

EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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Eastminster Messenger

Heads, Hearts & Hands for Christ in Service & Celebration

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August 21, 2018



“Another Cave”

We’re nearing the end of our summer series on “Secular Movies, Books & Songs with a Spiritual Message.” I don’t think I’ve given the entire series the same title two consecutive times, but you get the idea. This is the second summer we’ve done this which means that this is the 23rd sermon in this series – 8 movies, 8 books and now 6 songs with number 7 this week.

Looking back on all of them, it seems safe to say that all the books, movies and songs are relatively uplifting. That would seem logical. After all, you don’t come to church to hear something depressing. I wonder, though, if that isn’t a problem we have within the church. I wonder if our desire to always wear a smile and a jovial attitude about life doesn’t prevent us from being honest – either with our fellow church members or even honest with God.

Let’s face it – life isn’t always laughter and happiness. We all have struggles and unless we’re honest about those struggles, we’ll never be able to overcome them. In addition, unless we allow and encourage others to be honest about their struggles, we can’t begin to offer encouragement, acceptance and support.

That leads us to the song that will serve as our focus this week. When I first heard the story and the song, it haunted me and seemed to be perfect for this series – except for the fact that it doesn’t fit into the “uplifting” category as all the other songs, movies and books do.

To use this song in this series is a bit unnerving for me but I feel it needs to be included. Last week’s song was a “newer” one than any of the others and yet it was still nearly a decade old. The one for this week is less than two *months* old. It’s a song entitled “Sober” by Demi Lovato and it involves a tragic story that is still unfolding. Hopefully, it will one day be a story that can fit into the “uplifting” category of a series such as this.

Read Luke 8:26-39 for a follow-up of sorts to last week’s song as we look at “Another Cave.”

Blessings,
Dennis



Sunday, September 2, 2018
8:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

Without A,B, & O, we can’t save anybody.
YOU are the #MissingType we need!

Please visit redcrossblood.org and enter:
Eastminster PC to schedule your appointment or see Mike Lee.

receive a Red Cross aluminum water bottle!

SISTER JOANNA’S TABLE



One of the regular opportunities for service that is available to all of us is that of providing a meal at Sister Joanna’s Table on the second Saturday of every other month. Eastminster will be hosting a meal on Saturday, September 8th.

If you would be interested in helping, simply arrive at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, 301 SE 1 st Street, between 9:30-10:30 and you’ll be given something to do. There is a need for assistance with set-up, food prep, serving and clean-up.

This is a tremendous opportunity to join with fellow church members in providing a much needed service to our community. If you would like more information about the details, call the church office. Chris Kuhs of our Community & World Missions Committee is our coordinator of this wonderful community program.

Prayers & Concerns

Please pray for the following: Kristen, Jordan Whelen, Family & friends of TaRhel Brockers, Conner Chapman, Hadrian & Robby, 11 month old, Michael & family and Shirley B. If you have a prayer request, please contact Leslie Webb at epcprayers@gmail.com or contact the Church Office.

Eastminster Staff

Mike Cantrell - Housekeeper
Dennis R. Davenport - Pastor
Mary Fulkerson - Office Manager
Trey Fulkerson - Youth/Pastoral Assistant
Alanna Keenan - Director of Music
Marian LaChance - Housekeeper
Rachel Luttrull - Organist
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

Sunday, August 26, 2018

8:00 A.M. SERVICE

LITURGIST
Corey Fritz

USHER
Rebecca Conen

10:30 A.M. SERVICE

LITURGIST
Corey Fritz

HEAD USHER
Mel Ellsperman

USHERS & GREETERS
Steve & Suzette Fritz & Team
Pat & Jayne Manis

ACOLYTE
Jacob Irmscher



Office Hours Thursday from 4:30 - 7:00

Youth Group is this Sunday at 6:00 P.M. We will have a lesson and then a time of fellowship.



On Friday, September 14th we will have a Lock-in, we will be starting at 7:00 P.M. and ending on Saturday, September 15th at 8:00 A.M.

Snack and/or drink donations would be greatly appreciated.

I hope to see you in the Place,
Trey



Please continue to save your Campbell's products labels and your Box Tops for education. They may be dropped off in the kitchen.

?? ? ? ?
Bible Quiz

Which of the following sports does Paul use metaphorically to describe the Christian life?

