

# Eastminster Eagle

Volume 33, Issue 2

May 2021

## *BE STILL AND KNOW THAT I AM GOD SABBATH TIME...A CEASING, A RESTING, A BEING STILL*

In 2019 I received a wonderful gift: an eight-week sabbatical to be used as I wished. The original plan was to take four weeks in 2020 and another four weeks in 2021. Then, along came 2020 and you know the rest of the story!

As we continue to move into God's future for each of us, for Eastminster, and for the world, I have decided to use some of that gift of time earlier this year than later. It is time to be still and be more intentional about deepening my relationship with our Triune God. I believe my body needs rest and know the Spirit will refresh my soul. So, below you will find the names and some information about the guest pastors during this time. I am looking forward to this congregation having the opportunity to meet, listen to, and worship with these great pastors.

May you also be refreshed, body and soul, in my absence as the Spirit opens up your hearts to hear the Good News from some wonderful people and faithful pastors!

Pastor Sherry

**Sunday, April 25 (Continuing Education):** Rev. Lynette Solomon will be the guest pastor this Sunday. Rev. Solomon is a lifelong Presbyterian who grew up at Preston Hollow Presbyterian Church in Dallas, TX. Upon graduating from Austin College in Sherman, TX and Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, GA, she was ordained as a minister of the Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). After 22 years in hospice ministry, Lynette recently returned to hospital chaplaincy at Baylor in Dallas, TX. As an active member of Grace Presbytery, she can often be found on Sunday mornings serving as a pulpit supply preacher in area churches. Lynette has been married to John Mark Solomon for 33 years, and they are the proud parents of two adult children, Luke and Kay. Her hobbies include cooking for those she loves, spending time with family and friends, walking out in God's beautiful creation, reading and traveling. Lynette is a proud Presbyterian who continues to love the church and its' many members, believing strongly in the importance of community, fellowship, service, and the connectional church.

**Sunday, May 2:** The guest pastor for this week is Rev. Dr. Ron Holloman. On July 10, 2021, Ronnie and Wanda will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary. They have two children with spouses: The Rev. Caressa Holloman Murray and husband, The Rev. Jonathan Murray—Co-Pastors of Covenant Presbyterian Church of College Station; and son, Chris Holloman (Firefighter and paramedic, Rowlett) and wife, Kelly, Sulphur Springs ISD, Middle School Science Teacher. "Papa and Nana" have four grandchildren: Caleb Murray, Madelyn Murray, Olivia Holloman and LilyMae Holloman. Ron is the son of the late Leroy and Dorothy Holloman of Odessa, and is the brother of Annette McDermott and husband, David, and Gary Holloman and wife Rev. Sherry Holloman. Ron received his Bachelor of

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Arts in Mathematics from Texas Tech University, a Master of Divinity from Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, and a Doctor of Ministry in Transformational Ministry, McCormick Theological Seminary, Chicago. Pastor for 36 years in 5 different churches (two at the same time). Joined the staff at Grace Presbytery in April 2012 as the Senior Director for Ministry and Church Transitions. Ron primarily worked with congregations in pastoral changes and with transitions of churches. Ron retired December 31, 2017 and works as being a Papa, Dad, husband and church consultant for future considerations. Ron was the temporary pastor at First Presbyterian Church of Terrell, Texas, 2018-2019.

**Sunday, May 9:** Rev. Jessie Light-Wells filled the pulpit, via Zoom, for a Sunday in 2020. It will be good to have her return in person. Rev. Light-Wells is the Campus Minister for UKirk SMU, a PC(USA) college ministry on the campus of SMU. She grew up in Kansas City, attended Vanderbilt University and Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, and served at Preston Hollow Presbyterian prior to this call. She is passionate about ministering to college students, bread-making, and bike riding, and is married to Zach.

**Sunday, May 16:** Rev. Denise Odom will serve as our pulpit supply for this day. Rev. Odom is Associate Minister of Spiritual Life at Presbyterian Village North. She graduated from Austin Seminary in 1999. She has also served as the President of the Austin Presbyterian Seminary Alumni Association. Rev. Odom is married to Rev. Andy Odom, Senior Pastor at Canyon Creek Presbyterian Church in Richardson and they are parents to two daughters. Marguerite and Mackenzie.

