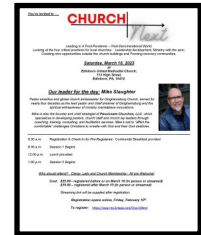




IFF Trip Page 6

Lenten Series
Page 10

Church Next Page 15

Edinboro United Methodist Church

CROSS CURRENTS

*"Then Moses said, "I must **turn** aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses! ...Remove your sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." (Exodus 3: 3&5)*

February 2023

Dear Friends,

"Turn, Turn, Turn; 'To Everything There is a Season'. It's hard to believe that on the last week of this month we begin the season of Lent. It is the 40 days and 40 nights that Christians have observed for centuries as a time of renewal. The "Invitation" in the book of worship to the Lenten Season challenges us to, "...observe a holy Lent: by self-examination and **repentance**; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's Holy Word. To make a right beginning of **repentance**..." Lent is a season of **repentance**; a word which comes from the Hebrew meaning to '**turn around**'. Are you ready to **turn** in a new direction? Are you ready to **turn** in the direction God is calling you to walk?

In the scripture above, God has an important mission in mind; to bring freedom and salvation to the Hebrews who are captive in Egypt. God seeks to get Moses attention in through the burning bush. But notice in the story that **Moses must TURN aside** to hear the message from God. It is when he intentionally **turns** that can he hear and respond to God's call fully. It is then that he realizes that he is on 'Holy Ground'. Lent for Christians is our "Holy Ground" season when we **turn** aside to see and listen to the Good News of Jesus Christ's death and resurrection. It is a time to examine God's call to us through the Passion story as Christ followers. **Are you willing to TURN aside to listen?**

Often in the season of Lent the emphasis is on **turning away** from things. We give up chocolate or meat. The emphasis is on **our** suffering; we see Lent as a time for "making up for our sins". I remember talking with some kids about Lent, said one, "*We suffer to let Jesus know how much we love him - - He suffered for us so we suffer for him*". But this was not the emphasis of Lent in early days of the church. Then the **focus of Lent was on repentance, was on healing, and reconciliation**. The focus was not just on our turning away from things, but instead our **turning to** the good things God is offering to us. For example, fasting is not just about giving up something (turning away), but also opening up and making room to listen (turning to) God's presence in our lives. Turning to prayer, Communion, and healing. **What if we**



(continued on page 4)

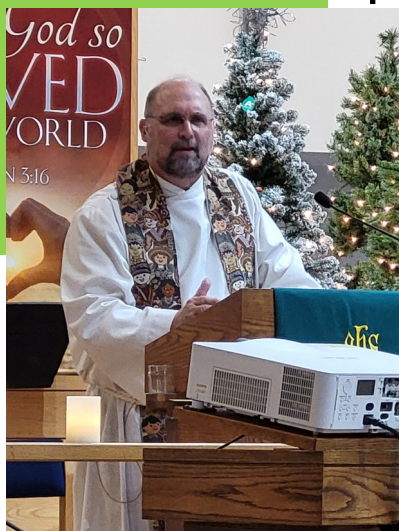
Financial Wrap Up for 2022

This has been a year of transition with the return to more normal Sunday services, the retirement of Pastor Lisa Grant and the arrival of Pastor Ed Schoeneck. We have been pleased to see an increase in attendance and giving through the year as we continue with 11:00 service. We have been able to cover our current expenses while continuing strong financial outreach in the local area and the WPAUMC Conference as detailed below. The one shortfall in our financial commitment was the need to take funds out of our savings account to cover our Connectional Apportionment obligation to the Church Conference.

In addition to the growth of our Church internally, the generosity of our congregation has supported many projects and local relief organizations as follows:

\$2,998	Erie United Methodist Alliance
\$3,077	Ramps of Hope
\$ 815	Crop Walk
\$1,487	Diaper Fund
\$ 420	Food Bank
\$ 250	Pottershouse
\$ 690	Back to School Backpacks

Additional to local giving, our congregation contributed a total of \$9,125 to support the various Special Sunday Offerings throughout the year that support the broader church.



SPRC Committee

The SPRC committee met by Zoom in January, and followed up with email consultations. We welcome new SPRC members Dale Hunter, Vera Woods, and Karen Swager. We know they will provide valuable and meaningful insights to our work. We also thank John Snow, Greg Thomas, and Ann Trask, whose terms expired in December, for their service over the past three years.

