



The Eastwood Beacon

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

March 7, 2018

Hello Eastwood Baptist!

By now you all have heard about this person called an Intentional Interim who is coming to serve at Eastwood. Many of you may be asking yourselves what the heck an intentional interim is. An Intentional Interim is a pastor who has received specialized training in working with congregations during the interim time. The interim is a time when people can feel a little unsettled, yet it is also a time when exciting changes can take place within the church community. As an Intentional Interim I am trained to help congregations use the interim time in constructive ways.

An ABC publication called *Tackling the Tasks* provide a step by step process that will help us begin our work together. The tasks, which years of experience and study have shown to be the most helpful to congregations are:

Coming to Terms with History - Taking a look at the history of the church in order to learn from the past in a way that will enrich the future. By looking at the church's history we can see how God has called this congregation to serve in the past and how it has helped grow God's kingdom. Looking at history will also help us discover how to continue to live out that call.

Discovering a New Identity - Gaining an understanding of who you are as a congregation, how you view yourselves, what are your strengths and weaknesses, and what God is calling you to be and do in light of them. During this process you may discover that God is calling the congregation into new areas of ministry or affirming a call you have previously discerned.

Allowing Needed Leadership Changes - There are likely to be changes in leadership as well as the change in leadership style. This will be a time for some folks to become more active while others decide to be less active. Please understand that these changes are normal during an interim time and that they are not set in cement! Some folks might need a break for a while, not forever, just for a while.

Re-Affirming Denominational Linkage - Re-Visiting and perhaps renewing our appreciation of the heritage and mission of being American Baptists and the churches relationship with American Baptist Churches USA and the services they provide.

Commitments to New Directions in Ministry - During the interim period the congregation needs to become ready to make a commitment to the new pastor leaser it will call. This includes developing a sense of anticipation and hope for the future based on an understanding of ministry which the congregation begins to envision for itself.

In partnership with an Interim Ministry Team, we will identify which of the five developmental tasks will be most beneficial to the congregation and its next pastor. We will then lay out a plan to address those tasks and work toward completing them.

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EASTWOOD STAFF

Grant Rubln

Youth Director

Sharon Dady

Choir Director

Linda Tripp

Accompanist & Worship Coordinator

Sue Becker

Church Secretary

Sam J. Angulo

Custodian

Kaitlyn Brunson

Nursery Attendant

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So there you have it, the practical hands-on description of the interim time. However, this description is incomplete if we leave out the most important component and that is the spiritual component. We can do nothing of deep and lasting value if we do it without God. A significant portion of our time needs to be spent in prayer seeking God's will for this community of believers and trusting that God will guide us. To that end we need the prayers and support of each and every one of you.

I look forward to getting to know you all and seeing where God takes us as we embark on this interim journey.

Blessings,
Pastor Linda

An Exercise in Faith One Year On

Published February 15, 2018

RE-ESTABLISHING CBCO's REGIONAL CENTER FOR AGRICULTURAL INNOVATION

This week ACDI Lusekele / CBCo celebrated one year of renewal and reorganization, after nearly going belly-up in 2016. It has been an experiment in faith. A small cohort of believers in the Baptist Convention of Congo (CBCo) feels a burden to do something to reduce hunger and poverty. Innovations in agricultural practices, storage and marketing could double food availability and increase household income. But too few farmers know enough about them to take advantage. Lusekele supporters believe that God may once again be opening up an opportunity for ACDI Lusekele to step into the breach, promoting best agricultural practices among simple farmers and supplying high-quality seed and other key inputs. This has been a year to test out that call.



For example, in September ACDI Lusekele launched a campaign to promote a new peanut variety, (officially recognized by the national seed service as Lusekele-2 as a result of testing we did a decade ago.) Over 550 farm families tried the new variety side-by-side with their preferred local variety. Erratic rains and a peanut-stunting disease common in the region challenged even good farmers. In December farmers harvested their demonstration plots and compared results. On average local varieties produced only a 2-fold increase of peanuts, a belt-tightening harvest. In the same conditions, Lusekele-2, produced nearly 6 times the seed planted. For a third of cooperating families, Lusekele-2 produced more than 8 times the amount planted and the top-producing family achieved a 17-fold increase.

The beginnings of restored regional seed reserves of peanuts

Maybe you're asking why more people don't just switch to Lusekele-2 peanuts if the advantage is so striking. There are two main reasons. First, good news spreads slowly when there are few people who feel compelled to share it. No county extension agents and no seed company agents tout the advantages of superior varieties. There is no advertising on TV. No testimonials in farmers' newsletters. Most farmers still don't even know that truly remarkable new varieties exist. Second, reliable grain legume seed is incredibly scarce. Right now, ACDI Lusekele may be the only producer of Lusekele-2 peanut seed in the region. Our current stocks would supply less than 0.002% of the annual needs of farmers in the region. Farmers continue to plant mediocre seed and never even think about finding something better. ACDI Lusekele aims to change that.

