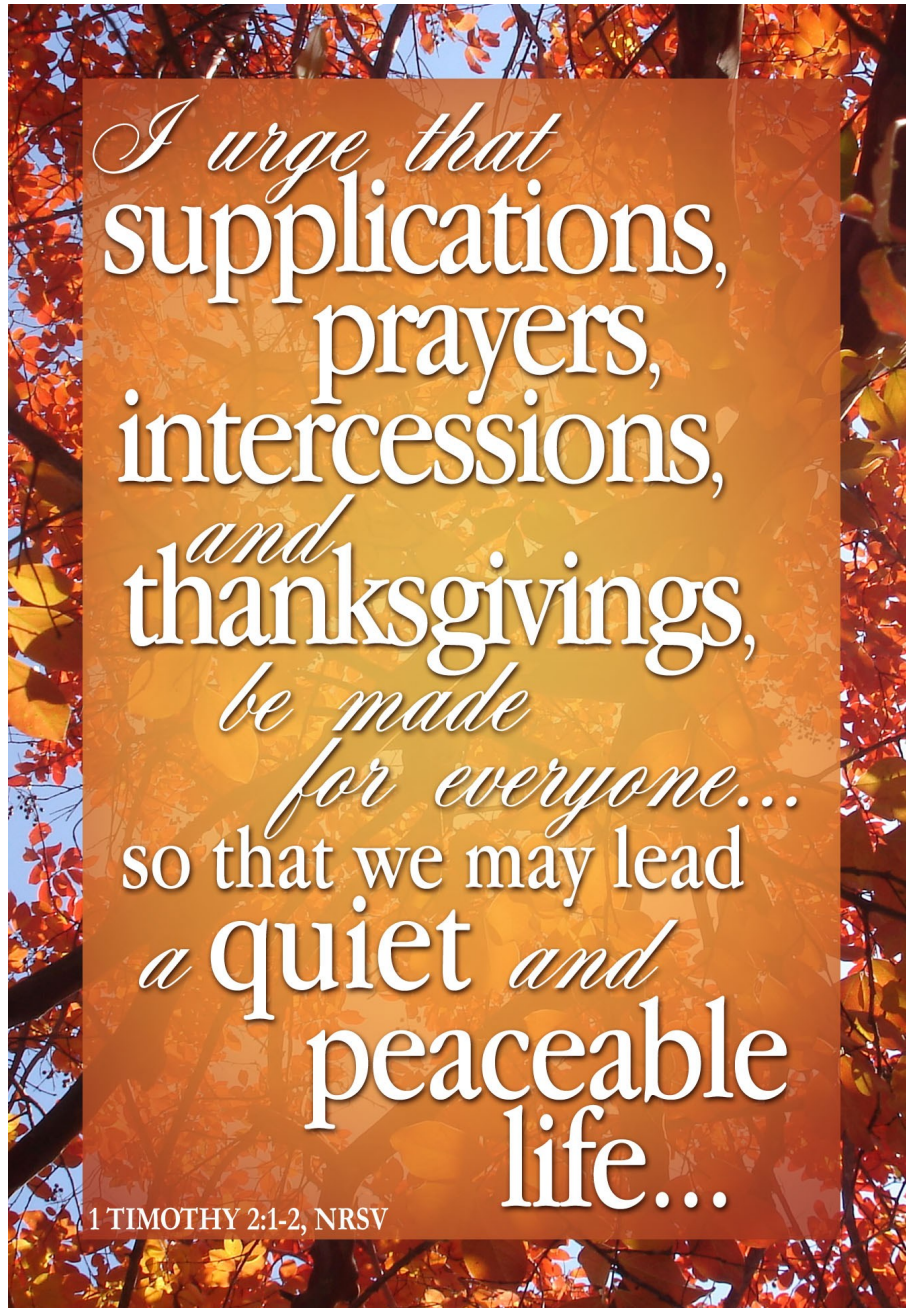


THE VOICE

November 2017



Eastminster Presbyterian Church

1315 Abbot Road

East Lansing, MI 48823 (517) 337-0893

www.eastminsterchurch.org



Pastor's Keynotes

The O'Neill household lives in Grand Ledge where one of our entertainments each autumn is to watch the city's giant leaf-sucking machine pass by and consume the piles of leaves residents of the neighborhood have raked to the curb. Whoever invented the Snuffleupagus, or whatever it's called, is a saint in my book. Our house is bracketed by large silver maples whose roots push up above ground making for treacherous footing, whose seeds in the spring can fill two fifty-gallon yard waste bins, and whose huge fallen leaf output inspires memories of the Grand Tetons. We appreciate the shade but we pay a dear price for it in raking.

Years ago I lived in Evanston, Illinois, where we were instructed to rake leaves directly into the street. There the city would dispatch a giant end-loader to chug around the neighborhoods and scoop several block's worth of leaves into a mountain, then load dump trucks to haul the autumn collection away. Occasionally, the coordination of end-loader and dump truck was poor and the gigantic leaf piles would remain overnight.

One memorable evening some hapless driver apparently decided that the thrill of his day would be to blast through one of these mounds in his sports car. This proved to be unwise. The pile was high. The leaves were damp and dense. They would not have yielded to a Cadillac, much less a Triumph TR3.

I didn't witness the attempt – only the aftermath. The cute little car sat as though on display on top of the only slightly flattened pile, its tires suspended a couple of feet above the pavement. There was no sign of the driver; he was off seeking a tow truck, no doubt, and therefore was guilty of "leafing" the scene of an accident.

In Greek mythology there was a giant named Antaeus who drew his strength from the earth. No one could beat him in battle until they lifted him off the ground, and then he became weak and defenseless. Dietrich Bonhoeffer, martyred pastor and theologian in Germany during the Nazi era, wrote of his time, "One may ask whether there have ever before in human history been people with so little ground under their feet."

