



The compassionate life is a grateful life, and actions born out of gratefulness are not compulsive but free, not somber, but joyful, not fanatical but liberating. When gratitude is the source of our actions, our giving becomes receiving and those to whom we minister become our ministers.

~ Author Unknown

As I neared the end of my college education, a book by Sarah Ban Breathnach was being released. I received more than one copy as a graduation gift. Targeted to women, the book was called "Simple Abundance: A daybook of comfort and joy."

Each day, the book invited the reader to either reflect or journal

on the comforts and joys in life. I admit that at the time, I appreciated the book, but often felt that the stresses and pressures that the practice meant to alleviate were far into the future for me. So I participated in them half-heartedly, and got a half-hearted result. I just wasn't ready to receive the lessons and insights the book offered.

Now, of course, my life is very different. I often blame technology and the pressures of life brought on by the ability and expectation of constant communication. But, of course, I have many more pieces of my life to fit together. At the time, I was a single college student, whose only bills upon graduation were student loans I could defer. Now I'm a wife and mother, with bills that fall into every category – education, childcare, food, mortgage, utilities, health care, car payments, clothing, saving for my children's college, saving for retirement, insurance for everything we own and each person we are. Life is

much more complicated now than it was 20 years ago.

Recently, I relearned a lesson I should have learned long ago. Our complete health involves our mental, physical, spiritual, and financial well-being. Each of these areas of life overlap into the other areas, either applying pressure or allowing joy in the other areas.

This year our stewardship theme invites us to examine all areas of our life and embrace "Grateful Living." Over the past few years, Steve and I have been working diligently to bring

W O R S H I P

Learn

SERVE

our spending into line with our priorities. We have pledged to each

other that we would work on living debt free, and allocating more of our income to charities we support, our retirement and college savings, and a general saving account. This is a long process, but a worthwhile one. We believe our spend-

ing should reflect our values. Which means we must begin with our values informing how we spend our money.

Please join me in the challenge of Grateful Living this year, living out of the abundance of what we have been given instead of the scarcity we fear. All are invited to sign up for Financial Peace University, which begins Tuesday, October 4 at 6:30 pm.

In the days and weeks to come, you will receive mailings and e-mails regarding our stewardship campaign. Please prayerfully consider what you are able to give in 2017.

Blessings, Pastor Melodie



Who is GiFT for?

For everyone!

What are the goals of GiFT?

GIFT Sundays provide an opportunity to gather and worship together as one family of faith. GiFT reclaims God's intent for faith to be shared in community and across generations. Through a shared experience — often missing from everyday life — of families learning together, sharing faith, praying together, serving and celebrating rituals and traditions, GiFT helps connect families and individuals who want to spend more quality time together. GiFT builds relationships between the generations and fosters teamwork across the congregation. By sharing our faith stories and learning from each other, we Grow in Faith Together.

What does a GiFT Sunday look like?

9:00am Worship as one family of faith in the sanctuary

10:15am Learning event for all generations: which includes community building, age appropriate activities, music, and learning from each other.

11:30am Shared meal.

In October, a simple meal will be provided. No need to bring anything.

Join us the second Sunday of the month for GiFT: Let's Grow in Faith Together.



October is Clergy Appreciation Month! Bake a cake, send a card, let them know they are appreciated!

Dessert, Please!

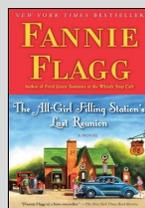
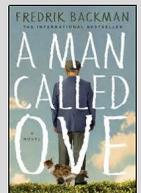
The Gathering Place news: On the 4th Monday of each month, a group of 6-8 Eastridge members serve the evening meal from 4:45-6:00. In addition to serving that night's supper, we now are asking the group that goes each month to take enough homemade dessert for about 90-100 people. Each group will plan and coordinate what they take. If you like to bake, this is a great opportunity to serve! Let the office know if you'd like be a part of a list of bakers willing to bake some bars or cookies that the Monday group can take along. Contact the office for more info.



EPC Book Club reading list:

Join us the fourth Monday of each month at 7:00 pm in the Welcome Center for discussion and refreshments. Our entire list is available in the office.

October: A Man Called Ove, by Fredrik Backman



November: The All-Girl Filling Station's Last Reunion, by Fannie Flagg

EASTRIDGE

Presbyterian Church



GiFT Sunday Scrapbook (photos courtesy Jim Budka)





Highlights of Session meeting for September 15

Consent Agenda

Session Minutes for August 18, 2016

Affirm that communion was served at 9:00 and 10:30 AM services on September 4, 2016.

