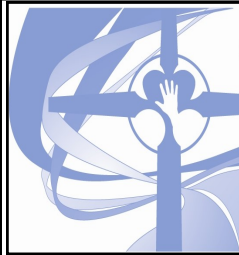


EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
5501 Washington Avenue  
Evansville, IN 47715



# Eastminster Messenger

Heads, Hearts & Hands for Christ in Service & Celebration

Volume 39 Issue 38

November 7, 2023



Eastminster,  
Who knew some stuffy Puritans in the 1600s could share such a vibrant expression of life's purpose: "The chief end of [humanity] is to glorify God, and to enjoy [God] forever" (from the *Westminster Shorter Catechism*)?

What a line, isn't it?

*The chief end of humanity is to glorify God,  
and to enjoy God forever.*

Truly, compelling words held closely by many who follow Jesus into this wild world God so loves.

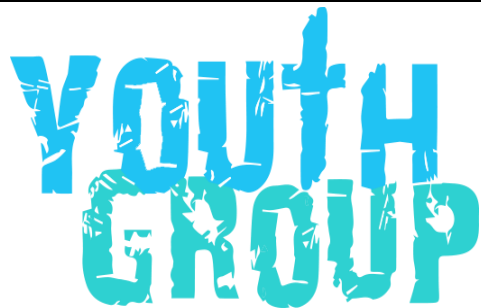
Traversing through Psalm 145 with you in worship and praise of God has been a deep joy these last few weeks. This Sunday, I look forward to sharing in a message on the final four verses of this musical prayer of praise, and exploring together how enjoyment of God breaks forth, even in crisis.

Enjoyment of God can feel like a far-off experience for many folks, it must have in 1640s England, especially as we learn more of the multitude of crises they endured.

Yet by the grace and wonder of God, they began the confession of what they believe with that line...  
*The chief end of humanity is to glorify God, and to enjoy God forever.*

May the worship and praise of God, deepen your enjoyment of God, your discipleship in Christ, and your encouragement in the Spirit, with all glory given to God. Looking forward to journeying onward with you.

Joy and courage, Ryan



The youth have started a new curriculum series for both Sunday School and Youth Group. In Sunday School we have started From Outside In which is a 6-week study on the book of James. From Outside In focuses on one of the best purveyors of advice in the entire Bible, James and his thoughts about how we should be continuing God's story after the crucifixion.

Since the Bible contains a lot of good advice and it all can't be found in James we are going to attempt to glean the rest at youth group with a series called If the Pasta Wiggles, Don't Eat It. During this series, my intention is to share my personal favorite lessons from the Bible in both a whimsical and meaningful way.

Looking forward to some events coming up in the life of the youth group; on November 17th we are having a family movie night. All ages are welcome and encouraged to come. These movie nights serve as a great way for me as the youth director to build relationships with children too young for the program, but also serve as an opportunity for the congregation to network with the families that are attached to those children (some of whom need a church home!!!).

The youth group will also be hosting another **Youth for a Day** event where all ages are welcome to pay an entry fee in order to participate in some of the activities the youth engage in every week. This event brings with it all of the opportunities for fellowship that the movie night brings while also putting a little bit of pizza money in the youth groups pocket! More information will be coming soon!

Hope to see you in the Place,  
Trey

## Eastminster Staff

Ryan Bradney - Pastor

Mike Cantrell - Handyman

Donna Cooke - Parish Nurse

Mary Fulkerson - Office Manager

Trey Fulkerson - Youth/Pastoral Assist.

Alanna Keenan - Director of Music

Karly LaChance - Nursery Worker

Marian LaChance - Housekeeper

Ryan Luttrull - Organist

## Church Communication Lines

Phone#: 476-3355/Fax: 476-8755

Web: eastminsterchurch.com

Email: epc5501@gmail.com

Sound Engineer: Ron Harper

Videographer: Jack Garcia

Social Media Admin: Tony McClees  
tmcclees@illinois.edu

Prayer Chain Captain: Leslie Webb or at  
epcprayers@gmail.com



Cultivating Our Life's Harvest

Jesus said, "I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly." --John 10:10

Fall harvest provides a wonderful analogy for how, as stewards of our lives, we are responsible for making the most of our time on earth.

Farmers plant, water, fertilize and harvest, but they do not actually *create* the life that produces crops. Life comes only from God. Farmers only *manage and optimize* the properties and processes of life that God engineered into their plants.