**Sunday, May 23:** We will welcome Rev. Kenny

Rigoulot to the Eastminster pulpit this Sunday. Rev. Rigoulot and his wife, Jennifer, are the new co-executive directors of Gilmont Camp and Conference Center. They met at Gilmont when they served as summer camp counselors. Jennifer was an elementary school teacher and Kenny served as the pastor of United Presbyterian Church in Cleburne before they felt called to Gilmont. Kenny has had many formative faith experiences at camp and is looking forward to inviting others to grow closer to God, creation, others, and themselves. The Rigoulots have three children, ages 16, 13, and 11. Kenny loves to preach, teach, pastor, worship, and play with people of all ages.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL AND CHOIR OPPORTUNITIES

As the repair and restoration of our educational wing begins, we will continue to meet for Sunday School via Zoom. You are always welcome to join when you can. As we settle into a new routine with the advent of in-person worship, it is a good idea to contact the leaders of our adult classes concerning the day and time for classes. For information about the Gleaners Class, please contact Vicki Cook; for the Adult Sunday School Class, contact Blair Garrett; and for the Searchers Class, please contact Fred Watkins.

Also, a wonderful reminder that the choir has begun rehearsing in the sanctuary choir loft on Wednesday evenings.

For in-person worship and choir rehearsals, all safety protocols are in place. Come and enjoy making a joyful noise!



Thanks to all from the Reentry Committee, the Session, the Choir, and Sherry for the smooth and

safe transition to meeting in-person. Although we are wearing masks and using social distancing, God is still finding ways to speak to us in the in-person services and to some through the live streaming and recordings of the service.

Someone commented that it still didn't seem normal and of course it isn't. Nevertheless, one thing you should remember is that God isn't restricted in communicating just because you have a mask, or health issues that keep you from the in-person services, or Viewing on YouTube. How do I know that? Because Jesus' major theme is God loves us. In a few weeks we will hear that Scripture so straightforwardly put in John 3:16 and in 1 John 3:1: "See what love the Father has given us that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are." In the latter scripture that "love" is Jesus.

During our life, we are given many names, titles, labels and ID numbers that in many ways are meant to tell us who and what we are. We are called as Christians to never forget the most important label and ID so clearly stated in the 1st John passage – Children of God. John 3:16 tells us that God's loves so much that he sent Jesus to tell us of that love.

"The Love of God." is an old Gospel song written in 1923 by Frederick M.

Lehman and made extremely popular in the late 50s to mid-60s by George Beverly Shea. Shea was the soloist for the Billy Graham Crusades for many years. It is still one of my favorites and on May 2nd the choir will sing an arrangement which includes some of the words and tune from the Gospel Song. The Gospel song refrain gives in a few words the summary of John 3:16 and 1st John 3:1.

*O love of God, how rich and pure!  
How measureless and strong!  
It shall forevermore endure  
The saints' and angels' song*

That refrain, John 3:16, and 1 John 3:1 says we know who we are and where we belong. No more searching or wondering or wandering. We are God's. God is our beginning and our end. Genuinely believing that can change our lives and people we meet. Eastertide ends with Jesus ascending and telling us that as children of God and members of the body of Christ we are to go tell others. Why? Because no one should live their lives not knowing whose they are.

The love of God encompasses all.  
Amen!

## Return to Worship Volunteer Schedule

Date	Sanctuary Door	Temperature & Registration at Sanctuary Door	Temperature & Registration at Cloister Door	Ushers
May 2	Jim Lee	Jo Byrd Christine Blair	Shirley & Harry Karlen	Chandra & Frank Karlen
May 9				
May 16				
May 23				
May 30				
June 6	Jo Byrd	Cindy & Blair Garrett	Vicki Gayle Thiebaud	Christine Blair Cheryl Wood
June 13				
June 20				
June 27				
July 4		Dick and Philis Knox	Sharon Smith	Jackie & Talat Robert
July 11	Jan Anderson			
July 18				
July 25				

“If you find it in your heart to care for somebody else, you will have succeeded.”  
—Maya Angelou

“Dripping water hollows out stone, not through force but through persistence.”  
—Ovid

“If at first you don't succeed, try doing it the way mom told you to in the beginning.”  
—Unknown

### *Eternal worth*

Scripture does not know of any human life which is so commonplace that it is not valuable enough to become eternal, and this is its high optimism. Nothing is too much for Scripture. Since every person is known by God by name, and since every person exists in time in the presence of the God who is judgment and salvation, every person is a person of eternity, and not just the noble spirits of history.  
—Karl Rahner



	Families	Adults	Seniors	Children	Persons	Pounds
March 2	242	577	64	594	1,235	28,420
March 9	232	547	64	572	1,183	21,608
March 16	199	426	57	454	937	13,473
March 23	203	496	59	531	1,086	15,927
March 30	165	362	53	434	849	10,920
Totals	1,041	2,408	297	2,585	5,290	90,348

### *Loving an EGR*

During a conversation over coffee, a friend mentioned an “EGR.” I had to interrupt and ask for a definition: Extra Grace Required — in other words, people who can seem tough to love. Often, they’re the most in need of love because they’re hurting. Perhaps Jesus was referring to EGRs when he said, “If you love only those who love you, what reward is there for that? Even corrupt tax collectors do that much” (Matthew 5:46, NLT).

