



From the Pastor's Pen...

My personal journey has been a journey of place and time. Full disclosure, here, I borrowed that concept from Eugene Peterson, who most people know as the writer of "The Message." Those familiar with Peterson and his work, however, will know that he is first and foremost a pastor. Born in Montana in 1932, Peterson attended Seattle Pacific University, New York Theological Seminary, and Johns Hopkins University before pastoring a new church in Bel Air, Maryland. The second part of his life he spent at Pittsburgh Seminary, and Regent University, writing books, and translating the Bible in today's language. He died last October. In the opening pages of his autobiography, he talks about the importance of place and time in his spiritual journey.

"Place." He says, "But not just any place, not just a location marked on a road map, but on a topo, a topographic map—with named mountains and rivers, identified wildflowers and forests, elevation above sea level and annual rainfall. I do all my work on this ground. I do not levitate. "Surely the LORD is in this place, and I did not know it." Get to know this place."

"Time." He says, "But not just time in general, abstracted to a geometric grid on a calendar or numbers on a clock face, but what the Greeks named *kairos*, pregnancy time, being present to the Presence. I never know what is coming next; 'Watch therefore.'"

In many ways, this is the story of Luke's Gospel, the narrative written to be "an orderly account." Luke is



very concerned about giving us the context of the events... Galilee... Nazareth... Jerusalem... Jericho... in the sixth month... when Quirinius was governor of Syria... the day of unleavened bread... the Mount of Olives... now about noon... very early in the morning on the first day of the week... on that same day... Jerusalem... Emmaus...

This has been our Lenten journey...

to Jerusalem. As we've traveled these pages together, we've learned that Luke has many themes. It's Luke who really focuses on the great reversal, who includes the women in the story, who brings forth the feasts and table meals, and who eventually writes how the good news of salvation makes its way to the entire world. It's also a book of extremes: a parable about loving your enemies is followed by the parable of the fig tree that withers in the vineyard; a parable about the lost and found son is followed by the parable of the rich man his refusal to care for the poor man named Lazarus.

Maybe there's too many themes in this "orderly account" to make it very orderly.... As Thomas and I have been working through these texts, much of our discussion has inevitably turned to how it doesn't really make all that much sense. There's mixed metaphors, teachings that don't line up with the other gospels, attention to details that don't seem to make much difference. I'm now wondering if this is the "orderly account" Luke intended. And secretly hoping that the bigger effect of giving the narrative so much context is that it's messy and chaotic and trying to do too many things at once.

(continued on next page)



Maybe that's why time and place are so important. I intended to spend my recent sabbatical exploring time and place and call... my time, my place, my call. But the chaos of life sort of got in the way. A broken elbow, snowstorms on the west coast, freezing temperatures and snow in Nebraska, my kids' school and homework and life... happened. What I can say I did is rest... and think about my journey without visiting those places.

As we continue journeying to Palm Sunday, Holy Week, Easter Sunday,

and beyond, I want to encourage us all to consider the place and time of our journeys. For all of us, the landscape has changed. Frozen ground, melting snow, and rain have swollen our rivers and changed their course. Maybe our courses have changed, too. Maybe unexpectedly through inconveniences, or natural disasters, or poor choices, or death, or broken relationships. Maybe all we can bring from this text is that we are all on a journey. And even if we know where the journey is taking us, maybe what we really need to know is that God is with us as we travel.

Maybe that is the only constant, as our journey unfolds in time and place.

Many blessings,
Melodie



NEWS FROM TABITHA:

The Lyman Family is being honored at this year's Tabitha Into the Blue luncheon on Wednesday, April 10. From Heath Stukenholtz, Chief Development Officer at Tabitha:

2019 Honoree

Marv & June Lyman and Family- Marv and June Lyman's relationship with Tabitha began back in the 1980's. As a Tabitha Meals on Wheels volunteer, June provided countless hours to this vital community service. Some of her best days were delivering with friends and children, showing them what it meant to give back. Marv served as a Board Member for Tabitha for almost 10 years. He was instrumental in helping Tabitha improve their operations and implement insurance best practices, to support and protect Tabitha and our employees. The Lyman family has stayed closely connected to Tabitha, with children, Lori, Matt and Julie, all having a personal relationship and giving spirit with Tabitha. When June needed support through her aging journey, Tabitha was there for her and the family. The Lyman's connection at Eastridge Presbyterian Church, helped establish the congregation's involvement and association with Tabitha. We can't count all the ways that Marv, June and family have inspired and supported the mission of Tabitha.





