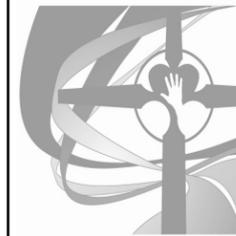


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Eastminster Messenger

Heads, Hearts & Hands for Christ in Service & Celebration

Volume 32, Issue 11

March 13, 2017

“Focusing on Jesus”



Guest Preacher
David Davenport

The above title isn't the actual title of this Sunday's sermon, though the above guest preacher will be. Since this Sunday afternoon will be our Christianity & the Arts program that focuses on C.S. Lewis (see column to the right), it seemed logical to also have our worship service give attention to him as well.

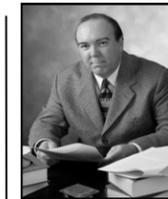
The point of the title listed above is to be sure that we don't get too caught up in focusing on C.S. Lewis and miss the real purpose of our worship. Lewis himself would cringe at the thought of being the focus of Christian worship!

One reason for asking David to preach this week is because he's done extensive study of Lewis, both in college and in seminary. Along with the outstanding job that Bart & Marlene Huffaker did in leading our combined Sunday School class this past week, I think David can help us prepare for what we'll experience with our visit from C. S. Lewis presented by Kevin Radaker.

Lewis was arguably (some would claim *clearly*) the most influential Christian writer of the 20th century. Whether you're familiar with his writings or not, this would be a good week and Lent would be a good season to spend some time reading one or more of his books. Mere Christianity is the most well-known and even if you've read it once or even more than once, it never gets old. The seven-volume Chronicles of Narnia series is for adults as much as it is for children – or perhaps, more accurately, for children as much as it is for adults.

Join us Sunday for all the exciting events that will be taking place.

Lenten Blessings,
 Dennis



**A Visit from
 C. S. Lewis**
*Compiled and Performed by
 Kevin Radaker*



Professor of English - Anderson University

This Sunday, March 19 at 1:30, Eastminster sanctuary

Join us for an unforgettable afternoon as we step back in time to May, 1963 and receive a visit from one of the 20th century's most prolific writers and profound Christian thinkers.

Here's what one person has said of this program: *“Professor Radaker's portrayal of C.S. Lewis mesmerized the audience. His voice and physical appearance were a near double for Lewis. Even those familiar with some of Lewis's writings came away feeling as if they had met Lewis in a new and wonderful way. This is a performance no one, familiar or not with Lewis's works, should miss!”*

Finance Notes

BUDGET

Since we are working with a deficit budget, please remember the importance of keeping your pledges current.

PER CAPITA

48 members have paid a total of \$1,640 toward our Per Capita to date. If you have not done so, the budget committee encourages you to make your payment.

	February	Budget: 31,897
INCOME	\$33,393	
EXPENSES	\$21,288	
Year-To-Date Budget: \$63,794		
INCOME	\$77,114	
EXPENSES	\$60,241	



Sunday March 19, 2017

8:00 A.M. SERVICE

LITURGIST **USHER**
 Dorothy Mans Tim Fiedler

10:30 A.M. SERVICE

LITURGIST **HEAD USHER**
 Barbara Barrett Mel Ellsperman

USHERS & GREETERS

Norman & Becky Miller & Team
 Pat, Jayne & Tracey Manis

ACOLYTE
 Jacob Webb

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP LEADER

Annie Engelbrecht

Eastminster Staff

Anna Cantrell - Housekeeper
 Kayla Cantrell - Nursery Worker
 Dennis R. Davenport - Pastor
 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
 Sound Engineer: Ron Harper
 Facebook Page Administrator: Tony McClees

Congratulations to the following for completing their assigned memory work!



Bella Kuhs
Jacob Irmscher
Kayley Harp
Caden VanCleave
Garrett Ferguson
Lilly Ferguson
Adam Tipton
Kirsten Shofstall
Alex Kuhs
Maddie Holden

Several of our children are just a few memory work pieces away. Keep up the great work!

Thank you to all who made donations to the H2O project these past two weeks. Donations are still being taken until Sunday, March 19. Drop donations in the offering plate or mail to the church. The total amount collected will be published in an upcoming newsletter.



Camp sign ups have now started. You can go to PYOCA.org to see the camp dates. If children in 4th - 12th grades are interested in Gemini Camp (June 11 - 16) and need sign-up forms, please contact Sabrina Holden at 812-205-9609. Other camp sign - ups are done online. Please contact the church or Sabrina so we can begin fundraising to support this opportunity for our children.

Prayers & Concerns



Please pray for the following individuals:

Dr. Gary Peterson, Greg Ashby, Austin Smith, Steve Robinson, Jergen Hans, Barbara, Jill (Doerter) Brunton, Dale Roth, The Stevens Family & Ginny Marvel.

Look What's Happening With Community & World Missions

Greetings from the Community and World Missions Committee! We would like to update you on some of our ongoing and planned activities. Our annual Blood Drive will be on Sunday, April 30. We would love to overwhelm the Red Cross with donors. If you would like to donate, please keep this in your calendar, and start eating your iron rich foods! (Yum!)

