

EASTMINSTER EDITION

October 2018

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October highlights

Sunday, October 7

11:00 am Stewardship Lunch

1:00 pm Stewart Farms Corn Maize

4:00 pm WAMM

(Worship, Arts, Music and Mission)

5:30 pm Fellowship Meal

6:00 pm Youth Fellowship

Friday, October 26

6:00 pm Church Family Campout

Sunday, October 28

4:00 pm WAMM

(Worship, Arts, Music and Mission)

5:30 pm Fellowship Meal

6:00 pm Youth Fellowship



World Communion Sunday

On Sunday, October 7, we will celebrate World Communion during worship as we gather at table and unite in the feast of the Lord's Table. After worship, we will enjoy a time of fellowship before hearing from the Finance and Stewardship team about the 2019 budget. There will be \$6 pre-ordered box lunches. If you have not ordered your boxed lunch, please email pressley@eastminster.com and let her know the number of turkey, ham, or veggie lunches.

Dear Eastminster Friends and Family,

During worship on September, I shared the midrash telling of the Crossing of the Sea. In this interpretation, there was a man named Nachshon, brother-in-law of Aaron (the brother of Moses and Miriam) who was with the Israelites when they found themselves trapped with the water in front and the Egyptians behind them. This version says that when Moses stretched out his hand, the the sea did not immediately part. Instead the Israelites began bickering among themselves, wondering why nothing is happening. But then, Nachshon takes the first step into the water.

He walked into the sea, up to his ankles, up to his knees. He kept walking, up to his waist, then up to his chest, and the people watched. Still Nachshon walked forward in faith, up to his shoulders, up to his chin, and then suddenly the waters parted. He stood on dry ground and the way appeared, then the whole body of the Israelites walked across, with a wall of water on one side and the other.

Nachshon had to wade in to be reminded of who is really sovereign. The Israelites had to allow their future to be shaped by hope and trust, not by the fear of uncertainty. They had to move forward in faith. And so do we as the body of Christ.

What would happen if we waded in? If instead of remembering the days gone by, we remember that God is still an active player in this story. God is still an active part in our story. As we move forward to celebrate Eastminster's 20th year in ministry in 2019, how is God calling us to wade out into the world in front of us? Where and How is God calling us?

I asked these questions in my sermon and received some powerful answers. Most of the answers centered around growth and more intentional church gatherings. I invite you to continue to share ideas, but also to look within the pages of this newsletter and see the many opportunities this month for us to join together as the Eastminster family. In order for us to grow, we are called to welcome all, to gather in community, and to share the good news with others.

Grace and peace- Pressley



"We are one family in Christ, living in community, celebrating our faith, called, comforted and challenged by the Word of God, reaching out to all persons."

Our Vision: To grow in God, make Christ known and serve with love.

Our Mission: Worship GOD, Grow IN FAITH, Go AND SERVE

Narrative Lectionary Fall 2018

The narrative lectionary respects the traditional Christian church year, with its principal seasons -- Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, and Pentecost. It also respects the rhythms of the school year. During the fall, the Old Testament texts will be the primary scripture for proclaiming the biblical story during Sunday morning worship. These same texts will be used in Preschool, Elementary, and Middle School Sunday School classes.

October 7

"Covenant and Commandments"

Exodus 19:3-7; 20:1-17

*God brings Israel as on eagle's wings;
Decalogue*

October 14

"Joshua Renews the Covenant"

Joshua 24:1-15 [16-26]

Story of God's deliverance. Joshua says, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord"

October 21

"David and Bathsheba"

2 Samuel [11:1-5, 26-27]; 12:1-9

Nathan's parable indicts David after his sin with Bathsheba. David repents.

October 28

"Solomon's Wisdom"

1 Kings 3:4-9, (10-15), 16-28

Solomon prays for wisdom;
two women and a child

November 4

"Elisha Heals Naaman"

2 Kings 5:1-15a

*Elisha heals Naaman, a foreigner
and leper*

November 11

"Micah"

Micah [1:3-5]; 5:2-5a; 6:6-8

God promises a ruler from Bethlehem

November 18

"Swords into Plowshares"

Isaiah 36:1-3, 13-20; 37:1-7; then 2:1-4

*King Hezekiah despair Isaiah says the
city will be saved and nations will beat
swords into plowshares.*

November 25

"Jeremiah's Temple Sermon"

Jeremiah 1:4-10; 7:1-11

*Prophetic call as warning; temple as den
of robbers*



Welcome Kelly Fluker!

