

EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
5501 Washington Avenue
Evansville, IN 47715

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Eastminster Messenger

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June 2, 2021



A seminary preaching professor observed that most pastors, even when they develop disciplines to follow the lectionary, or otherwise cover the array of diverse scriptures, tend to preach 5-7 themes repeatedly. I know I do hit on certain themes often, that I believe are important for a church. As an Interim Pastor, an intentional regular topic is that of change. In this newsletter you will observe plenty of changes.

Most immediate changes have to do with loosening restrictions as we use the building. But there is also a new program fast approaching, The Strawberry Festival. What's more, we have elected 2 Trustees to fill vacancies, and we have elected a Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) to shepherd the process of finding a new permanent pastor for Eastminster.

These represent different types of changes: Sometimes change happens because it is necessary, the circumstances demand it and it is involuntary. Other times a change is voluntary, like deciding to continue hosting a Strawberry Festival that once took place regularly as a ministry of the Newburgh family. I continue to marvel that humans, especially in organized groups like congregations, resist change. Sometimes consciously, at other times subconsciously. This fascinates me because life is change. Everything from seasons of the year, the aging process, the ebb and flow of life, blowing winds, flowing rivers, all these and more place change before us constantly.

As we move to toward these changes, I invite you to have faith that God will care for us throughout. Consider the changes that God has seen in human nature over the span of years, centuries, millenia. God's presence is constant, God's love is steadfast. God will continue to see us through the coming changes. Our task is to have faith in that truth.

Blessings,
JT



This past Sunday, May 30th, the following individuals were presented to the congregation for election to the Pastor Search Committee and were approved unanimously.

Brian Bailey

Tm Fiedler

Patti Garcia

Chris Kuhs

Brenda Miller

Becky Nichols

Rick Zeiher

Please keep these individuals in your prayers as they begin their work for the future of our church.

Congratulations to Harold Post and Anne Stallings who have been appointed to the Board of Trustees to fill unexpired terms.



This Sunday, June 6th, there will be a short meeting for volunteer needs for the upcoming

**Strawberry Festival, on
June 26, 2021, 3-6 p.m.**

If you would like an opportunity to connect with one another, and with our community, this is the event for you. Please stop by Room 102 after the 6/6 Service. The contact person for this event is Diane VanCleave (dianesvancleave@gmail.com; 812-499-7201).



Re-Opening

There are now new policies and practices that have been enacted for our congregation. The Re-opening Task Force met May 16 and made the proposal to the Session, which discussed them at length, and passed the following provisions on May 26, 2021:

Church Attendance

1. Wearing masks is recommended, especially for those who have not yet been vaccinated.
2. All entrances and bathrooms are now open.
4. Maintain current spacing of pews and social distancing until attendance requires modification.
5. Ushers/greeters are reinstated (if individuals feel comfortable volunteering please do so, your help is needed.)

Church Service

1. Paper bulletins are now available for pick up upon entering.
2. Bibles and hymnals will be returned to slots in the pews.
3. Congregational singing is now allowed.
4. Acolytes and liturgists will be involved in the service, again, volunteers are needed.
5. On communion Sundays elements will be available for pick-up upon entering, they will not be passed out. Observance of the sacrament will be reviewed by the Worship and Music Committee.
6. Keep the Offering the same (offering plates on table outside sanctuary).
7. Begin choir practice in August if conditions allow.

Events

1. In person meetings such as Assembly Night and other gatherings are allowed.
2. Meals are now permitted in the building once again.



Don't forget to join us every Tuesday from 4-6:00 P.M. for Youth Office Hours.
YOUTH GROUP every Sunday beginning at 6:00 P.M.



We will not publish a newsletter the week of June 14 or the week of June 21. If you will have an event that you want published, please submit your information to the office by Monday, June 7, to be included in the newsletter that will be mailed on Tuesday, June 28th. Thank You!



PRAYER CONCERNS

Please pray for the following:

Rose Kuhn, Julie Summit; Mike Barnett; Tid Turner; Jane Williams; Gene Tying; Mike Crecelius; Walt Lowe; Tracey Wingerter; Mae Chin; Pat Manis; Sue Kuhs; Allen Sanderson.

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.



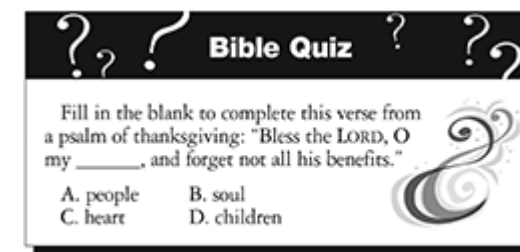
Good things come to those who GIVE. Eastminster is asking you to give. GIVE BLOOD – the gift of life.

Eastminster will be holding a blood drive for the community on Tuesday, June 22nd from 1:00 to 7:00pm in the Fellowship Hall.

You can help by scheduling a donation or by volunteering to assist those who are donating if you are unable to.

To schedule your donation online, go to redcrossblood.org and enter the sponsor code Eastminster PC.

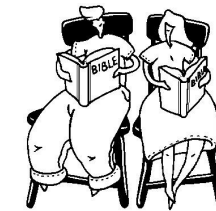
The need for blood is constant. The gratification is instant. So give blood. Give life. Give that blessing to another. And may God Bless you!



Answer: B (See Psalm 103:2, ESV)

Assembly Night

Assembly Night will be held on Wednesday, June 9 at 6:00 P.M. Because this will be our first Assembly Night since the Pandemic no pizza will be served. We will meet in Fellowship Hall and then be dismissed to our regular tables to meet.

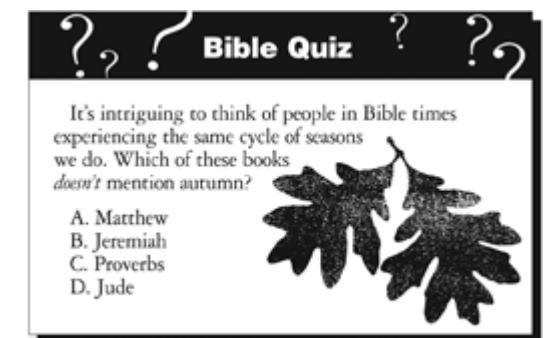


Memory Contest

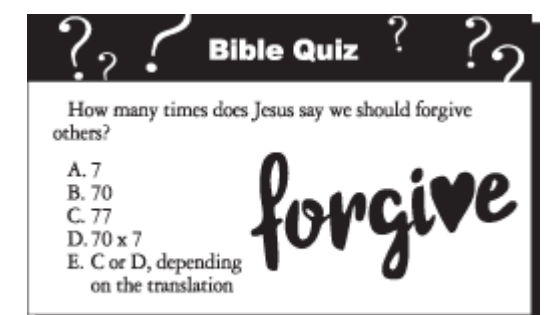
The Memory Contest will begin on June 20 and run through July 18. Be watching for more information.

Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School will be held on July 16 and 17 with the VBS program on Sunday, July 18th. Be watching for more information.



Answer: A (See Proverbs 20:4, ESV; Jeremiah 5:24; Jude 1:12.)



Answer: B (See Matthew 18:22.)