The job description for the Director of Family and Youth Ministry was modified slightly to include oversight and resourcing of the children and youth Sunday School program. This change was approved by email vote prior to posting the job opening. This new position was posted on Indeed, and was sent to District and Conference centers for publication as well. In addition, several seminaries will receive the job posting in an effort to attract serious ministry candidates. We may expand the search to use ZipRecruiter. However the cost of this service is significant, and we will wait to determine if we need to spend this money to expand our search. Interviews will likely begin by the end of February.

Pat Crist and Tim Rankin will review the Safe Sanctuary policy that was passed in light of our recent training in November, and will make any recommendations to the SPRC after review.

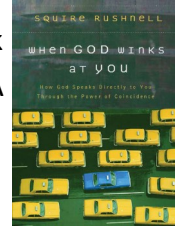
By the way, our new custodian, Lori Rutledge, has been doing a wonderful job. If you haven't met her, and have an opportunity, say hello - she is a joy, and we are glad for this great addition to our staff.



Men's Book Club

The 7:00 a.m. Wednesday men's book discussion group has been meeting for many years. Membership evolves as new folks enter and others move on. (I have only been involved for a couple years.) Ted Cole moderated the group since I have been attending, and for quite a while before that. There are about a dozen men, some retired, some not, and not all from our church family, who attend regularly.

Books are selected by consensus from suggestions among the group. Our current book is **"When God Winks at You,"** by Squire Rushnell. Previously we read Brian McLaren's "A New Kind of Christianity," and before that, Phillip Yancey's "A Skeptic's Guide to Faith". We have read books on the Muslim faith, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, and quite a few others in the past couple of years.



Our next book starting on Feb. 22nd, **"White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism"** by Dr. Robin DiAngelo. (Please note there is another book with the same title—you will want the one by DiAngelo.) The book is referring to the defensive moves that white people make when challenged racially, white fragility is characterized by emotions such as anger, fear, and guilt and by behaviors including argumentation and silence. These behaviors, in turn, function to reinstate white racial equilibrium and prevent any meaningful cross-racial dialogue. In this in-depth exploration, anti-racist educator Robin DiAngelo examines how white fragility develops, how it protects racial inequality, and what can be done to engage more constructively.

After this book discussion, the club will move on to: **"A History of God: The 4,000-Year Quest of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam"** by Karen Armstrong. Over 700,000 copies of the original hardcover and paperback editions of this stunningly popular book have been sold. Karen Armstrong's superbly readable exploration of how the three dominant monotheistic religions of the world - Judaism, Christianity, and Islam - have shaped and altered the conception of God is a tour de force. One of Britain's foremost commentators on religious affairs, Armstrong traces the history of how men and women have perceived and experienced God, from the time of Abraham to the present.

Anyone who doesn't mind the early hour, enjoys challenging and honest discussion, and comes with an open mind and heart is welcome to join us. Coffee and breakfast snacks are included each week, and we keep our meeting to just about an hour. Please check us out - we would love to have you!

Mission Team Report

Emma Henderson sent a thank you note to the congregation for the Award for her mission trip to El Salvador. We look forward to hearing from her on a future mission Sunday to share her experiences.

We continue to look for speakers for Mission Sundays. If you have interest in a mission, please let us know so we can explore it.

Ramps of Hope is restructuring currently. Stay tuned for further info.

The congregation was asked to join us in a Souper Sunday on February 12th. The team will be collecting soups to be donated to the Edinboro food bank at the 11 a.m. service. Canned or dried soups are needed or, if you prefer, you can make a donation to the Food Bank. Please participate in this effort!

C.A.R.E. Team

The C.A.R.E. Team focuses on HOSPITALITY and LOVING SERVICE.

Members of the Team coordinate meals for parishioners recovering from surgery and illness. Currently, the team is organizing meals for Pat Ptasick and Christine Henderson. The congregation is notified of the meal need through email, the Cross & Flame and the bulletin. The email provides a direct link to the "Take Them a Meal" page. If you aren't able to make and take a meal, this service also allows for you to pay for a meal to be delivered.

Connections are made with visits, phone calls, cards, prayers and e-mails to those who may be unable to attend church services. One way that this is done is through our long history of the Card Ministry. This ministry was founded by Rev. Ted Cole and for many years has been handled by Dot Fleming. You may have received cards from Dot signed by Edinboro United Methodist Church. Dot recently moved to Bethlehem, PA to be near family. Her move created a large hole that needed fill and the call was put out for a volunteer. We are pleased to announce that Donna Mushrush has taken this valuable ministry on. If you know of someone that may need to have a card, please contact Donna or the office.