Cut this out and put on
your refrigerator or
bulletin board!



Lenten Calendar

Lenten Soup/Casserole Meals each
Wednesday during Lent at 6:00 PM

Worship each Wednesday during Lent at
6:30 PM

Worship each Sunday during Lent at 9:00 am and 11:00 am

April 14: **Palm Sunday**

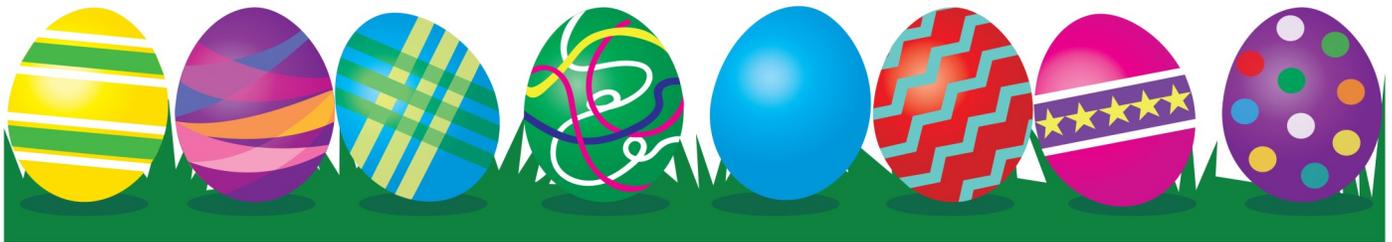
April 18: **Maundy Thursday Pizza/salad Meal** at 6:00 PM and **Worship** at 7:00 PM

April 19: **Good Friday Worship Service** at 7:00 PM

April 21: **Easter Worship Services:** Sunrise: 6:30 AM, 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM; **Easter Breakfast**
following Sunrise service



LENTEN CALENDAR



Recital

UPCOMING STAFF

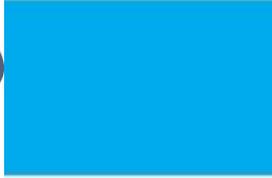
RECITALS: Travis Wors-
ham and Brian Lew will be
giving their doctoral lecture recitals soon.
Travis's recital is on Saturday, April 6 at 3pm; Bri-
an's will be on Sunday, April 7 at 7pm, both in
Westbrook Recital Hall.



April 6: All Church Clean Up Day. Join us
(and UNL students) as we clean
Eastridge grounds! We'll meet from 1:00
-4:00 pm on Saturday, April 6. Plan to
join us that day for outside and other
spring cleaning projects. Eastridge Neighborhood As-
sociation will sponsor a shredder and roll off.

Our **Eastridge prayer shawl group** meets on the third Wednesday of the
month for a time of knitting and crocheting prayer shawls and baby blankets.
We gather at 9:30am in the Welcome Center and conclude by 10:30am. Those
who knit and crochet are encouraged to join us for this wonderful time of fel-
lowship and creativity. For more information, contact Elda Powley, Patty Nie-
mann or the church office.





This summer we will be offering Vacation Bible School as an intergenerational evening event throughout the month of July. It will be on four consecutive Wednesday evenings – July 10, 17, 24 & 31. While we will have a theme, the lessons/activities each Wednesday evening will be independent to allow folks to attend as their schedule permits. As we prepare for VBS, we have lots of ways for folks to volunteer. We will need a group to organize and provide dinner each evening, folks that can help with décor and folks that can help with the lessons/activities. We are excited about the opportunities an intergenerational VBS can provide for all ages! If you are willing to help in any way, please contact Kris Adler-Brammer in the church office.

We need your help! Over the past year or so, we have been cleaning out and rearranging some of our educational classrooms. We have discovered hundreds of photographs. We can use help sorting through them to catalog them and possibly identify folks in the photographs. We can give you a stack of photos that you can take home to sort through. If you have some time to help out, please contact Kris Adler-Brammer in the church office.

