



# 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.

September 6, 2017

## Chasing the Blue Sky

On Sunday afternoon, after consulting a regional map that suggested the pall of smoke ended near Klamath Falls, my sister Linda, Leslie and I took off in search of Blue Sky. We drove into the smoke of Ashland and across the Green Springs Highway toward Klamath Falls. Our hopes were high. As we drove into the Klamath basin, we were disappointed to discover Klamath was also covered in smoke. We had ice cream cones at Baskin-Robbins and returned home on Highway 140. Klamath Lake was barely visible and our hopes dashed. Linda returned home yesterday, to the beautiful blue skies of Wisconsin. I envy her. I haven't seen blue sky in three weeks.

Ted was a faithful member of the Midwest congregation where I was raised. He was a painter by trade, a gentle soft spoken man who spoke with a voice of God in the public reading of scripture. He also served as an usher and greeter. More than once when shaking his hand, mischievously he would grasp my fingers and squeeze them until I was quite literally on my knees in pain. I learned to quickly insert my whole hand into his grasp when greeting him.

At the age of 88 years, Ted had slipped into middle levels of dementia with less and less recognition of the world he once knew. Once while sitting with him at lunch, Ted recognized me and said, "Randy, the good days are all gone, there are no more good days." He was still the gentle, soft spoken man of his younger years, but now there was a pall of sadness that covered him. I leaned over, grasping his arm and said, "Ted, there is yet one more good day to come, an unending beautiful day of sunshine and blue sky." Ted's disposition brightened, we told stories of the good ol' days and laughed. This was only temporary. As his mind failed, the days got darker, until six months later he passed from the darkness into the beautiful light of an uncloudy day and blue skies.

During these days of smoke, I have a new appreciation for the simple things of life - like blue sky and I pray for its soon return. If this smoke continues, I may again chase after blue sky. Still, I am reminded that in this world we will face many trials, dark days, but there is still one more a day - a bright shining day of blue skies. Revelation 21: 22 - 27

Be of good courage, we are not abandoned,  
Pastor Miller

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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*

## Friends of Ed and Miriam ~

Miriam's birthday - next Monday, September 11

### Noyes Prayer Letter September 2017

Ed and Miriam had planned to be home this fall for some R&R and deputation. That is not to be as things are coming together for their move back to ACDI at Lusekele. In our last prayer letter we mentioned some of these items. In this letter we mention some of the things that have happened and some requests that still need our prayer.

I quote Ed in a letter sent to family in August, "Yes, we are planning to move back to Lusekele in October or early November. My contract with IMA shifts gears in November, reducing my IMA time from 80% to 40% and giving the green light to be based out of Lusekele and travel to Kinshasa about every 5 weeks to touch base with "my" governance and accountability team. Miriam and I had planned to spend three weeks in the US for deputation and family visits in October and then make the move to Lusekele in the first week in November. But in light of the unexpected observations of new varieties that it seems we will launch next month and the need to finalize the International Fund for Agricultural Development proposal in Oct-Nov, the trip seemed untenable. And over-seeing ACDI from afar doesn't allow for enough interaction with the team there."

"The seed production initiative is taking off. Eleven thousand of the \$15,000 One Great Hour of Sharing grant allocated in June has been released. ACDI hired a seed production manager in July and is nearing completion of preparations for 5 acres of peanut and corn seed multiplication. We already have peanut seed and the team hopes to purchase certified corn seed this week. The rains could start as early as two weeks from now."

"The one continuing frustration with the seed production initiative is that the national seed service has not yet recognized ACDI Lusekele's status as a seed producer." Pray for ACDI as they move forward to obtain this recognition. Pray for God to remove obstacles and open doors for this certification project.

"Meanwhile, the agricultural extension team is organizing peanut and corn demonstrations with farmers in 4 counties where the 2002-2012 varieties were never promoted. They expect to work with 300-500 households in over 50 villages."

Pray for God to manifest his presence and love in all of these activities.

The political tensions in Congo continue. The national electoral commission announced it would be impossible to organize elections in 2017 as planned. There is growing frustration that the current government continues to postpone elections. Pray for the people of Congo in this transition time.

For the Noyes Missionary Partnership Team,

Gene Gentry

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### **\$10,000 in One Great Hour of Sharing Funding Released for Hurricane Harvey Relief**

Published on August 31st, 2017 | by ABCUSA

**VALLEY FORGE, PA (ABNS 8/31/17)**—In response to Hurricane Harvey's devastation along the Gulf Coast in Texas and Louisiana, American Baptist Home Mission Societies (ABHMS) has released \$10,000 in One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) Emergency Disaster Relief funds to Church World Service on behalf of American Baptist Churches USA. More funds will be released as damage assessments are gathered in the coming weeks.

Making landfall on Aug. 25, Hurricane Harvey brought with it 130 mph winds and an unprecedented amount of torrential rainfall in some areas, resulting in flooding, power outages, downed trees and signs, major property damage, displaced residents, injuries and at least 38 fatalities.

