

# EASTMINSTER EDITION

February 2019

2240 Woodruff Road, Simpsonville, SC 29681

864-284-0190

[www.eastminster.com](http://www.eastminster.com)

## IN THIS ISSUE

### **Pastor's Corner**

Page 2

### **Worship**

Page 3

### **Sunday School**

Page 4

### **Announcements**

Page 5

### **Outreach**

Page 6

## Feb-June 2019 Highlights

Sunday, February 10  
Wednesday, March 6  
Sunday, March 10

Saturday, March 16  
Saturday, March 30

*(GOAL: 15,000-20,000 meals)*

Sunday, April 14  
Thursday, April 11  
Friday, April 12  
Sunday, April 21  
April 28-May 4  
Saturday, May 4  
Sunday, June 9

### **10th Annual Bistro!!!**

Ash Wednesday

### **20th Anniversary Worship**

Installation/Ordination of Elders

Trees for Greenville

Rise Against Hunger packing session

Palm Sunday

Maundy Thursday (Advent UMC)

Good Friday worship

Easter Sunday

GAIHN

Hands on Greenville

Pentecost

20th Anniversary Devotion

**We need your Eastminster story!**

If someone were to ask you, "what do you love about Eastminster",  
how would you answer?

If someone were to ask you to share your favorite Eastminster memory,  
which one would you chose?

Those are the stories we need for our 20th anniversary devotion book. We need stories and reflections from people of all ages! How will you tell your story of Eastminster? Email [lynningram@yahoo.com](mailto:lynningram@yahoo.com) to share.

Dear Eastminster Friends and Family,

We are fast approaching the 20th Anniversary Celebrations! That's right, celebrations! We will celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the first worship service on Sunday, March 10. During worship, we will ordain and install our newest class of elders. We will welcome back former Pastor Indy Dennis and Interim Pastor Steve Vance. After worship, we will share in a meal of fellowship and celebration.

The worship on March 10 is the beginning of the season of celebration for Eastminster as we reflect on how this congregation has been "Rooted in Faith, Grounded in Love, and Sharing in Community." Make sure have marked your calendar for the many events and missions throughout the next six months.



Grace and peace-  
Pressley



Save the date

Sunday, March 10- Celebration of the first worship  
10:00 am worship followed by lunch

September 8- Celebration of the PCUSA charter  
10:00 am worship followed by ministry fair

Other highlights include:

Trees for Greenville Releaf Day- March 16

Rise Against Hunger Packing Session- March 30

Hosting families for Greenville Interfaith Hospitality Network (April 28-May 5),  
and a 20th anniversary devotion booklet



"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**

## February and March 2019 Worship

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.

We will spend January-April immersed in the gospel of Matthew. These same texts will be used in Preschool, Elementary, and Middle School Sunday School classes.

### February 3

"The Lord's Prayer"

Matthew 6:7-21 [25-34]

*Jesus continues the Sermon on the Mount by encouraging prayer that puts us in relationship with God, and offers a form that can be used as a starting place for such prayer.*

### February 10

"Built on the Rock"

Matthew 7:1-14, 24-29

*The conclusion of the Sermon on the Mount offers further insights on the life of discipleship, and the promise that this life will offer us the firm foundation we need to live in the kingdom of God.*

### February 17

"Like a Mustard Seed"

Matthew 13:24-43

*Jesus tells a series of parables that surprise and challenge our concept of God's kingdom.*

### February 24

"Feeding of the 5000"

Matthew 14:13-33

*By feeding a multitude and walking across a stormy sea, Jesus demonstrates that God is at work taking care of God's people.*

### March 3

"The Transfiguration"

Matthew 16:24-17:8

*Jesus is transfigured before his key disciples. His identity and mission are reaffirmed by the voice of God from above.*

### March 10

"The Unforgiving Servant"

Matthew 18:15-35

*Jesus instructs his followers on how to resolve disputes among them with a call to forgiveness. He tells the Parable of the Unforgiving Servant about a servant who fails to show the same grace to his debtors as was shown to him.*

### March 17

"The Laborers in the Vineyard"

Matthew 20:1-6

*Jesus tells the parable where a landowner hires laborers throughout the day. Those who hired last were paid the same as those who were first.*

### March 24

"The Wedding Banquet"

Matthew 22:1-14

*Jesus tells the parable about a king wanting to give a wedding banquet, but the guests do not come. The king sends people out to find guests so that the wedding hall would be filled.*



# Education Hour Classes

## Children's Sunday School

All children preK-4th have Sunday School upstairs. The children will continue to explore the scriptures of the Narrative Lectionary. All PreK-4th 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.

