

AFFECTION FOR CHRIST'S BRIDE

I have a lot of conversations with other EPC leaders from around the country. These leaders are pastors, teachers, chaplains, and administrators of various types. In one recent gathering there was a discussion about the hopes we had for the Church in the midst of the global Covid-19 pandemic. What is it that you want for/hope for/pray for the church to do/be/become, as a result of this time? The comments varied and they were all helpful and interesting. I'd like to share one way I'd answer that question as I have all of you, the people of God at Edgington EPC, in mind. I hope Coronavirus makes you long for and love the bride of Jesus Christ.

Let me say a few things by way of clarification:

- First, you cannot love the Bride of Christ without first loving Christ. A sincere and faithful love for Jesus: for who He is, for what He has done, is an essential mark of the true Christian believer. So, when I say, I hope you love the Church more because of this virus, it doesn't in any way preclude love for Christ as an essential mark of the Christian faith.
- Second, the reason why we speak of the Church as the Bride of Christ is because that is the metaphor that the Apostle Paul uses to describe the loving relationship between Jesus and His People in Ephesians 5. Jesus is covenantally bound in love and faithfulness to His People – His Bride. That is why the Church is often collectively referred to as the feminine 'she' or 'her.'

So, when I say, I hope this season of life makes you long for and love the bride of Christ, I mean that I hope you long for and love the Church. It's true that while we are attempting to digitally "gather" with some relative degree of effectiveness, it does not in any way replace the physical gathering of the people of God on the Lord's Day. That speaks to the fact that God has created us for community. He has created us to be together in corporate worship, where the songs that we raise are joined to the voices of other Christians, who through our diversity of life and experience praise the unity of the Triune God – the God of eternity who has been faithful to every generation of believers – and now to us. He has created us to sit under the authority of the Scriptures and the proclamation of the Gospel, both to our ears and our eyes in the Word, and through touching and tasting the Gospel made visible in the sacraments. While we can do the best we can to spread the teaching of the Word around – and we are trying – there is simply nothing we can do that will replace the act of eating and drinking in fellowship with the Church and in communion with the Risen Savior. What that does is it creates a yearning to be together again – and that is ok.

An ancient Roman poet was the first to use the phrase "absence makes the heart grow fonder." I hope that has been, and will be, true of you and your family. Collectively, you all have been on my mind and in my prayers, and will continue to be. I couldn't help but smile, when I sang this past Sunday, "God be with you till we meet again" and thought, I will never take for granted the grace of gathering together with the people of God. I'm so excited to gather with you again.

Your Pastor and Friend,



ELDERS

Keith Wilson - Clerk
Steve Morrison
Jim Mueller
Kevin Oak
Mic Penry
Patrick Shovar

DEACONS

Beth Flickinger
Cindy Cullen
Scott Cullen
Janet Dunlap
Norman Dunlap
Beth Easterla
Don Easterla
Cora Schafman
Peggy Shovar

TRUSTEES

Mel Block - Chair
Larry Pithan - Secretary
Ken Benningfield
Jeff Fuhr
Phil Fuhr
Scott Nelson
Jeff Schmidt
Chris Stark
Jeff Thomas

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

2 - Pat Block	13 - Eddy Bull	19 - Michael Orr	26 - Amy Weiss
2 - Shawn Docherty	13 - Angie Freyermuth	20 - Mackenzie Hopkins	27 - Luci Goodnight
2 - Betty Murdock	14 - Lauren Stegmiller	23 - James Doonan	27 - Lisa Nelson
4 - Larry Hesck	15 - Scott Nelson	24 - Rayce Tomlin	28 - Mitchell Bayne
4 - Maggie Pape	17 - Nita Darland	25 - Richard Vanls- eghem	29 - Beth Flickinger
6 - Janice Armstrong	17 - Carson Thomas	26 - Addyson Tomlin	
6 - Clarice Docherty	18 - JoAnn Rursch	26 - Nataleigh Tomlin	
8 - Kortney Gierlus	19 - Brandee Neece		

All events listed in the newsletter are suspended at this time due to the recommendations and restrictions put in place by our elected officials & healthcare professionals in response to COVID-19.

**We are praying for many things now. Our ability to be able to meet together again soon is one of them!
We will keep you posted!**

Please watch for updates through emails, on the website, and on our Facebook page. Pastor Zach is Facebook Live every Sunday morning at 10am worship and Wednesday evening at 7pm for prayer.

Happy Anniversary

3 - Scott & Cindy Cullen
8 - Scott & Lisa Nelson
10 - Kenneth & Carol Kaiser
12 - Joshua & Lindsay Fuhr
14 - Neal & Vicky Ruggles
29 - Steve & Debra Wagamon

"Love endures all things. Love never fails." - 1 Corinthians 13:7, 8.

GREETERS FOR APRIL

Sun., April 5th, 10am - Todd and Lauren Stegmiller
Fri., April 10th, 7pm, Good Friday - Kim and Barb Freyermuth
Sun., April 12th, Easter- Tyson and Angie Freyermuth
Sun., April 19th, 10am - Jon and Nita Darland
Sun., April 26th, 10am - Darren & Tonya Hall

HAPPY EASTER

February 25, 2020 at 7pm

The Session meeting was held February 25th at 7:00pm. The meeting was held in the conference room of the church with Zach Hopkins, Steve Morrison (via phone), Jim Mueller, Kevin Oak, Patrick Shovar, and Keith Wilson in attendance.

Pastor Zach acted as moderator of the meeting. Zach opened the meeting with prayer. The Elders studied and discussed the 3rd and 4th chapters of *The Shepherd Leader* by Timothy Witmer. The Elders prayed for the committees and volunteers of the church.

There was a motion to approve the docket and the minutes of the last meeting. Motion was seconded and approved.

Zach reported on his activities for the month which included:

- **Visits/Calls:** Visits: 4 Home, 2 Office; 7 Discipleship; 1 Lunch Meeting
- **Committee/Ministry Meetings:** Youth Group, VBS Meeting, Buffalo Prairie Congregational Meeting, Rockridge FCA, Charles Simeon Trust Workshop

OLD BUSINESS:

- The Session discussed the cancellation of the Church Leadership that was scheduled for February 15th, 2020 and whether it should be rescheduled or canceled. It was decided to cancel the retreat at this time.
- Acolyte training has been rescheduled for March 15th, 2020 and Patrick will be leading the training.