In Ephesians 3:17, we are challenged to let "Christ ... dwell in our hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love." Cars, giants, and mere mortals must each struggle to keep in contact with what grounds us. It's when we lose traction with Christ that we lose momentum and become mired in enmity and fear. The detours we take can leave us high and helpless. The ground of our faith remains firm, however. The love of Christ can bear the weight of our lives, if we trust it.



Don't Forget!
Set your clocks back on
Saturday night, November 4.



Live Simply

TAKE HOLD OF THE LIFE THAT REALLY IS LIFE
1 TIMOTHY 6:18-19

They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

-1 Timothy 6:18-19

Not that I am referring to being in need; for I have learned to be content with whatever I have.
- Philippians 4:11

The stewardship letter went out to members and friends October 23, if you did not receive one or would like one please contact the church office. Our Live Simply campaign continues through November 12. On that Sunday we will dedicate our pledges and celebrate our church. Lunch will be a catered meal in the Fellowship Hall on the lower level, please join us.

Your pledge is important for us to continue our work for our Christian community. Do not forget that stewardship also includes what we do for the church and where we participate. Consider being a greeter, usher, welcoming guests, setting up and cleaning up after events. Take part in one of our teams and make it easier on the elders who need to make decisions. Many things are offered; have you attended one of the Christian Education classes offered on Sunday morning, tried the summer programs, Bible studies, church camp, book club, Faith and Film or Flicks with Friends, the Advent workshop or Lenten Suppers. UKirk at MSU could also use help in providing a meal for the university students who attend on Wednesday nights. There are also many mission activities one can take part in.

So get involved in this community of Christian disciples that we have made here at Eastminster. Please submit your pledge either to the office by November 7th or at our worship service on November 12.



