

# DISPATCH MARCH 2024

Dear Dunlap family and friends,

On Monday of this week, we found a strange thing in the front of the church. For some reason, there was a big green chair in the front of the church. It was rather strange, because it was sitting nicely right on the sidewalk by US 33. We spent some time speculating about how it may have ended up on the side of that very busy street. Perhaps it fell off the back of a truck and somehow landed very nicely on its 4 feet. Perhaps someone decided to dump it and they saw an opportunity in the dark. Whether the chair's placement was intentional or accidental, the chair was now our problem.

How often in our lives are we handed a problem that we did not have any part of creating? At some point, this is just a part of being in community. In Elkhart, we are dealing with trains that were put in place long before most of us were even alive. Laws were created long ago to support the rights of the railways, and cities have to work with them. So now, Elkhart is working to create overpasses. In the church, we have to deal with the fact that the building was designed without accessibility in mind. People in wheelchairs can only access portions of the building, some ways we can accommodate are by keeping many events and meetings in the sanctuary, and by maintaining a chair lift for those who can use it. We did not create either problem, but we are the ones who must find a way to be fruitful and thrive in this reality.

The blessing is that the opposite also holds true. While we do deal with problems that are not of our making, we also reap from a harvest sown by those who came before us. Jesus says in John 4:37-38, "Thus the saying 'One sows and another reaps' is true. I sent you to reap what you have not worked for. Others have done the hard work, and you have reaped the benefits of their labor." Those who came before us started this work, and it is our job to continue it. Others raised the money to build the building where we worship. Others had the dream to start a kindergarten that later became the preschool. Others taught the love of Christ to generations of children so today we have Sunday School teachers, ushers, and liturgists.

Whether we inherit problems or blessings, it is important that we recognize that the history of our church, our community, and our world shapes our lives today. It is then our responsibility to make the best decisions we can so that those who come after us inherit more blessings and fewer problems. On the work already begun, we can build and grow the Kingdom of God; on the work we are doing now, our great-grandchildren will do the same.

God bless,

Pastor Melissa

P.S. You may be wondering what happened to the chair. It disappeared as suddenly as it appeared. In the end, the chair was not our problem to fix, and we are extremely grateful!

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

March 2nd	Trenton Miller
March 8th	Marcia Gard
March 15th	Susan Kime
March 31st	Randall Vollmar

## MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

March 22nd	Don & Joyce Metzler-Smith
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## MARCH ALTAR FLOWERS

March 3rd	Terri Ganger, in Memory of Millicent Morros
March 10th	
March 17th	Don & Joyce Anniversary
March 24th	Wes & Jennifer Davis in Honor of Emily's Birthday
March 31st	In Memory of David Miles

## MARCH LITURGISTS

March 3rd	
March 10th	Tobi Price
March 17th	Carolyn Anderson
March 24th	Jane Hunsberger
March 31st	Karen Newland

# Hello March

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

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3	4 Staff/Parish-7PM Boy Scouts-6:30PM	5	6 Kids Club-5PM Meal-6:00PM Choir-7PM Bells-7:30PM	7 Cub Scouts-6:30PM	8	9 Faith UMC Lenten Breakfast
10	11 WON-6PM Church Council-7PM Boy Scouts-6:30PM	12	13 SWANS-1PM Kids Club-5PM Meal-6:00PM Choir-7PM Bells-7:30PM	14 Cub Scouts-6:30PM	15	16 Jamestown Lenten Breakfast
17	18 Boy Scouts-6:30PM	19 Preschool-6PM Endowment Committee Meeting@ 6:30PM	20 Kids Club-5PM Meal-6:00PM Choir-7PM Bells-7:30PM	21 Cub Scouts-6:30PM	22	23 Dunlap UMC Lenten Breakfast
24	25 Boy Scouts-6:30PM	26 Trustees-6:30PM	27 Kids Club-5PM Meal-6:00PM Choir-7PM Bells-7:30PM	28 Maundy Thursday Dinner & Worship @ 6PM	29 	30 Walk Through the Bible 10AM-2PM
31 happy EASTER  Christian Ed-11AM						

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](mailto: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](http://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/>

**Easter:** It'll be here before you know it, which means – it's time for Easter eggs! We are looking for donations of small, individually wrapped candy to put in the eggs. Stickers, coins, or small gift items are also welcome. Please bring your items to the church by **March 24**, to give us plenty of time to stuff the eggs. Thank you so much!

### **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