

The Eastwood Baptist

EASTWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH

3212 JAMES ST.

SYRACUSE, NY 13206-3095

“ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED”

Non-Profit Organization

US Postage Paid

Permit # 2043

Syracuse, NY

yet there is one ray of hope: his compassion never ends. It is only the Lord's mercies that have kept us from complete destruction. Great is his faithfulness; his loving-kindness begins afresh each day. My soul claims the Lord as my inheritance; therefore I will hope in him. The Lord is wonderfully good to those who wait for him, to those who seek for him. It is good both to hope and wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord.

Lamentations 3:21-26

Eastwood Life

“CONNECTING HEARTS & HANDS”

Eastwood Baptist Church Newsletter -- October 2021

A Message from Your Interim Pastor

Hello Friends,

From time to time, I will use this space (or a portion of this space) to share a brief meditative thought based on Scripture. Following is the first of these.



Topic: God's Presence in Ordinary Things

Scripture: Isaiah 55:6-9, Colossians 1:16-20

On May 28, 1944 the writer and teacher C. S. Lewis preached a sermon called “Transposition”. By transposition, Lewis meant “the power of the higher to come down and be incarnate [present] in the lower.”

In plainer English, Lewis was saying that God takes ordinary things and events and fills them with meaning. So many times, in the ministry of Jesus, our Lord took an ordinary object or event and used it to explain something about God or the spiritual life – bread, a mustard seed, a farmer casting seed on different kinds of ground, a poor woman putting coins in an offering plate.

In the sermon, Lewis shared that some folks have forgotten or have never been taught that God can change what we call ordinary into what God calls holy. So, a challenge for us is to look for God to be revealed in the ordinary events of life.

Following is a prayer from Lewis' book *Mere Christianity* – “Give up yourself and you will find your real self. Lose your life and you will find it. Submit with every fiber of your being and you will find eternal life. Keep back nothing. Nothing you have not given away will ever be really yours. But look for Christ and you will find him, and with him everything else thrown in.” Amen.

Again, I want to thank you for the privilege of serving with you. I believe that God has an exciting future in store for Eastwood Baptist Church!

I hope you are staying well!

God's Blessings, Pastor Bill

Forgiveness is warfare – to protect your own heart from bitterness, and to protect your relationship with the one who hurt you.

MATTHEW 18:21-22

Peter came and said to Him, “Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me and I forgive him? Up to seven times?” Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven.

Congregational Meeting – Oct. 3

Samaritan Center Trip

Our bi-annual trip to help at the Samaritan Center will take place on October 24th. During COVID, the meal service format has been changed to a takeout or to-go meal service. We need 10-12 volunteers per meal shift, and 5-7 for the meal prep/housekeeping shift.

Volunteers must be at least 14 years old. The shift times are:

- **Meal prep:** 9am-12pm
- **Dinner service:** 12:30pm-3pm

A sign-up sheet can be found near the Welcome Table. It is a rewarding experience and we hope that you will consider volunteering.

Transition Team News

We are waiting for a few snail mail questionnaires to reach us.

There were thirty-two (32) questionnaires turned in during Church last Sunday, and several SurveyMonkey returns.

The information already received provided great feedback for understanding the history of EBC.

We will put together a synopsis of the information for the next Wednesday Weekly Update.

We will be finishing up the HERITAGE portion and starting the MISSION portion of the Focus Points. The MISSION will be discussing EBC’s core values and boundaries within which the church will operate. These and additional points will allow us to move forward and provide constructive direction for the Pastor Search Committee.

Respectively submitted, Ray Hickey



HAPPY BIRTHDAY to those celebrating
in **OCTOBER**

- Oct. 1 Phyllis Bailey
2 Jim Mowat
6 Cathy Stone
8 Christy Braga Snyder
Annalesia Marie Braga Snyder
Jim Stone
14 Gitta Trippany
15 Harper Rae Rasmussen
17 Dan Stone
18 Karen Procopio
Bill Bradt
19 Darlene Long
21 Eric Kuersteiner
Monty Stone
23 Adam Gondek
24 Jamie Landry
25 Trevor Neeves
26 Howard Hamlin
28 Tanner DeWolf
Gayle Vinette
29 Ronald Kern
Michaela Murphy
Eli Devito
30 Joan Hart
Rod DeWolf

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY to:

- Oct. 3 Charles & Betty Foland
9 Donna & Sean Kimbrell
18 Cindy & Brian Rogers
19 Susan & John Rizzo
28 Melissa & Gregg Kuersteiner
Darlene & Ralph Long
30 Doreen & Ken Ural

COZY CORNER

What's going on with you and your family?

