



Eastminster Messenger

Heads, Hearts & Hands for Christ in Service & Celebration

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November 15, 2022

Hey friends, there are many ways we can pray. Thank you, EPC, for all the ways you live out your life as a prayer. May this moving prayer from a sister church, along with the many opportunities we are able to share in church and community life, and in the life of worshipping God be a blessing to you! Hope to see you at Saturday's dinner, and for all the activity Sunday, and anytime sooner.

Joy and courage, Ryan



Midday Prayer (adapted, Presbyterian Church in Canada)

God in whom we live and move and have our being: As we share in Your presence today, we are aware of many challenges in our own lives, in the lives of those we care about and in the world around us. Thank You for Your faithfulness to each of us and to Your whole creation, given all that we share and all the different situations we face. In faithful silence, we lay before You the concerns on our hearts this day. We pray for those who have been in the headlines lately, for those situations in the world and in our country that concern us deeply, and for all whose lives cry out to You and to us for help... We pray for those who are suffering in our community and for those struggling to overcome the challenges of the last few years: those who are ill and those who are bereaved; those struggling to make ends meet or find the right job; those who are lonely and those who are moving and in need of new friends... We pray for those looking forward to a new beginning: those graduating; those beginning new jobs or new activities; those welcoming new members into the family through birth or marriage: We pray for this congregation in a time of new opportunities, vision, and continued ministry. Gather us in to new and renewed friendships. Help us see where You call us to reach out with Your love and generosity. Equip us to meet every challenge we face with hearts full of faith and commitment for we dare to pray in the way Christ taught us as his followers... Our Father...



STEWARDSHIP DINNER CELEBRATION

If you have not signed up for the Stewardship Dinner Celebration that will be held on Saturday, November 19, at 6 p.m., plenty of time and room is still available for you to do so.

Just contact the church and say you'll be there. We will be serving wonderful food and fellowship in celebration of where God will be taking us in 2023.



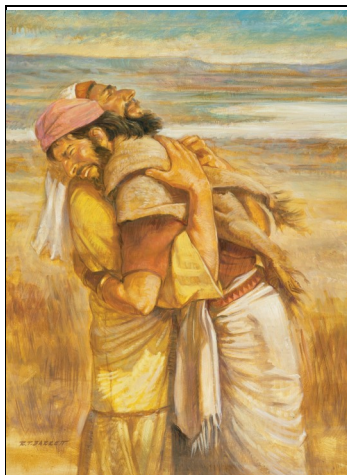
REMINDER ASSEMBLY NIGHT

Wednesday, November 16 at 6:00 p.m.

SESSION

Wednesday, November 30 at 6:00 p.m.

Please note the office will be closed on Thursday, November 24 & Friday, November 25.



RETURN

by lisle gwynn garrity

inspired by genesis 33:1-17 (Esau forgives Jacob)

Painting by Robert T. Barrett

Jacob and Esau shared a womb but soon grew to be enemies. Torn apart first by Jacob's hunger for status (he buys Esau's birthright) and then by Jacob's deceit (he steals Esau's inheritance), their relationship is deeply fractured by money. They become estranged—living in different lands with different families, cultures, and customs. Jacob steers clear of Esau, fearing Esau will kill him, until the time comes to leave his father-in-law, Laban, and return home to Canaan. But to do this, Jacob must pass through Esau's territory in Mount Seir. He must come face-to-face with the brother he has wronged. In this image, I've imagined the moment they meet—Esau winged with an army of men, and Jacob bowing, offering up half of his wealth and household. Esau's men hover behind him, ready for the signal to charge. Instead, they watch Esau run to Jacob, embracing him with tears and warmth. Somehow, over the years, Esau's rage has softened. He has found a way to make peace with the past. Esau looks beyond Jacob at his children and maids—at what Jacob offers to him as reparation for what he stole. "I have enough, my brother," Esau replies. Esau has learned what Jacob struggled to know from the start—that constant striving for more leads only to suffering. In this encounter, Jacob finally bows before Esau, owning up to his wrongs and giving up his power. And yet, after this stunning moment of reconnection and forgiveness, Jacob journeys away from Esau to Succoth. They cannot continue side-by-side. Perhaps there are too many wounds, too much harm done. Forgiveness does not cancel out pain. Restoration does not erase wounds. Restoration invites us to return what we have wrongfully taken from others, to return to God's hopes for us. In restoration, we return to enough. —

lisle gwynn garrity © a sanctified art | sanctified



The Thank Offering has long been a tradition of Presbyterian Women. It has provided and continues to provide much-needed financial assistance to numerous worth-

while programs not included in ongoing General Assembly mission support. Each year, domestic and international projects are carefully and prayerfully selected by the Creative Ministries Offering Committee to help meet a crucial need. Forty percent (40%) of this offering is used to support hospitals and community health programs that place priority in helping the most needy members of God's community. The remaining sixty percent (60%) is used for new creative ideas for mission, undesignated in advance. The generosity of Presbyterian women and their families and congregations as demonstrated through their Thank Offering gifts help chosen recipients find real solutions for projects related to health, education, economic development, and needs of women and children.

This Sunday, November 20th we will be receiving the Thank Offering. Your support is greatly needed and appreciated.



Your help is greatly needed to help decorate the church for the Christmas Season. We will be decorating on Thursday, December 1 at 9 a.m. If you can't come at that time but can offer time later, please say you'll be there.

Many hands make light the work! Thank you!

2023 PLEDGE CARDS ARE IN THE MAIL

This week you will receive your commitment card in the mail. Hopefully, you've already been praying and thinking of what your response will be. Please be sure to return your card this SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20th.

If you will be unable to attend worship this Sunday, please mail your card in or contact the office and let Mary know what your yearly amount will be. Let's remain faithful and let God show us where we need to go and grow for 2023.



Poinsettia Orders are now being taken.

The cost this year will be \$14, due at the time of order.

Yes, I would like _____ poinsettia(s)

In memory/honor of:

Name:

Phone:

Email:



Congratulations to David & Kelsie Davenport on the birth of their daughter, Molly Taylor, who was born on November 11, 2022. Proud grandparents are Dennis & Emma Sue Davenport.



PRAYER CONCERNS

Please pray for the following:
Tid Turner, Jane Williams, Walt Lowe, Ann Meyers, David Holder, Shirley Vanlandingham, Ashly Steckel, Jack Garcia, Jesse Garcia, Lee & Karen Miller, Jo Chaddock, Max Doerter, Rilee Jane Colbert, Steve Aud, and the people of Ukraine.

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.

EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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Eastminster Staff

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Mike Cantrell - Handyman

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Anslee LaChance - Nursery Worker

Marian LaChance - Housekeeper

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