



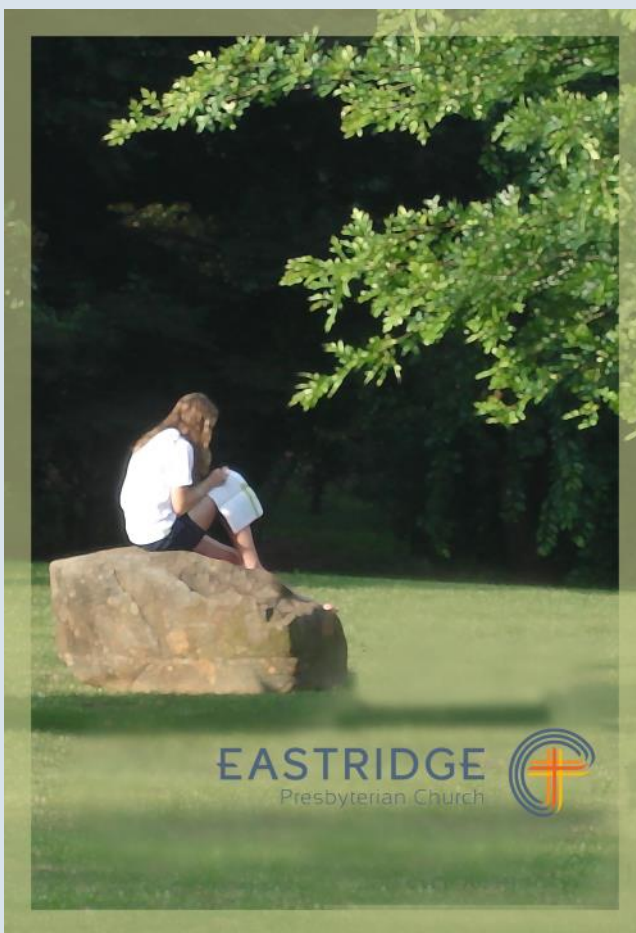
## FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN...

One of the discarded brainstormers for our August sermon series was Are We There Yet? A little more lighthearted, the unused title would have added levity to the series.

Are we there yet? It's the question many of us remember asking from the backseat of the station wagon or mini-van on the long drive vacations before flying became more reasonable. Are we there yet? It's the question we've rediscovered this year, as we've been travelling through this unusual summer. I can imagine myself in the back of our old station wagon, on a long road trip, asking God, "Are we there yet?" The Merton prayer has been appropriate, "Lord, I don't know where I'm going. I cannot see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end." Are we there yet? I imagine the calm, steady, comforting voice of God responding, "No, my beloved child. Not yet. But we are getting closer."

Friends, as I write this, I am mindful of the deep longing of the people of God to gather together. When can we gather together again? Are we there yet? The staff and church leaders have been wrestling with this question, always keeping the safety of ourselves and others in mind. For the time being, the message we are receiving from the health professions and government officials leads us to believe that we can gather safely, just not yet in the sanctuary.

So, we're getting creative. We're bringing in some new traditions inspired from really, really old traditions. When the early church first started gathering, they gathered in small groups. For the next few months at least, we will be gathering in small groups, outside (if possible), and for short periods of time. Beginning in September, we will offer four different opportunities for worship as a community:



- **Every Sunday, 9 am,** parking lot worship service (30 minutes) This service will consist of two pieces of music, scripture, sermon, and prayers. The service will be transmitted on an FM radio frequency, so you can stay in your car unmasked if you like. Or, if you prefer, bring your chairs and sit by your car. Please bring your own communion elements the first Sunday of the month! Worship will be oriented to the corner of the Food Pantry building.

- **Every Sunday, 10 am,** on Facebook, Youtube, and (402)372-5480 (60 minutes) We know that for many, this is either the only option, or the safest option, and will

remain that way for a while. We are committed to keeping this time for worship, with songs, choirs, Worship Connection, scripture, sermon, and prayers. Please gather your own communion elements the first Sunday of the month! And stay and join us for the chat following the sermon!