## Youth Sunday School

Beginning in January, our 5th graders will join the Middle School Class to become the **5th-7th Grade Class**. This class will follow the narrative lectionary and explore scripture after they have heard it during the summer. The **8th-12th Grade Class** will engage in participant led questions and conversations. Join us upstairs for fantastic discussions!

## 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.

**Disciple Class**- Do you feel troubled or anxious about the world or your family's life these days? The Disciple Class is studying ***Unafraid: Living with Courage and Hope in Uncertain Times*** by Adam Hamilton. The series explores worries we all experience and helps us discover practical steps for overcoming them, in the light of Scripture. The group meets in the room at the back of the sanctuary during Education Hour.

Topics include:

1. Understanding and Countering Fear
2. Crime, Race, Terrorism, and Politics
3. Failure, Disappointing Others, Insignificance, and Loneliness
4. Apocalypse, Change, Missing Out, and Finances
5. Aging, Illness, Dying, and Fear of the Lord

Mark you calendars: During Lent we are pleased to have Dr. David Rutledge, retired Furman Professor of religion, lead a four-week series on the meaning and practice of Lent, March 17 to April 7. More information to follow.



## announcements

### Birthdays

2/1 Isabell Ellis  
 2/3 John Taylor  
 2/6 Christian Calloway  
 2/12 Anita Harley  
 2/13 Lucie Hughes  
 2/16 Ryan Owens  
 2/17 Chris Gassner  
 2/17 Bonnie McCourtie  
 2/17 Roshni Samuel  
 2/22 Mo Cobb  
 2/22 Tina Israel  
 2/23 Jared Pierce  
 2/27 Barbara Kurta

### Women's Circle

EPC Women's Circles will meet in February to discuss Lesson Six in our Horizon's Bible Study God's Promise: I Am With You. In this month's lesson, we will look at the poetry of Isaiah and Psalms and God's promise of presence and abiding love. You are invited to join us as we seek to nurture our faith through worship, study, friendship, and outreach.

Evening Circle will meet on Sunday February 3 at 5:30 at EPC. For more information contact [pressley@eastminster.com](mailto:pressley@eastminster.com).

Morning Circle will meet Thursday February 14 at 10:00 at the home of Elaine Campbell. Place of Hope has asked for donations of microwavable bowls (not Styrofoam) for heating soup, as well as the usual toiletries. For more information contact [carolirick@charter.net](mailto:carolirick@charter.net).



### Tuesday Connect Group

Join us for a new women's study group!  
We meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday at noon in the church conference room.

For February-May, we will be reading and studying Rob Bell's book "What is the Bible?" This is a book about a library of books dealing with loss and anger and transcendence and worry and empire and money and fear and stress and joy and doubt and grace and healing, and who doesn't want to talk that?

## What Is the Bible?

How an Ancient Library of Poems, Letters, and Stories Can Transform the Way You Think and Feel About Everything

Written and Read by

**Rob Bell**

New York Times Bestselling Author

Feb 12- Chapters 1-6  
 Feb 26- Chapters 7-11  
 Mar 12- Chapters 12-17  
 Mar 26- Chapters 18-24

Apr 9- Chapters 25-28  
 Apr 23- Chapters 29-34  
 May 14- Chapters 35-39  
 May 28- Chapters 40-43

## Outreach

Calling All Hands. Please join us for our 4th Annual Rise Against Hunger Food Packing Session on Saturday morning, March 30th. Our goal is to pack 15,000 meals for distribution around the world to support Hunger Alleviation Efforts. However, in order to accomplish this Mission, we need the congregation's help. First, we must raise an additional \$500 through our 2 Cents a Meal Collection to cover the cost of the meals and second, we need members willing to give three or four hours of their time that Saturday. Remember what Jesus said, "I was hungry and you gave Me something to eat".

Café Justo is a collective of families that grow their coffee and sell it directly to the consumer. Café Justo coffee is Fair Trade and organic; in addition Café Justo keeps the farmers involved in the entire process of making coffee, particularly the roasting of the beans, where the majority of the profit is. Café Justo provides sustainable wages to the coffee growers and therefore prevents those families from poverty and migration from Mexico to the United States.



Café Justo coffee will be available to purchase on the third Sunday of the month. .

The Outreach committee wishes to thank you for supporting the Alternative Gift Fair in December. If you have ever wondered if your support is making a difference, please read the email below from the Center for Community Services - a recipient of Eastminster's support for several years:

Eastminster Presbyterian,

I just wanted to thank you for the gift cards that your church donated to the Center for Community Services. I wanted to let you know that we started using those today with a gentleman who is a former police officer that is suffering PTSD after a partner of his was killed. He is living with a family member now and feels like such a burden to them. Your community's gifts are allowing them to buy food this month to ease some of the shared responsibilities they have. Thank you for leading such a generous community and for all your church does to support the work that we do here.

Andrew Ross

Executive Director

Center for Community Services