


From: adminassist@elijahkelloggchurch.org 
Subject: Weekly News & Notes (10-4-23)
Date: October 4, 2023 at 10:35 AM
To: Stephanie Alexander adminassist@elijahkelloggchurch.org



Sunday services can be heard live on the radio at WHPW 97.3 FM. Or watch previous weeks on the following Vimeo link: <https://vimeo.com/showcase/7960701>
We hope you will join us for worship this Sunday at 10:00am. After the service, please join us for Fellowship.

A Word from Pastor Joe

Dear Friends in Christ at the Elijah Kellogg Church,

I hope everyone knows the Council is seeking input about a Five Year Plan for the church. I addressed the process in *News and Notes* entry last week. At my first meeting with the Council last year I said an Interim is a consultant. Hence, I will not be here a long time. But as your consultant I have some recommendations about areas to tackle. They can be broken down into three groups: technology, organization and financial stability. I have already shared these with the Council.

First, modern technology needs to be adopted. Everything should be assessed from live streaming (being worked on), to online giving, to office computer equipment to updating the church website. Note: most church members want to attract young people and a web site is a place young people look at first. A security system is needed and, like live streaming, that is being worked on. An industrial sized microwave in the kitchen would be very helpful. Last, the Meeting House worship space sound system needs a very different approach.

My second recommendation is that the by-laws need to be re-written. In one sense, there is nothing more to be said about that. However, a starting point might be to look at by-laws other churches use.

Third, there needs to be a system of legacy giving which invites people to remember the church in their Will. Why? This is a reality of the modern non-profit world, i.e.: this is true of all non-profits. Any non-profit which does not have a growing endowment will eventually not have the finances it needs to sustain itself. Put simply, that is the way our economy now works. It is reality which should not be ignored.

One more note: a five year plan is a process. And yes, the process needs to be thorough. But thorough does not always mean slow. But also remember this: slow does not always mean thorough.

Last, is a five year plan necessary? As a consultant who will not be here for a long

time I say if you don't have one in place the church taking a really, really big risk. Is taking the risk of not having one worth it?

See you in church.

Joe Connolly

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SERMON BLOG: <https://localpastor.net/>

OFFICE HOURS FOR THE WEEK OF 10/9 - 10/13 - Monday, 10/09 - 9:00 - 11:00.

The Bible Study passage for Monday 10/9 at 11:00 a.m. is Psalm 19.

**** Notice - Office Closed Reminder ****

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The office will be closed tomorrow October 5th and next Thursday, October 12th.

If you have something you would like included in next week's News & Notes or in the bulletin, please have it to Stephanie no later than Tuesday, October 10th.

Thank you!

*****ATTENTION - Mold Remediation Update*****

In less than 2 short weeks Mold Remediation in the basement will commence.

October 16th is the date for Mold Bros., the company chosen, to start the cleaning process in the entire basement.

In the limited time we have left, please focus on the areas where certain boards and committees may still have WANTED items to be stored in plastic containers. Empty containers can be found in the barn.

This last concerted effort to organize all wanted items that may STILL be left is only beneficial financially for the church. Any items left unaccounted for and not in plastic containers will be considered unwanted. A few exceptions will be considered.

Some of us have worked VERY HARD on clearing out unwanted items this past year, which have been discarded, or moved to the barn, or somewhere else.

Thank you for your understanding,
Dave Fitzgerald

Come to our Craft Group

Women's Fellowship will hold its next craft group at Ruth Smith's home on Tuesday, October 10th from 9:00 to 12:00.

We will have crafts that can be done, or you can bring your own and join the group.

Call Ruth if you need directions or have questions.
833-6246 or jandrsmith@myfairpoint.net.

Thank you all.

FIVE-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN

The Congregational Council has started to develop a five-year strategic plan that will provide a framework for the Church's mission and activities moving forward.

In an effort to be as inclusive as possible in the process and to give everyone in the Church an opportunity to participate and offer suggestions and ideas of how they would like to see the Church function over the next five years, the Council is encouraging everyone to think about their ideas for our priorities and how we allocate our resources so that the Church remains vibrant and relevant for its members and the community - what is our role in the community, with each other, and with God?

We encourage you to think about these things and talk with members of the Congregational Council at the coffee hour on October 8th following the worship service.

If you are unable to attend in-person, feel free to contact any member of the Congregational Council directly.

Thank you for your time and consideration as we make the effort to define a path forward that advances our Church's mission and enhances its relevance for each of us, our community and our World.

Your Congregational Council,

Ashley Braley
Carrie Bubier
Linda Clement
Joe Connolly
Carol Coultas
Kay Greenwood

Nancy Hurst
Gail Johnson
Ned Pierce
Nancy Simboli
Eric Wohltjen

MOMENT FOR MISSIONS

In keeping with our 4-part program of supplying needed items for the current Tedford Shelters, October will be the month we have selected to contribute: **TOILETRIES AND PERSONAL ITEMS**. Among the list are:

Razors and Shaving Cream	Mouthwash
Shampoos	Toothbrushes
Body Washes and Soaps	Kleenex and Toilet Tissue
Deodorants	

(Items should be Full Size, not the sample or travel size)

This should be a fun and quick request to fill, although the housewares was so very rewarding to see EKC's creativity and generosity in action.

Thank you,
Your Board of Missions

CALLING ALL BAKERS, PRESERVERS AND CANDY-MAKERS!

Our annual Christmas by the Sea Fair is swiftly approaching (November 4). Your help

is needed to stock our Country Goods section. Have you been canning your garden's bounty? Making jams and jellies?

We are looking for preserves and more. Baked goods of all kinds: breads, muffins, cakes, pies, cookies and brownies. Fudge! Toffee!

A basket will be outside the church office to collect the labeled jars of preserves and jellies. Baked goods will be accepted in the days just before the big event.

Contact Becky Gallery (833-6159) or Krista Hinman (860-670-3467) for more information.

Thank you for helping support our fair!

On-Line Auction & Holiday Fair



Christmas by the Sea
Holiday Fair
at Elijah Kellogg Church
Saturday, November 4
9 am - 2 pm

Handmade Crafts
Treasures
Country Store & Baked Goods

Luncheon 11 am - 1pm
Lobster Rolls, Fish Chowder, Egg
Salad Sandwiches & Pie!

Credit Cards Accepted!

Online Auction
October 20 - November 1

The link for the auction is:
auctria.events/2023EKCHolidayFair

Location: 917 Harpswell Neck Rd., Harpswell **FMI:** 833-6026

In preparation for the on-line auction part of the 2023 EKC Holiday Fair, we are soliciting donations that can be posted on the auction website for bidding. The auction will open on October 20th at 5PM and bidding will close on November 1 at 8PM.

If you'd like to make a donation, please contact one of us.

Thank you!

Patty Carrier, Pat Myer, Rob Porter, and Allen Tucker (the on-line auction committee)

