

# MARCH NEWSLETTER

**Serving God in Ministry**



**For 125 Years**

**ELDON UNITED**

**METHODIST CHURCH**

600 North Oak Street/PO Box 104

Eldon, MO 65026

[www.eldonumc.org](http://www.eldonumc.org)

**SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 A.M.**

**WORSHIP 10:30 A.M.**

Melinda Sucha, Secretary

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**March 2018**

## **March Lenten Luncheons**

Once again the Eldon Ministerial Alliance (EMA) will host our annual "brown bag" Lenten Luncheons on the first four Thursdays in March from 12 – 1 pm. The luncheon will be hosted at different area churches belonging to the EMA. Each host church will provide drinks and desserts, and the attenders are invited to bring their own lunch to eat while listening to different local pastors share a devotion and reflection on Lent. All are invited and welcome to attend. The schedule is as follows:

### **March 15**

Lunch Host – First Baptist Church

Speaker – Father Alex Gabriel (Sacred Heart Catholic Church)

### **March 22**

Lunch Host – First Christian Church

Speaker – Rev. Jerry Frye (First Church of the Nazarene)

## **Easter Lilies**

This year we have lilies available for purchase in memory of a loved one(s). The lilies will be on display Easter Sunday. They are \$10 each and a sign-up sheet and envelopes are available on the table in the Narthex. Please make sure to have your money in by Palm Sunday, March 25th.

## **Ride To Church**

We have someone living in the Eldon Nursing Home who would like to come to our church if she had a ride for the 10:30am service. If you would be willing to give her a ride—even just one or two Sundays a month, please contact Pastor Steve.

## **Living Last Supper**

On Friday, March 30th at 7:00 pm, everyone is invited to attend and participate in a special Good Friday service here at our church. This moving worship experience will include a dramatization of the Last Supper that Jesus shared with His disciples and the first Holy Communion.

This live re-enactment of the Upper Room experience of Jesus and His twelve disciples on the night before the crucifixion is an empowering and gripping witness, interpretation and portrayal of Scripture. It allows us to get a sense of what it was like to be there that night at the moment when Jesus told the disciples that one of them would betray Him, and they each asked, "Is it I?"

Hymns, special music, lighting, narration, Scripture reading, drama, and costumes will come together to help all experience the Last Supper and the first Lord's Supper (Holy Communion). Each Disciple, posing along with Jesus as portrayed in Leonardo da Vinci's painting of The Last Supper, comes to life and speaks of his own feelings and relationship with Jesus.

Included in the cast of disciples will be Rev. Steve George and Rev. Dr. Bill Foglesong from the First Christian Church. Who will be Jesus and who will be Judas? You will have to attend to find out!

The service will also include special music, and will close with the congregation being invited to receive the Bread and the Cup along with the Disciples. Refreshments will be served after the service.



## **Easter Happenings @ The Eldon UMC**

### **Easter Breakfast**

Please join us on April 1st, Easter Sunday, for a morning of fellowship, worship and fun. We will start the morning off with a free breakfast and fellowship from 9:30 am to 10:15 am (instead of Sunday school). The breakfast will consist of breakfast casseroles, donuts, fruit, juice, milk and coffee.

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### **Easter Worship Service**

Studies have shown that more people are willing to visit a church on Easter Sunday than any other Sunday. Please pray about who God might be leading you to invite to our Easter worship service.

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### **Easter Egg Hunt**

Stick around after the worship service on April 1 for the Children's Easter egg hunt. This is a highlight for the kids, and there are always plenty of eggs for the children to find.

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## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

### **Good Friday Refreshments**

We are needing several people to bring cookies for our refreshment time after the Living Last Supper service. We also need one person to make coffee, iced tea, and ice water. If you are able to help with these refreshments please contact Pastor Steve or sign up in the Narthex. Thank you!

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### **Disciples Needed**

Men, we have a few openings for Disciples in the Living Last Supper dramatization. If you are interested in being a Disciple please contact Pastor Steve.

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### **Breakfast Casseroles**

We are in need of 6 volunteers to bring a breakfast casserole for our Easter morning breakfast. We are also needing fruit and juice. If you would like to provide a breakfast casserole, fruit or juice, please sign up in the Narthex or call the church office.



### **Easter Candy**

We are in need of items to fill our Easter Eggs for the Easter egg hunt. We have plenty of Eggs from the previous years. We have a suggested list of candies due to peanut allergies. The list is as follows: Starburst, Skittles, Tootsie Rolls, Smarties, Airheads, Twizzlers, Lifesavers, Lifesaver Gummies, and Sweet Tarts. We need the candy to be brought to the church by Palm Sunday, March 25.

