

Greetings and Announcements		
Prelude	“He is Born”	C. Young
The Call to Worship		
<p>Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you, and nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.</p> <p><i>Then all will see and be radiant; all hearts shall thrill and rejoice. People will come from distant lands bringing gifts of gold and frankincense, proclaiming the praise of the Lord!</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">from Isaiah 60</p>		
Hymn	“There’s a Song in the Air”	UMH 249
Opening Prayer		
<p><i>Creator of light, dispeller of darkness, shine your light in our hearts. We rejoice in the brightness of the dawn and with it the assurance of life. Show us every new day how to reflect your light and love wherever we are through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.</i></p>		
Scripture Reading	Ephesians 3:1-12	

Choral Anthem	“Come to the Table”	J. Martin
Prayer		
Offertory	“Heal Us, Emmanuel, Hear Our Prayer”	J. Cruger
Doxology		
		UMH 94
The Gospel		
		Matthew 2:1-12
Response	This is the good news of Jesus Christ. <i>Thanks be to God!</i>	
Message	“The Hand That Rocks the Cradle”	R. Carlson
The Sacrament of Holy Communion		
		See Insert
Hymn	“We Would See Jesus”	UMH 256
Sending Forth		
Postlude	“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”	K. Thomerson

Note: Some worshipers leave after the benediction (sending forth). Others observe a local tradition of remaining seated through the playing of the postlude. Please feel free to do as you wish. Everyone is invited to have coffee and light refreshments in the fellowship hall immediately after the service.

Welcome Guests and Visitors

We are delighted you have chosen to worship here today. To know more about First United Methodist Church, its ministries, activities and growth opportunities, please pick up a Newsletter at the Welcome Center in the lobby. Thank you!

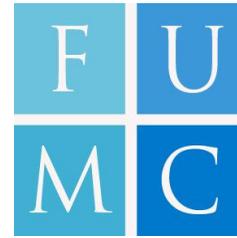
Nursery Available

Parents are encouraged to bring children ages 6 weeks to 3 years old to the nursery before or during the worship service. The nursery is located through the hallway door to the left of the lobby, across from Fellowship Hall, and is the first door on the right once you round the curve of the hallway. Ushers can assist you with directions as well.

Church Staff

Pastor	Rev. Richard T. Carlson
Pastor, Youth/Education	Rev. Barbara A. Ross
Liturgist	Cindy Palm
Music Director	Matthew Weber
Assistant Choir Director	Earl Rigsby
Bell Choir Director	Jonathan Besancon
Organist	Ryan Krause
Radio	Steve Muchow and Justin Potts
Multi Media	Glenn Lambert and Frank Scheid
Office Administrator	Amy Didricksen
Child Care Provider	Shelby Didricksen
Building Maintenance	George Rowe Ron Rabe

First United Methodist Church
216 E Highland Avenue, Elgin IL 60120
847.741.0038 fumcelgin.org



January 7, 2018

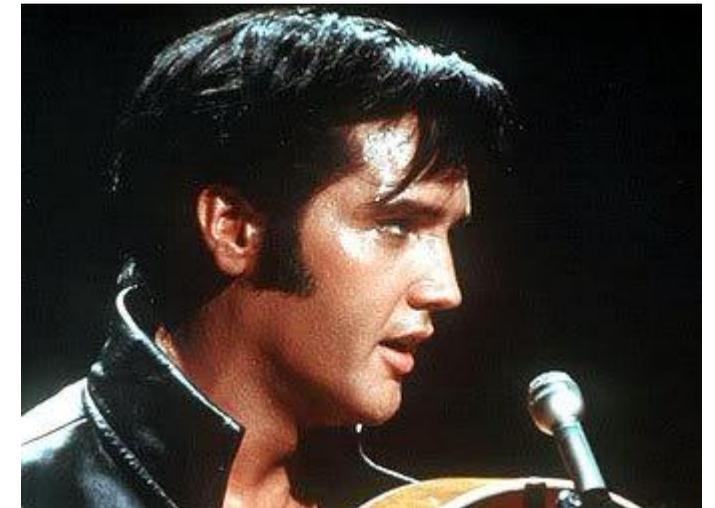
216 E. Highland
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Welcome

After having the most recognized face on Earth in the 1950's, Elvis Presley felt the sting of lost fame when the Beatles and the Rolling Stones revolutionized the pop music scene. In 1968 Elvis walked down a street in Los Angeles and was recognized by no one. Immediately afterward he arranged to perform a television special and in so doing re-ignited his music career.

