



## New Bible Study: Philippians

When: Thursdays for 6 weeks, starting, April 8, 10-11am.

Where: Online, via Zoom.

Philippi is Paul's first destination outside Asia Minor, his first city to visit in Europe, and his first mission in a place where there was no Jewish community from which to begin preaching.

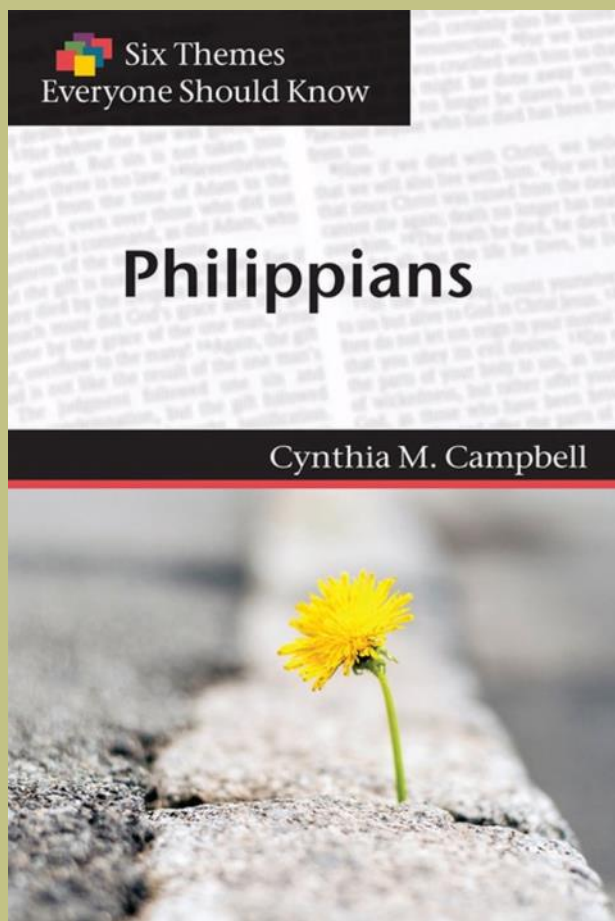
In Paul's letter to the Philippians, we get a unique glimpse of our beginnings as Christians.

Some themes explored include the importance of community for followers of Christ, Christian joy in spite of persecution, the nature of Christian unity, what it means to be "in Christ", and mutual hospitality.

Our study will be guided by Cynthia M. Campbell's short book on Philippians in the Six Themes Everyone Should Know series. Purchase of the book is not required for the study, but please indicate if you would like a personal copy.

Sign up using the following link: <http://bit.ly/studyphil>

For questions, contact pastor Thomas  
[tdummermuth@eastridge.org](mailto:tdummermuth@eastridge.org)



## Join us Holy Week!

**Mundy Thursday Communion Service**, April 1, 2021, 6:30 pm (on Zoom)

Meeting ID: 810 9321 9244 Passcode: EPCLENT or dial +1 312 626 6799

**Good Friday Service**, April 2, 2021,  
6:30 pm Parking Lot In Person

**Easter Sunday**, April 4, 2021

8 am Early Bird Parking Lot In-Person Worship Service: with communion, followed by Eastridge's "traditional" orange juice and donut breakfast

10 am Online Service: on Facebook, Youtube, or dial (402) 372-5480 featuring Hallelujah Chorus sung by local PC(USA) choirs





## 2021 MAYOR'S PRAYER BREAKFAST: APRIL 7 at 7:30 a.m.

You're Invited

Faith, Spirituality, and the Struggle for Racial Justice

What: 37th Annual Mayor's Interfaith Prayer Breakfast

When: Wednesday, April 7 from 7:30 to 8:45 a.m.

Where: Online - register for this free event and we'll send you more information.

Please join me as our community promotes unity, understanding, and mutual support among Lincoln's diverse faith and religious traditions. This year's event will highlight the social justice and liberating role of faith and spiritual communities throughout history. The program will feature sacred readings, prayers, and music from a variety of Lincoln's faith and religious communities.

