

May 2023

Faithnews

Monthly Newsletter of First United Methodist Church

Romans 11:33-36

People enjoy feeling in control of their own schedule, and it can be frustrating when things don't go according to plan. Yet whoever truly desires to walk in obedience to God must cooperate with His time frame.

Consider how you pray about situations in your life. Without realizing it, you may be demanding that the Lord follow the schedule you've constructed based on your very limited human wisdom. Yet if we believe God is who He says He is, how can surrendering to His way not be to our benefit?

Unlike us, the Lord has complete knowledge about our world and the details of every individual life—past, present, and future. He understands every motive, whereas we can't accurately judge even our own intentions. God also acts out of love for His people, and He's sufficient to meet every need at just the right time.

Submitting to God's timetable requires faith and courage. Believe in the goodness of His heart and His plans, and determine to wait until He moves you forward. Then, as you follow His schedule, you will experience the joy of seeing a display of His great glory.

May is known as a time when flowers are blooming. Nothing they do special, it just happens in God's timing. If we can learn from the flowers to trust God and let go of our controlling nature, then we can blossom and be all God calls us to be with less worry, more praise, more prayer time and finally more faith. The greatest of all, more Love.

With love Pastor Waddle

P.S We all are on a journey together to get to the Kingdom of God. Let's always pray for each other!!!!

Church Events

May 1

Eva Jacobsen Circle

May 4

National Day of Prayer

May 6

Church History Tours

May 7

Communion & Confirmation
Sunday
Congregational Lunch

May 9 & 23

Senior Adult Lunch

May 14

Mother's Day

May 21

VBS Meeting

May 25

Newsletter Folding Fellowship

May 29

Church Office Closed
Memorial Day

JOYS & CONCERNS

Our Recent Concerns

America
FUMC Congregation
Elgin Community
Elgin Schools
Ukraine & Russia conflict
Bill Martin, Leah's dad, admitted to rehab
Jenna Hill and her daughter, Jennifer, Jenna has Alzheimer's
Keith Simpson, operation on both hands
Prayers for our church during the discernment process
Jimmie Lee Christensen, recovering at home from heart valve replacement
Pastor Waddle's mother, early dementia
Fran Smith, shingles
Pastor Waddle's family, laid his nephew to rest
Earl Huger, father-in-law having chemotherapy, wife having knee problems
Ezekiel's dad, in rehab
Terri, Lorie Schroeder's friend, her daughter passed away of cancer
Charlie & his wife, Bubba's friend, prayers for comfort
Mark Neidig, finished treatment, continued prayers for recovery
Fran Sharp, cracked a rib
Sheldon Johnson, having tests
Ann Franz's sister-in-law, Leanne Stewart has passed away
Dr. Celina Estrada Thomas, Superintendent of Hutto ISD
Charlie Rodriguez, Principal of Hutto Middle School
Misty Davis, AP of Hutto Middle School
Kristi Wellborne, AP of Hutto Middle School
Bre'Ana Stafford, AP of Hutto Middle School
Teresa & Jacob Grace, co-workers of Elisa Waddle
Christian (student at Hutto) and his mom
Leslie Graves, symptoms of Parkinson's
Irma Welch
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

April Offerings

4/2	\$4,850.41
4/9	\$7,597.51
4/16	\$4,786.41
4/23	\$2,805.74

2023 Year-To-Date Offerings

\$91,691.68

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

- May 21 - 12:15 - Finance
- May 21 - 12:15 - VBS
- May 21 - 12:15 - Trustees
- May 22 - 4:00 - Nurture



Sunday, May 7th 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!

Welcome
to our
New Members

Please welcome
new members to
FUMC Elgin

Courtney Errington
Corinne Banach
Kevin Wilkinson
George F. Ramsay, Jr.



We will have our
congregational lunch on
Sunday, May 7th at
12 p.m. in the Fellowship
Hall.

Join us for some food and fellowship!



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, May 1st**.

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

ALL WOMEN ARE WELCOME.

