



The Eastwood Beacon

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

January 16, 2019

Believe it or not, we are now in the 10th month of the interim! During these months we have been getting to know each other, learning each other's style, and figuring out how to navigate the interim.

During my first weeks here, I did a series of messages in which I compared the interim time to off-roading, an activity that involves using specialized vehicles to travel on unpaved roads, in sand pits, riverbeds and on other natural terrain. I suggested that the interim could be called a time of "Off Road Living" because it shares some characteristics with the sport off-roading such as taking people into unknown potentially risky territory where they often encounter the unexpected.

I want to take this opportunity here to use another comparison, that of the interim journey and the Israelites wilderness experience. First a quick summary of the Israelite's experience:

- The people of Israel were enslaved in Egypt.
- God called Moses to free them.
- After letting his people suffer the effects of 10 plagues Pharaoh finally let the Israelites leave
- Pharaoh changed his mind and chased after the Israelites at which time God performs an amazing miracle, part the Red Sea and allowing the Israelites to escape. The sea then crashes back down and destroys Pharaoh's army.
- And then the whole congregation of the Israelites set out into the wilderness where they wander in unknown territory and encounter the unexpected.

The reason I am reviewing this event in Israel's history is because of conversations that have been taking place, conversations that started me thinking about the journey you all have been on and how in some ways it parallels Israel's journey. I want to warn you ahead of time that I am going to be drawing some rather loose parallels between their experience and the one you folks here at EBC have had over the past year.

EBC has not yet entered the promised land of a settled pastor. Your wilderness experience continues. In the coming days there may be some anxiety producing conversations that take place. There are likely to be some expected changes and maybe some unexpected ones ahead as well.

You, unlike the Israelites, started out in a familiar place, a good place at the end of a long ministry with Pastor Randy. You knew about and prepared for his retirement and then entered the territory of the interim where things are not so familiar.

Israel's familiar place was not good. It was a place of pain and sorrow. They didn't know very far ahead of time when or if they would leave that place. They had no way of knowing about the events that set them free – the 10 plagues, a special meal eaten standing up, a mad dash across a sea bed – and they certainly weren't prepared for the reality of the coming journey.

Changes from good or not so good circumstance whether expected or not lead to grieving. For example, though the Israelite's time in Egypt was hard, it was familiar and at some level they grieved the loss of the familiar. You experienced a change when Pastor Randy retired and while it may not have been quite as intense as the change the Israelites experienced, it was a change, a movement from the familiar to the unfamiliar which lead to grieving the familiar which lead to anxiety and worry.

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EASTWOOD STAFF

Rev. Linda Bergeon

Interim Pastor

Grant Rubln

Youth Director

Sharon Dady

Choir Director

Linda Tripp

*Accompanist &
Worship Coordinator*

Cheryl Giddings

Church Secretary

Sam J. Angulo

Custodian

Kaltlyn Brunson

Nursery Attendant

The Israelites worried about things like where their next meal was coming from. They worried about how long it would take them to get to the promised land, they likely worried about what the future would hold. Here at Eastwood you may not have worried about where your next meal was coming from but you may have worried about what the future would hold.

While there are loose parallels between Eastwood's and the Israelite's experience I want to take this opportunity to tell you about some things I believe you have done as well or better than the Israelites.

- You have not given up on God...you all continue to worship, study and pray and haven't, at least as far as I know, built any golden calves or other idols. I don't know if you realize what a testimony to faithfulness your presence here every Sunday is...many churches experience up to a 25% drop in attendance during an interim and that has not happened here. In my mind that is a testimony of your commitment to God, this faith community and each other.
- When there is work to be done you all pitch in and do it...no moaning and groaning about the circumstances you found yourselves in (well, maybe just a little, after all you are human.) Staff, boards and committees got to work picking up the slack left by Pastor Randy's leaving. You all took on extra duties and made sure the ministries of this church continued.

