



The Eastwood Beacon

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

October 28, 2020

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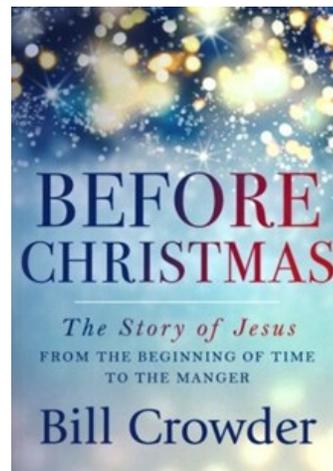
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What do pastors and department stores have in common?

We both are planning for Christmas before Halloween! Truly, planning for our Advent season begins before the leaves change color. This season, recognizing that COVID will still be a significant issue, our plans have focused on how to keep you all as safe as possible throughout the season.

Our worship team is planning an advent focused on the advent candle themes for each Sunday. For those of you who will be worshipping at home this season, consider making or buying an advent wreath of your own, so that you can join us in lighting a candle each week as we prepare for Christ's advent into the world. If you are building your own, you need 3 purple candles, 1 pink candle and a final white candle that represents Christ. I've seen advent wreaths sold online from as low as \$15 and are also available at Christian bookstores. They can make lovely centerpieces for your table through the Christmas season.

In addition to our focus on the themes of the candles through Christmas, we are planning a devotional series each Wednesday of Advent. We'll have both Zoom and in person options available at 6:30 pm each Wednesday. The theme of the study will come from Bill Crowder's book "Before Christmas; The Story of Jesus from the Beginning of Time to the Manger." Reverend Crowder writes for Our Daily Bread, and they are offering free copies of their Advent Devotional to our church, just asking that we donate to them. If you would like to participate in this, or would just like a copy of the devotional, please let me or the office know as soon as possible. Again, the books are free, so I'd rather order too many than not enough.



Over the next few weeks, we will be wrapping up our focus on Christian unity. My hope is that this study has challenged you, while also offering ideas to enhance your own ability to remain unified amid our diverse opinions, thoughts, and backgrounds.

I want to remind you that the work of the church is not done simply because of a global pandemic. Our missionaries are still hard at work sharing God's love to all they can. Our denomination is funding efforts to feed, clothe and assist people who are out of work because of COVID-19. Our very own beloved Eastwood Church is also actively assisting in our community as our neighbors come to us in need. Please remember to give to our Deacon's fund, as well as to the general offering as you plan on how you will entrust what God has provided for you.

EASTWOOD STAFF

Rev. Jeff Lundblad

Pastor

Sharon Dady

Choir Director

Linda Tripp

*Accompanist &
Worship Coordinator*

Kaitlyn Higginbotham

Church Secretary

Sam J. Angulo

Custodian

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God is so active and at work in our community, that I often feel overwhelmed by God's majesty and power. I've heard from some of you describing various moments where God has intervened in amazing ways in your life, whether protecting you from harm, healing you from illness, or surprising you with joy. It fills me with hope, to know that God is working in our lives and doing so in such obvious ways. This is an answer to my prayers that God would waken our hearts and minds to God's work and presence in our every moment.

May God continue to bless each and every one of you. May God be seen in your moments of sadness, joy, anger, and peace. May you all know Jesus more closely each day!

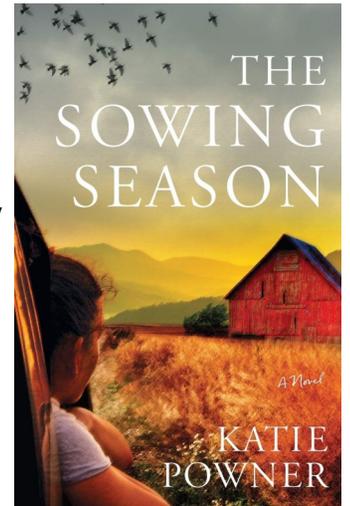
Pastor Jeff

New at the library

The Sowing Season by Katie Powner

A 63 year old unhappily retired dairy farmer meets a 15 year old girl who panics every time she gets behind the wheel of a car to practice driving.