NEW BUSINESS:

- The Session approved the baptism of Everlee Grace Oak on March 8th, 2020, and Kevin will assist.
- The Session approved the baptism of Jett Edward Fuhr on a date to be determined and Jim will assist.
- Zach advised that Lisa Bowman will be vacationing in Florida March 7th – March 15th, 2020.
- Zach advised that he will be conducting a new member class on March 15, 22nd, and 29th, 2020.
- Zach let the Session know that he will be attending the National Ministerial Meeting in Orlando, Florida March 9th – 11th, 2020. Ruling Elders should be prepared assist with any ministerial needs during this time.
- The Session discussed the upcoming Easter schedule.
 - A Good Friday service held in the Tenebrae tradition is scheduled for 7:00pm on April 10th, 2020.
 - Easter Sunday will include a breakfast at 7:30am and Worship at 9:00am. There will be no Sunday School that morning.
- Kevin will be coordinating the collection for and the ordering of Easter Lilies. Members will be asked to use the envelopes in the pews to order the lilies.
- Keith and Steve reviewed the recent history of budgeting Zach's continuing education fund and their meeting with Zach on February 20th, 2020. A motion was made, seconded and approved to allow Zach to take \$6,050.29 from the fund as compensation. The Session also felt that the Continuing Education Fund balance should be more clearly presented with the annual church statements.
- A discussion was held concerning Zach's upcoming schedule related to the approaching birth of Zach and Mackenzie's baby. Mic will be available to preach if needed. He is also interested in discussing ideas for other ruling elders' participation.
- Zach asked the Session to be thinking of how we would fill the Music Director position.
- The Session approved facility use requests for a baby shower for Mackenzie Hopkins on March 14th, 2020 and for a graduation party for a nephew of Chris Bragg on May 25th, 2020.
- Zach assigned chapter 5 of *The Shepherd Leader* to be studied prior to the next Session meeting.
- Next Communion will be served March 1st, 2020. Keith will bring cut-up bread, Kevin to bring the loaf, and Jim will bring the juice.



SESSION

Cont. from p. 3

The next Stated Session meeting will be: March 31st, 2020 at 7pm.

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:15pm. Motion Carried

The next Stated Session meeting will be: March 31st, 2020 at 7pm.

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:15pm. Motion Carried.

Zach closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Keith Wilson,
Clerk of Session



Rev. Dr. Jeff Jeremiah sent out this in an email on Friday, March 29th. Please join us in a Day of Prayer and Fasting on Good Friday, April 10th. We will send out the prayer guide mentioned in the email prior to April 10th.

In this extraordinary season of challenge and opportunity, the EPC is joining with the [Presbyterian Church in America \(PCA\)](#) and the [Anglican Church in North America \(ACNA\)](#) for a Day of Prayer and Fasting on Good Friday, April 10. Each of these denomination's congregations—whose total membership is more than 550,000—are invited to participate.

The ACNA has much in common with the EPC, as it is a Reformed, evangelical offshoot from the mainline Episcopal Church in the United States. They are committed to the trustworthiness and authority of Scripture and have nearly 1,000 congregations with about 100,000 members in the U.S. and Canada.

I hope you will mark this date on your church's calendar and notify your members and worshipers by the end of this weekend. The leaders of the PCA and ACNA join me in hoping that hundreds of thousands of people will cry out to God on April 10 for grace and mercy in this time of crisis and distress.

By April 1, a prayer guide will be sent to you to distribute to your congregation for use on April 10. We also will post it to our website.

[Third Millennium Ministries \(ThirdMill\)](#), an approved agency of the EPC, also is participating. Richard Pratt is ThirdMill's President; he has spoken at our Assembly several times in the past 10 years or so and is a good friend of the EPC.

I know we are all praying daily for the Lord to mercifully intervene to stop the spread of this devastating virus. On Good Friday we have a unique opportunity to join with other Reformed friends in corporate prayer and fasting. I'm excited for what could happen in an ecumenical gathering like this.

Thank you, and please stay safe.

Jeff



TRUSTEES

The Trustees did not meet in February. The minutes from the March meeting will be approved at the April meeting and included in the May newsletter.

February 18, 2019

The Mission Committee met on February 18, 2020 at 6:30pm in the Conference Room of the church. Those attending were Barb Freyermuth, Deb Wagamon, Jim Reimers, Lisa Nelson, Nancy Engstrom, and Todd Stegmiller.

Barb opened in prayer.

Old Business:

- **Approve Minutes:** January 2020 minutes were approved with a change to the date of the next meeting (Feb. 18, 2020)
- **Review of Newsletters:** This was completed by committee
- **Congregational Donation:** The Church donation was \$930.00, which was matched by the Mission Committee for a total of \$1,860.00. Disbursement:
 - **Woodworth = \$930.00**
 - **Lancaster = \$930.00**
- **Buddy Bags:** Mike Ruff, Principal of Andalusia Elementary School, has been able to identify 5 families who could benefit from the buddy bag program (18 members). The Mission Committee will structure the program; however, we need church volunteers to manage the program on a weekly basis. We have identified 4 church volunteers who would be willing to assist with the program and the committee will meet with these volunteers on Sunday to discuss the project. Though our intention was to begin this program in Sept 2020, we feel a trial run of the program the last few weeks of this school year might identify problems we may need to resolve before the new school year begins.

New Business:

- **Pregnancy Resources:** We have purchased 1 table for the Fund Raising event to be held on Thursday, March 26th between 6 – 8pm. We currently have 9 persons who are wanting to attend. We may be purchasing a second table if additional members show interest.
- **2020 Financial Commitments:** The committee approved the mission commitments below:

2020 Mission Commitments	Approved
World Outreach (Burdall)	\$ 7,500
World Outreach ITEN (McCallum)	\$ 4,000
World Outreach ITEN (Woodworth)	\$ 8,500
World Outreach (Huber)	\$ 2,000
Youth Hope	\$ 6,000
Youth Hope - MAD Program	\$ 2,000
Pregnancy Resources	\$ 2,000
Church Planting (Lancaster's)	\$ 5,000
Total:	\$ 37,000

- **First Quarter Commitments:** The Committee approved sending the first quarter commitments
- **Minute for Mission:** Barb will speak to the topic “2020 Mission Commitments” on Feb. 23, 2020.