Remove Joanne Smith from member rolls, deceased August 18, 2016.

Acknowledge that Rev. Melodie Jones Pointon officiated at the memorial service for Joanne Smith on August 22, 2016.

Acknowledge that Rev. Melodie Jones Pointon officiated at the marriage of Carmen Varejcka-McGee and Terry Kelle on August 6, 2016.

Acknowledge that Rev. Thomas Dummermuth officiated at the marriage of Seth Crawford and Ciara Norman on August 27, 2016.

Motions:

It was moved and approved as brought forth by the Youth Committee to allow the youth to offer Propelr cards as a fund raising option for Youth. There was one abstention. Deryl Merritt requested that his abstention be recorded. There will be education for the congregation on what this program is.

It was moved and approved as brought forth by the Youth Committee to have an envelope campaign during either January or February of 2017. The use of these funds is for scholarships, big trips and leader training.

It was moved, seconded and approved as brought forth by the Memorial and Endowments committee to accept the gifts of \$3500 from the Robert and Delores Schiebinger Trust and \$390 in memorials in memory of Liz daSilva.



The **Prayer Shawl Ministry** at Eastridge has currently provided 112 recipients with prayer shawls since its inception in 2008.

Thank you to the Eastridge Presbyterian Women who craft these shawls!



Peace and Global Witness Offering will be taken on World Communion Sunday, October 2. When our congregation supports this offering, we join in

sharing the Peace of Christ by promoting ministries of reconciliation and peace within cultures of violence and conflict. God spreads a table of peace before us. Our support of this offering helps bring more people to that table. On this World Communion Sunday, we are reminded that God's love can heal even our deepest divisions. Let us be prepared to give generously. ~ The Outreach Committee



Angel Tree: Look for the Angel tree in November with wishes for children and adults from many agencies in Lincoln.

Eastridge has participated in this mission project for many years; this year will be no exception!



Grief Support Group Offered at Eastridge

Has someone in your life recently died? Do you find yourself struggling with all the changes since your loved one passed away? Are you having a difficult time sleeping, eating or concentrating? Do you feel like you shouldn't cry or be sad around others? Now that the funeral is over and everyone has gone home, do you find yourself all alone? Do you wonder why others laugh and act like

nothing has changed? If you answered "yes" to any of the questions above, please consider attending this grief support group. It will be Tuesday evenings from 6 to 7:30pm, October 4-November 8. There is no charge and the group will be facilitated by Tabitha Hospice Social Worker and Eastridge Stephen Minister, Barb Anderson. It is asked that you commit to attending all six sessions. If you have questions, please call Barb Anderson (402-488-0028). You don't have to struggle with your loss all by yourself. Grief shared is grief lessened.



Fall Cleanup day is coming soon! October 8 from 9:00 AM to 12:00 noon. We'll meet in the parking lot. Please mark your calendar, and plan to join the crew! There's a lot to do and "many hands make light work". If you can bring tools such as rakes, bush trimmers and shovels, that will be helpful, but if you don't have tools, many of us will bring extras. See you then!



PEACEMAKER @ TABLE TALKS:

Join us for a special Talk on Tuesday, October 11, and meet the 2016 PCUSA Peacemaker from Cuba, Diane Martinez.

Dianet de la Caridad Martínez Valdés holds a Bachelor of Art in English and French languages from the University of Las Villas in Santa Clara, Cuba. She is a lifelong Presbyterian who says that the church nurtured in her an awareness of exclusion, discrimination, poverty and the desire to serve Christ and work for justice. After years of involvement, she now serves as chairperson of the Student Christian Movement (SCM) of Cuba, an ecumenical organization of young people whose mission is to provide spaces for leadership training, critical reflection, and faithful service. She is currently engaged in theological studies at the Evangelical Seminary of Theology in Matanzas. Dianet is a member of the Presbyterian Church "John G. Hall" in Cardenas, where she serves as pianist, choir director, and music teacher for children and youth.

What we Care about...



Faith Connections: Sundays, 10-11AM



Time with the Text — Year round

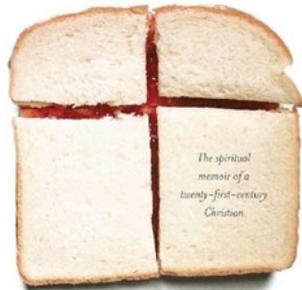
The preacher of the day invites you to have a closer look at the scripture he/she is preaching on that Sunday.

