



**El Paso United Methodist Church**  
Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Door

# The Messenger

*El Paso UMC Newsletter*

**May 2025**

243 East Second Street  
El Paso, IL 61738  
309-527-2222

[www.elpasoumcil.org](http://www.elpasoumcil.org)  
[www.facebook.com/EPUMC](https://www.facebook.com/EPUMC)

## All Things Together

Dear Church Family,

“We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who are called according to his purpose.”

—Romans 8:28

There are few promises in Scripture as comforting—and as challenging—as this one. St. Paul reminds us that God is always at work, weaving even our uncertainties, waiting seasons, and new callings into something good for those who love Him.

This spring and summer, I’m stepping into a new chapter of my own calling. Beginning in May, I’ll be heading to Rhode Island for Officer Development School, followed by Chaplaincy training with the U.S. Navy. I’ll be there through July, preparing for my assignment to the Naval Air Station in Lemoore, California, starting in August.

It’s a big transition, one filled with prayer, excitement, and yes—even a little nervousness. But I take great comfort in knowing that the same God who called me to El Paso UMC is the God who goes with me into this next mission field. And I trust He’s not finished working right here in El Paso either.

While I’m leaving this summer, the church’s leadership will be passed on to the capable and faithful hands of Chuck and Amy Feeney. I’m deeply grateful for their willingness to serve and lead during this season. Lay leaders and musicians will continue to nurture our worship life, and the great Spirit of God will keep breathing through your prayers, fellowship, and service. I hope you’ll keep showing up for one another, sharing Christ’s love, and believing that God is still doing new things.

The resurrection isn’t just a story from long ago—it’s the living power of God to bring hope, healing, and purpose right now. Let’s lean into that promise together, even across the miles.

With love and gratitude,  
**Rev. Gregory Boylan**  
Pastor, El Paso UMC

## Worship With Us!

Sunday Worship Service 9 am  
Fellowship 10 am  
Kids Church 9:15 Fellowship Hall  
Nursery is available during worship

## Online Worship

Livestreamed linked from our website  
[www.elpasoumcil.org](http://www.elpasoumcil.org) or connect directly  
on YouTube

[www.https://www.youtube.com/  
@ElPasoUnitedMethodistChurch-IL](https://www.youtube.com/@ElPasoUnitedMethodistChurch-IL)

## Chuck Feeney

[chasfeeney3@gmail.com](mailto:chasfeeney3@gmail.com)  
Cell/Text 309-261-3329  
Office 309-527-2222

Let Chuck Feeney 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  
Chuck Feeney directly or fill out the  
Contact Us / Prayer Request page on our  
website [https://elpasoumcil.org/contact-  
us/](https://elpasoumcil.org/contact-us/) and your request will be sent directly  
to Chuck’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 Chuck  
Feeney for information on how to  
become a member of El Paso UMC!

## Reverend Lieutenant Greg Boylan



Pastor Greg took his oath to be a Lieutenant in the Navy on April 6th at the beginning of our service.



## Blood Drive at El Paso UMC

Wednesday, May 7<sup>th</sup>

12:30 – 5:30 pm

The sign-up link to give blood is on our website, [www.elpasoumcil.org](http://www.elpasoumcil.org)



**Help save a life.**

Schedule your  
blood donation  
appointment today.

### Ways to Help

Check-In & Welcome Table Volunteer

Canteen Volunteers

Canteen Donations: Cold sandwiches, Hot  
sandwiches, Fruits, Veggies, Desserts

Questions? Talk to Jenica!

*Moms Group*

help for moms, from moms

**Meetings 5/5, 5/19**

Mom's Group meets the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Monday from 5:30 to 7 pm.

Dinner/Snacks will be served. Nursery is  
provided. Talk to Jenica Rarick if you are  
interested in joining Mom's Group or  
helping with food or in the nursery!  
Volunteers should report at 5:20 pm.



Bob Hanna and Von  
Weckel joined the El Paso  
United Methodist Church  
on April 20<sup>th</sup>, Easter  
Sunday, after attending  
membership classes led  
by Chuck Feeney.

If you are interested in  
becoming a member, talk  
to Chuck.



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

Minister	Chuck Feeney
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	
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 Krones, **Jim Skolek**, Tim Smith, Bob Hanna, Darrell Duley

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

**Finance:** Mike Haerr, Chuck Feeney, Amy Feeney, Lori Henderson, **Jenny Kaufman**, Jenna Krones, DJ Stone, JoEllen Skolek

**Nominations & Leadership:** **Chuck Feeney**, 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**

### Church Council Meeting

Next meeting May 1, 6:30 pm.

All are welcome to attend the Church Council meeting.

**May Greeter is Bob Hanna.**

### Nursery Volunteer Schedule

May 4 – Abby

May 11 – Lori

May 18 – Laura

May 25 - Diane

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 Chuck or Amy Feeney to add your email.  
*Talk to Chuck Feeney about how you can serve in the El Paso UMC.*

### We are El Paso UMC Strong!

- Community Meal 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month – 11:45 am. Put May 7<sup>th</sup> 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 Chuck Feeney leads a service for our nursing home residents.

