



Open Minds and Faithful Hearts
Emmanuel Presbyterian Church
Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Worship:

READINGS FOR THE COMING WEEK

[Proper 21 \(26\) \(October 1, 2023\)](#)

- First reading and Psalm
 - Exodus 17:1-7
 - Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16
- Alternate First reading and Psalm
 - Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32
 - Psalm 25:1-9
- Second reading
 - Philippians 2:1-13
- Gospel
 - Matthew 21:23-32



Liturgist's Schedule

10.1.23 Barbara

10.8.23 Marilyn 10.15.23 Jan

10.22.23 10.29.23

We are still seeking liturgists for the last two (2) weeks in October. If you wish to volunteer, please send an email to: epcbusiness9770@gmail.com or call 615-473-3510. Thank you to all who volunteer to be Pastor Jane's liturgy partners for our services each week!

Prayer and Praise:

2 Thessalonians 3:5 (ESV)

May the Lord direct your hearts to the love of God and to the steadfastness of Christ.

1 Peter 3:8

Finally, all of you, live in harmony with one another; be sympathetic, love as brothers, be compassionate and humble.

You are invited.

The EPC prayer group is a small but dedicated group that meets on Wednesday evenings from roughly 6-7pm. It is a time to open your heart to offer God the praise and prayers of our congregation and those of your own. Barb sends out email requests for any prayers you would like lifted up in the belief that all prayers matter, all prayers are important and all prayers will be heard.

All prayers are kept confidential unless you specify otherwise. If your request is private/sensitive, you may request that your prayer be limited to Pastor Jane and Barbara. Confirmation emails will be sent affirming that your request was lifted.

As a small church, offering praise and prayers for those who are struggling, no matter the reason, sends a powerful message about the love we share and express for each other. If you feel called to do so, come **join us on Wednesday night at 6.**

It is our fervent prayer that this ministry is a blessing to the rest of our EPC family and beyond
EPC prayer group



The Christian life is not a constant high. I have my moments of deep discouragement. I have to go to God in prayer with tears in my eyes, and say, "O God, forgive me", or "Help me." - Billy Graham

Missions:

Corinthians 3:9 For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

¹Maple Village:

- The veggie production is winding down. All of the volunteer tomato plants are done for the year and most everything else is also. We still have flowers and will share those as long as we can.
- We are collecting books til the end of September and puzzles til the end of October

²Peace and Global Witness Collection

- Collected every fall – This Sunday through Oct 1
- Supports peace missions of many types
- EPC keeps 25% for local giving
- You can suggest financial gift recipients to any elder or member of mission committee.
- Proposed recipient is Bridges, a domestic violence women’s shelter in Franklin, TN

Your donations could aid in assisting refugees, addressing racism, ending domestic violence, gun violence, and human trafficking among many other peace initiatives. Twenty-five percent of the amount collected will remain at our church to fund local missions. Checks should be made payable to Emmanuel Presbyterian Church with Peace Offering written on the “For” line. Please give generously, cash also accepted!

On Sundays:

- Pick flowers from any EPC garden. Arrange and put on front sanctuary table.
- Harvest produce from the garden.
- Rinse veggies and take flowers and produce to Maple Village. Bring previous glass bottle back. Ask Ginia, Barb or Annalease if you have questions.



³Oasis:

OASIS COLLEGE CONNECTION

Did you know that fewer than 50% of students who graduate from Metro Nashville Public Schools enroll in college? Without information on available opportunities and resources, their options are greatly limited. Oasis College Connection (OCC) is there to support these young people. In the 2022-2023 academic school year alone, we helped 2,003 students in their post-secondary education journeys.

We regularly hear from youth who have been positively impacted by OCC. One OCC alum wrote to her Mentor *"If it wasn't for your help, I would not have been able to escape my terrible situation at home and get a full ride to a top university."* Another student who was admitted to Vanderbilt University said *"I don't think I can ever repay all of your hard work and incredible efforts to make me successful. You have made unbelievable changes in my life."*



The students who benefit from OCC come from a range of circumstances: some dream of going to college but don't know how to make it a reality; others may not even have college on their radars. As Nashville's largest college access program for low-income, New American, and first generation college students, OCC helps them explore post-secondary opportunities, reduce barriers to enrollment, and make college a realistic option. Each year, OCC provides one-on-one college counseling to more than 2,000 youth.



Our OCC Mentors begin fostering a college-going identity with high school students, offering individualized support to help them explore various colleges, majors, and interests, identify their best options, navigate the postsecondary enrollment process, prepare for entrance exams, and complete college and financial aid applications. They hold workshops, college tours, and ACT test prep courses for students considering college.