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- **2nd Wednesday of the month**, communion worship service in the sanctuary (by reservation ONLY) (15 minutes) Time slots will be limited and spaced throughout the day to allow for sanitization and cleaning. Times may be added as needed. This service consists of two short pieces of music, a short scripture reading, and the Lord's Supper. Worshipers will be asked to come in the side (south) door of the sanctuary, keeping physical distance and wearing masks. Sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C054BAFAC2CA3FC1-communion1>
- **Every Wednesday, 6 pm**, PAUSE! Pop-up Worship in the park and Facebook (15 minutes) Join us as we continue to "pop up" in the many parks in Lincoln! We will likely appear in your park soon! We will announce the park on Sundays and send e-mail reminders Wednesday at noon. Please wear masks and keep physical distance.

We're not there yet, but the story of God's people continues on. This is how it happens, how we find our way along the path we do not know. Throughout this month's Newsletter, you will find lots of creative ways to gather together to worship, learn and serve. We are excited about the ways we are able to live out who we are called to be as a community of faith, even in this challenging time. There's no doubt this fall will be different if we compare it to other falls. Our hope is that we can embrace the many ways we can be church together. Scripture bears witness to worship gatherings of all sizes, in different places and times, and for different reasons, but all for the same purpose. We can gather, friends, in person and online, in the company of hundreds or of a few. I believe what matters is gathering with hearts to worship God, for "wherever two or three gather in my name, there I am among them" (Matthew 18:20).

May God be with you, this day and every day! And I hope to see you soon!

*~Pastor Melodie*

**The Music Ministry** will be returning to modified rehearsals in order to continue to provide meaningful music during worship. New members are always welcomed! If you are interested in joining please contact Brian at [blew@eastridge.org](mailto:blew@eastridge.org) The Kirk Ringers will be rehearsing in two smaller groups to physically distance on Tuesday evenings.

Here is a great opportunity for all you singers out there: Chancel Choir is going "virtual" and will be recording music from home. Anyone can join and participate. If you are not already a member of the Chancel Choir and are interested in participating in virtual choir, please contact Brian to learn more.







## Finding the Sacred on the Road

### Journeying through this time of COVID-19

In an Opinion piece in the New York Times last month, Baltimore Lutheran pastor Emily Scott writes how this pandemic has locked many church communities out of their sanctuaries. As we come to accept that this displacement is not short lived, she invites believers to embrace this period as one of being on the road together - and take inspiration from biblical and spiritual ancestors.

We are not the first nor will we be the last to encounter God on the road. Think of Abram and Sarai leaving the familiar, Jacob's wrestling with God at the Yabbok, Israel's children wandering through the desert or being taken to exile, Naomi and Ruth seeking refuge, or the disillusioned disciples returning to Emmaus: God's promise to be with us, to provide for the journey, and to transform us is ever new.

During our midweek devotions we started to reflect on different ways how we can approach this time of journeying, how we can embrace the road, even though we do not know where we are going. A few years ago, I came across the work of Lacy Clark Ellman, a spiritual director from Seattle, who has worked extensively on the theme of "Pilgrimage" as a spiritual practice. Pilgrims have set out on soul-stirring journeys in search of transformation and Sacred Encounter for thousands of years. But a pilgrim isn't simply a person on a physical journey. Even though most of us can not just drop everything and travel to the Holy Land, or the Presbyterian Holy Land (Scotland), we can approach our "new normal" with the posture of a pilgrim: as someone who is on a sacred journey, expecting that God will meet us there — not only at the final destination, but right here on the road.

Lacy Clark Ellman distinguishes seven different archetypes of pilgrims - representing of the many types of journeys we can be on:

#### ***The Wayfarer :***

The first type takes its name from the old english word *fær* which means "journey" or "passage". Wayfarers are pilgrims in the most traditional sense: They set out to follow the well-worn paths of those who have gone before. They know that the Old Ways are not always outdated, but that



wisdom can be found in them. During these times of the pandemic, they are the ones looking out for old paths, with eyes to rediscover what is still (or maybe for the first time) life-giving in them. Their shadow side is that they are flowers at heart. Wanting to do things "the right way", they sometimes become too focused on the voices of elders and others they deem more experienced and wise than following their own path.

#### ***The Pioneer***

Pioneers are on the opposite spectrum. Visionaries at heart, they set off down unmarked paths and blaze new trails. They are unafraid to encounter the wilderness or the unknown on their search for the Sacred. They make the path by walking.



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During this time of the pandemic, they are the ones who embrace it as a time for opportunity when the maps are redrawn. Their shadow side is that sometimes they are so much focused on action that they're unable to engage with either the past or the present.

