



Join us on Sunday, August 9 For Back-to-School Sunday

The new school year is starting very soon! As our families get ready with all the things, our back-to-school Sunday is a chance to center ourselves and look forward to all the exciting things that are to come as we enter a new year.

We will celebrate this new year beginning with joy-filled, active worship at 9:30am. EVERYONE is welcome to join us as we worship together and bless our backpacks (bags, chrome books, diaper bags, etc.). We will continue our worship as we present Bibles. This year we are expanding those to whom we will present Bibles by sharing them with our Kindergartners, 3rd Graders, and 6th Graders. Each group will receive a Bible that is age appropriate for them.

Following worship, we invite EVERYONE to stay and join us in the Welcome Center for fellowship, sweets, and activities that will get all ages talking and interacting with one another. Our activities will include some of the following: a group art project, making “forever” flower arrangements, a mission project for the Food Pantry, and a few other activities.

There is no need to RSVP! Join us on Sunday morning and help us to send our children, youth and teachers off to a new school year with the support of our faith community.

Tables of Eight

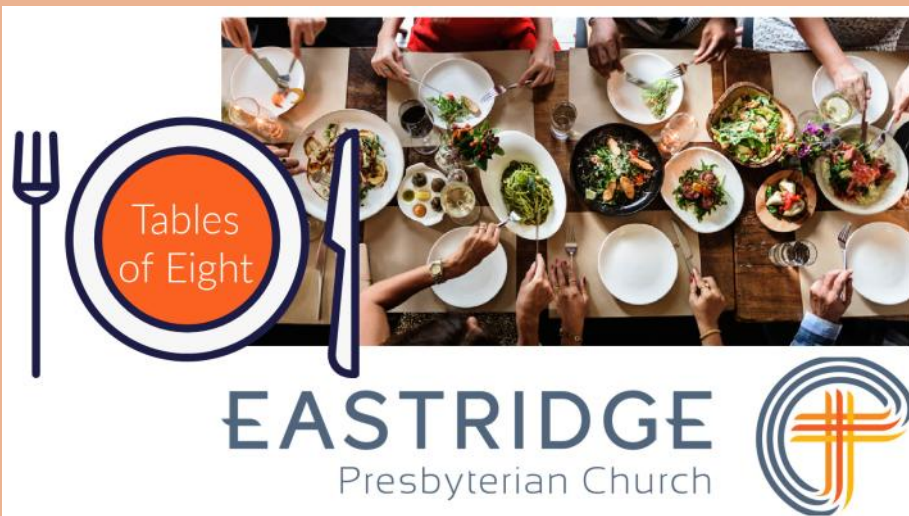
Looking for a way to meet and connect with others in our church? *Tables of 8* is a chance to gather in small groups for potluck meals this fall.

Once you sign up, you will be organized into groups. You'll receive a confirmation with your meal date, time, location, and host. Hosts will provide an entree, and each guest is invited to bring a dish that holds some personal meaning—something tied to a memory, tradition, or story, or just something you want to share with others! Hosts will be in touch to coordinate any other specifics.

To learn more, please take a moment to preview the registration details below!

Sign up here between **July 26 and August 9!**

<https://forms.gle/3foagpitBQzeVGL16>





Fall Programming Schedule Preview

We will have more detailed information to come in the September newsletter, and in the inbox of our families with children and youth, but we wanted to share some important dates coming SOON with our children and youth programming.

Elementary Faith Formation (K-5th grade) – We will begin on Tuesday, September 15. We gather at the conclusion of the school day and meet until 5:30pm.

Middle & High School Faith Formation (6th – 12th Grade) – We will begin on Wednesday, September 9. We gather from 6:00pm to 7:30pm. We will continue our partnership with the youth group at First Presbyterian Church. We continue alternating churches each month beginning with Eastridge in September.

NEW Children of all ages – We have something EXCITING in the works beginning Sunday, September 20! We don't want to let "the cat out of the bag" just yet but we have some exciting ways planned for our children to fully participate in the worshipping community.

We can always use additional volunteers in all our programming. If you think you might be interested in volunteering with our children and youth in any way, with any commitment level, please talk with Kris Adler-Brammer.



FROM THE ELEVATOR COMMITTEE: Recently our family needed to purchase a new car to replace a 6-year-old car. Parts were no longer available so we had little choice but to purchase a new car. It was frustrating and unfair but it had to be done.

Eastridge finds itself in a similar situation. Our elevator service provider has informed us that the manufacturer of our 40-year-old elevator no longer supports or makes parts for our model. A committee was formed to address this situation and recently met. Because replacement will take time the committee decided it was important to replace the elevator sooner rather than later.

In 2002 the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) adopted resolution on disabilities of "That All May Enter" as a basis for a call to greater concern for the inclusion of all members in every aspect of the life and work of the Presbyterian Church, and a call to broader concern for justice in our own and wider communities. The groups using our facility include the Area Agency on Aging for tai chi and yoga classes, Special Musicians (a music group for children and youth with special needs), A+ Academy Day Care, the EPC Food Pantry, and ARC of Lincoln. These groups all need access to the lower level. In addition, some of our members use the elevator for access for funeral luncheons and other events held on the lower level.

This project is just getting started and we are seeking proposals for this project. In the near future, fundraising will be necessary. When the time comes, we hope you will prayerfully consider donating for this purpose.

~ The Elevator Committee





What's Your Story? Summer Sermon Series

Take a look at the prompts below and see what speaks to you. These are our remaining prompts for August! Then return your story to the church office or email it to office@eastridge.org.

- Tell a story about a time when others expected you to have it all together—or to know more than you did.
- Tell a story about a time you knew you were in the wrong but struggled to admit it. How did others show you grace?
- Tell a story about a time you tried to remain neutral, chose a side, or felt pulled in different directions. What helped you discern what to do?



EARTH CARE CONGREGATION:

As a congregation that takes stewardship of the earth seriously, we have been actively looking for ways that we are having a positive impact on our surroundings and for ways that we might want to expand our footprint of care for the environment. Our first two meetings have concentrated on exploring this new mission, and discovering where we stand in achieving the established goals of the mission.

Our preliminary audit happily revealed some areas where we have a good start. It also showed us that we have some work to do. It was pretty exciting! In our worship practice, we frequently have time devoted to earth care. This shows up in the content of sermons that address earth care topics, in the number of services we conduct outdoors, and even in Sundays devoted to earth care. We have focused on earth care during Lent, and we have an outdoor garden devoted to meditation and prayer.

In church education, we are considering the number of games, books or videos in our library, and how to have more classes outside.

Our facilities work will involve ongoing audits of ener-

gy and will expand on our current efforts to use more energy efficient appliances and lights, to increase our use of recycling, and to be open to education on other measures.

Our outreach work already includes efforts to increase the use of alternative transportation such as carpooling or busing, and to increase our participation in outdoor activities such as hiking and camping or nature walks. We plan to continue to collaborate with other churches and organizations to provide food to those in need.

We're just getting started. We welcome your comments and particularly your participation as we develop practical awareness that cherishing God's creation enhances the ability of the church to achieve its other goals.

~ Earth Care Committee





Summer music volunteers: Thank you to all of our summer music volunteers!

Fall start up dates for choirs will be: **Wednesday, September 9 for Chancel Choir and Tuesday, September 15 for Kirk Ringers (handbells).**

All are welcome! Talk to Brent if you would be interested in joining either group for the fall - organman77@gmail.com or 919-609-5362.

*"Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord!
Praise ye the Lord!" - Psalm 150*



Second Quarter Financial report:

Total Income \$321,000 (includes interest, tithes, and donations)

Total Expenditures \$398,000

Thank you for all your gifts to the ministries of Eastridge Presbyterian Church!

~The Finance Committee



Children and Youth Program Volunteer Information

We are thankful for ALL who volunteer in many ways with the children and youth at Eastridge Presbyterian Church. The church is one of the last few places where children experience and develop relationships with those outside of their age range that they are not related to. Because we know and understand the extreme value in these relationships, we work to provide safe spaces for **everyone** involved in our children and youth programming. One of the ways we work to provide safe spaces is doing national background checks on those people working with our young people. The 2026-27 school year

brings us to a year where it is time for us to re-do these background checks. If you volunteer with our children and youth in any way, you will receive information from Kris Adler-Brammer, Director of Christian Education, on completing the necessary forms to fulfill our requirements as listed in Eastridge's "Safe Church – Child Protection Policy." All information that is collected and received is kept confidential on file in the church office! If you are a children and/or youth volunteer and you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Kris in the church office.



Community Action Partnership is looking for volunteers who can help in the Community Action Store on a temporary or ongoing basis. The Store distributes hundreds of clothing and hygiene items to families every week. Volunteers will be responsible for stocking shelves, tidying the store, bundling diapers, helping with laundry, assisting guests with their shopping, and other tasks as needed. Store hours are 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Monday-Thursday. You can sign up for a shift or contact the CAP office if you'd like to volunteer on a more consistent basis (contact EPC office for help). **Sign up for a shift:**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10CoC45AAAF23A6F5C25-64677721-community#/>



Fourth Friday Women's Coffee Fellowship:

Join the ladies in Huxtable Lounge on August 28 at 8:30 am for our monthly coffee fellowship.

Let the office know if you would like to be included in an email reminder that week as well.

Session Highlights: Approve Session Meeting Minutes for June 14, 2026

Acknowledge that communion was served on Sunday, July 5 at 9:30 a.m.

Remove Peggy Olmsted from member rolls, deceased 6-20-2026

Acknowledge that Rev. Thomas Dummermuth officiated at the memorial of Peggy Olmsted at Roper & Sons South Chapel 6-26-2026

Remove Roosevelt (Ted) Pardy from member rolls, deceased 6-28-2026

The PCUSA Stewardship and Development reported a receipt of \$1,352.26 from Eastridge for One Great Hour of Sharing Offering.

Approved a motion from the Welcoming Team to make intentional physical space for children during worship.



Ladies Night Out is planning a trip to The Dairy Store on August 6 at 6:30 pm.

Meet us there or make your own carpool plans from the church. For more information, contact the church office.

Additional discussion in the event on Facebook/LNO Facebook group.



Ladies Night Out goes to The Dairy Store

August 6 at 6:30 pm
at The Dairy Store, 114 Food Industry Complex (East Campus off Holdrege)
We'll eat inside or on patio tables nearby



Library Open House:

Stop in for a bite to eat and see our church library! We'll host an open house on Sunday, August 9 right after worship.

Eastridge Care Connections: Join us for a Care Connection Gathering on Monday, August 24 from 6:30-7:30 pm for fellowship and updates! We'll meet at the **402 Creamery at Telegraph** (330 S 21st St Ste 101). See you then!

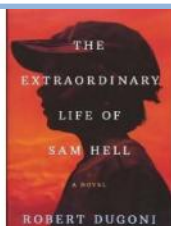
Feel free to make carpool arrangements from church with others.





EPC Book Club: Get ready for another exciting year of reading! Here is the list for EPC Book Club 2026-2027. Due to Christmas and its inherent busy-ness, we do not meet in December. For more information, contact the office.

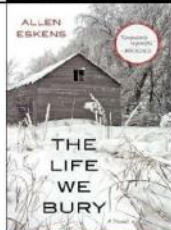
September 14



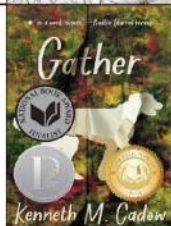
October 12



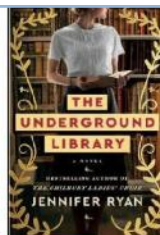
November 9



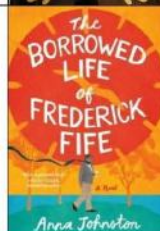
January 11



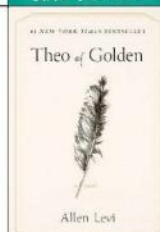
February 8



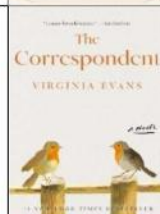
March 8



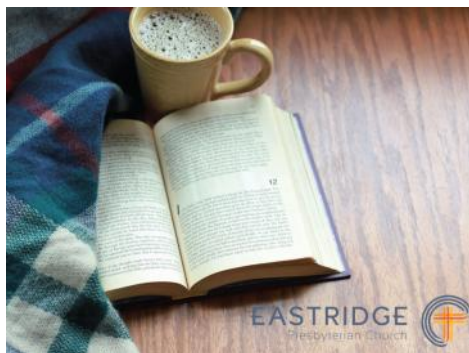
April 12



May 10



June 14



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 a daily (Mon-Fri) email prompt, contact the office as well!



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/epcgatheringplace26>



EASTRIDGE
FOOD PANTRY

**Eastridge Food
Pantry
volunteer
sign ups:**

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

Summer Music:

August 2 - Jen Olsen

August 9 - Dulcimer Club

August 16 - Fernando Martins (violin)

August 22 - Guests Leila and Philippe

September 6 - Hymn Sing with Patty Niemann



Join us for a hymn sing on September 6 during worship! Dress casual that day, if you'd like.

Some favorite hymns will include:

- *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*
- *God of the Sparrow*

- *Thy Word Is a Lamp unto My Feet*
- *I Come with Joy*
- *God Be the Love to Search and Keep Me*





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twitter



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Facebook