Deb closed in prayer.

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 17, 2020 at 6:30pm.



CHECK OUT THE NEXT SEVERAL PAGES FOR
THE MINISTRIES WE SUPPORT ,AND FOR WAYS
THAT YOU CAN GET PLUGGED IN PERSONALLY!



connect • serve • grow

YOUTH HOPE'S ART CLUB AT MOLINE PUBLIC LIBRARY

YouthHope students had their first art exhibition this February at the Moline Public Library! Varying mediums were on display: photography, ceramics, soft sculpture, and student poetry. We are so thankful for this opportunity for our youth in partnership with the Moline Public Library!

"Being a part of YouthHope has impacted my life tremendously, coming from a home where Christ isn't brought up much. YouthHope provided me an opportunity to get to know who He is and how He loves me, unconditionally, no matter what. My life changed when I was able to understand that Christ was the only answer! He provided a community with loving and caring mentors and friends who always reminded me of my worth. YouthHope became my safe place, a place where I knew I was loved and a place where I knew I was welcomed. Surrounded by people who thrive to help you build your character and push you to become a positive leader. Over the 9 years I've been attending YouthHope, I have grown and matured as a person a lot and have been able to continue building my relationship with Christ". ~ KeeKee



To read the entire March 2020 YouthHope Report click [HERE](#)

Updates from YouthHope

Greetings from the YouthHope Family!

We continue to be a source of HOPE during these uncertain times! We need your help to continue meeting the needs emerging in our community.

In response to COVID-19, all YouthHope after school and evening programs have been canceled at both the Moline and Rock Island Youth Centers until schools resume classes.

We also canceled the YouthHope Annual Fundraising Banquet scheduled for April 16. Alternatively, we will be hosting an **"At-Home Banquet"** which you can view online and participate from the comfort of your home! The banquet is our largest fundraiser of the year, and the goal this year is to raise \$100,000, a large portion of our annual budget.

Typically, we serve nearly 600 kids and teens each week at our Youth Centers, and another 735 individuals utilize our Food Pantry each month. YouthHope staff continue to make every effort to reach out and remain in contact with kids and teens to share encouragement and hope.

We are connected with students via texting, social media, YouTube, phone calls, and home deliveries of food, coloring sheets and small Bible lessons. Our Food Pantry is still open, operating now more like a "drive thru" than a storefront.

Please pray for the kids and teens: for safety, health, and basic needs to be met. Please pray for YouthHope's staff and board as we make decisions in this ever-changing time! Please also pray for YouthHope's finances as we continue reaching youth now and after the coronavirus crisis passes.

We need your help and thank you for your partnership in bringing youth HOPE! Please consider making a donation to keep the ministry at YouthHope available.

We will continue to monitor the situation closely and send updates accordingly.
Thank you and God bless you!

In appreciation,
Mark Drake, Executive Director

For more information and a direct link to YouthHope's website donation page click [HERE](#) - use the donation drop down box to designate which part of the ministry you want your donation to be allocated to.

Questions? Want to help? Contact Hannah at (309) 762-4577 or email: hcarr@cfyouthhope.org

To read the First Quarter 2020 Pregnancy Resources *Heartlines*, please click [HERE](#).



PRAISES & PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Thank you for praying with Pregnancy Resources! You are such a blessing to us!
-
- Father, please be with the abortion minded client who visited Pregnancy Resources this week. Soften her heart toward her child.
- Jesus, come alongside the Pregnancy Resources team as they minister to a client base that is profoundly impacted financially by current events. Let them absorb chaos and offer clarity and a sense of calm.
- God, thank you for the opportunity that Pregnancy Resources had to hand out 23 packages of diapers to families in need so far this week!
- Father, bring peace and hope to those who are calling Pregnancy Resources scared during this uncertain time.
- Jesus, allow churches, individuals, and families to shine Your light in unique ways during the current situation.

A note about Pregnancy Resources and COVID-19: In order to protect the health and safety of our patients and our staff, Pregnancy Resources is closed effective 5:00pm on Friday, March 20, 2020. The scheduled date to re-open is Monday, April 6, 2020.

~ Marissa J. Foss, Admin. Assistant

OUR GALA HAS BEEN RESCHEDULED

Celebrate
June 18 2020

Bettendorf Waterfront Convention Center

For more information, visit www.qcpregnacypartners.org/events



Mark your calendars! Our 30th Anniversary Celebration Dinner is now being planned for **Thursday June 18th, 2020**. We will begin to gather at the **Waterfront Convention Center** at **6:00 pm** with **dinner being served at 6:30 pm**. **June 18th, 1990 is the exact date that our ministry opened its doors to offer hope to the greater Quad Cities!** We look forward to a delayed but special celebration with you!

An opportunity to make a one-time or monthly financial gift will be extended. Questions? Call Liz at (309)797-3636 or email Liz@qcpregnancy.org.



Do you feel that God is calling you to make a difference in the life of a new Mom or Dad? Be part of our team and offer hope and healing in the name of Christ.

NEW VOLUNTEER TRAINING SCHEDULE FOR 2020:
MAY 12, 13, 14
SEPTEMBER 29, 30, & OCTOBER 1

Want to register? Need more info? Please email or call Marissa at Marissa@qcpregnancy.org | 563-386-3737
Click on the Pregnancy Resources logo at the top left to be taken to their site and learn more.

Sudan...and Coronavirus

As I mentioned in my last newsletter, the coronavirus postponed our planned trip to Vietnam and paved the way for me to join Mike Kuhn in Sudan and Bruce Anderson in Ethiopia.

Well....those plans changed a bit too. As with many things these days, constant change seems to be the only consistent thing. So while we were able to complete our time in Sudan, new travel restrictions forced us to delay our time in Ethiopia and plan a quick departure back to the US.



