

EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
5501 Washington Avenue  
Evansville, IN 47715

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# Eastminster Messenger

Heads, Hearts & Hands for Christ in Service & Celebration

Volume 32, Issue 6

February 7, 2017

## “Fearless Love”



Last fall, our Stewardship theme focused on “Fearless Generosity.” We looked at fearless giving, sowing, reaping and living. The common thread weaving them all together was “fearless.”

The idea of living fearlessly appears throughout both the Old and New Testament. It is a challenge constantly being set forth by Jesus. As we explored it last fall, I think we began to understand its importance in our lives. If we are constantly living in fear of one thing or another, we’re probably not living with much faith.

Over and over again, Jesus said, “Fear not.” He knew that fear was a huge stumbling block to faith and a huge stumbling block to service. We try to live in the safety and security of what is fully known and avoid risking anything that might threaten that security. Jesus suggests that living like that isn’t really living – certainly not as God intended us to live. We must sometimes step out of the tried and true in life and attempt something new, daring and challenging.

We find a prime example of that – in fact, three prime examples of that – in the beautiful little Old Testament book of Ruth.

As we celebrate Valentines’ Day next Tuesday, I think Ruth has some wonderful lessons to teach us. I urge you to read the entire book (it’s only 4 chapters) and pay particular attention to Ruth 2:1-16 for marvelous examples of “Fearless Love.”

Blessings,  
Dennis

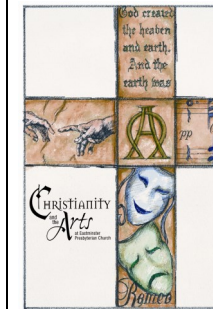
## Prayers & Concerns



Please pray for the following individuals:

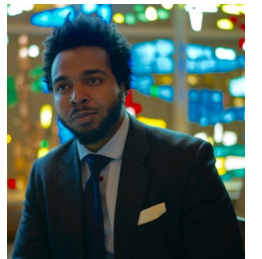
Bob Kieffner, Christine Sullivan, Greg Ashby, Austin Smith, Steve Robinson, Jergen Hans, Barbara, Jane Williams, Susan Riley & Jill (Doerter) Brunton.

## Christianity & the Arts Presents Luther Lewis at Eastminster



The next Christianity & the Arts program will feature Luther Lewis. Luther hails from Evansville but has found acclaim all over the world. He is an artist in the broadest sense of the word.

Luther is both an opera singer as well as a painter and he will combine both of these extraordinary talents in a program to be held on Saturday, February 18 at 7:00 PM. We’ll have more information in next week’s newsletter and in future mailings but we urge you to make plans to join us and to invite friends as well. It promises to be an unforgettable evening of celebrating “Christianity & the Arts!”



Many dates are still available for Chancel Flowers. Please sign up for your special date(s). The calendar is located just outside the sanctuary door (piano side). Thank you!

## Installation of The Reverend Tami Recob

Tami Recob served as a Seminary Summer Intern at Eastminster two summers ago and she has been called to serve as the pastor of the Hemenway Presbyterian Church in Boonville. The service of installation for Tami will be held on Sunday, February 19 at 3:00 PM at Hemenway. The church is located just beyond the northeast corner of the town square in Boonville. We invite you to attend our luncheon following worship that day and then travel to Boonville for this very important event in Tami’s life.

Sunday, February 12, 2017

8:00 A.M. SERVICE

**LITURGIST**  
Gary Van Zandt

**USHER**  
Paula Lewis  
Dorothy Mans

10:30 A.M. SERVICE

**LITURGIST**  
Gary Van Zandt

**HEAD USHER**  
Mel Ellsperman  
Dorothy Mans

**USHERS & GREETERS**  
Mel & Marilyn Ellsperman  
Jo Chaddock & Sue Shelton  
Pat, Jayne & Tracey Manis

**ACOLYTE**  
Lilly Ferguson

**CHILDREN’S WORSHIP LEADER**  
Annie Engelbrecht

### Eastminster Staff

Anna Cantrell - Housekeeper  
Kayla Cantrell - Nursery Worker  
Dennis R. Davenport - Pastor  
Emma Sue Davenport - Dir. of Christian Education  
Mary Fulkerson - Office Manager  
Trey Fulkerson - Youth Director  
Marian LaChance - Housekeeper  
Dennis Malfatti - Director of Music  
Helen Skuggedal Reed - Organist

### Church Office Hours

M - Th: 8:30 -4:00 P.M.  
Friday: 8:30 - Noon

### Church Communication Lines

Phone#: 476-3355/Fax: 476-8755  
Web: eastminsterchurch.com  
Email: epc@epcevv.com  
Webmaster: Nance Fiester  
Sound Engineer: Ron Harper  
Facebook Page Administrator: Tony McClees

Don't Forget...Bring a friend to church...and then stay for lunch!



The Outreach Committee is organizing a potluck luncheon Sunday, February 19, following the 10:30 service. The entrée will be baked ham. We ask you to bring your specialty - salads, sides, or desserts. Come and enjoy good food and fellowship...and share it all with your friends from outside Eastminster!

Cup cakes and ice cream are needed at Vision 1505!

Please see Jarid Shofstall to sign up or to get more information. Thank you!



