



THE EXTENDED FAMILY ROAD TRIP - EXODUS -
WHEN PHARAOH RELEASES THE ISRAELITES FROM CAPTIVITY
GOD GUIDES THEIR WAY TO THE PROMISED LAND
WITH A PILLAR OF CLOUD DURING THE DAY
AND A PILLAR OF FIRE AT NIGHT.
DESPITE THESE HELPFUL DIRECTIONS,
THIS TRIP OF ABOUT 61 MILES
FROM EGYPT TO CANAAN TAKES THEM 40 YEARS.



THE BARMYMOON - LUKE -
MARY AND JOSEPH ARE NEWLY ENGAGED,
EXPECTING A BABY ANY DAY,
AND FORCED TO MAKE A TRIP
BACK TO JOSEPH'S HOMETOWN
TO BE INCLUDED IN THE BIG CENSUS.
THE WALK FROM GALILEE
TO BETHLEHEM IS 120 MILES,
AND WHILE POPULAR IMAGES OF THEIR JOURNEY
SHOW MARY RIDING ON A DONKEY,
THE BIBLE DOESN'T MENTION ANY RIDE.
THAT'S ONE TOUGH MOTHER.



ROAD TRIP!

JUNE 12-JULY 10

A SUMMER SERMON SERIES

THE TRIP THAT CHANGED YOUR LIFE - ACTS -
SAUL IS BAD NEWS FOR CHRISTIANS.
HE ACTIVELY ARRESTS JESUS' FOLLOWERS
AND EVEN HAS SOME OF THEM KILLED
FOR REBELLING AGAINST THE ROMAN EMPIRE.
HE IS ON HIS WAY TO GET PERMISSION
TO ARREST PEOPLE
WHEN HE IS STRUCK BY A BRIGHT LIGHT.
HE FALLS TO THE GROUND,
TEMPORARILY LOSES HIS EYESIGHT...ETC.
SAUL REALIZES HOW WRONG HE HAS BEEN
AND IMMEDIATELY BECOMES A FOLLOWER OF JESUS...
BECOMES ONE OF THE MOST INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE IN THE EARLY CHURCH.



THE FRIEND TRIP - LUKE -
AFTER JESUS ROSE FROM THE DEAD,
WORD BEGINS TO SPREAD FAST AMONG HIS
FOLLOWERS.
TWO OF THEM ARE WALKING
THE SEVEN MILES TO A TOWN CALLED EMMANUEL
WHEN THEY ARE JOINED
BY A MAN THEY DON'T RECOGNIZE.
SPOILER ALERT: IT'S JESUS!

THE WORK TRIP - ACTS & 2 CORINTHIANS -
DURING HIS LIFETIME,
THE APOSTLE PAUL TAKES AT LEAST THREE MAJOR ROAD TRIPS
THROUGH THE LANDS AROUND THE MEDITERRANEAN. I
N ALL, HE COVERS NEARLY 10,000 MILES,
MOSTLY ON FOOT AND BY BOAT.
HIS TRAVELS INCLUDE SOME PRETTY SIGNIFICANT UPS AND DOWNS.
YES, HE TELLS HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS,
BUT HE IS ALSO ROBBED, BEATEN UP, SHIPWRECKED MORE THAN ONCE,
CHASED BY WILD ANIMALS AND THROWN IN JAIL.





ROAD TRIP!

A SUMMER SERMON SERIES

The Extended Family Road Trip - Exodus - When Pharaoh releases the Israelites from captivity God guides their way to the promised land with a pillar of cloud during the day and a pillar of fire at night. Despite these helpful directions, this trip of about 81 miles from Egypt to Canaan takes them 40 years.

The Babymoon - Luke - Mary and Joseph are newly engaged, expecting a baby any day, and forced to make a trip back to Joseph's hometown to be included in the big census. The walk from Galilee to Bethlehem is 120 miles, and while popular images of their journey show Mary riding on a donkey, the Bible doesn't mention any ride. That's one tough mother.