Nevertheless, Mike and I spent an incredible week in the country of Sudan that concluded with the likelihood that this will soon be one of ITEN's newest sites!

Read more about the trip and see pictures by clicking [HERE](#).



Prayer Requests

- The ITEN annual retreat is scheduled for the end of April. It is a crucial time for us to assess the previous year and set goals for 2020. With current travel restrictions, pray for wisdom and discernment as we determine a way for this essential retreat to take place.
- Our work in Tyumen, Siberia as we continue the process of starting a Third Millennium masters program in November
- Our national partners, most of which will feel the effects of the pandemic in greater ways than we do here in the US.
- Join us in prayer for healing for the world so that our

work, and the work of our national partners can continue unhindered.

[CLICK HERE to become a partner](#), and support our calling to serve those with least access to the gospel. *Thank You!*

FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTION SPRING 2020 UPDATE & THANK YOU!

Thanks to many helpful hands we had another successful food distribution. We had 20 volunteers show up on Friday and 13 on Saturday. We were pleased to have some young people among the volunteers. They had so much energy!

We served 45 families which included 102 adults, 25 teens, and 34 children. All patrons felt very blessed to receive such a nice variety of food, produce, and meat. (We had packed for 44 and added another family on Friday.) They also had a choice of baby products and some hygiene products that had been donated.

Thank you to all who helped, or donated food or money to help fill the baskets. You are a blessing to us and the community.

Now our shelves are nearly bare and we welcome additions of nonperishable food items. We do still have some green beans and corn.

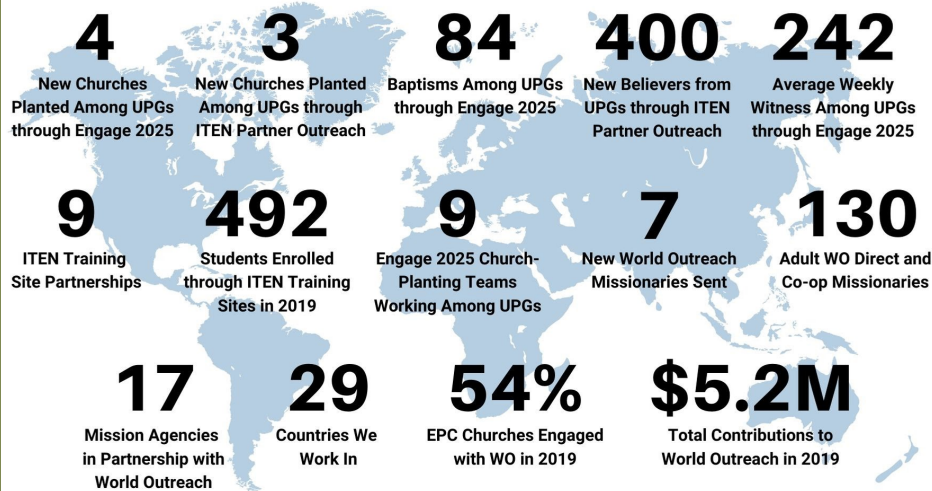
Shirley & Dewey Flemming, Sharon & Jim Schaubroeck, Sue Penry



HUBER-VENTURES - Back to the Basics (To read the entire Back to Basics click [HERE](#))

Normally I tell a story relating to World Outreach or simply share about something God has been teaching us, but this time around, I wanted to zoom out, share the bigger picture of what World Outreach is truly about, and give you a few numbers to celebrate with us! This information is part of what we learned and fleshed out with the rest of our US team in Orlando in January. We are so incredibly blessed to be part of the stateside WO team and love to hear stories from our field workers about the fruit they are seeing in the unreached communities they serve. Please take a moment to look at the following images and read about what God is doing! We'd love to answer any questions you may have as well.

WO by the Numbers: Progress



UPG = Unreached People Group
ITEN = International Theological Education Network



HUBER-VENTURES - Our Covid 19 Update (To read the entire Our Covid 19 Update click [HERE](#))

It seems that no one will be unaffected by the virus. As for our community: we live in Illinois, which shut down all schools, bars and restaurants (save for drive-thru/take out/delivery) just over a week ago and as of Saturday at 5pm we are under a "Shelter At Home" order for a minimum of two weeks. I know most of you are probably already experiencing a version of this, but it's still feels crazy to even put in writing. However, many of you are probably dealing with far more significant changes to your routines than we are. Whenever we're not traveling, we already (try to) balance working from home with raising our kids so our daily lives have not changed too much. We definitely miss our church family and playdates and library story hour and the playgrounds and thrift stores, but in our case, it turns out that responding to a pandemic is a lot like preparing for childbirth.

Please pray/praise with us!

1. That Saul, Jesse, and the whole family would stay healthy.
2. That baby girl would be safely delivered in God's perfect timing.
3. For a quick discharge and reunion with family.
4. That as we wait, we would trust our days to the Lord and use them wisely –investing in our kids and taking time to rest while still being faithful to the work we have to do.

We know that everyone has their own unique challenges in this season of waiting. So let us intercede for one another and for those that are sick or high risk so that God's name might be glorified across the entire world!

Please let us know how we can be praying for you.

Much love, Saul, Jesse, Zuri, Samwell, and Salem

Our monthly financial goal increased \$60/month starting in January 2020 due to changes in administrative fees and insurance costs. If you, your church, or anyone you know might be interested in supporting us financially, or you'd like to increase your giving, please head to www.epcwo.org/sauljesse. OR just connect with us and we'll give you all the info along with delicious coffee, tea, or food.
THANK YOU!

CHICAGO 7/20 CHURCH PLANTING *(To read the full Chicago 7/20 Vision Update - March 2020 report, click [HERE](#))*

Here are some examples of how the Lord is using your prayers and financial support to build this little branch of his church in Chicago. Little vignettes illustrating that Christ is at work!

It was a couple of months ago while in the sauna at our fitness club that I met a young man who had a portion of Psalm 51 tattooed on his back. I asked him about it and he said that was from his younger years. He's now been enlightened and has moved away from the Christian faith of his past. He then asked me what's my line of work. When I told him I was a minister, he started squirming a bit... actually, the Lord turned this into a sweet encounter.