Senior Adult Luncheon

Tuesdays

May 9 & May 23

12:00 noon ~ Fellowship Hall



The Church Office
will be closed on
Monday, May 29, 2023
In observance of
Memorial Day

On Tuesday, May 2nd at 7 p.m.
in the Sanctuary, Rev. Jason
Teague from the Burnet
Methodist Church will visit
FUMCE to present information
on the Global Methodist
Church.

Thursday, May 4th

National * DAY OF *** PRAYER**

ONE NATION



UNDER GOD

*The Sanctuary will be open from
10 a.m.-1 p.m. & 6-7:30 p.m.*



Elgin Artwalk & Church Tours

FUMC will be participating in
the **church tours on Saturday,
May 6th** from 1-4 p.m. during the
Explore Elgin Arts & Culture Day.
**We need at least two volunteers
who know the history of the
church to be available during
the tours.** Please contact the office
if you would like to help.

There will also be public art tours,
walking tours, and art shows
throughout Elgin.



Scholarships

The First United Methodist Foundation of Elgin has sent out scholarship applications to all qualifying high school graduates and college students. The deadline to submit your application is **Monday, May 15th, 2023.**

Scholarship recipients will be presented at the 11 a.m. Worship Service on **Sunday, June 4th.**

Please contact the office for more information at 512-285-4503 or fumcelgintx@gmail.com

Youth News

Calendar May 2023

May 7

Confirmation Sunday, 11 am

May 28

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!



Mark your calendars now for Vacation Bible School

**July 10th — July 14th
5:30—8:30 p.m.**

There will be a VBS meeting on **Sunday, May 21st** at 2:15 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We need volunteers to make VBS happen, so come and find out how you can help!

We need volunteers and donations!

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



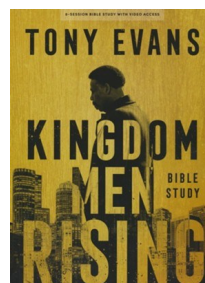
Sunday School for grades K-5th & 6th-12th are meeting every Sunday at 10 a.m.

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.

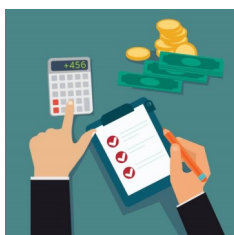


All men are invited to join Pastor Waddle every Thursday at 7 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall to study Kingdom Men Rising by Tony Evans.

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!



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



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.

Confirmation Sunday

Join us on **Sunday, May 7th** at the 11 a.m. Worship Service as we recognize and celebrate our new confirmands!



Miranda Herring
Sarah Herring
Jack Ramsay
Leila James
Omari Middleton
Malia Middleton

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.

1st Sundays—Waddle Family
4th Sundays—Worsham Family



Together we will succeed, apart we can't.

