



EASTRIDGE

Presbyterian Church



Christ-Centered. Community Strong.
2019 Annual Report

Our mission statement:

*The God of Scripture
Calling Individuals
Into Community through Christ
Empowered by the Spirit
To Worship, Learn and Serve.*

Eastridge Church Staff

The Rev. Dr. Melodie Jones Pointon..... Senior Pastor
mjonespointon@eastridge.org

The Rev. Thomas Dummermuth.....Associate Pastor
tdummermuth@eastridge.org

Rev. Dr. John J. Duling.....Parish Associate

Kris Adler-Brammer.....Director of Children and Youth Ministries

Donna Gustafson..... Office Manager

Andy Kalnins.....Night/Weekend Custodian

Dr. Brian Lew.....Director of Music Ministries

Will McGuire.....Worship Leader

Brent Shaw.....Organist

Vince Ruhl.....Audio/Visual Technician

Jennifer Russell..... Nursery

Eastridge Presbyterian Church

1135 Eastridge Drive

Lincoln, Nebraska 68510-5014

Phone: (402) 488-7844

www.eastridge.org

**2019 Annual Congregational Meeting
Agenda
January 26, 2020
9:45 am**

Declaration of Quorum

Opening Prayer – The Rev. Dr. Melodie Jones Pointon

Approval of the Docket

Meeting of the Congregation – The Rev. Melodie Jones Pointon, Moderator

- Minutes of the 2019 Congregational Meetings
- Annual Report
- Necrology Report – The Rev. Thomas Dummermuth
- Motion to suspend the Congregational Meeting

Meeting of the Corporation -

**Larry Graham, 2019 Moderator
Susan Budler 2020 Moderator**

- Opening Prayer
- Questions, Answers, Suggestions, and Recommendations for the Trustees
- Closing Prayer

Reconvening of the Congregational Meeting

- Church Year in Review – Robin Hadfield, Clerk of Session
- Sunrise Road Property Committee – George Kilpatrick, Chair
- Being a Matthew 25 Congregation – Bill Wehrbein, Outreach Chair
- Church Year in Review – Andrew Loudon, Stewardship Chair
- Report and Review of 2019 Financial Records—Bill Whiston, Treasurer
- Presentation of the 2020 Budget – George Kilpatrick, Finance Chair
- Expression of Thanks to those serving
- Questions, Answers, Suggestions and Recommendations for the Session

Motion to Adjourn

Postlude

Senior Pastor

Rev. Dr. Melodie Jones Pointon



Associate Pastor

Rev. Thomas Dummermuth



Here are some highlights of the last year:

WORSHIP:

- The addition of Brent Shaw as organist and Brian Lew as Music Director
- Two vibrant, heartfelt worship services at 9 am and 10:30 am
- Participation of children and youth in worship as ushers, musicians, liturgists, and congregation
- The opportunity to officiate at baptisms, funerals, and weddings
- Memorable Holy Week and Christmas Eve services, including a "symposium" Maundy Thursday service where members of the congregation shared "what they see" at the table
- Sermon series: Luke's Gospel, winter; Journey to Jerusalem (Lent); Journey to the World (Spring); I Can't Believe that's NOT in the Bible (summer); Heroes of the Faith, (Fall); What Can't Wait (Advent)

LEARN:

- Confirmation and new member classes that welcomed xx members to our church family
- Hosting local author Mary Pipher twice, in January to hear about the challenges and joys of aging shared in her book, *Women Rowing North*; and in June with her daughter Sarah Pipher Gilliam upon the release of the 25th anniversary edition of *Reviving Ophelia*
- Our intergenerational ministry GiFT now in its fourth iteration, this year with a focus on milestones in our lives of faith
- The planning of and participation in "Holy Friends," a series of interfaith encounters in the Lincoln community, inspired by Barbara Brown Taylor's book "Holy Envy"
- The relaunch of Bistro Theology

SERVE:

- Participating in the Lefler Food Market and our Food Pantry
- Meeting with Frank Dimmock, African Mission Specialist with the Outreach Foundation, to discuss our partnership with the church in Maker Village, South Sudan
- Attending and participating in the Sudanese Mission Network Meeting in New Wilmington, Pennsylvania with Peter and Nyalippe Dak, where we connected and re-connected with our mission partners and shared the vision for our trauma healing project
- Hosting the Trauma Healing Training Event with Tony Stella, a certified trainer from the American Bible Society
- Planning and launch of Faith Partners at Eastridge, a ministry that is prevention-focused and recovery-friendly
- Serving as a host site for AA, Al-Anon, Area Agency on Aging (tai chi and yoga), and Girl Scouts

