



CHANGING THE WORLD
CONFIRMATION FOR THE MISSIONAL CHURCH



New Confirmation Plans at Eastridge!

We are excited to announce new plans for Eastridge Presbyterian Church's confirmation journey! After thoughtful planning and collaboration, we are transitioning to a new, missional confirmation model. This approach aligns closely with our church's commitment to living out faith through action, as inspired by Matthew 25. The missional model emphasizes what it means to be part of a faith community called to make a difference in the world.

To share more about these plans, we invite all parents, caregivers, and prospective confirmands to an informational meeting on Sunday, January 19, following worship. During the meeting, we will:

Introduce the new curriculum, *Changing the World: Confirmation for the Missional Church* by Mark H. Hinds.

Learn about upcoming Homestead Presbytery Confirmation Retreat on March 1, 2025, at Camp Calvin Crest.

Explain why this year's Confirmation Sunday is uniquely scheduled for the very next day after the retreat—March 2, 2025!

Discuss additional elements for youth participation and mentor involvement.

Given that we haven't had a confirmation class for several years, we're opening the program to all youth 8th grade and older, including those who may have missed the chance in prior years. This is a fantastic opportunity for young people to deepen their faith, build connections within the church community, and discover their unique calling in the world.

We encourage you to attend this important meeting as we look forward to embarking on this meaningful journey together. If you have questions in the meantime, feel free to reach out to Pastor Thomas at tdummermuth@eastridge.org. We hope to see you on January 19!



EASTRIDGE
CARE CONNECTIONS

Join us for the **Eastridge Care Connections January gathering** on Sunday, **January 12 from 3:30—5:00 pm** in Huxtable Lounge.

Refreshments provided!

For more information on this group, please contact the church office.

Sign up to provide a meal for our youth!

Each Wednesday evening, youth group begins with a meal. Providing a meal includes a main dish, side(s), and dessert. The church provides drinks and all the paper products. This year the group will consist of about 12 people.

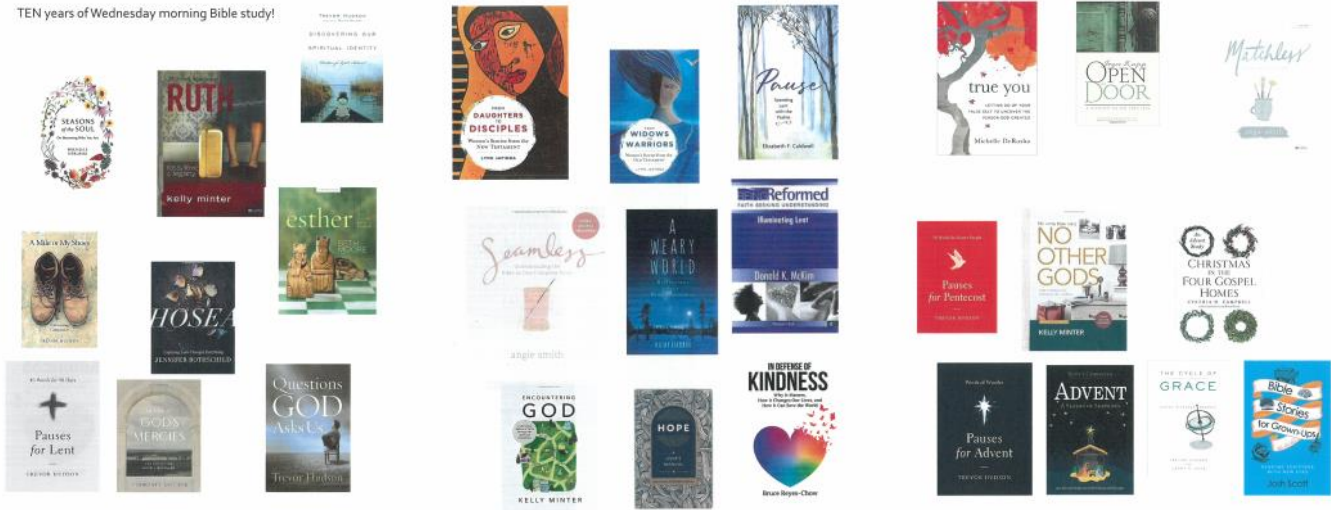
Link is here: <https://bit.ly/youthmeal2425>





TEN years of Wednesday morning Bible Study! The Wednesday morning Bible study will be celebrating ten years of fellowship and learning in February! Shown below are a sampling of the studies we've done.

TEN years of Wednesday morning Bible study!



The Green Team is excited to announce our 2025 strategy!

The team has identified nine potential projects so far including: solar panel, EV charger, and heat pump installation; old window replacement; continued light fixture, LED light, and timer/motion sensor installation; basement stove replacement; and critical electrical and technology infrastructure upgrades. Stay tuned as the team works to accomplish their goals - and please join us if you are interested in assisting!