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I'm excited about the results of ACDI's observations of 69 elite peanut varieties from ICRISAT, an international research center with a station in Mali, completed in December. Over half performed better than JL-24, the high-yielding variety of choice in our part of Congo for over 25 years. This is early stages, but we are guardedly optimistic that at least a few will turn out to be the next generation of high-yielding peanuts for the DR Congo. There is still a LOT of work to do before these varieties will feed poor families or generate more household income. The first step is to multiply seed. Three weeks ago we planted new small plots, none larger than your living room, most no bigger than a bathroom. At the end of April we will harvest the plots, shell the peanuts and immediately plant a second crop during the dry season. Last September we started with 80 seeds of each variety. By September this year we hope to have 1500 to 3000 seeds of each variety: enough to plant two or three proper variety trials. Variety trials will help us to narrow down the best varieties for our region, tell us which varieties to place our bet on. With good planning and perseverance, in two years ACDI Lusekele will start selling seed that changes farmers' prospects and hopes.

Year-round seed multiplication using simple irrigation

Intensive seed multiplication is a necessity, but it flies in the face of nature. A small dry season usually descends on the Vanga area from mid-January through late February. Irrigation relieves the water constraint. For the last two weeks Vanga Hospital water technicians have been refurbishing the Lusekele water system built with One Great Hour of Sharing funds in 2006. Water pumped from the Kwilu River, 500 yards down the hill, will make it possible to irrigate peanut plots when rains fail over the next four months and all through the 14-week dry season beginning in June. While the Lord has blessed us with three timely rains to get the peanuts started early in January, workers still had to carry water to sprinkle the plots during the first week. The technicians told me this afternoon that the system is ready to go – one more piece of the puzzle in place.

I said at the beginning that that this past year has been an exercise in faith. Fighting hunger and poverty on any scale requires coordinated and sustained effort. This implies an institution. And an institution implies leadership with a vision and stable support. We have the makings of an institution: a competent board of directors possessing a certain conviction it would be a loss for the Baptist Convention and for the country if ACDI Lusekele were to disappear; an aging but still substantial infrastructure including 250 acres of land; an impressive body of institutional knowledge of agricultural innovations that have worked (or not worked) over the last 40 years; and bridge financing that will carry us through another year with a modest program. But it still needs a Director with his or her own call, technical savvy and a gift for building partnerships. And ACDI Lusekele needs a partner with enough weight and experience to finance 4 or 5 years of a complex agricultural program. In all honesty, we don't know whether ACDI Lusekele and the Baptist Convention will succeed in this venture. We do know, however, that a window of opportunity is open right now to make a substantial and sustainable difference in alleviating poverty and hunger. God has already provided some of the key pieces. We simply offer up ourselves, asking Him to use ACDI Lusekele as an instrument of His blessing and inspiration.



Ed Noyes
Lusekele, Democratic Republic of the Congo
February 14, 2018

Thanks and Praise

The Old Rugged Cross by Jennifer Puglia – beautiful,

Needed for Pastor Linda's Apartment

If you would be able to loan Pastor Linda any of the following items for her apartment, please let us know. You may contact the office or our Moderator, Jerry Darby. The items will be returned to you when Pastor Linda has concluded her interim service. You will be notified when an apartment has been secured and the items may be moved directly there, or you may bring the items to the church.

Sofa, Chair, End Table

TV table for 36" flat screen

Small desk or 2 drawer file cabinet

Full (double) size bed frame and mattress

Dresser

Night Stand

Bedroom lamp

Kitchen utensils (not pots and pans)

Washer and Dryer

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) serv-
ing around the world.

Tim & Mary Dady serving in Latvia



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 2018 Holy Week activities -----



**Palm
Sunday**

March 25th

Grant Rubin, Eastwood
Youth Director, Speaking

March 29th
George Nye



**Maundy
Thursday**

Our Maundy Thursday Service will begin in the sanctuary at 6:30 pm. There will be a Tenebrae Service entitled "The Love of God." Dinner will take place in the Koinonia Building at 7:00 pm. Please sign up on your Communication Cards or call the church office.

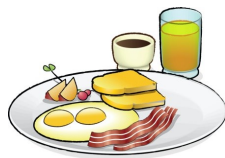


April 1st

Easter Sunday
Communion Service
Rev. George Nye, preaching

Women of Eastwood Fellowship Breakfast Saturday, March 17th - 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



Church Work Day

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

The next scheduled Work Day is **Saturday, March 10th**. 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.**

April & March 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.



Eastwood Beacon

The next issue of *The Beacon* will be **March 21st, 2018**. 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, March 20th, 2017**.

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



"If telemarketers call, invite them to church."

March 11, 2018

SUNDAY, March 11th - Daylight Savings Time Begins

Sunday School	9:15
Worship Service, Rev. Barbara Haddon, preaching	10:30

MONDAY, March 12th

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

TUESDAY, March 13th

Men's Bible Study	Noon
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WEDNESDAY, March 14th

Staff Meeting	11:00
Choir Practice	7:00

THURSDAY, March 15th

FRIDAY, March 16th

Builders' Social	9:00
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SATURDAY, March 17th - St. Patrick's Day

Women's Fellowship Breakfast at Punky's	9:30
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March 18, 2018

SUNDAY, March 18th

Sunday School	9:15
Worship Service Rev. Fred Grewe, speaking	10:30

MONDAY, March 19th

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

TUESDAY, March 20th

Men's Bible Study	Noon
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WEDNESDAY, March 21st

Staff Meeting	11:00
Choir Practice	7:00

THURSDAY, March 22nd

Deacons' Business Meeting	5:30
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FRIDAY, March 23rd

SATURDAY, March 24th

Youth Group	6:00
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