Among the joys of freedom is the opportunity each of us has, if we so desire, to re-invent ourselves and be the people we are pleased to be. I am happy to be with you to discover how to be the person God desires that we be.

Rick Carlson,
Pastor



Announcements

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN - Faith, Hope and Love in Action

♥ **Sunday, January 14** following the worship service all women are encouraged to remain in the Sanctuary for the **UMW 2018 Kick-off Meeting**. During this brief meeting you will hear about the ministries and activities planned in 2018. Come receive your calendar of events and discover where you are needed. We will take a group picture, which will be used to bring awareness to human trafficking, in preparation for the **Silent Vigil on Friday, February 2**.

♥ Sign up now for the **SOUP MINISTRY** on **Tuesday, January 23**. We need many willing hands to prep, cook, and deliver soup to the Community Crisis Center and to your family and friends in need of a little TLC.

Sign Up Sheets for 2018

2018 signup sheets are posted in the hallway outside of Fellowship Hall for treats, flowers, radio and more! Please stop by and sign up to sponsor any of these opportunities “in honor of” or “in celebration of.”

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Food Drive

We are once again participating in the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. food drive. Please pick up your food bag after worship. The bags will be picked up at the church Sunday, January 14. The food will be distributed to those in need in Elgin. Thank you for your generosity in past drives. Let's continue this good mission in our community!

Youth “Big Game” Sub Sale

Sunday, February 4, 2018, the youth group will hold their first fundraiser: The Big Game Sub Sale. They will not be taking orders for the subs this year; but will have the usual subs and meal deals available. Please support their fundraiser as you have in the past. This year the proceeds will go to help fund their ski/tubing retreat to Wesley Woods and the church mission trip to Houston in July. Volunteers are needed on Sunday, February 4, 2018, at 7:00 am, to help supervise and prepare the subs.

Youth Tubing Retreat at Wesley Woods

We are in the process of planning a youth group retreat to Wesley Woods in Lake Geneva. The retreat will include skiing or tubing at Wilmot Mountain. The trip will take place February 23-25, 2018. The cost for each child is \$165.00. Health forms will be required for all participants (including chaperones). Please let Pastor Rick or Reverend Barbara know **today** if your child will be attending and if you would like to chaperone.

Today's Ministry Support

- Acolytes: Noreen McGough
Greeters: Steve, Sue, and Sarah Hansen
Fellowship: Coffee, tea and treats are offered in Fellowship Hall at the close of the worship service. Treats are provided by the Zuniga Family – Happy New Year! We are in need of sponsors for coffee and tea.
Altar Flowers: We are in need of sponsors for altar flowers. Sign up now for 2018!
Radio: The Sunday worship service is delay-broadcast from 11:00 am to noon on WRMN 1410. We are in need of sponsors for radio. Sign up now for 2018!

Anchor Kids Children's

Sunday school – Sundays

10:15 to 11:00 am in the Kindergarten room

We are very excited to bring you good news! We are organizing a new children's Sunday school and we would love to have your children to attend. Class will be held in the Kindergarten Room. We have lots of fun stuff lined up for the children! Classes will start as soon as we have volunteers in place. Are you a teacher or former teacher who wants to put your gifts to work for the church? Your help and input would be greatly appreciated. Are you available to teach every Sunday, once a month, or even once a quarter? Can you help with kitchen activities, crafts, and special projects? Everyone is welcome and encouraged to volunteer! We ask for your prayers as we embark upon this New Year and new opportunity to reach the children of Jesus. Jesus charged us with teaching children and families—to help them become fully devoted followers of Jesus. (Matthew 28:19-20). If you would like to help, please contact Reverend Barbara at revbross@fumcelgin.org or Pastor Rick at rcarlson@fumcelgin.org.



