

EASTMINSTER EDITION

March 2019

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20th Anniversary Celebration

The celebration of the first Worship Service of Eastminster Presbyterian Church will be on Sunday, March 10th at 10am with worship followed by lunch. Please join us as we gather to celebrate our church.

Extra singers are needed for our Anniversary Celebration on March 10th. Two rehearsal opportunities remaining: Wednesday, March 6 after Ash Wednesday service and Sunday, March 10 at 9:15am. Come help us make some joyful noise!

Dear Eastminster Friends and Family,

We are fast approaching the 20th Anniversary Celebrations!

That's right, celebrations!

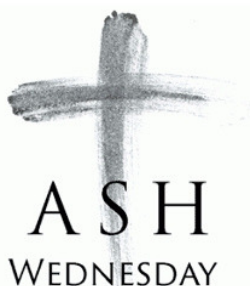
We will celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the first worship service on Sunday, March 10. During worship, we will ordain and install our newest class of elders. We will welcome back former Pastor Indy Dennis and Interim Pastor Steve Vance. After worship, we will share in a meal of fellowship and celebration.

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."

After March 10, we will enter a season of intentional mission opportunities including planting trees throughout the community of Greenville on March 16, packing 15,000-20,000 meals together on March 30, and opening the Eastminster doors to homeless families through Interfaith Hospitality Network.

There will be more opportunities to share with each other and our community throughout the next 6 months until we gather to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Eastminster Charter in September. I am excited to join with each of you as we witness to all that God has done, is doing and is yet to do here in this place and through each of you!

Grace and peace-
Pressley



Ash Wednesday Worship

March 6

6:30 pm



"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.

March 3

"Mountaintop Moments"

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

"What Are we Here For"

A celebration of the 20th anniversary of the First Worship Service of Eastminster Presbyterian Church.

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.

March 31

"The Ways of the Kingdom"

Matthew 25:1-30

Jesus tells two parables as part of his final teachings to his disciples, both which illustrate the ways of the kingdom.

April 7

"When Did we See You?"

Matthew 25:31-46

Jesus ends his final discourse to his disciples with the Judgement of the Sheep and the Goats. When the Son of Man returns, all believer will be separated like sheep from goats based upon their service to the king when the king was in need.

April 14

"Triumphal Entry"

Matthew 21:1-17

Jesus enters Jerusalem in a way that fulfills prophetic expectations of the coming Messiah, riding humbly on a donkey. He then completes symbolic acts in the temple, to the anger of the religious leaders.

April 21

"The Empty Tomb"

Matthew 28:1-10

The women find Jesus' tomb empty after an angel rolls away the stone and sits on it. The angel tells them not to fear for Jesus is risen. As they run from the tomb they meet Jesus himself and worship him.

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

All adults are invited to join us for a special Lenten study beginning March 17. We welcome Dr. David Rutledge who will lead our study "Discipline and Freedom", a practice of Lent for our time. Traditionally Lent is a time for Christians to detach ourselves from the world to cultivate an inner space where God can speak to us. Dr. Rutledge will show how the practices of fasting, almsgiving and prayer, re-imagined, prepare us to follow God back into the world. We will meet in the Presbytery Resource Center during Education Hour.

Dr. David Rutledge retired from Furman University after 34 years as the Reuben B. Pitts Professor of Religion Emeritus. He was educated at the College of William and Mary, Duke Divinity School, and Rice University, and taught courses at Furman on Religion & Science, Religion & Ecology, Christian devotional literature, and the Bible, among others. He is the author of *Humans and the Earth: Toward a Personal Ecology*, and has focused much of his scholarship on the work of scientist-philosopher Michael Polanyi. He is an elder and trustee of Westminster Presbyterian Church in Greenville, and he and his wife Dorothy have two grown sons, and two grandchildren.

Women's Groups

Women's Circle

EPC Women's Circles will meet in March to discuss Lesson Seven in our Horizon's Bible Study God's Promise: I Am With You. In this month's lesson, our focus will shift from the "God with us" promise to the "God with us" person of Jesus Christ. Please join us as we seek to nurture our faith through worship, study, friendship, and outreach.