On October 1, Kelly will join the Eastminster staff as our Administrative Assistant. She will be in the office Monday-Thursday from 9:00 am- 1:00pm. Kelly and her husband Jermaine have an 11 year old son named Caelin. Jermaine coaches Caelin's AAU basketball team while Kelly love being the Team Mom. Kelly says she always has a houseful of boys hanging out and shooting hoops. Other than being her son's Uber driver Kelly enjoy sports, family movie and karaoke night, reading and the Iowa Hawkeyes.

Prayer Requests

Home-bound/Nursing Homes:

Sylvia Meyer, Emily Phillips

Eastminster Members:

Norton and Suzanne Cater, Ann Coleman, Tandy Gilliland, Marilyn James, Jonathan Kraemer, Barbara Kurta, Stuart Lane, Audra Pierce, Betty Taylor; Maryanne Torris

Eastminster Extended Family:

Joe Brandenburg (Paul Brandenburg's father), Robin and Chris King (Linda Sucher's brother and Sister-in-Law), Selva Kumar (Anitha Samuels' uncle), Katie Landry (Kim Gassner's mother), Juliana Lind (cousin of the Gassners), Jess Mayes (Cyndi Lichoulas' cousin's wife), Gert McNally (Maureen Cobb's mother), Haven Moore (Devon and Ellen Cortright's niece), Betty Jo Steed (Mother of Louis Steed), Jones Sucher (Mark and Linda Sucher's grand-nephew), Jitka Svatonova (Lucie Svatonova-Hughes' mother), Jerry (Barbara Kurta's brother), Ron (Barbara and Ron Kurta's brother in law)

Our Family is overwhelmed by the outpouring of love and support that we have received in this past 2 months from our EPC family. The food, notes, cards, and texts have been so comforting. Hearing how Tom touched so many lives has fed our souls and the amazing food deliveries have fed our bodies and made it so much easier for us to get through this difficult time.

Thanks to all of you for your generosity and love. EPC is a very special place, with very special people who walk the walk with each other. The love of God shined through you to our family and that love will remain with us forever.

God bless you all.

Anita Harley

Eastminster Friends: Miranda Allen (friend of Anitha Samuel), Katie Collura (friend of Gassners), Trisha Gaffney (friend of Mo Cobb), Poynter Family (friends of Kim Gassner), Steve Samoya (Stuart Lane's friend), Vijay Williamraj (friend of Sudhir Samuel), Andy (friend of Joan Jones)

Military: Kasey Cornwell (Devon and Ellen Cortright's nephew), Kenneth Endicott (Harry and Beverly George's godson), Phillip Goeckel (nephew of Sandy Watkins), Ryan McGuckian (son of Kimberly Lane's friends), Jared Warren Pierce (son of Audra Pierce and Syble Drake), Matt and Sean Renbarger (Roger and Jane Couch's nephews), F. Tyler Rymer (Devon and Ellen Cortright's nephew), Heather Cortright Sinda and Matthew Sinda (Devon and Ellen Cortright's daughter and son-in-law)

EASTMINSTER, ARE YOU READY FOR

wamm

WORSHIP, ARTS, MUSIC AND MISSION

October 14th

October 28th

November 11th

For these five Sundays this fall, we will kick-off a brand new program for each and everyone of us at Eastminster. We will gather for food, fun, fellowship and learning as we seek to grow in faith together.

Children in PreK-5th grade will gather from 4-5:30 for art, music, mission while learning why and how we worship our God.

Pressley will be leading an **adult discussion** from 4:15-5:15 on the importance of reformed worship for Presbyterians.

6th-12th grades youth are invited to help with WAMM from 4:30-5:30
Youth are welcome to bring their musical instruments and will gather as a group from 5-5:30 to create music with Lucie.