There is great excitement in welcoming several new members to our church. They will be introduced at church services, in the Cross and Flame and in this newsletter.

The Teddy Bear Ministry, designed to bring comfort and encouragement to people suffering from physical, mental, or spiritual stress is active.

If you feel a calling to become a part of the C.A.R.E. Team please call Cheryl Wiegler at 814-450-2326. We would love to have you join us.

If you, or someone you know would benefit from the services of the C.A.R.E. Team please contact the church office at 814-734-3182.



Continued from page 1. ..

took this earlier focus on Lent this year? What new life might God bring into our lives? What good things could God empower us to bring to others?

Come and join us this Lent! Each Sunday we will explore the good things God is turning us toward. **Let's turn aside from the daily grind, to listen anew for God's voice this Lent. Let us journey toward the New Life Christ can give to and through us!**

Have a Blessed Lent,

Pastor Ed

Intentional Faith Formation Team (IFF)

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL:

The Adult Sunday School class just finished a 4-week study with AJ Levine's "Beyond Suffering" which examined the angst four biblical characters dealt with including Hagar, Naomi, David, and Job. Dr. Levine is joining the group on Sunday, February 5, via zoom.

On Sunday February 12, the group will begin studying a new book by **Mike Slaughter** entitled ***Made for a Miracle***, a book that journeys from Advent to Lent. On Sunday, March 19, Rev. Slaughter will join the class via zoom for discussion.

CHURCH REVITALIZATION:

"Church Next: Leading in a Post-Pandemic, Post-Denominational World" (see page 15).

DISCIPLE BIBLE:

We were so fortunate to have been blessed by the presence and knowledge Reverend Dr. Ted Cole brought to our community for many years. He will be sorely missed. Ted wanted to make sure that his ministries continued and so he asked some individuals to take over his duties. Christine Henderson has agreed to lead the Wednesday Disciple III class, using Ted's PowerPoints and notes as a starting point, along with access to his library of books.

UPCOMING COURSES FOR NEW (AND CURRENT) MEMBERS:

- ◇ "The Will of God" led by Pastor Ed Schoeneck (see page 13)
- ◇ "Making Sense of the Bible" by Pastor Ed (mid April—May 2023)
- ◇ "*HERSTORY* in His Time: Women of the Bible" by Dr. Jerra Jenrette (late June—July)
- ◇ Pastor Ed will offer a study entitled "The Art and Practice of Prayer" during late summer.
- ◇ Dr. Jenrette will offer a study of the Old Testament (Hebrew Bible/TANAKH) during the fall.
- ◇ New Testament course to be offered during spring 2024.

***** Sign up sheets for each class will be available in the Narthex a few weeks before each class begins.**

Register there or call the church office.

Day trips 2023: *(Contact Jerra Jenrette for more information.)*

A day sail on the Brig Niagara

Sightseeing on the Lady Kate

Dates to TBD

Olmstead Women's Conference/Retreat:

The IFF is looking to either help send a couple of women to Olmstead's spring or fall conference and/or develop plans to hold an EUMC women's weekend retreat in 2023.

Interested? Let us know! Contact Irene Smith @ iasjazz@roadrunner.com

The Spring Retreat is already listed and registrations are open.

<https://www.olmstedmanor.org/spring-womens-retreat.html>



IFF—SPRING ADULT TRIP

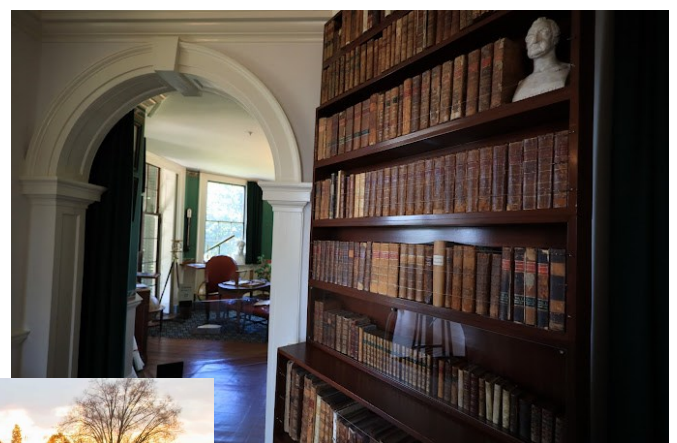
Participants will travel with Dr. Jerra Jenrette to visit Colonial Williamsburg, Jamestown, and Monticello in Charlottesville, VA from May 8-12, 2023. The deadline for signing up is March 15 to allow time to purchase admission tickets. All costs (hotel, travel, food, and admission fees, etc.) are covered by the participants. We use the carpool method for travel, so the number of vehicles and drivers needed depends on number of participants.

