



Eastminster Messenger

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Our Interim Pastor



Again & Again, God Loves First

We are approaching the 4th Sunday in Lent. The gospel reading for that day is John 3:14-21. Such a familiar reading that contains a bit that many of us have memorized. When Children of Eastminster work toward annual recognition they are introduced to the 16th verse beginning at the age of 2. We see it on bumper stickers, ball caps, bookmarks, embroidery, even in the background at sporting events.

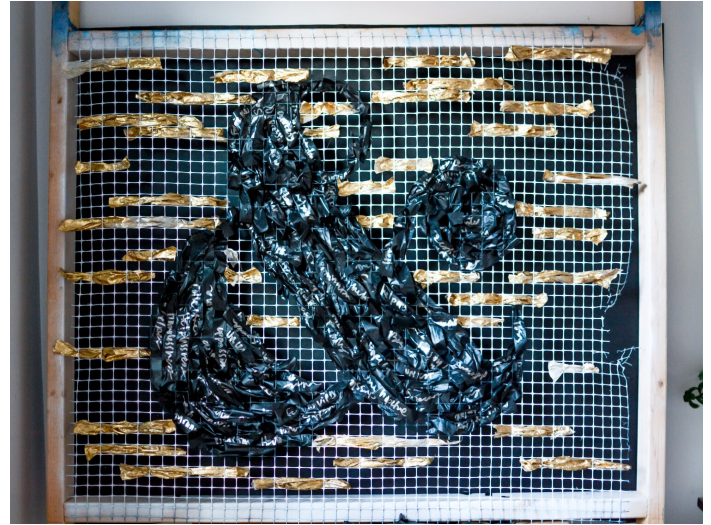
What about the rest of the passage? Have any of us memorized John 3:17? What about the snakes? Do we even remember they are mentioned as part of this particular passage?

These questions serve to remind us that God has given us an entire collection of Scriptures that attest to who God is. Not only a popular memory verse, but a story around that verse, and a 'gospel' around that story, and so on and so forth. While we might all agree that a good place to start is God's love, there is more. We come to know God's great love for us, and then it is up to us to respond. This week in worship we will take another look at this description of God's love, and then be invited to consider what response we might make. If we truly appreciate God's love, it is up to us to keep looking to scripture to help us understand the true depth of what that means. Indeed, the waters of God's love run deep and wide! Thanks be to God.

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.



Prayer Craft

For the rest of Lent, we are offering the congregation the opportunity to participate in a craft we can all work on creating together. There is a mesh frame with the image of an ampersand (&) in the Gallery. Next to the frame are strips of cloth and some pens. You are invited to write a prayer on a strip of cloth, and then weave the strip into the symbol on the mesh. The prayer could be a hope, a concern, a joy, a thanksgiving; whatever you might like to pray for. This is an activity we can participate in together, while maintaining everyone's safety. Come in and craft a prayer during office hours, or before or after worship, if you are attending in person services.

On Easter Sunday the Craft will be completed and available for all of us to view. For visually oriented people, there is a picture here of what the craft will look like once it is completed.



Sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Joyce Newman who passed away on March 4, 2021.



Office hours will be on Tuesday March 8th, 2021, from 4:00 pm until 6:00 pm. Office hours are less formal than our typical youth group meeting and give our youth an excuse to spend some extra time in the building and with each other.

The Youth Group will be helping out at Sister Joanna's Table this Saturday, March 14th. Sister Joanna's is entirely socially distanced to ensure the safety of all who participate. This means the cafeteria and dine-in service is not being offered. Instead we will prepare individual lunches in to-go containers which will be available for pick up outside of the building. Although the EPC youth are a major component in Sister Joanna's Table, anyone who would like to participate may do so. Just meet us at St. Paul's Episcopal Church on 1st Street at 10:00am or call Trey Fulkerson at 812-604-8779 for more information.

This week at Youth Group our youth will be diving further into our case study of Jesus. From His birth to His eventual death, we have been breaking down different scenes in Jesus' life to better understand who He was and why that matters to us today. At the conclusion of the lesson there will be time for fun and fellowship. Sunday 6:00 pm-8:00 pm.



See you at The Place,
Trey

PRAYER CONCERNS

Please pray for the following:

Rose Kuhn; Julie Summit; Jen Lanham; Mike Barnett; Pat Manis; Tid Turner; Jane Williams Gene Tying.

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



The purpose of our prayer chain is to provide spiritual support and healing for church members, their families and friends.

When placing someone on the prayer chain, **please obtain their permission, and be sure to give the reason for prayer.** Visits and cards can also be arranged by the Prayer Chain if you include an address of your request. It is also very important to give your name with a contact number so that we can follow up with you if needed.

Your prayer request will be included in the daily prayers of our prayer warriors for **one month**. Names of those who have been requested to have prayer will be included in the bulletin and newsletter for four weeks. You may continue to request prayers for prolonged illness as well.

Feel free to send us back a "Prayers Answered" or "Thanksgiving" request upon resolution of the request, if appropriate. We enjoy hearing about how God's hand moves on all those he loves.

To add or remove someone, please contact Leslie Webb at epcprayers@gmail.com; call the church office or send an email to epc@epcevv.com.

If you would like to become a Prayer Warrior, please call the office.



Dear Families

Now that the weather is warming up again, I would like to invite your children to Sunday School and/or Children's Church. The classes have started up again but we will still be taking precautionary measures to ensure health and safety. I have re-worked the lesson plans which will give the children more say over the lessons. I will bring DONUTS and CHOCOLATE MILK on Sunday, March 14, to welcome the kids back. I am excited and hoping to see them all in class!



Sincerely,
Mr. Gordon