

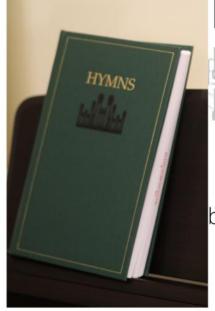


# ROAD TRIP! A SUMMER SERMON SERIES

July 3: 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.

July 10: 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.





### Hymns that make

### you hmmm...

Beginning July 17, join us for a summer sermon series on the scripture texts that inspired our hymns. Some of the hymns may be favorites, some may become new favorites!

(If you have suggestions for hymns, please contact the church office.)

#### **UKULELE CLASS:**

Brian Lew will be offering an adult beginner ukulele class the week of July 11th. Classes will meet Monday through Thursday from 10:30-11:30. Registration is limited to 10 people. Contact Brian for more information/to sign up! (Ukuleles provided for class use)

#### Pastor Thomas' Sabbatical (July 11 - August 22)

"We leave something of ourselves behind when we leave a place. We stay there, even though we go away. And there are things in us that we can find again only by going back there."

- Pascal Mercier, Night Train to Lisbon

My intention for this time of sabbath is to take some intentional time to explore the roots of my vocation. I plan to spend some extended time in my country of origin, revisit meaningful places in my discerning a sense of call, and

reconnect with people who were influential in my spiritual biography. Beyond that, I hope to have some time for reading and renewal and do family things over the weekends which we normally don't get to do on a pastor's schedule.

I am grateful for the session and congregation of Eastridge Presbyterian Church as well as my wonderful colleagues for allowing me for this much needed time of rest and renewal.

"We leave something of ourselves behind when we leave a place. We stay there. even though we go away. And there are things in us that we can find again only by going back there." - Pascal Mercier. Night Train to Lisbon

Thomas Dummermuth

"Let Freedom Ring" Annual July 4 concert, 9 am in Omaha. Come hear some Independence patriotic, popular, and classical favorites from the University of Nebraska-Omaha carillon (bell tower) played by Eastridge's organist Brent Shaw on July 4 at 9 am in Omaha. Bring a blanket or chairs and sit outside and hear some festive favorites to begin the holiday. Concert is about 30 minutes; parking and attendance is free. 6001 Dodge St. Omaha, NE 68182. The concert from 2 years ago can be viewed at: https://youtu.be/U-4PAwC7e w.









Thank you for your response to our recent survey! For those of you who responded "Yes, sign me up" to the question about interest in Faith Partners, we will be contacting you soon!







#### Faith Formation for Children and Youth

Summer is here which means that planning for our school year programming is in full swing! Over the next couple of months, you will hear about some of our programs and ways that we hope you will choose to engage with our children and youth. They LOVE being at church and many of our children, youth, and families are at the church two and three times a week. As we beginning to look at our needs for the school year, we are in need of folks that will partner with our programming in the following ways:

Teach a preschool or elementary age class

Be a youth advisor

Provide a meal for the youth group

Provide and/or prepare snack for our Tuesday Afterschool Faith Formation program

Lead opening arts and crafts with our Tuesday programming during the winter months

Write notes/cards to our children and youth

Make occasional deliveries to our children and youth (This is a porch drop off)

Sew costumes

Coordinate acolytes for the 9:00am worship service

#### Prepare children's worship bags

If you are interested in partnering with our children and youth in any of these ways, please contact Kris Adler-Brammer in the church office. We would love to have you!

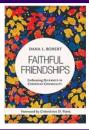












**Summer Book Study: Faithful Friendships.** Join Pastor Melodie as we explore Dana L. Robert's book, "Faithful Friendships; Embracing Diversity in Christian Community" Thursdays at 10 am this summer! July 7, 14, 21, 28, August 11, 18, and 25. However, in person (outside, weather permitting) gatherings 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.