**Advent Workshop on Sunday, December 3
Immediately following the worship service**

The Advent Workshop has been a beloved tradition of Eastminster Presbyterian Church for several years. Continue this tradition by celebrating the first Sunday of Advent with your Eastminster Presbyterian church family after worship! We'll begin in the Fellowship Hall with delicious food, participate in a mission project, use our creative skills in different ways, listen to beautiful seasonal music and stroll through nativity displays from around the world! If you have a nativity display you'd like to exhibit, please contact Beverly Bonning at beverly.j.bonning@gmail.com or 517-333-3432.

Sunday School
Sunday Mornings - 9:30 - 10:20 a.m.
Children and Youth—Lower Level



Ages 4-Grade 2

Holy Moly is designed to ignite a biblical imagination that lasts a lifetime for young children. Each week participants see a video and use their gifts of observation to become theologians in their own right. It is amazing to get their insight!

Nov 5 Noah
Nov 12 Samuel
Nov 19 Esther



Ages 4—2nd Grade (during worship)

Children's Worship was created to make a special place where children can come to encounter God, to be still with God and to listen to God. It is a place where they come to nurture their spiritual life.

Nov 5 Noah
Nov 12 The Promised Land
Nov 19 Jesus blesses the children



THE OPEN DOOR
for all ages

What is the Open Door? It is our new weekly Intergenerational Sunday Morning experience that meets downstairs in fellowship hall beginning at 9:30am. All ages from 3rd grade through adult are invited to participate. A wonderful opportunity to build relationships across age lines and learn and explore our faith in the process. Each

Nov 5 Cloud of Witnesses: Who were/are your faith mentors? (in Green Room with Adult Ed)
Nov 12 Thanks (Having an attitude of gratitude toward God and others)
Nov 19 Giving



Sundays at 9:30 a.m. - Green Room

Nov 5 Cloud of Witnesses: Who were/are your faith mentors?
Nov 12 The Reformation was then: What now?
Nov 19 The Reformation was then: What now?

November



Christian Services will host a Christmas Party for families participating in the Sparrow's Nest/Quality Living programs. Each child will receive a small gift at the party and parents will receive a **\$25 VISA gift card** for each of the children they have. Let's join in by providing as many \$25 VISA gift cards as we can so these parents can do some Christmas shopping in December for their children. Please drop off your gift cards at the Church Office for safe-keeping—there is a lock box outside the Office, as well—and we'll get them delivered to Christian Services at the end of November.



Haven House Adopt-a-Family 2017

We have been assigned two families. One is a family of five: dad, mom, daughter (6), sons (2 and 1). The second family is a single dad and a son (12).

Information sheets describing each family member's wants and needs will be available in the Green Room of the church along with a sign-up sheet. Please sign up for however many people you would like to and note your selections on the sign-up sheet. Take the sheet (s) for your family member (s) with you.

Haven House folks ask that all items get dropped off at Haven House the week of Monday, December 4th with the final drop off day being Friday, December 15th. Do not drop the gifts off at the church! Wrapping the gifts is up to you, but if you don't wrap them, we ask that you supply wrapping paper and tape for the family to wrap them. Be sure to label each item with the assigned number/letter located on the top right of your information sheet.



Salvation Army Christmas Food Baskets 2017

We have committed to providing 20 Christmas dinner food baskets, each including a ham. Please find in the Green Room a laundry basket and the grocery list for a family of 4-8 people. Be sure to sign the project participation sheet when you do so.

FOOD BASKETS If you are interested in contributing \$25 toward the cost of the hams (with or without a grocery basket), note that on the sign-up sheet as well, and put your check in the lock box outside of the Church Office, made out to Eastminster Presbyterian Church and noting "Hams" in the memo line. No one needs to actually purchase a ham. The church mission folks will take care of ordering them and delivering them with the baskets.

If you are able to help re-assemble and deliver the baskets to the Salvation Army offices on South Pennsylvania on the morning of Tuesday, December 12, 2016, between 9 and 11 a.m., please note your commitment to help with that on the sign-up sheet as well.

