

EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
5501 Washington Avenue
Evansville, IN 47715

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Eastminster Messenger

Heads, Hearts & Hands for Christ in Service & Celebration

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November 14, 2017

FROM THE



PASTOR

"Is Your Seed Still in the Barn?"

There is a method of preaching called "proof-texting." It's not a good one. Basically what it means is that you first come up with a theme and then try to find passages that fit that theme. On the surface, this doesn't sound like such a bad idea. The problem with proof-texting is that it takes the Holy Spirit out of the process of preaching and runs the danger of proclaiming, not the Word of God, but rather the word of the preacher.

There's another side to this, though. Sometimes a passage can take us in a direction that wasn't necessarily intended by the writer but is nevertheless a good direction to go. I think of this sometimes when someone tells me they lost focus while listening to a sermon because something that was said sent them in an entirely different direction. I think that can be a good thing and I urge you not to apologize for it.

All of this leads me to a passage we'll look at this Sunday as we approach Thanksgiving. It's a passage from the prophet Haggai. Now there's a name you don't often see in this column – or anywhere else for that matter!

Haggai is primarily known as the prophet who encouraged the Israelites to re-build the Temple in Jerusalem after they had returned from exile. He offered a voice of both chastisement and encouragement. As he challenges the people to action, he makes a statement that can take us in several different directions.

Unlike last Sunday's very loooong reading, this week's will consist of just two verses. Read Haggai 2:18-19 where the prophet asks, "Is Your Seed Still in the Barn?"

Thanksgiving Blessings,
Dennis

No Newsletter will be published next week due to the Thanksgiving Holiday!



Sympathy is extended to Rebecca Conen and family in the death of Rebecca's father-in-law.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN THANK OFFERING



The Thank Offering has long been a tradition of Presbyterian Women. It has provided and continues to provide much-needed financial assistance to numerous worthwhile programs not included in ongoing General Assembly mission support.

Each year, domestic and international projects are carefully and prayerfully selected by the Creative Ministries Offering Committee to help meet a crucial need. Forty percent (40%) of this offering is used to support hospitals and community health programs that place priority in helping the most needy members of God's community. The remaining sixty percent (60%) is used for new creative ideas for mission, undesignated in advance. The generosity of Presbyterian women and their families and congregations as demonstrated through their Thank Offering gifts help chosen recipients find real solutions for projects related to health, education, economic development, and needs of women and children.

This Sunday, November 19th we will be receiving the Thank Offering. Your support is greatly needed and appreciated.



Join the Tuesday Book Club at Western Ribeye on Tuesday, November 28th where we will discuss The Couple Next Door by Shari Lapena. Everyone is invited (reading the book is NOT mandatory!) to come and enjoy food, fun and fellowship. We hope to see YOU there!

T-shirts are available

We will be placing an order for more sizes after Sunday, November 19th. If we do not have your size, we can pre-order, just let us know on Sunday!



Prayers & Concerns

Please pray for the following:

Janet, Marian Bruggenschmidt, Marilois Barker, Austin Smith, Bob Gudgel, Ingeborg Bailey, Pam, Connie Nichols, Max Foley & Tracey Manis. If you have a prayer request, please contact Leslie Webb at *epcprayer*.

Sunday, November 19, 2017

8:00 A.M. SERVICE

LITURGIST

Dorothy Mans

USHER

Matt Fiedler

10:30 A.M. SERVICE

LITURGIST

Dorothy Mans

HEAD USHER

Mel Ellsperman

USHERS & GREETERS

Pete & Carrie Mogavero & Team

Pat, Jayne & Tracey Manis

ACOLYTE

Ashlyn Eddlemon

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP LEADER

Annie Engelbrecht

FLOWER DEACONS

Jane Biggs & Alice Hoover

Eastminster Staff

Ashley Barnas - Nursery Worker

Anna Cantrell - Housekeeper

Dennis R. Davenport - Pastor

Mary Fulkerson - Office Manager

Trey Fulkerson - Youth/Pastoral Assistant

Marian LaChance - Housekeeper

Dennis Malfatti - Director of Music

Erin Tipton - Christian Ed Director

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

Social Media Administrator: Tony McClees

Prayer Chain Captain: Leslie Webb



THE SOCK DRIVE CONTINUES!