### ***The Voyager***

Much like the pioneer, voyagers endeavor into the unknown. Often they are led by a guiding star - like the magi who followed the star, like the monks in the Celtic tradition who wander for the love of God, setting out to new shores into life's tumultuous seas, with faith and the good news as their guide. Voyagers embrace the elements, are open to the wind and movement of the Spirit. Their shadow side is that sometimes their eyes are on the lookout for divine signs beyond this realm that they miss the Sacred right at their feet.



### ***The Nomad***

A pilgrim with no destination in mind, the Nomad is a wanderer, compelled to leave what is known behind even if it means there's no clear path ahead. Like Abraham and Sarah, nomads are at "tent people" - at home wherever they are, the future like an endless starlit sky above them, with a gift to see the daily manna before them. Their shadow side is that wandering can become a form of escape rather than exploration.



### ***The Seeker***

Seekers have a very special way to go through life: They're filled by the conviction that "something more" always awaits - maybe just behind the horizon, maybe if you lift an overlooked stone. Seekers are light finders. They bring wisdom and openness to a situation with their certainty that not only there is always light, but that it will lead to new life. Their shadow side is the temptation to think that the grass is always greener on the other side, and the challenge to find rest in what's been found.



### ***The Sojourner***

Taking its name from the root "sojourn" - meaning "a temporary stay" - sojourners are well aware they are pilgrims in a liminal space, in an in-between time. Traveling between one season of life and the next, they bring patience to what is unresolved, and are able, as Rilke says, to "live the questions now" while avoiding to jump to easy answers. Amidst a season of unknowing, the shadow side of the sojourner thrives in the waters of uncertainty and doubt, and sometimes hears whispers to abandon the journey and head back into security.



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## **The Initiate**

The final type, the initiate, is a pilgrim undergoing a rite of passage, a transition from old to new, from past to future, from death to life. To be a pilgrim through this time is not just an outer journey through space or time, but also one that brings in it the seed for a

radical inner transformation. As baptized members of Christ's body, we undergo this path in light of the promise of res-

urrection, of new life and freedom that overcomes even death. The Initiate encounters their shadow side when they are unwilling to let go of what needs to be left behind, making it impossible to fully receive what lies ahead.

**Which pilgrim are you? Which one of these seven types resonates with you the most?**



## **And where do you see the Sacred Guide, the Holy Spirit, leading us, both individually, and as a congregation?**

One thing I'm convinced: there is not one type of pilgrim better than another. In fact, the different types truly need each other. We need community - even while we're "on the road". One way we have put flesh on this idea of "traveling together" has been our pop-up mid-week devotions which lead us across different parks of Lincoln each Wednesday evening. Much like the 19th century tent revivals we gather together outside, wherever two or three are gathered... Not unlike Eastridge's charter members who worshiped in an ad-hoc circle of cars in Roberts park before there was any building. I'm curious to see what other ways - old and new - there may be: opportunities to live community, or be a community of communities, where God will be with us, provide for us, and transform us.

As Emily Scott writes: "Here, on the road, between the old life and a

new one, we have the opportunity to be remade. Who will we choose to become?"

August 25, 2020

Thomas Dummermuth

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/07/19/opinion/start-looking-and-youll-see-roads-all-over-the-bible.html>

Check out Lacy's work at <https://www.asacredjourney.net/>

The Pilgrim Archetype cards are represented here with permission by the author. You can purchase your own set of Pilgrim Archetype cards here: <https://www.etsy.com/shop/asacredjourney>

Rainer Maria Rilke, from "Letters to a Young Poet". Read the letter here:

<https://www.awakin.org/read/view.php?tid=747>

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/07/19/opinion/start-looking-and-youll-see-roads-all-over-the-bible.html>



**Per Capita:** The official definition reads "Per capita is an opportunity for all communicant members of the Presbyterian church through the governing bodies [mid councils] to participate equally, responsibly, and interdependently by sharing the cost of coordination and evaluation of mission; and of performing ecclesiastical, legislative, and judicial functions that identify a Reformed Church, while at the same time strengthening the sense of community among all Pres-

byterians" (GA Minutes, Part I, 1995). **But it really just means giving to the church! When each individual doesn't pay their per capita, it is up to the church to cover it, which takes funds away from other ministries.**



## PAUSE!

JOIN US FOR **POP-UP Devotions!**

Beginning in August, very Wednesday night at 6:30 pm, join us for POP-UP Devotions!

