

Greetings and Announcements

Prelude "As the Deer" M. Nystrom

The Call to Worship

Let all who honor the Lord praise him! Let all the earth glorify the name of the Lord.

For he has heard the cries of the afflicted and has not hidden his face from them; our God hears those who cry to him. The hungry eat and are satisfied.

Yea, to him shall all the proud of the earth bow down; before him shall every knee be bent.

The nations will speak of the Lord to generations yet to come, to people yet unborn. For dominion belongs to the Lord, and he rules over the nations.

from Psalm 22

Hymn "Stand Up and Bless the Lord" UMH 662

Opening Prayer

We come with praise and thanksgiving on our hearts, O God, amazed at the breadth of your love. We come as a family that you have created, a family bound together by a common desire to grow in faith, to reach out to those who suffer, to carry the cross of Christ regardless its weight. Fill us with the power of your Spirit through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

New Testament Reading

1 John 4:7-21

Choral Anthem "I Will Sing and Not Be Silent" A. Pote

Prayer

Offertory Hymn "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" UMH 121

Doxology UMH 94

The Gospel John 15:1-8

Response This is the good news of Jesus Christ.
Thanks be to God!

Message "The Chicken or the Egg" R. Carlson

Hymn "How Can We Name a Love" UMH 111

Sending Forth

Postlude "Over the Rainbow" H. Arlen

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!

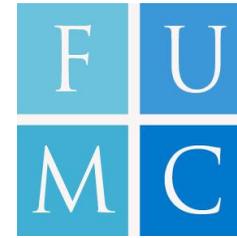
Nursery Available

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
Facilities Engineer	Todd Fletcher

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



April 29, 2018

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Elgin, IL 60120
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Welcome

When Adam admitted he was lonely, God said, "I will create a companion who will always be with you and reflect my love for you. His love shall be unconditional; regardless how selfish or childish you are, he will love you." God created such an animal and said, "Because this animal reflects my love, his name shall be a reflection of my name: you will call him 'dog.'" The dog comforted Adam and loved him dearly. But Adam became prideful, thinking he was worthy of adoration. So the Lord said, "I shall create another companion who will see him as he is and remind him of his limitations." So God created the cat. The cat did not obey Adam, and when he gazed into the cat's eyes, he was reminded that he was not a Supreme Being. Adam learned humility and his proud demeanor greatly improved. And God was pleased. So was the dog. The cat did not care one way or the other.

No further explanation is necessary. I'm glad you are here.

Rick Carlson,
Pastor



Announcements

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN – We Need Your Help!

- ♥ UMW will cook for the FUMC **Soup Kettle** on **Monday, April 30**. Come at 3:00 pm to prep, chop and cook for about 100 guests. Please sign-up on the bulletin board if you can help with this important ministry.
- ♥ Thanks for all who have signed up this month to serve “**Breakfast (now, sack lunch) at the Vineyard**” on **May 2**. Please have your items at the Vineyard Church, directly behind FUMC, **before 7:00 am**.
- ♥ **SAVE THE DATE: Spring Salad Luncheon, Saturday, May 5** at 11:00 am. We will celebrate the **BOLD WOMEN** in our lives. Begin thinking of the strong women who have helped to make you who you are today.
- ♥ UMW “**Good Things Sale**” is coming soon, **May 31 - June 2**. It’s time to start cleaning out those closets and sorting through our abundance for this mission fundraiser. Donations for the sale can be brought to the Church starting on **Saturday, May 19**. If you need items picked-up, help is available. Contact the church office or see Carol Phillips or Cheryl Johnson for more information.



Baseball is Back!

Fifty tickets have been purchased for the Thursday, July 26, Chicago Cubs vs. Arizona Diamondbacks game at Wrigley Field. The game starts at 1:20. A luxury coach will leave FUMC at 10:00 am. Tickets (includes game and transportation) are \$85.00, each and are available until they run out. Please contact Amy or Pastor Rick to reserve yours.



Thanks George!