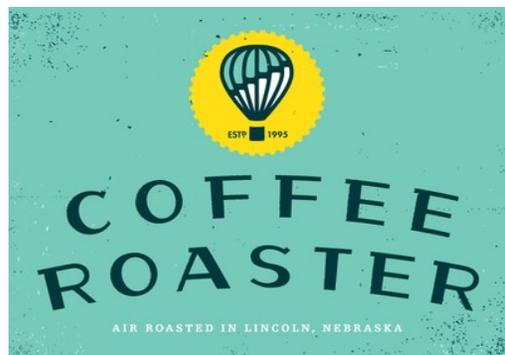


MINISTRY WITH YOUTH

Youth Fundraiser:

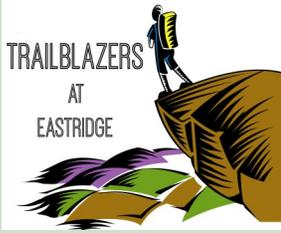
In just a few short months, the youth will begin their summer trips. The High School youth will head to Purdue University for the Presbyterian Youth Triennium and the Middle School will have several day trips in order to help with flood recovery efforts. Both will be experiences that will be great for our youth. In order for us to make these trips affordable for our families to attend, we will

be selling coffee from The Coffee Roaster. Beginning on April 7th, members can order a 12oz bag of coffee for \$15. The youth will keep 40% of what we sell. We will not have the coffee on hand. Folks will be placing an order. Coffee that is ordered on Sunday mornings will be available for pick up the follow Sunday morning at the church.



FLOWERS FOR EASTER SUNDAY: Sign up to provide flowers for our sanctuary for Easter! Sign up forms are available at the Welcome Desk. \$ 12.00 each.



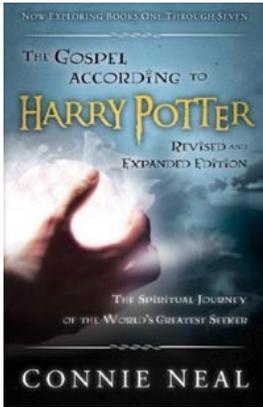


Trailblazers for April: Join us April 19 at 7:00 pm in Huxtable for **Safari with the Rembolts.**
Committee: *DeKalb, Duling, Mitchell

You're Invited! Brian Lew will be hosting a graduation party in the Huxtable Lounge on Saturday, April 27 from 12pm to 2pm. Feel free to drop in at any time. Food will be provided. Please RSVP to Brian at brianlew.music@gmail.com or 603-490-6423 by April 14.



GraduationMail



Coming soon...*The Gospel According to Harry Potter.* The Young Adult group will be continuing to meet in Huxtable Lounge, exact date & time(s) TBD. Stay tuned for more information!

Easter Breakfast: At 6:30 am we will meet for worship, with breakfast to follow. Breakfast will be served in the Huxtable Lounge. Worship will be either on the East Patio or the Narthex, depending on the weather. If you'd like to help with breakfast, please contact the office.



HOUSEHOLD ITEMS AND PERSONAL HYGIENE DRIVE!

For the Lenten season the Eastridge Food Pantry is having Personal Hygiene and Household Item Drive. These are items our clients frequently request for everyday use, and unfortunately we cannot get these items from the Lincoln Food Bank. Each week we will be requesting and feature an "Item of the Week". Also, please consider the more people we can help, the better. For example, we rather receive 20 regular-sized bottles of something than 5 bulk-sized bottles.

Lent Week 5: Toothbrushes and toothpaste - Note:

toothbrushes must be individually wrapped

Lent Week 6: Feminine Hygiene- tampons, pads, panty liners - Note: any size package is usable.

Lent Week 7: Men's and Women's Deodorant

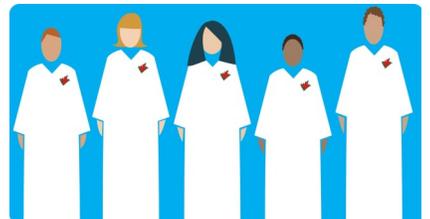
Helpful tip: Dollar Tree has full-sized bottles for \$1 of many of our requested items - laundry detergent, dish soap, shampoo, conditioner, dish soap, body wash, deodorant, etc)

These are all just suggestions for each week. We will gladly accept any of the items any week of Lent, or of the year!

