

EPWORTH UMC

December 20, 2009
Weekly Edition

Celebrations

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CULTIVATE

4th Sunday of Advent



Sweet Treats Sunday TODAY

Come share Christmas fellowship today between services and enjoy some delicious holiday cookies, pastries, cakes, etc. Coffee and juice will also be provided.

Christmas Caroling

Everyone is invited to join in TODAY, for an afternoon of Christmas Caroling to some of our shut-ins who might not be able to be with us on Sundays. This is a great opportunity to give your time and your spirit during this Advent season. We'll meet at Church in the Upper Conference Room at 1:00pm, then head out to visit some of our family and friends in their homes or care facilities.

Live Nativity Right Here Today!

Dinner and Activities Available!
4:00 - 7:00pm

Experience the magic of Jesus' birth on Christmas Eve here today. The carport entrance has been transformed into a Bethlehem stable for our annual Live Nativity. You are invited to join a cast of Christmas characters-including real farm animals-for the Christmas story. This is free fun for all! Join us also for a Free-Will Spaghetti Dinner.



Men, Song & Fellowship

If you have a bucket to carry a tune, we will provide the tunes! Come and join us today, at 9:45 a.m. and have some fun. We will be continuing the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month, - we'll gather around the Piano in the Sanctuary.

Blood Pressure Checks Today

Come and get your blood pressure checked today, between services in the Community Room. It doesn't take long and no appointment is necessary!

Our vision is to be a church where people's lives reflect God's passionate love in all ways ... always!

Our mission is to cultivate passionate relationships with God, each other, and our neighbors to nourish, grow and replant the seeds of God's love.

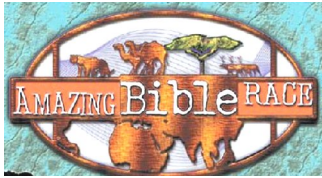
Sermon Seeds Luke 2:48-52

⁴⁸When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you." ⁴⁹"Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰But they did not understand what he was saying to them. ⁵¹Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart. ⁵²And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.

Don't forget to sign up online for the Sermon Seeds E-Blast by going to www.epworthumcelgin.org and clicking on the Community link, or follow [epworthumcelgin](https://twitter.com/epworthumcelgin) on Twitter and Facebook.

Epworth Mosaic Youth Group

Mosaic youth group is open to Youth in 7th Grade and older plus their friends. Invite your friends to any of the events and earn a prize.



Today, December 20th - Christmas Caroling at 1pm

December 27th - Enjoy the weekend with your family...



KWWWJ (Kids Who Walk With Jesus)

Last Sunday, December 13, we sang Happy Birthday Jesus for the second Sunday. Our Epworth kids know that our Savior has a birthday coming up on Christmas!!! We made a Nativity Scene with Stickers to take home and each child's was uniquely beautiful!!

We will soon be displaying our latest pictures we have taken of our Kids Who Walk With Jesus. Keep an eye out for our Poster !!!

"Let's look up to Heaven and tell God we have received His Gift!" (Everthing I need...from Jesus")

W/ God 1st and giggles 2nd, *Childcare Coordinator*

Temporary Custodians Needed



Please help us keep our Church Tidy while our Custodian, takes a well earned rest. He performs a multitude of tasks each week and month. During his absence we are looking for people to volunteer as temporary custodians, as his tasks still need to be done until he returns on Monday, January 11th. The hours are flexible and the physical exercise is rewarding. Remember, "*Many hands make light work!*" If interested, please contact the Church Office at 847-931-5400.

Wednesday Evening Dinner / C.H.O.W. (Celebrate Hump Day Our Way)

Come and warm yourself up with our delicious Soups this Wednesday, December 23rd. This free-will offering dinner is served each Wednesday from 5:30 to 6:45pm.

You can eat whenever it's convenient for you. Come and enjoy this special fellowship opportunity! Questions, contact the Church Office at 847-931-5400.



A Big Thank You to:

- Everyone who kindly donated to the excavating costs for the removal of the Olwin house and barn - **your generosity has been incredible!** However, we still need help! We've almost reached our target... If you haven't donated yet, please help us achieve this goal by making a donation today!
- To everyone who placed Manna orders this past Sunday. Over \$300 was raised for Epworth! If you need a last minute gift card today, contact the Church Office we have some extras to help you complete your shopping!



