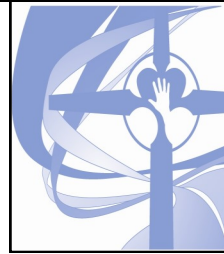


EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
5501 Washington Avenue
Evansville, IN 47715



Eastminster Messenger

Heads, Hearts & Hands for Christ in Service & Celebration

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Maybe Lent and a spirit of adventure can go together.

I love this parcel of wisdom from teacher and mountaineer ,George Mallory, whose final expedition was in 1924, 100 years ago this spring.

"People ask me, 'What is the use of climbing Mount Everest?' and my answer must at once be, 'It is of no use. There is not the slightest prospect of any gain whatsoever... We shall not bring back a single bit of gold or silver, not a gem, nor any coal or iron... If you cannot understand that there is something in [a person] which responds to the challenge of this mountain and goes out to meet it...then you won't see why we go. What we get from this adventure is just sheer joy. And joy is, after all, the end of life."

How might you approach the journey of Lent with a spirit of Christ-led adventure? May the journey of Lent for you beginning this Ash Wednesday be an opportunity to step and even inch out a bit further with a sense of holy adventure, deepening faith as a way of life, embracing new opportunities to reach out with neighbors, and losing ourselves that we find life in the fullest.

Let us take the adventure, and let us worship God!

Grace and courage, Ryan

Please pray for the following individuals:

Jane Williams, Walt Lowe, Ann Meyers, Dave & Barbara Moran, Betty Sue Foster, Tatum Turpin, Sandra Hess, Linda Coleman, Chris, Cheri Kieffner, Lisa Russell, Carolyn Stitt, Melissa McGuire.

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 Eastminster Presbyterian Women met on February 7 for lunch. Bonnie Noe gave a humorous presentation on diets and exercises she has experienced throughout the years.

All Eastminster women and friends are invited to the next luncheon/meeting at noon on March 6 in Fellowship Hall.



Thank you to everyone who came to the luncheon, brought a dish, and helped with set up and take down! Because of all of you we had a wonderful Mission Luncheon. Be watching out for future plans for our church as we prepare for yet another exciting trip!

**MISSION LUNCHEON
A BIG SUCCESS!**



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
Marian LaChance - Housekeeper
Ryan Luttrull - Organist

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ROOF REPLACEMENT

January 17, 2024

On or about December 10, 2021, the roof areas of Eastminster Presbyterian Church were severely damaged by windstorms. The damage was first noticed on February 1, 2022, when paint began releasing from the Sanctuary ceiling. The roof above the releasing paint was inspected by a roofing contractor and on February 7th, the contractor reported extensive damage to the roof areas, the metal ridge cap on the Sanctuary, and the steeple. A report was made to the church's insurance agent on February 8th, and requests for pricing for some of the immediate repairs were made.

The insurance company directed the church to attempt repairs of the damage, but the slate roof was deemed too extensively damaged by two separate roofing contractors for repair. At this point the insurance company refused to accept responsibility for the roof replacement. The church elected to take legal action against the insurance company for failure to honor the policy provisions, and the roof was covered with temporary tarps to protect the interiors from further water damage as the storm damaged slates continued to fall off the roof exposing the substrate.

The temporary tarps have been repaired/replaced several times as strong winds tear them loose, again exposing the church interiors to potential damage. The church's attorney advises the case will likely last two more years and there is still no guarantee of any financial award. He stated he anticipated the church would have to replace the roof prior to any possible settlement.

