



“Love in Action: A February Focus on Faith”

As we enter the month of February, hearts and minds often turn to love—making cards, sending flowers, and cooking meals fill our thoughts and calendars. But for Christians, love is much more than a seasonal sentiment; it’s the very foundation of our faith.

The apostle Paul reminds us in 1 Corinthians 13 that love is patient, kind, and enduring. This chapter often appears at weddings, but its message is universal and deeply practical. Love calls us to act with compassion, forgiveness, and grace in every aspect of our lives.

At El Paso UMC we’re dedicating this month to exploring what it means to live out Christian love in our community. As part of this journey, we’re highlighting a few ways to practice love in action:

- **Community Meals Ministry:** Join us on the first Sunday of the month, Feb 2nd, at 11:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall as we serve meals to our neighbors. There’s no better way to show love than by breaking bread together.
- **Kids’ Church:** Continuing this month, every Sunday at 9 a.m., our dedicated leaders, Chuck and Amy Feeney, will guide children (ages 5–12) in learning about God’s love in fun, creative ways.
- **Valentine’s Cards for Local Nursing Homes:** On Sunday, February 9th, we’ll gather in the Fellowship Hall after the service to create cards for residents and staff of our local nursing home. Let’s remind them they are seen and loved.
- **The Chosen:** On Tuesdays at 6:30 pm we will watch and discuss episodes of The Chosen together in the Fellowship Hall. This popular miniseries explores the stories of Jesus from the New Testament.

Love is not confined to Valentine’s Day; it’s our daily calling in God.

With you on the journey,
Rev. Greg Boylan

Worship With Us!

Sunday Worship Service 9 am
Fellowship 10 am
Adult Sunday School 10:30 am
Nursery is available during worship

Online Worship

Livestreamed on our website
www.elpasoumcil.org or link directly on
YouTube
[www. https://www.youtube.com/
@ElPasoUnitedMethodistChurch-IL](https://www.youtube.com/@ElPasoUnitedMethodistChurch-IL)

Pastor Greg Boylan

gregory.boylan@gmail.com
Cell/Text 309-397-8682
Office 309-527-2222

Let Pastor Greg know if you would like to be added to his weekly email!

Prayer Requests

Do you have prayer requests? Do you have pastoral care concerns? Contact Pastor Greg directly or fill out the Contact Us / Prayer Request page on our website <https://elpasoumcil.org/contact-us/> and your request will be sent directly to Pastor’s email – you are not posting publicly.

UMC Mission Statement

Make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Membership Matters

We believe Christians are called to a lifelong journey of growth. Participation in the ministries of the church, like worship, Bible study, missions and connecting with our neighbors are ways God works in our lives and hearts. We believe membership matters because we are better together. Contact Pastor Greg for information on how to become a member of El Paso UMC!

Discipleship Small Group

The Discipleship Small Group meets every Sunday at 10:30 am in the Chapel. *Come and grow in your walk with Christ!* Each class is an independent study so you can attend anytime. We would love to have more attend! All are welcome!

UNITED METHODIST NEWS:

www.umc.org

ILLINOIS GREAT RIVERS
CONFERENCE NEWS:

<https://www.igrc.org/>



Join us Sunday, February 9th, to gather in the Fellowship Hall after the service to create cards for residents and staff of our local nursing home. Let's remind them they are seen and loved.



Our Samaritan's Purse packages arrived in the Republic of Congo!

Can you help
with Dinner
or Snacks?

Moms Group

help for moms, from moms

Volunteers
needed for
the nursery!

Mom's Group Bible Study

Mom's Group is meeting the 1st and 3rd Monday from 5:30 to 7 pm for a Bible study. Jenica will have copies of the study available for each mom so she needs to know who is coming. Dinner/Snacks will be served. Nursery is provided. Talk to Jenica Rarick if you are interested in joining the Bible study or helping in the nursery! Volunteers should report at 5:20 pm.



