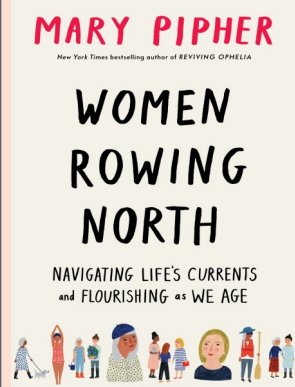




## AUTHOR EVENT: *WOMEN ROWING NORTH* by Mary Pipher

This January, we'll host Mary Pipher as she speaks about her book, **Women Rowing North**. Plan to join us at 2:00 pm on Saturday, January 19... the week Mary's book comes out! Francie and Finch bookstore will be selling copies in the Welcome Center that afternoon. This event is free, but please let us know if you plan to attend. Cookies and coffee will be served in the Welcome Center that afternoon. **We look forward to seeing you on January 19 in the afternoon!**



### Pastor's SABBATICAL

**Pastor Melodie will be on sabbatical** from Monday, January 21, 2019 through Sunday, March 3, 2019. Here's an excerpt from her sabbatical proposal, shared with the personnel committee and session at their December 2018 meetings:

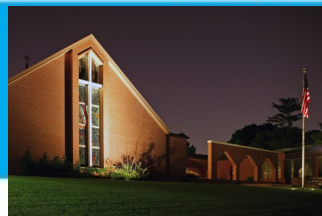
"I would like to take my sabbatical period to explore the "origins of my call." The two main activities of this time period would be: 1) reading books related to call (many of them by Henri Nouwen, Eugene Peterson, Barbara Brown Taylor, and other selected authors) and reflecting on the differences between the call I first received, the work I was prepared for in school, and the realities of the congregation; and 2) spending time at Whitworth Universi-

ty in Spokane, Washington, to appreciate their growth as well as my own growth since my time there. I may spend time catching up with professors, if they are available.

I also propose to intentionally worship at select churches in Lincoln. I would like to worship at Sheridan Lutheran, Christ Lutheran, Grace Chapel, Westminster, and Trinity Methodist.

At the completion of my sabbatical, I hope to have a renewed commitment to serving the church with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love!"

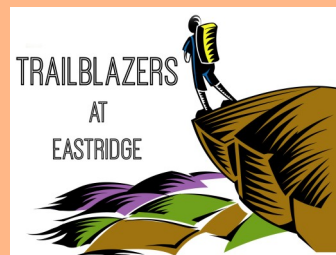
While you may see Pastor Melodie around town, she will not be in the office during this time. Her regular duties will be appropriately delegated temporarily to Associate Pastor Thomas Dummermuth; Treasurer, Bill Whiston; and personnel elders Doug McDaniel and Kurt Beck. For pastoral care and other immediate concerns, please contact Pastor Thomas Dummermuth or Pastor John Duling.



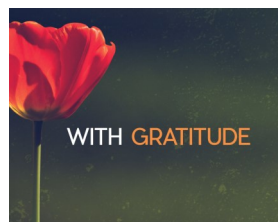
Do you knit, crochet or quilt? The **EPC prayer shawl group** welcomes those with these skills to join them in helping to make prayer shawls and baby blankets to be given to our members and church friends during times of difficulty and times of joy. For questions about this group or making shawls and blankets, contact Patty Niemann at 402-432-8353 or the church office.



**Trailblazers for January:**  
on Friday, January 18 the Trailblazers will head to the Lincoln Community Playhouse to see Erma Bombeck's *At Wit's End*. More info to come!


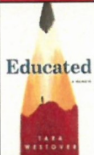
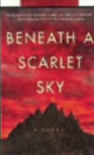
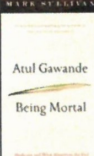
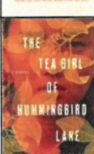
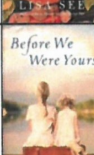


Our thanks to everyone who included us in their thoughts and prayers following the auto accident. We are on the mend and appreciate the support of our church family.