This very unlikely friendship helps both to find their place in the world as it changes their lives.



Online Giving Available

Online giving is now an option! You can give by downloading the Tithe.ly app to your smartphone/tablet, or by going to <https://tithe.ly/give?c=2195174> on your computer. You can give manually each month, or you can automatically have your tithe transferred from your account!



BEAT the Flu BUG Get your SHOT!

Unfortunately, the Flu Shot Clinic has been postponed until November.
We'll let you know when we have rescheduled.



Building Bridges - Journal from Glen and Rita Chapman

Dear Friends,

During the COVID-19 pandemic, much has changed here at Kikongo. After the government announced the closure of churches and schools, both stabilizing forces in society, Kikongo experienced some periods of chaos and unrest. Maintaining order became a real challenge. Finding creative and positive ways to meet these needs outside of the routine structures we have relied on for so long became an acute priority.

One of our projects to try and bring people together with a new focus was to build a foot bridge. Over the years, we have built at least three bridges over the Yasa stream, located on one of the main trails in and out of Kikongo. Wooden bridges in such a humid environment, however, don't last very long.



All we have had for a bridge during the past few years is a metal truck chassis. I have a scar on my thigh where I slipped on the bridge one dark night while trying to stay ahead of a rain storm. This site is down in the valley. Truck traffic has to go around the valley which makes the trip to Kikongo much longer.

If you are on foot, or bicycle, or motorcycle, you take the short cut down the valley across the Yasa Stream. If there is a big rain though, the short cut is not accessible. The water rises and makes it dangerous to cross.

Due to the pandemic, there was not much truck traffic between Kinshasa and the interior, but we managed to have enough cement and rebar for the project. We asked everyone to participate in the project by carrying rocks and sand to the construction site. We figured many people were bored and had time on their hands.

Amazingly, everything came together and we were able to build a strong concrete bridge. Before we could use it, however, concrete needs to cure. We had to block the access points for a whole month.

Last week we inaugurated the bridge. With the confinement rules we only sent out 20 invitations, but we had a crowd for the big day. We even had village chiefs who wanted to honor the project. Now during the dry season, the bridge site has become a favorite hangout. A concrete slab was added next to the water's edge so that people would use it to wash their clothes on rather than use the bridge. People now go down to bathe, wash clothes, and just relax after working in the fields. It has become a real refuge. I have been told that if you want really white clothes, you use the cement slab down at the Yasa bridge.



Glen and Rita Chapman

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

5-Nov	Earl Simmonds
6-Nov	Geraldine Bucher
8-Nov	Kari Donham
8-Nov	Jaden Foster
8-Nov	Jon Skaggs
14-Nov	Tanny Flowers
15-Nov	Sue Becker
15-Nov	Linda Millus
15-Nov	Lucas Ramirez
15-Nov	Lyndi Saylor
17-Nov	Jerry White
18-Nov	Angelica Ramirez
19-Nov	George Nye
20-Nov	Ruth Jolly
23-Nov	Nick Ceglia
24-Nov	Terry Miller
24-Nov	Julie Tiffany
26-Nov	Shelby Boyersmith
26-Nov	Jean Brummet
26-Nov	Jody Yandell
27-Nov	Cathy Thayer

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

22-Nov Sandy & Sue Shaw

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

Camp Arrah Wanna Fundraiser

Camp Arrah Wanna's annual Auction opens online this year starting November 1st.

For more information you can visit the webpage www.camparrahwanna.org/giving

Our own pastor Jeff as donated a beautiful hand-made wooden ornament for auction.

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
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, Glen & Rita Chapman, Alise & Mark Juanes, and Kyle & Katrina Williams)** serving around the world.



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 \$63.00 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 . Although there was a deadline, that does not mean that you can not renew or enroll at any time. Please bring the check/enrollment form to the Church Office and not in the offering plate.