Post-high school, OCC Student Success Advocates work with students attending Nashville State Community College at three campuses, supporting them through their academic journeys. At our campus Resource Centers, we offer tutoring services, access to laptops and printers, healthy living workshops, presentations from business and community partners, and other wraparound services to help students success.



Oasis College Connection is proud to support young people as they map out their futures and transition into successful, happy adulthood.

Finance:

- In the interest of full disclosure and transparency, there are no financial secrets at EPC.
- The posting of the regular rolling four week giving updates are now being put in the bulletin on Sundays.
- If you ever have any questions about anything dealing with EPC's finances or other business topics, email your question or request to epcbusiness9770@gmail.com
- General EPC email can be sent to epcnashville@gmail.com (be aware that multiple people have access to this email account)

2024 Generosity/Stewardship Campaign **September 17, 2023 through October 29, 2023**

- God places resources into our keeping as stewards (we manage these resources, but God is the owner).
- Tithing (giving of our time, talent and treasure) is an act of worship that demonstrates our gratitude for all of God's love, grace, mercy, and blessings.
- God gave first, now we give back.

- Worship is expressing your love for God and your gratitude to God.
- Gratitude is giving thanks to God for the many blessings in your life.
- Faith is trusting God, with everything.

Our Stewardship season continues until the deadline for submitting your pledge cards – October 29, 2023. Your pledge helps the session in its duty to craft a budget to sustain and maintain the blessings of our community and the physical space in which we come together to worship God.

- **Now – October 15th** , pledge cards will be made available via email and at in-person services.
- **October 29th** - Deadline for submission of pledge cards and if there are session recommended changes to Rev. Herring's terms of call they will be presented to the congregation for approval.

Timeline for 2024 Budget Vote

- Nov. 3rd – draft of budget sent to session by Treasurer
- Nov. 19th – session to vote on budget
- Dec. 3rd – budget presented to congregation

Financial Support:

If you are not able to attend worship service and still wish show your support for Emmanuel Presbyterian Church, you can contribute in the following ways:

- Online—send an electronic payment, your bank can help you set this up if you have questions.
- By Mail – our mailing address is EPC, 9770 Hwy 96, Nashville, TN 37221
- Through EPC's website www.epcnashville.com or www.epcnashville.org. Simply click on the "GIVE" button, then the "Donate" button, to donate via PayPal or debit/credit card. This can be a one-time donation or can be set up as a monthly donation.

Fellowship:

- Karen and Fred will be renewing their wedding vows as part of the worship service on Communion Sunday, October 1, 2023. Let us all pray for continuing good health. Sparkling juices, champagne and shrimp treats are on the menu!
- On October 8th we will have a Blessing of the Animals and Service of Worship for the Lord's Day. Bring your critter friends for a blessing and time together to praise God for these and our other many blessings.
- Also on October 8, the wildly popular Derrick and Friends are back.! Join us at 5 pm under the pavilion as they sing the Songs of Life that we grew up with. BYOB (yes, seriously)and EPC will provide the popcorn!

- Keep in mind that Covid-19 is back on the rise and in the news. We want to encourage everyone to remain vigilant in staying safe and healthy by washing hands frequently, using sanitizer, wearing masks and keeping a distance from others. Our passing of the peace is still going strong but we ask that everyone be aware of other congregants' health concerns.

- If you develop symptoms of covid, test as soon as possible.

We will use all we have learned in the past three years to continue to be as safe as possible, as healthy as possible, and to take good care of one another.

If you believe you have been exposed to an active case of covid, please use distancing and protective measures until you know you are covid-free to help keep those around you safe from possible infection.

Please talk to your pharmacist or doctor about the currently available bivalent vaccine and the monovalent vaccine that was approved by the FDA Tuesday. Find out what is best for you. Flu vaccines are also available.

Communication:

Welcome Visitors!

- Visits with Pastor Jane Herring must be by appointment.