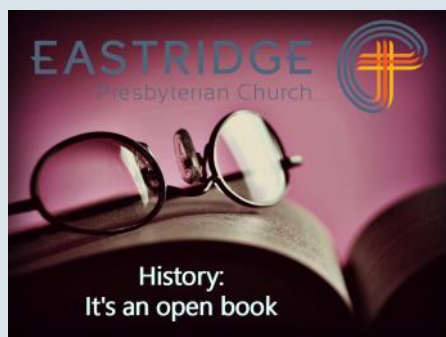
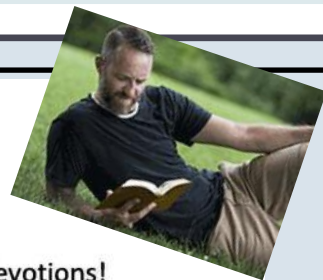
Here's how it works:

Every Wednesday at noon, we will send out an e-mail and post on our Facebook page **where** we will be at 6:30 pm for our weekly **PAUSE!** devotion. This will be somewhere *in the city, outside, likely in a park*. It will be short – no need for a chair or a blanket. Masks are encouraged, physical distancing is required. Join us if you can.

OR – continue to join us on our Facebook page for a livestream of the devotion at 6:30 pm.

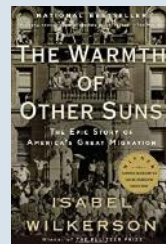
\*If there is a severe weather warning, we will be livestreaming on Facebook only.

\*\*If the video does not immediately appear, please be patient! We will get it posted as soon as we can.



### History: It's an Open Book

It's not book club, but a quarterly history discussion group based on a book! Led by Pastor Melodie, the focus is stories recently uncovered that we have not known or did not study. We begin on Zoom, Sunday, October 11, 2020 at 3:30 pm. Our first book is *The Warmth of Other Suns* by Isabel Wilkerson. Copies are available to borrow through the church office. Sign up here to join: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C054BAFAC2CA3FC1-history>



The past few months of the COVID-19 pandemic have been hard on many, including churches. Eastridge loses approximately \$ 1300 monthly in offering plate contributions alone (loose offering). You can give by going to [www.eastridge.org](http://www.eastridge.org) and clicking on the SERVE menu, then GIVE TO EASTRIDGE. There is also a Member Weblinks link at the bottom of the page. You can also mail your donation to: 1135 Eastridge Drive, 68510.

Income to date (August 14):           \$   287,299

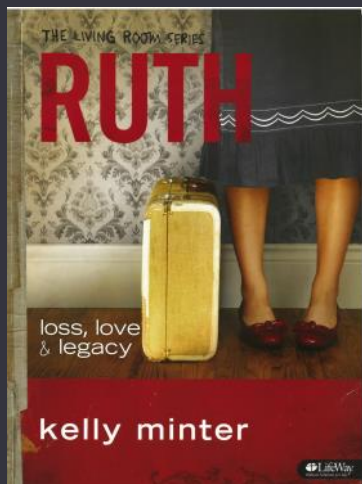
Needed for the year:                   \$   292,701

Last year (2019) at this time:       \$   329,622





**Ruth: Loss, Love, & Legacy:** The Wednesday morning bible study group will be starting a study on Ruth in September (beginning September 2). This group meets from 10:30 am—11:30 am each Wednesday. For more info, contact the office.



**Eastridge in the news!** Check out these articles for more information on how we are connecting during COVID-19.

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/story/planning-and-hosting-virtual-mission-network-meetings/>

[https://journalstar.com/news/local/cerescos-drive-thru-vacation-bible-camp-provides-children-with-a-splash-of-fun/article\\_90670ce7-f3ee-5163-9977-59fc777ea8f2.html](https://journalstar.com/news/local/cerescos-drive-thru-vacation-bible-camp-provides-children-with-a-splash-of-fun/article_90670ce7-f3ee-5163-9977-59fc777ea8f2.html)

We have now **added** Sunday nights (once a month...the fourth Sunday) to our **Gathering Place schedule**. So, if you tried to sign up and it was full, head back to the sign up below!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c054bafac2ca3fc1-serve3>



