



The Eastwood Beacon

*Eastwood nurtures positive development in people's lives
through the love and teachings of Jesus Christ.*

- Mission Statement adopted by Eastwood Baptist Church, January 19, 2014.

March 22, 2017

One Way to Know the Will of God

(Consider the Opposite)

In a recent baptism class, we were discussing the Will of God and how one knows it. Answers abounded including the standards – read the Bible, pray, speak with a trusted friend. Yet even after employing these practices, sometimes knowing the “will” of God is still illusive.

I was reminded of a real estate deal to which I was a business partner. Legal action was taken and a judgment was rendered by a court as to the value of the property and that I was to make a settlement payment by a certain date. The property was sold within the year and the pre-determined settlement was paid. Case closed. The law was satisfied, my ex-partner was satisfied, and so was I.

However, from the time of the court disposition to the settlement date, the value of the property had risen substantially, over 30%. In rendering the judgment, the court did not account for any increase in value. Therefore, at the time of settlement, I walked away with a sizable profit. I thought it was finished.

By this time I had engaged in a serious life of faith and the practice of prayer. It was in those times of prayer that I began to sense God speaking to me about my business dealings. Initially, I ignored it, asserting that the case was closed. The voice persisted indicating that the affair was yet unresolved. I responded by questioning the “will of God” and began reading the Bible seeking “my” answers for the dilemma. I was trying to evade the inevitable and became paralyzed in the process. In confidence I spoke with a wise friend about the matter and my struggle to know the “will of God.” He listened carefully and then simply asked me, “What would the Devil have you do?”

I was disarmed. As much as I had confused the “will of God,” the will of the Devil was very clear: “Greed wins, don’t share, keep it all.” Within the week, I sent a check to my former business partner reflecting a fair and balanced addendum to the previous settlement, including interest.

I am embarrassed about how long it took for God to resolve this ‘greed’ issue in me, but I am thankful for how God’s Kingdom continues to be present in our lives, persistent, unrelenting, yet gentle and loving.

To God be the glory!
Pastor Miller

If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably (resolved) with all.
Romans 12:18

No one can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.
Matthew 5:24

Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around looking for someone to devour. 1 Peter 5:8

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EASTWOOD STAFF

Randolph T. Miller

Pastor

Sharon Dady

Choir Director

Linda Tripp

Accompanist

Sue Becker

Church Secretary

Sam J. Angulo

Custodian

Kaitlyn Brunson

Nursery Attendant

LENT

Published on March 16th, 2017 | by ABCUSA

Lenten Reflections: Third Sunday of Lent

My early attempts learning to play the violin as a young elementary school student were probably what you would expect – a lot of sawing and squawking across the strings; a real desire to play something recognizable; and a general unwillingness to dedicate myself to practice enough to make that happen.

One had to learn the fundamentals – positioning and holding the instrument correctly, holding the bow while learning to draw it musically across the strings, not to mention the challenge of reading music for the first time. I was an impatient violin student as I was required to play millions of whole, half, and quarter notes, all on open strings, for months on end. Sooner than I had imagined possible, however, I progressed to fingering and positions I, II, III, and IV, beyond. The music flowed through the years from “Twinkle, Twinkle” to sonatas and concertos in ways that I barely remember.

Perhaps the most difficult lesson of all was learning to tune the violin, beginning with the “A” string. To hear that clear tone, often from a piano, and then to tune the instrument to match it flawlessly, was imperative. No matter the skill of the violinist, an out of tune instrument only produces jarring, discordant notes. While it is my deep desire to “tune my heart to sing [God’s] grace,” Lent invites me into a season of deeper preparation and practice as I revisit the biblical accounts of Jesus’ journey to the cross, the tomb, and beyond, to the resurrection. My prayer is that the dissonant habits of my heart will, with continual practice, emerge into a clear and authentic symphony of God’s love and grace.

Rev. Sooji Whitten Ford

Executive Minister of the American Baptist Churches of Indiana and Kentucky

Thanks and Praise (3/19)

A beautiful service!

