



The Eastwood Beacon

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

August 21, 2019

IN THIS ISSUE

Cheryl Balli Cancer Journey	2
Cancer Journey Continued	3
Thanks & Praise	3
Women's Grove Bible Study	3
September Calendar	4
Birthdays & Anniversaries	5
New Address	5
Custodial Volunteers Needed	5
Church Work Party	6
School Supplies Project	6
Women's Fellowship Breakfast	6
Mercy Flights	6

Hello EBC Family!

I can't describe how excited I am to be here in Medford and working with you and your community!

Sue Becker and I were talking this morning about one of my favorite subjects, food, and I shared with her some of my favorite foods from a mission trip I took to the Philippines a couple of years ago. It was such a different culture with strange customs and even stranger foods. For example, bacon wasn't served with eggs very often, you were far more likely to eat these tiny fish, fried crisp that you would eat bone and all! The best part about visiting the Philippines is that nearly every person I encountered spoke fluent English! Because of that I could explore without the fear of not being able to communicate.

Now that we're here in Medford, the family and I are getting the chance to replicate that experience, though to a lesser degree. We are exploring the culture of Medford. Learning about your tastes and preferences. I've already learned that you don't visit the "shore" here. You go to the "coast." I've experienced the glorious benefit of having local groves of peaches, and the tastiest cantaloupe I've ever had.

In Luke 10:1-12, Jesus sends out the larger group (72 or so) of disciples to tell the surrounding communities about the nearness of God's Kingdom. He sends them out, telling them to take nothing with them, but to rely on the hospitality of strangers for their needs. Right now, Brenda and I feel a bit like those disciples. We rely on your hospitality to help us as we begin to work with you on presenting the nearness of God's Kingdom to Medford. To this point, we have been amazed at your generosity and hospitality, and are hopeful that this is more than simply "Welcoming the New Pastor". Our hope is that this is a deeper reflection of God's Spirit at work in your lives! We look forward to knowing each of you more fully!