ESTIMATED COSTS:

Including hotel, breakfast and admission, but does not include transportation costs.
 Estimated Total cost is about \$448 per person (excluding food)

Trip departs at 8:00 a.m. on Monday, May 8 and returns late afternoon/early evening on Friday, May 12, 2023.

For further info contact: jerrajenrette@gmail.com



Notes from the Choir Loft

We are so happy to be back in the choir loft every Sunday. In our robes, we feel like the Blue Sea of Tranquility. What a difference it made on the Live Streaming. The voices of the choir seem to fill up the space and enhance the sound. We are always looking for more voices. We rehearse on Wednesday nights at 6:30 in the choir loft. We are usually working on 2 or more pieces at a time. We don't sing every Sunday. Singing depends on the amount of voices available on any particular Sunday. Our singers come and go and try their best to keep Brenda informed. So, if you like to sing but can't make the weekly commitment, don't let that deter you. We will take you



Blessing of the Animals

On a crisp, sunny Sunday afternoon, thirteen '4-legged friends' of our congregation were blessed in a meaningful service conducted by Pastor Ed. Pictured are some of the attendees - Greg Lessig & *Nelly*, Ruth Knaus & *Gracie*, and Russell Walburn & *Lucy*.

Plans are already underway for the 2023 Blessing of the Animals to be held in the fall.

The Compass Group Will Integrate with Council

In May of 2021, then Pastor Lisa Grant convened the first meeting of the Compass Group, which was formed to consider the direction of EUMC ministries. Prior to this, the congregation participated in an exhaustive dialog from which our Purpose, Mission and Vision statements and our core values were derived. The Compass Group was formed for the Church to consider these statements and begin conversation on the direction towards which God may be leading us as a church. However, the Covid pandemic challenged our ability to begin this work, yet on the other hand, it has also provided us with an opportunity to make this all new. The Compass group began meeting regularly to enter discussions guided by some basic questions, such as:

What ministries were missed?

What ministries do we not want to move forward with?

Why do we follow Christ?

Why are we part of a Church?

Why EUMC?

These discussions led the group to identify ten areas considered essential parts of the Church. From these ten areas, ministry teams were formed. Additionally, the Compass Group recommended membership of the Nominations and Lay Leadership Development Committee for the pastoral transition to new Pastor Ed Schoeneck.

At this time, four ministry teams are well established and have begun their work and the Nominations and Lay Leadership Development Committee has been meeting to create a workable committee structure for the church. As this committee continues to consider committee composition and structure, the work of the Compass Team will be integrated into Church Council. The ministry teams have already begun the process of reporting their activities to the Council.

January Linger Longer Lunch

On Sunday, January 29th, the IFF team organized and held a "Game On" Linger Longer Lunch with Pizza, Salad and Cookies. After eating, the attendees had an opportunity to play board and card games in small groups. All attending enjoyed themselves and look forward to the next Linger Longer Lunch activity. (See pictures on page 9.)

Women's Book Club

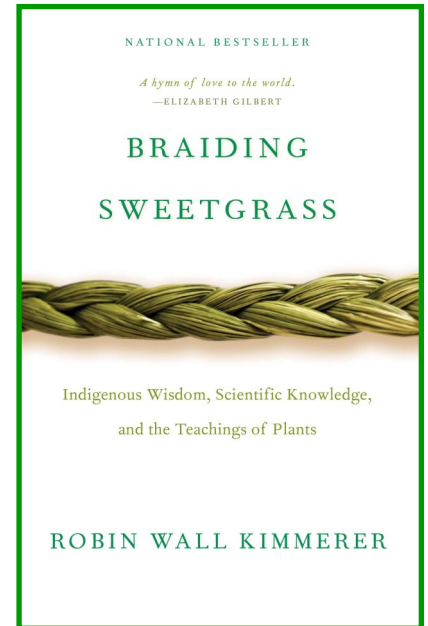
Thursday Mornings - 9:00am - Zoom

The Women's Book Club meets Thursday mornings at 9:00 to accommodate those of us who travel and who have moved to other communities and we have members who attend other churches in the area. Originally, Lisa Grant, the former pastor was the leader and provided the religious background for the discussions. Normally we come prepared to discuss two to three chapters each week and currently, we are taking turns leading the discussion.

