

DISPATCH FEBRUARY 2024

Dear Dunlap family and friends,

February this year brings the connection of sacred and secular in a fairly unique way. Ash Wednesday, the day when we repent of our sins and remember our mortality, is the same day as Valentine's Day, a day when we focus on love. On the evening when new couples will be going out for fancy dinners and making lovey dovey eyes at one another, we will be gathering together to place ashes on our head. Instead of chocolates in heart shaped boxes, our evening will involve burnt palm branches mixed with a bit of olive oil.

It would be easy for me to come to you and say that we should focus on Ash Wednesday and ignore Valentine's Day, because we are the church, and the sacred should be our business. I don't think that is entirely realistic, though. Our focus should be on the sacred, but we do live in the world. Whether we celebrate Valentine's Day or not, we cannot escape the fact that we are surrounded by red and pink hearts, advertisements aimed at couples, and encouragement to tell someone you love them.

Instead, let us take this opportunity, which only comes once in a while, to reframe February 14. February 14 is a day set aside each year to talk about love: romantic love, love of friends, and love of family. Let us also use this day in 2024 to spend time devoted to our love of God and God's love of us. God loved us so much that he sent his only son. Let us respond with such love that we return our lives to Christ, re-dedicating our lives to his service.

So, whether you choose to celebrate Valentine's Day in the traditional way or not, I encourage every person to take some time that day, and lift your voice to God in prayer, praise, and repentance.

When I place the ashes on your head or hand in the sign of cross, I will say "From dust you have come and to dust you shall return. Repent and believe the Gospel." In an ultimate act of love, take the time this month and as we enter the season of Lent to remember you are human, turn from human sins, and believe the good news of Jesus Christ.

God bless,
Pastor Melissa

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

February 1st	Mike Dines
February 8th	Linda Lloyd
February 13th	Joyce Metzler-Smith
February 15th	Sandra Jensen
February 20th	Delayna Nelson
February 28th	Joshua Nelson
February 28th	David Wolber
February 29th	Tim Anderson

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

February 25th	Bill & Kathy Gaspar
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FEBRUARY ALTAR FLOWERS

February 4th	Kaye Scheetz / Sisters Birthday
February 11th	Diana Kado
February 18th	Terri Ganger in Loving Memory of Jan Ganger
February 25th	

FEBRUARY LITURGISTS

February 4th	Andrea Nelson
February 11th	
February 18th	Tammy Hill
February 25th	

FEBRUARY

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

				1 <i>Cub Scouts @ 6:30PM</i>	2	3
4 <i>Bible Study @ 5PM</i>	5 <i>Staff/Parish @ 6:30PM Boy Scouts @ 6:30PM</i>	6 <i>Worship @ 6:30PM</i>	7 <i>Kids Club 5PM- Meal 6PM Choir 6:30PM Bells 7:30PM</i>	8 <i>Cub Scouts @ 6:30PM</i>	9	10
11 <i>Scouts Sunday Bible Study @ 5PM</i>	12 <i>Boy Scouts @ 6:30PM</i>	13	14 <i>Kids Club 5PM Meal 6PM Ash Wed. Service @ 6:30PM Choir 6:30PM Bells 7:30PM</i>	15 <i>Grief Group @ 1PM Cub Scouts @ 6:30PM</i>	16	17 <i>Bashor Lenten Breakfast 8:30-9:30AM</i>
18 <i>Bible Study @ 5PM</i>	19 <i>Boy Scouts @ 6:30PM</i>	20 <i>Finance @ 7PM</i>	21 <i>Kids Club 5PM- Meal 6PM Choir 6:30PM Bells 7:30PM</i>	22 <i>Cub Scouts @ 6:30PM</i>	23	24
25 <i>Bible Study @ 5PM</i>	26 <i>Boy Scouts @ 6:30PM</i>	27	28 <i>Kids Club 5PM- Meal 6PM Choir 6:30PM Bells 7:30PM</i>	29 <i>Cub Scouts @ 6:30PM</i>		

Dunlap United Methodist Church

23674 US Highway 33 E

Elkhart, IN 46517

DUMC Shut In Ministry

Some information concerning our Shut-Ins has been updated. Contact the church office for the updated copy of the Shut-In list, or pick up a paper copy of the newsletter in the church lobby on Sunday Morning.



Dunlap United
Methodist Church
*Growing in Christ-like Love
through intentional Outreach
and Worship*

23674 US Hwy 33 // Elkhart IN 46517

Church Office: (574) 875-7950

Pastor's Cell: (765) 438-4545

E-mail: dunlapumc@frontier.com

Office Hours:

Mon. - Thurs.: 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM

(closed 12-1)

Friday: 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Our Church Staff

Pastor	Rev. Melissa Englehart
Education Director	Alice Morris
Preschool Director	Cindy Covey
Office Manager	Brianna Primm
Custodian	Laura Utley
Choir/Bell Choir Dir.	Dave Kitchell
Organist	Lois Coney

Find us online!

www.elkhartdunlapumc.org

Want to watch a service you missed?

Need a bulletin?

Wonder what time your meeting is?

Want to pay your tithe?

All of this and MORE is available
on our web site!

Vacation Bible School: VBS will be July 15th through July 19th.

“Give us this day our daily bread.” This verse reminds us that everything we have comes from God-but it also calls us to turn to God in prayer for our daily needs. Because God loves and cares for us, we, in turn, can love and care for the rest of the world. We care for others because God first cared for us. In this way the Church becomes the hands of God, ensuring that everyone's needs are met. Each session focuses on a different way God has met the needs of God's people and reminds us that God is still doing this today through

Summer Camp! Registration for Summer Church camp has opened. There are programs for adults to attend with children, for children entering kindergarten through teens graduating high school, and for various special interests. Look for the right program for your family! Due to generous donations, our church will help you pay for camp; find the form on the back table. For even more financial assistance and to register, check the camp website. <https://impact2818.org/>

Save the Following Dates:

Ash Wednesday Service: February 22 ~ meal @ 6:00, lent service @ 6:30

Lent Services: Maundy Thursday March 28th @ 6:00PM

Good Friday March 29th @ 7:00PM

Walk Through the Bible March 30th 10:00AM-2:00PM

Easter Sunday March 31st with Sunrise @ 7:00PM