Beginning Tuesday 2/4 at 6:30 pm we will meet in the Fellowship Hall and watch then discuss episodes of The Chosen together. This popular miniseries explores the stories of Jesus from the New Testament.

The church council plans and implements a program of nurture, outreach, witness, and resources in the local church. It envisions, plans, implements and evaluates the mission and ministry of the church. (Book of Discipline ¶252)

The Church Council	
Pastor	Pastor Greg Boylan
Church Council Chair	Mike Haerr
Board of Trustees Chair	Jim Skolek
Finance Committee Chair	Jenny Kaufman
Nominations & Leadership Vice Chair	Nancy Mool
Pastor Parish Chair	Chuck Feeney
Lay Leader	David Denney
Lay Member of Annual Conference	Mike Haerr
Church Treasurer	Amy Feeney
Financial Secretary	Jenny Kaufman

Committees

Board of Trustees: Don Mool, Amy Haerr, Jake Kronen, **Jim Skolek**, Tim Smith, Bob Hanna, Darrell Duley

Staff/Pastor-Parish Relations: Jim Skolek, Donita Fever, Bonnie Armstrong, **Chuck Feeney**, Nancy Mool

Finance: Pastor Greg Boylan, Mike Haerr, Chuck Feeney, Amy Feeney, Lori Henderson, **Jenny Kaufman**, Jenna Kronen, DJ Stone, JoEllen Skolek

Nominations & Leadership: **Pastor Greg Boylan**, Mike Haerr, Nancy Mool, Diane Smith, Dora Scheer, Laura Kolupa

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”
Matt 28:19-20

Next Church Council Meeting
 March 5th after the Ash Wednesday Service.
 All are welcome to attend the Church Council meeting.

Nursery Volunteer Schedule

Feb 2 – Katelyn
 Feb 9 – Abby
 Feb 16 – Lori
 Feb 23 – Laura

Our nursery is available during worship for children 4 and under. *If you are willing to help in the nursery, contact Amy Feeney.*

Get Involved...

- Mom’s Group needs volunteers for the nursery and to help bring in snacks/meals. Talk to Jenica Rarick.
- Help us feed the community at our Community Meal. *We would love to see more UMC members attend!*
- Please volunteer to help in our nursery.
- We need help managing our EP UMC Facebook site.
- We need more Liturgists, Ushers and Greeters.
- Are you getting emails from El Paso UMC? If not, see Pastor Greg or Amy Feeney to add your email.

Talk to Pastor Greg about how you can serve in the El Paso UMC.

We are El Paso UMC Strong!

- Community Meal 1st Sunday of the month – 11:45 am. Put Feb. 2nd and Mar 2nd on your calendar!
- Kid’s Church is for kids ages 5 to 12 during the worship time on Sundays in the Fellowship Hall.
- Join us Wednesday mornings at 6:30 am for congregational prayer in the Fellowship Hall.
- The first Sunday of every month Pastor Greg leads a service for our nursing home residents.

Newsletter

- If you want something in the newsletter, please contact Amy Feeney at epumcsecretary@gmail.com
- If you know of someone that would like to get this newsletter by mail, please send their information to epumcsecretary@gmail.com or give their address to Amy.
- *Do you see typo’s, corrections, additions or updates that are needed? Let Amy know!*

Want to Give?

If you are unable to attend in person, mail a donation to:

El Paso UMC
 PO Box 25
 El Paso, IL 61738

or contact epumcsecretary@gmail.com to get instructions for online giving.