Quotations to replace the roof and the leaking copper gutters and clad the rotted wood fascia were obtained from the two roofing contractors who had assisted in the repair efforts. The replacement of the copper gutters and fascia were already scheduled using the "Building for Our Future" capital funds but the work was delayed until the roof was repaired/replaced. Several options for roof replacement were reviewed by the Maintenance Committee. These options ranged from replacing the roof with slate shingles (as should have occurred with the insurance policy) to installing the cheapest three-tab asphalt shingles. Be aware some insurance policies now state they will not cover an asphalt shingle roof and the possible interior damage resulting from water intrusion if the asphalt shingles are more than 20 years old. The following summarizes the Maintenance Committee recommendations:

1. Proceed immediately to replace the church roof in its entirety.
2. The Sanctuary roof would be replaced with standing seam metal in a dark slate-gray color.
3. The remaining roof areas would be replaced with an architectural asphalt shingle, also in a solid slate-gray color.
4. Payment for the work would be "borrowed" from the Endowment Fund. One half of the cost is being asked for up front, with the balance upon completion, but some negotiation may be possible. Payment and performance bonding will be required of the contractor.
5. A capital fund drive to offset some of the cost should be initiated immediately. The timing is good as this drive would not impact on the fall annual operating fund campaign.
6. All proceeds from the litigation, if any, would be paid directly into the Endowment Fund. The Endowment Fund could receive more than the loaned funds, and if not, the repayment of funds to Endowment could become a regular budget line item.

The cost of this recommended action is \$439,798.80 plus a 5% contingency for repair of unknown decking and structural damage. The total recommendation would be \$462,000.00.

The roof must be replaced, whether it is completed now or two years from now. Two years from now we will be faced with higher construction costs, will have had several thousand dollars in additional repair/replacement costs for the temporary tarps, and will have carried the stress of what to do with the roof for two years.



Thoughts on a Mission Trip - by Corey Fritz

Words didn't come to me immediately when I was asked to put together some thoughts about our mission trip to Camp Burnamwood and that mountainous area of Eastern Kentucky that dealt with catastrophic flooding just a few years back. It has been six months since the trip and a lot of life has happened since. However, once I began to reflect upon the trip, several things began to stand out.

To begin, the mission trip was an opportunity to bond and grow closer to my church family. From nightly conversations and laughing with bunkmates, to the road trip in the church van, to working and sweating it out alongside folks of all ages and abilities to accomplish a common task, to dining together each night, to taking the Youth on a night hike across camp (keeping an eye on both stars and spiders) - it was a fantastic time that created many fond memories, great conversations, and closer relationships.

Secondly, it was a chance to visit a part of our country and a culture that I don't normally get to see. I realize how sheltered a life I've led to this point. As human beings, we tend to focus on the differences between people rather than how similar we all are. You hear about Appalachia and the associated stereotypes. While our way of living and our socioeconomics may be not all be the same, we are all God's children and it's what is in our heart that matters. I got to meet so many wonderful folks in that area with massive hearts that do more for others than I've ever thought about doing myself. I think about the lady running their small-town fire station that has taken on more than most could bear. She regularly sees the plight of the poor and hungry along with those devastated by the flooding who have experienced both human and material loss. She helps coordinate groups and hands out donations and food cards to those in need. This is in addition to helping to run the little town itself. I think about our trip coordinator who tirelessly works a full-time job in addition to coordinating the mission groups, making sure they have everything they need, and maintaining an entire camp by himself. While almost an impossible task, he still somehow finds the time to be a youth leader for the small church in town that needed one. You really see God working through these people. They care about making lives better for others and devote their time to making a difference.

Lastly. This trip was an opportunity to grow individually in faith by doing God's work and helping those in need. We weren't there long, and I'm sure we all wish we could have stayed longer and done more; however, every little bit helps. We worked hard tearing out drywall, tearing down ceilings, and cleaning up a house that had been ripped from its foundation in the flood. We helped a small church remove worn pews when they didn't have the manpower to do it. We helped clean a once thriving Presbyterian church camp that has fallen on hard times and has only our trip coordinator to look after it. At times the work was hot, tough, and one could begin to think that we're barely making a dent in what's really needed. However, the small dents can make a huge impact on the hearts of those in need as well as in the spirits of those who are helping them. Our impact was not just in the work we accomplished, but also showing these folks that others also care, that they are in our prayers, and that we stand beside them in faith.

Yes, a lot of life has happened since, but none more fulfilling than that one week of mission work at Camp Burnamwood.