Book Study: *Take this Bread*, by Sara Miles — starting October 16

The story of an unexpected conversion, told by a very unlikely convert. Raised as an atheist, Sara Miles lived an enthusiastically secular life as a restaurant cook and writer. Then early one morning, for no earthly reason, she wandered into a church. But she ate a piece of bread, took a sip of wine, and found herself radically transformed...

take this bread

SARA MILES



Lincoln/Lancaster County CROP Hunger Walk

Sunday, October 9, 2016. Registration: 1:30-2:30 pm

New Hope United Methodist Church, 1205 NORTH 45TH St.

We invite each walker to bring a non-perishable food item OR new socks, any size for the Center for People in Need.



Quilt Auction Update: Thanks to the three Eastridge members who donated to the 19th Annual Quilt Auction Fundraiser. The donated items brought a total of \$ 313. The total amount raised at the event was \$ 10,000. This will be used to purchase:

60 new mattresses

2 new basketball goals

2 new mountain bikes

Additional archery equipment

Thanks again for the donations; it's a great way to support Camp Calvin Crest.



Co-Ed Adult Fellowship Opportunity: Wyuka Cemetery Tour with Ed Zimmer

It's hard to believe that October is right around the corner!

Sunday, October 16 at 2pm Ed Zimmer will be leading a tour of Wyuka Cemetery. The walking tour (about 2 miles) allows participants to learn about the history of Wyuka and some of the sites, including information about one of Charles Lindberg's earliest training partners. For those who have never walked through Wyuka, the grounds were designed to be park-like and inviting. If you attend, please wear sturdy walking shoes and bring a bottle of water. After the tour, the group from Eastridge is invited to meet at Cheddars for dessert or a snack. The tour begins at Rudge Chapel across the parking lot from Wyuka Funeral Home. Please call Christi Mook at 402-805-4031 with questions.



Ministry for Youth



A **thank you note** to the Middle School Youth that traveled to Kansas City this summer: *How can we thank you enough for the*

heart demonstrated by the members of the church that volunteered their time with Hope House on July 12, 2016? Eastridge Presbyterian's commitment to the community is admirable and we are honored to have been chosen as the beneficiary of your group's service project. Your volunteers have been a tremendous help to us as we try to supply the mothers and children with a wonderful holiday. We couldn't have made the holiday store such a success without wonderful volunteers like you! ~ Hope House, Lee's Summit, MO.



FEAR NOT Youth Retreat: November 11-12

An overnight retreat at Camp Calvin Crest with Special Guest Michelle Phillips. We'll start with supper at 6:30 in the Calvin Crest Dining Hall. We'll have worship, sessions, games and more food at this youth retreat. We'll finish the retreat after lunch on Saturday.

Registration fee is \$ 25, more info to come.

Items to bring: Sleeping bag and pillow, Warm clothes, jacket, gloves and hat, Shoes or boots, Toiletries, Pen or Pencil, notebook and Bible.

UPDATED 2016 Schedule:

October 2nd: Youth Group - Food Bank 4:30 -7pm (meet @EPC). Sign up online at: <http://lincolnfoodbank.org/volunteer.php>. Please go online and complete form before attending.

October 9th: Youth Group - GiFT - CROP Walk (1:30 New Hope Methodist Church)

October 16th: No Youth Group - fall break

October 23rd: Youth Group - City Mission (EPC)Packing lunches

October 30th: Joint Youth Group Event 5-7 pm. \$ 10. Eight churches.

November 6th: Youth Group - Homeless Prevention Center

November 11-12th Fri pm - Sat 3:30 Calvin Crest Retreat "Fear Not" joint churches. Middle School & High School

November 13th: Youth Group - Gift-Thanksgiving Dinner

November 20th: Youth Group - Fellowship

November 27th: No Youth Group - Thanksgiving

December 4th: Youth Group - Service - blessing bags

December 9th Friday 6:30-8:30 Gifts of Love (C.I.)

December 11th: Youth Group - Gift

December 18th: Youth Group - Christmas Parties

December 25th ... Christmas- no youth group



Photos above from the Youth/ Parent Meeting to kick off the 2016-2017 year!



Eastridge Presbyterian, Fourth Presbyterian, and Co-Op 513 are

joining together to host Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University (FPU) class. Over 9 weeks, we will learn and discuss ways to beat debt, grow your wealth, invest for the future (college, home-buying, & retirement), and learn to give in ways you haven't considered before! The group will meet here at Eastridge. Kylie & Cameron Meter will assist in guiding you through the curriculum. Classes are on Tuesday nights at 6:30 beginning Oct. 4 and last for no more than 2 hours. The class is \$100. Contact the office for more information!