Everyone will enjoy a delicious meal at 5:30!

What a gift to share in fellowship with our EPC family. Our **youth** will stay after dinner for a time of conversation, study, games, energizers, mission and much more and will conclude at 7:30.

**Registration forms can be found on the table in the commons area.
Childcare will be provided for children younger than 3.**

Sunday School Offerings

Sundays at 11:00 am

Adult Sunday School

The Fireside Class- We are a group of mixed ages, both single and married, with and without children. Teaching responsibilities are shared between our two leaders, and occasionally class members, and a mix of lecture and discussion. We meet on Sunday mornings in Clarke's Kitchen beside the fireplace. Contact Scott Carlson or Robb Ellis for more information.

GIFT- Growing in Faith Together- We don't have all the answers but are wrestling and growing together as we work to raise our children according to biblical principles in a fast-paced and challenging world. This class will seek to support our young parents as they begin to worship together as a family and begin sharing the stories of faith with their children. We meet on Sunday mornings in the church office conference room. Contact Joan Jones for more information. You can reach Joan at 205-222-3732 or joan@eastminster.com

Disciple Class- We grow spiritually through group discussion and lively teaching which is shared among a team of teachers. Our studies range from topical to Bible studies to seasonal faith discussions. All ages are welcome. We meet in the classroom at the back of the sanctuary on Sunday mornings. Contact Elaine Campbell, Diane Hughs or Lynn Ingram for more information.



Youth Sunday School

6th-7th Grade Class- will learn the story of the Bible through study and a variety of fun activities with "Living the Word" curriculum. This class will explore the same texts that are used in worship on Sunday morning. *Teaching team: Barry Campbell, Ben Cox, and Jennifer Ellis*

8th-12th Grade Class- will engage in coffeehouse conversations using the PCUSA curriculum "Faith Questions". This fall we will be discussing the following questions: "Why do you go to church if you believe in God?", "Isn't it enough to believe in God and Jesus and live a good life?", "Do all paths lead to the same God?", "How should we treat non-Christians?", and more. *Teaching team: Pressley Cox, Mike Moorshead, Mike Randall*



Sunday School Offerings

Sundays at 11:00 am

Children's Sunday School

What a gift it is to share in the Faith Formation of our children and youth. This is one of the best ways to honor the baptismal promises made on behalf of our children and Eastminster is doing an amazing job of fulfilling these promises!

In this new year, we have worked hard to provide classes for all of our children and youth, as well as for each and every adult! We need you to get involved.

Children and Youth classes will be led by teams of teachers. Each team is made up of 3-4 members. This will allow our children, youth and adults to begin building relationships that will last a lifetime. Our children and middle school youth will be using curriculum based around the Narrative Lectionary, which Pressley will preach from as well.

A BIG thank you to all who have answered the call to be a part of a teaching team. There are a couple of openings so please, let Joan know if you can join a team.

Teaching Teams:

Preschool-K: Kim Gassner, Sara Randall, and Anitha Samuel

1st-5th grade: Lynn Moorshead, Heath Cobb

All PreK-5th grade children will be walked to the steps of the Sanctuary following the education hour and can be picked up there by a parent/grandparent.

Education Hour Floater: Alan Calloway

Educational Ministry Support: Mo Cobb and Susan Carlson

Stewart Farms
Sunday, October 7
1:00–3:00 pm

Sunday Youth Fellowship!

EPC members of all ages are encouraged to join us at Stewart Farms in Enoree, SC on Sunday, October 7 from 1– 3 PM for an afternoon of fun and fellowship. We'll get lost in the Corn Maze, Pick Pumpkins, Go for a Hay Ride and eat S'mores. Bring your own drinks, s'mores will be provided.

Please email pressley@eastminster.com to let us know you are coming!