### Newsletter

- If you want something in the newsletter, please contact Amy Feeney at [epumcsecretary@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:epumcsecretary@gmail.com) or give their address to Amy.
- *Do you see typo's, corrections, additions or updates that are needed? Let Amy know!*

### Website Redesign

Check out our new format for our website. You can easily get to pages to see past sermons or start giving online. Check out our upcoming events, ministries, past newsletters, church history, and leaders by exploring the site!

**[www.elpasoumcil.org](http://www.elpasoumcil.org)**

## *Chuck leads El Paso United Methodist services beginning May 1st*



To be called by God to do anything in His service is an immense privilege and responsibility. Please know that for some time I have felt called to teach and to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ. Many of you have affirmed that call and I am appreciative for that affirmation.

I have spent much time in prayer and reflection on the task we are undertaking together. I ask you to prayerfully join with me on our journey in Christ. There will be awesome times and difficult times ahead for all of us. I am certain that we can best navigate through any times as a united family of

believers. It is likely there will be times when I say the wrong thing or do the wrong thing. When that happens, please know I do not seek to do anything but express God's love. Nevertheless, this is a growth experience for all of us and most assuredly for me. So, I ask for your grace and understanding in all things.

Even more than that though, I hope you feel the movement of the Spirit's work. We will all immensely miss Pastor Greg's presence. But how exciting is it for him and for all of the service men and women that he will encounter on this adventure with the U.S. Navy as Pastor Greg answers God's call on his life in a new and challenging way. His need for our support does not cease with his departing. So, I ask you to regularly pray for Pastor Greg. We can see God at work through the Spirit's direction as He leads Pastor Greg to the Naval Service and He calls me to step forward in a new and challenging way.

This movement is creating opportunities for others as well. God did not move Pastor Greg without a plan of succession. God invites all of us to listen to His call on our lives and to answer that call. Where do you see need? How can we as the Church, the body of Christ, be the hands and feet of Christ to a world in desperate need of experiencing God's love. Each of us has a role to fill. I hope you are as excited as I am as God reveals what He is working out in all of us together.



**Thank you, Lori and Jack, for organizing our community meal**  
**Thank you, El Paso UMC, for providing great food and fellowship!**  
**Jack made the lamb cake and Dylan Rebbec won it in the raffle!**

# May 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 6:30 pm Church Board Meeting	2	3
4 9 am Worship 11:45 am Community Meal FH 1:30 Nursing Home	5 5:30 - 7 pm Mom's Group	6	7 6:30 am Prayer Meeting FH	8 Dylan Rebbec	9	10
11 9 am Worship	12	13	14 Ashlyn Stone 6:30 am Prayer Meeting FH	15	16	17 Tim & Diann Smith Beth & Ritchie Doran
18 9 am Worship	19 5:30 - 7 pm Mom's Group	20	21 6:30 am Prayer Meeting FH	22	23	24
25 9 am Worship	26 Memorial Day	27	28 Bob & Laura Kolupa 6:30 am Prayer Meeting FH	29	30 David Denney	31

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



## Disaster Response Training

### Basic ERT June 4, 2025

Training for new Early Response Team members. Full-day, in-person training covering fundamental early response skills and protocols.

- Date: Wednesday, June 4th
- Time: 8:30 AM - 3:00 PM
- Location: Peoria, IL (Site Location TBA)

**Contact:** [Curt Franklin](mailto:cfranklin@igrc.org), cfranklin@igrc.org

### Basic ERT September 6, 2025

- Date: Saturday, September 6th
- Time: 8:30 AM - 3:00 PM
- Location: East Bay Camp

**Contact:** [Curt Franklin](mailto:cfranklin@igrc.org), cfranklin@igrc.org

*Curt Franklin attended El Paso UMC a few years ago before moving to work with IGRC! If interested, get the link for registration from Amy!*



## IGRC Annual Conference June 5-7

Registration for the 2025 Annual Conference will open on Tuesday, April 1.

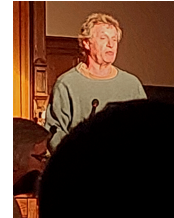
The 2025 Annual Conference which will be held at the Peoria Civic Center June 5-7. The theme for the gathering is *Rivers of Grace: Hope That Doesn't Disappoint*.

Information on Annual Conference can be found online at: [www.igrc.org/ac2025](http://www.igrc.org/ac2025).



## Holy Week

### Maundy Thursday – Living Lord Supper



### Combined Good Friday Service

The El Paso UMC, Harvest Fellowship and the Baptist Church had a combined Good Friday Service at Harvest Fellowship. Pastor Greg gave the message. UMC members were represented well in the congregation.



### Easter Sunday Service