**Eastridge Hospice Singers Update:**  
*"We are all just walking each other home."*



The music ministry of our Eastridge Hospice Singers has been able to continue during the pandemic even though we have not been able to personally visit those who have requested our presence during their end-of-life journey. Since the beginning of April, Karen Shelton, Dori Bush and myself have been providing virtual singing visits for 6-8 people each week from the comfort of our homes. Using the technology of Skype, FaceTime and Duo, our virtual singing visits are made possible with the assistance of staff members from various residential facilities in and around Lincoln where our friends in hospice live or have lived. Even though providing our visits virtually isn't the most ideal situation, we continue to feel our musical impact is still being fully experienced with blessings being felt on "both sides of the compute screen". For this we are extremely thankful and always humbled. To request and schedule a virtual singing visit for a family member or a friend who are in hospice care, feel free to contact me at [epc.hospice.singers@gmail.com](mailto:epc.hospice.singers@gmail.com) or 402-432-8353. You may also contact the church office at 402-488-7844.

Patty Niemann, Coordinator Eastridge Hospice Singers

Bringing the peace and comfort of music to those journeying through hospice care.

*Paul's*  
LETTERS

**Thursday evening Bible**

**study:** This group is working its way through Paul's letters in the New Testament, via Zoom. Contact Kylie Menter or the office if you want to learn more.

**Worship with us!** Join us for LIVE worship every Sunday at 10 am on Youtube and Facebook, or this NEW WAY TO JOIN: call (402) 372-5480. Miss us on Sunday? Worship services are available on Youtube & Facebook, or (402) 372-5480 all week.



Like us on  
**Facebook**





**Devotion ministry at Eastridge:** We are always looking for more writers for our online and emailed devotion ministry! If you would like to write occasionally or monthly, please send an email to the office! This is an ongoing, five-days-a-week ministry that blesses many!



**Deacon outreach:** The Eastridge deacons hosted an ice cream social in August, and a movie night is coming in September. A parking lot tailgate is in the works for October. Watch the Lamp for more information in the coming weeks!



Deacons for Hospitality

**The Outreach Committee** has recommended the separation of the pantry from the Hunger Action Board, with the establishment of the Pantry Task Force. This recommendation is intended to allow the HAB to return to being a policy-oriented board overseeing all hunger-related ministries of the church. A dedicated Food Pantry Task Force will allow for an efficient response to decisions about food distribution and the Pantry ministry. The timing is appropriate with construction on the pantry and ramp to begin soon, followed by reopening of the pantry.

While the work of the pantry will be overseen by the Food Pantry Task Force, the HAB will retain responsibility for other hunger-related missions, including Meals on Wheels, the Bread Ministry, the Crop Walk, the Gathering Place, the Lefler Market, and Bread for the World. It will also address hunger-related issues that relate to systemic poverty and the Matthew 25 initiative.

If you have an interest in any of the hunger-related missions of the church, please consider serving on the Hunger Action Board. If you would like more information on the board or its responsibilities, please contact Robin Hadfield at [robinhad@gmail.com](mailto:robinhad@gmail.com).



**Every Sunday, 9 am, parking lot worship service (30 minutes), starting September 6.** This service will consist of two pieces of music, scripture, sermon, and prayers. The service will be transmitted on an FM radio frequency, so you can stay in your car unmasked if you like. Or, if you prefer, bring your chairs and sit by your car. Please bring your own communion elements the first Sunday of the month! Worship will be oriented to the corner of the Food Pantry building.







## Eastridge Goes to the Movies

Ever watched a movie and scratched your head when it was over? Wouldn't it be nice to discuss the film over a cup of coffee? "Join" us at the movies from your own home with your own cup of coffee. Watch "Just Mercy" (2019, PG-13) at your leisure, then "gather" via Zoom for an energetic discussion. This movie was selected by the Anti Racism Taskforce to challenge your perceptions and expand your awareness of racial equity issues in the United States. It is available to watch on Amazon Prime Video, YouTube, Vudu, and Google Play for a nominal fee. The church also owns a DVD copy which is available through the church library. About a

week before the discussion, you will receive information and trivia about the movie, discussion questions, and a link to the Zoom meeting.

Sunday, September 13, 3-4 p.m.

Register by Friday, September 11 at [eastridge.org](http://eastridge.org)



## Bistro Theology hits the Road!

For the first time since the pandemic, we will be meeting again in person - socially distanced of course!

For the summer months, we will meet "on the road": in backyards and on patios of friends and members of Eastridge Presbyterian Church. For our August meeting, we'll be meeting in the backyard of Andrew and Anne Loudon. Please bring your mask, your drink of choice with your own cooler and lawn chair.