Pastor Jeff

EASTWOOD STAFF

Rev. Jeff Lundblad

Pastor

Sharon Dady

Choir Director

Linda Tripp

*Accompanist &
Worship Coordinator*

Sue Becker

Church Secretary

Sam J. Angulo

Custodian

Kaltlyn Brunson

Nursery Attendant

Cancer Journey Update - Cheryl Blankenship Balli

A shout out & thank you to those of you who have checked in on me these last couple of weeks. I feel like I've been a turtle hiding in her shell. I get a burst of energy, make it to the kitchen, then can barely make it back to my bed again. At the Doctor's visit last week, I asked why I was so fatigued along with my myriad of other side affects. She reminded me that this is just part of cancer treatment. And that because my cancer is especially rare, they have been especially aggressive-both with chemo & radiation. I was given a pamphlet on cancer fatigue. This pamphlet actually described how cancer fatigue disguises itself in many forms. And I have every symptom on the list. Trouble sleeping, lack of "peaceful thinking", a sense of guilt (I can not begin to describe how overwhelming this is. Everyday, I hear other, wonderful people "raising" my children. Shouldn't I be there? Is reading stories to them all I can do??), a sense of irritability, (Ok, so yes, even though I struggle immensely with guilt from not "Momming" as I feel like I should, somehow simultaneously, I am irritated to the very core of my being & my patience with these precious little people is cut awfully short), a sense of loss, (mostly of my freedom. Oh, how I want to drive again & go anywhere I want. How I'd love to drop everything & go to the store when I feel like it. While I'm writing this, I literally feel like 3 weighted blankets are holding me down) an inability to think quickly or clearly, depression, (well, I don't have to explain the darkness, as we've all been there at some point, but this depression? It's not the sense of impending doom. Not the suicidal tendencies. No, instead, a dull darkness that hangs on. The inability to control my thoughts as they wander to the worst of places. This is what I have now) confusion, bone & muscle pain, burn sites worsening, and most of all, severe fatigue. And as some of you know, I'm on a ridiculous amount of medication. The Dr. is adjusting some of it, trying to relieve my symptoms of pain & depression. Needless to say, I really, really, really don't like this particular phase of "cancer treatment" I am in. So, where am I with treatment? I am waiting. At the end of this month, I'll get another PET scan which will determine the size of my tumors & if there are large or fast growing tumors, I'll receive another round of Radiation before my 2nd round of chemo which would be administered 6-8 weeks after the Radiation. So I have a couple of weeks to wait. Waiting. A space to rest. To breathe. And yet, I am having trouble feeling the space, because I feel like everything's closing in. And I'm having trouble breathing, well, because of all my anxiety. And this whole thing about waiting? I am very much over the waiting. Just to be clear, I have notified my doctors & my God that I am over the waiting. The sickness. The tiredness. The space of waiting. I have been sick for a year now. I have heard the word cancer for 11 months. I feel as if I should be versed in the "language" of cancer. Familiar with the ebb & flow. Knowledgeable of the side affects, sure of my faith, confident in my treatment & most of all, believing I will recover. Believing I will make it to the other side. Where they speak the language of remission. So, to lift this rather dreary essay, I have to reference a rather comical story of when I was in Turkey 7 years ago, living there for 4 months. I had studied the language but by no means was fluent. In a whirlwind of learning, I had decided it was best & most efficient to memorize the words & phrases I would be using the most & let the "Learning Turkish" tapes get dusty in the garage. By my 3rd day there, I was confident I could speak the words fluently to ask for the kind of hairstyle I wanted from the beauty salon downstairs in my mother-in-law's building. (Beauty salons there are incredibly cheap compared to America & I was quite excited about pampering myself) I politely greeted the stylist who knew a little bit of English himself, & practiced some of it on me. Well, needless to say, other than saying the phrases I had memorized, I really could not speak with him conversationally at all. So, we spent the bulk of the time exchanging polite smiles & nods until it was time for me to go. In my most kind & confident voice, I spoke my memorized Turkish words perfectly "How much do I owe you?" His smile faded & he soon looked confused. Then he started to say some words I did not understand, then offer me tea. We went back & forth a few times until the moment one of my sisters-in-law discovered I had gone there alone & burst through the door as if to save me from a burning building. Thankfully, this sister-in-law was fluent in English & I quickly explained my dilemma. After explaining "my side of the story," the stylist felt obligated to do the same as he spouted off his rendition rather quickly. Then my sister-in-law paid him & profusely apologized for what, I didn't know, until we left the salon arm in arm. "I don't understand." I said to her. "I kept asking him 'how much can I pay you' & he kept offering me tea." She looked at me with compassion & said, "Oh, Honey. You were asking him for breakfast." And this is exactly how I feel about the language of cancer. I understand what I have: "Metastatic Cancer in the Lymph system-not related to Lymphoma, with ovarian origin-not ovarian cancer or cancer in the ovaries."

Seriously. THAT'S my diagnosis. Could it be any longer??? (Anyway. I finally have it memorized.) And I know what it looks like: 25+ small tumors (the size of BBs or small marbles) in the chest cavity along with 3-5 larger tumors (the size of golf balls) along my ribs & spine, and usually does not show up on CT scans, ultra sounds, x rays or MRI's, but only is fully exposed by a radioactive PET scan. Really? You might ask. Yes. Really. I'll have my 3rd one in 2 weeks. And I know how my cancer behaves: each tumor has tentacles & "roots" where it is in the lymph system, (similar to how a blood clot "roots" in the vein, in hopes that new blood pathways form around it) thus making it extremely difficult to remove. Those who have gone through this painful procedure can only be distraught when finding that because the surgeon "cut into" or left one of the tentacles behind, 4 tumors pop up where 1 was hoped to be eliminated. So, our plan with my cancer is to treat the tumors until they are quite small (or disappear entirely) & become "dormant" -not accepting new blood or oxygen from the healthy cells around them. (I have actually tried to befriend these cancer cells in hopes of teaching them what they are supposed to do in order for me to keep living.) And even though I might sound smarter than I feel or more educated about my cancer than I can always remember, I am somehow still, in a sense, asking The Universe for breakfast. Maybe, instead of attempting to learn more of this new language of cancer, I can let go of some of my old language & old thinking that is keeping me, well, perhaps more sick than I ought to be. Maybe I could use the space I'm in now for letting go. (Sigh) For giving in. (Another sigh) For hope. For love. Perhaps, rather than feeling my labored breath, I can celebrate the fact that air still rushes in & out of my body, that my heart keeps beating, even when I feel like it will stop. And maybe, just maybe, I will keep going. Down the hallway. To the bathroom. To the kitchen. To the front yard. To a neighbors house. To quote a new favorite verse, "God is within her. She will not fall." Ps 46:5 I love this verse. I have fallen. It is not fun. I'm lucky I did not break my hip. I would very much like to not fall again-physically, spiritually, emotionally, intellectually.....And maybe I'll keep thinking through the darkness & keep reading to the little ones in spite of my headaches & keep moving forward until one day, I'm fluent in, well, everything. And I'll be able to feel my body in its health & do what healthy bodies do. And my whole life will be my prayer & I will keep on living & in my speaking, people will feel my love & when I meditate, I will feel all my cells working together for all of my good. Now that sounds like a future worth waiting for.