*Robin Hadfield and Carol McClain*

**Eastridge Presbyterian Church Book Club** has released the list of picks for 2019! See below for the selections. We'll meet in the Conference Room each month, with discussion and refreshments. List is also available on the church website.

January 14		<b><i>The Rosie Project</i></b> , by Graeme Simsion
February 11		<b><i>Educated: A Memoir</i></b> , by Tara Westover
March 11		<b><i>Beneath a Scarlet Sky</i></b> , by Mark Sullivan
April 8		<b><i>Being Mortal</i></b> , by Atul Gawande
May 13		<b><i>The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane</i></b> by Lisa See
June 10		<b><i>Before We Were Yours</i></b> , by Lisa Wingate

**HOSPICE SINGERS:** During the month of October, 18 people from various Lincoln churches received hospice training and have begun preparing to provide bedside singing to those who have been placed in hospice care. The purpose of this new EPC music ministry mission is to bring comfort and peace, through music, to those who are receiving hospice care. Anyone wishing to have this group sing for a loved one or friend in hospice care should contact Patty Niemann, Eastridge Hospice Singers coordinator (402-432-8353 or pnemann54@gmail.com).





## SAVE THE DATE for "SAY IT WITH MUSIC"

WHAT: Fundraising concert to benefit the Choral Scholars Fund

WHEN: Sunday, February 10, 2019 at 4:00 pm

WHERE: EPC Sanctuary

WHO: Presented by Diane Worrell Eaton and Patty Niemann, piano duet partners, along with past and present choral scholars



Plan now to attend!

# MUSIC

## Bistrò Theology

FAITH. DRINKS. DISCUSSION. QUESTIONS

### Bistro Theology is Back!

**When:** Thursday, January 31st, 7-9pm (Note the new weekday)

**Where:** The Piedmont Bistrò by Venue

**What Bistrò Theology is:** a monthly conversation in Lincoln NE about stuff that matters.

a gathering space for people of all faith and non-faith backgrounds to come together and respectfully dialogue and question over life, spirituality, culture and society.

a celebration of our community and how we can challenge and learn from each other.

"In the Church of Jesus Christ there can and should be no non-theologians." — Karl Barth

### What Bistrò Theology is not:

- a slick new evangelism program.
- a Bible study at the bar.
- a church service.
- a debate club.

"Theology begins with wonder and with unanswered questions." — Avery Cardinal Dulles

Come join us for dinner, or just for drinks, and great conversations about stuff that matters.



# FOOD PANTRY

The Eastridge Pantry is pleased to report that it has received a grant of \$2,000 from the Viking Foundation. The funds will be used to purchase

items that cannot be obtained from the Lincoln Food Bank, such as personal care items. The Viking Foundation is a private foundation which seeks to improve and enrich the lives of individuals, especially children, who are less fortunate.

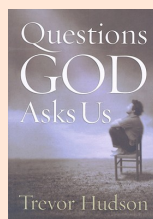
While the Pantry Board seeks to obtain additional sources of funding through grant applications, we continue to need support from Eastridge members and our sister churches to meet the ever-growing need to provide food for those who request it through the Pantry. Thank you for your contributions in the past and in the future.

We still have openings to provide dinner for the **Youth Group**. If you are interested in providing a meal, please sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c054bafac2ca3fc1-youth3> or contact the church office.



### The Gathering Place

Please let the office know if you're interested in serving. Shown at right are recent Eastridge servers!



The Wednesday morning Bible Study group is starting a new study, Questions God Asks Us by Trevor Hudson. We started January 2 and will continue with this book through February.



