

## Elmgrove Echoes

Elmgrove United Methodist Church  
1500 Spencerport Road  
Rochester, NY 14606  
Pastor Kevin D. Slough



Church: (585) 247-4973  
Pastor Kevin: (585) 563-7928  
Church Fax: (Pls.call first) (585) 247-0956  
E-Mail: [elmgroveumc@frontiernet.net](mailto:elmgroveumc@frontiernet.net)  
Web Page: [www.elmgroveumc.org](http://www.elmgroveumc.org)

Volume XXXI Number 1/2

Visit us on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/ElmgroveUnitedMethodistChurch>

**FROM YOUR PASTOR:** Greetings with the love of Christ! As many of you know I was on mission in Telica Nicaragua from Dec. 28 – Jan 13. I had a wonderful time that was filled with the Lord revealing glimpses of the Kingdom all day long. My experience serving the Lord was awesome and amazing to the point that once again I have been transformed through my encounters with Christ. The people I served and served with were a true blessing.

Following is a description of our average day in Telica: Between the roosters and church bells blaring we were all awake and up around 6AM. After 20 people had finished using the same bathroom we would gather at about 7AM for coffee, cereal, and rice and beans! Prior to eating a different person each day would offer a devotion, lead a song, and offer morning prayer.

By 8AM we would arrive at the school to be greeted by around 200 children eagerly awaiting VBS. VBS ended each day around 11:30AM and was followed by a meeting with all teachers. Around 12:30PM everyone gathered for lunch and conversation. Lunch consisted of meat, tortilla shells, plantains, and rice and beans. Around 1:30PM we would arrive at one of the construction sites where we would dig, mix concrete, lay brick, and drink lots of water!

Typically, around 5:00PM everyone would magically appear from their perspective ministries in need of a shower. Some people got a shower in prior to dinner at 6PM...And some did not!! Dinner was usually meat, plantains, and of course rice and beans. From the time we would be finished with the work day through the time we would go to bed around 10PM there were numerous children and adults that we would play games with, hug, and simply spend time with.

This was the average day for many while on mission. There were many other things going on by different people each day as well. One person did all the finances for the entire trip, many would go for a few hours to the public market for our food, some spent the afternoon preparing for the next day of VBS, some worked construction all day long in the heat, some would organize the clothing drive while others would go to homes built by us years ago to repair, and others would pour out their love on the children all day long!

As a result of our mission trip; lives were transformed, 4 homes were built, 6 homes were repaired, over 200 children heard the gospel of Jesus Christ and 38 teenagers confessed Jesus to be their personal Savior and Lord, medical equipment was delivered, clothing and shoes were distributed, numerous children received uniforms for school and supplies, a few young adults have been enrolled in college with tuition paid, jobs were created to finish the construction work and so much more. The most important result I saw from everyone involved in this mission trip was the fact that God received all the glory and praise for everything!! It was an amazing and wonderful journey.

As I mentioned in a recent sermon based from 1 Samuel 3: 1-20, "Telica Nicaragua is not everyone's calling from the Lord, but for every person there does exist a calling from the Lord! When we take the time to listen for God's voice we become the answer to someone's prayer. How awesome is that?"

I wanted to give all of you a brief description of what I was doing while away for almost three weeks. I want to thank each of you for supporting me in this mission trip and to let you know all of us that went could feel the presence of your prayers in our hearts and are grateful for them. As great an experience I had while on mission, I also wanted to let each of you know that I missed you and am so glad to be back at home with you. **(continued on page 2)**

(continued from page 1)

I would love to sit down with you and hear about what you feel the Lord is calling you to do in 2012 and help make that dream a reality for you. My phone is always on and my heart is always open for you.