Presbyterian Women of Homestead Presbyterian: Fall Gathering will be October 7 and 8 at Camp Calvin Crest. Registration due date Oct 1- there is a provision for late registration. Application form on Homestead web site or at the Welcome Desk.



Friday Night Kids Club: Once a month Elementary Kids Club! Kindergarten-5th Grade. The children will experience a time of recreation, Bible teaching, missions and crafts. They will build friendships each month as they explore different topics from the Bible. Best of all it's FUN!

3rd Friday of Each month from 7:00-9:00 PM . October 21, November 18, January 20, February 17, March 17, April 21. Please contact Amanda Rodell (amandaj33@gmail.com) if you would like to be an adult volunteer (Middle School & High School students welcome).



Blessing Bags! Stop at the bulletin board next to the Welcome Desk to grab some items you might be able to provide for our Blessing Bag outreach project (to be completed at the October GiFT). At the Welcome Desk are sign ups for the next GiFT Sunday.



Welcome to Madeline Noonan, our new Children's Music Director. Madeline is a senior at Doane and is majoring in Music Education. She has worked at the

Air Park Recreational Center and the Lincoln Children's Museum as a day camp instructor. She is currently student teaching at Sheridan Elementary. She enjoys performing in ensembles such as the Doane Choir and Jazz Unlimited as a mezzo soprano and in Symphonic Wind Ensemble as a French horn player. Madeline has always had a passion for teaching children and believes singing and performing music is a wonderful way to worship and to build community at church.



Welcome to Brian Lew, our new Adult Choir Director. Brian has recently relocated to Lincoln where he is completing his doctorate in trom-

bone performance at UNL. He is very excited to serve Eastridge as our Music Director and help us move forward in our faith through music. Born and raised in New Hampshire, Brian completed his undergrad at

UNH in trombone performance and recently completed his Master of Music in Performance/Pedagogy in Newfoundland, Canada. In his spare time, Brian enjoys cycling and cooking.

NEW STAFF!



Eastridge Ladies Night Out – October

Let's go to the Nebraska Wesleyan Theater to see the Rocky Horror Show (the stage production NOT the movie). 18 and older only please. **Thursday, October 27, 2016** – show starts at 7:30pm. Theater is at 5000 Saint Paul Avenue. Cost per ticket \$17.50 Adult - \$10 Senior

We will make a single reservation in the hope that we can all sit together. Reservations **MUST** be made by 10/14/2016. If you plan to attend please call Christi at 402-805-4031 or contact Shirlette using Facebook to reserve your ticket.



- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Andrew Loudon | Josh Kohel |
| Kristen Loudon | Elizabeth Kohel |
| John Loudon | Kathy Kuehn |
| Susan Loken | Stephen Hull |
| Thomas Davis | VBS Children |
| Sydney Mitchell | Mason Todd |
| Taylor Mitchell | |

An extra special "thank you" to Angie Berkebille for directing our Summer Chancel Choir on July 10 and helping to find musicians to share their talents in worship.

Patty Niemann
Music Coordinator

SUMMER MUSICIANS: Throughout the summer months, we were blessed to have many people share their musical talents with us during worship. Our special thanks to the following who gave so graciously of their time and musical gifts.

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Charlie Schroeder | Mollie Manner |
| Peyton Michener | Colton Whetstone |
| Nancy Hall | Sheryl Parde |
| Angie Berkebille | Kristi Egger |
| Ethan Berkebille | Graham House |
| Jackie Josten | Ashley Joseph |
| Joel Brown | Diane Harris |
| Brooke Lewis | Madeline Noonan |
| Kris Brenneis | Brian Kohel |
| Summer Chancel Choir | Madison Kohel |



Wee Worship: Wee Worship is an extension of the 9:00 a.m. service, an opportunity for children 2nd grade and younger to learn more about worship and the different elements of worship. After the passing of the peace, children 2nd grade and under will be invited to join the Wee Worship Leader in the narthex where they will be led to their class. Wee Worship will last until the conclusion of the 9:00 service and parents can pick up their kids from Wee worship or after the Faith Connections time.

EASTRIDGE

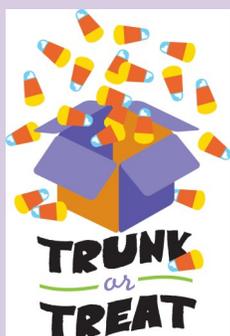
Presbyterian Church



The Eastridge Presbyterian Children's Music group is now up and running! Any child in grades K-5 is

welcome. We meet every Wednesday from 6:30 p.m - 7:15 p.m. in the choir room and perform once a month. We have a range of different music activities such as singing, movement, musical games, and playing different instruments such as boomwhackers, bucket drumming, xylophones, and more. We will be getting ukuleles pretty soon as well. Worshiping through music is a great way to get your child involved with the church and to build friendships with other children.

