



Faithnews

Monthly Newsletter
of First United
Methodist Church

March 2023

See page 10 for details on
Holy Week!

Matthew 28 19 - 20

"Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nation baptizing them in the name of the father and the son and the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. I am with you always, to the very end of age."

This scripture gives us our marching orders so First United Methodist Church Elgin it's time we go to work. I'm praying for each and every one of us that God will continue to lead us.

With love pastor Waddle

Church Events

March 2

Men's Bible Study Starts

March 5

Communion Sunday
Congregational Lunch

March 6

Eva Jacobsen Circle

March 12

Daylight Savings Time begins

March 14 & 28

Senior Lunch

March 26

March Madness Youth Chili Dog
Fundraiser Lunch

March 30

Newsletter Folding Fellowship



JOYS & CONCERNS

Recent Concerns

America

FUMC Congregation

Elgin Community

Elgin Schools

Ukraine & Russia conflict

Charlie, Bubba's friend, suffering liver cancer

Cynthia Joseph, prayers for her family

Jacob, Karen Flanagan's friend, in hospital due to a head injury from riding a scooter, week 4 in ICU

Bill Martin, Leah Douglas's dad, in the hospital

Irma Welch

Becky, Audrey Puryear's youngest sister, moved to South Dakota for a job

Ann Franz, sister-in-law has stage 4 cancer

Boots McGuire, fell and is not home yet

Lou Arbuckle, admitted to Heart Hospital for pneumonia

John Brashar, negative for cancer

Joesel Family, lost their dog

Susan Bledsoe's cousin, making changes in her life

Mark Neidig, continued healing from brain surgery and starting chemo treatments

Adam Tabor, friend of Lisa Schultz, major accident at home and Compartment syndrome

Rachel Merrell, co-worker of Scott Herring, lost her dad from pancreatic cancer

Chris, Kim Wright's sister, that all 4 of her children become Christians

Pat Teague, back surgery postponed, starting physical therapy

Schwartz Family, Julius passed away on 1/17

Arbuckle Family, LaVerne passed away

Gerald Koontz, stage 4 pancreatic cancer

Kendra Foster, Tony & Karen Laurenzi's daughter, leukemia and bone marrow transplant

Brenda, Mike Welch's daughter, early Alzheimer's

Doris & Ricky Rodriguez, Ricky's brain cancer has returned

Joanna Hicks

Ongoing Concerns

All those serving overseas

Butch, Irma Welch's brother, cancer

Ray Worsham's mom, dementia

Emma Wilkinson (19 yrs), relationship with her dad, Scott

Patti Moke's Father, Alzheimer's

Weekly Offerings

1/29 \$2,486.41

2/5 \$5,723.13

2/12 \$9,817.51

2/19 \$3,211.74

2022 Year-To-Date Offerings

\$43,614.16

Wherever you may be on Sunday morning, you can ensure your offerings are at church by giving electronically. It's simple and secure! Visit our website:
www.fumcelgin.com

Meetings This Month

- Mar 12 - 12:15 pm - Trustees
- Mar 19 - 12:15 pm - Finance
- Mar 19 - 12:15 pm - Foundation



Don't forget to set your clocks forward 1 hour on **Saturday, March 11!**

UMCOR responds when war, conflict or natural disaster disrupts life.

#UMCORSunday

Sunday, March 19



United Methodist Committee on Relief

See page 7 for more information

www.umcsgiving.org/UMCOR

MEMORIALS

In Memory of
Ray & LaVerne Arbuckle
and Sheryl Green

Given by
Deborah Cartwright

In Memory of
LaVerne Arbuckle &
Jane Davis

Given by
Andy & Roxanne Wolf



Senior Adult Luncheon

Tuesdays
March 14 & 28

Noon in the Fellowship Hall



Eva Jacobsen Circle **Women's Bible Study**

Meets the 1st Monday each month for a potluck lunch in the Library at 1:00 pm. The next meeting is **Monday, March 6th**.

They are studying "Believing Jesus: A Journey Through the Book of Acts." by Lisa Harper.

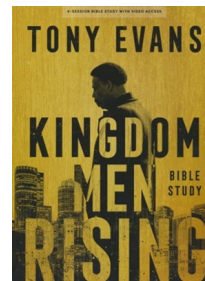
ALL WOMEN ARE WELCOME.



Sunday, March 5th **is Communion** **Sunday.**

Communion will be offered as the traditional bread and juice and an individual juice and wafer set. Every 1st Sunday is Communion Sunday.

All are welcome at the Lord's Table!



The **Men's Bible Study** will start on **Thursday, March 2nd** at 7 p.m. All men are invited to join Pastor Waddle every Thursday to study Kingdom Men Rising by Tony Evans.

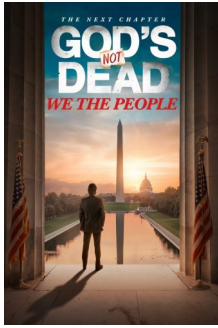
Nursing Home Visit

Pastor Waddle will be visiting the **Elgin Nursing & Rehab Center** every 1st Sunday at 1:30 p.m. to give a message and Communion.

All are welcome to join!



We will have our **congregational lunch** on **Sunday, March 5th** at 12 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Join us for some food and fellowship!



Join us for a family movie day featuring "God's Not Dead 4, We the People" on Sunday, April 30th!

Meet in the Fellowship Hall at 12:30 p.m. Popcorn will be available as well as a sack lunch of pulled pork sandwich and a drink for \$5 each.



ALTAR FLOWERS



Altar flowers are a great way to honor or memorialize loved ones.

If you would like to provide altar flowers on Sundays, please email or call the office. The Waddle Family will provide the flowers every 1st Sunday and the Worsham Family every 4th Sunday. February 19th & March 12th are still available!

1st Sundays—Waddle Family
4th Sundays—Worsham Family
March 12—Corrine Banach
March 19—Lorie Schroeder



Sunday School for grades K-5th & 6th-12th are meeting every Sunday at 10 a.m. **K-5th** are meeting in Room 301 (next to the Nursery) and grades **6th-12th** are meeting in the Youth Room upstairs.

We have an **adult Sunday School class** that meets every Sunday at 10 a.m. in the Overflow Room (back of the Fellowship Hall). They are studying The Case for Christ.

We have another **adult Sunday School class** led by Ray Worsham that meets every Sunday at 10 a.m. in the Library.



Pork Loin Fundraiser

Get your fully cooked, smoked pork loin on **Saturday, April 8th** from 3-5 p.m. at the Fellowship Hall parking lot.

\$25 for a half loin or \$45 for 2 halves

Pre-sale begins **Sunday, February 26th**!

Deadline to order is **Sunday, April 2nd**!

You may order by using the order form available at each entrance or by calling the church office.

Youth News

Calendar March-April 2023

March 5

Confirmation Class, 9 am
Youth Group, 12:30-2 pm

March 12-18

Spring Break!

March 26

Youth Led Worship Service, 11 am
March Madness Youth Chili Dog
Fundraiser Lunch, 12 pm

April 2

Confirmation Class, 9 am

April 9

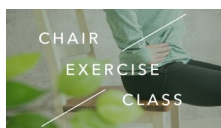
Easter Sunday

Easter Egg Hunt, 12 pm
*No Sunday School

April 20

Youth Led Worship Service, 11 am
Youth Group, 12:30-2 pm

**Every 4th Sunday is Youth Sunday at
the 11 a.m. Worship Service!**



We currently have two exercise classes that meet in the Fellowship Hall throughout the week. The

Chair Exercise Class meets every Monday & Wednesday at 1 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Contact Audrey Puryear at 512-658-6025 for more information.

The **Chair Yoga Class** meets every Tuesday & Thursday at 2 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. No sign-up required and newcomers are welcome! Text or call Molly at 646-221-8932 with any questions.

Baptism Lunch

Join us for lunch after the 11 a.m. Worship Service on **Sunday, March 12th**! This lunch is in honor of Mason Errington's Baptism.

March Madness Youth Chili Dog Fundraiser Lunch

The Youth Group will be having a **Chili Dog Fundraiser Lunch** on **Sunday, March 26th** at 12 p.m. Come grab a chili dog and support the Youth!



MPACT Youth Mission Trip

The **MPACT Youth Mission Trip** for youth in grades 7-12 is **June 10-16** in **Jacksboro, TX.**

Contact Julie Joesel at juliejoesel@yahoo.com for more information.

Mark your calendars for the MPACT Fundraiser Lunch and Cake Auction on **Sunday, April 16!** Please come out and show your support for our Youth!

Mark your calendars now for



Vacation Bible School

**July 10th —
July 14th
5—8:30 p.m.**

We need volunteers!

If you are interested in helping this year, please contact Audrey Puryear at apuryear@austin.rr.com or 512-658-6025

UMCOR Sunday

Sunday, March 19th

"So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God." — 2 Corinthians 5:20, NRSV

As followers of Jesus Christ, we are called to respond with extravagant grace. Through the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) we are able to make a difference in the lives of communities and individuals whose lives have been upset by storms, wars, fires, displacement and climate change. This offering understates UMCOR's "cost of doing business," allowing UMCOR to keep the promise that 100% of any gift to a specific UMCOR project will go towards that project and not administrative cost.

UMCOR equips local churches, annual conferences and nonprofit organizations to be in mission with their communities and to respond to those left most vulnerable during challenging times. Also, UMCOR doesn't just respond to the emergency for the short term. Working with local organizations, churches in the community and United Methodist volunteers, UMCOR builds relationships and helps communities rebuild, in the years following a disaster.

UMCOR responds to U.S. and international disasters, addresses diseases and poverty, assists refugees and immigrants, provides clean water and works to reduce hunger. UMCOR would be unable to do this work without your support. From training Conference Disaster Coordinators and Early Response Teams to keeping the office lights on, the UMCOR Sunday special

Please use the envelope in your bulletin on Sunday, March 19 to place your offering for UMCOR Sunday

offering equips the organization to respond quickly to disasters. Your sustaining gifts on UMCOR Sunday lay the foundation for UMCOR to share God's love with communities everywhere.

"Our faith in Jesus allows us to look beyond ourselves and help others. We connect with those who are in the midst of a disaster, and our response is to support them in any way possible."

**Esmeralda "Missy" Gordillo,
UMCOR Case Manager**

Dear Friends:

The Elgin Community Cupboard wishes to acknowledge your kind gift to the food pantry of 20 pounds of canned goods.

The contributions of generous people make it possible for the Cupboard to be open one morning each week and to give holiday meals. All contributions of food items are welcome and monetary donations make it possible to purchase food items from the Central Texas Food Bank and other local sources.

Thank you again for your generous contribution.

The Elgin Community Cupboard

Honor Someone Special by placing an Easter Lily in the Sanctuary on Easter Sunday or by making a donation to the church in their name.

- ✓ Fill out the form below to order your Lily or make a donation.
- ✓ Be sure to clearly print the name of the person(s) you would like to honor and indicate "in memory of" or "in honor of".
- ✓ Don't forget to include your name & phone number, as well as your payment.
- ✓ The price of the Lilies is \$15.⁰⁰ each, but you may make a donation for any amount. Please make checks payable to FUMC and write the word "Lily" in the memo line.

The flowers will come from Down Home Ranch.

We will only be taking pre-orders until April 3RD, so order yours today!

The Lilies will be in the Sanctuary on Easter Sunday, April 17th.

You may pick up your Lilies after Easter.

Lily or Donation Form

Your Name: _____ Best Daytime Phone # _____

I would like to order _____ Lilies at \$15 each.

And / Or

I would like to make a gift to the church in the amount of \$_____.

My check/cash is enclosed in the amount of \$_____

(Make checks payable to FUMC with the word "Lily" or "Gift" on the memo line)

Lily placed or Gift made in Honor of / Memory of _____
(circle one)

Lily placed or Gift made in Honor of / Memory of _____
(circle one)

Lily placed or Gift made in Honor of / Memory of _____
(circle one)

Discernment Team Update

At the Leadership Council meeting held on January 8, 2023 the formation of a Discernment Team was approved. The purpose of the Team is to research, review, discern, and most importantly perform steps set out by United Methodist governing body necessary to arrive at a point where a vote can be conducted to determine if disaffiliation is chosen or not. The Team was not formed to persuade, pressure, or convince members to vote one way or another. The team currently consists of 12 volunteer members based on expertise in certain areas such as legal, finance and theological doctrine specialties.

The Discernment Team continues working to gather the documents and information the Rio Texas Conference requires, if the First UMC of Elgin votes to disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. Some of the action items include: the original membership records are being archived in an electronic format. The Articles of Incorporation, the Directors and Officers of the corporation, the 501(c)3 status, and the church insurance coverage, are being reviewed. The impact leaving the UMC would have on FUMC, the Elgin community, and the Rio Texas Conference are being evaluated. Affiliating with other denominations are being researched. More information to follow.

The team meets every Thursday at 7 p.m. in the church office. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Waddle, Cody Douglas (SPRC Chair), or Chuck Wilkinson (Lay Leader).

Discernment Team Members

Jerry Abel
Cody & Leah Douglas
Keith Simpson
Bill & Judy Vogt

Paul Browder
Keith & Julie Joesel
Ron Sowell
Chuck & Jan Wilkinson

Electronic Giving



If you are still giving through Vanco, please switch over to using Faith Teams as we will be cancelling with Vanco soon. You will need to setup an account to be able to give. You can setup recurring giving using your credit/debit card or through your bank account. You can also choose to cover the processing fees. Please call the office at 512-285-4503 if you have any questions or need help getting set up.

Here are the ways you can give through Faith Teams:

1. Free Mobile App – You can download the free Faith Teams app, create an account and give directly from the app.
2. Text-to-give - You can text 833-466-2140 with Give \$0 (enter any dollar amount). You must have an account setup to use text-to-give or it will prompt you to create an account. If you use a credit or debit card, fees may apply.
3. On our website at fumcelgin.com – Under the Giving tab, click the link that says, "Give Now".



The Passion of Christ Lent 2023

Lent season is a time when we reflect on what God has done for us through Jesus. This year, we will travel through Jesus' journey to the Cross. Jesus' obedience to God gives us all the right to everlasting life.

I would love to see you and your family at each service as we walk through Lent and Holy Week together as a Church Family.

With Love, Pastor Waddle

Ash Wednesday

February 22, 2023

Imposition of Ashes

12 pm & 6:30 pm

First Sunday in Lent

February 26, 2023

*"When we think we know
more than God!"*

Matthew 4:1-11

Second Sunday in Lent

March 5, 2023

"Being Obedient"

Romans 5:12-19

Third Sunday in Lent

March 12, 2023

"A Suffering Faith"

Romans 5:1-11

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 19, 2023

"Light of Christ"

Ephesians 5:8-14

Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 26, 2023

"Christ in You!"

Romans 8:6-11

HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday, April 2, 2023

"Your Choice"

Luke 23:1-23

Maundy Thursday, April 6, 2023

"To Serve"

John 13:1-11

6:30 p.m.

Good Friday, April 7, 2023

"It Is Finished"

Luke 23:44-46

6:30 pm

EASTER SUNDAY

April 9, 2023

"Completion"

John 20:1-8

7:00 a.m. Sunrise Service
at FUMC

8:00 a.m. Easter Breakfast

11:00 a.m. Easter Service

*No Sunday School

He Is Risen



MARCH 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 First Sunday in Lent 8:45am Worship Service (S) 9:45am Breakfast (FH) 10:00am Sunday School (var.) 11:00am Traditional Worship Service (S) 12:15pm Leadership Council (S) 12:30pm Youth Group (FH)	27 10:00am Down Home Ranch (SH) 1:00pm Chair Exercise (FH) 5:30pm Girl Scout Troop 42001 (SH) 6:30pm Cub Scouts Den Meeting (FH) 7:30pm Troop 473 (FH)	28 10:00am Down Home Ranch (SH) 10:00am QiGong Exercise Class (FH) 12:00pm Senior Lunch (FH) 2:00pm Chair Yoga (OV) 4:00pm Class Meeting (L) 6:00pm Al-anon (L)	1 10:00am Down Home Ranch (SH) 1:00pm Chair Exercise (FH) 5:00pm Girl Scout Troop 42000 (SH) 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal (CR) 7:00pm Troop 472 (FH) 7:30pm Praise Band (S)	2 10:00am Down Home Ranch (SH) 2:00pm Chair Yoga (OV) 7:00pm Discernment Team Mtg. (O) 7:00pm Men's Bible Study (FH)	3 10:00am Down Home Ranch (SH) 2:00pm Cooking for Soup Kitchen (K)	4
5 Second Sunday in Lent 8:45am Worship Service (S) 9:00am Confirmation Class (O) 9:45am Breakfast (FH) 10:00am Sunday School (var.) 11:00am Traditional Worship Service (S) 12:00pm Lunch (FH) 3:00pm Girl Scout Troop 424 (SH)	6 10:00am Down Home Ranch (SH) 1:00pm Chair Exercise (FH) 1:00pm Eva Jacobsen Circle (L) 6:00pm Girl Scout Troop 42002 (SH) 6:30pm Cub Scout Committee Mtg. (FH) 7:30pm Troop 473 (FH)	7 10:00am Down Home Ranch (SH) 10:00am QiGong Exercise Class (FH) 2:00pm Chair Yoga (OV) 4:00pm Class Meeting (L) 6:00pm Al-anon (L)	8 10:00am Down Home Ranch (SH) 1:00pm Chair Exercise (FH) 6:30pm Girl Scout Troop 42000 (SH) 6:30pm Wednesday Bible Study (S & Facebook Live) 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal (CR) 7:00pm Troop 472 (FH) 7:30pm Praise Band (S)	9 10:00am Down Home Ranch (SH) 2:00pm Chair Yoga (OV) 7:00pm Discernment Team Mtg. (O) 7:00pm Men's Bible Study (FH)	10 10:00am Down Home Ranch (SH)	11
12 Third Sunday in Lent 8:45am Worship Service (S) 9:45am Breakfast (FH) 10:00am Sunday School (var.) 11:00am Traditional Worship Service (S) 12:00pm Lunch in Honor of Mason Errington's Baptism (FH) 12:15pm Trustees Committee Mtg. (O)	13 10:00am Down Home Ranch (SH) 1:00pm Chair Exercise (FH) 5:30pm Girl Scout Troop 42001 (SH) 7:30pm Troop 473 (FH)	14 10:00am Down Home Ranch (SH) 10:00am QiGong Exercise Class (FH) 12:00pm Senior Lunch (FH) 2:00pm Chair Yoga (OV) 4:00pm Class Meeting (L) 6:00pm Al-anon (L)	15 10:00am Down Home Ranch (SH) 1:00pm Chair Exercise (FH) 6:30pm Girl Scout Troop 42002 (SH) 6:30pm Wednesday Bible Study (S & Facebook Live) 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal (CR) 7:00pm Troop 472 (FH) 7:30pm Praise Band (S)	16 10:00am Down Home Ranch (SH) 2:00pm Chair Yoga (OV) 7:00pm Discernment Team Mtg. (O) 7:00pm Men's Bible Study (FH)	17 10:00am Down Home Ranch (SH)	18
19 Fourth Sunday in Lent UMCOR Special Offering 8:45am Worship Service (S) 9:45am Breakfast (FH) 10:00am Sunday School (var.) 11:00am Traditional Worship Service (S) 12:15pm Finance Committee Meeting (FH) 12:30pm Foundation Committee (O) 3:00pm Girl Scout Troop 424 (SH)	20 10:00am Down Home Ranch (SH) 1:00pm Chair Exercise (FH) 6:00pm Girl Scout Troop 42002 (SH) 6:30pm Cub Scouts Den Meeting (FH) 7:30pm Troop 473 (FH)	21 10:00am Down Home Ranch (SH) 10:00am QiGong Exercise Class (FH) 2:00pm Chair Yoga (OV) 4:00pm Class Meeting (L) 6:00pm Al-anon (L)	22 10:00am Down Home Ranch (SH) 1:00pm Chair Exercise (FH) 6:30pm Wednesday Bible Study (S & Facebook Live) 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal (CR) 7:00pm Troop 472 (FH) 7:30pm Praise Band (S)	23 10:00am Down Home Ranch (SH) 2:00pm Chair Yoga (OV) 6:30pm Girl Scout Troop 42000 (SH) 7:00pm Discernment Team Mtg. (O) 7:00pm Men's Bible Study (FH)	24 10:00am Down Home Ranch (SH)	25
26 Fifth Sunday in Lent 8:45am Worship Service (S) 9:45am Breakfast (FH) 10:00am Sunday School (var.) 11:00am Traditional Worship Service (S) 12:00pm March Madness Youth Chili Dog Fundraiser Lunch (FH)	27 10:00am Down Home Ranch (SH) 1:00pm Chair Exercise (FH) 5:30pm Girl Scout Troop 42001 (SH) 7:30pm Troop 473 (FH)	28 10:00am Down Home Ranch (SH) 10:00am QiGong Exercise Class (FH) 12:00pm Senior Lunch (FH) 2:00pm Chair Yoga (OV) 4:00pm Class Meeting (L) 6:00pm Al-anon (L)	29 10:00am Down Home Ranch (SH) 1:00pm Chair Exercise (FH) 6:30pm Wednesday Bible Study (S & Facebook Live) 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal (CR) 7:00pm Troop 472 (FH) 7:30pm Praise Band (S)	30 10:00am Down Home Ranch (SH) 2:00pm Chair Yoga (OV) 7:00pm Discernment Team Mtg. (O) 7:00pm Men's Bible Study (FH)	31 10:00am Down Home Ranch (SH)	1

