
ELGIN EBENEZER UCC

God Shines through Ebenezer United Church of Christ in rural Elgin during our periodic fellowship breakfasts, the unity of our members, and our dynamic worship services.

We celebrated an awesome Maundy Thursday service in a darkened candle-lit basement with simple soup, bread, water and wine. Eighteen place settings were all filled and the pastor was pleased to stand while leading the cooperative service. Many voices around the tables echoed the question, "Is it me, Lord?" and left a haunting chill in the air prior to the gift of communion and the bestowing of Christ's peace.

This small congregation finds creative ways to meet the needs of three young children all from one family. They held a central place in our Christmas celebration while many other members offered special readings and music to fill out the program. On Easter morning, visiting grandchildren joined our three and the pastor draped bright cloth on their shoulders to highlight the meaning behind colors in My Easter Basket, a children's book by Dr. Mary Manz Simon.

Ebenezer's graceful brick building built in 1925 overlooks the original site of Old Leipzig. It is one of only a few remaining from the time.

Leipzig moved south to meet the expanding railway system and became New Leipzig. The dark green steel roof and steeple can be seen for many miles. The bell is still rung every Sunday at the beginning of worship.