One piece of my ministry strategy is to find a way to host weekly lunch discussions at my WeWork facility. I would love to establish a context where people feel safe gathering and wrestling with the question of what is life's story and meaning. I want to graciously ask them to consider the story of Christ's gospel as the key to understanding the story of the world and the meaning of their lives. I had a very encouraging meeting with one of the WeWork staff members who says that she will help me promote these meetings. Please pray that we can launch that effort in the next few months.

I was humbled and blessed by one of my WeWork office mates who opened up to me over lunch and shared what it was like for her growing up in India and growing up in the Sikh religion. It felt like God was at work establishing a safe context in which we could honestly discuss life.

We had over 20 people at our house for a Super Bowl party. Yay! We are building a network of friends!

God is at work using your prayers, financial support, and encouragement to build this little branch of his church in Chicago! Please join me in celebrating what Jesus Christ is up to!

Sending much love your way from Chicago, Jeffrey Lancaster

Prayer Requests:

- For me and Cathy to live, work and minister as those who joyfully believe Christ is at work!
- For me and Cathy to be conformed to Christ's image.
- For a new mission-minded Christian friend who's helping me do a better demographic and psychographic analysis of our target area. He's helping develop a branding, messaging and social media strategy. Pray for God to give both of us wisdom and much creativity.
- For God to help me launch a luncheon discussion series at my WeWork building in the next few months.
- For relationships at the CrossFit Gym
- For missional minded Christians to feel called to saddle up with us and help build a worshipping community that shares in Christ's mission to make all things new in Chicago. For the Lord to bring us people who are bringers and gatherers who can help us build our web of relationships.
- For me to have opportunities to share Christ's love by meeting people's felt needs and ministering to their wounded hearts.
- For us to share the good news of Christ and to see startling conversions.
- For wisdom regarding when we start a small group bible study in our home.
- For wisdom regarding when we start a vision series where we invite people to come to hear about the vision of this church plant.
- For God to bless the opening of Cathy's Art Gallery in the next couple of months. We're praying for the Lord to use her art to bless many in the city, to spread God's artistic beauty, and to build our network of relationships helping us to show neighborly love. Our neighbors are fired up about her gallery. It's really cool to see their excitement. Pray for a successful gallery opening.
- For the Lord to give us the grace to handle any rejection and setbacks along the way... for us to be willing to share in Christ's pattern of suffering & dying so that others can experience life!
- For our Financial Support to continue to come in. Pray that God will prompt the hearts of those he wants to join our team!
- For our 3 dear children: Lucy, Jeffrey Jr., and Bedon





WINNIE'S PLACE

Women In Need - Nurtured Into Excellence

Inside the Shelter: Insight from Winnie's Place Staff and Volunteers

This is part two of a series of interviews with staff and volunteers from Winnie's Place. This month, we interviewed Debbie Jackson.



Debbie Jackson

How do you benefit from shelter?

"You have an opportunity to I believe have peace. You're able to really find yourself. And being here I've learned more things even about myself. I'm able to save money. You know food wise and material wise. It's just even having your own space. It helps a lot even though you might have to share. It gives us a chance to get to know other ladies that come here. Ladies and their children."

What do you want people to know about shelter?

"That I believe it's a steppingstone. It's where you can come and think. Have peace. You know you can get on your feet. It's that choice that's up to that person how they work the program. How they can benefit from it. Ways that they need it because there are a lot of resources here at Winnie's Place. I'm so thankful for this place because it helped me out in so many ways. I thank God for Churches United, Pastor Grimes and Betsy and Corretta and all of them have been such great people in my life and Denise. They all fall in that category. I don't know what I'd do without them."

Why should people give to Churches United?

"They are very well known in the community for their resources and their help and their assistance. I had called Churches United when I was staying in the hotel and I explained my situation and I needed help. I believe it was for the last week there. They were so willing to help me. They even reached out to other resources. I am just thankful for them and I am thankful for Winnie's Place."

Shelter Coordinators: Juanita Bea, Denis Grimes, Debbie Jackson, MariAnn McWhitley, Corretta Nunn, and Kimberly Reese

When Debbie took in her four grandchildren, she lost her one-bedroom apartment. After staying in a hotel briefly, she came to Winnie's Place as a client. Debbie now works as a shelter coordinator. As a shelter coordinator, Debbie makes sure that the shelter stays clean and organized, performs office duties, and she runs a domestic violence support group.



Shelter Phone #: 309-757-0757

1605 Harrison St., Davenport, IA
Click the logo to be linked to Winnie's Wishes FB page.

Spring Clean-Up Days 2020!
Saturday, April 4 (8 - 4)
Saturday, April 18 (8 - 4)
Saturday, May 16 (8 - 4)

CAMP SUMMIT

Join us for some fun and fellowship as we get camp ready for summer!

Some specific ways you can help:

- Help build/install new Challenge Course elements.
- Pressure wash decks and boats
- Rake leaves
- Cut/Split/Stack wood
- Clean gutters and siding
- Deep clean the lodge
- Landscaping/rebuilding a retaining wall
- Clean, set up and decorate buildings for summer
- Provide lunch and/or snacks for the day
- Contribute financially to support any of these projects

And Much More!

Address:
3321 57th Ave.,
New Windsor, IL 61465
(4 miles south of New Windsor)

Please Be Sure To Sign up by Contacting:
Kevin Perrine (Camp Director)
Office: 309-762-4577
kperrine@cfyouthhope.org

Be sure to confirm these dates with the YouthHope office before heading out!
309-762-4577

See page 20 for more info and all the details on getting registered for the trip!

Deposits need to be turned into the church office as soon as possible to reserve your spot.

JULY 4-11 PORT HURON, MI

youth mission trip 2020

REGISTRATION PENDING PER COVID-19 CONCERNS



Project NOW

Community Action Agency

PROUDLY SERVING
SENIORS SINCE 1968



For many years now Edgington EPC has been a host site for Senior Meals. The doors are open here for meals on Monday, Thursday, and Friday.

Meals are available for a suggested donation of \$3 to anyone 60+ years or with a disability. If you are new to the program, you need to call 309-788-6335 the day before to request your meal.

Those who attend regularly come early to play cards and enjoy each other's company for a little longer than just meal time.