We will also feature a conversation between keynote speakers Parker J. Palmer and Rev. Dr. Gregory C. Ellison II on the influence of Rev. Dr. Howard Thurman, who was a spiritual mentor to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the first civil rights leader to meet with Mahatma Gandhi.

Palmer is a world-renowned Quaker author, educator, and founder of the Center for Courage and Renewal. He has been named one of most influential senior leaders in higher education. In 2010, he received the William Rainey Harper Award, whose previous recipients include Margaret Mead, Elie Wiesel, and Paolo Freire.

Ellison is an ordained Baptist minister, Associate Professor at Emory University's Candler School of Theology, artist, activist, and founder of Fearless Dialogues, a grassroots initiative that creates spaces for unlikely partners to engage in hard, heartfelt conversations. He is the author of "Cut Dead But Still Alive: Caring for African American Young Men" and edited a recent book on the influence of Thurman titled "Anchored in the Current: Discovering Howard Thurman as Educator, Activist, Guide, and Prophet." Palmer contributed an essay for this book.

I'm deeply grateful to the organizers of this special event, the Mayor's Interfaith Prayer Breakfast Committee, and to the sponsors which include the Lincoln Community Foundation, Community Health Endowment, Greater Lincoln Chamber Foundation, and the Faith Coalition of Lancaster County, among many others.

Warmly,

Mayor Leirion Gaylor Baird

### **ANCHORED IN THE CURRENT: FAITH, SPIRITUALITY & THE STRUGGLE FOR RACIAL JUSTICE** "Virtual" 37th Annual Mayor's Interfaith Prayer Breakfast



**Honorary Chair: Mayor Leirion Gaylor Baird**

**Speakers: Parker Palmer**, Quaker educator/author, in conversation with **Rev. Dr. Gregory C. Ellison II**, professor, founder of Fearless Dialogues, and editor of new book on the influence of Rev. Dr. Howard Thurman

*Program will also feature sacred readings, prayers, and music from the wide variety of religious communities that call Lincoln, Nebraska home*

**Free Live web event, Wednesday, April 7, 2021, 7:30 am CDT**

**SAVE THE DATE**

**Sign up to join us for the Interfaith Prayer Breakfast.  
To RSVP, go to: <https://bit.ly/3k76rA3>**





## Holy Week activities



Your response to the Eastridge sign has been terrific, and the committee is appreciative of your suggestions for additional ways to share the message with the community. For now, the following options are available:

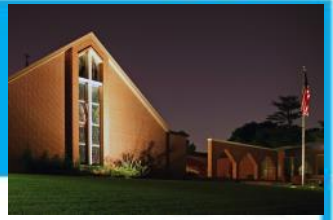
We've purchased a few more **yard signs** and they are available in the welcome center. Feel free to pick one up, but if you need delivery, let the church office know and we will get one to you.

We also still have some **laminated 9" x 12" signs** available. They have been especially appreciated by those who live in a situation that does not allow yard signs, and can also be picked up in the welcome center, or delivered, if needed.

**A new and exciting option 3" x 4" clings** that can be placed in your car, your home, on your water bottle or coffee cup. They were given out during the parking lot service on Palm Sunday and will be again on Easter. They too will be available in the welcome center at other times.

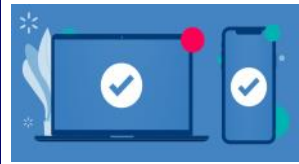
Any of these can be shared with friends and family who are not EPC members.





The **EPC Hunger Action Board** is forming a walking team for the Food Bank's Extra Mile 2021 Virtual Walk. This Virtual Walk is a fundraiser for LPS Programs at the Food Bank.

If you go to the Food Bank website the teams are listed on the left. You can join the team to walk and/or donate. Registration and fundraising: March 1 - April 30, 2021.