If you have any questions you can email Madeline Noonan at madeline.noonan@doane.edu



Trunk or Treat: WE NEED YOU!

The Harvest Carnival will be held on Friday, October 28 from 5:30-7:00pm. We'll do a trunk or treat event like last year, along with games & food.

Wear your costumes, collect treats, play games. Bring your friends and enjoy this fall family event. If you would like to host a car trunk for the trunk or treat please contact the office! Donations of candy are also welcome; just drop off in the church office.



Your Outreach Dollars at Work

One portion of the Outreach budget each year is designated for Emerging Needs. This allows the committee to respond to needs that develop through the year. Often, those funds are sent through the PCUSA Disaster Relief Assistance efforts. To date in 2016, our support of the PCUSA DRA efforts have included funds designated for response to the water crisis in Flint, MI; flooding in Louisiana; fires in California; and to PCUSA International Disaster Relief, to use as they most need it. We have also contributed to fundraising efforts by Child Guidance, to be used to replace the van they use to transport children to treatment and therapy. We funded summer childcare for the refugee family we have been helping, and purchased a 4 passenger stroller for the A+ Academy, as they increased the number of baby rooms. In the past, some Emerging Needs funds have been used to purchase some of the supplies for such things as the Disaster Relief Buckets, School Bags and New Baby Kits. As the year continues we will continue to discern how to best use this fund to respond to national and international crises, as well as local needs, which may include providing some of the materials for GIFT Activities that address Outreach needs. It is because of the generosity of Eastridge members, during the last Stewardship Campaign, that we are able to respond to these needs as they occur. If you have questions or suggestions about this, please contact Pastor Dummermuth or Jo Bateman, Moderator of the Outreach Committee.



Cradles & Crayons Adventure! On Saturday, October 8, 2016. 10-12noon (bring a sack lunch. We will eat together at 11:30). Ages Birth-Preschool and their awesome Parents. We will gather as families to visit and enjoy our time together with Cider Of Course! Meet @ the Orchard at 10AM on Saturday, October 8. Our kid-friendly fun includes: Corn maze, gourd cave, straw tower, tire mountain, bear tunnel, tractor trike track, climbing fort, corn box, and more. Grab a spot at a picnic table or bench and sit back. Turn the kids loose and let them run, climb, and explore to their hearts' content. They'll definitely remember their Orchard Adventure!



2024 Ashland Road, Ceresco, NE
(402) 665-2140



Our Summer Sermon Series: Favorite Bible Passages! This past summer we explored a favorite Bible passage of a Ruling Elder currently serving on our church Session (Board). The final three were:

Brian Moock. Verse: Matthew 11: 28-30. Member since: 2007. Brian serves on Session as the Trustee elder. "This passage speaks to God's overwhelming love for all of us and how Christ asks only that we follow him because he already did all the "hard work" for us. This speaks to me because I, like a lot of other people, fall into the trap of trying to do much at any given time. I have found especially in my professional life that if I'm not busy I'm restless and frequently have problems getting anything done. This passage gives me hope that even though I may frequently "bite off more than I can chew" I can not only live thru it but thrive by having Christ there to lean on as my partner."



Michelle Michener. Member since: 2010. Michelle currently serves as Fellowship Committee chairperson. "I first heard this scripture when I was 8. Of course at 8 I knew EXACTLY what my pastor was talking about. LOVE! I knew ALL about love. Wally my swim coach, at the age of 6, was my first love. I mean, I would jump off the high dive only for him so it had to be love, right? This scripture is much more deep than what I thought at 8. To be patient, kind, humble and truthful is really what love is all about. I finally "got it" as a teenager and decided with Bill that this should be the scripture read at our wedding. It truly is something to live by not only with your spouse but with everyone. If only we all lived by this scripture, can you imagine the world we might live in."

Ross Whiston. Ross serves on Session as our Member-at-large. Ross has been a member of Eastridge for 13 years. Verse: Genesis 12: 1-12. "I chose this passage as it has always been a source of comfort during times of change and transition. It is an example of being called to do something beyond our known world, and trusting in God's understanding and not our own. Just like Abram was blessed by God, we are blessed to be a blessing to others and to step beyond our comfort zones to serve God."



EASTRIDGE
Presbyterian Church



1135 Eastridge Drive
Lincoln NE 68510

Non-Profit Org
U.S. Postage
Paid
Lincoln, NE
Permit No. 109

