

Summer Sermon Series:

factchecker@eastridge.org

Ever hear someone claim that something is in the Bible and think, "Is that true?" Wouldn't it be nice to just put it in a search engine and come up with a reliable answer? Join us this summer, for factchecker - Eastridge style! Once again this summer, we're asking for your input! Send your ideas to office@eastridge.org.

June 16 - "Everything happens for a reason"

June 23 - "God helps those who help themselves"

June 30 - "Religion and the public square"

July 7 - "God won't give you more than you can handle"

July 14 - "God said it, I believe it, that settles it"

July 21 - "What Genesis really says about origins"

July 28 - "What about purgatory, heaven, and hell?"

(Disclaimer: we will offer the facts as much as possible, along with some interpretation of them. Another disclaimer: submissions will be included to the extent possible, given the number of Sundays.)

CAUTION: GOD AT WORK BUILDING HOPE

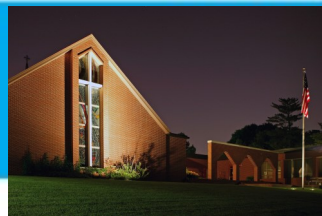
Watch out for the caution yellow tape in the southwest corner of the Welcome Center! But don't avoid the "GOD AT WORK" area; stop by to learn more about our congregation's mission activities. This June, the foundation for BUILDING HOPE in our community and around the world is being laid with an overview of the ministry and giving opportunities available.

Each month through the next year, a ministry of outreach and service will be featured. The four offering opportunities we share with all PCUSA congregations will also be highlighted. Learn more about how you

can participate, support, and promote GOD AT WORK through our congregation. Check the display area regularly and prayerfully consider: How will you help BUILD HOPE?

For more information, contact a member of the Outreach Committee (Bill Wehrbein, chair; Jo Bateman; Chris Boone; Noel DeKalb; Carol McClain; Berna Stading; and Thomas Dummermuth, staff).





I am delighted to begin my three-quarter time position as your Director of Music Ministries effective July 1st. It seems unreal that three years have passed since I arrived in Lincoln and at Eastridge. I moved here in August 2016 to pursue my doctorate in hopes of being a university professor and graduated with every intention of wanting to work in music ministry. I remember sitting down with Pastor Melodie for a sushi lunch in February 2017 with an overwhelming feeling that God was calling me to the church. She said something along the lines of “I know” with a big smile on her face.

It’s been a humbling experience knowing that God gave me three years of excellent training with our congregation, staff, and music ensembles to pave the way for the start of my first post-grad em-

ployer for the many people who volunteer their time and talents to help form our great musical ensembles. Without them, we would not have weekly music that helps to elevate the Scripture.



I will be working three days per week in the office in addition to Sunday. You can find me in the church on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from late morning through evening rehearsals. I plan to be in the office on Friday from 9-4, however, I

will use this day to “float” to either Mondays or Thursdays as needed. Please feel free to come by and say hello or introduce yourself!

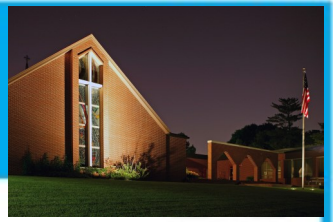
ployment. As I begin to prepare for my new position, I pray for our congregation and the lives that the music ministries touch on a weekly basis. I am also grateful

Music adds so much JOY to enhance our worship experience! With the choirs taking the summer off, it’s your chance to share your musical gifts! If you sing or play an instrument, please offer your talents with a special music selection. Consider a solo, a duet, or a group. Any and all ages and styles are welcome! Don’t know what to sing or play? We can help with that, too! Contact Diane Worrell Eaton 402-580-5889 or Kylie Meter 402-310-6655 with questions or to arrange a date!



NEW Member Class

On Sunday, May 19 Eastridge welcomed these three new members: Gregory & Cheryl Pohl, and Stephen Kong. Welcome to Eastridge! We look forward to getting to know you better.