Evening Circle will meet on Sunday March 3 at 5:30 at EPC. For more information contact pressley@eastminster.com.

Morning Circle will meet Thursday March 14 at 10:00 and be hosted by Carol Harris and Ann Coleman at Ann's home. Please remember to bring canned pasta for United Ministries Food Bank and/or toiletries for Place of Hope. For more information contact 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 spring, 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

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

The Art of Fellowship

Join us on Thursday, March 7th at 7 pm as we kick off a new monthly opportunity for Christian fellowship and creative expression at the home art studio of Jaime Winton at 23 Chestnut Springs Court, Greer. We will meet on the first Thursday of each month at 7 pm, work on an art project provided by our hostess and get to know our church family better. Zero artistic skill is required, and child care is available upon request! In our first meeting, we'll be coloring or painting greeting cards to send to some of those on Eastminster's prayer list. All supplies provided. Please email jaimewinton@gmail.com with any

announcements

Birthdays

3/6	Rachel Eberstein
3/8	Ethan Eberstein Ben Cox
3/15	Suzanne Cater
3/20	Alan Calloway
3/22	Kippy Bridges
3/27	Sandy Ingram Matthew McCourtie
3/30	Cristina Kraemer

EPC Clean Up Day

EPC Clean Up Day will be held on Saturday, March 9th from 8am-11am. Anyone available to help clean up at the Church please bring rakes, blowers, wheel barrels and hand tools. We have a list of things to do inside and out. Breakfast will be available at the Church.

Prayer Shawl Ministry Update

2018 was the third year for the EPC Prayer Shawl Ministry. 38 shawls were gifted to church members, or their family members or friends in 2018.

The message on the card with the shawl reads:

Loving prayers were woven into the Prayer Shawl which was handmade by a member of the Eastminster Presbyterian Church. We trust that when wrapped or snuggled in the shawl, you will feel God's healing love and God's presence, bringing you comfort, strength and joy.

The ladies in the morning Bible Circle participate in blessing each shawl. The shawls are a blessing not only for the recipients, but a very meaningful blessing to the ladies who knit and crochet the shawls and also a blessing to the Eastminster congregation as part of their outreach ministry. Thank you to the ladies who create the shawls, for donations of yarn (washable), and money to purchase yarn and gift bags. Elaine Campbell, Carol Irick and Carolyn Uprichard made an early morning trip Tuesday, February 26 to Cornerstone Baptist Church in Greensboro, NC to meet with their Prayer Shawl group for sharing and fellowship. It was a wonderful experience to visit and see how others are sharing the joy and love of Christ through Pray Shawls.

Watch for an announcement in the Sunday bulletins about an upcoming gathering in March for any and all who are interested in or want to support the Prayer Shawl Ministry. No knitting or crocheting skills are required to come, but if someone is interested in learning to knit or crochet, people and yarn will be available! On going training/help sessions (small group or individual) will be scheduled as needed. Come one come all!

"For where two or three are gathered...the joy of the Holy Spirit is present." Matthew 18:19-20

Any questions please call Carolyn Uprichard at 336-402-1084

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 3rd Sunday Hunger Offering 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. .

Upcoming Dates

Wednesday, March 6	Ash Wednesday
Saturday, March 9	EPC Cleanup Day
Sunday, March 10	20th Anniversary Worship
	Installation/Ordination of Elders
Saturday, March 16	Trees for Greenville
Saturday, March 30	Rise Against Hunger packing session
	(GOAL: 15,000-20,000 meals)
Sunday, April 14	Palm Sunday
Thursday, April 11	Maundy Thursday (Advent UMC)
Friday, April 12	Good Friday worship
Sunday, April 21	Easter Sunday
April 28-May 4	GAIHN
Saturday, May 4	Hands on Greenville
Sunday, June 9	Pentecost