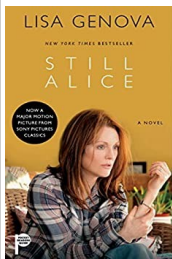


## Eastridge Faith Partners: DID YOU KNOW?

As part of Eastridge Faith Partners' focus on caregivers, we'll be sharing some information over the next month on support, etc.



**Caregiving in America in 2025:** 61% of caregivers are women. 40% of caregivers live with their care recipient. (from AARP magazine)



**Faith Partners at Eastridge is sponsoring a book/movie discussion of *Still Alice* by Lisa Genova. We will meet Monday, December 8 at 7:00 pm in M12.**

A synopsis of the novel: Alice Howland is proud of the life she worked so hard to build. At fifty years old, she's a cognitive psychology professor at Harvard and a world-renowned expert in linguistics with a successful husband and three grown children. When she becomes increasingly disoriented and forgetful, a tragic diagnosis changes her life - and her relationship with her family and the world - forever. **Sign up here:** <https://bit.ly/stillalicediscussion>



**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.

**The Gathering Place for 2026 sign up is online now!**

Check it out here:

<https://bit.ly/epcgatheringplace26>



**Financial update:** We need approximately \$ 22,000 per week (Nov—Dec) to make our 2025 budget goal. For comparison, we took in \$ 18,926 last week (November 23-26).

### Eastridge Church Staff

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.....Choir Director/Organist  
Will McGuire.....Worship Leader  
Vince Ruhl.....Director of Online Worship  
Brett Meier.....A/V Tech  
Sydney Mitchell.....Nursery attendant  
Laura Siemsen.....Administrative Assistant  
Kristen Unterseher.....Choir Accompanist

**Office number.....402-488-7844**

**Melodie Jones Pointon's extension: 101**  
**email:** [mjonespointon@eastridge.org](mailto:mjonespointon@eastridge.org)

**Thomas Dummermuth's extension: 102**  
**email:** [tdummermuth@eastridge.org](mailto:tdummermuth@eastridge.org)



# Our Staff



*The weekly lamp*

## TODAY AT EASTRIDGE—November 30

9:30 am Worship—Sanctuary and online

10:30 am Coffee Fellowship and Advent Activity—Welcome Center

**TODAY in worship: Pastors:** Melodie Jones Pointon, Thomas Dummermuth

**Worship Connection:** Kris Adler-Brammer

**Advent Candle:** Sydney Mitchell

**Music:** Cheryl LaRue, Michael Jha, Brent Shaw



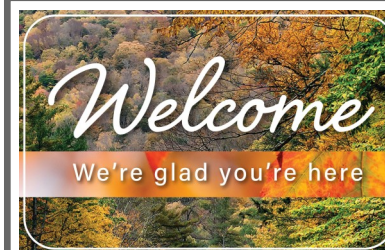
Find your daily Advent Calendars:

\*Printed copies are available in the Welcome Center

\*Copies can be e-mailed by request

\*Daily prompts will be posted on Facebook and Instagram

A weekly Advent devotional following our theme "What do you fear?" is available in the Welcome Center. Large print copies are available. If you would like one mailed to you, please contact the office.



### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

We welcome Lynn Ayers, Karen Buell, and Sharon Wilson to membership at Eastridge.

All three joined following our new member orientation this fall. Read more info about them in the December newsletter!



**Calendar fundraiser:** this year's calendar fundraiser will benefit the Eastridge choral scholar ministry. This will be the fifth year we have contributed to EPC ministries with the calendar fundraiser.

Calendars are \$ 30 and are great Christmas gifts! Please include payment in the office inbox or note Venmo account (on sign up). **Sign up at the Welcome Desk!**



This year **Angel Tree** gift cards will be divided among Aging Partners, Fresh Start, and Lefler Middle School. These agencies have recommended businesses where they can be used by the recipient to purchase a variety of things-toys, clothing of various sizes, personal care items, food, books, gas for their car, etc. Amazon cards have also been included for those that might not have transportation to shop in person. It's recommended that the gift cards be in increments of \$25 and \$50. Recommended businesses include: Target, Dollar Tree, Super Saver, Walmart, Russes, Hy-Vee and Amazon.

You're invited to purchase one or more gift cards from the above businesses and place them in one of the envelopes hanging on the Angel Tree. Please fill in the blanks on the envelope and then drop it in the black dropbox by the office door anytime between now and December 14.

Thank you for being an angel, by participating in this effort to brighten the holidays for others among us.



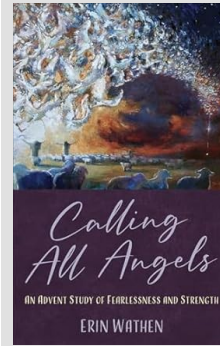
**TO VOLUNTEER: Eastridge Food Pantry volunteer sign ups:**

Distribution: <https://bit.ly/FPDistFood>

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



**Per Capita/Denominational Giving:** For 2025 the assessed Per Capita is \$ 38.54 per member of Eastridge. However, if you are so called, a gift of \$100 will help us cover our denominational funding obligations and assist those who may not be able to contribute towards this obligation.



Advent Book Study: "Calling All Angels – An Advent Study of Fearlessness and Strength". **Wednesdays, December 3, 10, and 17 • 6:00–7:00 p.m. in M12 • Led by Pastor Thomas**

In *Calling All Angels*, pastor and author Erin Wathen invites us to hear the words "Do Not Be Afraid" not merely as comfort, but as a divine calling—to live with courage and faith in the face of fear. All are welcome to join this three-week Advent journey. Books will be available at the church (or you may order your own). Sign up here:

<https://bit.ly/callingangelsepc>

**The Gratitude and Generosity of Giving:** "If our first response to the receipt of gifts is gratitude, then our second is reciprocity: to give a gift in return." - Robin Wall Kimmerer, *The Serviceberry*. **Please consider turning in an estimate of giving card for 2026 so that our stewardship/financial committee can plan a budget for next year.** We give thanks for the generosity that keeps our ministries going! Pledge cards are available at the Welcome Desk. Thank you for your gifts to the fund match! **Total gifts to the fund match: \$ 13,318.**



### Coffee and Creativity!

Every Sunday during Advent, after worship, we'll have a chance to connect and engage in creative activities in the Welcome Center. In addition to our regular treats and drinks, we'll also provide an opportunity to create season-themed crafts that you can take home or share with others. We're thrilled to see what we create together!



### Soup & Charcuterie!

Celebrate the season with us on Sunday, December 21 right after worship! Warm up with a cozy bowl of wild rice soup and enjoy a cheerful charcuterie spread—crackers, cheeses, nuts, olives, berries, and more. We'll provide the soup—sign up to bring a charcuterie board and share in the holiday joy!

**Sign up here: <https://bit.ly/charcuterieboardepc>**