- Reach out to Pastor Jane on her church phone (call/text) 615-818-9727 or email at janemherring@gmail.com
- Reach out to Pastor Jane about what it means to be baptized, to be confirmed in the church (if you have already been baptized) or to join the church.
- To Email someone for general EPC topics use epcnashville@gmail.com
- Email announcements for the Sunday bulletin to janemherring@gmail.com
- Email Information or corrections for the weekly newsletter to frhanchey@gmail.com

Calendar:

Wednesday nights Prayer group 6 pm

Sundays after service: Maple Village delivery

Collecting books through end of September

Collecting jigsaw puzzles through end of October

Sept 4 – Oct 1: Peace and Global Witness Collection

October 1 –Fred and Karen review vows

October 1: World Communion Sunday

2nd Sunday, Oct 8: after service: Worship committee meeting

October 8: Blessing of the Animals

October 8: Songs of Life with Derrick and friends 5 pm

3rd Sunday, October 15: Mission/Fellowship 9:30 am

Now through October 29: Receive and return pledge cards

Monday, October 16: Session meeting, 6:30 pm



November 12: Thanksgiving Dinner and Fellowship

Christian Education:

Inquirers of all ages: Please reach out to Pastor Jane about what it means to be baptized, to be confirmed in the church (if you have already been baptized) or to join the church.

Children's Services:

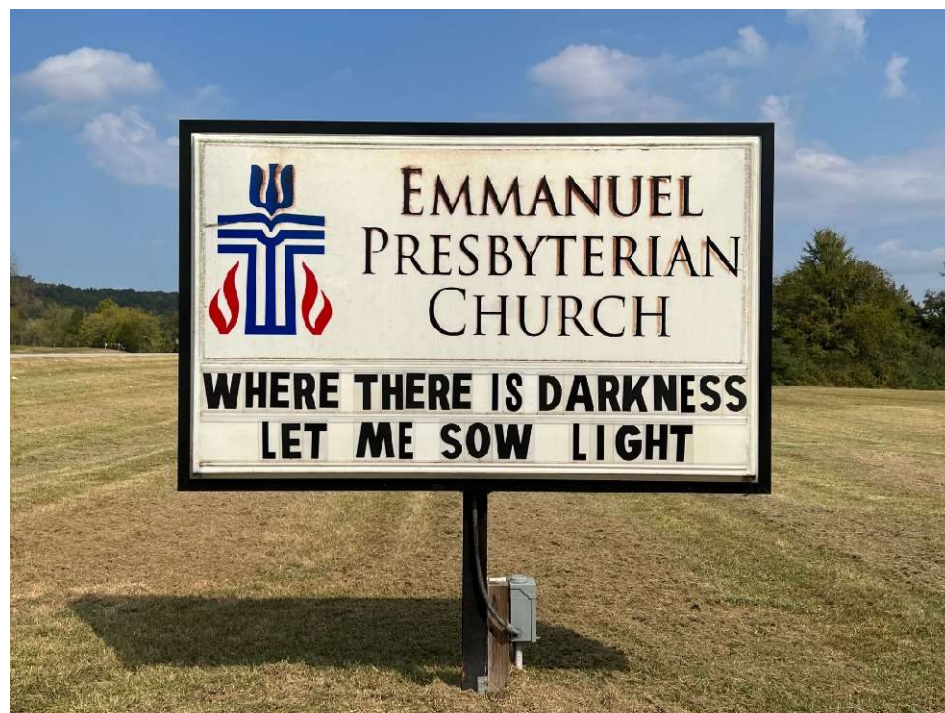
At Emmanuel we offer a "kid's message" during the early part of the worship service, followed by a "children's church" in the kid's classroom for those up to 10 years old or still in elementary school. The message is a short story that usually has some sort of lesson related to it and in

children's church we usually discuss the story in more depth and follow it with a craft or activity that helps the story (and the lesson!) sink in. A nursery is available for those younger ones.

Building and Grounds:

As you are considering ways to support EPC, remember giving of your time is a treasure as well. Please look over the following items, could you commit to a year of helping with garden maintenance? (99.9% of it is just weeding)

- Maintaining the rock garden with the founder stone and Ethan Sevier's cross.
- Maintaining the rock path that goes along the back side of the church building.
- Maintaining the rock garden that goes along the front of the church.



Presenting Your Slate of Elders

Class of 2023

Theresa Denton, Worship and Polity & Procedure

Class of 2024

Ginia Wood, Fellowship and Mission

John Denton, Building and Grounds

Class of 2025

Greg Burlison, Personnel

Jan Russell

John Sevier, Director of Music

EMMANUEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

We are located on Highway 96, near the intersection of Highway 100. We are close to Bellevue, Fairview, Franklin, Leiper's Fork, Pasquo, Westhaven and West Nashville. We look forward to seeing you!

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Nashville, TN 37221

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Email: epcnashville@gmail.com

www.epcnashville.org www.epcnashville.com

FB and you tube at epcnashville