The filled baskets should be delivered to Eastminster on Monday, December 11, between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m., or early on Tuesday, December 13, between 9 and 9:45 a.m. If delivering on Monday, remove perishables from your basket and place them in the refrigerators, either on the main floor of the church or in the kitchen in the lower level. If delivering early on Tuesday morning, just leave your filled baskets in the church kitchen on the main floor.

If you sign up to provide a food basket but find you cannot provide one after all, please contact Sam O'Neill before Monday, December 11, at 517-243-2669, so that provisions can be made to fulfill our commitment to the Salvation Army of 20 baskets.



Presbyterian Women
Bible Study

Tuesday, November 21

1:15 p.m.

The EPC PW Bible Study will meet in the Green Room on Tuesday, October 17 from 1:15 p.m. as we continue our 2017-2018 study of "*CLOUD OF WITNESSES: The Community of Christ in Hebrews.*" Please prepare for Lesson #2 by pre-reading the Study Book information and the Bible references noted.

PW meets every third Tuesday at 1:15 p.m. except for the business/luncheon/study meetings in December and May. These meetings begin at 11:30 a.m. and conclude by 2:30 p.m.

PW is for church and community ladies age 18+ who enjoy studying the Bible, sharing their insights and experiences relevant to the discussions, making new friends, keeping close to long-time friends and love God.

If you have any questions, please contact Suzi Moss, PW Coordinator at (517) 974-3129 or s.r.moss@outlook.com.

PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

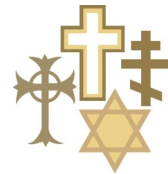


Church Women United
of Greater Lansing

Friday, November 3

1:00 p.m.

Trinity A.M.E. Church
3500 W. Holmes Road, Lansing
Theme: "New Fires of Peace"
10:00 a.m. Board (sack lunch)
1:00 p.m. Celebration
Election of Officers/Approval of 2018 Budget
Questions? Contact Jan Ewing or Caroline Davis
Website: www.churchwomen.org



Interfaith
Thanksgiving
Service

Monday, Nov 20
7:00 p.m.

Join faith communities in the Greater Lansing Area for a time of worship and thanksgiving on Monday, November 20th

at 7:00 p.m. at The Peoples Church, 200 W. Grand Avenue, East Lansing.



Love ...
in truth
and action.

1 JOHN 3:18, NRSV

Fiddler on the Roof, the 1964 musical about an Orthodox Jewish family navigating cultural change, includes a duet by the main character, Tevye, and his wife, Golde. As they watch their daughters marry for love, they contemplate their own arranged marriage.

"Do you love me?" Tevye sings. After first deflecting the question, Golde recounts the many things she's done for or with him during 25 years together — cooked, cleaned, endured hardships, raised a family. She concludes, "If that's not love, what is?"

When Jesus speaks of love, he uses a word that might be better translated as "serve." Above all, love is an action. Sometimes we feel loving; sometimes not. But Jesus calls us always to act lovingly. And in the end, serving is the best way to show our love.



Many thanks to...

...the following people who gave so generously of their time and effort on behalf of Eastminster for the monthly meal at Advent

House on October 14:

Cooks:

- Sherri & Gary Blanchard
- Barb Dalzell
- Suzanne Hunt
- Betty Hall
- Mary Ann Merchant
- Heather Myer
- Cindy Nixon
- Sue Rosser
- Susan Smalley
- John & Trena Thornburg

Servers: Mim Bethards, Linda Hardenbergh & Terry Graham




 Margaret Pearson
 2700 Burcham, #555
 East Lansing, MI 48823

Jim Murray was in Puerto Rico during Hurricane Maria and saw the devastation it left in its path. Jim returned safely, but was so moved by the peoples' spirit of determination and helping each other, that he decided to return to the island permanently to provide whatever assistance he could give those people still in need. May God bless Jim as he answers this call to serve.

Jim Murray
 Villa Mar #6
 Isla Verde, P.R. 00979
 jmmurray11646@gmail.com
 517-512-1761

He's also on Facebook.