We enjoy reading current literature designed to prompt discussions about our faith and to improve our awareness of social concerns. While the group initially concentrated on women's issues and women authors, we have expanded our selections into other social topics, such as death and dying, racism, economic and educational concerns as well as other religions. We have read *Waking Up White*, *Two Dogs and a Parrot*, *On Vanishing*, *The Boys in the Bunkhouse*, *The Zealot*, *Saving Grace*, *Threading My Prayer Rug*, *Girl Meets God*, *Falling Upward*, *The Anatomy of Peace*, *On the Brink of Everything*, *Carry on Warrior*, *The Secret Chord*, *Caste*, and *The Book of Joy*, among many, many others. Most recently, we read *Do I Stay Christian* by Brian McLaren. While not all of us like every book, we find the discussions helpful and feel that we learn something from each book.

On February 9, we are starting *Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teachings of Plants* by Robin Wall Kimmerer. "Drawing on her life as an indigenous scientist, and as a woman Kimmerer shows how other living beings - asters and goldenrod, strawberries and squash, salamanders, algae, and sweetgrass - offer us gifts and lessons, even if we've forgotten how to hear their voices. In reflections that range from the creation of Turtle Island to the forces that threaten its flourishing today, she circles toward a central argument: that the awakening of ecological consciousness requires the acknowledgment and celebration of our reciprocal relationship with the rest of the living world. For only when we can hear the languages of other beings will we be capable of understanding the generosity of the earth and learn to give our own gifts in return."

Please feel free to join us. You are welcome to purchase your own book or sign the list on the narthex table. Contact the church office for Zoom instructions.



EUMC Lenten Worship February – March 2023

February 19: We conclude our Series Bread, Bath and Beyond
“Beyond the Fear” (Mark 9: 2-9)

February 26 we begin a new series for Lent:

**“Turn, Turn, Turn;
‘To Everything There is a Season’**



Come and join us this Lent! Each Sunday we will explore the good things God is turning us toward. *Let’s turn aside from the daily grind, to listen anew for God’s voice this Lent. Let us journey toward the New Life Christ can give to and through us!*

Wednesday February 22 Ash Wednesday Service 7:00 p.m.
“Rock Bottom” (John 8: 1 – 11)

Sunday February 26: First Sunday in Lent
“Turning to Courage” (Matthew 14: 22 - 36)

Sunday March 5: Second Sunday in Lent
“Turn Out of the Ruts” (Mark 2: 23 – 3: 6)

Sunday March 12: Third Sunday in Lent
“Turn to New Life” - (John 12: 25 - 26)

Sunday March 19: Fourth Sunday in Lent
Our Guest Rev. Mike Slaughter preaching

Sunday March 26: Fifth Sunday in Lent
“Turn to Solutions” - (John 12: 1 - 11)

******There will be a Good Friday Service on April 7th at 7 p.m. ******

Contact Information

Edinboro United Methodist Church

P.O. Box 764

113 High St.

Edinboro, Pa 16412

814.734.3182

EUMC E-mail: office@edinboroumc.org

EUMC Website: www.edinboroumc.org

EUMC Social Media

Facebook: Edinboro United Methodist Church

Instagram: EUMC113

You Tube:

STAFF

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Dennis Carner, Technology

technology@edinboroumc.org

Kay Jordan, Treasurer

treasurer@edinboroumc.org

Boy Scout Troop 176

We are sorry to report that at our December 8, 2022 Administrative Council meeting, we voted to release Boy Scout Troop 176, their number and any equipment and monies they had. The Edinboro United Methodist Church held the charter for Troop 176 since the late 1960s, but in December, Troop 176 made the difficult decision to merge with the Troop 73 from McKean. They felt a larger troop would give the boys more opportunities and varied experiences. The Cub Scouts from the two communities had made a similar merger in 2021 and currently have their meetings in EUMC.

The merger occurred after more than a year of legal issues arising from the Boy Scouts of America filing for bankruptcy and the legal liability of United Methodist Church. We had planned to continue our “charter” after the legal issues were resolved, but the troop made the decision to merge.