FAITH PARTNERS BUILDS BRIDGES

(and Passes the Pickle Jar Test)

Bridges? Pickle Jars? That's right. Over 45 people from 16 Churches representing 9 Denominations participated in a two-day training event with Faith Partners Nebraska. Churches often do not play their full role in addressing alcohol/drug issues. That's ironic since many Christians have had personal or professional success in dealing with these issues. Trainees included clergy and laity from Berean Church, Christian Reformed, the Episcopal Church, Disciples of Christ, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, Presbyterian Church – USA, Roman Catholics, and the United Methodist Church.

“The two days were intense, interactive, fun and information-packed,” said Rev. Otto Schultz, Developer of Faith Partners Nebraska. People attended because they want their local Church to take a team approach to alcohol and drug issues. Participants were trained to take practical actions in five areas of service including prevention, early intervention, referral assistance, recovery support, and public advocacy. Most of them have wanted to see their congregations involved with recovery or prevention but they didn't know how to make it happen.

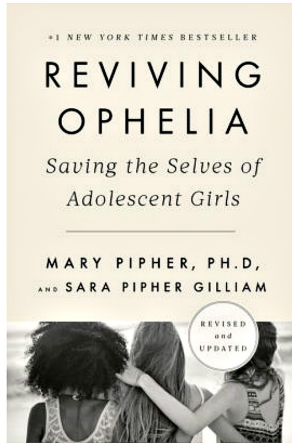
“That's where this Faith Partners training comes in,” said Schultz, “It showed us how

to do this work as a vital part of our church's mission.” This training and future trainings are a cooperative venture between Faith Partners National and Region 5 Prevention Services.

“Faith Partners also provides long term support to sustain this ministry,” said Drew Brooks of Minneapolis, Minnesota, the lead trainer and Executive Director of Faith Partners. Together with Associate Trainer, Katrina Weiss of Cincinnati, Ohio, they led trainees through a variety of presentations and activities. One of them was a team building exercise that involved constructing bridges from newspaper and masking tape. Easy enough, you'd think. However, these bridges had to be wide enough to roll a one-gallon pickle jar through, tall enough for the jar to stand up and strong enough to hold it. All five bridges passed the tests.



Bridge Builders from several congregations worked together to make this newspaper/masking tape creation. Admirers from around the room look on.



Mary is returning to Eastridge! Author Mary Pipher and her daughter, Sara Gilliam will come to Eastridge Presbyterian on Saturday, June 8 at 2:00 pm to discuss their collaboration on the revised *Reviving Ophelia*. They will be signing copies of the book, available from Fran-cie and Finch bookstore. Free event, but please call the church to register.

Summer Education at EPC

Our intergenerational interactions are important! The church is one of the last places where we experience those relationships – where the youngest gather with those who are seasoned in the stages of life. And, there are MANY things we can learn from each other when all of those ages come together at the same table. This summer the LEARN commission would like to continue to encourage and strengthen those relationship by offering a time of education TOGETHER.

During the month of July, we will gather on Wednesday July 10th, 17th, 24th & 31st from 6:00pm to 8:00pm. The time together will begin with dinner in the Fellowship Hall. Following dinner, we will have a time of fellowship and learning that will include table games, a bible story/lesson and an activity that will help all ages take the stories of the Bible with them. All of our lessons will be independent so participants can join us as their schedule allows.

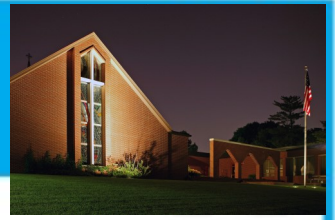
In order for us to prepare enough food and supplies, we will ask families to register for the event. You can register by calling the church office or signing up on the registration sheet located on the Welcome Desk in the Welcome Center.



Our **Eastridge Hospice Singers** are available to provide singing visits for loved ones and friends journeying through hospice care. To schedule a singing visit, contact Patty Niemann at 402-432-8353 or epc.hospice.singers@gmail.com

We're looking for someone to help coordinate **Eastridge's services at the Gathering Place**. We need someone to make sure volunteers are signed up to serve and to bring desserts. Eastridge serves once a month. If you are willing to help, please contact the church office.





What Gifts are You Willing to Share with Our Youth?