George Rowe, our church custodian retired on April first. How many times have you heard someone say, “Ask George” or “George will do it”... and he always did – sometimes before you had finished your sentence! George has been invited to come to our worship service on **May 6** so that we can thank him for his service and faithfulness for the past quarter century and present

him with a cash gift.

All church members are invited to contribute toward this gift for George.

Please make your check payable to FUMC and return in the offering plate or mail to the church office before May 4. A basket will be placed in the Narthex for cards or notes of appreciation. Refreshments will be served in Holman Parlor after the service.

Today’s Ministry Support

- Acolytes: Eric Fox
- Greeters: Jean Ihrke and Nancy Kefauver
- Fellowship: Coffee, tea and treats are offered in Fellowship Hall at the close of the worship service. Coffee and tea are sponsored by Mike and Anne Lyon. Treats are provided by Frank and Anna Scheid in celebration of Katie’s birthday.
- Altar Flowers: Altar flowers are sponsored by Cheryl Hayes in loving memory of her husband, Jack.
- Radio: The Sunday worship service is delay-broadcast from 11:00 am to noon on WRMN 1410. This week’s broadcast is sponsored by Cheryl Hayes in loving memory of her husband, Jack.

Scholarships Available

The Russ & Marilyn Damisch, Melvin J. Ihrke, and Lee & Lydia Robertson scholarships are available to all college students at FUMC, including adult students. Applications are located in the plastic magazine rack near the Parlor and Fellowship Hall or in the church office. Please make sure that applications are completed and returned to the church office by **Tuesday, May 15**. Applications that are not completed in full will not be considered for scholarships. Applications will be reviewed and scholarships awarded in June. Please contact Amy in the church office with any questions.

Week #18

Year to Date Budget \$149,940

Year to Date Received \$173,759

Last 4 Weeks Income	April 01 (14)	April 08 (15)	April 15 (16)	April 22 (17)
Giving Income	\$4,751	\$10,000	\$3,319	\$4,594
Miscellaneous Income		\$120	\$1,750	\$1,304
UMCOR Offering		\$483		\$5
Easter Offering	\$1,583	\$250	\$5	
Totals	\$6,334	\$10,853	\$5,074	\$5,903

*Needed Weekly Income

\$8,820

Weekly Classes

Adult Sunday School - 10:30 am in the Wesley Room

The adult Sunday school class is currently studying *Simply Enough*. In this six week study, Tony Campolo and Shane Claiborne discuss the foundations of Christian life and voluntary simplicity. We will explore such topics as food, stuff, money and justice. Adult Sunday school meets at 10:30 am in the Wesley Room. All are welcome!

Guys Stuff - Wednesdays at 6:30pm in the East Conference Room

Guys Stuff is currently studying *You'll Get Through This*. You fear you won't make it through. We all do. We fear that the depression will never lift, the yelling will never stop, or the pain will never leave. In this six-session study, Max Lucado offers refreshing assurance. He reminds participants God doesn't promise that getting through trials will be quick or painless. Guys Stuff meets every Wednesday at 6:30. If you've ever thought of joining, now would be a perfect time. We are always looking for new faces!

Wednesday Night Women's Group – 6:30pm in the Wesley Room

The current study is *Quieting Your Heart, a Study of the Book of Luke*, by Darlene Schacht. This is an opportunity to meet with other women in an informal, open environment to learn, grow, and share together. The study guide will be provided so there is no book or materials to purchase.

Reflections Women's Bible Study Group - Thursdays at 9:00am at Big Apple

Reflections is currently studying *An Attitude of Prayer* by Cindy Palm. Bring your copy* as we read Scriptures and examine and enrich our prayer lives. Come for the bible study and conversation and, of course, for the bagels and coffee.

