



# Eastminster Messenger

Heads, Hearts & Hands for Christ in Service & Celebration

Volume 42 Issue 21

June 8, 2026

***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.***

What do I love about Eastminster? How does it deepen my faith and connection to God? I can't speak about one without the other.

My first visit was a late Christmas Eve. I was looking for a Christmas Eve service, after a long evening at work. I hadn't been to church in years, but I had an unusually deep feeling that I needed to go – now. As I drove around the city, I thought, “okay, I'll go to the Catholic midnight mass,” because none of the other churches were open. But... THEN I decided to go home, I was too tired. Just before I turned the corner to my place, I saw the ONLY church that had a service at 11pm. ONE block away from where I lived. I sighed. “Well, God, if this is what you want me to do...” A sociophobe in sweats, tired and cold. Walking up the steps, I tried to be as unnoticeable as possible as I certainly wasn't “presentable”. THAT misconception disappeared with my first step. I was greeted warmly and lovingly by a tall gentleman with a large mustache, who assured me I was not only truly welcomed, but wanted.

The people in the church greeted me like I was their long-lost child. They talked to me, showed me around, answered questions, and made me laugh. My anxiety around people disappeared for the first time in ages. And the service moved my spirit in a way that I realized I missed deeply. I could feel a connection with God I hadn't felt in a long time.

So, unbelievably, the next Sunday, I got up early enough and went to church. A born-on-night-shift, confirmed, life-long night owl who only worked the evening shift, and didn't get up til noon...went to church! It even surprised me. And guess what? The folks at church were not only just as welcoming and friendly, they REMEMBERED me.

Thus changed my life. Literally.

And that's what I love about Eastminster. It's not big. It's not fancy. It's not famous, and we don't have a “praise band”. What we DO have is so, so much more.

We have the love of God. The Holy Spirit fills this church with love and peace, comfort and healing. Jesus leads us, touching our hearts, our thoughts, our lives, our hands. It's the not just that He loves us. He changes us. We are always becoming the people He means us to be, sometimes in spite of ourselves.

I see it in every person. The endless aspects of love shine in each person. Gentle spirits, love for each other, support and encouragement, uplifting others in prayer, in person, and in action. Whether it's members, friends, or neighbors, the church cares and the church answers, generously and abundantly.

And I see whole hearted dedication and commitment to following Jesus and in supporting and sustaining this church and it's love for all.

Because this church is not a building. It's not a fiscal investment. It is FAMILY. It is love. Love of God, love for each other, and love for our world, local, national, international. It is the grace of God, and every person treating each other with that same grace. It is hope. And it is faith, radiant faith, learning from and reflecting the grace, the love, the joy, and the compassion of Christ.

Since that Christmas Eve I first stepped into the church in my sweats, I have never been alone. Single, married, widowed...I have never been without family because God brought me into a beautiful church family. A family blessed by God, loving Him and loving others. The people of this church have shown me what God has done in them, and how they have passed it on to others.

And that's what I love about Eastminster. It's not just a home here, it's a doorway to our REAL home. And I'm traveling with the family of God.

Thank you, my family,  
*Donna*



**IN WORSHIP**

**Sunday June 14**  
**Acts 2:42-47**  
**“United State of Awe”**

**Let us worship God!**

**Sunday, June 21**  
**Pastor Cliff Herring**  
**preaching**




We are having a farewell luncheon honoring Pastor Ryan this Sunday, June 14, after worship to celebrate our time with him, to thank him for the last four years, and to wish him well as God moves in his life.

If you would like and are able, please bring a side dish or dessert. The main course will be catered.

Please join us!

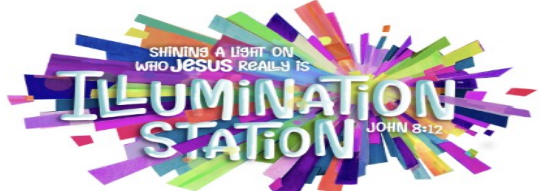


Ann Meyers, Dave Moran and family, Randy Mattingly, Kim Hale, Shannon Kuhs, Peggy Pennington, Linda Coleman, Maria Keller, Kim Hale, Shannon Kuhs, James Foster, Betty Sue and Pamela Jean, Dee J., Michael Pegues, Johnnie Pegues, the Doerter family, Ruth Ann Nelson and family, Tammy Wallace, Billy Barnes, Lisa Russell, Tosha Perdue, Lynn Copp and family, 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, the Lane family, Emily McLean and family, and Sharon and Steve.

**REMINDER! Assembly Night is this Wednesday, June 10, at 6 :00.**

**Exciting News!**  
**Vacation Bible School**  
**is almost here!**  
**July 13-17**  
**5:30 - 7:30 PM**  
**Fun, games, songs, food,**  
**crafts, and growing in faith!**

**(sign up sheets in the Narthex and the Gallery)**

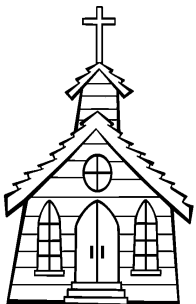




# Heading to Camp Pyoca!



Our campers have officially arrived at Camp Pyoca for their week at camp! Prayers for a safe, fun, adventurous week that brings them closer to Christ!



## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

### CALLED CONGREGATIONAL MEETING, SUNDAY JUNE 14

Immediately after worship, all members are called to a brief congregational meeting on the recommendation of dissolving the pastoral relationship between Ryan and Eastminster effective after June 14, as he readies for a new call with First Presbyterian Church, Jeffersonville. Your prayers and presence are deeply appreciated, as this season of change is shared with lives centered on Christ and the beautiful mission of Eastminster that continues on.

(My apologies for failing to remember our previously scheduled meeting time of last Sunday, June 7.

Hope to see you Sunday! Grace and courage, *Ryan*)

**EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**5501 Washington Avenue**

**Evansville, IN 47715**



**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  
Ryan Luttrull - Organist  
Laurie Spencer - Office Manager

**Church Communication Lines**

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