

EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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Eastminster Messenger

Heads, Hearts & Hands for Christ in Service & Celebration

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"Finding the Lost?"

God values every human being and we should as well. Regardless of what we have done or haven't done in our lives, God still cares for all of us. Those who are walking in the light need to adopt our Father's attitude toward those who are "throwaway humans". Whether behind bars, among the homeless, in nursing facilities, or rejected by society, God's love never ends for each individual. Jesus associated with those deemed sinners and outcasts. The church must not only welcome those who may benefit the church, but those who need help as well. The Good Shepherd searches the wilderness to find the one who is lost. What are we doing to reach the rejected ones?

Blessings,
Pastor Scott



PYOCA
CAMP AND RETREAT CENTER

Gemini camp at PYOCA is looking at dates for the possibility of a fall retreat for high school youth. They have done this the past two years, and the kids love it. A fall reset, and time spent with camp friends was amazing for the kids that went last year. Feel free to grab any of them and ask about their experience at the fall retreat.

The tentative date is November 23, the weekend before Thanksgiving. To make this feasible, they would need at least 20 kids confirmed. If your child in grade 9-12 would be interested, please let me know. If there is enough interest, letters will go out in October. In the past, cost has been \$50 per camper. If there are enough of our youth that would like to go, there is a possibility we could take the bus. Let me know, and I'll pass along our numbers.

Many Blessings!
Sabrina



Don't Forget Your Name Tag on Sunday!



UNCLAIMED DISHES

If you are missing a dish, please check the kitchen. We have many leftover items from past events!



To Our Friends at Home



The text of our Sunday sermon is usually available in the narthex for those who have difficulty hearing or for those who wish to follow along with the written word.

Would you like to have a copy mailed to you? If so, call the office and let us know -- and check to be sure we have your correct address. If you already receive a copy we will continue to have you on our list - unless we hear from you otherwise.



Sunday, September 15, 2019

8:00 A.M. Service

Liturgist

Gary Van Zandt

Usher

Allen Helmstetter

10:30 A.M. Service

Liturgist

Gary Van Zandt

Head Usher

Mel Ellsperman

Greeters

Marilyn Ellsperman,
Jayne & Pat Manis

Ushers

The Youth

Acolyte

Elizabeth Lee

Eastminster Staff

Mike Cantrell - Handyman
Mary Fulkerson - Office Manager
Trey Fulkerson - Youth/Pastoral Assist.
Alanna Keenan - Director of Music
Ansee LaChance - Nursery Worker
Marian LaChance - Housekeeper
Rachel Luttrull - Organist
Scott Solether - Pastor
Erin Tipton - Christian Ed Director

Church Office Hours

M - Th: 8:30 - 3:00 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 Admin: Tony McClees
tmcclees@illinois.edu
Prayer Chain Captains: Leslie Webb & Dave Matzen
epcprayers@gmail.com



Prayer Concerns

Please pray for the following: Sue Shelton; Melba Hutchinson; Dave & Bobbi Moran; David & Fay Kishline; Chris & John Matzen; Mary Lou Matzen; Dave Moran's brother-in-law, Gary; Jenny Murphy's father - Jerry Nagle; Pattii Rusche; Virginia Rahn; Lillian Tierney; Jenny Murphy's brother - John; Barb Ferguson; Barbara; Julie Summit; Amelia Webb; Pam Attebury; Ron Harper; Katy Evans; Ira Mowrey; Virgie Foley; Nick Prout; Linda; Tracy.

If you have a prayer request or wish to be removed from the list, please contact Leslie Webb at epcprayers@gmail.com or Dave Matzen at davidallyn39@gmail.com





Guess what time it is?

It's CHRISTMAS!!

Not really, but it is only 14 weeks away.

So that makes it (for real)

CHRISTMAS BASKET TIME!

We have, in the past, provided baskets of food, household supplies, and gifts for the children of 8 families. These families are so grateful for the help at such a stressful time of year. And it has been such a blessing to us to be able to provide even a little help to a struggling family in our community.

Because I believe God loves a big ask, and because never once have you all let me down when I've asked for big things (28 kids went to PYOCA this summer because of y'all!), we are going to add another family to our list and do 9 baskets this year. If your Sunday school class would like to adopt one of these families, please let me know. I will get you all the information and shopping lists you will need.

We are going to do things a little differently this year, though. Rather than putting lists out in the pew, the deacons will be sending out letters. Your family will get a short list of 5 or 6 items needed to complete a basket. These will include cleaning supplies, grocery staples, personal items, etc. You can pick these items up all at once, or over the course of a month. Please bring them to church, either on Sunday morning, or during office hours during the week. We are hoping this method will get us the most items needed, and the fewest repeats. This will allow us to use the Christmas basket fund to buy perishables and any missing gifts for the children, rather than trying to fill in missing grocery items.

There will also be an option for a monetary donation, if you would prefer the deacons did the shopping for you.

Thank you so much for your unwavering support of all my crazy ideas. Together, we can do big things.