Smart farmers know what soil is best, what fertilizer, and how much water to give each particular plant. By nurturing their plants with care and attention, farmers generate the best and most productive harvests.

So it is with us! God created and engineered us to thrive! Our task is to manage and optimize our lives so that we can experience the abundant life that Jesus talks about in John 10:10. We have the rich soil of family, friends and church community relationships. We have the water of God's Word, love, forgiveness, salvation and grace. We have the fertilizer of wholesome, nourishing food.

How can we cultivate our lives? We can:

Water our faith through prayer, worship, scripture, generosity, love and service.

Tend the soil of relationships by loving our families, neighbors and church community.

Optimize our physical health by eating right, exercising and getting enough sleep.

Nourish our intelligence and wisdom through education, reading, exploring and continually learning.

Farmers reap plentiful harvests by caring for plants in ways that God ordained would provide the best growth. By caring for ourselves in ways that God designed for us, we can enjoy that life abundant that Jesus promises.

--Rob Blezard

Copyright © 2022, Rev. Robert Blezard. Reprinted by permission. Rev. Blezard serves as pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Aberdeen, MD, and as content editor for [www.stewardshipoflife.org](http://www.stewardshipoflife.org).



2023 STEWARDSHIP DINNER

Saturday, November 18, 2023

Don't forget to sign up for the dinner! If you are unable to be at church to sign up, please call the office and we will be happy to get you on the reservation list.



MENU

Pulled Pork

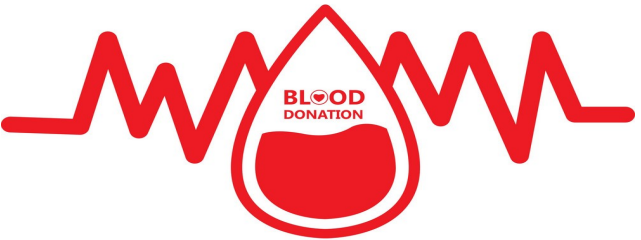
Chicken Tenders

Mac & Cheese

Green Beans

Cole Slaw

Pie (various)



**RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE AT EPC ON THURSDAY, 11/16 FROM NOON TO 6:00PM.** While walk-ins are welcome, it is helpful if you sign up; this saves you time and helps the Red Cross staff the drive appropriately. A sign up sheet will be located in the Gallery for your convenience. Whole donations take 45 to 60 minutes and power red donations take 75-90 minutes. Sign up at [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org); find the Eastminster drive by putting zip code 47715 in the search box. Call the church office if you need assistance signing up or if you need a ride to the drive. **HELP ADDRESS THE NATIONWIDE BLOOD SHORTAGE BY SIGNING UP AND MAKING A DIFFERENCE!**



Presbyterian Women

EPW will host a soup, sandwich and dessert luncheon on January 14 following church service. Individual cost is \$10.00. This fundraiser supports EPW in their many ways of giving in mission support. We hope to see you there!

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN THANK OFFERING



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.

On Sunday, November 19th we will be receiving the Thank Offering. Your support is greatly needed and appreciated.

Ladies' Night Out

**Tuesday, November 14 at 6:15 pm.** Please join us for food and fellowship at Frankie's Restaurant located at 6840 Logan Drive.



If you are interested in taking a CPR class, please see Donna Cooke or sign up on the sheet located in the Narthex. If we get enough response we will put together another class. Thank you!

Please pray for the following:

Jane Williams, Walt Lowe, Ann Meyers, Gary & Peggy Pennington, Lydia, Bekah, Dave & Barbara Moran, Mike Naas, Betty Sue Foster, Tatum Turpin, Sandra Hess, Linda Coleman. Cheri Kieffner, and the people of Ukraine, Israel, and Palestine.



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



Poinsettias

Poinsettia orders are now being taken. The cost is \$15 each. Please fill out the form below and place in the offering plate on Sunday or mail to the church. Make checks payable to Eastminster with poinsettia marked in the memo field. The deadline to order a poinsettia is Friday, December 8.

All poinsettias will be placed in the Sanctuary on Sunday, December 24 for the Christmas Eve Service. After the Christmas Eve service you may take your poinsettia with you.

Yes, I would like \_\_\_\_\_ poinsettia(s)

In memory/honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

I will pick up my poinsettia(s) \_\_\_yes \_\_\_no

Donor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_