This fall we would like to continue fostering the relationships between our youth and the members of EPC. We started this last year by having Class Dinners. Three times a year, the youth would gather in their respective grades and then they would have dinner and a short devotion at the home of some of our church members. It was a time of fellowship that was enjoyed by our hosts and our youth. They were able to get together with one another when

they otherwise may not have even crossed paths.

This year we would like to expand this by offering Interest Groups for our youth on a monthly basis. What we are looking for are church members who would be willing to share what they do well with our youth. For instance, if you are a baker, we would love to have you lead an Interest Group where you would teach a group of our youth to bake. Or, are you a woodworker? We would love to have you show our youth how to make a project and just simply learn how to use woodworking tools. There are so many gifts within this congregation that we couldn't begin to name them all, but we

would love for our young people to learn from you!

The groups would stay the same throughout the school year. We are hoping to make this a monthly commitment that would be on a Sunday afternoon/evening. Depending on the activity, the group could meet right after the second service or they could meet later in the day. The time of day is negotiable. The months the groups would meet would be October, November, and then January through April. If this sounds like something you might be interested in leading or would like more information, please talk with Kris Adler-Brammer in the church office.

EASTRIDGE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SESSION HIGHLIGHTS: MAY 16, 2019

The Session approved the Session minutes for April 23, 2019.

The Session approved the baptism of Harrison Joseph Pfannenstiel, son of Dustin and Katie Pfannenstiel, born March 19, 2017, at the 10:30 a.m. service on May 26, 2019.

The Session approved the request from the Outreach Committee for Eastridge to join the Sudan/South Sudan Mission Network and the Ethiopian Mission Network.

The Session approved the recommendation from the Outreach Committee to send Peter and Nyalippe Dak to represent Eastridge at the South Su-

dan portion of the South Sudan Mission Network Conference in New Wilmington, Pennsylvania, on July 23-24, 2019. The Outreach Committee will apply for funding assistance from Homestead Presbytery to pay for the Daks' expenses and for funds to support the Trauma Healing Project Training.

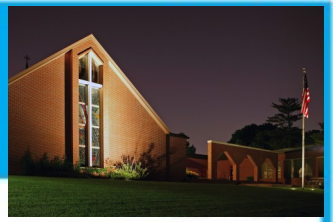
The Session approved a vendor fair in late September or early October to raise funds for the youth program.

The Session reviewed plans to use one bulletin for both services. Liturgies will be shown on the screens, and hymnals will be used for hymns. The Worship and Music Advisory Committee noted that a new communion co-

ordinator will be needed for 2020.

The Pantry Board reported that it will pursue entering into the Hunger Action Covenant program through the PCUSA. The Board will change its name to Hunger Action Board and oversee the Food Pantry, the Lefler Market, the Gathering Place, Meals on Wheels, the Crop Walk, the Bread Ministry, and Bread for the World.

The commissioners to Homestead Presbytery reported on the May 16, 2019, regular stated meeting. The report included an update on the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance flood relief efforts in Nebraska, as well as the hiring of the Rev. Stephen Earl as Interim Executive Presbyter.



Recognizing our High School Graduates:



Alec R. Devall: Alec is the son of Brad & Stephanie Devall. He graduated from Lincoln Southwest High School. While at Southwest, Alec was a part of the basketball, football, baseball and track teams. He earned two varsity letters for football. He was also part of Southwest's Legion baseball team & the Heartland Athletic Conference Academic All-Conference team for football. Alec has been involved at EPC through Confirmation. He also attends Young Life. This fall Alec will attend the University of Sioux Falls, South Dakota where he will pursue a degree in Business. He will also be playing baseball for the Cougars.



Alex McGee: Alex is the son of Carmen & Terry Kelle and Kirk McGee. He graduated from Lincoln East High School. Alex is a member of East's Baseball team and participates in DECA. He is also a member of the National Honor's Society. Alex has been involved at EPC through Confirmation and Youth Group. This fall Alex will attend the University of Nebraska-Lincoln majoring in Software Engineering.



Cassandra Nash: Cassie is the daughter of Cindy & Jerry Nash. She graduated from Lincoln Southeast High School. Cassie has been a member of several sports teams at Southeast – Soccer, Basketball, and Softball. She was also involved with LSE SHIELD and is a member of the National Honor's Society. Cassie has been involved at EPC through Confirmation, Youth Group, and Vacation Bible School. This fall Cassie will attend Simpson College. She will be a part of the Women's Basketball team.

