

# Eastminster Messenger

Heads, Hearts & Hands for Christ in Service & Celebration

Volume 42 Issue 21

June 8, 2026

Eastminster, wow! Being your pastor over these 4 years has truly been a wonderful honor, as it has been to witness up close your life together in the Spirit. Thank you so much for your heartfelt cards and blessings, the extraordinarily generous gifts, incredibly thoughtful painting, absolutely beautiful quilt, and the blessed celebration in Christ over delicious BBQ and lovingly shared sides at table. I am so humbled by the outpouring of love shared in Christ.

In seasons of transition, departing pastors must be away for at least a year. You will continue to be in my heart with such deep gratitude.

May your life in the Spirit and in community be active and graced by the faithfulness of God in this season of change, connecting to God, to one another, and the wider community in ever deeper ways through Christ.

Awe fills this people and place.

The neighborhood is more alive and beautiful with your love and mission at work.

Thank you, Eastminster. Love and peace of Christ be with you!

Grace and courage,  
Ryan

*Enjoy connecting through this new series of reflections shared by you, the congregation, connecting us deeper in Christ to the beautiful mission at work through Eastminster.*



When reflecting on what Eastminster means to me, I struggle to edit my thoughts to one page. I could write a book, at least a chapter. My first thought drifted to a hymn – “We Gather Together.” “We”, as a congregation, gather on Sunday mornings in unity to worship through singing praises (what a blessing our Music Ministry is), prayer, and to seek spiritual growth. “We” have become family.

I have been a member of Eastminster for 40+ years. I am flooded with memories of my adult children being baptized as infants, attending VBS and Sunday School, performing in Christmas pageants, and participating in youth group. As for myself, I have enjoyed sharing my faith as a Deacon, going on mission trips, and engaging in small groups. Attending Christmas Eve Service has become a treasured tradition.

For me, Eastminster is a safe place to land. It’s my beacon, lit by the light of welcoming, familiar faces. I have been blessed with lasting friendships made at Eastminster. Its people are supportive-celebrating joys, and giving comfort when needed. Within the walls, everyone is free from judgement, respected, and supported. That sentiment goes beyond the doors, and into the community.

In this season of change, I am reminded of my favorite Bible passage – Ecclesiastes 3:1-8. It describes the ebbs and flows of life. I am encouraged to embrace change and let God be in control.

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Much like Ryan tying his thoughts to movie quotes, my thoughts turn to song lyrics. I am thinking of a Bob Marley song – “Three Little Birds.” It gives me hope as Ryan and Eastminster reach a turning point. Verse 1 goes like this- “Rise up in the morning, smiled the rising sun; three little birds pitch by my doorstep, singing sweet song of melodies pure and true, saying this is my message to you:

(Chorus) singing “Don’t worry about a thing, ‘cause every little thing gonna be alright....”

This song is about choosing faith and calm over anxiety and fear, allowing grace to guide you. I like to think that the three little birds represent the Holy Trinity and the sun...The Son.

Back to my favorite Bible passage-the song “Turn, turn, turn” by the Byrds (1965) is actually a cover song by Pete Seger (1959). It was adapted from the verses in Ecclesiastes. The chorus, “To everything (turn, turn, turn), There is a season (turn, turn, turn), and a time to every purpose under Heaven,” is reflective of the changes Eastminster is experiencing. “We” at Eastminster, are strong and resilient. “For I know the plans I have for you”, declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” – Jeremiah 29:17.

In closing, I want to share a quote from John Lennon – “Everything will be okay in the end. If it’s not okay, it’s not the end.”

Light and Love,  
Deveta Miller



**VBS**

**July 13-17**

**5:30 - 7:30 PM**

**Sign up sheets in the Narthex  
and the Gallery**



Please  
Pray  
for...



Ann Meyers, Dave Moran and family, Randy Mattingly, Kim Hale, Shannon Kuhs, Peggy Pennington, Linda Coleman, Maria Keller, Kim Hale, Shannon Kuhs, James Foster, Betty Sue and Pamela Jean, Dee J., Michael Pegues, Johnnie Pegues, the Doerter family, Ruth Ann Nelson and family, Tammy Wallace, Billy Barnes, Lisa Russell, Tosha Perdue, Eli Spencer, Jack Turpin, Lizzie Brandon and children, Jenny Kuhs & family, the Howland family, Patsy Sproatt and family, the family of Jane Williams, the Lane family, Ruth Lankford, Ruth and Mickey, John David Shofstall, the family of Joan Post, Emily McLean and family, and Sharon and Steve.

We extend a big *thank you* to the anonymous donor who paid to have work done on the office entrance and the front steps.



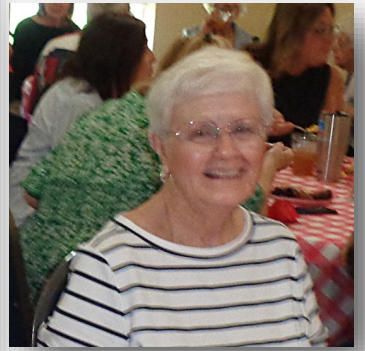
# SAYING FAREWELL TO PASTOR RYAN



June 14, 2026



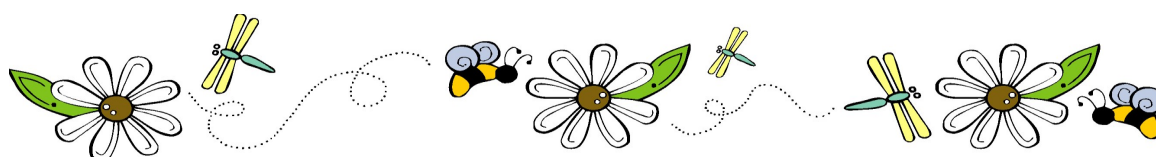




# EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

5501 Washington Avenue

Evansville, IN 47715



## Eastminster Staff

Mike Cantrell - Sexton  
Donna Cooke - Parish Nurse  
Trey Fulkerson - Youth/Pastoral Assist.  
Alanna Keenan - Director of Music  
Addison Kuhs - Nursery Worker  
Marian LaChance - Housekeeper  
Ryan Luttrull - Organist  
Laurie Spencer - Office Manager

## Church Communication Lines

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