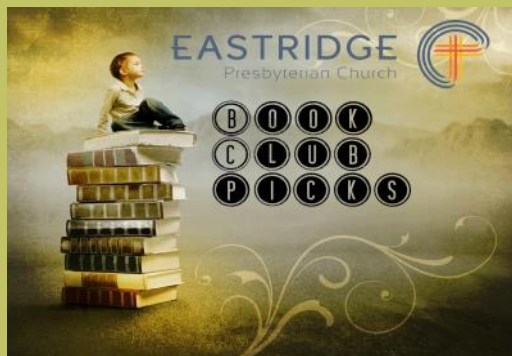
The **January Annual Meeting** will be Sunday, January 26, following worship. Committee leaders, please turn in your submissions for the Annual Report by Sunday, January 12.

Fourth Friday Women's Coffee Fellowship:

This fellowship group resumes in January!

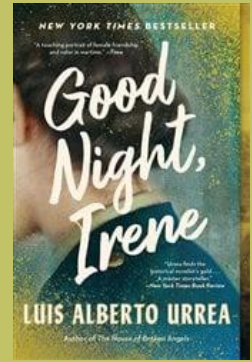
Join the ladies in Huxtable on January 24 at 8:30 am for our monthly coffee fellowship! Let the office know if you would like to be included in an email reminder.





The **EPC Book Club** meets the second Monday of each month September through June at 7:00 pm. Locations vary...check the Welcome Center for info when you arrive!

A copy of the list can also be found on the church website, in the “What’s New” pull-down menu, then click on “calendar”.



Our selection at right, **Good Night, Irene by Luis Alberto Urrea** is our pick for January. Join us January 13 at 7:00 pm in M12 for discussion and refreshments.

Some photos from the Christmas Eve Children's program



Trailblazers is a group of older adults at Eastridge that provides an opportunity for men and women, singles as well as couples, to participate together in the life of the church—in service and fellowship. We usually meet the third Friday night of the month, September through May.



January 17: Soup, Supper, Games. Join us at 6:00 p.m.—Huxtable Lounge

The **2025 liturgist sign up** is now online!

Here is the link: <https://bit.ly/liturgist2025epc>

Let the office or a pastor know if you are interested in serving as a liturgist.





HIGHLIGHTS



SESSION HIGHLIGHTS: DECEMBER 12, 2024

The Session approved the minutes of the Session meeting of November 17, 2024, and the minutes of the congregational meeting on November 24, 2024.

The Session acknowledged that communion was served at the 9:30 a.m. service on December 1 and December 8, 2024.

The Session acknowledged that the Rev. Thomas Dummermuth officiated at the funeral service of Russell Brauer on November 22, 2024, at Eastmont.

The Session approved the communion schedule for 2025: January 5, February 2, March 2, April 6, April 17 (Maundy Thursday), May 4, June 1, July 6, August 3, September 7, October 5, November 2, and December 7.

The Session approved scheduling the Annual Meeting for January 26, 2025, following worship.

The Session scheduled the ordination and installation of officers for February 2, 2025.

Rev. Thomas Dummermuth led a study of the resources that will be used for the Lent and Easter seasons.

The Session referred to the Finance Committee a letter requesting payment of dues for Justice in Action for 2025.

The Session received a thank you from the Eastridge Youth for serving dinner at their weekly gathering.

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.



Card ministry at Eastridge:

We are looking for a volunteer to send cards to our members who appear in the prayer chain as well as those who celebrate a 90+ birthday. If this is something you might be interested in helping with, please contact the office.

Please join us to learn about the **history of Lincoln's Eastridge neighborhood from Dr. Edward Zimmer**. Dr. Zimmer was the Lincoln-Lancaster County Planning Department's historic preservation planner and has numerous publications on Lincoln's history. This event will take place in the **Huxtable Lounge on Sunday, February 16 following worship**. Light refreshments will be served.

HISTORY



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. **Updated sign up:**

<https://bit.ly/gatheringplace2025epc>



EASTRIDGE
FOOD PANTRY

EASTRIDGE FOOD PANTRY:

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>

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

Thank you!

We are overwhelmed by the generous response to the 2024 giving year. Our anticipated income (which is based on previous years’ giving patterns, giving estimate cards, and economic factors) for 2024 was \$550,000. In response to our request to help us meet our goal, we received donations that totaled a \$541,000 total for 2024.

We wanted to say thank you. Thank you for gifts large and small throughout the year that helped us. In gifts given to meet giving estimates, dollars, transfers, matching gifts, and gifts to our last appeals, we are overwhelmed by the generosity of finances and of spirit that keep our faith community strong.

Thank you!

From the Finance Team, including the Finance Committee, Treasurer, and Senior Pastor



EASTRIDGE
Presbyterian Church



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