- A. Fishing
- B. Running a race
- C. Boxing
- D. Both B and C
- E. All of the above

Answer: D (See 1 Corinthians 9:24-27.)

Eastminster Choir resumes on Thursday, August 30th at 7 p.m. in the choir room. All are welcome and we look forward to a season of beautiful music making. If you have any questions or would like more information about the choir, please contact Alanna Keenan at ak215@evansville.edu

Choir Season Begins

EPC Book Club

The EPC Book Club will meet on Tuesday, August 28th at Noon at Western Ribeye. This month's book selection is Invitation to Valhalla. Join us for an hour of fun, fellowship and wonderful discussion.



Now that school is back in session, the school supply drive has ended – and that means it's time for the Christmas Basket drive to begin! Yes, already!! Please check the pew rack for the August bookmark which lists practical household items needed. Place your items in the baskets provided in the Narthex.

Join Small Groups for a night at the Evansville Otters baseball game on Friday, August 24th at 6:35 at Bosse Field where they will play the River City Rascals. Please call the church office to make your reservation. Tickets will be \$6 at the door and there will be a small charge for the bus transportation. We will leave EPC at 5:30 and return following the game's last out.

Christian Education

"Heads, Hearts and Hands For Christ in Service and Celebration"

Sunday, August 26th Sunday School leaders

Preschool—Annie Engelbrecht

K-2nd—Meredith Garcia

3rd-5th—Suzette Fritz

Middle/High School—Trey Fulkerson

Adults—Barb Ferguson

Children's Worship—open



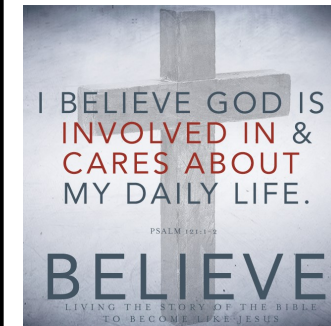
Come join us for our Sunday School Fall Kick-off

Sunday, September 9th

Join us in the Sanctuary at

9:00 a.m.

**This is for our whole
church family—all ages!!**



Most Sundays during the year I can be found in room 102 teaching anywhere from one to five children Bible stories. I am not always familiar with every story I teach. My brain has limited storage capacity. So, in preparation to teach, I might have to read and reread and reread the story again to understand it myself. Some lessons might require a lot of thought on what understandings a child

should gain about God or Jesus or faith based on hearing the lesson. Other times it is an 'easy' Bible story to teach. One I know, one I understand, and maybe even know by heart. The more familiar the story, the easier it is to teach, but I also find it easier to find my point. Like right now, I am typing and typing and wonder if I even have a point. Stay with me, I think I do.

Sometimes during a lesson I am overcome by a sense of understanding on how to explain the story so that the children can understand how it applies to their lives. This is NOT an every Sunday occurrence! It happened a couple times last year where the point of the story hit me during the lesson. I hadn't planned for it, but went with the teachable moment. To be truthful, sometimes, I teach a lesson and think...well about all I did today was show up and talk at these kiddos. Remember, I have a very harsh inner critic. Sometimes I walk out of the room and wonder if I planted any seed of curiosity for the children at all. Thus, is the nature of teaching. Sometimes the lesson is appealing, entertaining with an accompanying, perfectly planned craft, a super fun game, and then, sometimes, it's not.

Is there value in both types of lessons? I would argue that there is. The flop of a lesson and the flawless lesson both offer something to the student and the teacher. I heard author, Shauna Niequist, say one time that when she and her husband host a dinner party that turns out to be not-so-great they call it "putting money in the bank". Maybe the conversation didn't flow or some of the dishes were just so-so. But, they deposited the time in developing and cultivating their friendships anyway. Made the deposit and hoped for dividends! So, why do I tell you this? Well, curriculum can only do so much. The teachers who teach or leaders who lead a class, they can prepare and prepare, but it requires an openness on the willingness of the members of the class to receive the information. And, then sometimes, a willingness to stray from the curriculum and go with the teachable moment. We have amazing teachers who do just this each Sunday! Curriculum can be a wonderful guide. We can come away with so much clarity and maybe a curiosity to seek out more information on our own. Other times, not so much.

Is our new curriculum the answer to all your questions? I doubt it. Will it peak your curiosity? I hope so. Will it be full of flawless lessons? Probably not. But, let's make the deposits in our personal and collective faith journeys and hope for dividends.

Thanks for reading!
Erin :)