



The Eastwood Beacon

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

June 4, 2020

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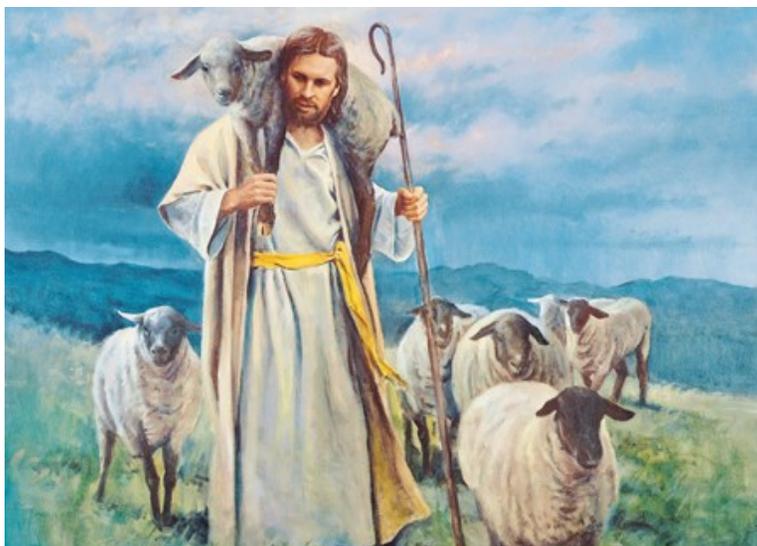
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My dear friends, as you know, I have a personal nickname that I like to use for God, "The Great Lemonade Maker." In my experience, every time that I have gone through something that I would call a sour lemon time, God has later sweetened it by making something good, lemonade. Something sweet, something good, some silver lining in every cloud, and I'm certain God is doing that with the coronavirus pandemic. For me, and my family, this pandemic gave us the final things we needed to purchase a home here in Medford! We're excited to say that we're becoming a permanent part of this community!

In this newsletter, you'll get to see other "Lemonades" experienced by others in our faith community. In times like these it is so helpful to remember that God is always working to bring things to a better, sweeter place. While this is hard to remember when things are at their most sour, if we can hold on with peace and strength, God will find a way to bring some good to bear. Remember, The Good Shepherd left the 99 sheep to search for the lost one sheep. Whether you are part of the 99 wondering where the Shepherd went, or the lost one, do not be afraid, The Good Shepherd is coming for you!

Blessings friends,

Pastor Jeff



EASTWOOD STAFF

Rev. Jeff Lundblad

Pastor

Sharon Dady

Choir Director

Linda Tripp

*Accompanist &
Worship Coordinator*

Sue Becker

Church Secretary

Sam J. Angulo

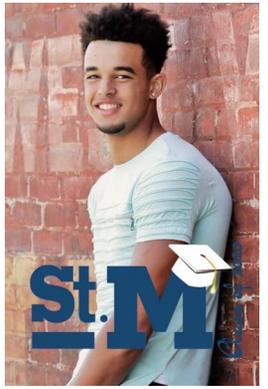
Custodian

Kaltlyn Higginbotham

Nursery Attendant

Congratulations to our Eastwood Graduates!

Trevahn Foster--St. Mary's High School. Tre will be attending WOU in Monmouth, playing football and basketball, and hoping to focus his studies on Exercise Science or Sports Marketing.



Felicity Sayler--St. Mary's High School. Felicity will also be attending WOU, concentrating on English and American Sign Language degrees.

Zane Lundblad--South Medford High School. Zane will be leaving for Eastern University in Philadelphia, PA in August. He is interested in a career in Environmental Science.



Jenna Sandstrom--North Medford High School. Jenna will be attending Oregon State University in Corvallis. She was fortunate to be accepted into their Veterinary/Animal Science program.

Shelby Boyersmith--Logos Charter School and RCC. Shelby will also attend OSU, with an acceptance into their pre-engineering program.



We are so proud of these five outstanding young people! Please pray for each of them (and their parents, too) as they head off to continue their educational careers.

Message From Our Moderator

Hello, I'm Andy Tripp, the moderator at Eastwood Baptist Church. I'm here this morning to share with you what the Board of Deacons has been working on lately.