Beautiful Service! Thank you, Praise Team!

Beautiful voices, beautiful songs. Very uplifting; hits at the heart.

Loved all the beautiful old songs. Praise team, you were all wonderful.

Thank you, Pastor Miller.

Oh, my – the Lord Jesus has moved in us today.

Great music – scripture. Thanks.

Loved Marilyn's flute and all the music.

Good News!

I am very grateful for the good news that I can go to 50 percent weight bearing for a week, then 75 percent for a week, and then 100 percent as tolerated. I do have to keep the brace on until the next appointment April 13, and will have to stay here at least until then. I appreciate the prayers, emails, cards and phone calls I have received.

Joan Avery

Church Work Party Thanks,

Thanks to the following for helping at the March 11th work party.

Randy & Leslie Miller
Sandy & Sue Shaw
Paul Klatt
Merle Neufeld (during the week)

Our next work party will be on Saturday, April 8th. Come join us! We have a lot of spring work that needs done!

Thanks,
Don Eastman
Buildings & Properties

Dear Eastwood Friends,

Happy little thoughts to brighten up your day and to let you know that my Stepdaughter (Grant), Stephanie, has improved wonderfully well and is home now. She is still under many tests and monitors daily, but on the whole it is remarkable. Thank you all for your prayers. She had 120 churches praying for her recovery! But God is our healer and comforter.

Mildred Byers

REQUESTS FOR PRAYER

Our Church: its leaders and families

All of those with health needs.

All service people here and overseas, including:

Kevin Hoffman, Army

Lolo Vasquez, Iraq

Aaron Chisem, US Navy

Jason Cesario, Iraq

Logan Oravetz, Army

Isaac Gilmer, Marines

Tyler Powell, Marines

Tiffany Hart, Air Force

Trevor Swanson, Air Force

Please pray for all students, teachers and parents (of all ages of children)

Unemployed / Underemployed

Our ABC-CPC churches, pastors and missionaries (**Dan & Sarah Chetti, Ed & Miriam Noyes, Glen & Rita Chapman, and Kyle & Katrina Williams**) serving around the world.

Jonna Reeder

Tim & Mary Dady serving in Latvia

Registration is open for the 2017 Biennial Mission Summit in Portland, Oregon, June 30 - July 2. The theme is "Connect!"

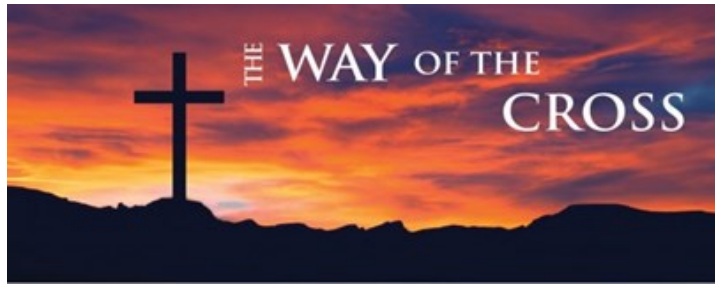
Speakers: Rev. Sharon T. Koh, Executive Director
American Baptist
International Ministries

Dr. Jeffrey Haggray, Executive Director
of American Baptist
Home Mission Societies.

Ukulele Orchestra

**Brochures and Registrations forms are available
at the Welcome Center**



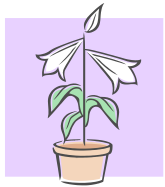


Mystery of the Cross - A Work of Reconciliation

From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; ... So if anyone is in Christ, , there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors from Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. II Cor. 5: 16 – 21

40 DAY JOURNEY TO THE CROSS - 2017

In order to deepen our experience of the Mystery of the Cross and embrace the work of reconciliation, we of Eastwood Baptist Church invite you to join a 40 day journey of faith on Wednesday evenings at 6:00 p.m.



Easter Lilies

On Resurrection Sunday our Worship Center will be decorated with live Easter Lilies. We are inviting our congregation to individually purchase these Easter lilies. The Worship Committee will place the flowers and care for them.