The Friend Trip - Luke - After Jesus rose from the dead, word begins to spread fast among his followers. Two of them are walking the seven miles to a town called Emmaus when they are joined by a man they don't recognize. Spoiler alert: It's Jesus!

The Trip That Changed Your Life - Acts - Saul is bad news for Christians. He actively arrests Jesus' followers and even has some of them killed for rebelling against the Roman Empire. He is on his way to get permission to arrest people when he is struck by a bright light. He falls to the ground, temporarily loses his eyesight....etc. Saul realizes how wrong he has been and immediately becomes a follower of

Jesus....becomes one of the most influential people in the early church.

The Work Trip - Acts & 2

Corinthians - During his lifetime, the Apostle Paul takes at least three major road trips through the lands around the Mediterranean.

In all, he covers nearly 10,000 miles, mostly on foot and by boat. His travels include some pretty significant ups and downs. Yes, he tells hundreds of people the Good News of Jesus, but he is also robbed, beaten up, shipwrecked more than once, chased by wild animals and thrown in jail.



New Member Class!

Join us June 1 at 6:30 pm in Huxtable Lounge to find out more about membership at Eastridge. Even if you are not planning to join right now, come to find out more information and ways to get involved in the life of the church. Sign up at: <http://bit.ly/discovereastridge>



Matthew 25

***Fighting hunger...Addressing systemic racism...
Increasing congregational vitality***

During June, our focus turns to learning more about refugees. World Refugee Day, June 20, is an international day designated by the United Nations to honor refugees around the globe. This year, the focus will be on the right to seek safety. Every person on this planet has a right to seek safety – whoever they are, wherever they come from and whenever they are forced to flee. Although the word “refugee” is not found in the Bible, “strangers” and “foreigners” were used to refer to anyone from another ethnic group who had chosen to live with the Jews in Israel.

Today’s strangers include displaced persons who have been forced to leave their homes due to war or disaster; refugees who have been forced to leave their country but hope to return someday; migrants who have chosen to leave their home country to escape poverty; and asylum seekers who have asked to live in another country to escape religious or political persecution. Whoever they are, people forced to flee should be treated with dignity. Any-



MATTHEW 25

one can seek protection, regardless of who they are or what they believe. It is non-negotiable: seeking safety is a human right. Wherever they come from, people forced to flee should be welcomed. Refugees come from all over the globe to get out of harm’s way. What remains universal is the right to seek safety. Whenever people are forced to flee, they have a right to be protected. Whatever the threat – war, violence, persecution – everyone deserves protection. Everyone has a right to be safe.

“Eastern Nebraska Rotary Clubs help Ukrainian refugees as Russian invasion continues.” (10/11 News, Bria Battle, Apr. 17, 2022) Watch a report about efforts by fellow Nebraskans to support Ukrainians fleeing the war. <https://bit.ly/3wTnoHP>

“The Middle of Everywhere: The World’s Refugees Come to Our Town.” (C-SPAN, YouTube, 2002, 10:54 min.) Watch Mary Pipher discuss her study of refugees living in Lincoln.

Book available from multiple sources. <https://bit.ly/3sZuBIN>

“Reporter at Ukrainian front says it’s hard to see what could stop the fighting.” (Nebraska Examiner, Paul Hammel, May 23, 2022) Lincoln native and University of Nebraska-Lincoln grad covers war for National Public Radio. <https://bit.ly/3wOT93c>



Eastridge Presbyterian Women: Operation

Safe Harbor Ukraine

The Board of EPW met in early April. On the agenda was a question: think of a mission project to which to donate money from our EPW funds. Several ideas were mentioned and then someone said: what about Ukraine? Several

of us remembered seeing a story on the local news—Operation Safe Harbor Ukraine. Steve Glenn and Executive Travel were helping refugees from Ukraine in Warsaw, Poland. I called Executive Travel and they gave me all the information. I then talked with some EPW members and requested a check for \$ 3,500 (from EPW funds). It was sent to Heartland Bible Church in Lincoln and they forwarded to Operation Safe Harbor Ukraine in Warsaw.