Look for more opportunities to sign up for **IN-PERSON worship** following Easter. Click the link below to sign up for worship April 11.  
<https://rsvp.church/r/eCHViSzo>

**Help Needed!** We are in need of EPC volunteers to deliver our Meals on Wheels route the 4th Monday of each month. Details about this important community outreach are included in the Meals On Wheels article in this newsletter. If you can fill this need, or want more information regarding it, please contact the church office as soon as possible.



Letters went out recently to adult children of the congregation. If you are a parent and receive one of these letters at your home address, please forward to your son/daughter for us! We are updating addresses and files. Thank you!

## Join us for our Easter Service

### Easter Sunday, April 4:

8 am Early Bird Parking Lot In-Person Worship Service: with communion, followed by orange juice and donut breakfast

10 am Online Service: on Facebook, Youtube, or dial (402)372-5480 featuring Hallelujah Chorus sung by local PC(USA)choirs

### Eastridge Spring Clean Up Day:

**April 17.** Look for more information to come on spring clean up...we will again partner with the Eastridge Neighborhood Association to have roll-offs available.



Interested in membership at Eastridge? We will have a **NEW MEMBER CLASS** soon. If you are interested, please send an email to the office at:  
[office@eastridge.org](mailto:office@eastridge.org)







## Session Highlights:

The pictorial directories are available in the Welcome Center for a freewill donation.

The Reopening Committee reported that everything went well for the first worship in the Sanctuary on March 14, 2021.

The Session affirmed its e-mail vote to send letters to adult children of the congregation.

The Session approved a revision of the Personnel Manual concerning the

calculation of vacation time for all staff who work more than three-quarters' time.

Rev. Thomas Dummermuth reported that only 42 chapters remain to be transcribed for the Coronavirus Bible.

Carolyn Olsen and Robin Hadfield reported on the February 20, 2021, Homestead Presbytery meeting. Presbytery has not had a review of its finances since 2016. The Synod will now handle the presbytery's finances since the retirement of Cheryl Rennick. Presbytery will elect a volunteer treasurer.

A thank you from Aging Partners (for our Angel Tree donations):

You guys have been so helpful over the years and this time you really were there for our clients during a hard time. Bless all of you and especially Susan Taylor for caring for seniors. You are great!

We were so happy to receive your generous gift card donations. One care manager emailed that her client "was so excited to be able to go out and purchase a Christmas dinner and groceries." She wanted the church members to know she said thanks.

*Joyce Kubicek, Aging Program Coordinator*

**Meals on Wheels:** For many years the Eastridge Presbyterian Women (EPW) have coordinated participation in the delivery of Meals on Wheels on behalf of Eastridge Presbyterian Church. Most recently, Nan Nelson has served as the coordinator and contact person with Tabitha. At this point in time, the EPW is asking that Meals on Wheels become a ministry of the whole congregation, so coordination of Meals on Wheels for EPC will shift from EPW to the Hunger Action Board, with Jo Bateman being the contact person. Other than that, our church' participation remains the same, with EPC volunteers delivering meals every Monday.

We are currently in need of new volunteers to deliver our church's route on the 4th Monday of each month. The time commitment is from a Tabitha arrival time about 10:30 a.m.-10:45 and generally takes no more than 2 hours. It could be more or less, depending on the number of stops on the route, which varies as the clients needs change. Some volunteers are able to arrange to do this during their lunchtime. If you are interested in being a volunteer, or want more information please contact the church office. It is also helpful to have the names of those available to sub.

On behalf of the entire congregation, the Hunger Action Board wants to thank the EPW for their many years of leadership in this important ministry. Special thanks to Nan for her faithful leadership.





## EASTRIDGE HOSPICE SINGERS UPDATE

The music ministry of our Eastridge Hospice Singers continues to provide the peace and comfort of music to those in hospice care through our virtual singing visits. In the spring of 2020, we had no idea how we would be able to still visit our friends in hospice. But God provided a way through staff members at residential facilities and hospice care homes who were willing to connect us virtually to our friends. Most of our visits took place using Skype, FaceTime and Duo. And a few friends we connected with through phone calls when internet access wasn't available.