(*copies are available in the church office for \$10)



2018 All Church Mission Trip Planning Meeting

Sunday, May 20

Immediately following the worship service

in the Sanctuary

See Rev. Barbara with questions

The Week Ahead

SUN	7:30 am	Anchor Youth Car Wash	9:00 am	Traditional Worship Service
	10:00 am	Fellowship	10:30 am	Adult Sunday School
	12:00 pm	Soiree Lyrique Arrival & Set-Up	2:00 pm	Tosca Performance
	6:00 pm	ETC Rehearsal		
MON	9:00 am	Blue Box Coffee Group	9:00 am	Quilters
	5:30 pm	Soup Kettle	7:00 pm	ETC Rehearsal
	7:30 pm	Barbershoppers		
TUES	10:00 am	Church Staff Meeting		
WED	7:00 am	UMW Breakfast @ Vineyard Church	9:30 am	Prayer Shawl Ministry
	6:30 pm	Guys Stuff	6:30 pm	Celebration Ringers
	6:30 pm	Wednesday Night Women's Group	7:00 pm	ETC Rehearsal
	7:30 pm	Cathedral Choir		
THUR	9:00 am	Reflections Women's Bible Study	4:30 pm	Suzuki Concert Rehearsal
FRI	4:30 pm	Suzuki Dress Rehearsal		
SAT	11:00 am	UMW Spring Lunch & Program Meeting	1:00 pm	Suzuki Concert & Reception

ANCHOR YOUTH ELGIN STUDENT MINISTRY

Under the leadership of the Rev. Barbara A. Ross, Youth Pastor

Please visit us on [Facebook](#) (Anchor Youth Elgin Student Ministry) and [Instagram](#) (Anchor Youth Elgin)

SUNDAYS

- 3:40 AM ANCHOR YOUTH LED PRAYER**
(Pierce Chapel—ALL are welcome and encouraged to attend!)
- 10:10AM ANCHOR YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL**
(Every Sunday morning in the D.C. Cook Room)
- 11:30AM ANCHOR YOUTH GROUP**
(Every 2nd and 4th Sunday in the D. C. Cook Room)

SUMMER FUNDRAISERS

SUNDAY, APRIL 29 - ANCHOR YOUTH CAR WASH

The Car Wash will begin early today, Sunday, April 29, 2018, during the Worship Service. As soon as we get the first car in line we will begin the car wash beginning at 7:30 AM. ALL proceeds will go to help fund the Youth Mission Trip and Youth Activities. Volunteers are needed for this event. Please support us by having your car washed today! Please invite others to come out and support this effort with their GOODWILL OFFERING.

SUNDAY, MAY 6 - ANCHOR YOUTH PANCAKE BREAKFAST

The Pancake Breakfast will begin immediately after the Worship Service on Sunday, May 6, 2018. Parents please have the youth at the church by 7:30 AM or as soon as you can get them here. Parents please remind the youth that they are to stay after the event to help with the cleanup. Volunteers are needed for this event. ALL proceeds will go to help fund the Youth Mission Trip and Youth Activities. Please invite others to come out and support this effort with their GOODWILL OFFERING.

EVENTS

ANCHOR YOUTH WILLOW CREEK SPRING CLEANUP, COMMUNITY EVENT

Date & Time: Saturday, May 19, 2018 from 8:30 AM - 12:00 NOON

Location: [899 Jay Street Elgin, IL](#)

Details: This is a walking stream/stream bank cleanup due to low water and/or narrow stream. Meet at the Izaak Walton League lodge about 8:30 to sign in, get supplies (gloves, bags & some tools) and find out where to go. Please wear clothes that you can get wet and dirty. Dress for the weather. Free lunch will provided after the cleanup at the lodge. Parents, please drop the youth off at the Lodge by 8:30 AM. You may pick the youth up at 12:00 NOON.

OVER FOR INFO ON
VBS 2018 ⇨



SHIPWRECKED, Rescued by Jesus Vacation Bible School is open to children of all ages! Register TODAY by visiting the FUMC website & clicking on the [SHIPWRECKED](#) page under groups & classes!

First 10 children to register (with a friend!) will receive a \$10 gift card to a local restaurant for them & their friend!