There have been 4 newspaper articles

in the Lincoln Journal Star in the last 6 weeks on Operation Safe Harbor Ukraine. OSHU is paying for 50 rooms in Best Western Hotel Felix for 160 Ukrainian refugees and volunteers from Nebraska. They get lodging, 2 meals a day, medicine and other needs met. This is a story I wanted to share with others in the congregation. EPW has made an impact on a group of refugees.

Susan Taylor, Moderator, EPW



Summer Book Study

Join Pastor Melodie as we explore Dana L. Robert's book, *"Faithful Friendships; Embracing Diversity in Christian Community"* Thursdays at 10 am this summer!

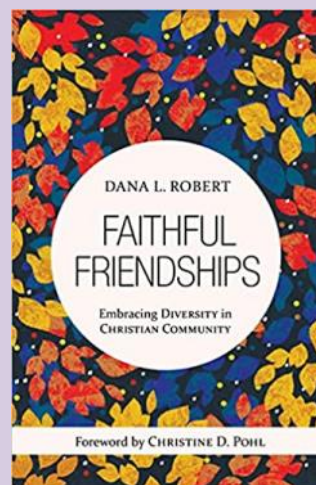
Robert's book is timely for our congregation as we welcome our friends from the Sudan/South Sudan Mission Network August 3& 4 for the annual meeting, and consider involvement in the Lancaster County Interfaith Justice Organization. Robert is a professor of World Christianity and History of Mission at the Boston University School of Theology, and invites us to consider stories of friendships and participate in the spiritual discipline of friendship across divisions. In the Introduction she writes, "this book insists that Christians have the responsibility to make friends across divisions that separate us from one another. For Christians today, the cultivation of risk-taking friendship is an ethical and spiritual imperative."

She continues, "This book is about Christians who practices respect, forgiveness, compassion, humility, sharing, giving and receiving in mutuality."

Due to traveling schedules, this study will be held primarily at from 10am-11am on Zoom the following Thursdays: June 23, July 7, 14, 21, 28, August 11, 18, and 25. However, in person (outside, weather permitting) gatherings are also planned!

Please sign up in the church office by either calling the front desk or emailing office@eastridge.org.

Books available upon request.



Summer Prayer of Inner Peace

Our inner sanctuary of peacefulness often diminishes in the flurry of summer's social activities, with endless tasks remaining unfinished at home, the return from vacation to numerous deadlines and pressures of work. When this happens, our internal direction and sense of purpose easily upends itself. If we lack attentiveness, our ability to live out of our best self tends to lessen. Now is the time to restore an awareness of the magnificent temple within us where the Spirit of Peace abides. We can return to this calm, abiding presence whenever we deliberately choose to do so. May the following prayer be a source of remembering and tending to this indwelling gift.

Peaceful Presence,

Grant me the courage to slow down the hurried pace of life in order to be mindful

of your ever-present guidance and assistance, especially when I try to go it alone.

Restore my perception of the inherent joy that awaits me in each day if only I turn toward you with a recognition of your vibrant energy moving through me.

Awaken me to a keener awareness of your light-filled presence within my being, especially when life fills with shadows of sadness and the cloudiness of concerns.

Show me how you are dwelling in those places of my life where I've forgotten to welcome you with an open heart of acceptance and hospitality.

Interrupt my self-defeating schemes and desires so I have a keener sense of how they lead me further from you and obliterate inner peace. When you move me toward change and deeper relationship with you, show me where my resistance to that growth-filled invitation resides.

Enliven my physical senses to the beauty and wonder of ordinary moments and a resounding gratitude for your presence within those moments.

Shake free what keeps my thoughts and feelings imprisoned in anxiety and useless fretting.

Draw me into the stillness essential for your serenity to dwell in my being, and lead me into times of solitude, even if you have to drag me there.

Come, tickle my mind and heart into restored peacefulness so I more readily and wisely welcome you to the home of my heart.

Rupp, Joyce. Prayer Seeds (pp. 160-161). Ave Maria Press. Kindle Edition.



Ice Cream Social:

The Eastridge deacons will host an Ice Cream Social on Sunday, June 12 at 4:00 pm. Join us on the East Patio. More details to come!