### Join us in for "Bistro Theology on the Road"

August 27th, 7pm – 8:30pm: at Andrew and Anne Loudon

September 24, TBD

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, cul-

ture and society.

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

It was Karl Barth who said that in the Church of Jesus Christ there can and should be no non-theologians.

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 for a very special meeting with for Faith, Drinks, Discussions and Questions.

**Bistro Theology**  
FAITH. DRINKS. DISCUSSION. QUESTIONS.

# EASTRIDGE

Presbyterian Church



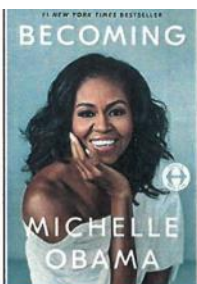
**EASTRIDGE**  
Presbyterian Church



Eastridge Faith Partners' mission statement: *The Eastridge Presbyterian Church Faith Partners offers alcohol, drug, and other addictions awareness, prevention, education, referral assistance and recovery support to the people served by this congregation in a safe, non-judgmental environment. Contact the office if you'd like to be a part of this committee!*

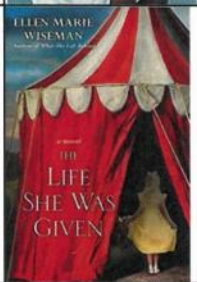
**EPC Book Club:** Join us for another year of great reading with EPC's Book Club! We meet the second Monday of each month except July-August. Our first pick of the year is *Becoming* by Michelle Obama. We'll meet September 14 at 7:00 pm, hopefully on the East Patio. Wear a mask and join us! For more information, contact the office. [office@eastridge.org](mailto:office@eastridge.org)

September 14



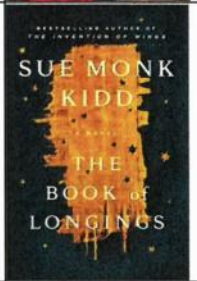
***Becoming***  
by Michelle Obama

October 12



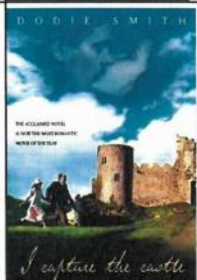
***The Life She Was Given***  
by Ellen Marie Wiseman

November 9



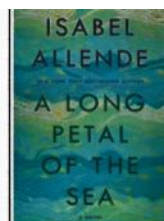
***The Book of Longings***  
by Sue Monk Kidd

January 11



***I Capture the Castle***  
by Dodie Smith

February 8



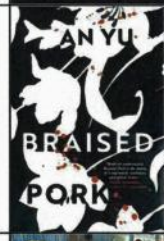
***A Long Petal of the Sea***  
by Isabel Allende

March 8



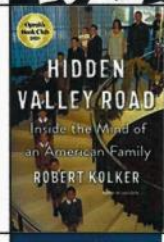
***Say Nothing: A True Story of Murder and Memory in Northern Ireland***  
by Patrick Radden Keefe

April 12



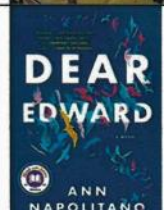
***Braised Pork***  
by An Yu

May 10



***Hidden Valley Road: Inside the Mind of an American Family***  
by Robert Kolker

June 14



***Dear Edward***  
by Ann Napolitano





## MINISTRY WITH CHILDREN

**Faith Connection for Preschool Children:** This class will resume once we are able to return to gathering in the church building and it is safe for the children to do so. Resources will be made available for families to have faith conversations at home.

**Faith Connection for Elementary Children:** The Faith Connection program for our elementary age children will begin in a hybrid mode for the fall.

**A Worship Box** will be delivered to the homes of our elementary aged children. These boxes will contain resources to help families have faith conversations at home.

**A Bitmoji Classroom** is a virtual classroom with les-



sons and activities for children to explore. It can be done as a family unit but will also be crafted in a way that children can also explore it on their own.

**Outdoor Fellowship Gatherings** with physical distancing, masks, and limited numbers will be explored on a once a month basis in order to give the children an opportunity to see one another. Additional details with safety guidelines will be made available to families.

**Acolytes:** This program will resume once we are able to return to worship in the sanctuary and it is safe for the children to participate.

**"Pray"-Ground:** This space will be available once we are able to return to worship in the sanctuary and it is safe for the children to gather.

