

Our

Pastor

Eastminster Messenger

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Tithe

"The disciplines of stewardship and selfoffering are a grateful response to God's love for the world and self-giving in Jesus Christ. As Christians, we are called to lives of simplicity, generosity, hospitality, compassion, and care for creation. Tithing is a primary practice of Christian stewardship and self-offering. We are accountable to God for how we use our material goods,

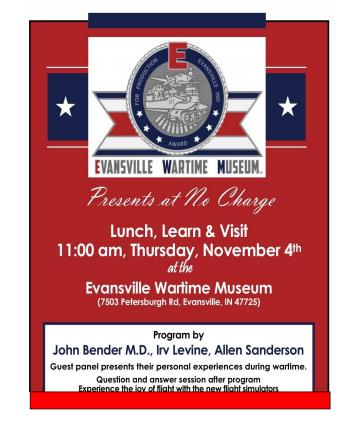
spiritual gifts, and time in God's service. " - Book of Order of the PC(USA)

As a young Sunday School student my class was once asked by the pastor why the bulletin asked for "Tithes and Offerings?" I was eager to answer what I had always assumed, saying, "a tithe is ten percent of what the giver has, an offering is anything less." I felt awkward when the pastor said, "you are right about the tithe, but an offering is anything <u>over</u> ten percent." I was shocked. The pastor went on to say that it is assumed a church member would tithe, and that some might be generous enough to give more.

I don't think that was truly the case of that church at that time, nor do I believe it is a realistic economic possibility for many individuals or families these days. However, one of the understandings of tithing is that it is a regular discipline. In other words, the focus of tithing is not the amount that is given, but that it is done regularly.

Perhaps that is more important for some of us to consider as we study what stewardship is. The church income situation is not currently a good one - received pledges are down. While that may seem bleak it need not be. We have a few reasons to be hopeful. First, we have one another. We cannot look back and bemoan who and what we don't have contributing to the ministry. But we can also look at who we do have and be thankful. Secondly, we have time. Time for pledges to be honored, for more income to be received, and for new giving opportunities. Finally, God is on our side. God works in and through our church family and is the source of the goodness within them. And God works within the time we have to faithfully do our share of providing for the ministry that will take place. We have much to be thankful for as we continue to journey as God's stewards!

Blessings, J.T. A Lunch, Learn, and Visit program featuring Allen Sanderson will be hosted at the Evansville Wartime Museum on November 4 beginning at 11:00 am. The deadline for reservations is Friday, October 29, please call the church office if you would like to reserve a place.



Please pray for the following: Rose Kuhn; Julie Summit; Tid Turner; Jane Williams; Carolyn Tyring; Mike Crecelius; Walt Lowe; 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.





Reminder: We are now over 75% through 2021, but have only received

45% in pledges. Please remember to make your pledge online, mail it in, or drop it in the offering plate at worship.

Friday, October 15, there will be a Celebration of Life for Gene Tyring at 12 pm in the sanctuary. A visitation will be held in the gallery from 10 am to 12 pm. Gene passed away in his home on Tuesday October 5.

Prayers for Carolyn and her family are appreciated.



The American Red Cross has recognized Eastminster as a **Premier Blood Partner** based on the increased donor results from our last few blood drives. We collected 25 donations in 2020, 37 donations in June this year, and exceeded our goal at the drive last month with 40 donations. Thanks to all the donors and volunteers who made this possible.



Congratulations,

You're a Pump It Up Challenge Achiever!



Congratulations on

being a **Pump**

It Up Challenge achiever! Your organization has gone above and beyond as a Premier Blood Partner, growing your impact and helping save more lives. As one of our most valued partners, you and your team continue to play a critical role in our lifesaving network. Your efforts truly make a difference in the lives of patients in need and their families.

Sincerely,

Your American Red Crass



American Red Cross Premier Blood Partners Program EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 5501 Washington Avenue Evansville, IN 47715 NON-PROFIT ORG. U.S. Postage

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RETURNED SERVICE REQUESTED

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