If you would like more information or want to check out the menu for the month click the Project Now logo above for the link to their website or call 309-788-6335.



NOTE: All Meal Sites are cancelled until the restrictions concerning COVID-19 have been lifted and it is deemed safe to gather together again.

Operation Christmas Child



Thank you, **Edgington Evangelical Presbyterian Church, Taylor Ridge, IL** for your commitment to Operation Christmas Child, and sharing in the joy of introducing children around the world to Jesus!

Praise the Lord for each one of the **255** precious shoebox gifts, and the children God has chosen to receive them. The gifts you packed in 2019 will reach over **2,550** family & friends of the child that receives it!

After the children receive their shoebox, they are invited back for The Greatest Journey 12-week discipleship program. The Greatest Journey began in 2009 in Ecuador, and now, 10 years later, children in Ecuador and all over the world are still being taught God's Word and how to share their faith with family and friends.

2009 -

The Greatest Journey Begins

23.3 Million
Children Enrolled

11.2 Million
Reported Decisions for Jesus Christ



As the shoebox gifts make their way around the world and into children in need of the Gospel, please continue joining with us in prayer every child receiving a shoebox to understand the Good News of the gospel and experience the Great Joy of God's love.

We are grateful for your partnership through faithful prayers and shoebox gifts. Let's continue to "declare His glory among the nations!" (Psalm 96:3)

Operation Christmas Child Upper Illinois Team
Church Ministry Contact Cell (563) 343-7195

Please mark your calendars for National Collection Week 2020 - Nov. 16-23.

We received this thank you letter in the mail just this week! Look at the joy on those children's faces!

Thank you all so much for supporting this ministry and your generous donations!



Despite COVID-19 ministry is still happening around the world, and prayer is definitely needed!
Please engage where you are able to and lift up the prayer requests of the ministries our church supports!

Edgington Presbyterian Church

Treasurer's Report February 2020

	Balance	Receipts	Disbursement	Balance
General	\$ 78,144.69	\$ 24,783.11	\$ 29,677.83	\$ 73,249.97
Jahn	\$ 10,178.68	\$255.25	\$ -	\$ 10,433.93
Edgington	\$ 5,591.02	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,591.02
Boughton	\$ 23,665.10	\$ 1,297.46	\$ -	\$ 24,962.56
Lauby	\$ 18,141.59	\$ 416.43	\$ -	\$ 18,558.02

Ending Gen. checking balar	102,250.00
Uncleared Transactions	\$ 12,975.08
General checking Balance	\$ 89,274.92

Reconciled Bank Accounts	
Gen. checking	\$ 89,274.92

February 2020 GENERAL FUND EXPENSES

Zach Hopkins salary	4,308.32		
Zach Hopkins salary transfer from Cont. Ed	6,050.29		
EPC (health)	26.33		
EPC (pension)	875.81		
Mileage	70.73		
Lisa Bowman	1,088.31		
Robin Preston	389.32		
Lori Dixon	299.66		
Great Commission (Sunday school)	99.44		
Target (Presbytery expense)	106.00		
AT&T	173.28	General	\$ 73,249.97
MidAmerican Energy church	574.00	Edgington	\$ 5,591.02
MidAmerican Energy manse	163.00	Jahn	\$ 10,433.93
Millenium Waste	30.36	TOTAL	\$ 89,274.92
Ministry Designs (website)	30.00		
ABS (copier)	171.19		
Amazon (resource materials)	13.40		
Kenny's Pest	60.00		
Canva (computer art subscription)	238.80		
Mediacom	178.12		
Air B&B (GA in Memphis)	832.15		
splitting with 2 other pastors so will be partially reimbursed			
Amazon (Cont. Ed)	14.32		
Burdsall (mission)	2,700.00		
Woodworth (mission)	3,880.00		
Huber (mission)	1,325.00		
McCallum (mission)	1,000.00		
Lancaster (mission)	2,180.00		
Youth Hope (mission)	1,500.00		
MAD Skills (mission)	500.00		
Pregnancy Resources (mission)	500.00		
Pregnancy Resources (banquet tables)	300.00		
TOTAL EXPENSES			\$29,677.83

INCLUDED IN GENERAL FUND TOTAL

Mission Monies \$8,643.16
Assistance Fund \$5,153.46

Edgington Presbyterian Church

General Fund Profit & Loss

February 2020

Feb 20

Ordinary Income/Expense

Income

Per Capita Contributions	80.00
Interest Income - General Fnd	16.16
Loose Offering	352.25
Other Income	327.00
Pledges	24,007.70

Total Income 24,783.11

Expense

Operating Maintenance - General	90.36
presbytery expense	106.00
Resource materials	13.40
Continuing Education	846.47
Mileage	70.73

Mission

U.S. Mission - Presbyterian	2,180.00
International Mission	6,580.00
International Mission - Presbyt	1,000.00
Local Mission	2,800.00
U.S. Mission	1,325.00

Total Mission 13,885.00

Office Supplies

Copier	171.19
Office Supplies - Other	268.80

Total Office Supplies 439.99

Payroll Expenses

Custodian Payroll	389.32
Choir Director	252.47
Organist Services	47.19
Pastor Salary	10,358.61
Secretary Services	1,088.31