May you know how much you are loved by God and your Pastor! Peace and Grace, PK



*A Prayer  
For the  
New Year*

*Special Prayer for the New Year*

*Creator of All time and places, as we enter into this New Year, may we be filled with Your love, mercy and grace, that others may see Your face and feel Your love. Inspire us this year to let something essential and joyful happen, blooming with hope and faith, like a surge of awareness of how precious each moment is. May Your peace come. Assist us to remember and reach out to others in Jesus Christ's precious name. Amen.*

**If you or someone you know needs a home or hospital visit, please call the church at 247-4973 or Pastor Kevin at 944-5944**



Jeremiah 29:11

*"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."*

Elmgrove Birthdays & Anniversaries

January/February 2012



**BIRTHDAYS**

- January** 8 Anthony Dionisio
- 9 Polly Wheeler
- 12 Donna Wolfe
- 16 Pat Sherwood Caswell
- 16 Doug Hampton
- 26 Eleanor White
- 29 Kirstie Snook
- February** 3 Heather Newton
- 7 Shelly Perrin
- 10 Christina Robillard
- 11 Zita Anderson
- 20 Ruth Hoyer



**ANNIVERSARIES**

- January NONE
- February 13**
- Paul & Judy Schojan**
- Matt & Pat Itterman**

When asked what gift he wanted for his birthday, the yogi replied: "I wish no gifts, only **"presence."** ~Author Unknown

*"The trouble with being a good sport is that you have to lose to prove it!"*



## A HOOT FROM THE OWLS & THE MISSION TEAM

**ELMGROVE** congratulate yourselves....just look and see what you have done during the Christmas Season....

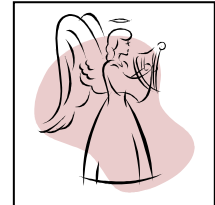
**OWLS: Cameron Mission and Open Door Mission:** The count of everything was **145 pairs of panties and briefs, 196 pairs of socks, 12 t-shirts, 29 pairs of gloves, 37 hats and 4 scarfs**'.



*The angels hanging on the tree in the sanctuary collected \$60 for Aurora House.*

**SWEM:** We collected 14 baskets ... plus \$195!!

"Whatever you did for one of these least brothers of Mine, you did for Me."



**Thank you to all. WHAT GENEROUS GIVERS!**

**OWLS:** There were 24 Seniors that came to the Christmas lunch at the Elmgrove Restaurant. The January meeting will be a home meeting at EUMC at 11:45 AM on Wednesday, January 18<sup>th</sup>. Ray Hoyler will show pictures.

2010  
Contribution  
Statements will  
be available by  
January 22<sup>nd</sup>.  
Please  
remember that  
it reflects the  
calendar year  
only.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.  
day observed on Monday,  
January 16<sup>th</sup>.



Everything that we see is  
a shadow cast by that  
which we do not see."  
- Martin Luther King, Jr.

**I don't understand why  
Cupid was chosen to  
represent Valentine's Day.  
When I think about  
romance, the last thing on  
my mind is a short, chubby  
toddler coming at me with a  
weapon. ~Author Unknown**



## JANUARY VOLUNTEERS

### Watch the bulletin for February Volunteers



#### LITURGISTS

January 15 Linda Stundtner  
 January 22 Cameron Graney  
 January 29 Jim Alexander



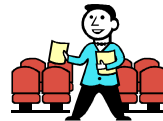
#### COFFEE HOUR

January 15 Ginny Hoffer  
 January 22 Lisa Zona  
 January 29 OPEN



#### ACOLYTES

January 15 Cameron Graney  
 January 22 OPEN  
 January 29 OPEN



#### USHERS

January 15 Linda Stundtner  
 January 22 Joyce Howard &  
 Sandy Wurzer  
 January 29 Joan Paolotto &  
 Kathy Denning

We are in need of an "on call" nursery worker each week that we can call upon when child care is needed during our worship service. Please see Don Reto if you are willing to sign up for this.

**Please Sign Up...  
 We Can't Do It Without You!**

Written by a 90 year old (Here's a few more)  
 Written by Regina Brett, 90 years old, of the Plain Dealer,  
 Cleveland, Ohio .

- 20. When it comes to going after what you love in life, don't take no for an answer.
- 21. Burn the candles, use the nice sheets, wear the fancy clothes.. Don't save it for a special occasion. Today is special.
- 22. Over prepare, then go with the flow.
- 23. Be eccentric now. Don't wait for old age to wear purple.

**"Most of us will never do great things, but we can do small things in a great way."**

A small boy's prayer: "Dear God, I hope You take care of Yourself. 'Cause if anything happens to You, we would all be in a terrible mess."