Recently I was asked to provide a virtual program for a local community group about our ministry. As I prepared for this program I became curious as to how many people we had sung for since our ministry began and the number of visits we had provided. From December 2018 to March 2020, our 30 trained hospice singers provided 111 weekly and monthly "in person" visits to 65 individuals. Since April 2020, during the pandemic, Dori Bush, Karen Shelton and



myself have been blessed to provide 226 weekly virtual visits to 15 individuals along with 102 weekly phone calls to those without internet access. In total, from Dec 2018 through March 2021, God has blessed our ministry with the ability to provide 584 singing visits. Isn't that truly AMAZING? This certainly has proven to me, once again, that with God there is always a way!

We will continue to provide virtual visits for those requesting them and are looking forward to when we can again visit our friends in hospice with an "up close and personal" visit. To request and schedule a virtual or in person singing visit for a family member or a friend receiving hospice care, feel free to contact me at [epc.hospice.singers@gmail.com](mailto:epc.hospice.singers@gmail.com) or 402-432-8353 or the church office at

402-488-7844. You are also invited to pick up an Eastridge Hospice Singers brochure and business card at the Welcome Desk for yourself and/or to share with others.

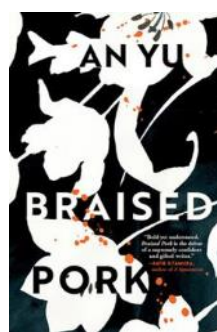
*Patty Niemann, Coordinator*

*Eastridge Hospice Singers*

## Eastridge Church Directory: Our photo



directory is available at the Welcome Desk! **Free will donations will be accepted to cover the costs of printing.**



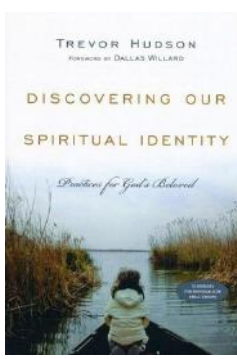
**EPC Book Club:** Meetings are the second Monday of the month at 7:00 pm. For a complete list of this year's picks, head to the church website on the calendar page. April pick: **Braised Pork** by An Yu. Join us April 12 at 7:00 pm in Huxtable Lounge!



Join us April 29 at 7:00 pm for Bistro Theology. Contact the office for the link, or follow on Facebook. More info on location to come.

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  
 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



**BIBLE STUDY NEWS:** The Wednesday morning bible study will start **Discovering Our Spiritual Identity** by Trevor Hudson in April. We meet each Wednesday at 10:30 am in Huxtable Lounge. For more information, contact the office at: [office@eastridge.org](mailto:office@eastridge.org)


Join the women of Eastridge for **Fourth Friday Coffee Fellowship**. Currently, we are meeting via Zoom at 8:30 am the fourth Friday of each month. Contact the office for more information!



**Eastridge Presbyterian Women Gathering:** for April, we will hear from City Impact. Join us on April 21 at 1:00 pm in Huxtable Lounge to hear more, and to join in fellowship with the women of Eastridge.



We are always looking for new writers for our online **devotion ministry**. If you are interested in writing, even just occasionally, please contact the office for more information. If you'd like to receive a prompt and the link five days a week via email, let the office know as well.



**Eastridge Presbyterian Women, EPC church staff and congregational family members:** Greetings to all. Thank you so much for the beautiful prayer shawl and for thinking of me and keeping me close in thought and prayer. I understand that this shawl was lovingly made by EPC member Elda Powley and prayed upon as she crafted it. Receipt of this shawl coincides with both my March 1 release from the hospital after a brief stay and the celebration of my 90th birthday on March 9.  
*Love to all, Bryce Hastings.*

# THANKS



**EASTRIDGE**  
Presbyterian Church



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