



Celebrating 10 years of

EASTRIDGE

Presbyterian Church



In the summer and fall months of 2014, the GROW Committee explored embracing a new logo, tagline, and website design. The idea was planted following a day of VBS, when some of the young volunteers offered their ideas in the hallway outside the pastor's offices. As part of their exploration, the GROW Committee asked the session to consider if maybe a new mission statement was needed. After re-affirming the mission statement adopted in 1993, the session agreed that a short tag-line, a new logo, and new website design would be welcome.

After meeting with a local marketing firm, the following guidelines were given:

The logo font was to be easy to read, simple, and eye-catching.

The colors of the logo would be reflective but not identical to the colors of the PC(USA) cross.

The idea of an Eastridge Presbyterian Church "e" that was first brought forward by a young person would be preferred, if it could incorporate a cross.

As the idea was refined and our current logo started to emerge, one of the distinctive features is the inward movement that symbolizes the community gathering around the cross. We are the body of Christ, supporting each other as a faith community. At the same time the movement leads inward, there is also an outward movement. This speaks to the body of Christ going out into the world.

The tagline, "Christ-Centered. Community Strong." also clarifies our identity as the gathered body of Christ *in the world*.

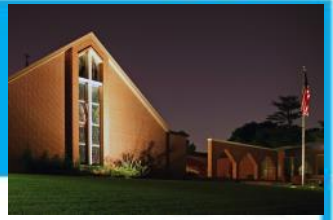
As we celebrate the 10th Anniversary of our distinctive logo, we reflect the many ways it has become an identifying feature for our faith community. In every print and online, on car clings and stickers, hats, mugs, drinking glasses, mobile battery chargers, notebooks, blankets, t-shirts, sweatshirts, and hats.

This July, the session would like to make t-shirts, sweatshirts, and hats available to the faith community for purchase through Relentless Merch, a local small business. There's a bit of a twist this time, with the addition of Micah 6:8 to the back of the shirt, "Do Justice. Love Mercy. Walk Humbly." We are hopeful that these will be worn when we're actively visible in the community - at the Eastridge Food Pantry, the Leffler Food Market, The Gathering Place, Justice in Action events, and other shared community ministries.

T-shirts will be available in black, gray, and white; sweatshirts in gray. More information to come on a link to purchase these items! If cost is prohibitive, please reach out, as funds are available so that all can order.

And - watch for other swag to be offered as we celebrate 10 years of





Youth Group Mission Trip

This year the Middle and High School youth joined the youth from First Presbyterian Church for a joint mission trip. June 19 -23 we spent time in Kansas City serving the community as well as having fellowship together. Our first workday was spent with Hillcrest Transitional Housing. This is an organiza-

tion that works to assist those who need housing and all the furnishing for a home. They provide temporary housing and, while they are there, work with them on budgeting and living skills. Within 90 days, they are able to help folks transition into permanent housing situations. Our work with them was in their thrift store. The store is open to the community and all the proceeds from the thrift store help to support the entire organization. We learned many things while in partnership with Hillcrest. First, the organization works very hard at recycling all that comes to them. Very little ends up in the landfill. In their efforts to recycle, they have wonderful partnerships with other organizations throughout Kansas City. Second, don't assume that because someone has a need, they will take anything regardless of the condition.



Our second day was spent at Harvesters Community Food Bank. This was much like the Food Bank of Lincoln. While at Harvesters, we filled boxes that will be used for their sen-

ior clients. We worked through thousands of pounds of food to fill around 400 boxes. To finish our time there, we filled crates with 30lbs of fresh vegetables. These vegetables would be sent out to local food pantries for distribution. While this work wasn't new to us, it helped us see what needs to happen before the Food Bank of Lincoln sends items to the pantry at EPC.



Our third day was spent at Flourish: A Furniture Bank. This is an organization in the Kansas City area that provides all the items needed to furnish a home. During a week's time, the organization will have 40 families come through to choose couches, beds, kitchen tables and chairs, dressers, etc. In addition to large furniture items, the guests choose bedding, dishes, kitchen items, and décor. All of this is provided to help set up families to succeed.

We had a fabulous week! It was good to work together with a partner church and organizations in the Kansas City area.

We appreciate all the support from Eastridge!
THANK YOU!



Green Team is working at Eastridge: The Trustees have established a working group from among the congregation to study our energy usage at the church. The group will recommend projects to improve our energy efficiency. The goal is to reduce energy consumption, save money, and do our part to combat climate change. Members interested in joining the Green Team should contact the church office.