Thank You!

I would like to thank all of you for your very generous gift for Christmas. I used the money to buy some long needed things. You are all so special to me and I will hold you in my heart forever!! God Bless. Love, Kathy 😊

Thank You!

Harold and Arlene Hack would like to thank everyone for all their prayers and good thoughts, Christmas Card and for the wonderful Christmas Caroling! It was enjoyed so very much. They miss their Elmgrove family.

A CALL FROM Marilyn McDowell: Marilyn called and was so happy to receive the OWLS Christmas card and others. Her son, Brad, was with her for Christmas. Marilyn said that they had been busy with lots of friends and get togethers. She misses all of us but is glad to be where it is warm!

**MOVIE NIGHT:** On Friday, January 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM we will be showing the movie "Defiance" based on an incredible true story. This epic World War II drama *Defiance* tells the tale of three Jewish Eastern European brothers who narrowly escape certain death at the hands of the Nazis, subsequently vowing to avenge the deaths of their loved ones by launching a desperate battle against the forces that seek to exterminate their entire race.

### FROM THE COMMUNITY

**TRINITY ALLIANCE CHURCH,** just down the street from EUMC, has invited us to their movie night on Saturday, January 21<sup>st</sup> at 7 PM. They will be showing the movie, "Courage" which is a family-friendly adventure that follows the plight of the Childs family - author Robert, his second wife Teresa and Robert's 16-year-old daughter from his first marriage, Christy - who get pushed to the brink of disaster when their boat crashes during a storm and leaves them stranded on an uninhabited, rocky island in the middle of a wild, raging river. Although the family knows discord all too well given the widening rift between Christy and stepmom Teresa, they must set aside misgivings and help one another survive the treacheries of an unforgiving wilderness, especially given Robert's grave wounds from the accident.

**AURORA HOUSE BENEFIT:** The "Dady Brothers" will be in concert on Sunday, February 12<sup>th</sup> at 3 PM at the Spencerport High School auditorium. Tickets are \$15 and are Available online at [www.aurorahousewmc.com](http://www.aurorahousewmc.com) or by calling Ann at 743-1168 or at the Door. This versatile duo plays: fiddle, mandolin, guitar, bodhran, banjo, uilleann pipes, Harmonica and even penny whistle...

The Genesee Valley District is having a "Leadership Training Day" at Rush UMC on Saturday, February 4<sup>th</sup> from 9 AM – 3:15 PM. Some of the topics are: Trustees – responsibilities & response; Lay Leaders; Small Groups; Rediscovering Mission; Generations in Worship and much more. Small Group Workshops will meet on Friday from 6 – 9 PM; Saturday, 9AM – 12 PM and Saturday from 1:15 – 4:15 PM. MUST attend all sessions. Registration is \$25 which includes lunch. For more information, please call 585-340-9525 (flyer on magnet board).

Anyone can catch your eye, but it takes one special person to catch your heart.  
~Author Unknown

~~~~~

There are too many people praying for the mountains of difficulty to be removed, when what they really need is the courage to climb them. - Raili A. Jeffery

**(late addition from Finance)**

Elmgrove United Methodist Church

Year End Financial Report

2011

The year 2011 brought many challenges to the church family and by and large we met those challenges.

We had the challenge of raising almost \$17,000 for the new windows and siding on the parsonage and we were able to pay in full without borrowing.

Since July we have allowed our parsonage to be used by the pastor from Greece. We are paying the bills for the parsonage and saving the difference between the income and expenses. This has allowed us to save almost \$2000 for future parsonage improvements.

We have an account with LPL Financial where we keep our Reserve fund and Memorial moneys. Early in the year we had to withdraw \$4000 of our savings for current expenses. We began the year with \$44,220 and ended the year with \$45,582. We are blessed that these accounts continue to do well.

The one area that has been a concern is our operating budget. For 2011 our income was \$138,720. Our expenses were \$141,871. The difference was made up from the Reserve money that we withdrew.

Since July our income was \$69,540 and our expenses were \$65,240. If we continue in this direction 2012 should be a financially blessed year for Elmgrove.