EASTRIDGE

Presbyterian Church



A Life in Light



*Meditations
on Impermanence*

MARY PIPHER

New York Times bestselling author of *WOMEN ROWING NORTH* and *REVIVING OPHELIA*

BLOOMSBURY

EASTRIDGE
Presbyterian Church



FRANCIE & FINCH
BOOKSHOP



Join us as we welcome bestselling author Mary Pipher to Eastridge Presbyterian Church for a reading from her newest book, *"A Life in Light: Meditations on Impermanence"*.

Books will be available for purchase at the event and Mary will sign them. (We're getting a head start at Eastridge - this book won't be available to the general public until 6/28!) You can also pre-order with Francie & Finch and pick up your copy of *A Life in Light* at the event. This way you can be sure to get a copy. Call 402.781-0459 or order online at <https://bit.ly/marypipherbookorders>

Sunday, June 26 at 3:00 pm

**Eastridge Presbyterian Church, 1135 Eastridge Drive,
Lincoln, Nebraska**



Save the date
to join us in the *in person and on-line*
Middle of Everywhere!

SUDAN/SOUTH SUDAN MISSION NETWORK CONFERENCE 2022

in person
cost
\$95

Lincoln, Nebraska
August 3&4, 2022

online
cost
\$25

**Building Community:
Celebrating the Diaspora
& Educational Development**

**Pre-register interest at:
bit.ly/sssmnlnk2022**

Accommodation
information to follow

Scholarships available





Emily Boden is the daughter of Scott and Michelle Boden. She graduated from Lincoln Southwest High School. Emily is a confirmed member of EPC.

Natalie Brady is the daughter of Amanda Rodell and Justin Brady. She graduated from Lincoln Southwest High School. Natalie is a confirmed member of EPC.



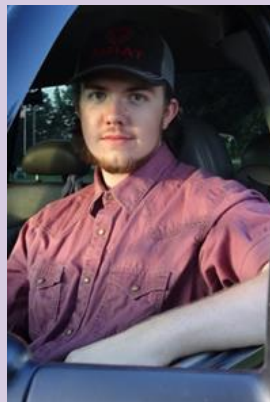
Jimmie Cover is the son of Jim and Tamara Cover. He graduated from Lincoln Southeast High School. During High School, Jimmie was a part of the Show Choir and baseball and track teams. He is a member of the National Honors Society and also participated in Youth Leadership Lincoln. Jimmie is a confirmed member of EPC and has participated in the life of the church through Youth Group. In the fall, Jimmie will attend the University of Nebraska – Lincoln where he will major in Biological Systems Engineering.



Heidi Gabriela Felix is the daughter of Miguel Felix and Liliana Felix. She graduated from Lincoln Southwest High School in October. Heidi is a confirmed member of EPC and has been active in the church through Youth

Group and Mission Trips. This fall Heidi will attend Arizona State University where she will major in Exploratory Health and Life Sciences.

Will Hershiser is the son of Shirlette Hershiser and Brad Hershiser. He graduated from Lincoln East High School in December. While at East, Will participated in the music programs playing trumpet and guitar. He was also a part of the East High Trap team. Will is a confirmed member of EPC and has been active in the church through Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, Youth Group, and Mission Trips. In the fall, Will will attend Southeast Community College – Milford Campus to study Diesel Technology.



Riley Kalnins is the son of Andy Kalnins and Beth Sprude. He graduated from Lincoln East High School. During High School, Riley participated in band and Orchestra where he has received many honors. He also served at the Drum Major of the Marching Band.

Riley also received the John Phillip Sousa Band Award. Riley is a member of the National Honors Society and is an Academic letter winner. Riley will attend Monmouth College in the fall majoring in Biochemistry.



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Elizabeth Kohel is the daughter of Gina Kohel and Brian Kohel. She graduated from Lincoln East High school. During High School, Elizabeth was part of the music program through Marching and Concert Band. When she is not in school, you can find her working at Eastmont Towers. Elizabeth is a confirmed member of EPC and

has participated in the life of the church through Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, Youth Group, Mission Trips, and Triennium. She has also been a faithful volunteer with the Tuesday Afterschool Program. She currently serves as an elder at EPC. In the fall, Elizabeth will attend Wayne State College where she will major in Elementary Education.