MATTHEW 25



#### Matthew 25

Building congregational vitality... Dismantling structural racism... Eradicating systemic poverty

Today there are an estimated 17 million children struggling with hunger in America; 6 million more than before the pandemic and 2.7 million more families are going hungry. What are the effects of childhood hunger? "Feeding America" reports that a lack of reliable nutrition during the summer months takes a major toll on children. Kids who struggle with hunger are more likely to experience "summer slide," forgetting what they learned and starting the next school year months behind their more affluent peers. Kids who struggle with hunger are more likely to experience long-term health consequences,

like iron deficiency, anemia, asthma, type 2 diabetes, and across the country. heart disease.

Research shows that family grocery costs rise more than \$300 a month when school is out and school meals disappear, putting a strain on already-tight budgets. That leaves many families making tough trade-offs; two-thirds of all low-income families say they've had to choose between food and utilities, two-thirds also had to choose between food and medical care. That increase in grocery

**Ladies Night Out** goes to the Lincoln Children's Zoo and out to eat! The group will visit the Lincoln Children's Zoo at 4:30 pm July 13 (we can meet in the church parking lot and drive over together, and those who wish can meet us there). After the Zoo, we will eat at Piedmont Bistro. costs has been exacerbated this year by the rapid inflation in food prices-12% over last summer. The average family is spending \$460 per month more than a year ago for their routine living costs.

Before the pandemic, only 1 out of every 7 kids who may

have needed free summer meals were getting them, primarily due to bureaucratic regulations. Barriers like restrictions on when and where meals could be served, transportation issues, and adverse weather conditions discouraged organizations from participating.

This changed when the pandemic hit. A system of child nutrition waivers gave schools and organizations a lot more flexibility to get the job done. Congress got rid of red tape. They allowed more sites to open and let parents pick up meals to take home. As a result, the number of summer meals served more than doubled

But Congress is allowing these waivers to expire this summer. This means site closures, more red tape, and strong restrictions about where and when kids can eat. According to new estimates from "No Kid Hungry," this means kids could miss out on as many as 95 million meals this summer. Through July, we will learn more about the problems contributing to childhood hunger and the actions we might take to help.











Save the date in person and on-line to join us in the sign up at www.eastridge.org Middle of Everywhere!

### SUDAN/SOUTH SUDAN MISSION NETWORK CONFERENCE 2022

in person	Lincoln, Nebraska	online
cost \$95	August 3&4, 2022	cost \$25
<ul> <li>Mapogood</li> </ul>	<b>Building Community:</b>	⇒∠⊃ Scholarships
	Celebrating the Diaspora	available
& Educational Development		
Scheduled speakers include: Rev. Thomas Tut, Moderator of the South Sudanese Presbyterian Evangelical		

Church; Peter Dak, Minister of Education for the Upper Nile; Nyabuoy Chan, member of Echo Collective, Lincoln, NE; and Sharon Kandel, Regional Liaison for the Horn of Africa, PC(USA)





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.





The church nursery has re-opened, and we welcome infants through Pre-K aged children. The nursery is available for both services. We have

moved the location of the nursery to room L13. It is located at the bottom of the stairs using the west staircase (next to the parking lot entry).

#### G.R.O.W. Garden Wish List UPDATED:

- Ivory Silk tree lilac \$250(2)(1 purchased!)
- Taylor juniper \$150 (5) (2 purchased!) •
- Autumn Brilliance \$130 (1 purchased!) •
- Miss Kim lilac \$125 (5)
- Autumn Jazz viburnum \$35 (3) •
- Cornelius cherry \$190 (2) (1 purchased!) •
- Royal Star magnolia \$150 (purchased!) •
- Strolling path \$50 per section (13 sections purchased!) •
- 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



We are so thankful for those of you who continue to

give! You can give by going to www.eastridge.org or by mailing your donation. We are currently approximately \$30,000 under where we were at this time last year. To give



online: https://bit.ly/eastridgegiving.

## MEET THE STAFF



The Gathering Place is going back to 5-6 volunteers per evening in August and Eastridge is eliminating the Sunday slot. We are back to 5 volunteers on the 4th

Monday of each month starting in August. The sign up is updated online! Sign up here: https://bit.ly/thegatheringplace2022



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

July Filling boxes: https://bit.ly/FPJulyFill

July Distribution: https://bit.ly/FPJulyDist



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