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### **Ministerial Alliance Basketball Tourney Fundraiser**

Once again the EMA is hosting a basketball tournament fundraiser. This year it will be on Saturday, April 7th. As the tournament will be held in three locations simultaneously this year, volunteers are needed from every church to help with the concession stands and to be score keepers and run the time clocks. I will have more details soon, but for now please considering reserving that Saturday afternoon on your calendar to help if you are able.

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### **Men's Breakfast**

No Men's Breakfast on March 17th. The next Men's Breakfast will be on Saturday, April 7th at 8:00 am at the Silver Dollar Restaurant.

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### **Apple Butter**

There are still a few jars of Apple Butter left in the coffee room. Jars are \$5 each, and proceeds go towards our new Church Improvement fund.



### **Eldon Food Pantry**

Our church is scheduled to work at the Eldon Food Pantry on the second Monday of every month from 9:00 am – 2:00 pm. You don't have to work the entire time, just come for an hour or two when you can. No sign-up sheet, just come to the food pantry ready to help!

### **Visitation**

Do you like talking with people? Are you a good listener? The Membership Care team is looking for a few people to help visit our shut-ins. This is easy and fun, and really means a lot to our members who are no longer able to join us for worship on Sunday mornings. We want them to know that we have not forgotten about them and that we miss them, so we are looking for a few volunteers who will make time to visit a few of our shut-ins just once every three months (only 4 times a year). If you have time to do this and are interested in more information, please sign up in the Narthex or call Denise Taylor at 280-8332.

### **Baby Grace**

Interested in helping with one of our church's outreach ministries in 2018? Please consider Baby Grace! Baby Grace meets on the 2nd Wednesday of every month at 6:30 pm. There are a number of ways to help, from making refreshments to putting together gift bags to being available to talk with moms. We are also accepting donations of baby clothes and hangers for baby or young children's clothes now. Call or text Erin Svoboda for more information or to sign up to help (573-378-8323).

### **Project Prom**

Project Prom is an annual alcohol and drug free overnight event for juniors and seniors after the school Prom. Games, activities, music and lots of food are provided for the students. The students also receive many great gifts for use at college or when they move out on their own, like small refrigerators, futons, gifts cards, TV's, iPads, etc.. The Project Prom committee is seeking monetary contributions, prize donations, and volunteers to help at this year's Project Prom, which will be on April 28th. Contact Carole Marriott (573-375-7757) or Stacey Dunham (573-216-8196) to donate, sign-up to help, or for more information.

### **Pastor Steve Has New Appointment Starting In July**

All, I write this with mixed emotions. I have received a new appointment to the Lamar UMC starting on July 1st.

I am humbled that our District Superintendent and our Bishop feel that I would be a good fit for this church. I am thankful for their confidence in me, and trust that God will continue to use me to help Christians grow in their faith, and help those who do not yet know God's grace and love come to a saving faith in Jesus Christ—wherever I am.

Tiffany and I have met with the members of their PPR Committee. They were very welcoming to us and excited about what God is doing in their church and community. I am excited about this new opportunity and to have a chance to work with them.

At the same time, I am sad to be leaving Eldon. You have all been so good to me and my family, and I have enjoyed getting to know each of you and serving God with you.

I would ask each of you to be in prayer over these next 4 months for several things. First, the Bishop and Superintendents are still praying about who will be your next pastor. Please join me in praying for wisdom for them during their selection process. They will be making the decision within the next few weeks. Second, please pray for our church. Pray that God sends the right pastor who will lead through the wisdom and power of the Holy Spirit. Pray also that our church will stay strong and united throughout this transition.

Lastly, I would ask you to pray for me and my family. Moving is seldom an easy process, and this is especially true when a family still has students in school and one spouse will have to give up their job with no certainty of a replacement. Please pray that a school counselor position will open up in Lamar or a town nearby, and that they would hire Tiffany for the position. Please also pray for Mary during this difficult time.

And, please pray for me. Yes, you can pray for shorter sermons and better jokes (miracles do happen). But, please also pray that God will give me strength to stay in His Spirit over these next 4 months.

Thank you for your prayers,  
*Pastor Steve*



# March 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 12:00 pm Brown Bag Lenten Lunch @ Church of the Nazarene	2	3 11:00 am Memorial Service for Harriet Hlavacek. Visitation to follow in Fellowship Hall
4 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 5:30 pm Potluck Supper 6:00 pm Contemporary Worship	5	6	7 1:00 pm UMW	8 12:00 pm Brown Bag Lenten Lunch @ Ninth Street Church	9	10
11 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	12 9:00 am Food Pantry	13	14 6:30 pm Baby Grace	15 12:00 pm Brown Bag Lenten Lunch @ First Baptist Church	16	17 9:00 am DAR meeting
18 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	19 2:00 pm Lee House	20	21 6:30 pm Church Council meeting	22 12:00 pm Brown Bag Lenten Lunch @ First Christian Church	23	24
25 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship/Youth Sunday/Palm Sunday	26	27	28	29	30 7 pm Living Last Supper	31