Many Blessings,
Sabrina



All are welcome, encouraged and NEEDED to join the choir! Join us every Thursday at 7 p.m. in the choir room for practice. 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



A wonderful welcome reception for Pastor Scott, Tammy & Brandon was had by all who attended on Sunday, September 1, 2019.



Thank you to Nancy Sanderson, Janet Zieher, Carol Oglesby, Brenda Miller, Deveta Miller & Mary Fulkerson for their help in making the event special.



We invite you to join Pastor Scott, Tammy & Brandon as they walk along with us through their first year. Please use this prayer as a foundation of prayers that you offer for them and our congregation.

Irish Blessing

*May the Lord bless and keep you
May the Lord make His face
to shine upon you and be gracious to you
May God grant unto you His peace
In your going out and in your coming in,
in your lying down and in your rising up,
in your labor and in your leisure,
in your laughter and in your tears,
until you come to stand before Jesus,
on that day in which there is
no sunset and no dawning.
Amen.*

Christian Education



REMINDER!

I need one picture per child or youth for our gallery wall in the Sunday School hallway this year.

**Snap a picture on your cell phone and email it to...erin@epcevv.com
Would love to have the pictures ASAP.
Thanks so much!
Erin :)**



Fall Kick Off!

Thank you to all who participated in and set up for Fall Kick Off. We are off to a great start and we hope you enjoyed the beginning of this new Sunday School Year.

The Christian Education Committee

Please consider signing up to help with our **Children's Worship** time. There is a new sign up sheet in the Narthex at the Welcome Center. While I adore hanging out with the children of our church, they sometimes get tired of me (Erin) and like a little variety in their instructors. Please consider signing up.



A New Podcast

I heard about a new Podcast the other day that I thought might be of interest to some of you or even your adult children. It is called The Bible Binge Podcast and is hosted by Knox McCoy and Jamie Golden. They also host another podcast about Pop Culture called The Popcast, so you might have heard of them before. Now, these two are NOT Bible scholars! So, if you would choose to listen, just know that the things they say are their own personal beliefs and not from a seminary-trained person. However, at the end of each podcast, they do have a seminary-trained expert point out some of their shortcomings in their retellings of the Bible Stories they share. The Bible Binge takes a bible story and they kind of work through their own version of the story, asking questions and considering what might have happened. Then they cast the story with today's pop culture icons and think about who would play each Bible character's role. This will not be everyone's cup of tea, but if you are into pop culture and the Bible, it might be an interesting thing to listen to.

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR FALL

- 9-11-19 Assembly Night—CE meeting @ 6:40pm
Dinner is at 6pm.
- 10-27-19 Halloween Carnival
- 11-18-19 to 11-25-19 Operation Christmas Child
Shoobox Collection week
- 11-24-19 Canned Food Drive and
Thanksgiving Processional
- 12-8-19 Annual Advent Luncheon



THE DISRUPTIONS AND DISTRACTIONS OF LIFE WITH A ROGUE ROOSTER

Have I told you about the rogue rooster that plagued my house for three days in May? I am sure I have. It was quite the fiasco. I cannot begin to explain the tears and commotion caused by this creature. The boys were still in school and Dan leaves for work at 4:30 a.m. This is a problem when you have a rooster roosting in the potted plants on your porch. As soon as Dan left, the rooster started his cock-a-doodle-doo-ing at 4:30 a.m. each day. Adam came to my room at that early hour and strongly stated, "MOM, YOU HAVE GOT TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THAT ROOSTER!"

But, what? Call animal control? Pray that he wanders home? He had escaped from our neighbor's house and somehow found his way through the woods to our chicken coop in search of new friends. However, we didn't need or want any new chicken friends. We were very happy with our number of chicken friends. Days passed and the rooster wouldn't leave and he didn't wander home like the neighbor thought he might. He didn't just cock-a-doodle-doo in the morning, but ALL. DAY. LONG. It was a harrowing three days of rooster issues. We don't know what happened to the rooster, but he is no longer with us. I don't know if he is still on this Earth or not, but I am certainly glad he moved on from my front porch.

Have you had times like this? Maybe it isn't a rogue rooster living on your porch, but something you just can't let go of or something that won't let go of you? I think we all do. Jesus encourages the Jews in Matthew to come to him and He will give them rest. Now, this is some serious stuff that he is talking about providing rest from. He is talking about rest from the heavy burden of all the laws the Pharisees required people to follow. But, really, whatever our burdens, the Pharisees, rogue roosters, declining health, family strife, oppression, poverty, I think Jesus is hoping that we trust Him to meet us in the midst of those things. Now, I don't know what that looks like. Maybe it looks like more conversations with God? Maybe it looks like hard conversations with God or other trusted friends? Maybe it looks like a hot mess of anger, frustration and sadness? Whatever "rooster issue" you face, what can you do to take a step toward God and not away? I think this is the hard part. The trust part. The part that says even though things may not work out the way that you hope they will that God is still good.

Have you heard that song, "God is Good All the Time"? There is a line in there that says, "God is good all the time through the darkest night His light will shine." If you haven't heard the song in awhile, and you are in the midst of a "rooster" of a problem, listen to it. Sometimes music is the only way to face certain things and can provide more healing than words.



—Erin