## MINISTRY WITH YOUTH

**Faith Connection for Youth:** The Faith Connection program for our youth will be altered in order to accommodate safe physical distancing. This means we will begin the year meeting in small groups. These gatherings will be outdoors and require distancing. Additional details with time and group assignment will be emailed directly to families.



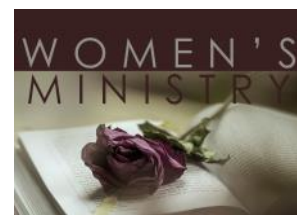
## Anti-Racism Taskforce

As a Matthew 25 congregation, we have committed to eradicating white supremacy and dismantling institutionalized racism. By joining together as the greater church, we hope to provide faithful leadership in the area of justice, love, and equality within our denomination and community. Weekly bulletin blurbs will highlight ways you can participate!



## Eastridge Presbyterian

**Women** begins a new year of circle meetings and gatherings. Contact the office for more information on how you can get involved!





## SESSION HIGHLIGHTS: AUGUST 20, 2020

The Session acknowledged the confirmation of Katelyn Boden, Bangot Dak, Nyaluak Dak, Thomas Davis, Nyakuar Kuon, Hope Shortridge, Paul Shortridge, and Anne Wies.

The Session approved by consensus plans for several new worshipping opportunities, including parking lot worship services, small group communion services in the sanctuary by reservation, and pop-up worship in neighborhoods.

The Reopening Committee deferred further discussion about returning to worship in the sanctuary until January 2021.

Kris Adler-Brammer reported that she has delivered back-to-school goodie bags to children and youth. She also delivers birthday signs to the homes of children and youth (following summer, along with members of Learn Commission).

The Deacons have discussed follow-up events after the

successful ice cream social. Possible ideas include an outdoor movie night, a tailgate event, and live music in the parking lot.

The Trustees reported that the sanctuary pews will be repaired by the vendor.

The Worship and Music Advisory Committee reported that musicians are recording in the sanctuary while wearing masks and/or physically distancing. The bell choir will be the first musical group to return to the sanctuary.

The Outreach Committee has recommended that the pantry be coordinated by the Pantry Task Force while the Hunger Action Board will coordinate the remaining hunger ministries of the church.

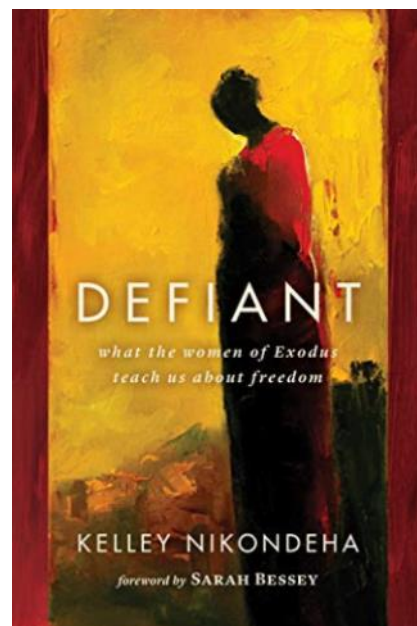
The Personnel Committee reported that Vince Ruhl's job description has been revised and his title changed to Director of Online Worship to reflect the additional duties related to livestreaming and other online activities.

## New Bible (Book) Study!

"There would be no Moses, no crossing of the Red Sea, no story of breaking the chains of slavery if it weren't for the women in the Exodus narrative. Women on both sides of the Nile exhibited a subversive strength resisting Pharaoh and leading an entire people to freedom. *Defiant* explores how the Exodus women summoned their courage, harnessed their intelligence, and gathered their resources to enact justice in many small ways and overturned an empire."

Beginning September 10, join Pastor Melodie for a Zoom Study Thursday mornings from 10-11 am. Study will conclude November 12. Book can be purchased through the church, if desired. Sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c054bafac2ca3fc1-defiant>

About the author: Kelley Nikondeha is the codirector and chief storyteller for Communities of Hope, a community development enterprise in Burundi, and the cofounder of Amahoro Africa, a conversation between theologians and practitioners within the African context.







Need to visit with someone in the office? Please call ahead for an appointment. When you arrive, call the office number 402-488-7844.



Join us for worship Sundays at 10 am! You'll find us at [www.eastridge.org](http://www.eastridge.org) and our Facebook page!

**Communion Sunday is the first Sunday of the month!** Bring the bread and juice that you have as you prepare for worship.