If you are interested in purchasing an Easter Lily, please fill in the necessary information and return the slip to the office. The cost is \$10 each.

On Resurrection Sunday we will publish who the lilies are "In Honor of" or "In Memory of." You may take your lily home after the worship service.

I will purchase _____ Easter lily (lilies)

In Honor of _____

In Memory of _____

Name _____

Telephone _____

Easter at Eastwood

2017 Holy Week activities



Breakfast in the Koinonia Building at 9:00 am.

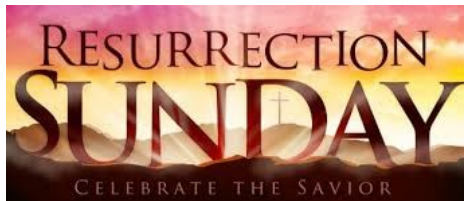


April 13th

Our Maundy Thursday Service will begin in the sanctuary at 6:30 pm. Dinner will take place in the Koinonia Building at 7:00 pm. Please sign up on your Communication Cards or call the church office.

There will be a presentation entitled:

"Lead Me to the Rock"



Easter – Resurrection Celebration

Baptisms in morning worship.

What a time of rejoicing!

George Barna states that 47% of unchurched people would come, if they were simply invited. Imagine, if you had two friends who do not attend church and you invite them to worship on Easter, odds are that one of them would come, simply based upon your invitation.

Fellowship Dinners

Wednesday evening fellowship dinners will continue each Wednesday through the month of March as well as April 5th. Be sure to sign up on your Communication Cards or call the Church Office.



Published on March 17th, 2017

by ABCUSA

American Baptists Invited to Join in Prayer with Christian Churches Together

American Baptists are invited to join together in prayer with American Baptist Churches USA partner Christian Churches Together (CCT), as they invite churches to be in prayer through the end of March over how churches and our country can address the moral issue of poverty.

For more than eight years the communions and organizations in Christian Churches Together have been calling the attention of members of our churches and all Americans to the moral task of eradicating hunger and poverty in our land.

The scriptures remind us again and again of God's concern for the poor, "Whoever oppresses the poor shows contempt for their Maker, but whoever is kind to the needy honors God."— Proverbs 14:31

During the last three weeks of March, the U.S. Congress will make critical decisions that will affect the lives of millions of our brothers and sisters living in poverty. The right decisions could alleviate and pull people out of poverty; the wrong decisions will increase poverty and put the lives of hundreds of thousands at risk.

We are grateful for the vast array of ways our churches are already helping millions of struggling people. We want to build on these efforts, learn from each other, and collaborate more closely. But we can, we must, do more.

We also recognize and encourage leaders in community, economic and public life who seek justice for poor people in our land. But we can, we must, do more. Our goal must be the elimination of poverty in this land.

We affirm our unanimous conviction that, our service to the poor and our work for justice is "at the center of Christian life and witness." And we commit to renew our prayers, and to understand and live in faithfulness to our Lord's teaching that when we serve "the least of these", we truly minister to our Lord Himself.

We are leaders of the Christian community, not an interest group. We have no partisan political agenda. Together we believe that our faith demands and the people of this land yearn for concrete proposals that transcend divisive political divisions and place the lives and well-being of people above anything else.

In the spirit of Jesus, we call our brothers and sisters to lift the U.S. Congress and our President up in prayer, as they make decisions that will affect the lives of millions of our brothers and sisters living in poverty in our country and around the world.