We are thankful for our many years of a mutually beneficial arrangement with Troop 176. The picnic pavilion was built by three Eagle Scouts - Adam Hushon, Jeff Leretsis and Ryan Sanders - under the direction of former Scout Master Bob Barko. Our insurance company has valued the replacement of that structure at \$30,000. We have had many Eagle Scouts from our congregation who have made us proud and we are thankful for all of the adults who have worked with Troop 176 over the years, including the long serving liaison Don Beckman and the most recent Scout Master Eric Merendt.

Olmstead Manor Retreat Center

Olmstead is a retreat center located in Ludlow, PA, available for group retreats, individual getaways, and event rental. Olmsted is a retreat center providing sacred space for renewal in an atmosphere of Christian hospitality.

Picture – perhaps copy a picture from Olmsted’s web page?

Surrounded by the Allegheny National Forest, Olmsted provides an ideal space for private and group retreats. Olmsted is also a popular choice for groups to hold workshops and seminars. Olmsted strives to provide our guests with Christian hospitality and a sense of peaceful refuge as they seek to renew their spirit.

Bible study small groups, mission teams, quilting guilds, youth groups, photographers, families, and many more - there’s a place for everyone at Olmsted. Our facilities include unique overnight accommodations, meeting spaces, and beautiful grounds that are open to booking year-round. We seek to work alongside your group’s leaders to design the best possible retreat for your specific purpose and needs. Together, we will determine the ideal retreat details according to your timeframe and budget. At Olmsted, your group will find the set-apart location, friendly faces, and flexibility you are searching for. We welcome you to come away.

<https://www.olmstedmanor.org/events.html>

Prayer Retreat:

Meditate Like Jesus
March 3-5, 2023

Spring Women's Retreat:

Mystery Women
April 14-16, 2023

Fly-Fishing Weekend

The Secrets of Fly-Fishing Success
April 21-23, 2023

Church Admin Training

w/ Pam Honeychurch
July 16-18, 2023

Couples' Retreat:

w/ Christian Counseling Associates
July 21-23, 2023

Nature & Spirituality Retreat:

Finding Hope in the Wilderness
August 17-19, 2023

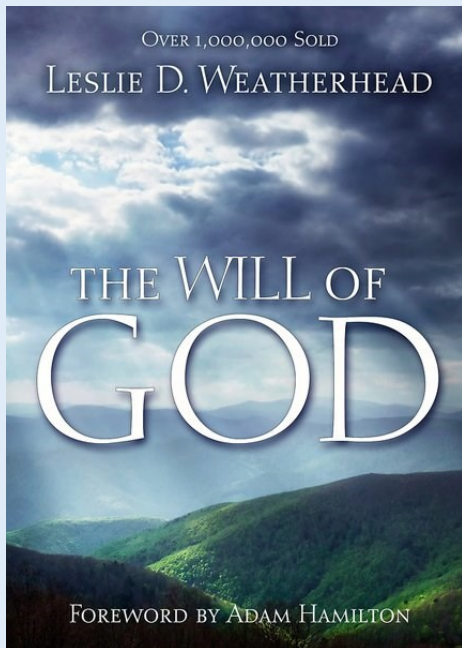
Olmsted Manor Retreat Center

17 East Main St. - PO Box 8 - Ludlow, PA 16333
814-945-6512
info@olmstedmanor.org



Lenten Study

"The Will of God" by Leslie Weatherhead



7:00 pm Sunday evenings by Zoom from March 5th to April 2nd
10:30 am in person from March 8th to April 5th in the Wesley Room

“Tragedy befalls us and leaves us confused. Life doesn’t turn out as we had planned. World events bring unspeakable horrors into the lives of innocent people. The unimaginable happens and we are left asking, ‘Why? Why did God let this happen? ...’ (From the introduction)

It was during the tumultuous era of World War II that Leslie D. Weatherhead, a British clergyman, preached five sermons on understanding the will of God for the congregation at City Temple in London. These sermons became the classic book *The Will of God*, which has helped hundreds of Christians explore how God’s will is related to God’s character and ultimate intentions for us.

Hope you can join us!!

Books available for \$7.50 donation

Sign up on back table in the Narthex or email the office to register for the class (office@edinboroumc.org).



EUMC Cross & Flame

Update for week of

Embrace - Engage - Ignite

Do you receive our weekly newsletter – The Cross & Flame? It is a newsletter that arrives in your email every Tuesday with current church schedule, announcements, and articles.

