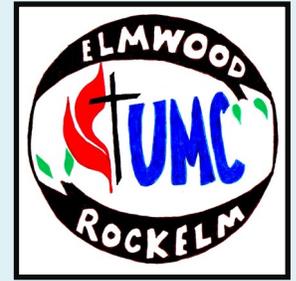




# The Good News



ereumc.org

A Newsletter for the  
Elmwood and Rock Elm  
United Methodist Churches

Dear Friends,

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Have you been feeling blessed lately? Yes? No? In church we sing the doxology which expresses thanks for what God has given us. As Christians we believe that all things belong to God and so when we receive, they are gifts from God. In a time when we are lamenting the things we have lost; it is well that we also look at things we have gained.

I am grateful that this Pandemic is happening at this time and not when I was a boy. At that time the only way to communicate not in person was the telephone. The only electronic entertainment was the TV with four channels. (We had one TV – no remote – and my dad controlled the channels we watched). Today, we have Netflix, Satellite or Cable TV, and email. Last night while I was making dinner my 11-year-old granddaughter called me for a video chat on my cell phone. I propped the phone on a shelf by the stove and we chatted about her day while I was making dinner. She lives four hours away. Afterward I praised God for that blessing.

In October we had our first live stream of our Sunday Service. It went well and I was blessed by the fact we could reach people from our sanctuary who were at home in a live format. There is a live chat feature and it has been suggested we could do prayer requests through that feature. Another thing to praise God for.

On the 28<sup>th</sup> of October we will be having our Harvest Dinner at Elmwood. It will not be like the ones in the past where people could come and dine in. However, we will still be providing a turkey dinner with all the fixings and it will be provided in a safe way. The ticket presales have been great. The innovation and planning have been great as well. Another thing to praise God for.

And finally, I praise God for you; God's family who remain strong and faithful even while under stress. Like the Hebrews of the Old Testament and the Apostles of the New Testament, God will be with us and lead us through these times as God has in the past. God is ever faithful and so must we be. Thank you for your prayers, your support, and your financial giving that keeps us going.

Praise God from whom all things flow,

Pastor Mike

Sunday Services:

Rock Elm 9:00

Elmwood 10:30

Michael Weaver, Pastor

Jeanne Friedell, Secretary

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

|                         |     |
|-------------------------|-----|
| Stewardship Corner..... | 2   |
| News.....               | 3,4 |
| Authorization Form..... | 5   |

## OF INTEREST

- Sunday school for elementary children during worship service
- United Methodist Women
- Contemporary and traditional music
- Open minds, open doors, open hearts

## Our Mission Statement

**Connecting** - Inviting new people, welcoming them into the life of the church with active hospitality.

**Growing** –Providing opportunities to experience meaningful worship and to grow in one's faith.

**Serving** - Risk-taking mission and service in the community.



**Harbor House Crisis Shelters** mission is to provide hospitable shelter, transitional living and services for homeless women and families. Harbor House Crisis Shelters is committed to ending homelessness by providing direct services for homeless single women and families, by conducting public education, analysis of model programs and practices that create permanent housing opportunities, and by shaping policies to prevent future homelessness.

*Donations for can be sent with your regular offering....just indicate that it is for Harbor House.*

## CONNECTING, GROWING, SERVING

Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Romans 12:2 NIV

## GIVING

### Stewardship as Discipleship

*If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, 'Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill', and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead. (James 2:15-17)*

How does a disciple set aside his or her life for God? We simplify, in our denomination, the complicated issue of discipleship as the following: your prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. It is important to note that discipleship is comprised of actions, not beliefs. You may say all the creeds, but as James (2:19) points out, "Even the demons believe [in God]."

Much of our teaching about stewardship has to do with giving financially to support the mission and ministry of the church. That is giving, but what makes it discipleship. Last month I noted that when we are planning an expenditure, John Wesley advises us to ask, 1) am I acting as a proprietor or a steward? 2) am I following Scripture? 3) can I offer this as a sacrifice to God, through Jesus Christ? and 4) will this action be judged as righteous?

These are the questions of a mature disciple who understands that in the Kingdom of God, actions speak louder than words. Since the disciple knows that everything comes from God (a belief), then every expenditure, even spending for oneself or one's family, should be put to Wesley's tests. That is what sets aside the disciple's expenditures for God. The disciple turns beliefs into action and converts the simple materialism of the economy into spirituality. Spending money may be indistinguishable between disciple and non-disciple, but the disciple's spending helps bring about the Kingdom of God.

Reread Wesley's four rules above and you will see that a disciple's expenditure includes prayer, presence, gift, service, and witness.