**Midweek Bible Study
Tuesdays @ 1:00 p.m.**

Join us weekly on Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. in the Green Room. All are welcome.



**NOVEMBER
BIRTHDAYS**

- 11/3 Jesse Turner
- 11/6 Jim Murray
- 11/8 Bob Kleine
- 11/12 Lacy Myer
- 11/13 Bill Cleary
- 11/15 Jim Engelkes
- 11/18 Lynn Banninga
- 11/18 Ed McKay
- 11/19 Jenna Johnston
- 11/26 Maureen Ritchie
- 11/26 Jeff O'Neill
- 11/27 Barbara Lowes



**NOVEMBER
ANNIVERSARIES**

- 11/2 James & Sara Erzen
- 11/27 Bill & Brenda Rustem

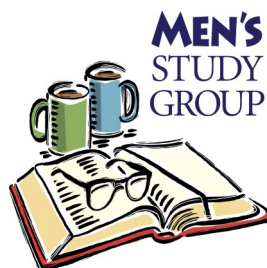


From Irene King: *To all my dear friends at Eastminster, I want to send my thanks for the beautiful cards, notes and phone calls for my 95th birthday in October. It was a pleasure to have a 3-day celebration with my family in Ohio, my son & daughter-in-law and grandsons, and my son & daughter-in-law and grandchildren from New Mexico. I miss you, pray for you, and love you.*

**Men's Breakfast
Bible Study**

Wednesdays @ 7:00 a.m.

This study group meets every Wednesday at 7:00 a.m. in the Green Room. Continental breakfast is always available.



SEPTEMBER 2017 MONTHLY FINANCIALS



RECEIPTS	\$ 17,577.00	ANTICIPATED PLEDGED INCOME	\$ 23,666.67
EXPENSES	\$ 27,758.81	PLEDGED GIVING RECEIVED	\$ 17,046.00
		DIFFERENCE +/-(-)	\$ -6,620.67
ENDING BALANCE	\$ -10,181.81	PLATE OFFERING	\$ 554.00

ELEVATOR LOAN BALANCE AS OF 10/20/2017 \$ **119,628.90**

PER CAPITA IS \$26.75 - RECEIVED AS OF 10/20/2017 \$**2,056.94**

GIFTS TO ELEVATOR LOAN FUND AS OF 10/20/2017 \$ **9,535.00**

SESSION DIGEST— OCTOBER 2017

- Session discussed the scheduling of the Christmas Eve Service. A motion was made to schedule the Christmas Eve Service for 7:30 p.m. this year. Motion approved.
- A motion was made on a request for baptism for Gwendolyn Marianne Lewter, daughter of Kelly Lewter and Julianne Bender-Lewter during the October 29, 2017 morning service. Motion approved.
- Fall stewardship drive, titled “Live Simply,” will commence on Sunday, October 22, and culminate with a light celebration luncheon, following the morning worship service on Sunday, November 12th. The “Live Simply” theme is based on Philippians 4:11 - *Not that I am referring to being in need; for I have learned to be content with whatever I have.*



**PRESBYTERIAN
DISASTER
ASSISTANCE**

OUT OF CHAOS, HOPE

HURRICANE RELIEF: For those who wish to support PDA's emergency response and recovery efforts, gifts can be designated to **DR000169-Harvey** or **DR000194-Irma/Maria**. They need our help. Please give generously. If you prefer to mail a check, you may send it to: Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), PO Box 643700, Pittsburgh, PA, 15264-3700. You may also call us Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (EST), at 1-800-872-3283 and donate by phone. For updates, please go to pda.pcusa.org.

Black Friday. Cyber Monday.

