

Elmwood West Methodist Church



Elmwood West News January 2024

A NEW YEAR

2024 is here! Seems like it ought to be 2004, or maybe 1984 (yes, Big Brother is watching). George Orwell warned us about the negative things that were possible if the government was allowed to exercise total control. Praise God we haven't fallen that far...yet.



Each passing year brings changes. I look at the news and am aghast. Men thinking that they are women, and demanding to be treated as such. Millions of undocumented and unvetted people streaming across our U.S. borders. High inflation, high crime, and high immorality. The bedrock principles of yesterday have become today's quicksand.

As the New Year dawns, we need to remember that we are in a war. No, not a war with our government, or with undocumented migrants, or with societies perversions. These things are only symptoms of a much, much larger problem.

We are in a Spiritual war for the soul of the country, the soul of our city, and the soul of our neighbor.

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of the dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. – Ephesians 6:12.

But how can we fight a war against "the powers of the dark world" and against the "spiritual forces of evil". Bullets, bombs, or even ballots won't win that type of war.

Paul gives us the answer in the next verse. Therefore, put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground.

This verse tells us much about surviving the battle at hand. "Put on the full armor of God". First, we cannot defend ourselves from evil. We must rely on the armor provided by God for that. Second,

we must put on “the full armor”. A quick prayer here, reading a few Bible verses there, won’t cut it. These days we must be consistent and immersed in our faith, in the Holy Spirit and in our peace.

The verse also tells us to be ready “when the day of evil comes”. There is no doubt that evil is coming. One look at the news tells us it is closer than ever before. Evil is coming, but so is the day of the Lord. And we know who is ultimately victorious!

A new year is here! A new opportunity to spread the light of God’s Good News to a hurting people. A new chance to stand firm against evil; by being prepared, by praying, and by always following the lead of the Holy Spirit.

May Elmwood West Methodist always stand our ground for God’s Truth throughout 2024!

--Pastor Chris

Circle of Faith Update

Circle of Faith will meet Thursday, January 11 at noon.

We will have a quick pot luck luncheon.

Program for this meeting is ideas for our mission in 2024.

Some topics that have been discussed are to do a fundraiser for the roof replacement, do a sanctuary cleaning, organize church decoration, and make hygiene and shower bags for homeless.

Outreach Projects for 2024

In 2024 our focus will be on outreach.

A major projects that has been discussed is doing a Revival in the Spring. Chris, Ricky and James are leading that project. If you would like to be a part of planning that, you can talk to one of them.

We are also working on door hangers to distribute in the neighborhood. James and I are leading that project. We are aware that many of us aren’t able to walk the neighborhood. We are looking at a way to recruit youth from the neighborhood to help. We will need help making the door hangers and maybe driving group around the neighborhood.

Wednesday Night Meals

We start serving at 5:00 and will continue to serve until 5:45.

Everyone is welcome to come and fellowship with us.

FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP

\$5 adult

\$4 Children and college students

Children 3 and under free

\$15 family maximum

Jan 3—No Meal

Jan 10—Breakfast for Dinner

Pancakes, Sausage, Fruit

Jan 17—Chili and Fixings

Brownie and cookies

Jan 24—Orange Chicken, Fried Rice,

Egg Rolls and Cake

January 31—Tortilla Pile Up, Salad and

Sopapilla Cheese Cake



Psalms 103:8 NIV

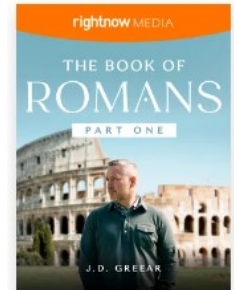
*The Lord is compassionate and gracious,
slow to anger, abounding in love.*

Wednesday Night Bible Study

On January 10 we will start a study of the Book of Romans from Rightnow Media. If you would like to preview it you can go to Rightnow Media.

Description

The book of Romans is considered by many to be one of the most important books ever written on the Christian faith. Writing to Christians, the apostle Paul defines the gospel, explores its depths, and discusses its significance and implications for the Christian life. books ever written on the Christian faith. Writing to Christians, the apostle Paul defines the gospel, explores its depths, and discusses its significance and implications for the Christian life.



You can access Rightnow Media on your computer at the web address below.

Browse their collection or click at the Elmwood West Methodist Church at the top to see our collection.


<https://app.rightnowmedia.org/en/library/default>

You can share this link with friends and family.


rightnow MEDIA

A GIFT FROM OUR CHURCH

Free Access to +25,000 Bible Study Videos—
Anytime, Anywhere, from Any Device



Scan the QR code to create your free account and start browsing.



android chromecast iPhone & iPad Roku Apple TV firetv

News from the Pantry

The total number of people served in 2023 was 6,118 families that represented 14,231 individuals.

In 2024 we will continue our mission of serving family and individuals in need as we have the past years. Food and hygiene item will be distributed as always.

Volunteers and donations are always the most important part of our mission. A big thanks to those who make this mission possible.

Prayer Request

Continued prayer for:

Shirley Davila	Lena Moore
Mary Steed	Martha Davis
Carol Myers	Ava Howard
Bill Temple	Doris Harp
David Jackson	Marge Vargas
Chyrsti Martin	Reva Turner
Bev Ridgway	Jose Garcia
Mieka Wallace	Wanda Nichols

*Our prayer group meet on Tuesdays at 1:00.
All are invited to join.*

*You can call 692-1173 with prayer concerns or
email
ewmc@elmwoodwest.com
slsabilene@outlook.com*

Memorials and Honorariums

In Memory of **Beverly Ridgway**

By Ann Wagner, Jannie
Rodgers, Mac and Evelyn
McCarthy



Attendance and Giving

December 3

Sunday School	25	Worship	In Person 34 Online 2
Tithe and Offering	\$7,046	Memorials	\$40

December 10

Sunday School	29	Worship	In Person 37 Online 2
Tithe and Offering	\$1,317	Memorials	

December 17

Sunday School	11	Worship	In Person 27 Online 1
Tithe and Offering	\$342	Memorials	

December 24

Sunday School	0	Worship	In Person 21 Online 2
Tithe and Offering	\$376	Memorials	\$50

December 31 No Service— Gas Leak

Sunday School		Worship	In Person Online
Tithe and Offering	\$	Memorials	

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

**Brittany
Potter
1-9**

Elmwood West Methodist Church

January 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship	8	9 1:00 Prayer Group	10 5:30 Fellowship Meal 6:30 Bible Study	11 Noon –Circle of Faith	12	13
14 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship	15	16 1:00 Prayer Group	17 5:30 Fellowship Meal 6:30 Bible Study	18	19	20
21 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship	22	23 1:00 Prayer Group 4-6 Food Pantry	24 5:30 Fellowship Meal 6:30 Bible Study	25	26	27
28 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship	29	30 1:00 Prayer Group 4-6 Food Pantry	31 5:30 Fellowship Meal 6:30 Bible Study			

Worship Service
Sunday 10:00am



In Person and
Facebook Live