The email list for the newsletter is also used to send important messages or announcements. If you would like to be added to the email list, please contact Junia in the office at 814-734=3182 or email her at office@edinboroumc.com.



WAYMAKER WEDNESDAY!

WE KICKED OFF OUR NEW MINISTRY ON FEBRUARY 1ST – DID YOU GET THE EMAIL WITH THE LINK TO THE VIDEO? THIS IS A WEEKLY ITEM, BE SURE TO CHECK YOUR EMAIL ON WEDNESDAYS. THIS WILL BE SENT MIDDAY EVERY WEDNESDAY TO EVERYONE ON OUR CROSS & FLAME EMAIL LIST.

Disciple III

As many of you know, the Disciple classes were a passion of Ted Cole. His passion for Bible study and for teaching continued long past his official retirement. In fact, it continues to this day, even beyond his passing. Ted built up a large group of faithful followers. He wished for them to continue developing their faith, studying the Bible, and gathering in fellowship.

So that is exactly what we are doing, as we resumed Disciple III on January 25. We will spend the next few weeks wrapping up our study of Isaiah and other prophets before we take a deep dive into the letters of Paul.



Youth Group

The youth have been meeting weekly after the church service to enjoy faith discussions and food. They worked through "When Christians Get It Wrong" by Adam Hamilton, had some great discussions around Advent, and recently watched a Rob Bell video that focused on serving others.

Serving others is a passion of our youth and they have been listening to guest speakers, such as Kurt Crays of EUMA, talk about local service opportunities.

On January 8, they helped Katie Peterson of the Eastbrook Mission Barn pack hygiene kits for UMCOR, to send to families experiencing the effects of natural disasters.

The youth have also been brainstorming a list of other service projects they would like to be involved in throughout 2023.



You're Invited to

CHURCH

Next

Leading in A Post-Pandemic – Post-Denominational World.
Looking at the four critical practices for local churches: Leadership development,
Ministry with the poor, Creating new opportunities outside the church buildings and
Forming recovery communities.

Saturday, March 18, 2023

at

**Edinboro United Methodist Church;
113 High Street,
Edinboro, PA, 16412**

Our leader for the day: Mike Slaughter

Pastor emeritus and global church ambassador for Ginghamburg Church, served for nearly four decades as the lead pastor and chief dreamer of Ginghamburg and the spiritual entrepreneur of ministry marketplace innovations.

*Mike is also the founder and chief strategist of **Passionate Churches, LLC**, which specializes in developing pastors, church staff and church lay leaders through coaching, training, consulting, and facilitation services. Mike's call to "afflict the comfortable" challenges Christians to wrestle with God and their God-destinies.*



-
- 8:30 a.m. *Registration & Check-In for Pre-Registered - Continental Breakfast provided*
- 9:30 a.m. *Session 1 Begins*
- 12:00 p.m. *Lunch provided.*
- 1:00 p.m. *Session 2 Begins*

Who should attend? Clergy, Laity and Church Membership - All are Welcome!

**Cost: \$25.00 - registered before or on March 10 (In person or streamed)
\$35.00 – registered after March 10 (In person or streamed)**

Streaming link will be supplied after registration.

Registration opens online, Friday, February 10th.

To register: <https://wpa-reg.brtaapp.com/ChurchNext>

New Members Joined Edinboro United Methodist Church January 29, 2023

On Sunday, January 29th, eight new members and their four children joined Edinboro United Methodist Church. They are Mark & Debbie Woods, Erinn Lake Brozewicz, Kristina Fuller with her children, Isaiah & Olivia Farbo and Jackson Fuller, Gary & Shirley Bilek, Jennifer & Lucas Bostaph and daughter, MyaRose Smith. A Linger Longer Luncheon "Game On" was held after worship and allowed the congregation to meet the new members and to share fellowship with them. The next newsletter will include more information about our new members and will include several more individuals who are interested in joining our church.



Would you like to become a member of Edinboro UMC?

We'd love to have you join with us!

Pastor Ed has been meeting with various individuals who are joining our church and would be happy to talk to any one that would want to be a member at EUMC.

For more information or to sign up, please contact Pastor Ed through the church office at (814) 734-3182, or send an email to the Church Office at office@edinboroumc.org.

As many of you know, Dot and John Fleming recently moved to Bethlehem, PA to be near family. If you would like Dot's new address—please contact the church office 814-734-3182.