A personal note by Pastor Melodie:

This past year I went on sabbatical for six weeks (in January and February). I am thankful for the gift of time from the congregation and my colleagues. While on sabbatical, I intended to explore the 'origin of my call' by returning to the physical place of my call and reflecting on my time in the ministry. Unfortunately, a broken arm and unusual snowstorms made traveling difficult. However, I was able to reconnect with my call, and re-center myself spiritually. Unable to practice yoga, I began running (again), which has been good for my body and soul. I also read a lot of beloved

authors and biographies. Words cannot express how grateful I am to all those who worked harder so that I could rejuvenate. Thank you!

I also want to share these words written to professor Eugene H. Peterson, and recorded in his personal memoir, *The Pastor*, "I want to have eyes to see and ears to hear what God is doing and saying in [the lives of my congregation].... I don't want to be so impatient...that I am not around to see the miracle being formed. I don't want to conceive of my life as pastor so functionally that the mystery gets squeezed out of both me and the congregation."

Thank you for allowing me to recapture my sense of awe, wonder, and amazement of the mystery of the God I serve in this place. You share the sacred spaces of your lives with us, and we are honored to share the mystery and majesty of God with you.



WORSHIP

WORSHIP COMMISSION

The Worship Commission is comprised of the senior pastor and elders who are responsible for three general areas of focus—worship and music, growth and hospitality, and fellowship. Several task forces function within these areas of focus. Participation in task forces is welcomed and encouraged!

Worship and Music Task Forces	GROW Task Forces	Fellowship Task Forces
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult choirs (Chancel, Handbell) • Large musical works • Contemporary worship teams • Ushers and usher partners • Sanctuary Technology • Choir fellowship • Children’s music • Acolytes • Children’s worship resources and connections • Communion • Hospice Singers • Liturgists • Worship and Music Advisory Committee • Visual displays • Wedding coordinators 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunday morning hospitality/greeters • Visitor follow-up • New member orientation • Neighborhood outreach (e.g. prayer walks, turquoise tables) • Online devotions • Prayer chain • Photo directory planning & volunteer help 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesday worship meals • Holiday meals (e.g. Thanksgiving dinner, Easter breakfast) • Ice cream social • Ladies’ Night Out • Fourth Friday Women’s Coffee • Men’s Tuesday morning coffee • Trailblazers • Book club • Parents of Youth • Dinners for Six • YANO (You Are Not Alone, a group for widows)



LEARN

The Learn Commission is comprised of the Associate Pastor, Director of Children and Youth Ministries, and 3 elders: 1 each for Children, Youth, and Adult. This Commission is focused on the Christian Education and Faith Formation of all age groups. We also partner with the Worship Commission on GiFT Wednesdays and the Serve Commission on service opportunities. We welcome participation in our various task force areas.

Children (K-5th grade) task forces:

- *Faith Formation
Tuesday afternoons
- *Camp Calvin Crest- Summer Camp
- *Children's Christmas Program

Youth (6-12th grade) Task Forces:

- *Faith Formation
- *Youth Group
- *Confirmation
- *Retreats
- *Mission trips
- *Fundraising
- *Youth Sunday
- *Graduate Recognition

Adult Task Forces:

- *Bible Studies
- *Table Talks
- *Bistro Theology
- *Lent and Advent Studies
- *Book Club(s)
- *Men's Breakfast
- *Retreats
- *Circles
- *GiFT

