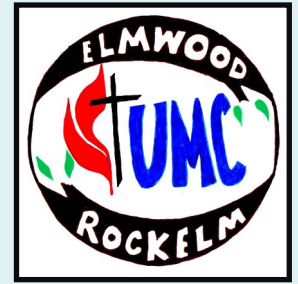




The Good News



ereumc.org

A Newsletter for the
Elmwood and Rock Elm
United Methodist Churches

Sunday Services:

Rock Elm 9:00

Elmwood 10:30

Michael Weaver, Pastor

Jeanne Friedell, Secretary

Dear friends,

Recently, I read a devotion on hope. That is a word and a concept we have been using a lot lately. When everything is going along well and we have no worries, it seems that we don't really need hope. We are good. Or we may think of hope in terms of, "I hope I get that new job," or "I hope we get ice cream for desert." Not until we are faced with existential crisis that hope grows into a much broader and more powerful concept.

We often in the church learn about or hear sermons on the crisis and struggle of the people of Judah in Jesus' time. They were oppressed by the Roman government and there was corruption in the Jewish community that enabled the Roman's oppression. Jesus came and brought hope to the people. It was a tangible Hope that helped move the people forward in the midst of their crisis.

That is what hope does for us today. It allows us to move forward in the midst of crisis. There are a lot of things we can point to that are bad including the pandemic and the social distancing that is required to help fend off the disease. However, hope buoys us as we adapt and carry on our lives in Christ. We are part of the community of Christ. And as such, we are called to embody Hope for one another. Let us look out for one another and not give in to despair. The worst things are never the last things.

I am including the prayer from the devotion from Rev. Forrest Wells, District Superintendent for the South East district.

Ever Loving God, thank you for sending Jesus into the world at just the right time to demonstrate for all of time your love for the world. Enable us to follow you with hope and in turn, make a positive difference in this world because of our love for you. Amen

Grace and peace,

Pastor Mike

I want to take a moment to thank all those who thought of me and Pastor Lisa at Christmas time with gifts. I had intended to put my thank you in last month's newsletter but that didn't happen. It is meaningful to me when you think of us at Christmas and we offer a heartfelt thank you.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Stewardship Corner.....	2
News.....	3
Calendar.....	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.

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CONNECTING, GROWING, SERVING

Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance.

James 1:2-3

NIV

GIVING

Giving is Love and Love is Giving

The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work." (2 Corinthians 9:6-8)

"God loves a cheerful giver." Why do you give? Why do you put money in the plate? Why did you sign up for EFT? Is it to keep the lights on? Is it out of obligation? Is it because "it is just the thing you do"?

In this month of February, when consumer products turn red, chocolate, and velvety, society asks us to think about love. We give gifts to others because we love them. Could it be that we give in church (online) because of Love?

We are called to give to God because God loves us. We are called to give to God because we love God. We are called to give, not begrudgingly, but cheerfully! When we give, we are saying, "I love you God!" We are not saying, "Fine, here you go God. "Why do you give? Look inside of yourself right now. Be honest.

Why do you give? When the plate passes you, what goes through your mind? In this time of online giving, has your giving changed? Have you been giving more or less? More or less often? Why? Always remember, you cannot out give God! God loves us and has, does, and will do so much for us. So, in response, we give back to the Lord. We give out of LOVE.

Birthdays and Anniversaries: February

Birthdays-Rock Elm

- 12 McKenna Kaszynski
- 13 Scott Kendall
- 17 Dee Roesler
- 22 George Churchill



Birthdays-Elmwood

- 13 Sky Holt
- 15 Paige Ginsbach
- 17 Kyler Doerr
- 18 Natalie Ginsbach, Diane Moe
- 21 Adam Moritz
- 23 Cole Christman
- 24 Micah Hoyt
- 26 Carl Schroeder, Jr.

Anniversaries-Elmwood

- 14 Jason & Chris Afdahl

Daily Scripture Readings

Feb. 1 1 Samuel 17:19-37	Feb. 9 Psalm 145:1-9	Feb. 17 1 Kings 19:1-5	Feb. 25 John 12:1-8
Feb. 2 John 12:44-48	Feb. 10 John 5:1-18	Feb. 18 Luke 8:26-39	Feb. 26 Psalm 139:7-12
Feb. 3 2 Corinthians 1:3-11	Feb. 11 Luke 10:25-37	Feb. 19 Leviticus 19:9-18	Feb. 27 Matthew 6:25-34
Feb. 4 1 Kings 19:9-14	Feb. 12 John 20:24-29	Feb. 20 Daniel 3:13-30	Feb. 28 Proverbs 2:1-10
Feb. 5 Hebrews 12:1-3	Feb. 13 Philippians 4:10-19	Feb. 21 Psalm 19:7-11	
Feb. 6 Psalm 130:1-5	Feb. 14 1 Corinthians 3:6-9	Feb. 22 Luke 14:15-20	
Feb. 7 Matthew 22:34-40	Feb. 15 Psalm 92:1-4	Feb. 23 Matthew 7:7-11	
Feb. 8 2 Timothy 3:10-17	Feb. 16 Ephesians 1:3-12	Feb. 24 Matthew 25:31-46	

February 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 6:30 PM <u>Praise Band Practice</u>	3 9:00 AM <u>Office Hours</u>	4 12:00 PM <u>Pastor at Public Health Meeting</u>	5 <u>Pastors Day off</u>	6
7 10:30 AM <u>Elmwood Live Stream Service</u>	8	9 6:30 PM <u>Praise Band Practice</u>	10 9:00 AM <u>Office Hours</u> 7:00 PM <u>Elmwood Ad Council</u>	11 12:00 PM <u>Pastor at Circuit meeting</u>	12 <u>Pastors Day off</u>	13
14 10:30 AM <u>Elmwood Live Stream Service</u>	15	16 6:30 PM <u>Praise Band Practice</u>	17 <u>Ash Wednesday</u> 9:00 AM <u>Office Hours</u>	18 12:00 PM <u>Pastor at Public Health Meeting</u>	19 <u>Pastors Day off</u>	20
21 10:30 AM <u>Elmwood Live Stream Service</u>	22 <u>Pastor at Board of Ordained Ministry Meeting</u>	23 <u>Pastor at Board of Ordained Ministry Meeting</u> 6:30 PM <u>Praise Band Practice</u>	24 <u>Pastor at Board of Ordained Ministry Meeting</u> 9:00 AM <u>Office Hours</u>	25 <u>Pastor at Board of Ordained Ministry Meeting</u>	26 <u>Pastor at Board of Ordained Ministry Meeting</u> <u>Pastors Day off</u>	27 <u>Pastor at Board of Ordained Ministry Meeting</u>
28 <u>Pastor at Board of Ordained Ministry Meeting</u> 10:30 AM <u>Elmwood Live Stream Service</u>						

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

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Methodist Churches