Bishop Mitchell T. Rozanski – Catholic Family
Rev. Gary Walter – Evangelical/Pentecostal Family
Archbishop Vicken Aykazian – Orthodox Family
Rev. Samuel C. Tolbert, Jr. – Historic Black Family
Rev. David Guthrie – Historic Protestant Family
Rev. Carlos L. Malavé – Executive Director CCT

April 2017

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

March 26 8:00 Chapel Prayers 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service Rev. Steve Bils, speaking	March 27 10:00 Women's Grove 7:00 Boys Scouts	March 28 Noon - Men's Bible Study 6:30 Finance Committee meeting	March 29 11:00 Staff Meeting 5:15 Fellowship Dinner 6:00 Journey to the Cross Prayer Service 7:15 Choir Practice	March 30	March 31	1 10:00 Uke Practice
2 8:00 Chapel Prayers 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Communion Worship Service	3 10:00 Women's Grove 7:00 Boys Scouts	4 Noon - Men's Bible Study 6:00 Cub Scouts	5 11:00 Staff Meeting 5:15 Fellowship Dinner 6:00 Journey to the Cross Prayer Service 7:15 Choir Practice	6 1:00 Fellowship Support at New Far East	7	8 9:00 Church Work Party 10:00 Uke Practice
9 Palm Sunday 8:00 Chapel Prayers 9:00 Breakfast 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service	10 10:00 Women's Grove 7:00 Boys Scouts	11 Noon - Men's Bible Study	12 11:00 Staff Meeting 7:15 Choir Practice	13 Maundy Thursday 6:30 Service in the Sanctuary 7:00 Dinner in the Koinonia Building	14 Good Friday	15 9:30 Women's Fellowship Breakfast
16 Easter 8:00 Chapel Prayers 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship and Service of Baptism	17 10:00 Women's Grove 7:00 Boys Scouts	18 Noon - Men's Bible Study 6:00 Cub Scouts	19 11:00 Staff Meeting 6:00 Mid-Week Bible Study 7:15 Choir Practice	20	21 9:00 Builders' Social	22 10:00 Uke Practice
23 8:00 Chapel Prayers 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service	24 10:00 Women's Grove 7:00 Boys Scouts	25 Noon - Men's Bible Study	26 11:00 Staff Meeting 6:00 Mid-Week Bible Study 7:15 Choir Practice	27 3:30 Knitting/Crocheting 5:30 Deacons' Business Meeting 6:00 Cub Scouts	28	29 10:00 Uke Practice
30 8:00 Chapel Prayers 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service	May 1st 10:00 Women's Grove 7:00 Boys Scouts	May 2nd Noon - Men's Bible Study	May 3rd 11:00 Staff Meeting 6:00 Mid-Week Bible Study 7:15 Choir Practice	May 4th 1:00 Fellowship Support at New Far East	May 5th	May 6th 10:00 Uke Practice

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

1-Apr	Barbara Barnhill
2-Apr	Ty Mahaffey
4-Apr	Tamara Goulart
5-Apr	Leo Gomez
6-Apr	Ann Christie
8-Apr	Tyler Powell
10-Apr	April Chisem
10-Apr	Don Jaquette
11-Apr	Fay Rashe'
15-Apr	Brenda Martin
18-Apr	David Morris
19-Apr	Kerri Robbins
24-Apr	Wendy Cawthorne
25-Apr	Carisse Chisem
25-Apr	Susan Skaggs
26-Apr	Matthew Arnett
30-Apr	Eloise Tarrant

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

3-Apr	Jim & Marilyn Powell
4-Apr	Ralph & Sharon Dady
27-Apr	Jearld & Becki Foster

Please contact Sue in the Church Office or note it on your communication card if your special day has been missed or reported incorrectly.

Rev. Steve Bills will speak this Sunday

It is an honor to welcome the Rev. Steve Bills to the pulpit on Sunday morning, March 26th. Steve is the executive minister of the American Baptist Church of the Central Pacific Coast, a region that stretches from southern Washington to central California.

**Experience is not what happens to a man,
it's what a man does
with what happens to him.**

*How much better to get wisdom than gold!
And to get understanding is to be chosen rather than silver.*

Proverbs 16: 16 NKJV

Women's Brunch & Art Extravaganza!

Saturday, May 6th
10:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Eastwood Baptist Church Koinonia Building

Come prepared for a "Hands-on" art activity!

Ladies!

Save the date! On **May 6th**, **My linda Baits** will be our speaker/leader at our Women's Brunch and Art Extravaganza. It will be a special time to "connect with creativity through art", a restorative work she does with women around the world. All ages are invited for this event. My linda and her husband, Gary, have been missionaries in Costa Rica. Contact Leslie Miller if you are interested in attending or sign up on your communication cards.