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

## MEET THE STAFF



### A Musical Note from Dr. Brian Lew, Director of Music Ministries

The Music Ministry at Eastridge is fortunate to remain active in several ways during COVID-19. With protective

measures in place, we are able to continue weekly bell choir rehearsals, provide choir anthems, and create musical content for Sunday worship. In addition to our Choral Scholars, Holly and Treyson, we are thankful that Diane Worrell Eaton, Kylie Meter, Kris Brenneis, and Hope Shortridge are willing to share their gifts in singing hymns for worship on Sunday mornings. We are also excited that Chase Crispin will be returning in September to lead children's music.

We need YOU to help prepare for our Christmas Eve services! Have you sung in the congregational pop-up choir for

"Still, Still, Still"? Like to sing "Silent Night" with our traditional candle lighting? We would love you to be a part of these traditions this year as we prepare for online worship on Christmas Eve. I would like for as many of us to join together in creating a virtual choir for both of these pieces. The process is quite simple! Please reach out to me (Brian) if you would like to learn more about how to contribute to these musical songs that we cherish so much each Christmas Eve.

~ Brian Lew

# Programming Schedule for 2020/2021



## KEY

A-MINISTRY FOR ADULTS

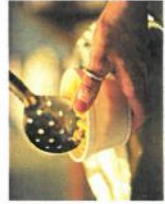
Y-MINISTRY FOR YOUTH

C-MINISTRY FOR CHILDREN

E-MINISTRY FOR EVERYONE

W-MINISTRY FOR WOMEN

M-MINISTRY FOR MEN



Worship, Learn, Serve  
W, L, S  
WORSHIP  
Learn  
SERVE



Date and time



Age group (key on each page)

Acolyte (for 2nd-5th grades)	COVID-19	W, S	Sundays	C
Adult Studies and Committees (see newsletter for specific studies... many are available!)		W, L, S	various	A
Chancel Choir		W	Wednesdays at 7:00pm	A, Y
Children's Music	COVID-19	W	TBD	C
Confirmation Class		W, L, S	Retreats held during the year	Y
Devotion Ministry		S	Write as often as you'd like!	A, Y
Eastridge serves at The Gathering Place		S	Last Monday of every month	E
Eastridge Hospice Singers		W, S	TBD	A
EPC Book Club		L	Usually Monday of the month during school year	A
EPW Gatherings		L, S	Third Wednesday of the month during school year	W
Faith Connection for Children in Preschool	COVID-19	W, L, S	Sundays during school year	C
Faith Connection for Elementary-Age Children	COVID-19	W, L, S	Tuesdays during school year	C
Faith Partners at Eastridge		S	Meetings the 2nd Thursday most months; special events	A, Y
Food Pantry	COVID-19	S	Volunteer on Wednesdays from 4-7pm	A, Y
GiFT	COVID-19	W, L, S	Second Sunday of the month during the school year	E



# Programming Schedule for 2020/2021



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Worship, Learn, Serve  
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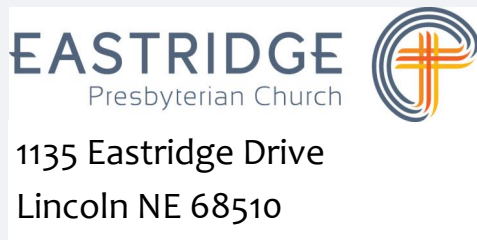


Age Group (key on each page)

Kirk Ringers	W		Tuesdays at 6:30 pm	A, Y
Ladies Night Out	L	COVID-19	Quarterly throughout the year	W
Meals on Wheels	S		Call the office to volunteer!	A
Men's Tuesday Morning Bible Study	L, S		Every Tuesday at 7am	M
"Pray"ground	W	COVID-19	During worship services	C
Prayer Shawl Group	W, S		On your own!	A
Stephen Ministry	S		Contact the church office for more information	A
Trailblazers	L, S	COVID-19	3rd Friday of the month except summer months	A
Wednesday Pause Pop-up devotions	W, L		6:30pm	E
Women's Circle Groups	L		First Wednesday of the month; times vary; except summer	W
Youth—Faith Connection	W, L	COVID-19	Wednesdays during the school	Y

# COVID-19

The COVID-19 logo indicates a major change, suspension, or postponement of the regular event/group. Most events have adapted according to CDC guidelines; check with respective directors or the office for information on specific ministries.



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