#GIVINGTUESDAY™

November 28, 2017

#GivingTuesday, held annually on the Tuesday after Thanksgiving (in the U.S.) and the widely recognized shopping events Black Friday and Cyber Monday, kicks off the holiday giving season and inspires people to give back in impactful ways. According to Giving U.S.A., faith-based organizations have fared well in this one-day online fundraising movement. Last year, the Presbyterian Foundation received 166 percent more gifts through its online giving platform on #GivingTuesday, and the amount given was 59 percent higher compared to 2015 gifts. Consider making a gift to **UKirk at MSU** through Eastminster's website on Tuesday, November 28.



Supper Club
Friday, November 3
@ 6:00 p.m.

Join us on the **first Friday** of the month for a gathering of good food & fellowship. This month our hosts will be **Doug & Betty Hall and John & Trena Thornburg**. Please bring your own table service and a dish to pass. Tea and coffee provided. Come enjoy a casual potluck meal in the Green Room. All are welcome.

Eastminster
Page Turners



Book Club
Sat., November 4 @ 10 a.m.

All are welcome to join EPC's book club that meets once a month in the Green Room to discuss a book that

members have read prior to the meeting. The selections are varied and interesting! We hope you'll join us!

Saturday, November 4, 10 a.m. - Same Kind of Different as Me by Ron Hall, Denver Moore and Lynn Vincent.

A true story of the relationship between a wealthy couple, Ron and Lynn, and Denver, a modern-day "slave" who escapes from plantation life in the south in the 1960's. Their intersecting life journeys change all of them through God's redemptive love.

December - no meeting



Flicks with Friends
Wed., November 15
10:00 a.m.

Join us on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. **All persons** are

invited. The movie is picked the weekend before and by what is playing the afternoon of that day. An email list has been formed to notify persons who are interested. Let Barb Stowitts (barbstow@yahoo.com) know if you would like to be included on the movie email list. Lunch is decided by the people attending.

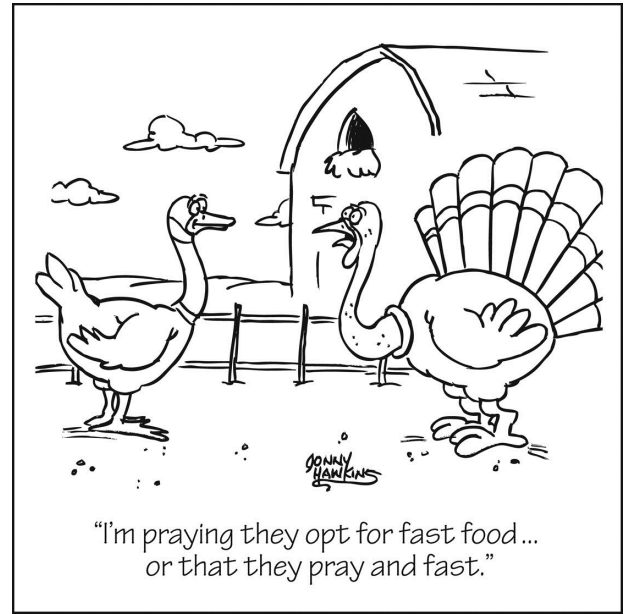


Faith & Film
Monday, November 20
@ 6:00 p.m.

Join us on the **3rd Monday** of the month for a light meal, fellowship, and lively discussion on films.

Please watch the film on your own, then join us and bring \$4 to pitch in for the meal.

November film: *Interstellar* (2014) Matthew McConaughey, Anne Hathaway & Jessica Chastain. From director Christopher Nolan (*Inception*) comes the story of ex-pilot Cooper (Matthew McConaughey), who must leave his family and Earth behind to lead an expedition beyond this galaxy to discover whether mankind has a future among the stars (Amazon.com).



"I'm praying they opt for fast food... or that they pray and fast."



Follow Eastminster on **Facebook**. We are under

Eastminster Presbyterian Church East Lansing. Updates, reminders, and other information is posted regularly. Stay informed! Please "like", comment or share our posts to ensure they show up regularly in your timeline. When you share our post, it is also a great way to reach out to your family and friends who may be looking for a church home. If the church is closed due to weather, it will be listed on our Facebook page and website.