Weekly Classes

Adult Sunday School Study – *Sundays at 10:15 am in the Wesley Room*
 Adult Sunday School will start a four week study entitled *Before Amen: The Power of Simple Prayer* today. Author Max Lucado reveals his struggles with prayer and his discovery that having a conversation with God is for everyone. This study will teach us how everyone can build a prayer life that is stronger and how connecting with Him each day can make all the difference in your life and how you experience God.

Junior/Senior High Sunday School – *10:10 am in the D.C. Cook Room*
 Rev. Barbara Ross and Keith Duncan will be leading discussions on matters that are pertinent in the lives of young Christians. The youth will meet in the lower level D.C. Cook room on Sundays from 10:10 am until 11:00 AM. Make sure to attend!

Guys Stuff Returns Wednesday, January 10!
 New Study “*The Trouble with the Truth*” - Beneath our differences about the values that should define our culture is a real disagreement about what is true. Those who hold to the traditional beliefs of the Christian faith find themselves at odds with a culture that no longer believes there are universal spiritual or moral truths that apply to everyone. This six week study explores the truth - why it’s in trouble, what the culture tells us about it, and why the church is so confused about it. If you have been thinking of joining, now is the perfect time. Guys Stuff meets on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm in the East Conference room.

Wednesday Night Youth Group – *6:30 pm in the D. C. Cook Room*

The youth have resumed their Wednesday night meetings from 6:30 pm until 7:30 pm in the D. C. Cook room. Rev. Barbara is having a great time getting to know the youth and is looking forward to learning all about them in the coming months. If your teenager has been hesitant to join the youth group, now is the time!

Reflections Women’s Bible Study Group - *Thursdays at 9:00am at Big Apple*
 Reflections will return to Big Apple Bagels on Thursday, January 11. Come for bible study, conversation, bagels and coffee. Help decide what the first study of 2018 will be. If you would like to join the Thursday morning Reflections group, please contact Kathy Long at krlong@sbcglobal.net or Jane Duffy at pjduffy@comcast.net.

The Week Ahead...

SUN	8:30 am	Bach Around The Clock Meeting	9:00 am	Traditional Service
	10:10 am	Jr/Sr High Sunday School	10:15am	Adult Sunday School
	1:00 pm	ETC Rehearsal		
MON	9:00 am	Blue Box Coffee Group	5:30 pm	Soup Kettle
	6:30 pm	Heartland Voices Board	7:00 pm	Board of Trustees
	7:30 pm	Barbershoppers Rehearsal		
TUES	10:00 am	Office Staff Meeting	6:30 pm	Finance Committee
	7:00 pm	Heartland Voices Rehearsal		
WED	9:30 am	Prayer Shawl Ministry	6:30 pm	Guys Stuff
	6:30 pm	Youth Group	6:30 pm	Celebration Ringers
	6:30 pm	ETC Rehearsal	7:30 pm	Cathedral Choir Practice
THURS	9:00 am	Reflections Women’s Bible Study	7:00 pm	ETC Board Meeting
	7:00 pm	Heartland Voices Rehearsal		
FRI	6:30 pm	ETC Rehearsal	7:00 pm	Taizé Service
SAT	9:00 am	Barbershoppers Leadership Summit		

Week #1

Year to Date Budget \$8,820

Year to Date Received \$31,903

Last 4 Weeks Income	December 31	January 1
Giving Income	\$5,847	\$0
Prepaid Giving Income		\$31,903
Miscellaneous Income	\$90	\$0
Christmas Offering	\$4,295	\$0
Totals	\$10,232	\$31,903

*Needed Weekly Income

\$8,820

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

Confession and Pardon

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient people and we have not done your will. We have broken your law and rebelled against your love. Forgive us, we pray, free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hear this good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! (All) Glory to God! Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through your prophets. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. Your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, and to announce that the time had come when you would save your people. He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners. By the baptism of his suffering, death and resurrection you gave birth to your church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit. When the Lord Jesus ascended, he promised to be with us always, in the power of your word and Holy Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died, Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

Amen

Bread and Cup

Because there is one loaf, we who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf. The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ. The cup over which we give thanks is a sharing in the blood of Christ.

Prayer After Receiving

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.