Ladies' Night Out at Bone Fish Grill

Join us on Tuesday, February 21st at 6:15 p.m. (Note Date Change for February)

Please contact Sue Shelton at 812-453-3607 or call the church to make your reservation. This is a great time of food, fun and fellowship. Newcomers are most welcome.

This Sunday, February 12, the Fun Continues!



This Sunday, names will be revealed for our Eastminster Cherubs and we will be voting on the cutest baby picture. Following second worship, everyone will be given a candy kiss upon entering the Gallery. There will be valentine style bags next to each photo. You may vote for the picture you find the cutest or most enjoyable by putting your candy kiss in the bag next to that picture.

Then the following Sunday, February 19, the person whose photo received the most votes will be given a Bible appropriate for their current age.

There was a lot of laughter, conversation and fun this past Sunday as we had a glimpse into the past of dozens of our church family. Thank you to everyone who participated. You may take your pictures home with you this Sunday following worship.

### CPR at EPC

Our Community & World Missions Committee will be sponsoring a CPR class on Saturday, February 25 for anyone in the congregation who is interested.

The cost of such a class is significantly higher than it was in the past. The Committee has made arrangements for a course that will just be \$70 which is much lower than what some classes traditionally cost. Because the Committee feels it is important for us at Eastminster to be certified in CPR, they will cover half the cost for anyone who is interested and because of the importance of such training for those in high-profile positions (all staff and Sunday School teachers), they will cover the entire cost.

If you are interested in registering for the class or would like more information, contact Donna Cooke (812-589-2520), or call the church office.



### The Compassion Team Needs Your Help!

The Deacons have established a Compassion Team that will provide a meal for a family following the funeral of a loved one. Often extra help is needed. Please fill out the form below if you would be willing to be placed on a list to be called to assist.

I would be willing, if called, to provide the following for a funeral meal:

\_\_\_\_\_ Vegetable dish \_\_\_\_\_ Salad

\_\_\_\_\_ Dessert

\_\_\_\_\_ I would be willing to be present and assist with set up, serving, and clean-up.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please drop your completed form in the offering plate; leave it on the Welcome Center; call the office to make your preferences known; or contact Patsy Spruatt at 812 477-3202. Thank you

February 5, 2017

To the Session of Eastminster Presbyterian Church:

As we are told by Koheleth, the writer of Ecclesiastes, "There is a time and season for everything under the sun."

Knowing this to be true, I am meeting with you today to inform you I am resigning from my calling as the Director of Christian Education effective February 28, 2017.

Dennis and I had not yet met when we received our calls to ministry. We have always believed our calls to be separate even while we were serving the same church families. Dennis and I are in agreement that my call to Eastminster has come to an end while his call to Eastminster continues.

It has truly been my privilege to direct the educational programs at Eastminster. Our church family has a deep commitment to Christian Education. Our educational programs are strong. They are running smoothly and every program is solidly staffed.

At a time when adult Sunday School is facing extinction, our adult Sunday School program is as fine and diverse a program as one will find anywhere. We have excellent and dedicated leadership.

It has been a blessing to have had the privilege of nurturing two sets of children, pre-school through high school, as they have gone through our educational program. I have tried to provide for these children the same Christian education that I provided for my own children.

Our church children have grown and followed God into areas of Christian service. We have seen them take their faith into the workplace. Many of them continue to be involved in church families. They are raising their children in our faith. I have seen them volunteer their time and reach into their billfolds to help a hurting world in the name of Christ. It has been such an honor to play even the tiniest role in this happening.

Now Annie Engelbrecht is ready to graduate. She and so many others among our church children and youth are already stepping forward in areas of leadership. Others are waiting in the wings for the opportunity to do so. Our children know their Bible and have been given the opportunity to have a strong and firm foundation in faith. They are blessed with fantastic Sunday School teachers to guide them. The children understand what it means to serve God. My deepest prayer is that the roots of faith we have planted in them will stay strong and serve our children well all the days of their lives.

A new generation now awaits nurturing. Our two-three years old class is brimming with excitement every Sunday. This is both very fulfilling and very challenging.

I believe it is time for the church to look ahead to see if they want to continue the programs that are now in place or determine if these programs need to be modified or uprooted to make room for new methods and programs in our changing and fast-paced world. We must move our programs forward in the most meaningful and energetic ways possible.

I do not believe that I am the person to do this. Although the CE Committee already has laid out tentative plans for every age group through the end of the summer, I will not be directing these programs should they be carried out.

Now it is time to see what new doors God may be opening for our church family and for me personally. To allay any concerns, my health and home life are fine. I am not retiring. I am resigning. I deeply believe my calling is a life-long call to serve God. I am willing to and have been dedicated to walk through any new doors God has chosen to open before me.

Eastminster is my church family and will remain my church family. After a necessary period of separation for adjustment for both the church and for me, I will continue to worship at Eastminster unless I should receive a new calling that precludes me from being in worship. Should that happen, I will resume the same relationship I had with Eastminster when I previously had another calling.

My heart is full of gratitude for having been given the opportunity to have served as the Director of Christian Education for Eastminster Presbyterian Church. I do not submit my resignation lightly but with a true sense of love and peace.

Always In His Service,  
Emma Sue Davenport  
Director of Christian Education

Christian Education