Total Payroll Expenses 12,135.90

Pension & Health Care 902.14

Sunday School 99.44

Utilities

Gas & Electric - Church	737.00
Internet Service	178.12
Telephone	173.28

Total Utilities 1,088.40

Total Expense 29,677.83

Net Ordinary Income -4,894.72

Net Income -4,894.72

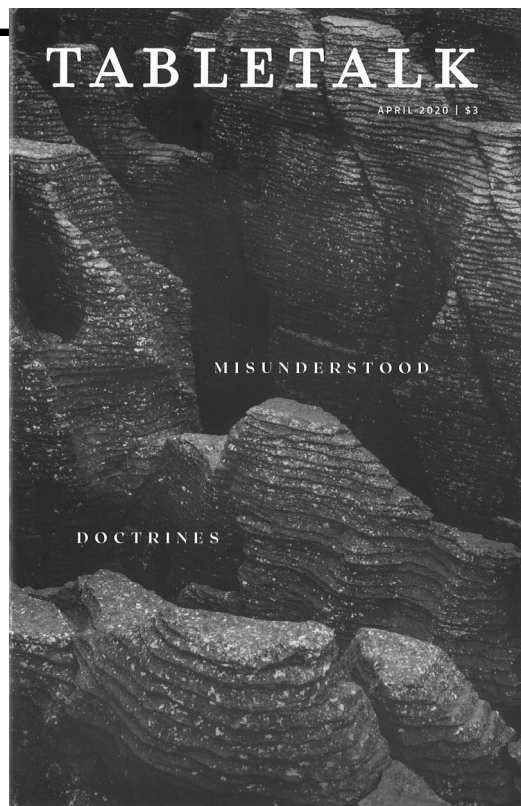


Do you know of anyone that is missing out on receiving the Edgington EPC Newsletter each month? If so, please contact the church office at 309-795-1713 or edgingtonepc@gmail.com and let me know. I will be happy to make arrangements for it to be received by whatever means works best.

The newsletter is distributed via email and postal service. It is also posted to Facebook page each month and our website: edgingtonepc.org.

Thank you so much! ~ Lisa Bowman

GET YOUR APRIL COPY OF THE TABLETALK DEVOTIONAL



LOCATED IN THE ENTRANCE OF THE CHURCH

CURRENT SERMON SERIES

Pastor Zach is interrupting the “Sermon on the Mount, Series on Matthew 5-7” during this time of worldwide COVID-19 pandemic, for a series on the Psalms of Ascent.

The Psalms of Ascent includes Psalms 120 - 134. Each of these psalms begins with the title, “A Song of Ascents”, as the Jews traveling to Jerusalem for one of the three annual festivals traditionally sang these songs on the uphill road into the city.

The theme of each Song offers much encouragement for those seeking to worship God today.



Please join us on Facebook Live each Sunday morning at 10:00am to worship “together” and be encouraged by God’s Word during this unprecedented time.

Sunday, March 29th - [Psalm 121](#)

Sunday, April 5th - [Psalm 122](#)

Friday, April 10th - Good Friday Service

Sunday, April 12th - Easter Service

Sunday, April 19th - [Psalm 123](#)

Sunday, April 26th - [Psalm 124](#)

SCRIPTURE LINKS - Download the apps!



ESV.org is an online Bible reading tool created to help you read and engage with God's Word. While many features of the site are available without signing in, we invite you to [create a free account](#), which makes it easy to save personal notes, highlight favorite verses, and start interactive reading plans.

(Click on the images to go to their websites)



Blue Letter Bible provides powerful tools for an in-depth study of God’s Word through our free online reference library, with study tools that are grounded in the historical, conservative Christian faith. We view the Bible as central to our study resources. We intentionally designed the website to include study tools that are linked directly to Bible passages. Dig deep into the Word using commentaries, encyclopedias, maps/images and much more. One of our most used tools is the Lexicon search, which gives users immediate access to the original Hebrew and Greek words.

Pastor Zach will be Facebook Live every Sunday morning at 10am for our Lord’s Day Worship Service and Wednesday evenings at 7pm for a special time of prayer.

If you are not already a member of our Facebook group, please click on the image for the link. “Like” our page and request to join. We are pretty quick to respond. Make sure you are “following” our page and turn your notifications setting on if you would like to receive a notification when Pastor Zach begins to stream. We will post a worship guide each Sunday morning at 8am that includes our Children’s Sunday School lessons and a curriculum video link.

On Wednesday evenings, please be sure to post your prayer requests in the comments, and Pastor will lift them up to the Lord as we pray together.



Find us on Facebook

2020 ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

ASK ANYTHING!

Sundays @ 9am

In 2020, the Adult Sunday School class will be going through the list of questions submitted to Pastor Zach in the fall. However, additional questions and discussion will be welcome!

We all have questions, and the best way to grow in our faith is to ask them! So please, join us and ask anything!

All adults are welcome and encouraged to join us for growth in their walk with Christ!

Looking forward to seeing you there!

We are looking forward to being able to truly gather together again and go deep into God's Word once it is deemed safe to do so for all of our church family !

The Children's Sunday School lessons are included in the Worship guides that we are sending out each Friday afternoon and posting on Facebook Sunday mornings at 8am.



CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

Every Sunday morning at 9am

We use Great Commission Publications various curriculum based on each grade level.



Toddler	- Hillary Terrill & Kortney Geirlus
Pre-K	- Beth Flickinger
1st-2nd	- Katie Pearson
3rd-5th	- Kathy Stegmiller
Junior High	- Tara Johnson & Deanna Parchert
Senior High	- Brandee Neece



All of Scripture is the unfolding story of salvation and Jesus is its focus. We show how Jesus, revealed throughout the Bible, came to seek and save the lost.

We look forward to the privilege of caring for and teaching your children about Jesus each Sunday!

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

The April meeting is cancelled at this time.

We are praying we will be able to meet again on
Thursday, May 7th at 1pm

All women of the church are welcome! We usually meet on the first Thursday of every month for Bible study (often led by Pastor Zach) and association business.

Throughout the year, the PW hosts various events, which includes refreshments for special services, luncheons for special meetings and funerals. We hold a rummage and bake sale as a fundraiser every year, and sometimes a soup luncheon as well. We help financially support many projects throughout the church, as well as mission work locally, nationally, and abroad.

Please join us!

We look forward to seeing you there!



QUILTING DAY

Thursday, April 16th, 9am - Noon

This date is pending based on COVID-19 recommendations

Please come and join us as we create, piece, and sew quilts to present to next year's graduating seniors, as well as Winnie's Place.

Even if you don't know how to sew, but can operate a pair of scissors and/or an iron, we would love to have you! If we can increase our production, we will be able to bless even more people in the community.

*Please consider joining us!
Hope to see you there!*



ALL submissions for the May Newsletter must be in by **NO LATER** than Wednesday, April 15th. Items received after that date may not make it into the newsletter.

Thank you for your cooperation!

