



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.

December 6, 2017

On a Cold Winter's Night

It was the night of the December super moon and I was walking home. In the east, the moon had yet to begin its rise over Roxie Ann and behind me the cityscape of Medford was illuminated by the city lights and street lamps. Additionally, houses were decorated with the outdoor lights of the season.

My gaze turned to the darkened sky, to the canopy of stars and in full view was Orion's belt. I followed the alignment to the fiery eye of Taurus the Bull and then on to the Pleiades. A 'stillness' invaded the moment. On this crisp December night, the stars seemed more glorious, more beautiful.

Long before modern lights, the ancients would look to the night skies. Twice Job spoke of the constellations of Orion and the Pleiades:

"(God) who made the Bear and Orion, the Pleiades and the chambers of the south; (9:9)

"Can you bind the chains of the Pleiades, or loose the cords of Orion? (38: 31)

Amos also references the God of creation as the maker of the heavenly stars:

The one who made the Pleiades and Orion, and turns deep darkness into the morning, and darkens the day into night, who calls for the waters of the sea and pours them out on the surface of the earth, the LORD is his name, (5:8)

Among the ancients, watching the night skies for 'signs and wonders,' were the simple shepherds and the Magi from the East.

Let us join the ancients of old by looking to the night skies for the 'signs and wonders' of the presence of the Holy One being born into this world today. My prayer is that we never lose the mystery of God invading our world with love.

Happy Advent Ponderings,

Randolph Miller, Pastor

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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

Kattlyn Brunson

Nursery Attendant

IF YOU WANT

Saint John of the Cross,

If
you want
the Virgin will come walking down the road
pregnant with the holy,
and say,
“I need shelter for the night, please take me inside your heart,
my time is so close.”

Then, under the roof of your soul, you will witness the sublime
intimacy, the divine, the Christ
taking birth
forever,
as she grasps your hand for help, for each of us
is the midwife of God, each of us.

Yet there, under the dome of your being does creation
come into existence eternally, through your womb, dear pilgrim—
the sacred womb in your soul,
as God grasps our arms for help; for each of us is
His beloved servant
never far.

If you want, the Virgin will come walking
down the street pregnant
with Light and sing ...



Thanks and Praise

Thank You!

Our sincere thanks to everyone who baked cookies, brought snacks and/or goodies, or donated money to the College/Military Care Package ministry. The boxes were so full we didn't even have to use any packing filler! We appreciate each one of you and thank you for your support of this ministry. (The recipients do too!)

College/Military Care Team

To the Congregation of Eastwood Baptist Church:

Thank you all so much for your generous donation to Maslow Project!

We are so very thankful for your continuing support of our work with homeless youth and families here in Jackson and Josephine Count.

Wishing you all a joyous Christmas!

Karen Phillips
Development Director
Maslow Project

Eastwood Knitters and Crocheters

We have been collecting hats and scarves to be donated to the Maslow Project at Christmas time. The last day to bring them will be Sunday, December 17th. The hats and scarves will be on display beginning December 10th. If you need yarn, please check the closet by the give-away books.

Please bring them to the "yarn closet" or the office when you are finished.

Any questions, call Joan Avery, 541 702-2114 or Barbara Davis, 541 414-4889.



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

Eric Lektorich, Army National Guard

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.

Tim & Mary Dady serving in Latvia

Year End Love Gift

Dear Congregation,

It is the desire of your Board of Deacons to provide a Year-End Love Gift to our Pastor and staff as a way of showing our appreciation for their service to us this year. If you wish to participate in this "Thank You," please place your gift in one of the Love Offering envelopes, designating your checks to "Staff Love Gift" and place it in the offering plate or turn it into the church office during normal business hours.

Thank you for your generosity in this opportunity to share God's love with our staff this Christmas season.

Jerry Darby,
Moderator





All Children, Youth and their Families are Invited!

Sunday, December 17th

9:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.





Advent 2017
Sunday Worship Services
"The Characters of Christmas"



Sunday, December 10th	Peace - The Shepherds
Sunday, December 17th	Joy - The Wise Ones
Sunday, December 24th	Love - The Birth of Christ

Wednesday Evening Prayer Services
Fellowship Dinner at 5:15 - Prayer Service at 6:00
The Prophecies of Isaiah

Wednesday, December 13th "Streams in the Desert" Isaiah 43: 14 - 21
Wednesday, December 20th "Emmanuel" Isaiah 7: 10 - 14

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
Sunday, December 24th at 7:00 p.m.

Sing Joy to All the World!

A Christmas Celebration

By Lloyd Larson

Performed by the Eastwood Sanctuary Choir



Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering 2017

Support RMMO

The roots of RMMO go back to the mid-1930s, when American Baptist congregations received a Communion Fellowship Offering on the first Sunday of each month to support retired ministers, missionaries, their widowed spouses and elderly clergy within their churches. In 1977, American Baptist Churches USA launched the Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering (RMMO) to continue this appreciation of God's service. The offering supports those who have dedicated their lives to God's service by providing emergency assistance in times of need and a thank you check at the end of each year.

We hope congregations will be inspired by the theme this year, *Generous Congregations*. The verse is taken from Isaiah 32:8, 'But generous people plan to do what is generous, and they stand firm in their generosity'. Generosity is central to our faith. As Christians, we are called to serve and care for others, and RMMO aligns with the collective spirit of love that inspires us all to honor the devotion of ministers and their families for their service to the church.

Please join us in honoring God's committed servants by donating to RMMO.

Thank you for your support.

**Women of Eastwood Fellowship Breakfast
Saturday, December 16th - 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

January 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.

2018 Calendars



A gift to you of a calendar for the coming year will be available toward the end of December.



Eastwood Beacon

The next issue of *The Beacon* will be **December 20th, 2017**. If you have anything you would like put in the *Beacon*, an upcoming event, a function, etc. please have all copy in the church office by **12:00 noon on Tuesday, December 19th, 2017**.

Email sbecker@ebcmedford.org
This Beacon will be mailed.



**Mercy Flight Cards are in!
Find yours at the
Welcome Center**

Good News from the people at Mercy Flights. Because Eastwood's Membership numbers have consistently been very close to the 50 required for a discount, Mercy Flights will be giving us the discount next year. The fee for next years membership will be reduced to \$60 per household.

It's not too late to join - See Sue Becker for prorated fees for the balance of this year.

December 10, 2017

SUNDAY, December 10th - 2nd Sunday of Advent

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

MONDAY, December 11th

Boy Scouts	7:00
Choir Rehearsal	7:00

TUESDAY, December 12th

Men's Bible Study	Noon
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WEDNESDAY, December 13th

Staff Meeting	11:00
Fellowship Dinner	5:15
Advent Prayer Service	6:00

THURSDAY, December 14th

FRIDAY, December 15th

Builder's Social	9:00
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SATURDAY, December 16th

Women's Fellowship Breakfast at Punky's	9:00
Uke Practice	10:00

December 17, 2017

SUNDAY, December 17th - 3rd Sunday of Advent

Prayer in Chapel	8:00
Keepsake Christmas - Children/Youth	9:00
Sunday School	9:15
Worship Service and Baptisms	10:30
Pastor Miller, preaching	
Pastoral Relations Committee	12:00

MONDAY, December 18th

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

TUESDAY December 19th

Men's Bible Study	Noon
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WEDNESDAY, December 20th

Staff Meeting	11:00
Fellowship Dinner	5:15
Advent Prayer Service	6:00
Choir Practice	7:15

THURSDAY, December 21st

Deacons' Business Meeting	5:30
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FRIDAY, December 22nd

SATURDAY, December 23rd