Send updates to Linda Troiano
@ lsaenz@twcny.rr.com to include in the
next newsletter.

DEACONS CORNER

EDUCATION

The Education Commission will be planning a take-out luncheon to benefit our Compassion Child in October or November. Watch for further details for helping with the Compassion Child luncheon.

We would like to sponsor some events for our youth. Watch for details.

Nursery care will be available each Sunday. The Adult Discipleship Group meets each Sunday @ 9:30 and will be studying the Book of John.

The American Baptist Youth Convention will be held from November 5th to the 7th at The Holiday Inn Liverpool in person with the possibility of viewing online. The registration deadline is October 4th.

HELP WANTED

Ushers, Lay Readers and people to work the Welcome Station – Sign-up sheet on the table by the office or contact Karen Procopio, Carol Walczyk or the church office.

Deacons needed -- You are welcome to join the Deacons at the next meeting on **Oct. 12th** or anytime on the 2nd Tuesday of the month. Email Gayle Vinette if interested @ gaylevinette@gmail.com

BONA DEA WOMEN'S GROUP

Bona Dea Circle meets on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. in the Lounge. A typical meeting consists of devotions, a program, and refreshments. The Circle members take responsibility for the Inspiration Table in the back of the

sanctuary. A Love Gift offering is collected each month and forwarded to American Baptist Women's Ministries at the state level. The Circle is part of a larger group, the Iroquois Association, which includes other area churches. This group meets twice a year. Area churches also participate in White Cross projects which may include collecting items for various organizations and/or contributing money for overseas projects. The Circle's next project will be to renovate the Lounge, including painting and new curtains. Bona Dea invites any women in the church to join us. Bona Dea meets next on October 26th.

MIRIAM CIRCLE meets on the 1st Wednesday of the month, 11:30 am, @ Tony's Restaurant.

A Note from the Deacons

A huge thank you to our congregation for their ongoing financial support to our church, for staying current with their pledges. As can be seen from the below information, EBC's giving is behind expenses. That is not unexpected or unusual as we have just moved through the summer into the fall months. Thank you in advance for any additional giving!

**End of August Checking Account Balance
\$18,600.00**

**End of August -- Expenses *more*
than Income - \$14,859.00**



We need.... YOU! A church is a building, what makes us Eastwood Baptist Church is all of you, the congregation. We as a congregation decide how we worship, how we celebrate, and how we care for our community near and far. We are in an exciting chapter of our church family history, but we need you, the congregation, to help us. Please examine your gifts and talents and take some time to prayerfully consider how you might be part of the Board of Deacons in the New Year. Members and nonmembers alike can help. Do your travels take you away for part of the year? We can still use your help. Have you only been attending by Zoom? We can still use your help. Look at the different Commissions below and see where you might be able to help. Not a member? No problem because our commissions need teams of people who are ready and willing to help. In the month of October, we will have a sign up for members who are interested in serving on the Board of Deacons and for anyone, members and nonmembers, who are willing to support the Board by being part of the individual commission teams. Not attending in person? You can still sign up, please email or call the church office at ebcabc@gmail.com or 315-463-1930 or email or call Gayle Vinette at 315-458-9546 or gaylevinette@gmail.com.

Worship - If you like helping to plan celebrations or decorate, this is the commission team for you. If you enjoy our worship services and want to have a hand in all the different parts that make worship come together (lay readers/greeters/ushers, communion, pulpit supply, seasonal decorations and advent preparations), we could use your skills.

Education - If you value the Sunday school lessons you learned as a child and want to share that with the next generation, this is the commission team for you. If you believe that your faith journey should not end after high school, then we need you. If you are excited about developing learning opportunities for all ages, we need you.

Mission - If you feel an urge to find ways to help those in need and want to spread much needed relief within and beyond the community, then we need you.

Support - Are you handy with tools, do you enjoy working with technology or working with your hands? We need people who can think outside the box or don't mind getting their hands dirty to help keep our physical church up and running. This team tries to be fiscally responsible by doing as much of the work as we can without having to spend money that could be used in our ministry.

Personnel and Membership - Do you have a gift for communication? Is working with the church staff, keeping up on current state requirements, recording keeping and organization something you have a gift for? Do you have a love for history, then we need you.