April 23 will be another great Sunday opportunity to help our youth. A Spaghetti Luncheon will be held after church on that day with proceeds going to support our youth going to Camp Pyoca. Camp is a fantastic opportunity for our youth to not only have a great time, but also grow in spiritual development and knowledge. And it's always great spaghetti and great fellowship at lunch!



Vision 1505 is another mission opportunity for us. This is a permanent housing for disabled homeless persons, and on the third Tuesday each month, a volunteer from Eastminster transports two dozen cupcakes and ice cream to the center. We are looking for volunteers to make 2 dozen cupcakes (or purchase) and bring them to the church on the Sunday before, so that a volunteer can deliver them on Tuesday. In the past, the driver has also been the one to either bake or buy the cupcakes, and we'd like to open up the opportunity for others to participate. We are covered for March (thank you Mike Lee), but if you are interested in either baking/supplying cupcakes or transporting, we would love to have your help. To sign up, tell Mary Fulkerson, Jarid Shofstall, Chris Kuhs, or Donna Cooke. Thank you!



Finally, we are going on a mission trip this year! We are planning to take a team to the Menaul School, in Albuquerque, New Mexico, in mid-July. We welcome anyone who would like to go. Arrangements are being made (tentatively July 16-22, with probably 2 days travel time there and 2 days back. If you think this is something you would be interested in, we are going to set up an informational meeting for everyone interested soon. (We will also be having a fundraiser/s too!) Hope to see you there!

If you have any questions, please ask Jarid Shofstall, Chris Kuhs, or Donna Cooke. Thank you!

Eastminster Mission House WHAT A MINISTRY YOU PROVIDE!



One of the most significant ministries of our congregation over the past decade has been our Mission House. For those of us who have seen, over the years, how important the house is to those who have lived there, it's easy to forget that some members of the congregation don't recognize its value. In case you've forgotten and never knew, here's a quick synopsis of the history our Mission House.

In November 2006, a congregational meeting was held to act on a recommendation to purchase the mission house, using approximately \$90,000 of funds that had been committed to missions from our capital campaign for building the gallery & making other needed repairs to our facility. If, at any time in the future, we would choose to sell the house, the proceeds would return to the mission budget since that's where they came from initially.

The use of the house is for those in emergency situations with a priority being given to Habitat families awaiting the completion of their new home.

Tenants pay \$300 rental per month plus utilities, which usually average another \$300. The rental charge enables us to make necessary repairs without impacting the church budget. The amount cannot be higher for rental because we can't, by law, make a profit on the house.

On July 1, 2007, we had an open house for members of the congregation to see the house for the first time & view renovations & repairs that had been made.

In September, 2007, Scott & Nicole Toone and their 3 daughters moved into the mission house as they were awaiting the completion of their habitat house. The Toones lived there until February of 2008.

Just one month later, March of 2008, Brenda & Brenda moved in while they, too, were awaiting the completion of their habitat house.

When they left, there was a brief time of vacancy until the Tsianguebenis from Nigeria moved in, Pierre being a new teacher at Bosse.

In late spring, 2012, Mike, Jenna & Carson Lee moved in after their home had been destroyed by fire and they were there until they were able to find new housing.

In February, 2014, Sasha and Jackson Patel moved into the Mission House and were there until they were able to find and afford new housing.

Since we gave priority to families awaiting the completion of their Habitat house, that's where we turned when the Mission House again became vacant.

A Habitat of Evansville staff member told us of a young man who, though he did not qualify yet for a Habitat house, was in a very difficult situation. Andreas was a student and an Iraqi War veteran and through circumstances beyond his control, was soon going to be without any housing at all. We quickly readied the Mission House and the day before Andreas would have been homeless, he was able to move in and he has been with us since last fall. Every time he comes to the office to pay his rent, Andreas expresses his profound gratitude and astonishment at the kindness and love that have been shown to him by this congregation.

As we consider the profound impact that has been made upon the lives of all those who have lived in our Mission House, it is quite clear that the decision we made a decade ago was the right one. It was clearly a step of faith, trusting that God would somehow use us and use that house to touch people's lives. It has proven to be far more profound and meaningful than any of us could possibly have imagined.

There are many in our community who know Eastminster more because of that tremendous ministry that we provide than for anything else that we do. As we look to the future, we can only trust that for many generations to come, we will continue to be able to touch lives by offering a safe, affordable place to live for those who find themselves in difficult circumstances.

Again, **WHAT A MINISTRY YOU PROVIDE!**

Sister Joanna's Table



The above picture shows just a few of the many volunteers who helped serve nearly 150 people last Saturday at Sister Joanna's Table. Our thanks to all 22(!) who were there to help. Remember – the second Saturday in May – May 12 – will be our next opportunity to serve. Contact Jarid, Chris or Donna if you want more information about helping.