Truly loving others — even EGRs — might not be as tough as we think. Simple gestures such as smiling, truly listening, sending a note or extending an invitation go a long way toward expressing care and softening hearts.

At times, we all require extra grace. Thankfully, God has an unlimited amount to extend to us and then through us. Out of joy, we can find ways — even simple ones — to share God’s grace and love with people who need it.

—Janna Firestone

### *Look ahead*

“The spirit of complaint is born out of an unwillingness to trust God with today,” says Priscilla Shirer. “Like the Israelites, it means you are spending your time looking back toward Egypt or wishing for the future, all the while missing what God is doing right now.”

### *Keep moving!*

As they proudly processed across the stage to receive their diplomas, each graduate heard two messages from the principal: “Congratulations!” (in a loud voice) and “Keep moving” (in a whisper). Although the administrator was merely trying to facilitate the flow, she was actually offering sound advice to the young adults: Don’t stop or stagnate! Proceed from here and continue learning. This is the beginning, not the end, of a journey. Keep moving!



Dear Helen and your church family,  
Thank you all for praying for us while we had Covid.

We believe that your prayers really helped us recover more quickly and completely than otherwise.

We are back to feeling energetic with just some minor coughing we expect will be gone soon.



### *Worth celebrating*

While going through the so-called “daily

grind,” it’s fun to anticipate special occasions such as birthdays, anniversaries and holiday meals — especially when other people cook and clean up! Although every day is full of countless reasons to rejoice, we may not always feel like celebrating. Life’s concerns pile high, distracting us from gratitude, joy and intentional acknowledgment of our blessings.

When you need a reason to smile and celebrate, head to [www.NationalDayCalendar.com](http://www.NationalDayCalendar.com). Almost every food item and hobby now has its own day, and you’ll even find gems such as National Be Late for Something Day (September 5, if you want to plan ahead!).

These fun “occasions” can help you embrace small joys and may even inspire you to celebrate them with family or friends. As you do, consider what it is about today and each gift from God that makes this day special.

### *Dogs’ best friend*

A 71-year-old graduate in Turkey has become an inspiration to many. Fevzi Uyar had retired after teaching biology for 42 years but decided to pursue another degree. Known as the “grandfather” of homeless animals, he routinely traveled 90 miles every two days to feed stray dogs, who came to recognize his van. Uyar also built dozens of plywood shelters, complete with rugs and blankets, for the dogs.



But Uyar often encountered dogs needing medical care and racked up debts with a local veterinarian, so he enrolled in classes himself. The recent graduate now vaccinates and treats the animals he loves so much.

“God spoke: ‘Let us make human beings in our image, ... so they can be responsible for ... every animal that moves on the face of Earth’” (Genesis 1:26, MSG). Fevzi Uyar’s care for stray dogs beautifully reflects God’s intent for creation.



## *A week of tributes to Mom*

To celebrate the special woman in your life, use a quote a day the week before Mother's Day, or honor her with tributes the whole week after. Write one of these (or one of your own) on a card, make a message into a placemat, tape one to the bathroom mirror — get creative! Every day of the week is a good day to celebrate her love and show her yours.

“There is no way to be a perfect mother, and a million ways to be a good one.” —Jill Churchill

“The art of mothering is to teach the art of living to children.” —Elaine Heffner

“An ounce of mother is worth a ton of priest.” —Spanish proverb

“When your mother asks, ‘Do you want a piece of advice?’ it’s a mere formality. It doesn’t matter if you answer yes or no. You’re going to get it anyway.” —Erma Bombeck

“The mother’s heart is the child’s schoolroom.” —Henry Ward Beecher

“Mother love is the fuel that enables a normal human being to do the impossible.” —Marion C. Garretty

“Being a mother is learning about strengths you didn’t know you had.” —Linda Wooten



Stewardship  
Committee

## *Mother's Day / Father's Day Special Giving*

The Stewardship Committee has designated the following two programs as recipients of our “extra-giving” on Mother's Day (May 9) and Father's Day (June 20). As in the past, we will give half of the money collected to the denominational Presbyterian Fund and split the remaining half between the following two local programs:

- **Meals on Wheels:** This program is an essential part of the Visiting Nurse Association of Texas. The VNA Meals on Wheels program came together with the help of their donors and friends to continue serving their homebound seniors on a daily basis with meals and even holiday gifts. The caring volunteers continue keeping our vulnerable seniors fed and even deliver comforting friendship during their meal deliveries. Meals on Wheels continues to add new clients from the waiting list to ensure more seniors are being helped daily.
- **Faith Presbyterian Hospice:** This hospice care center is located in Dallas and its palliative care is Medicare certified. Services provided at Faith Presbyterian Hospice mainly includes home health aide, counseling, medical social services, medical supply services, nursing services, occupational therapy, physician services, physical therapy, short term inpatient care and speech pathology services. Faith Presbyterian Hospice also provides special care for people who are terminally ill. This involves a team-oriented approach that addresses the medical, physical, social, emotional and spiritual needs of the patient. Hospice also provides support to the patient's family or caregiver.

We trust that you will prayerfully give consideration to donating to these programs in the coming weeks.

Stewardship Committee



Acts 1:1 (NIV) reads: "In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach." What "former book" did the author write to Theophilus?

- A. Matthew
- B. Mark
- C. Luke
- D. John

Answer: C (See Luke 1:1-4.)

'I know my older sister loves me because she gives me all her old clothes and has to go out and buy new ones.' Lauren - age 4

'When you love somebody, your eyelashes go up and down and little stars come out of you.' (what an image!) Karen - age 7

'Love is when Mommy sees Daddy on the toilet and she doesn't think it's gross...' Mark - age 6

'You really shouldn't say 'I love you' unless you mean it. But if you mean it, you should say it a lot. People forget.' Jessica - age 8



## Scripture Readings for May

1 Luke 7:18–35	11 James 1:16–27	22 Heb. 9:1–14
2 2 Thess. 2:13–17	12 James 5:13–18	23 1 Cor. 2:1–13
3 Col. 3:18–4:18	13 Heb. 2:5–18	24 2 Cor. 1:1–11
4 Rom. 12:1–21	14 Heb. 4:14–5:6	25 2 Cor. 1:12–22
5 Rom. 13:1–14	15 Heb. 5:7–14	26 2 Cor. 1:23–2:17
6 Rom. 14:1–12	16 Eph. 2:1–10	27 2 Cor. 3:1–18
7 Rom. 14:13–23	17 Heb. 6:1–12	28 2 Cor. 4:1–12
8 Rom. 15:1–13	18 Heb. 6:13–20	29 2 Cor. 4:13–5:10
9 1 Tim. 3:14–4:5	19 Heb. 7:1–17	30 Eph. 4:1–16
10 James 1:1–15	20 Heb. 7:18–28	31 2 Cor. 5:11–6:2
	21 Heb. 8:1–13	



## *A shared experience*

What comes to mind when you hear the word Pentecost? Many people think of a mighty wind, tongues of fire and multiple languages. But Acts 2 begins with another detail that's just as key: Jesus' disciples "were all together in one place." Because they were together physically and spiritually, the early believers didn't miss the life-changing, world-changing birth of the Church.

The pandemic, while changing our definition of gathering, also highlighted our need for interaction. If Jesus' first followers hadn't been assembled on Pentecost, they would've missed the outpouring of God's power and the indescribable joy God had for them. Think about what believers today might miss if we neglect to worship with other friends of Christ. Who would want to miss God's blessings, promises and joy?



## *Creation-wide praise chorus*

"All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing!" These words — just one paraphrase of a text by St. Francis of Assisi — seem a fitting description of springtime, when leaves and flowers pop out afresh, birdsong is heard again and hibernating animals emerge from dens and burrows, many with new babies in tow.

Psalm 148 may have served as inspiration for Francis, calling not only "young men and women alike, old and young together" (v. 12, NRSV), but also animals and birds, wind and water, mountains and trees, to praise the Lord. James L. Mays writes: "We human beings ... should recognize that we are in the list with all the creation and creatures as creature and creation ourselves. We are in our obligation to praise no different from and no more than all the rest."

When you head outside on a bright spring day, notice what praise looks like in nonhuman form and how it sounds from nonhuman voices. How can we best join "all creatures of our God and King" in worship?  
—Heidi Hyland Mann

## *House & Property Committee News*

Restoration began the week of April 19, 2021. The plan is to have all of the restoration completed by June 21, 2021. What does that all entail?