Cheryl

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

Emilia Gilmer, Army

Lolo Vasquez, Iraq

Jason Cesario, Iraq

Logan Oravetz, Army

Tyler Powell, Marines

Tiffany Hart, 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

Thank You!

Thank you to all the wonderful people who showed up on Saturday, August 10th to help tend to our church building and grounds.

Pastor Jeff

Jerry Darby

Dick Bath

Carol Bath

Barbara Davis

Ralph Dady

Merle Neufeld

Ellen Husel

Fay Rashé

Don Eastman

Thanks also to Dick Bath for getting the word out that we needed help.

Our next work day will be on September 14th. Come join the fun!

Paul Klatt, Chair

Buildings & Properties

Women's Grove Bible Study Monday, September 16th, 2019 10:00 a.m.

The Women's Grove Bible Study will begin on September 16th at 10:00 a.m. in the Board room of Eastwood Baptist Church.

A study guide, "Ephesians - Made Complete in Christ" will be available.

All women are welcome to join.

September 2019

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Communion Worship Service Rev. Jeff Lundblad	2 Labor Day 7:00 Boys Scouts	3 Noon - Men's Bible Study	4 7:15 Choir Practice	5 1:00 Fellowship Support at New Far East	6	7
8 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service Rev. Jeff Lundblad	9 7:00 Boys Scouts	10 Noon - Men's Bible Study	11 7:15 Choir Practice	12 3:30 Knitting & Crocheting 5:30 Deacons' Agape Meeting	13	14 9:00 Church Work Party
15 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service Rev. Jeff Lundblad	16 10:00 Women's Grove Bible Study 7:00 Boys Scouts	17 Noon - Men's Bible Study	18 7:15 Choir Practice	19	20 9:00 Builders' Social at Rogue Diner	21 9:30 Women's Fellowship Breakfast at Punky's
22 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service Rev. Jeff Lundblad	23 10:00 Women's Grove Bible Study 7:00 Boys Scouts	24 Noon - Men's Bible Study	25 7:15 Choir Practice	26 3:30 Knitting & Crocheting 5:30 Deacons' Business Meeting	27	28
29 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service Rev. Jeff Lundblad	30 10:00 Women's Grove Bible Study 7:00 Boys Scouts	Oct 1 Noon - Men's Bible Study	Oct 2 7:15 Choir Practice	Oct 3 1:00 Fellowship Support at New Far East	Oct 4	Oct 5

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

2-Sep Don Higgins
3-Sep Kayliana Foster
3-Sep Staley Ross
5-Sep Jenna Sandstrom
7-Sep Dorothy Clark
11-Sep Skip Senften
15-Sep Clayton Barber
15-Sep Richard Bath
16-Sep Lynnette Yoshida
21-Sep Sarah Mitchell
22-Sep Steve Boyersmith
22-Sep Leslie Miller
25-Sep John Becker
26-Sep Stan Ross
27-Sep Carl Harsch
28-Sep Silva Varbedian
29-Sep Alleyne Fields
29-Sep James Roby

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

2-Sep Don & Donna Hildebrand
7-Sep Marvin & Norma Hart
7-Sep Bill & Betty Wheatley
10-Sep Chris & Eloise Tarrant
12-Sep Nick & Katy Ceglia
13-Sep Raul & Jody Ramirez
29-Sep Jerry & Suzan Darby

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

New Address:

Dorothy Noyes
7693 Wheatland Rd. N. #255
Keizer, OR 97303-3456

Custodial Volunteers

Because Sam is on a medical leave and we are trying to be mindful of our expenses, we are developing a list of volunteers to do assorted jobs in both buildings.

