

WELCOME! We're glad you're here.

NEW? We would love to meet you. Please fill out a welcome card and place it in the offering basket. Join us for Coffee & Community after the service. Stop by the Information Center and meet us.

SUNDAY SERVICES

9:00 am - Blended Worship
10:30 am - Contemporary Worship

CHILDREN

Nursery is available for children 0 to 36 months old.
Children's Worship is available for 3 years old through 5th grade.

RESOURCES

Assisted listening devices are available from an usher or sound booth at rear of sanctuary.

PRAYER

Prayer partners are available after each service to pray with you in the rear of the Worship Center.

ADULT MINISTRIES

Find opportunities to grow and serve in Small Groups, Coffee Break Community Bible Study, Men's Fraternity, MOPS, SHE, Prime Time (55+), and more.

STUDENT MINISTRIES

Grow together, enjoy relationships, be encouraged and empowered with our student ministry programs; Maximum Velocity (6-8th grade) and The EDGE (9th-12 grade)

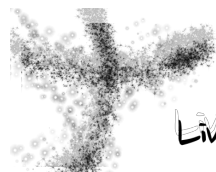
CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

We love children, and want to help raise up children that love God and serve him. From Nursery (0-3 years old), Little Lambs (3-6 years old), Pathfinders and Cadets (1st-8th grade boys), to GEMS (1st-8th grade girls), and much more.

PASTOR

Rev. Gregg DeMey - Lead Pastor, Director of Worship
(630) 600-5030 - gregg.demey@elmhurstcrc.org

Large print Order of Worship available from an usher



God's Source of Shining Light and
Living Water in the western suburbs

Complete announcements at elmhurstcrc.org/ThisWeek
or scan the QR code above with your mobile device.



exploreGod™

January 27, 2019

info@elmhurstcrc.org • (630) 600-5100 • www.elmhurstcrc.org

TODAY

The #1 spiritual question of North Americans is: If God is all powerful and all loving, how can there be so much evil and suffering in the world? We will not be able to fully understand or explain all the problems we encounter. However, looking for God's fingerprints in the timing of life's events rather than on particular outcomes can keep our spiritual vision in focus. What would happen if we could shift our response to our pain from "Why me?" to "What now, God?"

NEXT WEEK

Next time in our Explore God series we will ponder the question "Is Christianity Too Narrow?" A widely held belief in our society is "All paths lead to God." Christianity can appear to be exclusive, rigid, and demanding. However, in a relationship of unequals (in which one party is all wise, all powerful etc, and the other party is small, weak, and silly), that relationship depends on the kind condescension and sacrifices of the greater party. Understanding why Jesus was made in the flesh and how his death and resurrection provide a way for everyone to know him and experience his love and peace helps us understand the claim that Jesus is the only way. This is a Family Sunday and we will celebrate communion. The cello ensemble, Cellissimo, will be assisting us in worship.

WHAT IS GOD'S WORD FOR YOU TODAY?

ORDER OF WORSHIP

9:00am
Prelude

10:30am
Reckless Love

WELCOME

Kara Hackert, Children's Ministry Coordinator

GATHERING

Total Praise

Praise God From Whom All Blessing Flow

To God Be The Glory

I Will Follow

Let It Rise

We Have Come To Worship

RESPONSIVE PRAYER

It Is Well With My Soul

Good Good Father

GREETINGS

Caryn Rivadeneira, Acting Director of Care and Worship Planning

Preschoolers through 5th graders may go to Children's Worship

PRAYER

He Leadeth Me

Holy Spirit

MESSAGE: Why Does God Allow Pain and Suffering?

Romans 5:3-5, 2 Corinthians 4:7-10

Gregg DeMey, Lead Pastor

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING

Lead Me, Guide Me

Questions

BLESSING & SENDING

Worship Team

Brenda Bulthuis, Jake Groenewold
Maria Vos, Dina Zeilstra

Doug Bardolph, Anna Bardolph, Bethany DeHaan
Craig Kocol, Kristen Lee, Aaron Leo, Tim Lundeen
Noah Smith, Tyler VanderBrug, Cindy Vos

January 27, 2019

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Explore God: We continue to explore the BIG questions. Keep inviting your friends and neighbors to church and our groups.

Congregational Meeting Tuesday, February 5 at 7 pm. Join us to elect elders and deacons, hear a recap of 2018 ministry successes, as well as approve the 2019 church budget. Congregational Meeting packet is available at the Information Center or online at elmhurstcrc.org/events.

1st-5th Grade Children's Worship Parents, as part of our Explore God children's curriculum we are learning about God's purpose for us. When you pick up your children today feel free to take a picture of them in front of the Ephesians 2:10 wall. There will be a gold frame to use as a prop with the caption "I am God's Masterpiece."

Thanks to the generosity of our families, our 1st-5th grade children sponsor Harriet, a ten-year-old girl in Uganda, through World Vision. Their offerings each month pay for her food, medical needs, and education. For Christmas our children gave extra money to send Harriet a ball as a Christmas gift and \$100 to her parents to buy what is needed for their family of ten children.

ECRC Family & Friends Swim Party! Saturday, February 16, from 6-8 pm at the Oak Brook Aquatic Center. \$3/family or \$10/family. Register at elmhurstcrc.org/events.

Profession of Faith Information Meeting today at 10:05 am in the Youth Room in the basement. elmhurstcrc.org/students/about

SHE (Single Mothers Support Group) Explore God Discussion Group: Today in the Garden Room at 12:15 pm. Free pizza lunch and child Care provided for ages 3-10.

SHE (Single Mothers Support Group) Meeting on February 10, 12:15-2:30 pm. All are invited to hear speaker Eve Senti speaking on "Bloom Where You Are Planted." Each person will make a unique craft. Free lunch and child care for infants -12 years. For further info about SHE events contact jane.loerop@elmhurstcrc.org.