# Birthdays and Anniversaries: November

## Birthdays-Rock Elm

- 1 Lalia Martin
- 5 Jim Martin

## Birthdays-Elmwood

- 4 Linda Vivoda
- 9 Cory Holt, Shirley Sand
- 13 Donette Stewart, Michelle Moe
- 18 Hattie Pitre
- 20 Shane Meyers, Jr., David Clafin
- 22 Bailey Ginsbach, Emily Hoyt



## Daily Scripture Readings

|                              |                           |                            |                               |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Nov. 1 Psalm 139:14          | Nov. 9 Psalm 23:1-3       | Nov. 17 Philippians 2:3-11 | Nov. 25 Philippians 3:12-14   |
| Nov. 2 2 Corinthians 5:18-20 | Nov. 10 2 Peter 3:8-18    | Nov. 18 Hebrews 10:19-25   | Nov. 26 Luke 17:11-19         |
| Nov. 3 2 Kings 5:1-14        | Nov. 11 2 Kings 2:1-12    | Nov. 19 1 Peter 4:12-19    | Nov. 27 2 Corinthians 12:6-10 |
| Nov. 4 1 John 3:16-24        | Nov. 12 Isaiah 41:8-10    | Nov. 20 Exodus 13:17-22    | Nov. 28 Psalm 121:1-8         |
| Nov. 5 Psalm 1:1-6           | Nov. 13 Ezekiel 2:8-3:3   | Nov. 21 Psalm 103:1-13     | Nov. 29 Matthew 1:18-23       |
| Nov. 6 Isaiah 6:1-7          | Nov. 14 Matthew 14:13-21  | Nov. 22 Colossians 3:1-11  | Nov. 30 John 21:15-17         |
| Nov. 7 1 Peter 4:1-11        | Nov. 15 Genesis 2:4-9, 15 | Nov. 23 James 4:13-17      |                               |
| Nov. 8 John 13:31-35         | Nov. 16 Exodus 35:20-35   | Nov. 24 Matthew 22:34-40   |                               |



# MUJILA FALLS AGRICULTURAL CENTER

The Mujila Falls project works to:

Address hunger and poverty with sustainable agriculture and leadership training in North West Zambia.

**Their Annual Goal is: \$170,000.00**

**Their Year to Date Gifts are: \$21,469.00**

This project is working with the Lunda people of extreme North West Zambia. They have the highest infant mortality rates and lowest life expectancy of all tribes in Zambia. The greatest need is to improve protein, vitamin and mineral content in the local diet and help families to increase incomes so they can provide for schooling, medical care, clothing, and additional foods.

We are continuing to expand egg and milk production. We hope to have electricity soon, which will help with refrigeration, processing, and packaging of our products for better storage and longer shelf life. We have encouraged and are planting our own soybeans. Together with corn, we can produce concentrates that will permit hogs to grow from day old to over 100 kg in only 5.5 months. Getting farmers to use better genetics, vaccinations, and balanced feeds will greatly increase animal production in the area. Animal manure is essential to higher yields of feed and food crops in the area. We do demonstration plots to show the efficacy of using animal manures efficiently to increase the productivity of fields.

The original goals and objectives of the project were to increase protein, minerals and vitamins in the diet to reduce the very high infant mortality and low life expectancy of the Lunda People. It was also to help the Lunda People to increase family incomes by becoming more effective and efficient farmers. Our long-term impact is to help to make the Lunda farmers and their families competitive in agricultural pursuits that are favored by the high rainfall and abundant land that is available here. These include milk production, fruit production, meat production, gardening, and field crop production.

*If you would like to support this mission project.....you can include a check with your regular offering.*

*Please indicate on the check that it is a donation for Mujila Falls Agriculture Center.*



Elmwood UMC located at:  
307 S Main Street,  
Elmwood WI

Rock Elm UMC located at:  
170th Street  
Elmwood WI

(about 6 miles west on 72)

Mailing Address: PO Box 52,  
Elmwood, WI 54740

Our worship style is a blend of traditional and new. We combine older hymns with praise choruses. You can come as you are, people dress from semi-casual to casual. Blue jeans are very acceptable. If you come from a church background, been away for a long time, or maybe have never been to church, you will feel welcome here.

## OFFICE

Michael Weaver, Pastor

Jeanne Friedell, Secretary

ereumc@gmail.com

Website: ereumc.org

715-639-5831

Office hours are 9-1 on Wednesdays.

Follow us on Facebook [Rock Elm & Elmwood UMC](#)



Want to be on our email list? Send request to [elmumcrock@gmail.com](mailto:elmumcrock@gmail.com)

Elmwood ~ Rock Elm United  
Methodist Churches

P. O. Box 52  
Elmwood, WI 54740

Phone: 715-639-5831  
ereumc@gmail.com  
Website: ereumc.org



PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE