



First United Methodist Church - Elgin, Texas

# "CHURCH CONNECT"

Stay connected weekly to church happenings and information



## Your weekly news & updates

March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023

### Church Services



This **Sunday, March 19<sup>th</sup>** is our in-person Worship Services at 8:45 & 11 a.m.

The 11 a.m. service will go live on our Facebook page and our website. You can now watch our 11 a.m. Worship Service and Wednesday Bible Study right on our website at **fumcelgin.com** and click the "Live Stream" menu option!

If you watch any of our services on Facebook, please like, comment, or share to be counted as an engagement. This is how we are reporting our online attendance for each service.

Check our website, Facebook page and your email for more updates!

Visit our YouTube  
channel

Visit our  
website

Visit our  
Facebook page

### Listening Session #2

**We have our next listening session scheduled with Rev. Dr. Marcus Freeman on Monday, March 27<sup>th</sup> at 5 p.m. in the Sanctuary.** This will be the second of three listening sessions. All are welcome to attend this meeting.

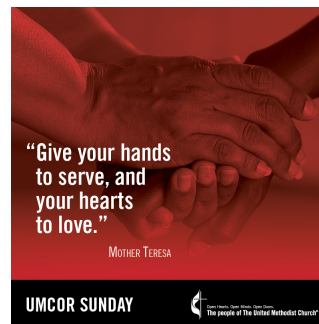
"The local church shall hold a minimum of three listening sessions, advertised to and open to the full professing membership, at least one of which is also advertised and open to those beyond professing membership, who participate in the ministries of the church/ministry setting. These sessions shall solicit the input of these constituents and shall report their findings in the assessment referenced above. The sessions shall be facilitated by the district superintendent or their designee. The sessions shall include a discussion of the theological and missional issues referenced above as well as the practical considerations set forth above."

Referenced from [Rio+Texas+Discerning+Pathways+Updated+9-](#)

## UMCOR Sunday

We will have a special offering for **UMCOR** (The United Methodist Committee on Relief) this **Sunday, March 19<sup>th</sup>**. You may use the envelope in your bulletin to place your offering.

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.



## Financial Support

Thank you, Church for your response to our financial needs. Please continue to use online giving or come by Sunday worship with your tithes and offerings.

You can give online at our website ([fumcelgin.com/online-giving/](http://fumcelgin.com/online-giving/)) or mail a check to the office.

### Weekly Offerings

<u>February</u>	<u>March</u>
2/5 \$5,723.13	3/5 \$5,556.23
2/12 \$9,817.51	3/12 \$11,795.66
2/19 \$3,211.74	
2/26 \$3,578.41	

2023 Year-To-Date Offerings  
\$64,544.46

## Our Joys and Concerns

### America

**FUMC Congregation**

**Elgin Community**

**Elgin Schools**

**Ukraine & Russia conflict**

**Leslie Graves**, symptoms of Parkinson's

**Robert**, John Sharp's brother, not well

**Darwin & Amanda Williams' daughter got married**

**Joe Martin**

Sonia Browder lifted a gentleman for prayers in his marriage

**Confirmation Class**

**Bre'Ana Stafford**, wisdom teeth removal

**Pastor Waddle**

**Carla Gilmore**, in hospital

**Joan Rose** is back home

**Steve Hall's brother**, cancer, in hospital recovering from surgery

**Jerry Hodon**, Steve Hall's boss' father, cancer

**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**

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

**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

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

**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**

All prayer petitions will be put on a 4 week term in order to keep the list current. You are invited to present those names again as necessary. If you have any prayers you would like to add, please call or email the office.

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## **Discernment Team Update**

At the last 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 7:30 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

Paul Browder  
Cody & Leah Douglas  
Keith & Julie Joesel  
Keith Simpson  
Ron Sowell  
Bill & Judy Vogt  
Chuck & Jan Wilkinson

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## Faith Walk

### Build & Grow your relationship with God. Stay connected!

Dwell on The Word. Start your day by reading His Word. There are many Bible apps available with plans to read through the Bible in a year. If that sounds a bit much for you, start by reading one Old Testament chapter and one New Testament chapter each day – In 2 years and 6 months, you will have read through the Old Testament and the New Testament about 2.5 times. Open your Bible – your guidebook for living.

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### Daily Prayer

Pastor Waddle would like to encourage you to pray everyday at **NOON**. Pray for America, FUMC Elgin, and anything else that's on your heart.

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## Lent 2023

### The Passion of Christ

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

#### 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"*

#### 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

Good Friday, April 7, 2023

Luke 23:1-23

Maundy Thursday, April 6, 2023

"To Serve"

John 13:1-11

6:30 p.m.

A Tenebrae Service

"It Is Finished"

Luke 23:44-46

6:30 pm



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### Committee Meetings

**Finance Committee** will meet this **Sunday, March 19<sup>th</sup>** at 12:15 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

**FUMC Foundation Committee** will meet this **Sunday, March 19<sup>th</sup>** at 12:15 p.m. in the church office.

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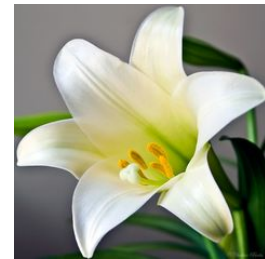
### Sunday Offering Counters

The Finance Committee is looking for those that would be able to help **count the offerings** after church on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday each month. Please contact the church office if you are interested.

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### Easter Lilies

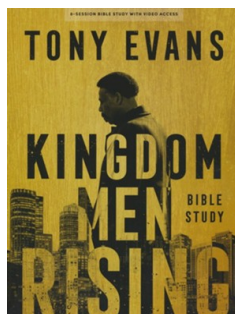
**Honor Someone Special by placing an Easter Lily in the Sanctuary on Easter Sunday or by making a donation to the church in their name.**



Order forms are available at entrance to the Sanctuary or you can find one in the March newsletter. The price of the lilies is \$15.<sup>00</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup>**, so order yours today! The Lilies will be in the Sanctuary on Easter Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup>. You may pick up your Lilies after the 11 a.m. Easter Service.

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### Men's Bible Study

**Men's Bible Study** is meeting every **Thursday** at 7 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall! All men are invited to join Pastor Waddle to study Kingdom Men Rising by Tony Evans. Please let the office know if you have other suggestions for days/times to meet.

If you would like to join this Men's study, please let the office know by email (fumcelgintx@gmail.com) or phone (512-285-



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## Vacation Bible School

Mark your calendars now for Vacation Bible School!

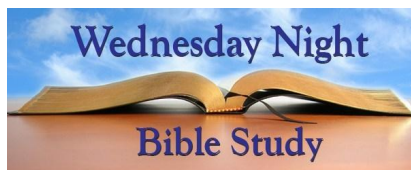
**July 10<sup>th</sup>—July 14<sup>th</sup>, 5:30—8:30 p.m.!**

**We need volunteers!**

The next VBS meeting is on **Sunday, March 26<sup>th</sup>** after the Youth lunch in the Library. We need volunteers to make VBS happen, so come and find out how you can help!

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

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## Wednesday Bible Study

Join Pastor Waddle for **Wednesday Bible Study** every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary or on Facebook Live. This study will be on the Book of Romans. There will be a question-and-answer time after the live stream has ended.

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## Youth

**Youth Group** is meeting every 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays at 12:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Lunch will be provided!



### 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

### April 16

MPACT Lunch & Cake Auction, 12 pm

### April 23

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

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



## March Madness Youth Chili Dog Fundraiser Lunch

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

## Pork Loin Fundraiser

Get your fully cooked, smoked pork loin on **Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup>** from 3-5 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall parking lot on Ave A.



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

Deadline to order is **Sunday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>**.

Order forms can be found at each entrance to the Sanctuary, in the Fellowship Hall, and in the office.



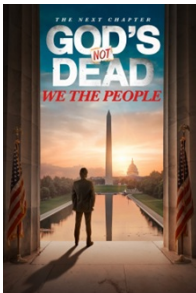
## MPACT Youth Mission Trip

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

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

Please contact Julie Joesel at [juliejoesel@yahoo.com](mailto:juliejoesel@yahoo.com) for more information.

To learn more about MPACT Missions visit their website at [mpactmissions.com](http://mpactmissions.com).



## Fellowship Movie Day

Join us for a family movie day featuring **“God’s Not Dead 4, We the People”** on **Sunday, April 30<sup>th</sup>** at 12:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall! Popcorn will be available as well as a sack lunch of a pulled pork sandwich and 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 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday and the Worsham Family every 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday. April 16<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> are still available!

1<sup>st</sup> Sundays—Waddle Family  
4<sup>th</sup> Sundays—Worsham Family  
March 19— Lorie Schroeder

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## Sunday School

Sunday School for all ages and grades are meeting every Sunday at 10 a.m.

Age 3 - Kinder - Preschool Room (next to the nursery)

1<sup>st</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grades - 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.

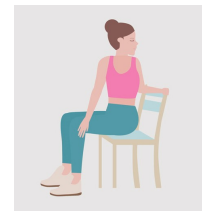
We have another adult Sunday School class led by Ray Worsham that meets every Sunday at 10 a.m. in the Library.

\*We have a new Sunday School class called "The Bible Tells Me So" led by Audrey Puryear. They will meet every Sunday in March at 9:30 a.m. in the blue room (the room across from the choir room). Please contact Audrey at [apuryear@austin.rr.com](mailto:apuryear@austin.rr.com) for more information.

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## Exercise Classes

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.

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## FUMC Choir

The **FUMC Choir** meets **every Wednesday at 7 p.m.** in the Choir Room for rehearsals. If you are interested in joining the Choir, please contact Tyler Hughes at [tylerjustinhughes@yahoo.com](mailto:tylerjustinhughes@yahoo.com) or just join them in the Choir Loft.

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## 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 and then use [this link](#) to setup your giving. You can setup recurring giving using your credit/debit card or through your bank account. You can also choose to cover the processing fees. (See bottom right picture).



Currently, there are four ways to 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. Giving Form – You can use the online giving form [here](#) using your credit or debit card. Fees may apply.
4. On our website at [fumcelgin.com](http://fumcelgin.com) – Under the Giving tab, click the link that says, "Give Now".



### **Birthdays**

Happy Birthday to everyone with a birthday March 19<sup>th</sup> - March 25<sup>th</sup>!

**Rex Sandifer**  
**Nancy Hutchison**  
**Carrie Worsham**

### **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.**



*United Methodists vow to participate through their prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness.*

Visit our Website

Visit our Facebook page

First United Methodist Church | 216 W. 3rd St., Elgin TX | 512-285-4503  
[fumcelgintx@gmail.com](mailto:fumcelgintx@gmail.com) | [fumcelgin.com](http://fumcelgin.com)

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