The next **Community Supper** is Wednesday, February 13. Join others from the church family for a time of food and socializing. Menu is heart-healthy meatloaf, baked scalloped potatoes, green beans, mandarin orange lettuce salad, strawberry applesauce, rolls, chocolate dessert, beverages. Sign up at dinner@elmhurstcrc.org. Your cost is your donation.

PrimeTime (a monthly gathering of those 55 and older) invites you to "Discover the Artist Within You." Local art teacher Marlene Boonstra will lead in creating your own painting. Thursday, February 14, at 7 pm in the Garden Room, \$30 fee covers all materials. Register at elmhurstcrc.org/events, at the registration table in the lobby, or by phone to the church office (630)600-5043.

SpringHill Day Camp 2019 registration for Summer 2019 will open February 14. SpringHill Camp provides a fun and faith experience for current Kindergarteners thru 5th grade. Dates for onsite SpringHill Day Camp are June 3-7 and June 10-14 (two weeks this year!). Please just register for one week to allow for all to participate. Save the date and start summer planning today. More info at elmhurstcrc.org/events.

GIVE

Coins for Caring Network Illinois (formerly CareNet). For 38 years Caring Network has been helping women choose life. Support them by picking up a baby bottle near the nursery desk, and filling it with change. Return to the table by February 24.

New! Text to Give, Text "elmhurstcrc" to 77977. One-time registration required..

2018 Giving Statement have been mailed and should arrive in your mailbox this week. Your statements can be securely accessed online anytime via elmhurstcrc.org at the MyECRC button. Login required.

COMMUNITY

Cellissimo Concert. Over 60 talented young cellists will be performing in the Garden Room next Sunday, February 3 at 2:00 for a one hour free concert. The students range in age from 3-18 and perform beginning and advanced repertoire.

Timothy Christian High School will be accepting applications for Girls Head Varsity Basketball Coach and JV Boys Tennis Coach. Contact Athletic Director Jack LeGrand legrand@timothychristian.com.

Timothy Christian's Annual TC Fun Fair and Open House is Saturday February 9, 12:30-3:00. Bring family, friends, and tell your neighbors. Don't miss this fun day of carnival games, magic shows, face painting, pizza, cake walk, and tours!

Prospective college students: spend a night with Calvin College at Giordano's in Oakbrook Terrace on Wednesday, February 13 from 5:30-7 pm. Register at les38@calvin.edu.

WEEK AT A GLANCE

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|-------------|---|--------------------|---|
| 1-27 | Sunday | 1-30 | Wednesday con't |
| 9:00 am | Blended Worship Children's Worship Men's Fraternity | 6:00 pm 7:00 pm | Prayer Time Coffee Break Bible Study Men's Fraternity |
| 10:00 am | Coffee & Community | 1-31 | Thursday |
| 10:30 am | Contemporary Worship Children's Worship | 9:00 am | Coffee Break Bible Study Little Lambs Men's Group |
| 11:30 am | Coffee & Community | 2-2 | Saturday |
| 12:15 pm | SHE Explore God | 8:30 am | Prayer Time |
| 3:00 pm | Elmhurst Symphony | 2-3 | Sunday |
| 4:30 pm | Handbell Choir Rehearsal | 9:00 am | Family Worship Children's Worship Men's Fraternity |
| 5:30 pm | Maximum Velocity (MS) | 10:00 am | Coffee & Community |
| 7:00 pm | The Edge | 10:30 am | Family Worship Children's Worship |
| 1-28 | Monday | 11:30 am | Coffee & Community |
| 7:00 pm | Mission Team Meeting | 2:00 pm | Cellissimo Concert |
| 1-29 | Tuesday | 4:30 pm | Handbell Choir Rehearsal |
| 9:00 am | Little Lambs | 6:00 pm | Youth Group Party |
| 1-30 | Wednesday | | |
| 9:00 am | Coffee Break Bible Study Little Lambs | | |
| 12:30 pm | Little Lambs | | |

Elmhurst Ministries Fund

...in support of the ministries and vision of ECRC
YTD contributions: \$101,613
Last Week \$45,764



WELCOME

Continuing today, we'll be exploring tough questions about God, the Bible, suffering, and related topics through a series of sermons and discussion groups. The series is called Explore God.

We all wonder, and we all have questions about God. Explore God is a Chicagoland-wide (you've seen the billboards?) opportunity to explore these big questions in an open and authentic way.

THE 7 BIG QUESTIONS

We'll look at the questions about God, faith, suffering, and our life purpose in these Sunday messages at 9 & 10:30 am.

1. DOES LIFE HAVE A PURPOSE? January 13
2. IS THERE A GOD? January 20
3. WHY DOES GOD ALLOW PAIN AND SUFFERING? January 27
4. IS CHRISTIANITY TOO NARROW? February 3
5. IS JESUS REALLY GOD? February 10
6. IS THE BIBLE RELIABLE? February 17
7. CAN I KNOW GOD PERSONALLY? February 24

DISCUSSION GROUPS

Consider an Explore God Discussion Group. It's a safe place where you can seek credible answers to challenging life and spiritual questions.

Find these groups here (and pop-in any date - we'll be there!)

SUNDAYS | 9, 10:30 & 11:45 AM (thru February 24)

Elmhurst Christian Reformed Church

SUNDAYS | 7 PM (thru February 24)

Elmhurst Brewing Company

WEDNESDAYS | 6 AM (thru February 27)

Panera, Route 83 & 16th Street, Oak Brook

Wondering more?

Text EG to 331.901.0424 or email Jeff Klein at eg@elmhurstcrc.org.

Resource and Discussion Materials online at elmhurstcrc.org/exploregod.