Amid all the changes and without the flashy miracles the Israelites experienced you have remained faithful. Your journey thus far has paralleled Israel's in some ways and has obviously been very different in others. However, there is one common denominator in all of this and that is God. God is the same today as God was then and will be the same tomorrow as God is today. In the face of changing and uncertain times, let us remember that the one certainty we have no matter our circumstances is God and God's love for us.

Missionary Update - Received Jan. 2019

December 2018

Dear Friends,

Christmas is here! Well, almost. While out on the river last week, we noticed a small tree on an emerging island, festively decorated with a flock of beautiful white egrets. As egrets are only seen here in December, making them a special Christmas symbol, it was a Christmas tree for sure. "No-el-ehhhh!" is what people shout when the white egrets first make their appearance.

Although Christmas looks and feels a bit different here than it did last year in the U.S., we are remembering you at this season with love and appreciation. We are very thankful for your partnership in taking the Gospel of Christ to the far corners of the world.

Thank you for standing with us as we strive to bring our faith and skills alongside that of our Congolese friends. We are always grateful for your prayers for guidance and protection, but also prayers for Christian compassion and understanding as we strive to navigate life and faith in a cross-cultural setting.

We are reminded that no matter what symbolism is used, and whatever culture we find ourselves in, Jesus birth brings celebration to our hearts.

Merry Christmas and May the presence of the Savior bless your journey,

Glen and Rita Chapman

Kikongo, Democratic Republic of the Congo



BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

3-Feb Steve Yungen
4-Feb Ardy Ross
5-Feb Gloria Bartol
6-Feb Jerry Darby
8-Feb Barbara Davis
9-Feb Beth Becker
9-Feb Randy Miller
9-Feb Sandy Shaw
15-Feb Amanda Arnett
15-Feb Keri Sandstrom
16-Feb Gene Rashe'
17-Feb Tanny Jr. Flowers
17-Feb Dorothy Noyes
18-Feb Janice Calvert
18-Feb Carol Miller
19-Feb Cami Austin
19-Feb Liliana Flowers
19-Feb Bobbie Jaquette
21-Feb Robert Ross
22-Feb Kelsey Robinson
22-Feb Bette Wheatley
23-Feb Oscar Scott
26-Feb Mary Lou Bradley
26-Feb Jonna Robinson
26-Feb Eliana Sayler

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

14-Feb Don & Gerri Bolles
17-Feb Eldon & Jean Allsup
27-Feb Dale & Sandy Tepper

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

2018 Giving Statements

Please check your Annual Individual Giving Statement for Accuracy. If you have any questions, contact Sue Becker in the church office.

Church Work Day

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



The next scheduled Work Day is **Saturday, Feb 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

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

Thanks & Praise (01/13)

Praise the Lord for 9 years cancer free! (Pastor Linda)
Praise for friend's successful surgery. (Chris Robinson)
Praise for Verna's recovery. (Virginia Yungen)



February 2019

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

Jan 27 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service Rev. Linda Bergeon, Preaching 4:00 FDSM - Dinner & Devos EBC Annual Business Meeting	Jan 28 10:00 Women's Grove Bible Study 7:00 Boys Scouts	Jan 29 Noon - Men's Bible Study	Jan 30 6:00 Mid-Week Bible Study - Sermon on the Mount 7:15 Choir Practice	Jan 31	1	2 6:00 Full Draw Student Ministry (FDSM)
3 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service Rev. Linda Bergeon, Preaching 4:00 FDSM - Dinner & Devos	4 7:00 Boys Scouts	5 Noon - Men's Bible Study	6 6:00 Mid-Week Bible Study - Sermon on the Mount 7:15 Choir Practice	7	8	9 9:00 Church Work Party 6:00 Full Draw Student Ministry (FDSM)
10 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service Rev. Linda Bergeon, Preaching 4:00 FDSM - Dinner & Devos	11 7:00 Boys Scouts	12 Noon - Men's Bible Study	13 5:15 Pot--Luck Dinner 6:00 Mid-Week Bible Study - Sermon on the Mount 7:15 Choir Practice	14 5:30 Deacons' Agape Meeting	15 9:00 Builder's Breakfast @ Mrs. Q's Diner	16 9:30 Women's Fellowship Breakfast at Punky's 6:00 Full Draw Student Ministry (FDSM)
17 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service Rev. Linda Bergeon, Preaching 4:00 FDSM - Dinner & Devos	18 7:00 Boys Scouts	19 Noon - Men's Bible Study	20 6:00 Mid-Week Bible Study - Sermon on the Mount 7:15 Choir Practice	21	22	23 6:00 Full Draw Student Ministry (FDSM)
24 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service Rev. Linda Bergeon, Preaching 4:00 FDSM - Dinner & Devos	25 7:00 Boys Scouts	26 Noon - Men's Bible Study	27 6:00 Mid-Week Bible Study - Sermon on the Mount 7:15 Choir Practice	28 5:30 Deacons' Business Meeting	Mar 1	Mar 2 6:00 Full Draw Student Ministry (FDSM)