NOVEMBER 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Hope Closet 7:00 p.m. UKirk@MSU	2 9:00 a.m. Cultured Purls Knitting 9:30 a.m. Finance/Admin 7:00 p.m. Choir	3 6:00 p.m. Supper Club	4 10:00 a.m. Book Club 
5 Daylight Saving Time Ends All Saint's Day 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship Children's Worship 11:30 a.m. Fellowship Time	6 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting	7 1:00 p.m. Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Bells	8 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Session 7:00 p.m. UKirk@MSU	9 9:00 a.m. Cultured Purls Knitting 7:00 p.m. Choir	10	11 9:45 a.m. Advent House
12 9:30 a.m. Deacons 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship Cents-ability Offering Children's Worship 11:30 a.m. Stewardship Luncheon	13 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting	14 1:00 p.m. Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Bells	15 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Flicks w/ Friends 7:00 p.m. UKirk@MSU	16 9:00 a.m. Cultured Purls Knitting 10:30 a.m. Mission Team 7:00 p.m. Choir	17	18
19 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship Children's Worship 11:30 a.m. Fellowship Time	20 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 6:00 p.m. Faith & Film 7:00 p.m. Interfaith Thanksgiving 	21 1:00 p.m. Bible Study 1:15 p.m. Presbyterian Women 7:00 p.m. Bells	22 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study 7:00 p.m. UKirk@MSU	23 Thanksgiving Day Office Closed 	24	25
26 Christ the King 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship Communion 11:30 a.m. Fellowship Time	27 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting	28 1:00 p.m. Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Bells	29 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study 7:00 p.m. UKirk@MSU	30 9:00 a.m. Cultured Purls Knitting 7:00 p.m. Choir	1	2

AA: Wed & Th. 7 p.m.; Fri, 9:30 p.m.; Sat 10 a.m.; Al-Anon: Th. 8:15 p.m.

EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1315 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823
Phone: (517) 337-0893

Church Office Hours

Monday – Thursday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Closed Friday

Interim Pastor.....	Rev. Dr. Jeffrey S. O’Neill	revoneill@eastminsterchurch.org
Director of Discipleship.....	Neil Myer	neil@eastminsterchurch.org
Adult Choir Director.....	Chelsea Berner	berner.chelseann@gmail.com
Bell Choir Director.....	Heather Myer	heather.c.myer@gmail.com
Organist.....	Tamar Mikeladze	mikeladz@msu.edu
Office Administrator.....	Sam O’Neill	office@eastminsterchurch.org
Parish Advisor.....	Dr. Fred Graham	
Parish Advisor.....	Rev. Shirley Paxton	
Nursery Attendant.....	Audri Bello	
Nursery Attendant.....	Nino Napetvaridze	

CHURCH OFFICERS					
ELDERS		Class	DEACONS		Class
Administration & Finance			Moderator		
David Duryea	339-1404	2020	Heather Myer		2019
Barbara Stowitts	256-3316	2019	Secretary		
Building & Grounds			Barbara Moss		2018
Mike Foster		2020	Sherri Blanchard		2019
Norm Mackay	604-6003	2019	Judy Dunn		2018
Christian Education			Heather Heitman		2020
Beverly Bonning	290-8674	2020	Sue Kalvonjian		2019
Brian Heitman	897-0490	2019	Sue Miller		2018
Mission			Tom Moss		2018
Robin Bell	489-1468	2020	John Temples		2019
Sam O’Neill	243-2669	2018			
Worship & Music					
Terry Graham	332-3418	2018			
Brenda Ramsby	281-2718	2019			
Communications					
Ruth Foster	881-9713	2018			
Susan Smalley	402-1057	2018			



EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1315 ABBOT ROAD · EAST LANSING, MICHIGAN 48823

PHONE: (517) 337-0893

WWW.EASTMINSTERCHURCH.ORG