Replace all drywall, insulation, carpet, ceiling tiles, bookshelves and cabinetry, wood trim and wood flooring that was removed during the remediation process. Also including texture, tape and bed and paint every area that was affected by the flood and remediation process. It looks like all of the repairs will be covered by insurance. Amen! Eastminster also received a \$5,000 grant from the Presbytery for our losses from the flood. Thank you, Pastor Sherry for making this happen. We plan to use these funds to address areas of the church that are in need of repair beyond the scope of the flood damage. During this time of restoration, I would ask that all members please do not enter the area under construction. If you need to enter the area, please contact Blair Garrett (214-402-3153) or the church office to gain access to that area. **Safety First!**

The interior and exterior entrance to the front of the sanctuary will also be under construction during this time. We are hopeful that this construction will only take about one week to complete. Please be cautious when entering through that entrance for Sunday worship.

On March 27th we had a very successful Work Day. We had 14 volunteers that worked and did a wonderful job. Thanks to the following for your willingness to serve:

Jim Lee, Rose Lee, Bruce Turner, Sean Turner, Miatta Wilson, Tony Bennett, John Randle, Gary Holloman, Christine Blair, Helen Randolph, Daniel Pappas, Mary Kate, Katie Karlen and Blair Garrett.

What we accomplished:

- ◆ Painted the shutters on the office building
- ◆ Replaced over 300 bulbs with LED bulbs in the sanctuary, exterior wall sconces and light posts.
- ◆ Cleaned flower beds in front of the sanctuary
- ◆ Painted the wrought iron fence around the playground
- ◆ Water sealed the Ark in the playground
- ◆ Picked up trash around the entire property
- ◆ Repaired broken hinge to interior sanctuary door and strengthened hinges with longer screws

Praise the Lord for all of the volunteers that answered God's call for this day of work. We will plan another day of work in the future...please stay tuned.

Blessings,

The House & Property  
Committee

Blair Garrett, Bruce Turner, Jo  
Byrd

MAY



Doris Parker	5/2
Bill Davis	5/5
Sean Turner	5/9
Becky Hensley	5/10
Julie Watkins	5/14
Kayla Dixon	5/15
Julie Karlen	5/17
Emily Wood	5/17
Melody Davis	5/21
Anna Blair	5/25
Coy Whitley	5/31

MAY



Becky & Chad Hensley	5/15
Elizabeth & Sean Kelleher	5/15



**Eastminster Session**

- Denise Bennett
- Betty Crabtree
- Kayla Dixon
- Ronnie Dixon
- Blair Garrett
- Kathy Kreger
- Jim Lee
- Michele Pappas
- Helen Randolph
- Vicki Thiebaud
- Charlotte Turner



Pastor	Sherry Holloman
Director of Music	Fred P. Watkins
Organist	Melody S. Davis
Administrative Assistant	Chandra Anderson
Hostess/Housekeeper	Minerva Hernandez
Child Care Provider	Betty Crabtree



## HIGHLIGHTS from the STATED SESSION MEETING

March, 2021

- ◆ **TREASURER'S REPORT:** Motion made, seconded and approved to spread in summary form the Financial Report for February 2021:
  - YTD Total Revenues on February 28, 2021: \$46,483.20
  - YTD Total Expenses on February 28, 2021: \$48,677.08
  - YTD Total Current Assets on February 28, 2021: \$125,205.63
- ◆ Motion made, seconded and approved to take \$437 from Account 3654, the Savilla Howard account, for Security and Camera equipment recommended by the Security Task Force. This is in addition to the \$13,000 approved in October 2020. Total spent was \$13,437.00.
- ◆ Motion made, seconded and approved to spend an amount not to exceed \$3,000 from the Jerry Brumbaugh account #3662 for video equipment, for the Video Task Force Live Streaming and Recording system. This is in addition to the \$10,000 approved in October 2020.
- ◆ Election of Commissioner for the May 1, 2021 Grace Presbytery Meeting at FPC Richardson (Meeting via Zoom or in-person will be evaluated in April). By Common Consent, Blair Garrett will serve as Eastminster's Commissioner.

### Special dates



- ◆ **National Day of Prayer, May 6, 2021**
- ◆ **Mother's Day, May 9, 2021**
- ◆ **Ascension Day, May 13, 2021**
- ◆ **Pentecost, May 23, 2021**
- ◆ **Trinity Sunday, May 30, 2021**
- ◆ **Memorial Day, May 31, 2021**