Thanks!

The Eastridge Food Pantry

The **Confirmation year** is coming to an end. The students who participated in confirmation classes this year were: Emily Boden, Natalie Brady, Nyamuoch Kuon, Jimmie Cover, Heidi Felix, Will Hershiser, Elizabeth Kohel, Masheala Maynez, Victoria McGee, Tre Nash, Maylena Olsen, Barrett Rodell. Confirmation will be held at the 9:00 am worship service on Sunday, April 14.





A NOTE FROM REV. JOHN DULING, PARISH ASSOCIATE:



The picture at left is a metal sculpture that an 8th grade confirmation student and his mentor created as a faith project. I see it as the heart of Lent which hands lift up with Christ at the center of the cross. He is the heart of sacrifice for all. The challenge is to offer ourselves – our lives – as a loving act of faith. Where is the cross in that action? Is our love for Christ and each other found in the heart of the cross? May the words of 1 John 3:16-18 be an encouragement to all of us this Lenten Season: “This is how we know love: Jesus laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. But if a person has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need and that person doesn’t care – how can the love of God remain in him or her? Little children, let’s not love with words or speech but with action and truth.”



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

When: Thursday, April 25, 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.

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

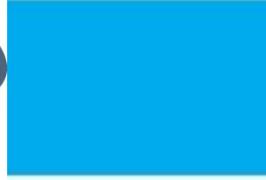
What Bistro Theology is not:

- 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 at the Piedmont
Bistro for Faith, Drinks, Discussions**

Bistro Theology
FAITH. DRINKS. DISCUSSION. QUESTIONS.



Deacon Task Forces

Where do you fit in?

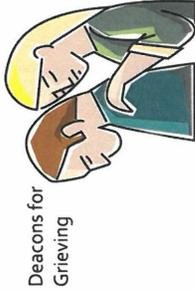
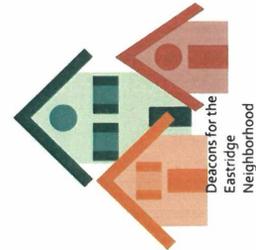


Deacons for Home, Visitation, Communion, Sick: accompany pastors to take communion to those who are unable to attend church. Visit members in retirement homes, the homebound, deliver flowers, sermon CDs, visit sick members in hospital & at home.

Deacons for Communication, New Members, Visitors: contact (telephone or email) with church members, send cards at Advent and Lent, organize events for new members & potential new members. Follow up with visitors, mentor and support new members and help them become involved.



Deacons for Eastridge Neighborhood: stay in touch with members living in the neighborhood as well as the neighborhood as a whole.



Deacons for Grieving: plan and prepare funeral/memorial luncheons, follow up with grief support.



Deacons for Young Parents & Families: support families during pregnancy through age 2, arrange for meals at home following baby's birth.



Deacons for Hospitality/"Minglers": host weekly coffee hour and receptions at other special events of the church. Mingle and converse with those at events. Coffee service includes preparation, serving, and cleanup. Recognize and greet potential new members on Sunday mornings.



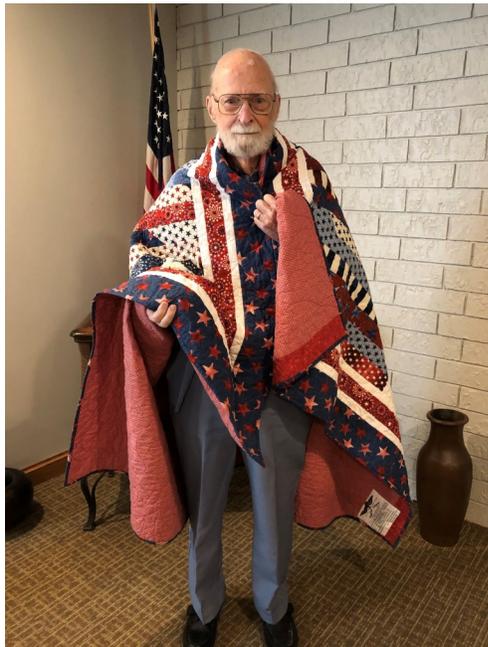
Deacons for Transportation: coordinate transportation to church for members needing assistance.