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Congratulations,
GRADUATES

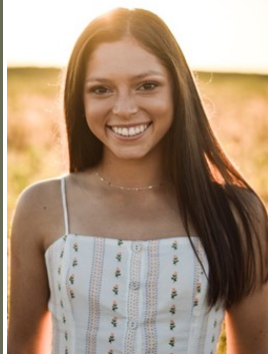




Nyalippe P. Dak: Nyalippe is the daughter of Peter Dak & Nyabuok Thoal. She graduated from Lincoln Southeast High School. She is a member of the Southeast Future Business Leaders of America where she served as Vice President. She is also a member of the Court Choir and Bel Canto. Nyalippe has been involved at EPC through Confirmation, Youth Group, Vacation Bible School and Choir. This fall Nyalippe will attend University of Nebraska-Lincoln to study International Business.



Connor Boden: Conner is the son of Scott and Michelle Boden. He graduated from Lincoln Southwest High School. He is a member of the Southwest Athletic Leadership Team. He has been active with the Football, Wrestling and Track teams. Connor has been involved at EPC through Confirmation. This fall Connor will attend the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

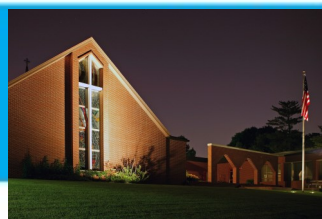


Floreana Cordova-Dickerson: Flo is the daughter of Amy Dickerson & Walter Cordova. She graduated from Lincoln East High School. She is a member of the Key Club, Club Softball, and Lincoln East's Varsity Softball team. She also held an internship with the UNL Young Nebraska Scientist Research. Flo has volunteered at the Lincoln Children's Zoo and at the Galapagos National Park in Ecuador. She has been Involved at EPC through Confirmation, Vacation Bible School, Calvin Crest and Youth Group. This fall Flo will attend Duke University in Durham, NC where she will study Marine Biology.

Shawn Rankin: Shawn is the daughter of Lance & Becky Rankin. She graduated from Lincoln Southeast High School. Shawn was a member of the cheerleading squad at Southeast. She has also been a part of Cheerleading at Cheer Express on the Lady X team While at Cheer Express, she has been a volunteer coach for the younger teams. She has volunteered in the community at The Gathering Place and the Food Bank. Shawn has been involved at EPC through Confirmation, Youth Group, Sunday School, and Vacation Bible School. This fall Shawn will attend Wayne State College.



Those who have also graduated this year are Sophie Lovorn, daughter of Dustin & HaNa Lovorn; Barrett Morrison, son of Chuck Morrison; and Isabella Whiston, daughter of Jamie & Tammy Whiston.

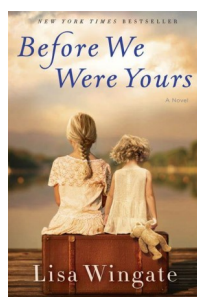
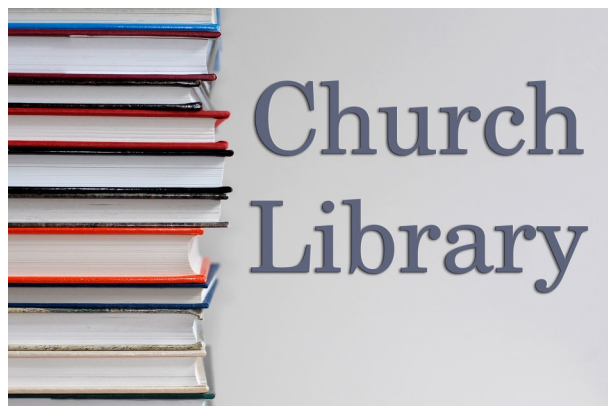


The **Eastridge Pantry Board** is planning to pursue certification as a Hunger Action Congregation through the Presbyterian Church (USA). This is a process which will help us challenge ourselves to expand our activities addressing hunger. As part of this process, the board's name is changing to the Hunger Action Board, and we will be addressing all hunger-related activities at Eastridge, including the Eastridge Pantry, the Lefler Market, the Gathering Place, Meals on Wheels, the Crop Walk, the Bread Ministry, and Bread for the World. Please continue to pray that we may serve our neighbors near and far to focus on their hunger needs.