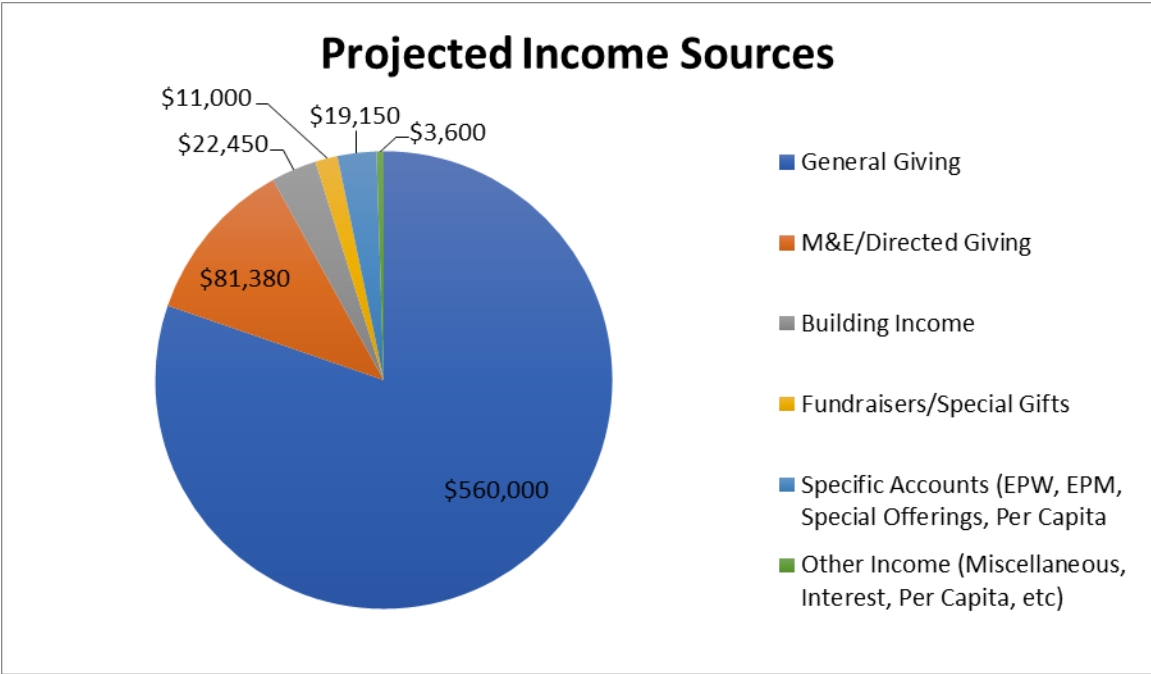
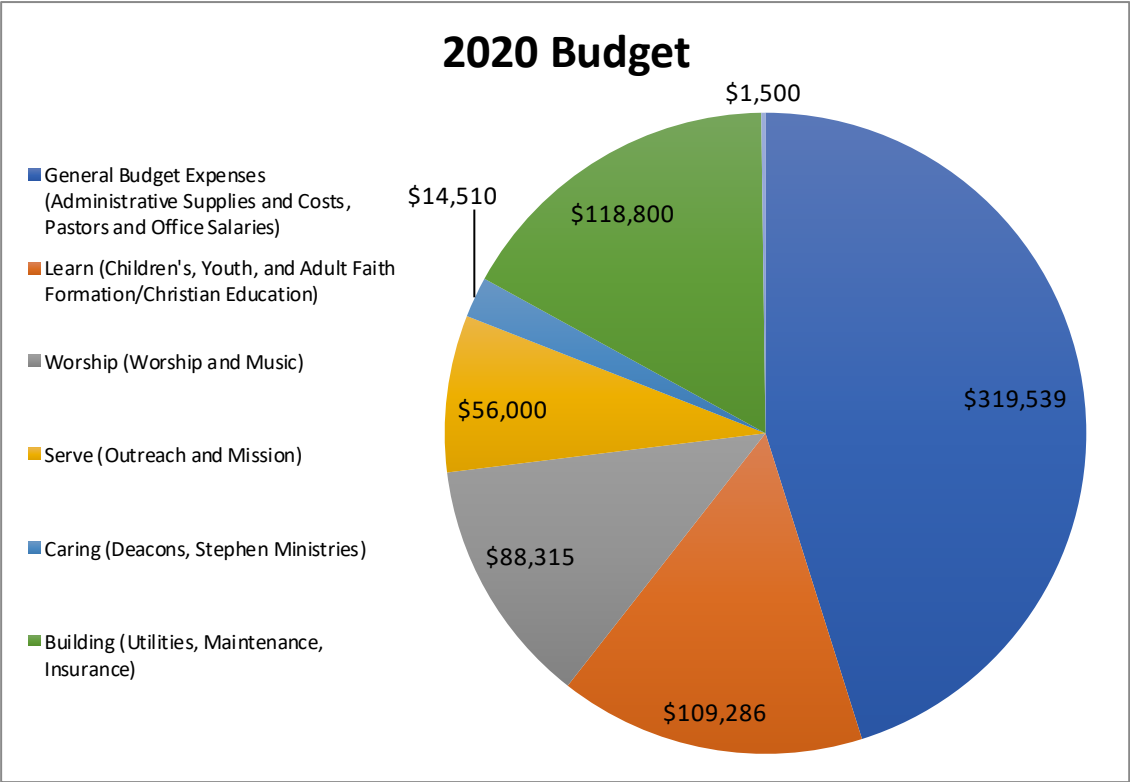