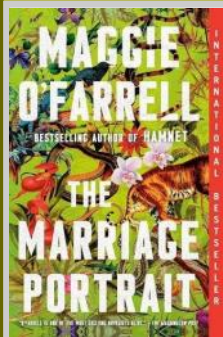
Children & Youth Faith Formation Important Dates

Just a few more weeks and a new school year will begin! We will kick-off our Faith Formation year in August. We hope you will put these important dates on your calendar!

Sunday, August 11th – Back-to-School Sunday. We will celebrate the Blessing of the Backpacks, as well as give Bibles to our 3rd Graders. Following worship, we invite you to stick around for lunch and a few fellowship activities.

Wednesday, September 4th – This will be our first youth group gathering of the year. We will meet from 6:00pm to 7:45pm this year. We will kick off our youth group year with a youth/parent evening including a potluck dinner.

Tuesday, September 10th – This will be our first Tuesday of our Afterschool Faith Formation. This program includes our Kindergartners through 5th graders. We gather after-school and meet until 5:30pm each week.



Book Club for the 2024-2025 year:

A list is available online! Head to the church website, “What’s New” pulldown menu, “Calendar”, then “Book Club”.

Our first pick in September is: *The Marriage Portrait* by Maggie O’Farrell. See you September 9! This group meets Sept.—June the second Monday of each month at 7:00 pm in M12.

Pastor Melodie on Sabbatical! After five years of service, our pastors receive a six-week sabbatical period to be used during the sixth year of service. Pastor Melodie will be on sabbatical beginning Thursday, June 13 returning Thursday, July 25. During this time she will be traveling to visit historical sites meaningful to her family history on their route west along the Mormon Trail. She will also spend time in Washington State and British Columbia with family. To follow her adventures, you can join the private Facebook Group "Pastor Melodie's 2024 Sabbatical Journey Notes." If she's not posting much, it means she's sleeping, relaxing, running, or spending time with family and friends.





Ladies Night Out:

Our Eastridge group will head to one of our local wineries in July for a tour and fellowship. Look for more information on the Facebook page, or check out the upcoming blurb in the Lamp (weekly bulletin insert).



All blood types are needed.

Schedule your blood donation appointment today.



Eastridge is sponsoring a Blood Drive! Tuesday, July 16

11:00 AM - 5:00 PM in Huxtable Lounge

In only 30 minutes you can help save a life!

Click here to sign up: redcrossblood.org

(search for Eastridge Presbyterian)

Community Art Installation: Local artist Ann Williams will be working with our congregation over the summer on a community art project for everyone to enjoy! On this fourth collaboration with Ann, we continue with the image of a tree in a field where the community gathers. Inspired by our history as a mission church on the edge of Lincoln, we return to this place now as the place where we find food for the hungry, rest for the weary, and belonging for all. We see the handiwork of God in our own hands as we search for understanding "Today, I choose to believe..."

*This is a privately funded project, and donations are still being accepted. Any donations above the cost of the art

project will go toward other improvements around the outside of the Eastridge Food Pantry building or other equipment for use in the building.

Looking for Ann's previous works?

*Thumbprint Tree in the Welcome Center in memory of Glenn Kempf

*Artwork in the Huxtable Lounge in honor of Bryce Hastings's contributions to the renovations of our building over the years

*Prayer station art project from Advent 2022 that can be found in the narthex



Save the date!
Our Eastridge community will participate in part of the mural project on Sunday, August 11!
More info to come.



THE GATHERING PLACE:
Eastridge Presbyterian Church arranges to provide 4-5 volunteers at The Gathering Place, a local soup kitchen, on the 4th Monday of each month. For more information on what this entails, contact the church office. Thank you to all Eastridge members who volunteer to serve at The Gathering Place. Sign up here:

<https://bit.ly/thegatheringplacecurrent>



EASTRIDGE
FOOD PANTRY

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Links for volunteers for Sunday drive thru and Wednesday distribution plus box prep below:

Distribution: <https://bit.ly/FPDistFood>
Filling boxes: <https://bit.ly/FPFillingBoxes>

Eastridge Faith Partners at work: We are exploring having Narcan available in the church. For more information, click here: <https://bit.ly/faithpartnersnarcaninfo>



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Income information (general fund):

Year-to-date (June 26) \$ 212,108

Last year at this time: \$ 239,853

Please remember the church in your giving!

YOUR GIVING MATTERS!

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
Brent Shaw..... Organist & Adult Choir Director
Will McGuire.....Worship Leader
Vince Ruhl.....Director of Online Ministries
Brett Meier.....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

Devotion Ministry:

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.




Are you interested in becoming a liturgist for worship? For more information, contact the office or Robin Hadfield. Current liturgists, please sign up for 2024!

<https://bit.ly/epcliturgist>



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