~ Lisa Bowman, Office Manager

UPDATE YOUR DIRECTORY PLEASE

Marilou Simpson (**Moved**)
Friendship Manor
1209 21st Ave. Bldg. A, 201
Rock Island, IL 61201



Lee-Ann Druckmiller
New Phone # 563-261-9774



Thank you to everyone who helped/donated with the Fall Blood Drive! What a healthy bunch ! Only 1 deferral, 23 Whole blood donations, 3 Double Red Cell Donations, for a total of 29 units!
THANK YOU!!!

The Fall Blood Drive is scheduled for September 12th.

Blessed to serve,
Scott and Cindy Cullen





2020 VBS PLANNING MEETING

Sunday, April 26th at 12:30pm

THIS MEETING MAY NEED TO BE CANCELLED. PLEASE CONFIRM WITH KATHY STEGMILLER PRIOR TO COMING TO THE CHURCH.

We had our first couple of planning meetings for this summer's VBS program, and we are off and running! We have had a good response thus far, but there is always room for more willing spirits and helping hands.

The theme this year is:

Rocky Railways, Where Jesus' Power Pulls Us Through!

We are always interested in new ideas for speakers or activities for the afternoon, so if you have any thoughts in this area, have heard of a good program, or know of a good speaker, please notify Kathy Stegmiller at 309-791-1162 or any member of the VBS committee.

Thank you for your continued support of the community outreach!

INTERESTED IN MEMBERSHIP @ EEPCC?

ADULT NEW MEMBER CLASS

SUNDAYS AFTER WORSHIP

THIS CLASS WILL BE RESCHEDULED ONCE IT IS SAFE FOR US TO MEET TOGETHER AGAIN. PLEASE WATCH OUR FACEBOOK PAGE AND WEBSITE FOR UPDATES.

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

MARCH 15TH, 22ND, & 29TH

11:30AM - 12:30PM

Here is a wonderful opportunity to learn more of what Edgington EPC is all about! The class is offered to anyone seeking more information about Edgington EPC; what it means to be a church member, our denomination, what we stand for, and much more. If you have been attending for awhile, but not yet committed to membership, you're encouraged to check this out!

If you are looking to join, you definitely want to mark your calendar!

Please call the church office at 30-795-1713 or put your name on the sign-up sheet located on the table in the sanctuary foyer by no later than March 8th.

EASTER LILIES

At this time it is assumed that our Easter Services will need to be held online only, as it is anticipated we will still be required to “shelter at home” and “social distance”.

In light of that, money already given towards the purchase of an Easter Lily can either be applied to the purchase of a poinsettia or will be refunded to you.

Please contact the church to let us know what you wish to do.



It is currently assumed that we will not be able to have our usual Easter Breakfast, but just in case.....

If we can, please join us Easter morning prior to the service for breakfast served by the youth.

We will start serving at 7:30am.

The menu includes:

Biscuits & Gravy, Waffles & Gluten-Free Waffles, Build-Your-Own Skillet, & Fresh Fruit.

All donations made will help offset the cost of their summer mission trip.



**EASTER
BREAKFAST**



HALLELUJAH! CHRIST IS RISEN!

EASTER WORSHIP

BREAKFAST 7:30AM WORSHIP 9AM

2020 Youth Mission Trip

July 4th – 11th



WHO: 7th grade – 12th grade (including graduated seniors)

WHAT: You and your group will provide home repairs at no cost for elderly, disabled, and disadvantaged people who need your help. Project crews typically serve the same resident for the entire trip, creating an environment where meaningful relationships develop. Projects typically include painting houses, repairing porches, and general home repairs.

WHY: Because you want to have a meaningful summer experience of service and Christian growth while making new friends from all over the country.



WHERE & WHEN?

7/4	Traveling - Lodging site for this night TBA
7/5-11	Worksite projects in Port Huron, MI Lodging at Central Middle School, 200 32nd St., Port Huron, MI

- **I think I want to go! What do I need to do?**

- Get this trip on your calendar! Make sure you don't have any schedule conflicts. Spots are limited so we need to be sure that those students who sign up can go for sure.

- **How much is this going to cost?**

- A deposit of \$50 will secure your spot. Turn this into the office ASAP.
- A second payment of \$200 is due by no later than May 1st.
- The total of \$250 covers ****everything****
- Except whatever random snacks or weird things you might want to buy – that's on you!
- Please don't let finances be a factor. There are support opportunities available to help you cover your costs. Just ask!

- **What's next?**

- **Registration will start online once the COVID-19 concerns have been lifted & we are comfortable we will be able to go (watch the Church Facebook Page)**
- When we have our spots filled, there will be more info including: lodging details, tool lists, estimated schedule, and more!

APRIL

2020

Sunday School 9am
Worship Service 10am

EEPC

Phone: 309-795-1713 / 309-795-1714
Email: edgingtonepc@gmail.com
WEBSITE: www.edgingtonepc.org

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p>ALL EVENTS ARE CURRENTLY CONSIDERED CANCELLED DUE TO COVID-19, BUT SESSION IS MEETING EVERY 2 WEEKS TO RE-EVALUATE THE SITUATION. PLEASE WATCH FOR EMAIL, FACEBOOK, AND WEBSITE UPDATES.</p>						
<p>29</p> <p>5</p> <p>Palm Sunday</p> <p>Food Pantry Sunday</p>	<p>30</p> <p>6</p> <p>Meal Site</p>	<p>31</p> <p>7</p>	<p>1</p> <p>8</p> <p>Trustee's Mtg. 7pm</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Meal Site</p> <p>PW Mtg. 1pm</p> <p>NO Choir</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Meal Site</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>12</p> <p>B/P Checks</p> <p>NO Youth Group</p> <p>Easter Breakfast, 7:30am</p> <p>Easter Worship, 9am</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Meal Site</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Newsletter Items Due</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Meal Site</p> <p>Quilting 9am</p> <p>NO Choir</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Meal Site</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Meal Site</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Mission Comm. Mtg. 6:30pm</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Meal Site</p> <p>NO Choir</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Meal Site</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26</p> <p>B/P Checks</p> <p>VBS Mtg. 12:30pm</p> <p>Youth Group 6pm</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Foot Clinic</p> <p>Meal Site</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Session Mtg. 7pm</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Meal Site</p> <p>NO Choir</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>