SERVE

The Serve Commission is comprised of the ruling elders responsible for stewardship, outreach, and nominating, along with the moderator(s) of the Board of Deacons. The task of this commission is to provide leadership for areas of service to the church, our local community and the greater community. Our intent is to live as Christ would have us live, serving as the hands and feet of God. Several task forces function in each area of focus. Each task force is responsible for the work of their group and are accountable to the Serve Commission to report about their work and to request funds, if needed. All are open to anyone interested in that ministry of the church.

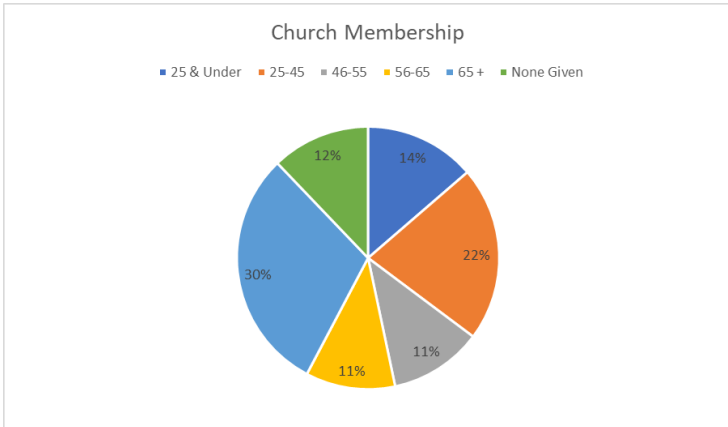
NOMINATING	OUTREACH	DEACONS
<p>Nominating Committee Members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Robin Hadfield, Chair • Mary Amen • David Gies • Larry Graham • Sandra Hilsabeck • Gary Kilian • Becky Rankin • Marge Riemann • Susan Taylor <p>Incoming Officers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Session: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Kris Brenneis ○ Carolyn Olsen ○ Carol Ripley ○ Ana Rankin ○ Greg Tubach • Deacons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Carolyn Brandle ○ Cathy Duling ○ Jean Dunbar ○ Sharon Gollehon ○ Sharon Irvin ○ Berna Stading ○ Emma Newcomb ○ Garin Newcomb ○ Charles Bachinski • Trustees: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mike Laughter ○ John Rouse ○ Rex Radcliff • Memorial and Endowments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Robby Shortridge ○ Paul Harmon • Nominating: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sandy Hilsabeck ○ Marge Riemann ○ Susan Taylor 	<p>OUTREACH COMMITTEE TASKS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a budget for use of the funds budgeted for Outreach • Approve quarterly dispersals to PCUSA and local missions (direct services) • Approve Emerging Needs requests as necessary • Publicize and receive 4 PCUSA special offerings and Christmas Eve offering. • Host PCUSA International Peacemakers • Communicate with PCUSA missions we support <p>OUTREACH TASK FORCES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Little Free Library • Gathering Place • Refugee Resettlement • Angel Tree • Crop Walk • Eastridge Food Pantry • Pantry Volunteers • Lefler Food Pantry Partnership • Bread Ministry • Sunrise Property Committee • Eastridge Faith Partners <p>Potential Outreach Task forces</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PCUSA World Mission Partnership • Interfaith Peacemaking Conference • Neighborhood Partnership and Development • Support for Maker Village • Veda's School in Pakistan • Other Local Agencies <div data-bbox="597 1602 943 1843" style="text-align: center;"> </div>	<p>DEACON MINISTRIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home Visitation & Communion • Communication with Members • Tending the needs of the sick, the Eastridge Neighborhood, those grieving, new parents and young families • Welcoming members, and visitors • Mentoring new members • Transportation <p>DEACON TASK FORCES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver Holiday Flowers • Advent & Lent postcards • Meals at home • Funeral meals—preparation and serving • Coffee service—prepare, serve and clean-up coffee and food, when provided • Eastridge Caring emails • Prayer Shawls <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: flex-start;"> <div data-bbox="1040 1199 1263 1377"> <p>Deacons for Young Parents & Families</p> </div> <div data-bbox="1287 1205 1487 1356"> <p>Deacons for Hospitality</p> </div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: flex-start;"> <div data-bbox="1040 1381 1170 1682"> <p>Deacons for Visitation</p> </div> <div data-bbox="1219 1402 1446 1545"> <p>Deacons for Grieving</p> </div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: flex-start;"> <div data-bbox="1243 1545 1500 1734"> <p>Deacons for Communication</p> </div> <div data-bbox="1040 1734 1377 1850"> <p>Deacons for Transportation</p> </div> </div>