Nyamuoch Kuon is the daughter of Nyabuoy Chan. She graduated from Lincoln Southwest High School. During High School, Nyamuoch was a part of the FCCLA Club. Nyamuoch is a confirmed member of EPC and has participated in the life of the church through Youth Group.

In the fall, Nyamuoch will attend the University of Nebraska – Lincoln where she will choose between Pre-Law or a Criminal Justice major.



Masheala Maynez is the daughter of Eddie Maynez and Sarah Jazbec. She graduated from Lincoln East High School. During High School, Masheala was a part of the Concert and Show choirs. Masheala is a confirmed member of EPC and has participated in the life of the church

through Youth Group and Mission Trips. In the fall, she will attend Grand Canyon University where she will major in Social Work.

Victoria McGee is the daughter of Terry and Carmen Kelle. She graduated from Lincoln East High school. During High School, Victoria was part of the Tennis team. When she is not in school, you will find her working at an afterschool daycare. Victoria is a confirmed member of EPC and has participated in the



life of the church through Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, Youth Group, and Mission Trips. She has also been a faithful volunteer with the Tuesday Afterschool Program. In the fall, Victoria will attend The Culinary Institute of America in New York.

Tre Nash is the son of Jerry Sr and Cindy Nash. He graduated from Lincoln Southeast High School. Tre is a confirmed member of EPC.

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Maylena Olsen is the daughter of Gary and Jennifer Olsen. She graduated from Lincoln East High School. Maylena is a confirmed member of EPC and has been active in the church through Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, Youth Group, and Mission Trips. In the fall, Maylena will take a gap year.



Barrett Rodell is the son of Eddy Rodell and April Rodell. He graduated from Lincoln Southeast High school. During High School, Barrett was part of the music program through Marching Band. Barrett is a confirmed member of EPC and has participated in the life of the church

through Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, Youth Group, Mission Trips, and Triennium. In the fall, Barrett will attend the University of Nebraska – Lincoln where he will major in Computer Science.



Faith Partners Congregational Survey: Mental Health & Other Life Controlling Issues

1. At some point in my lifetime I have been personally concerned about or affected by my own or someone else's issues with other life-controlling situations like addictions to gambling, eating or sex, and mental health concerns.

- A. Yes, my own B. Yes. Someone close to me
C. Yes. An acquaintance D. No. Never

2. I am currently concerned about or affected by my own or someone else's life controlling situations like addictions to gambling, eating or sex, and mental health concerns.

- A. Yes, my own B. Yes. Someone close to me
C. Yes. An acquaintance D. No. Never

3. Our Church should be involved in helping families who face other life-controlling situations like addictions to gambling, eating or sex, and mental health concerns.

Agree Strongly Agree Neutral Disagree Disagree Strongly

4. Our Church should be involved in helping prevent other life-

controlling situations like addictions to gambling, eating or sex, and mental health concerns.

Agree Strongly Agree Neutral Disagree Disagree Strongly

5. I would consider participating in some form of ministry with alcohol/drug issues or other life-controlling situations

- A. No thanks B. Maybe in a year or two
C. Possibly, in a few months D. Yes. Sign me up.

6. This Faith Partner's Ministry is something I might be interested in finding out more about or participating in. If yes, please print your name and contact info and put in the offering plate or office inbox:

Name: _____

Contact: _____



EASTRIDGE
Presbyterian Church





EASTRIDGE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SESSION HIGHLIGHTS: MAY 26, 2022

The Session approved the minutes of the Session meeting of April 28, 2022.

The Session removed Harley Shortridge from the member rolls, deceased on March 22, 2022.

The Session acknowledged that the Rev. Dr. Melodie Jones Pointon officiated at the memorial service of Harley Shortridge, held at Eastridge Presbyterian Church on May 9, 2022.

The Session approved a letter to the church mailing list from the Stewardship Committee.

