



Eastminster Messenger

Heads, Hearts & Hands for Christ in Service & Celebration

Volume 41 Issue 7

March 3, 2025

FROM THE PASTOR



Past the trumpet vine and the sun-drenched orange Allis Chalmers tractor, which though slower to get moving these days is very much still alive, you will find them. If you keep walking beyond the door-less garage that is just barely big enough to shelter that old tractor and few farm cats, there lies the treasure nestled between gnarly thorns. Every spring and summer, Grandpa Raymond braved that prickly

blackberry bush and took joy in the tedious, painstaking task involved with picking every single fruit all for another to enjoy. Generously packing the hard-won harvest into repurposed Prairie Farms cottage cheese containers, Raymond filled them to the brim. Picking enough berries to fill one single container would take him hours. Wild blackberries didn't take nearly as long to be eaten by a bushy-haired seminarian.

Persisting between prickly thorns, mine and yours, (we all have them) Jesus faithfully labors for the hardest-won harvest, all for you.

"The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control". (Galatians 5:22)

The 40-day season of Lent is an invitation of soulful preparation for the celebration of the Resurrection. Lent may appear too tedious with talk of spiritual disciplines, or too thorny with all the self-examination and wilderness stories, but maybe what we might find through this mindful journey to the cross is what the soul needs now. So, by the Spirit's leading, let's brave the thorns, take the time to slow down, share in the things of the Spirit, and follow Jesus closely into this season. What a harvest His faithfulness produces!

I am so thankful to share in this holy season with you, and for God's life-changing work through you as strengthen the minds, hearts and hands for service and celebration in Christ. Let's journey on!

Sunday March 9 Galatians 6:1-10 First Sunday of Lent

Sunday March 16 Galatians 3:25-28

Let us worship God!

Grace and courage,

Ryan



THURSDAY LUNCH SERIES From March 6 through April 10 Noon-1pm in The Gallery

You're invited to bring a lunch, enjoy good fellowship, and join an insightful Bible study as we follow Jesus through the season of Lent and into new life.

The Bible Study begins at 12:25 with Bible Study Reflections led by Ryan Bradney, Trey Fulkerson, and Rob Henson, pastor of Main Street Presbyterian Church in Petersburg.

Thursday March 6

Luke 4:1-13

Thursday March 13

Luke 13:31-35

Let's gather 'round
table and the Word!



Don't be late! Set your clocks ahead
one hour Saturday night.

PANCAKE FUNDRAISER!

Mark your calendars.

March 16

After worship

Our Youth Group will be hosting a
pancake fundraiser.

All proceeds will help fund our youth
attending Camp Pyoca.

Adults - \$12

Children \$6

Take-outs available



GROW WITH STUDY

We have wonderful classes for children, youth, and adults every Sunday morning at 9am.

Here's what coming up with Adult Sunday School classes!

PIONEER CLASS with Jim Vancleave

They will be studying Vander Laan's "*On the Death and Resurrection of the Messiah. Bringing God's calm to a chaotic world.*" A nine-part study for the Easter season.

Join downstairs in Room 101 for an engaging, insightful study!

UPPER ROOM CLASS with Pastor Ryan

Conversational study, welcoming diverse perspectives, and application for living, authentic faith following Jesus into the world. Current series: inspiring, wider look at the power of the good news, freedom, and Spirit of Christ in the letter to the Galatians as we explore passages not covered in the current sermon series. Hope to see you upstairs!



Please pray for the following individuals:

Ann Meyers, Dave & Barbara Moran, Beth Bailey, Randy Mattingly, Peggy Pennington, Kim Hale, Linda Coleman, Savannah Murphy, Maria Keller, James Foster, Betty Sue & Pamela Jean, Jane Williams, the family of Linda (Cooke) South Tatum, Fred Austin, Dee J., Jonnie Pegues & her daughter.

If you have prayer requests or wish to have your name removed from the list, please call the church office at 812-453-6583.



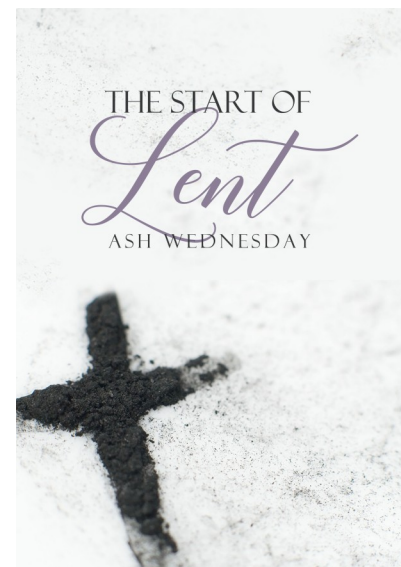
Eastminster Presbyterian Women will meet Wednesday, March 5, in Fellowship Hall at 12:00 noon.

Cost of the lunch is \$7.00.

Lis Stauth and Beth Paul will be our speakers on Little Lambs. This is an organization which serves/provides clothing and diapers for infants and small children.

Donations of disposal diapers are needed. A donation box will be placed in the church's narthex for two weeks.

We welcome all ladies to come for lunch and learn about this necessary service to children.



EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
5501 Washington Avenue
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Eastminster Staff

Ryan Bradney - Pastor
Mike Cantrell - Sexton
Donna Cooke - Parish Nurse
Trey Fulkerson - Youth/Pastoral Assist.
Alanna Keenan - Director of Music
Addison Kuhs - Nursery Worker
Marian LaChance - Housekeeper
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