**Angel- Mitten Tree 2018:** Thank you for your generosity and love in providing a happy Christmas to 135 “wishes” on the tree. Clinton Elementary, Cedars, Aging Partners, Fresh Start, Presbyterian Mission, Lefler Middle School, and several families were recipients. (See a thank-you note below)

for Those in Need

The mittens will be distributed to schools and agencies in early January. ~ Susan Taylor

Photos from December Youth Activities below:



Dear Eastridge Friends of Clinton -  
On behalf of all of the children at Clinton who will receive your thoughtful gifts... thank you!

You all have demonstrated beautifully to our families that they are not invisible - there are people everywhere who will give them the support needed to walk tall and see positivity in the most unlikely places.

Your compassion and respect for dignity are qualities we need to practice daily, for there are always those around us who are quietly struggling and need the support of others.

Wishing you all a peaceful and joyful holiday season!

Blessings to you in the coming new year.

Thank you!

Linda Kern

**Stewardship Drive Update:** Thank you for the immediate response to our 2019 Stewardship Pledge Drive. Pledging is an important way for us to be able to predict what our income might be, and to make plans to budget appropriately. It is important for us to be able to live within the gifts we receive, enabling us to be good stewards of those gifts. We have asked the congregation to increase giving by 3% for 2019, making our giving goal for 2019 \$605,000. Please help us reach this goal!





## GiFT 2018-2019: CREED: What We Mean When We Say What We Believe

### January GiFT — The Confession of Belhar

Our journey through the the beliefs of our Church takes us from the oldest creeds to our newest statement of faith — and also into a very different part of the world! The Confession of Belhar is the most recent addition to our Book of Confession. It was written in 1986 in South Africa in the context of Apartheid, a system of laws that separated people by race.

How should the church respond when sin disrupts the church’s unity, creates division among the children of

God, and constructs unjust systems that steal life from God’s creation? In response to these questions, Reformed Christians in South Africa gathered in the city of Belhar to issue a moving call for unity and reconciliation, and a condemnation of racial injustice.

In 2016 the General Assembly of the PC(USA) adopted the Belhar Confession, thus making it the first confession from the global south in our Book of Confessions.

Come join us on GiFT Sunday on January 13, to learn more about Belhar and the context it arose — and *what it has to teach us today!*



On Sunday, February 3, the youth will collect the **Souper Bowl of Caring** offering. This offering was developed by a Presbyterian youth group in South Carolina 29

years ago. At that first offering collections, the youth asked the congregation to give a dollar or two to aid in “tackling” hunger for the cities homeless population. 29 years and several thousand churches/organizations later, the Souper Bowl of Caring has collected millions of dollars to help feed those who are hungry. This year,

EPC youth will collect money for the Souper Bowl of Caring after the two services on February 3. The monies collected will go to the food pantry at EPC in order to help purchase food to serve our clients. We hope you will prayerfully consider giving as the youth work to “tackle” hunger right here in our community.



### COLLEGE CARE PACKAGES

The care packages that were sent to 25 of our college students were a HUGE hit. EPC received many thanks for this gesture that helped our college students know that we still want to be connected with them. As Valentine’s Day approaches, we would like to send them another care package.

Below is a list of items requested.

Please feel free to donate any item in any quantity. If you aren’t up for shopping but would still like to donate, you can make a cash donation which will help to purchase the items below. Donations will be accepted through Sunday, February 10<sup>th</sup>.

Individual servings of chips, pretzels, cookies, oatmeal, easy mac n cheese, goldfish, crackers, etc.

Valentine candy

Candy, granola bars/protein bars,

microwave popcorn, gum, crystal light powder packages


Laundry pods, dryer sheets (non-scented)

\$5 - \$10 Chick fil a or Starbucks cards

Post-it notes, pens, highlighters, notecards

We will be filling about 25-28 care packages so items in multiples are appreciated. If you have any questions about donating, please feel free to talk with Kris Adler-Brammer.

**EASTRIDGE**  
Presbyterian Church



1135 Eastridge Drive  
Lincoln NE 68510

Non-Profit Org  
U.S. Postage  
Paid  
Lincoln, NE  
Permit No. 109