American Baptists are urged to pray for and donate to those affected.

Donations designated to "OGHS-Hurricane Harvey" can be made through your church; One hundred percent of donations go to relief efforts; no dollars are retained for administrative costs.

## Thanks and Praise (9/3)

Great message today! Thanks.

Dear Eastwood Baptist Church,

We hope that you all have avoided the smoke and enjoyed your summer!

Thank you all so much for your incredibly generous donation AND the trunk load of diapers for our homeless families and little ones in need.

Thank you for being a part of our incredible community support family that makes sure that those in need are not alone.

Serina Q.  
The Maslow Project

## OUTDOOR WORSHIP

### HYMN SING AND PICNIC LUNCH

with special guests, "OLD TIME FIDDLERS"

At Eastwood Baptist Church on  
September 17th at 10:30 am.

All A through K families: Please bring a side dish or salad

All L through Z families: Please bring desserts

There will be games for the children!

Music during lunch will be provided by the  
Old Time Fiddlers

Please make your reservation on the Yellow Communication Card or call the Church Office.



## 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

**Tyler Powell**, Marines

**Tiffany Hart**, Air Force

**Trevor Swanson**, Air Force

**Samuel Strom**, Army

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



# *It's a Girl!*

## *Baby Shower for Kelsey Robinson*

**Where:** Eastwood Baptist Church  
Koinonia Building

**When:** Saturday, September 23rd  
2:00 p.m.



# Rainbow Acres

A Residential Christian Community  
Serving Adults with  
Developmental Disabilities

August 24, 2017

Eastwood Baptist Church  
675 N Keene Way Dr  
Medford, OR 97504-6822



Dear Randy,

There are rarely summer doldrums or dog days of summer at Rainbow Acres. Just about every day, one of the 95 Ranchers will present a new challenge for us.

Sometimes a child, adolescent or adult with developmental disabilities has needs that are so great they often exhaust their families, emotionally and physically. I often share with parents that Rainbow Acres has one advantage over the family home. We have 34 sets of Caregiver eyes and many others observing the well-being, unique needs and life changes of each Rancher. While we are good at that, sometimes we fail because the needs are greater than the resources we have in Sedona and the Verde Valley.

Nevertheless, we have many more successes than failures. One of those successes is Michelle. She is an incredibly gifted young woman who has overcome hearing loss, cognitive disabilities, and conquered mobility issues. Her parent's involvement and support along with other life skills programs, her circle of friends, and caring individuals across the Ranch have helped her to blossom and grow.

One of her passions is "working with small children". Our vocational relationship with a Preschool in Camp Verde is providing an opportunity for Michelle to do just that. She will begin to work a three-day work week, hoping for more days as she matures in her position. She has also found her niche on the Rancher Craft Crew, where she spends two days a week. Michelle has a beautiful voice which she shares by being a part of the Rainbow Choir. Her contagious smile wins her many friends; everyone wants to stand next to her. Thank you for helping to create a place where young women and men can thrive, reach their highest potential, and discover meaning and purpose in his or her life. May you be blessed by the sharing of your gifts.

For the Ranchers,

Gary W Wagner  
President & CEO

*Thank you friends  
Appreciate your partnership  
in Ministry!*

**We gratefully acknowledge your gift of \$100.00 for Annual Fund thru American Baptist Churches of the Central Pacific Coast (Ck #15595, dated 8/8/2017). No goods or services were provided in exchange for this gift. Rainbow Acres is a faith-based 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. Contributions are deductible to the fullest extent of the tax code.**



2120 W. Reservation Loop Road • Camp Verde, AZ 86322  
Phone 928.567.5231 • Fax 928.567.9059 • [www.rainbowacres.com](http://www.rainbowacres.com)

Federal Tax ID #86-0286420 Rainbow Acres is a 501 (c) (3) organization



## Judson Press Book Elucidates Baptists' Response to the Holocaust

Published on September 1st, 2017 | by ABCUSA

**VALLEY FORGE, PA (ABNS 9/1/17)**—How did Baptists respond to the rise of the Nazis in Germany and their persecution of the Jewish people throughout Europe? General Secretary of American Baptist Churches USA, Dr. Lee B. Spitzer, delves into this history and its implications for Christians today in his thoroughly researched and eminently accessible new book, *Baptists, Jews, and the Holocaust: The Hand of Sincere Friendship*.

Rich with primary resource material including personal stories, primary source documents, and speeches, and covering the full history of all Baptists during this period, readers will gain insight concerning Christianity and the Holocaust, as well as Baptist identity and history.

Reid S. Trulson, retired Executive Director of American Baptist International Ministries, states, "This is the first truly comprehensive assessment of the Baptist response to the repression and then persecution of Jews in the 1930s." He adds, "This rich contribution to Holocaust studies, as well as to Baptist, African American, and women's studies, is the story of a great evil and the responses of a people of faith."