\$7.00 per person (\$25.00 per family)

October 14

4–5 help with WAMM
5–5:30 music with Lucie
5:30 dinner
6–7:30 Youth Group–
Youth and Parent Meeting
and Minute to Win it Games

October 28

4–5 help with WAMM
5–5:30 music with Lucie
5:30 dinner
6–7:30 Fall Fun and games–
Team Jack-o-lantern
decorating contest



EPC NURSERY & CHILDCARE

The EPC nursery is growing each and every Sunday! What an exciting time in the life of our church family. We are working hard to meet the needs of each and every family as we continue to love and care for all our children. Our nursery is divided into two rooms. One room for our infants/toddlers/two year olds and the other room is for our Preschool and Kindergarten children. All children older than kindergarten should attend worship with their family. Remember that we provide worship activity bags as well as table activities for families with children who would like to share in worship in those spaces. Because we are blessed with so many young children, we are now in need of 2 nursery volunteers each week, if you can assist on a Sunday morning during the worship hour, please let Joan know. You can email her at joan@eastminster.com or call her at 205-222-3732.

announcements

There will be a family campout on Friday, October 27! Bring your tent or camper and set up on the church grounds beginning at 6:00 pm. Hot dogs, chips, and s'mores will be available. Please bring your own drinks and breakfast items.

If you don't want to campout, you are invited to enjoy an evening of fun and fellowship around the campfire from 6-9 pm.

Sign yo on the commons table today!

Women's Circle

EPC Women's Circles have begun a new year of Fellowship and Bible Study, and we hope you will join us! Our study this year is entitled God's Promise: I Am With You. In Lesson Two this month we will look at how God is with us in our uncertainty. Women of all ages are invited to join us as we seek to nurture our faith through worship, study, friendship, and outreach.

Evening Circle will meet on Sunday October 8 at 5:30 at EPC. For more information contact pressley@eastminster.com

Morning Circle will be co-hosted by Syble Drake and Ann Coleman at Ann's home on Thursday October 11 at 10:00. For more information contact carolirick@charter.net

GAIHN

Greenville Area Interfaith Hospitality Network will be back on September 30th through October 7th, we have the opportunity to host families with GAIHN. We have the ability to make their load lighter as they struggle in their life's journey. Please check your calendars and try to schedule some time to help out. Anything you do will be very helpful. There are still spaces to volunteer. Contact Valeen Goodreau or Chuck Mitcham.

EPC Book Club

All are welcome to join the EPC Book Club. The next meeting on Monday, September 24 at 7:00 pm. We will be discussing Anything is Possible by Elizabeth Strout. For more information contact Shirley Nease. shirleynease@yahoo.com

Men's Prayer Breakfast

WEDNESDAYS AT 6:45 AM

PANERA BREAD ON
WOODRUFF ROAD

mark your calendar

OCT 7 10:00 am Worship- Communion
11:00 am Stewardship Lunch
1:00 pm Corn Maize
5:30 pm Evening Circle

OCT 10 6:45 am Men's Breakfast
6:00 pm Handbells
7:00 pm Choir

OCT 11 10:00 am Morning Circle

OCT 14 10:00 am Worship
11:00 am Education Hour
4:00 pm WAMM
5:30 pm WAMM Dinner
6:00 pm Youth Fellowship

OCT 17 6:45 am Men's Breakfast
6:00 pm Handbells
7:00 pm Choir

OCT 21 10:00 am Worship
11:00 am Education Hour
12:00 pm Session Meeting

OCT 24 6:45 am Men's Breakfast
6:00 pm Handbells
7:00 pm Choir

OCT 26 6:00 pm Family Camp-Out

OCT 28 10:00 am Worship
11:00 am Education Hour
4:00 pm WAMM
5:30 pm WAMM Dinner
6:00 pm Youth Fellowship



NOV 4 10:00 am Worship- Communion
11:00 am Education Hour
5:30 pm Evening Circle

NOV 7 6:45 am Men's Breakfast
6:00 pm Handbells
7:00 pm Choir

NOV 8 10:00 am Morning Circle

NOV 11 10:00 am Worship
11:00 am Education Hour
4:00 pm WAMM
5:30 pm WAMM Dinner
6:00 pm Youth Fellowship

NOV 14 6:45 am Men's Breakfast
6:00 pm Handbells
7:00 pm Choir

NOV 18 10:00 am Worship
11:00 am Education Hour
12:00 pm Session Meeting