2020 Budget and Stewardship Information



2020 Budget	
Budget Approved 1/16/20	\$707,950
Anticipated Income & Transfers	\$698,580
Over/(Under)	(\$9,370)

Church Membership



Age Distribution of Active Members

25 and Under	99	Ages 56-65	80
Ages 26-45	156	Over 65	218
Ages 46-55	83	None Given	88

(Presbytery members 5)

GET INVOLVED

- Acolyte (for 2nd-5th grades)
- Adult Studies
- Bistro Theology
- Chancel Choir
- Children's Music
- Confirmation Class
- Devotion Ministry
- Eastridge Hospice Singers
- EPC Book Club
- Eastridge Presbyterian Women Gatherings
- Eastridge Presbyterian Women's Circle Groups
- Faith Connection for Children in Preschool
- Faith Connection for Elementary-Age Children
- Faith Partners at Eastridge
- Food Pantry
- GiFT (Growing in Faith Together)
- Kirk Ringers
- Ladies Night Out
- Meals on Wheels
- Men's Tuesday Morning Fellowship/Coffee
- "Pray" ground area in worship
- Prayer Shawl Group
- Stephen Ministry
- Summer Intergenerational Activities
- Trailblazers
- Wednesday Worship in Advent and Lent
- Women's Choir
- YANO (You Are Not Alone, a group for widows)
- Youth – Faith Connection and Mission Activities



EASTRIDGE SESSION 2020

Kurt Beck

(Personnel Committee)

William Wehrbein

(Serve Commission)

Doug McDaniel

(Personnel Commission)

Robin Hadfield

(Clerk, Nominating Committee)

Jen Olsen

(Learn Commission/Children's Ministries)

George Kilpatrick

(Finance Committee)

Lois Wies

(Youth/Learn Commission)

Andrew Loudon

(Serve Commission/Stewardship)

Kris Brenneis

(Worship Commission/Worship and Music)

Carolyn Olsen

(Serve Commission/Adult Education)

Carol Ripley

(Worship Commission/GROW)

Ana Rankin

(Youth)

Greg Tubach

(Worship Commission/Fellowship)

Bill Whiston

(Treasurer, ex officio)

***Melodie Jones Pointon**

(Moderator, Senior Pastor)

Thomas Dummermuth

(Associate Pastor)

Memorial and Endowment 2020

Steve Anderson

Beth Birnstihl

Paul Harmon

Greg Jensen

Leo Schumacher

***Robbie Shortridge**

EASTRIDGE DEACONS 2020

Mary Amen

Charles Bachinski

Neil Bateman

Carolyn Brandle

Nyabuoy Chan

Peter Dak

Cathy Duling

Jean Dunbar

Donna Gies

Jim Gies

Sharon Gollehon

Carla Green

LaDonna Grubbs

***Donna Gustafson**

Sharon Irvin

Andy Kalnins

Beth Loyd

Cindy Nash

Emma Newcomb

Garin Newcomb

Brandi Phillips

***Cathy Schapmann**

Becky Shupe

Berna Stading

Diane Worrell-Eaton

Eastridge Trustees 2020

***Susan Budler**

Shirley Flynn-Bell

Larry Graham

Tanner Hilzer

Mike Laughter

Rex Radcliff

John Rouse

Randy Smejdir

Lisa Woito-Petty

*Denotes Moderator and/or
Co-Moderators