, canned meat, peanut butter.

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**UPDATED DIRECTORY OF
MEMBERS & FRIENDS
AVAILABLE IN
THE OFFICE**



**BE SURE TO LIKE
ECC ON FACEBOOK**

Inspirational Easter Quotes

Earth's saddest day and gladdest day were just three days apart!

Susan Coolidge

We live and die; Christ died and lived!

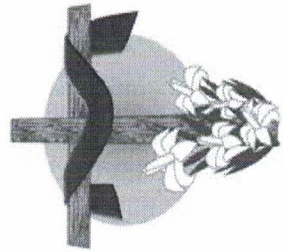
John Stott

Easter is a time to rejoice, be thankful, be assured that all is forgiven so life extends beyond the soil of the earth.

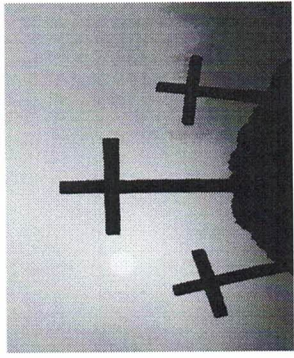
Byron Pulsifer



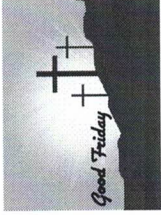





***HAVE A WONDERFUL
AND BLESSED EASTER***









APRIL 2020



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
ALL DATES TENTATIVE FOLLOW FACEBOOK			1	2	3	4
5  PALM SUNDAY	6	7 6:30 Deacons	8 6:30 Trustees	9  MAUNDY THURSDAY 7:00 PM SERVICE	10  Good Friday No Sanctuary time	11
12  6:30 am Sunrise Svc. 10 am Easter Svc 11 am CE	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 9 am Missions	20 6:30 Council	21 Deadline for Newsletter Articles	21	23	24	25  Elmwood Cleanup Day
26 	27	28 11 am Bible Study	29	30		

WORSHIP FACILITATORS - APRIL 2020 – MAY 2020
HEAD USHER: APRIL - CHUCK PETERSON MAY – TBA

APRIL SCHEDULE IS TENTATIVE. IF SERVICES RESUMES SOMETIME IN APRIL, WE WILL FOLLOW THE SCHEDULE BELOW. FOLLOW ECC ON FACEBOOK.

DATE	 GREETER	 LAY READER	 USHER	 COFFEE HOUR	 COMMUNION	 CRIB NURSERY
4/5/20 PALM SUNDAY	Chuck Peterson	Paul Mawn	Jerry Gray Wendy Leonard Colleen Peterson	Cindy Gauthier	Jerry Gray Wendy Leonard Colleen Peterson	Kirsten Peterson
4/12/20 EASTER SUNDAY	Victor Brown	Susan Wiley	Victor Brown Rowan O'Connor	Deacons		Edie Gray
4/19/20	Victor Brown	Chuck Peterson	Norm Carter Frank Nobou	Edie & Jerry Gray		Carol Alberti
4/26/20	Rick Coler	Colleen Peterson	Joan & Bob Lundén	Joan & Beth Gustafson		Kathy Barletta

If you are not able to serve when scheduled, please switch with or find someone to fill in for you and notify the office. If you have concerns about this, please contact Pat MacDougall at 860-529-3896 and Edie Gray at 860-521-7119 for Crib Nursery Schedule.

The Elmwood Community Church
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860-233-8203 fax: 860-233-4202
Secretary's e-mail: eccsecretary@snet.net
Pastor's e-mail: elmwoodchurch@snet.net

PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY
DATED MATERIAL

***** IF YOU NO LONGER WANT TO RECEIVE THIS *****
***** PUBLICATION, PLEASE NOTIFY ECC AT THE *****
***** NUMBER ABOVE. THANK YOU! *****

DATES TO REMEMBER

BIBLE STUDY SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE
CHOIR PRACTICE IS SUSPENDED UNTIL SERVICES RESUME

ALL DATES ARE TENTATIVE. CHECK FACEBOOK TO VALIDATE ACTIVITIES.

APRIL 5	PALM SUNDAY
APRIL 7	6:30 PM DEACONS
APRIL 8	6:30 PM TRUSTEES
APRIL 9	7:00 PM MAUNDY THURSDAY
APRIL 12	11 AM CHRISTIAN ED
APRIL 12	6:30 AM SUNRISE EASTER SERVICE
APRIL 12	10:00 AM EASTER SERVICE
APRIL 19	11 AM MISSIONS
APRIL 20	6:30 PM COUNCIL
APRIL 21	NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE
APRIL 25	ELMWOOD CLEANUP DAY
APRIL 26	ELMWORDS PUBLISHED