The Outreach Committee reported that it has approved sending emerging needs funds to support PCUSA Disaster Relief in Ukraine.



Eastridge is collecting plastic bags through the **TREX program**! We will be able to furnish our new green space on the north side of the building with a TREX bench. For more information, check out the receptacles in the entry. **ONLY bags, NOT any other plastic recyclables accepted.**

G.R.O.W. Garden Wish List

- Ivory Silk tree lilac \$250 (2)
- Taylor juniper \$150 (7)
- Autumn Brilliance \$130 (1)
- Miss Kim lilac \$125 (5)
- Autumn Jazz viburnum \$35 (3)
- Cornelius cherry \$190 (2)
- Royal Star magnolia \$150 (purchased!)
- Strolling path \$50 per section
- Sprinkler system contribution

To give, go to: Eastridge.org

- Click on "Menu"
- Select "Serve/Give to Eastridge"
- Enter the amount of your donation
- Pull down and select "Garden Fund"
- Use optional memo to indicate who the gift is honoring and/or the specific item you want to contribute

G.R.O.W.
Gather, Reflect, or Wander
A GARDEN
Wish List

You can donate a specific planting for the Eastridge Presbyterian Church Garden:

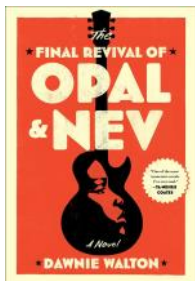
- ◆ Ivory Silk tree lilac \$250
- ◆ Taylor juniper \$150
- ◆ Autumn Brilliance \$130
- ◆ Miss Kim lilac \$125
- ◆ Autumn Jazz viburnum \$35
- ◆ Cornelius cherry \$190
- ◆ Royal Star magnolia \$150
- ◆ Strolling path \$50 per section

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EPC Book Club: Join us on June 13 at 7:00 pm to discuss *The Final Revival of Opal & Nev* by Dawnie Walton. Book club members, we will have next year's list of monthly picks available for discussion leader signup.



thank you

We would like to thank our EPC Village for all of the

kindness you have shown our family during the last months of Harley's illness, his hospice stay, and during the celebration of life service. First we had amazing, timely and empathetic pastoral care for Harley, Rose, and our family from Melodie, Thomas, Kris, Brian, and Brent throughout the entire time. Patty and Tena provided the most wonderful afternoon of music on behalf of the hospice singers. Melodie worked her magic in helping us decide what to do for the service; thanks to: Vince for live streaming the service and playing the videos; to Brent for providing amazing music for the service; and to Kris for serving as a security blanket for the kids during the service. Thanks to Andy for setting up chairs, and to the army of volunteers who always show up to work these luncheons--thank you. Thanks to Donna who continues to accept and document memorial money for the pantry. And we continue to receive numerous cards of sympathy from our EPC friends. We are so blessed to be a part of this congregation.

Sincerely, *Rose, Robby, Kris, Hope & Paul and the extended Shortridge family*

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
 Laura Siemsen.....Administrative Assistant
 Office number.....402-488-7844
 Melodie Jones Pointon: mjonespointon@eastridge.org
 Thomas Dummermuth: tdummermuth@eastridge.org

MEET THE STAFF



The Gathering Place in 2022: The Gathering Place sign up for 2022 is available online! Please read the instructions on the sign up before serving.

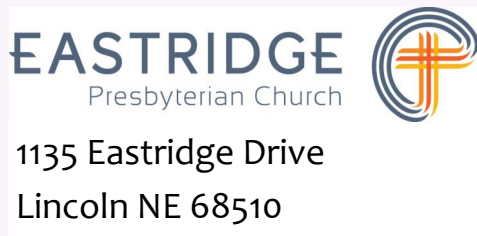
<https://bit.ly/thegatheringplace2022>



We need **Food Pantry volunteers!** Please check out the sign up below. Thank you!

June Filling boxes: <https://bit.ly/FPJuneFill>

June Distribution: <https://bit.ly/FPJuneDist>



Non-Profit Org
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Lincoln, NE
Permit No. 109