Global Warming

The poorest and weakest will suffer first from climate change. (P.S. it isn't about weather, one-two degrees change we can handle, more may not be do-able). We have plenty to share and live together as God's people at Christmas. Have a great holy holiday season!

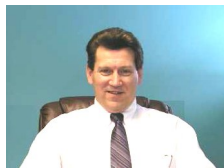
Epworth UMC

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Pastor David Newhouse

His Office Hours are:

Mon/Tue/Wed/Fri

8:30 – 1:00

Day Off – Thursday

Cell Phone: 847-263-8621

Email: NAD1126@JUNO.COM



Assistant Pastor
Nancy Vidad

Her Office

Hours are:

Tue/Thur/Fri

10:00 - 2:00pm

Cell Phone: 847-922-1203

Email: navidad1225@yahoo.com

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.epworthumcelgin.org

Welcome Guests / First Time Attendees

Welcome Packets are available for all visitors. The green packets are located on the Worship Center Table in the Sanctuary (as you enter/exit the Sanctuary). Please take the information home to read and fill out. Response cards can be returned in the offering basket on Sundays, or mailed directly to the church office. There is also a variety of materials, about UMC beliefs and activities and events at Epworth UMC, available at the information kiosk in the Tower entrance. And please feel free to ask the Greeters and Ushers for any additional information you may require.

Fellowship Time

Please enjoy Christian hospitality in the Community Room, directly behind the Sanctuary, with service starting between services. Have a cup of

coffee, juice and/or a snack.

Sunday Nursery

Parents are welcome to take their children, Kindergarten and younger, to the Nursery Care Room. An Infant Soothing Room/Nursing Room for parents is adjacent to the nursery. A closed-circuit television enables your Worship experience to be uninterrupted. Greeters and Ushers are always glad to assist in locating these rooms and the professional staffing. The Childcare spaces are available each Sunday morning from 8:15 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Qualified and experienced adults and support staff are eager to meet you and your special little ones!

Children's Worship Resources

Children are always welcome in Worship. Coloring resources and age appropriate coloring

bulletins as well as other activity supplies may be found on the back bookcase in the Sanctuary or may be secured from the Ushers.

Hearing Devices

Hearing devices are available from the ushers. If anyone wishes to purchase their own device to go with our current system, submit your request to the ushers or the church office.

Safety First

As a loving congregation, we must support legal guardians and parents in limiting all unsupervised movement by children and/or youth in the church facilities. Our goal is always to provide safe, secure, loving, and responsible accommodations and spaces for all. Together we must be alert to situations that present risk and help to ensure that supervision and security are uncompromised.

This Week's Calendar At A Glance:

Sunday, December 20

7:00am - Missions Team Meeting

8:30am - Traditional Worship

9:45am - Sweet Treats Sunday / Blood Pressure Checks

9:45am - Sunday School for all / Men, Song & Fellowship, M5

11:00am - Praise Worship

1:00pm - Christmas Caroling

4:00pm - 7:00pm - Live Nativity, Activities & Dinner

Monday, December 21

7:00pm - Boy Scout Troop #128 Meeting

Tuesday, December 22

6:00am - Walking Bible Study at The Centre in Elgin

6:30pm - Praise Band Rehearsal

7:00pm - Education Team Meeting, Upper Conf. Room

Wednesday, December 23

6:00am - Bible Study at Panera Bread, South Elgin

5:30pm - Evening Dinners at Epworth / Alleluia Choir Rehearsal

6:00pm - 6:30pm - Youth Choir Rehearsal

6:30pm - Christmas Tree Choir Rehearsal

6:30pm -7:30pm - Discovery Club on Balcony

7:00pm - Adult Choir

Thursday, December 24

Christmas Eve Worship Services at 4:00pm, 7:00pm & 11:00pm

5:30pm - Spanish Language Service

Friday, December 25

Christmas Day Worship Service at 11:00am

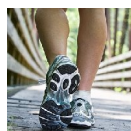
Sunday, December 27

8:30am - Traditional Worship

9:45am - Sunday School for all

11:00am - Praise Worship

Tracking God ... Weekly Bible Study



Bring your walking shoes and join with others at The Centre's track down town Elgin on Tuesdays at 6am as we explore the coming week's scriptures or bring a Bible and join the group Wednesday, 6:00 a.m. at Panera Bread in South Elgin, on Randall Road, as we continue the discussion about Genesis.