Find out more about how you can help with one of these task forces, or how a deacon (or church member) in one of these groups might reach out to you.



One Great Hour of Sharing Offering: During Lent, as we intentionally focus on aligning our lives with God's calling for us, One Great Hour of Sharing provides an opportunity to become, as Isaiah proclaims, repairers of the breach. For 70 years, Presbyterians have joined together in this ecumenical effort to share God's love through ministries that provide relief to those affected by disasters, food for the hungry, and support the self-development of poor and oppressed communities. Let us give generously as we receive this offering and dedicate our gifts on Palm Sunday, April 14.

Congratulations to Phil Holman for being awarded a Quilt of Valor on March 4 at Eastmont. Phil served in WW II in the United States Army. Thank you for your service, Phil!



Mayor's Interfaith Breakfast on April 12

Online reservations are available at lancasterfaith.org for the 35th annual Mayor's Interfaith Prayer Breakfast on April 12. Pardeep Singh Kaleka is with The Forgiveness Project and is co-founder of "Serve2Unite."

Individual tickets are \$30, and sponsorships of 10 seats are available for \$300. In the spirit of the event, groups attending together are encouraged to mingle their seating with other groups.

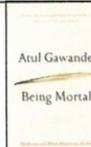
For more information on the Prayer Breakfast, contact Stephen Griffith, Faith Coalition of Lancaster County, 402-730-8927.



Eastridge Presbyterian Church Book Club

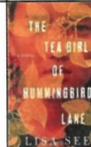
We meet in the Conference Room each month, with discussion and refreshments, the second Monday of the month at 7:00 pm. Full list is available on the church website. For April: **Being Mortal** by Atul Gawande.

April 8



Being Mortal,
by Atul Gawande

May 13



The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane
by Lisa See

June 10



Before We Were Yours,
by Lisa Wingate



New Ministry

Eastridge is considering a new ministry in the area of alcohol/drug issues. Many people in our community are impacted by alcohol and drug problems daily. If you feel that our congregation has a role to play in supporting recovery or in preventing problems, then you are a candidate for this ministry. If you've found help

in the Twelve Step program or other spiritual disciplines for problems like alcohol, drugs, over-eating, or other forms of dependence, you're also a candidate for this ministry.

If you want to learn more, please contact Pastor Thomas tdummermuth@eastridge.org

**New
Ministry**

RESPONSE TO FLOODS:

A National Response Team from Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is currently in our Presbytery visiting affected communities, assessing needs, and meeting with local authorities. **Members of our congregation have already contributed over \$4000 for flood relief.** On Friday morning the Women's Coffee group staffed the trailer at the Harbor to collect items for flood victims. Needs continue to evolve. Let us know if you are interested in going to help. There is a need for skilled workers; if we get a group together, we will find an appropriate task! ~ Outreach Committee



**FLOOD
RELIEF**



Coffee for Six or Lunch for Six: Not able to make a commitment to meeting a group over dinner? Why not coffee or lunch? More info to come!

Eastridge Presbyterian Women Spring Gathering:

Will be held on April 17 at 12:00 pm in Huxtable Lounge. Join us as we hear from speaker Sara Kenny on "Quilt of Valor".



LUNCH



HOSPICE SINGERS: Later this spring, our Eastridge Hospice Singers will hold an information meeting for anyone wishing to know more about our mission of bringing the peace and comfort of music to those journeying through hospice. After attending this meeting, any singer wishing to join in with our mission will need to attend a hospice volunteer training session along with several rehearsals to become acquainted with the

hymns and songs we sing at our hospice visits. If you wish to be included in further correspondence regarding the dates and times of the information meeting, training session and rehearsals, please be in contact with Patty Niemann at 402-432-8353 or epc.hospice.singers@gmail.com .

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

EASTRIDGE
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