Remembering Rev. Dr. Ted Cole

(1943-2023)

Theodore G. “Ted” Cole, age 79, of Mill Village, passed away on Sunday, January 15, 2023. He was born June 19, 1943, to the late Lawrence and Adda Cole.

Ted married the late Donna Peterson Cole in 1965. Together, they had two beautiful children: Amy and Aaron.

Ted served a number of churches throughout the Western Pennsylvania Conference of the United Methodist Church. These appointments included: As a student, Bethel (Titusville) 1962-1965; then after graduation: Mount Hope/Pine Grove/Black Ash (1970-1972); Espyville/Westford (1972-1977); Somerset Grace UMC (1977-1981); Wattsburg and Phillippsville UM churches (1981-1987); Ellwood City UMC (1987-1994); and Oil City Trinity UMC (1994—Dec. 31, 2001), from where he retired in 2001.

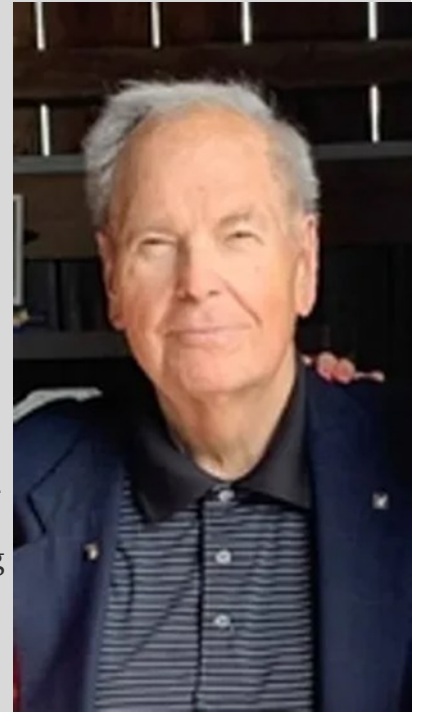
After retirement from full-time ministry, Ted accepted a half-time position at Edinboro United Methodist as Pastoral Assistant. His passion while serving in this capacity was teaching Bible with a specialty in first century Christianity.

At EUMC, Ted was a 20 year member and was instrumental in the Disciple classes by teaching groups. He was the founder of the EUMC Card Ministry and the program continues today.

During the memorial service, District Superintendent Dennis Swineford shared the following:

“Ted’s first ministry assignment was as a student pastor to the Bethel United Methodist Church in this district. He was a student at Allegheny College. My first appointment as a new seminary graduate was to the same place. One of the unique things about Methodist ministry is that we do move about from place to place throughout our careers. It allows us to use our gifts in different communities across our years of service. To bless and be blessed by a wide variety of people and places. It also creates a bond between those of us who share the experience of the same congregations. Together we can remember, share stories, laugh and complain about some of the same people and settings. It creates a bond. Because, like Paul hints at, we have poured out our lives on behalf of the same community. It allows us to appreciate each other’s role in the story of a place. So here is my Ted story. I was blessed to be appointed to Bethel when the congregation was growing. A group of young married adults had just come back to the congregation. The Church had declined and was considering closure. But these young people rallied. They were making it possible for the Bishop to appoint a full time pastor there, for the first time in many, many years. But here is the thing. When I asked those young people about pastors who had influenced them. Who, as they thought about it, had helped them realize the Church was important to them. Among the two or three mentioned, was Ted Cole. A guy not a whole lot older than they. But who started a youth group, and hung out with them, and played with them, and taught them about following Jesus. You see, my ministry in that place was powerfully blessed by Ted’s ministry that had happened years before. His ministry strengthened my ministry. That is the way of United Methodist Ministry. Someone once said, in the Church we stand on the shoulders of giants. The Rev. Dr. Ted Cole, became one of my giants. ”

What a special tribute about Ted’s ministry live. We have all lost a very special man. Our thoughts and prayers continue for Ted’s family as they mourn the lost of Ted.



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About Us

OUR PURPOSE:

We join with the Holy Spirit to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

OUR MISSION:

We are a dynamic community of doubters, dreamers and disciples on a life long journey of faith and action with Christ.

OUR VISION:

By embracing grace, we will engage heads, hands and hearts in the way of Christ to ignite a profound love of God in all.

WE WELCOME YOU:

Regardless of race, ethnicity, age, marital status, gender identity, sexual orientation, social or economic status, physical and mental ability or religious affiliation. All persons are of sacred worth. We are all God's beloved.