



# Eastminster Messenger

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## Our Interim Pastor



### Again & Again, We Are Reformed

As a Presbyterian Church, we have roots in the protestant reformation of the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries. Our spiritual ancestry comes from people like Martin Luther, Huldrych Zwingli, and John Calvin – perhaps the name most of us recognize. They didn't all agree, on exactly how a group should *be* a church,

but they found common ground in many ways. One tenet they agreed upon was that the people of Christ, the church, should be "Semper reformanda, semper reformanda." This Latin phrase means "always reformed, always being re-formed." They saw much wrong with the existing church, and sought to change it for the better, and to build leadership structures that would work for continued change as needed. If you would like to read a bit more about this subject, here is a link to an article that is more in depth:

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/what-we-believe/ecclesia-reformata/>

In worship this week and in the Again & Again Lenten Devotional we have opportunities to look at some biblical stories about change taking place. The prophet Jeremiah notices all the change that is evident on the wind and sees that God is about to create a new covenant. In John's gospel, Jesus talks to his Apostles about the change in people who follow his teachings, and also considers the type of death he is anticipating. These readings can be found in Jeremiah 31:31-34, and John 12: 20-33 respectively. They are readings that invite us to meditate on what God's Spirit is telling us now, and how that shapes us as individuals and as a community of believers.

Blessings,  
JT

### Prayer Card Instructions

Enclosed in the mailing this week is a set of prayer cards like the ones we sent last week. They are designed for you to use as you see fit, and correspond with the "Again and Again" series. We will be sending seven cards each week through Easter Sunday, one for each day of the week. The recommendation is that you use one card per day for your spiritual nurture. We hope you find some use for these cards in your daily spiritual practice.



### Help your church create!

Please come place a prayer on the prayer wall in the Gallery. You are invited to visit any time during office hours, and can come participate without contacting another person or putting yourself at undue risk. Plus, you can help put together a great piece of art.

Here is how it works: Write a prayer on a strip of fabric. There are 2 different colors, dark strips and light strips. Once you have written your prayer, weave the strip of fabric into the mesh. Light colored strips go where the mesh is painted white, and the dark colored strips go inside the shape of the ampersand – the "&" symbol.

By Easter we should have a nice piece of artwork based on the prayer and participation of the congregation.



### Maundy Thursday Prayer Vigil

Would you like to continue the tradition of a prayer vigil this year? If so, we need someone to coordinate it. It should not take too much time, and the template from past years could be a place from which to start. If you have questions about what this might mean, how much time it may take, and may be interested in coordinating, or even pitching in, please contact the church office.



Office Hours will be held Tuesday,  
March 16, from 4:00 pm-6:00 pm.

On Saturday March 13th the youth group, as well as volunteers from other church committees, participated in the Sister Joanna's Soup Kitchen. We served a St. Patrick's Day inspired meal of corned beef and cabbage to over 120 people. The next Sister Joanna's Table will be May 8th, so if you missed this time but would like to help out, mark your calendar!

Since the pandemic started a year ago a gap has been growing between the EPC youth and the EPC congregation. For several months now it has felt as though we have been two separate ministries operating inside of the same building. In order to help bridge this gap, the youth group will be adding prayers to the Again and Again prayer wall. While doing so we will be discussing the powerful nature of prayer and its ability to connect people not just with God, but also with each other. and why it has become the cornerstone of the Christian lifestyle.

See you in The Place,  
Trey

"GOD IS  
WITH YOU IN  
everything  
YOU DO."  
GENESIS 21:22

## Volunteering at Sister Joanna's Table



## Youth hanging out in the courtyard