Our biggest challenge right now is deciding when to begin holding worship services in our Sanctuary again. We all want to get back to church and be together as soon as possible, all the while keeping the health and safety of the members of our congregation and our community in mind. We also know that most of the members of our congregation are in the high risk group for contracting the corona virus. One thought is to watch what retirement centers are doing in regards to group meetings and follow their lead. With the limitations that the state and county are putting on us and other groups we are currently limited to meeting with 25 people or less. With a membership of over 100 which 25 get to come? Do we offer more than one service time to accommodate more people? Is that workable for our staff and budget?

To begin to answer all of the questions surrounding how to proceed during these unprecedented times, we have formed a team that will be led by Cathy Thayer. They will be putting together a plan that will guide us as we return to our church home. There are many questions they have to answer such as: What type of cleaning needs to be done and how often? What restrictions do we put on outside groups that use our facilities? What size groups are allowed? What does social distancing look like in our facility? There are even questions we don't know to ask, because we don't know what the state will require.

One thing we do know is that we will continue the live streaming of our Sunday services even after we begin allowing people back in the building. Not only do we have a very good following as we stream live but there is another group of people that watch the services throughout the week. If you have been watching since the beginning you have seen that each week the technical part of the service has gotten better. This past month your Deacon's board has made the decision to take a leap of faith and update the video system in our sanctuary. As many of you know this has been talked about for years. We feel that now is the time to move forward with this proposal. With the use of some of our reserve funds and the help of members of the congregation this project will be funded. The cost on the video project is around \$50,000. If you would like to support this expansion of our outreach, please send your donation to the church office and indicate that it is for the video system.

As I mentioned earlier we are moving forward with this purchase and the new system will be installed by the end of July. This will allow us to reach out to people that cannot make it to church on Sunday morning and continue to reach into the community in new and exciting ways.

As Cathy and her team meet pray for God's guidance as they put together a successful plan for the return to our church home.

Exciting things are happening here at Eastwood and throughout the body of Christ. God will continue to lead us and strengthen us through this challenging time.

Lemonade

Dale and I are home bodies so it's been kind of nice. I used to feel like my time wasn't my own. I have spent many hours working in my yard which is what I love to do. It's great therapy for many ills. I'm not one to spend much time on the phone, but have made a point to connect with old friends to see how they're doing. It's been delightful with joy and laughter as we reconnect. I have become more aware of my surroundings, of people as well as how many things I touch. How often I touch my face. Yikes! Even though I know God is in control, I worry about my kids & grandkids getting sick. My daughter in Nebraska is working two jobs in Grand Island with the virus growing out of control. My son has continued working, which is a good thing but makes him more susceptible. I feel for all those who aren't working. How are they going to make it? This is why I head outside to work it off to get my therapy. I'm writing this today because it's too cold & wet to go outside.

When I'm feeling down...I have found that if I call a friend, church family friends included, to see how they are doing, I feel better. And sometimes we have a good healthy laugh about something, that really isn't anything. But it sure helps to lift my spirits! I should say our spirits. Blessings to everyone!! Miss you all!!

Sandy Tepper

More Lemonade

Carolyn Barnhill related to Pastor over the phone how she is walking up and down Sunrise each day for exercise. As she walks, she waves to the people in their cars as they pass. She says that nearly every person responds with a smile, even if they don't wave! What a beautiful way to spread joy!

Dear Rev. Lundblad,

Many thanks for your letter of May 6th and the brilliant suggestion to share stories of growth, development, and the acquisition of insight. In the spirit of your request, I offer the following.

Life is daily more monastic here as lockdowns persist and time-stacking, multi-tasking northern Virginians are forced to fall back on long under utilized resources of inner strength and imagination. The natural world plays an important role in adjustment and adaptation, especially the natural world of one's backyard, for those lucky enough to possess such an asset. It is the time of year when things come back to life. Forsythia and daffodils blossom first, followed by the leafing of oak-leaf hydrangeas, Virginia sweet spire, mayapples, and blooming tulips, while petals from the late winter flowering of leather leaf mahonias lie on the ground.