Women's Art Exhibit

On that day, we will have an **Eastwood Women's Art Gallery exhibit**. Bring something (a painting, sewing, woodwork) you've made and would like to have on display! Contact Carol Bath if you would like to display your artwork.

Help for the Homeless

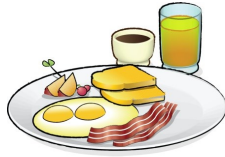
The Kelly Shelter is a project of Rogue Retreat, Church of the Rogue (First United Methodist Church) and community volunteers. The Kelly Shelter mission is simple: to ensure that homeless people in Medford Oregon have a place to gather indoors in the winter between December 1st and March 31st each year. The shelter is open to men, women and families regardless of level of sobriety. Service animals welcome.

First Methodist church is opening their doors so that the homeless can be somewhere warm at night. Many of these homeless people have inadequate clothing for the cold. We will be collecting socks and gloves of all sizes to take to the Methodist Church.

Please bring them to Eastwood Baptist church and they will be delivered as soon as possible. A collection area has been set up on the missions table.

Women of Eastwood Fellowship Breakfast
Saturday, April 15th - 9:30 am
at Punky's Diner - 953 Medford Center

Come join us for fellowship and breakfast at Punky's Diner in Medford.



See you there!

Questions? Need a ride?

Call Sue Lektorich (541) 499-1059

Memory Verse of the Week - (3/19 - 3/25)

Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song.

Psalm 95: 1 - 2

Proverbs - Wisdom that Works

An Adult Sunday School Class

9:15 in the Walker Room

New People are welcome to join at any time.



Eastwood Beacon

The next issue of *The Beacon* will be **April 6, 2016**. If you have anything you would like put in the *Beacon*, an up-coming event, a function, etc. please **have all copy in the church office by 12:00 noon on Tuesday, April 5, 2016.**

Email sbecker@ebcmedford.org

This Beacon **will not** be mailed.

Church Work Day

Inviting **ALL** who want to help "spruce up" our church.



The next scheduled Work Day is **Saturday, April 8th**. Meet at the church at 9:00 am and we should be finished by 12:00. Please bring rakes, clippers and **DON'T FORGET** the gloves! **See you there.**

Questions...call Don Eastman at (541) 773-7237

Knitting & Crocheting Group

The knitting & crocheting group will meet on Wednesdays, April 13th and 27th at 3:30 pm.

March 26, 2017

SUNDAY, March 26th

Prayer in Chapel 8:00
 Sunday School 9:15
 Worship Service, Rev. Steve Bills, preaching 10:30

MONDAY, March 27th

Women's Grove Bible Study 10:00
 Boy Scouts 7:00

TUESDAY, March 28th

Men's Bible Study Noon
 Finance Committee Meeting 6:30

WEDNESDAY, March 29th

Staff Meeting 11:00
 Fellowship Dinner 5:15
 Journey to the Cross Prayer Service 6:00
 Choir Practice 7:15

THURSDAY, March 30th

Cub Scouts 5:30

FRIDAY, March 31st

SATURDAY, April 1st

Uke Practice 10:00

April 2, 2017

SUNDAY, April 2nd

Prayer in Chapel 8:00
 Sunday School 9:15
 Communion Worship Service 10:30
 Pastor Miller, preaching

MONDAY, April 3rd

Women's Grove Bible Study 10:00
 Boy Scouts 7:00

TUESDAY, April 4th

Men's Bible Study: 12:00
 Cub Scouts 6:00

WEDNESDAY, April 5th

Staff Meeting 11:00
 Fellowship Dinner 5:15
 Journey to the Cross Prayer Service 6:00
 Choir Practice 7:15

THURSDAY, April 6th

Fellowship Support at New Far East 1:00

FRIDAY, April 7th

SATURDAY, April 8th

Church Work Party 9:00
 Uke Practice 10:00