Eastridge Presbyterian Church Library: Our library has been reorganized and now is on a computer checkout system. We want to encourage you—children, youth, and adults of all ages to use it. The following is a list of types of books available: non-fiction, Bible related books, Bible commentaries, meditation, prayer, family life, world religions, self help, biographies, adult fiction, youth non-fiction, youth fiction, and DVDs.

Come to the library when the church is open and explore and check out books and read!



Eastridge Presbyterian Church Book Club: Our June pick is *Before We Were Yours* by Lisa Wingate. Join us June 10 at 7:00 pm for discussion and refreshments. Our group will be looking at the selections suggested for our 2019-2020 book club year. To find out more, contact the office.

Join us - again or for the first time - at **Bistro Theology!**

When: Thursday, June 27, 7-9pm

Where: The Piedmont Bistro by Venue

What Bistro Theology is:

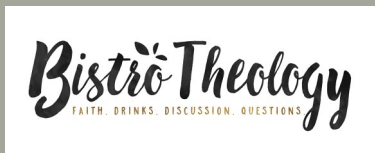
a monthly conversation in Lincoln NE about stuff that matters.
a gathering space for people of all faith and non-faith backgrounds to come together and respectfully dialogue and question over life, spirituality, culture and society.

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

What Bistro Theology is not:

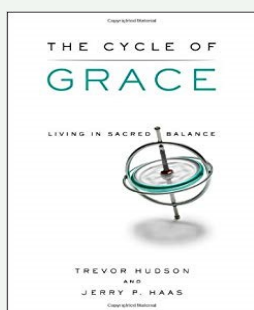
a slick new evangelism program.
a Bible study at the bar.
a church service.
a debate club.

Come join us at the Piedmont Bistro for Faith, Drinks, Discussions





Deacon Potluck: On June 13 at 6:00 pm (not our regular 6:30), we'll enjoy a potluck meal with our meeting! If your last name begins with the letters: A-E: bring a dessert; F-G: bring a side dish or salad; or I-Z: bring a main dish.



Wednesday Morning Bible study has just started *The Cycle of Grace: Living in Sacred Balance* by Trevor Hudson & Jerry Haas. To find out more, contact the office.



Coffee for Six or Lunch for Six: Not able to make a commitment to meeting a group over dinner? Why not coffee? Pick up a form at the Welcome Desk!

Eastridge Church Staff

Rev. Dr. Melodie Jones Pointon..... Senior Pastor
 Rev. Thomas Dummermuth.....Associate Pastor
 Rev. Dr. John Duling.....Parish Associate
 Kris Adler-Brammer..... Youth and Children's Ministries
 Donna Gustafson..... Office Manager
 Andy Kalnins.....Night/Weekend Custodian
 Dr. Brian Lew.....Director of Music Ministries
 Will McGuire.....Worship Leader
 Vince Ruhl.....Audio/Visual Technician
 Jennifer Russell.....Nursery
 Office number.....402-488-7844
 Melodie Jones Pointon: mjonespointon@eastridge.org
 Thomas Dummermuth: tdummermuth@eastridge.org

MEET THE STAFF

Lefler Food Market 2018/19 by the Numbers

- 1696 children were served during the school year (September-May) with a total of 7,997 families served.
- Eastridge Presbyterian Church members volunteered 75 hours of time to the Lefler Market
- 29,268 lbs. of food which include 5,969 lbs. of produce was distributed during the school year
- 2,886 lbs. of leftover food brought over to Eastridge Pantry after the Market

Thanks to the church members that helped volunteer this past school year at the monthly Lefler Food Market. If you would like to volunteer again next year or would like to become a new volunteer, please let Susan Budler (sbudler1@unl.edu) know and she will contact you later this summer to get you on the schedule.

(pictured at right: Kris Brenneis and Steve Taylor)



EASTRIDGE
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