May 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 9:45am Breakfast (FH) 10:00am Sunday School (var.) 11:00am Traditional Worship Service (S) 12:15pm Leadership Council (S) 12:30pm Fellowship Movie (FH)	1 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 -OV) 7:30pm Troop 473 (FH)	2 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) 7:00pm Global Methodist Church Presentation (S)	3 10:00am Down Home Ranch (SH) 1:00pm Chair Exercise (FH) 5:00pm Girl Scout Troop 6:30pm Girl Scout Troop 42001 (SH) 6:30pm Wednesday Bible Study (S & Facebook Live) 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal (CR) 7:00pm Troop 472 (FH) 7:30pm Praise Band (S)	4 10:00am Down Home Ranch (SH) 10:00am National Day of Prayer (S) 2:00pm Chair Yoga (OV) 6:00pm National Day of Prayer (S) 7:00pm Men's Bible Study (FH)	5 10:00am Down Home Ranch (SH) 2:00pm Cooking for Soup Kitchen (K)	6 1:00pm Church Tours (S)
7 Confirmation Sunday (S) 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)	8 10:00am Down Home Ranch (SH) 1:00pm Chair Exercise (FH) 6:30pm Cub Scouts Den Meeting (FH) 7:30pm Troop 473 (FH)	9 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)	10 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)	11 10:00am Down Home Ranch (SH) 2:00pm Chair Yoga (OV) 7:00pm Men's Bible Study (FH)	12 10:00am Down Home Ranch (SH)	13
14 8:45am Worship Service (S) 9:45am Breakfast (FH) 10:00am Sunday School (var.) 11:00am Traditional Worship Service (S) 3:00pm Cub Scouts Graduation (FH)	15 10:00am Down Home Ranch (SH) 1:00pm Chair Exercise (FH) 6:30pm Girl Scout Troop 42002 (SH) 7:30pm Troop 473 (FH)	16 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)	17 10:00am Down Home Ranch (SH) 1:00pm Chair Exercise (FH) 5:30pm Girl Scout Troop 42001 (SH) 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)	18 10:00am Down Home Ranch (SH) 2:00pm Chair Yoga (OV) 7:00pm Men's Bible Study (FH)	19 10:00am Down Home Ranch (SH)	20
21 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) 12:15pm Trustees Committee Mtg. (O) 12:15pm VBS Meeting (FH) 3:00pm Girl Scout Troop 424 (SH)	22 10:00am Down Home Ranch (SH) 1:00pm Chair Exercise (FH) 4:00pm Nurture Committee Meeting (L) 7:30pm Troop 473 (FH)	23 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)	24 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)	25 10:00am Down Home Ranch (SH) 2:00pm Chair Yoga (OV) 6:30pm Girl Scout Troop 42000 (SH) 7:00pm Men's Bible Study (FH)	26 10:00am Down Home Ranch (SH)	27
28 8:45am Worship Service (S) 9:45am Breakfast (FH) 10:00am Sunday School (var.) 11:00am Traditional Worship Service (S) 12:30pm Youth Group (FH)	29 10:00am Down Home Ranch (SH) 1:00pm Chair Exercise (FH) 7:30pm Troop 473 (FH)	30 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)	31 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)	1 10:00am Down Home Ranch (SH) 2:00pm Chair Yoga (OV) 7:00pm Men's Bible Study (FH)	2 10:00am Down Home Ranch (SH) 2:00pm Cooking for Soup Kitchen (K)	3



MAY

Birthdays

May 1

Lauren Haliburton

May 7

Avis Cureton

May 10

Brady Douglas
Candra Huston
Ehrikka Hodge Messer

May 17

Larry Nance
Audrey Puryear

May 20

Muffet Harden

May 23

Melissa Swenson

May 25

Sarah Herring

May 28

Marilyn Cornelius

May 30

Julie Joesel
Glynda Schroeder

Discernment Team Update

On Wednesday, April 12th, the UMC Rio Texas Conference Director of Creating/Vitalizing Congregations & Developing Leaders, Karen Horan facilitated our required third Listening Session. A total of 55 people attended. The following people spoke: Fran Smith, Leah Douglas, Jan Wilkinson, and Karen Horan. A question-and-answer session followed. The video of this session #3 is posted on the FUMC-Elgin website.

A non-binding Opinion Poll was conducted on Sunday, April 23rd, after each worship service. The results were 68% favored leaving the UMC; 31% favored staying UMC; 1% a write in to pause and 2 left blank.

The Discernment 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).

The Leadership Council approved the formation of the Discernment Team in January. The Team is charged 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.

Discernment Team Members

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

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

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



Check out our website!
www.fumcelgin.com

Contact us at:
512.285.4503
fumcelgintx@gmail.com

Lectionary Readings

May 7

Acts 7:55-60
Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16
John 14:1-14

May 14

Acts 17:22-31
Psalm 66:8-20
John 14:15-21

May 21

Acts 1:6-14
Psalm 68:1-10
1 Peter 5:6-11

May 28

Acts 2:1-21
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
John 7:37-39

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 Class
4:00 ~ Class Meeting

Wednesday:

1:00 pm ~ Chair Exercise
6:30 ~ Wednesday Bible Study
(Sanctuary & Facebook Live)

Thursday:

2:00 pm ~ Chair Yoga Class
7:00 ~ Men's Bible Study

Staff

Pastor

Rev. Robert Waddle

Office Administrator

Melissa Ramsay

Director of Christian Education & Youth

Elisa Waddle

Finance Manager

Gloria Hamilton

Choir Director (position open)

Accompanist

John Gibson

Nursery Director (position open)

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.