During the winter months, the most requested item from both the homeless community and homeless shelters are socks. Beginning Sunday, November 12th the youth group will be doing their annual sock drive. Due to the extreme conditions these men and women are exposed to their socks all too often do not hold up well. Not having warm, dry socks when exposed to the unforgiving elements often leads to illness and extreme discomfort. **We need your help!** Please consider donating new, unopened packages of socks. Adult sizes for both men and women are our top priority.

Please leave your donations in the green collection bin in the Fellowship Hall or drop them off in the church office. Donations will be greatly appreciated by both our youth who are working hard to assist our community and the men and women who desperately need these items.

OFFICE HOURS THIS THURSDAY 4:30 - 7:00 P.M.

"Friends Giving"

This Saturday the youth will be celebrating "Friends Giving." It's the Thanks Giving season and clearly a time for family, but why not celebrate it with your church family? We will be meeting from 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. just to enjoy some fellowship and food while further strengthening some of the most meaningful relationships our youth will ever experience.



Youth Group this week we will be studying the book of Ezekiel and how sometimes under God's orders prophets could act pretty strange. We will conclude with time for fellowship and games.

See you in The Place,
Trey



Christmas is Coming!

If you are thinking about giving or using gift cards for Christmas gifts or shopping, please take a look in the Narthex at our list of cards available. The last day that we can take orders and guarantee to have them available for Christmas will be Monday, November 27. We currently have available, in very limited supply:

- Toys-r-Us
- Walmart
- Target
- Sally Beauty Supply
- Sephora
- Longhorn/Red Lobster/Olive Garden
- Outback/Bonefish
- Arby's
- Barnes & Noble
- Lowes
- Home Depot
- Red Robin
- Great Harvest
- Hallmark

Thank you for all the cards you've bought this year. You are helping our church and we appreciate it very much!



Poinsettias

Poinsettia orders are now being taken. The cost is \$10 each. Please fill out the form below and place in the offering plate on Sunday or mail to the church. Make checks payable to Eastminster with poinsettia marked in the memo field.

The deadline to order a poinsettia is Monday, December 11. All poinsettias will be placed in the Sanctuary on Sunday, December 24 for the Christmas Eve Service. After the Christmas Eve service you may take your poinsettia with you.

Yes, I would like _____ poinsettia(s)
In memory/honor of:

I will pick up my poinsettia(s) ____yes ____no

Donor's Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Christian Education

Thanksgiving Processional

This Sunday!

November 19, 2017

Children and youth meet

Cheryl Ison and Erin Tipton

in the gallery at 10:15 a.m.

Bring your non-perishable

food item and we will provide

the rest.

Hope to see you there!!

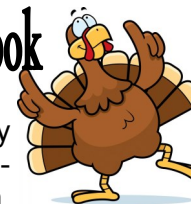


Advent Lunch

Could you bring soup on December 3rd for our Advent Luncheon? If so, the Christian Education committee would be so grateful! There are seven people signed up to bring soup! We will definitely need more than that to feed our church family. Please let Cheryl Ison or Erin Tipton or the church office know if you can contribute a crockpot of soup. Thanks so very much!! Looking forward to seeing you there.



Annual Thanksgiving Coloring Book



Thanksgiving Coloring books created by Roland Small will be passed out this Sunday, November 19 after the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Be sure to get your copy! If you will not be here this Sunday but would like a copy of the coloring book, see Roland Small or contact the church office. Thank you!

HAPPY THANKSGIVING



Habitat of Evansville Interfaith Build

The third annual Habitat of Evansville Interfaith Build is nearing completion. On Sunday, November 5, Harold & Joan Post provided lunch for all the workers who spent most of the day on the siding for the house. One might wonder why work was taking place on a Sunday. Since this is an Interfaith Build, that means we are participating

with those of various faith traditions in our community and their Sabbath observance isn't necessarily the same as ours.

Before the Interfaith Builds, it wasn't possible for those of our Jewish community to participate on a weekend because Saturday was the only day that work took place. Three years ago, though, our own Jim Stevens and Dick Yeager offered to coordinate the efforts of Habitat's Core Crew to work on Sunday to enable our Jewish neighbors to participate in a build on the weekend. Harold & Joan were continuing the tradition of Eastminster's participation in that effort.

The Interfaith Builds have enabled those of a variety of faith traditions to join together to help a family in our community become homeowners for the very first time. There are Protestants, Roman Catholics, Jews, Muslims, Hindus and even Secular Humanists who have been part of this venture. The work on the home is just one aspect of this endeavor. It is an opportunity for us to join together and put other differences aside and recognize that we are all fellow-Americans and people of faith who are offering God's love to others in a meaningful fashion.