MARCH Birthdays

March 3
Irma Welch
Judy Wilke-Vogt

March 5
Ash Bledsoe
Linn Bledsoe

March 7
Josh Simpson

March 14
Nila Stricker

March 16
Bill Vogt

March 18
William Caudill

March 21
Rex Sandifer

March 24
Nancy Hutchison

March 25
Carrie Worsham

March 26
Keith Simpson

March 28
Leslie Graves

Youth Superbowl Party!



***First United Methodist Church
216 West 3rd Street
Elgin, TX 78621***



March 2023 Faithnews

***Check out our website!
www.fumcelgin.com***

***Contact us at:
512.285.4503
fumcelgintx@gmail.com
on Facebook at FumcElginTx***

Lectionary Readings

March 5

Genesis 12:1-4
Psalm 121
Romans 5:12-19

March 12

Exodus 17:1-7
Psalm 95
Romans 5:1-11

March 19

1 Samuel 16:1-13
Psalm 23
Ephesians 5:8-14

March 26

Ezekiel 37:1-14
Psalm 130
Romans 8:6-11

Ongoing Weekly Opportunities

Sunday:

8:45 am ~ Worship Service
10:00 ~ Sunday School for all ages
11:00 ~ Traditional Worship Service

Monday:

1:00 pm ~ Chair Exercise

Tuesday:

2:00 pm ~ Chair Yoga
4:00 ~ Class Meeting

Wednesday:

1:00 pm ~ Chair Exercise
6:30 ~ Wednesday Bible Study
(Sanctuary & Facebook)
7:00 ~ Choir Rehearsal
7:30 ~ Praise Band Rehearsal

Thursday:

2:00 pm ~ Chair Yoga

Staff

Pastor

Rev. Robert Waddle

Office Administrator

Melissa Ramsay

Director of Christian Education & Youth

Elisa Waddle

Finance Manager

Gloria Hamilton

Choir Director

Tyler Hughes

Accompanist

John Gibson

Nursery Director (position available)

Facility Manager

Ronnie Hardi

MISSION STATEMENT

When we reach out to help others, we become his hands. When we seek others, we become his feet. By showing God's Agape LOVE, lives can be changed; and only God's Agape LOVE can change lives.