If you are interested in helping us to volunteer for a weekly or bi-monthly job to help keep our facilities clean, please sign up on your yellow cards or let Sue know in the office.

We appreciate your consideration of this request.

Dick Bath
Moderator

Semi-Weekly:

1. Clean & dust Office, empty waste baskets
2. Check all restrooms for paper supplies

Weekly:

1. Vacuum foyer, sanctuary and classrooms
2. Empty waste cans throughout the buildings
3. Dust all sills and furniture in both buildings
4. Vacuum K-Bldg & classrooms
5. Check pews for envelopes & Communication cards
6. Dust the Library

Monthly - on 2nd Saturday Work Day:

1. Deep clean restrooms in Main Building
2. Deep clean restrooms in K-Bldg.
3. Clean out all cobwebs in both buildings
4. Dust, clean, and polish pews
5. Vacuum furniture and pews
6. Other jobs as needed by work party

Outside:

Contact Paul Klatt to volunteer

Name _____

I would like to volunteer for the following duties:

(Please return this form to the Office)

Church Work Day

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

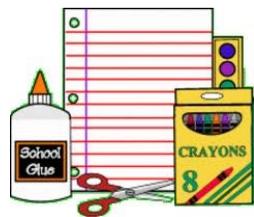


The next scheduled Work Day is **Saturday, September 14th**. Meet at the church at 9:00 am and we should be finished by 12:00. Please bring rakes, clippers and **DON'T FORGET** the gloves!

School Supplies Project

Now is the time of incredible savings on school supplies; Crayons, Markers, Glue bottles, Glue Sticks, Paper, Notebooks, Folders, Pencils, Scissors, Erasers, Pens. Also needed... Backpacks, socks, and children's underwear. Purchase and bring items to the table in the foyer. All items will be distributed to the teachers in our church family. We will also make a contribution to Maslow Project, the distribution center for school supplies in the Medford School District. This project will run through the month of August.

Linda Tripp - Kindergarten
 Kari Donham - 2nd grade
 Marilyn Powell - Jr. high school
 Jim Powell - High school
 Joanie VanDyke - High school
 Alyssum Barber - Elementary School
 Wendy Cawthorne - High School/Jr. High Music



August 25, 2019

SUNDAY, August 25th

Sunday School 9:15
 Worship Service, Rev. Jeff Lundblad 10:30

MONDAY, August 26th

Boy Scouts 7:00

TUESDAY, August 27th

Men's Bible Study Noon

WEDNESDAY, August 28th

Choir Practice 7:15

THURSDAY, August 29th

FRIDAY, August 30th

SATURDAY, August 31st

Women of Eastwood Fellowship Breakfast Saturday, September 21st - 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) 499-1055



Mercy Flights Membership Time

Combined Air & Ground Ambulance

It is time to join or renew your Mercy Flights Group Membership. This year's membership expires on October 31st. Our group rate is \$60.00 per household for Combined Air & Ground Membership. Enrollment forms are at the Welcome Center. You do not have to fill out an enrollment form if you are not making any changes and are a returning member. Mercy Flights is no longer able to accept individual payments mailed in or by phone by group members.

Please have your check (**made out to Mercy Flights**) and enrollment form turned into the church office by October 13th. **Payments and enrollment forms are due into the Mercy Flights office no later than October 20th.** Please bring the check to the Church Office and not in the offering plate.

September 1, 2019

SUNDAY, September 1st

Sunday School 9:00
 Communion Worship Service 10:30
 Rev. Jeff Lundblad

MONDAY, September 2nd - Labor Day

Boy Scouts 7:00

TUESDAY, September 3rd

Men's Bible Study Noon

WEDNESDAY, September 4th

Choir Practice 7:15

THURSDAY, September 5th

Fellowship Support at New Far East 1:00

FRIDAY, September 6th

SATURDAY, September 7th