Meet Chuck & Amy Feeney



Chuck and Amy were married in 1986 after meeting at the University of Illinois – GO ILLINI. Katie, our oldest, is married to Ben and they have Lincoln (9), Isaac (7), and Vincent (10 months). They recently moved to Fairbury, IL. Katie homeschools their kids and works parttime developing websites. Chuck, our oldest son, is married to Madison and they have Merrick (4 months). They live in Fort Mills, SC. Chuck is a Software Developer for Lowe’s. Joey is married to Anna and they live in

Indianapolis, IN. Joey recently graduated law school and is a Deputy Prosecutor in Indianapolis. Gracie lives in Kirksville, MO and is finishing her masters at ATSU. She will attend medical school at ATSU beginning this fall. Chuck was an attorney in the Marine Corp and then practiced law in El Paso. He was Woodford County States Attorney, Associate Judge, then Circuit Judge. Amy was a high school Math teacher. Both retired from those positions in 2024. They aren’t retiring for long; Chuck is opening a law office in El Paso and Amy will help him there.

Chuck and Amy are dedicated members of EP UMC. Chuck was baptized and confirmed at EP UMC and regularly attended with his family when he was growing up. Amy joined EP UMC in 1992. Chuck is the Chairman of the Staff-Parish Relations Committee and leads the Discipleship Small Group (Adult Bible Study) every week. Amy is the Treasurer/Secretary, writes this newsletter and manages the www.elpasoumcil.org website. They have reignited Kid’s Church recently. We love the relationships we have with *all* the great people at EP UMC and feel God is present when 2 or more gather here!

Leadership Training Event – Consider Getting Involved

The North District is hosting a leadership training event for pastors and lay people in our local churches. You are invited! Prayerfully consider participating in this workshop with leaders in your church. (talk to Pastor Greg if interested)

Invitation to North District Workshop: Strengthening Church Leadership – Sat. February 8th
Where: First UMC, 211 N. School St., Normal, IL 61761

You will have an opportunity to meet and hear a keynote address by one of our Bishops, Bishop Bard, followed by a series of workshops presented by experienced leaders in our conference:

- Mike Crawford: “Strengthening Church Leadership: Effective Strategies for SPRC Members”
- Lori Carlson: “Revitalization: Small Churches Making Community Impact”
- Patty Johansen: “¶ 247.2: What is Simplified/Strategic Accountable Structure?”
- Alberto Ramirez: “Safer Sanctuaries”
- Mike Potts: “Financial Future”
- Sam Rodriguez: “Shining Your Light: Living as Beacons of Christ in Everyday Life”

February 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 9 am Worship 10:30 am Discipleship Small Group 11:45 am Community Meal FH	3 Bob Kolupa 5:30 - 7 pm Mom's Group	4 6:30 pm The Chosen Video Study	5 6:30 am Prayer Meeting FH	6	7	8
9 9 am Worship 10 am You are Loved Card Ministry FH 10:30 am Discipleship Small Group	10	11 6:30 pm The Chosen Video Study	12 6:30 am Prayer Meeting FH	13 Mary Hilding	14  Valentine's Day Don & Nancy Mool Nancy Jones	15
16 Charlie Rarick 9 am Worship 10:30 am Discipleship Small Group	17 5:30 - 7 pm Mom's Group	18 6:30 pm The Chosen Video Study	19 6:30 am Prayer Meeting FH	20	21	22 Jenica Rarick
23 Pastor Greg Boylan 9 am Worship 10:30 am Discipleship Small Group	24	25 6:30 pm The Chosen Video Study	26 6:30 am Prayer Meeting FH	27	28	

birthdays anniversaries events (FH Fellowship Hall) special days & holidays

Community Outreach

Are you interested in helping with Mission EPG?
Contact Joe Harlan for details of what kind of help is needed in town. 309-261-1407

The Community Well Food Pantry in El Paso
continues to remain low on a few items:

- *Canned Spam
- *Tomato soup
- *Dishwashing soap
- *Kleenex/Toilet paper/Paper towels

Also, they have a young woman in their transitional housing (Mission 414) that has had some physical/mental issues and is not able to work right now. Monetary assistance for rent, water, medicine and contacts are a need for her at this time. Contact Renee Donaldson, Executive Director, for questions renee.twell.34@gmail.com Thanks to anyone who can help!