S O S!!

2019 Cookie & Host/Hostess Sign-ups!

Thanks to all who have provided cookies for 2018. It's time once again to sign up and we need your help to continue this important ministry. Please check the sign up sheets, located on the kiosk closest to the Church Office. We would love to see some new faces behind the cookie and punch tables. Please contact Suzan Darby or Sue Shaw to participate.

Wednesday Bible Study Schedule

Dinner is served at 5:15 unless otherwise indicated.

Sermon on the Mount bible study begins at 6:00. *Please note that we will be meeting weekly through the end of February. *

Jan 23 - Potluck Dinner 5:15, Study 9 @ 6:00

Jan 30 - Study 10 @ 6:00

Feb 6 - Study 11 @ 6:00

Feb 13 - Potluck Dinner 5:15, Study 12 @ 6:00

Feb 20 - Study 13 @ 6:00

Feb 27 - Study 14 @ 6:00

Please use the yellow card to let us know if you are planning to join us for the meal at 5:15

New Addresses:

Franklin Roby
1811 Tumbleweed Cir
West Bend, WI 53095-8570

January Giving Opportunity

Our January, Mission giving opportunity is The Pregnancy Center in Medford. The mission of The Pregnancy Center is to provide education, Godly guidance, supportive programs and loving encouragement to those who may be pregnant, parenting or post-abortive. Please pick up your coin container on the Mission table.

Women of Eastwood Fellowship Breakfast Saturday, February 16, 2019

Come join us for fellowship and breakfast at Punky's Diner in Medford. See you there!

Questions? Need a ride?

Call Sue Lektorich (541) 499-1055



January 20, 2019

SUNDAY, January 20th

Sunday School for all ages 9:15

Worship Service, Grant Rubin 10:30

Full Draw Student Ministry - Senior High Only,
Dinner & Devos @ Grant & Alicia's 4:00

MONDAY, January 21st

Boy Scouts 7:00

TUESDAY, January 22nd

Men's Bible Study 12:00

WEDNESDAY, January 23rd

Pot-Luck Dinner / Mid-Week Bible Study 5:15 / 6:00

Choir Practice 7:15

THURSDAY, January 24th

Deacon's Business Meeting 5:30

FRIDAY, January 25th

SATURDAY, January 26th

Full Draw Student Ministry - Mid.& Sr. High @ EBC 6:00

January 27, 2019

SUNDAY, January 27th

Sunday School for all ages 9:15

Worship Service, Rev. Linda Bergeon 10:30

EBC Annual Business Meeting - following Service

Full Draw Student Ministry - Senior High Only,
Dinner & Devos @ Grant & Alicia's 4:00

MONDAY, January 28th

Women's Grove Bible Study 10:00

Boy Scouts 7:00

TUESDAY, January 29th

Men's Bible Study 12:00

WEDNESDAY, January 30th

Mid-Week Bible Study 6:00

Choir Practice 7:15

THURSDAY, January 31st

FRIDAY, February 1st

SATURDAY, February 2nd

Full Draw Student Ministry - Mid. & Sr. High @ EBC 6:00