"More than a study of attitudes toward the Holocaust, this book is a nuanced and helpful primer on race relations and the challenges of moving from sympathetic resolutions to action," says Dr. Deborah Van Broekhoven, Executive Director Emeritus of the American Baptist Historical Society.

This groundbreaking volume is a must-read for church historians, Holocaust scholars, Baptist history buffs, and anyone interested in inter-faith relations. It comes at a critical point in current events as the nation is again facing anti-Semitic rhetoric.



**Saturday  
September 16, 2017  
9 am - 4 pm**

**Cascade Christian  
High School  
855 Chevy Way  
Medford, OR**

**IT'S FREE**

**For more information and to register visit:**

**[Rootedpath.org/forhisglory](http://Rootedpath.org/forhisglory) retreat**

On January 29, 2017, Stephanie Strom's heart stopped and she collapsed on the floor. Immediate life saving techniques were used to try to bring her back to life with little success. According to medical personnel the outcome looked very grim with little hope for survival. The likelihood of permanent organ damage and questionable brain function if she did survive, was very probable.

Stephanie was literally fighting for her life and the doctors were preparing the family for the worst outcome.

But God had another plan! A great army of prayer warriors began to intercede on her behalf, and today, Stephanie is alive and well.

God has a powerful message of hope through this experience and she and her husband Craig, are excited to share their journey from death to life, through trials and triumphs, and that the Lord is strong and mighty!

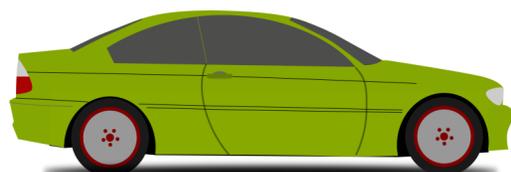
Come join us and be encouraged in the Word and in fellowship as ladies from all over the Rogue Valley gather to testify that God is real, and big, and mighty!

Stephanie Strom is Mildred Byers' Granddaughter.

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## Chetti Car Fund

**Over \$14,000 has been collected for the Chettis to purchase a new (used) car. Thanks to all who contributed.**



**Women of Eastwood Fellowship Breakfast  
Saturday, September 9th- 9:30 a.m.**

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



**Practice of Reconciliation**

Since the beginning of the year, I have been reading and studying scriptures about the practice of reconciliation. As we resume our Wednesday evening Bible Studies and Prayer Meeting, we will engage in an exploration of this topic of Reconciliation as found in scriptures and as practiced by the saints of the church over the years. Hope you will join us at 6:00 pm.

Pastor Miller

**The Women's Grove Bible Study Group  
Monday, September 18th, 10:00 AM - Room 14**

Our Bible Study Book is entitled:

*"A Guide to Prayer - Connecting with God"*

From Stonecroft Bible Studies

All women are welcome to join us.



**Eastwood Beacon**

The next issue of *The Beacon* will be **September 20th, 2017**. 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, September 19th, 2017**.

Email [sbecker@ebcmedford.org](mailto:sbecker@ebcmedford.org)  
This Beacon will be mailed.

**Church Work Day**

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



The next scheduled Work Day is **Saturday, September 9th**. 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

**September Cookie & Host/Hostess Sign-ups!**

It's time to sign up to bring cookies for our Fellowship hour. The cookie calendar is located on the kiosk closest to the Church Office. We would also love to see some new faces behind the cookie and punch tables. Please call Suzan Darby if you would like to host.

**September 10, 2017**

**SUNDAY, September 10th**

Prayer in Chapel	8:00
Sunday School	9:15
Worship Service, "The Lord's Prayer"	10:30
Pastor Miller, preaching	

**MONDAY, September 11th**

Boy Scouts	7:00
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**TUESDAY, September 12th**

Men's Bible Study	Noon
First Place	5:30

**WEDNESDAY, September 13th**

Staff Meeting	11:00
Mid-Week Bible Study	6:00
Choir Practice	7:15

**THURSDAY, September 14th**

Deacons' Agape Meeting	5:30
Worship Committee Meeting	6:30

**FRIDAY, September 15th**

Builders' Social	9:00
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**SATURDAY, September 16th**

For His Glory Fall Retreat	9:00
Uke Practice	10:00

**September 17th, 2017**

**SUNDAY, September 17th**

Prayer in Chapel	8:00
Sunday School	9:15
Outdoor Worship Service & Picnic lunch	10:30
Music by the Old Time Fiddlers	

**MONDAY, September 18th**

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

**TUESDAY, September 19th**

Men's Bible Study	Noon
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**WEDNESDAY, September 20th**

Staff Meeting	11:00
Fellowship Dinner	5:15
Mid-Week Bible Study	6:00
Choir Practice	7:15

**THURSDAY, September 21st**

Fellowship Support at New Far East	1:00
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**FRIDAY, September 22nd**

**SATURDAY, September 23rd**

Baby Shower for Kelsey Robinson	2:00
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