In an era of climate change, weather is more erratic than seasonal norms. Fluctuations in temperature are striking - as low as 36 degrees at night; as high as 80 degrees on some days. Rain is unpredictable and winds, like those of yesterday, fit better with winter blizzards than spring. In these parts, an obsession with green grass and large lawns fuels impatience to crank up lawnmower, ending a period of quiet imposed by winter. The plague has not silenced those noisy machines, or their cousins, the horrible whining blowers, ubiquitous at a time when old-fashioned rakes are unpopular. Too, lawn service companies are eager to get business and their crews moving again and they are now deemed "essential."

The monastic discipline of physical labor, study and prayer is an effective way to cope with stay-at-home orders. Instead of reading works of Christian saints and church fathers, I opted for James Baldwin. Enclosed is a passage about Chartres from his novel, *Another Country*. It portrays the dark side of the town's medieval cathedral, perhaps it applies to most cathedrals. What would Robert Bartlett say? Baldwin also dispels illusions about Paris; "the loneliest city under heaven." It "doesn't offer many distractions," he writes, and those it does offer, "are like French pastry, vivid and insubstantial." New York doesn't fare any better: "it was a city without oases," and "its citizens seemed to have lost entirely any sense of their right to renew themselves."

Above all, I think there is a parallel between what happens to his character Cass, after her affair, i.e., her "fall from grace," and what will happen to America's psyche in the aftermath of the coronavirus crisis. About Cass, Baldwin explains: "When she had been safe and respectable, so had the world been safe and respectable; now the entire world was bitter with deceit and danger..." And, her "fall from grace had left her prey to ambiguities whose power she had never glimpsed before." That could happen to us.

Stay Well,

Jim Sanders

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

1-Jun	Maxine Gilmer
1-Jun	Sara Lektorich
1-Jun	Josh Robinson
2-Jun	Carolyn Dutton
2-Jun	Brenda Lundblad
6-Jun	Louise Breeden
8-Jun	Ernest Bucher
9-Jun	Ava Robinson
10-Jun	Les Bennett
14-Jun	Marilyn Brummett
16-Jun	Jean Allsup
16-Jun	Randall Cawthorne
21-Jun	Barbara Aldrich
26-Jun	Olivia Barber
27-Jun	Allan Rowell
29-Jun	Allan Campbell



JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

6-Jun	Hugh & Barbara Barnhill
13-Jun	Tom & Leona Lloyd
19-Jun	Terry & Susan Miller
19-Jun	Stan & Ardy Ross
19-Jun	David & Lyndi Saylor
22-Jun	Steve & Verna Yungen
28-Jun	John & Sue Becker
28-Jun	Andrew & Linda Tripp

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

Thanks & Praise

Sorry This Thank You is Late!

Although I haven't had the chance
to say "thank you" until now,
I've thanked you a
hundred times in my heart.

Thanks for thinking of me. I miss you all. I am well. I'm in a cottage and my daughter is close by. She takes me everywhere.

With love to you all,
Ann Christie

Thanks from Pastor Jeff and Zane Lundblad

Thank you for all the cards, gifts and prayers in celebration of my birthday and Zane's graduation.

It means so much to be part of such a loving, caring, and thoughtful community.

God's Blessings on you all!

Pastor Jeff and Zane

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, Alise & Mark Juanes, and Kyle & Katrina Williams)** serving around the world. **Tim & Mary Dady** serving in Latvia.

Journals - Posted May 31, 2020
Serving those in need...during pandemic times



It has been a very hard time, but God has been faithful. He has provided thru many ways during this time of pandemic and lockdown. One of them was thru donations and we were able to distribute more than 100 food bags. Our Partners in missions here in the Dominican Republic received these and distributed accordingly. Others were distributed by us to the communities.



Many families and communities were blessed with these food bags and hand sanitizer bottles. Serving these communities is seeing God's smile in the children's face thru their joy and happiness when they see us. It is a true blessing when you hear testimonies of families, hear their stories of faith and knowing that God is using us and this gives us hope.

Testimonies like the one from Pastor Marianna (picture above). She was struggling on how she was going to help her church community. She was praying for God to provide and bless them with food...minutes later I arrive with food for each family group and more! She was surprised to see me but was not surprise for what I brought because she knew her God will provide. It was great to see her and bless her and the church with food. God is good!

