



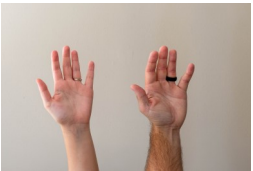
The **Crop Hunger Walk** is October 10. Like last year we will do a virtual walk. Learn more about CROP Hunger Walk at: <https://bit.ly/EPCCROPWALK>

**AFTER WORSHIP CHAT:** Today: Dr. Brent Strawn. Professor Strawn’s research focuses on ancient Near Eastern iconography, Israelite religion, biblical law, the Psalms, poetry, and Old Testament theology. Dr. Strawn is the author of our Tuesday Morning Bible Study Book: *Lies My Preacher Told Me: An Honest Look at the Old Testament*.



September 26 - Meredith Cain, Community Outreach Specialist, TeamMates. Meredith shares, "My role is pretty varied! I train new and current mentors, but first, I recruit them. You might catch me at a church or community event, sharing how great TeamMates is. I also manage a lot of our communications, like Mentor News, TeamMates of the Month, and media publications. I also help plan events, write grants, and provide match support to ten elementary schools."

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** We have some wonderful opportunities in place for our children and youth coming this fall. In order for these opportunities to happen, we need volunteers! Our volunteer opportunities vary in commitment and preparation. We will need: Teachers – prepare and teach a lesson; Youth Group advisors – lead recreation, prepare and teach a lesson/activity; Snack/meal Providers – prepare a snack for the afterschool program or provide dinner for the youth group.



QPR Training: QPR stands for Question, Persuade, and Refer —three simple steps anyone can learn to help save a life from suicide. The mission of QPR is to save lives and reduce suicidal behaviors by providing innovative, practical, and proven suicide prevention training. QPR will train people to recognize the warning signs of a suicide crisis and how to question, persuade and refer someone for help.

To register and to view the locations and dates for all sessions: <https://talkheart2heart.org/resources/qpr-training>

**Eastridge Church Staff**

Rev. Dr. Melodie Jones Pointon.....Senior Pastor  
Rev. Thomas Dummermuth..... Associate Pastor  
Kris Adler-Brammer....Youth and Children’s Ministries  
Dr. Brian Lew.....Director of Music Ministries  
Donna Gustafson.....Office Manager  
Andy Kalnins.....Night/Weekend Custodian  
Brent Shaw.....Organist

Will McGuire.....Worship Leader  
Vince Ruhl.....Director of Online Worship  
  
**Office number.....402-488-7844**  
**Melodie Jones Pointon’s cell – 402-817-9004**  
**email: mjonesspointon@eastridge.org**  
  
**Thomas Dummermuth’s cell – 402-817-9642**  
**email: tdummermuth@eastridge.org**

**Today at Eastridge:**

9:00 am	Worship— IN PERSON
10:30 am	Worship — Online
12:30 pm	Special Musicians —various

The Gathering Place sign up: Prior to COVID in early 2020, we had added a Sunday night to our Eastridge volunteer schedule. The Gathering Place has added it back into the schedule! The sign up reflects this:

<http://bit.ly/gatheringplacepc>

You may donate to the **Elementary Faith Connection** snack time! For children, we can use individually wrapped snacks - snack crackers, gold fish, fruit snacks, cookies, cereal, etc. These items can be dropped off at the church or you can make a donation and we will do the shopping. Grocery store gift cards are also an option so we can add some fresh fruits and vegetables.

**Tabitha is in Need of Volunteers to Serve as a Family Visitation Assistant:** This volunteer opportunity welcomes Tabitha visitors and assists with the screen in process. Also includes escorting visitors to their proper visiting location and help ensure that each visitor is following proper safety measures. Volunteers must be fully COVID vaccinated and willing to wear a face mask. Various shifts available Monday- Sunday. Please call Laura Bennett at 402-484-9712 to inquire more about this opportunity (or contact the EPC office).

**Ladies Night Out event:** We will meet at 2:00 pm on Sunday, September 26 at The Sunken Gardens for a stroll through the gardens, and then head to The Mill at Telegraph (330 S 21st Street) for a beverage/fellowship. Check out the Facebook page for more discussion, or contact the office.





The gaps between the academic performance of Black students and their peers have been declining steadily. Although they now significantly smaller than in the 1970s, these gaps are still significant especially in urban schools. In fact, the difference in standardized test scores between white and Black students currently amounts to roughly two years of education. Some question whether the gap truly represents student achievement or a gap in opportunity.

**"If You Want Black Students to Do Well at School, It Helps If You're Positive About Black Students."** (Forbes, Nick Morrison, December 16, 2020) Schools can make a positive difference for Black students if they provide a welcoming community. Middle school students report the relationships they form with teachers affect them for several years. <https://bit.ly/3mRY8vd>

**"Black Student Voices: What We Need from Our Schools."** (Forbes, July 30, 2020, 5 min. 32 sec.) Education Week interviewed ten Black high school students about what they want their teachers to know, the impact of racism, and how schools could improve. <https://bit.ly/3yColl9>

**"TDSB Data Show Rapid Reading Improvement in Black Elementary Students During COVID-19 Pandemic."** (The Globe and Mail-Canada, Caroline Alphonso, August 30, 2021) Toronto Schools report that Black students demonstrated growth beyond expectations in reading while they were learning at home. Possible explanations for this change are explored. <https://tgam.ca/3gTC6om>

**"The Nation's Scorecard."** (Results of the National Educational Achievement Profile) See how students in Nebraska performed in comparison with other states. <https://bit.ly/2WK2o5i>

## Bistro Theology goes to the Winery

Join us Thursday, September 30 at 7:00 pm

Deer Springs Winery, 16255 Adams Street

**Bistrò Theology**  
FAITH. DRINKS. DISCUSSION. QUESTIONS.

**Prayers for:** Becky Shupe's granddaughter, Julia, as she undergoes a bone marrow transplant this week in Omaha.

**Flowers in the Sanctuary:** If you are interested in providing flowers for in-person worship in the sanctuary, you may sign up here: <http://bit.ly/flowersworship>



Today's flowers are provided by Jim and Carol Budka.



**EPC Book Club:** For October, we will read *The Midnight Library* by Matt Haig. Join us at 7:00 pm on October 11 in the conference room or east patio (in favorable weather). Contact the office for more information.

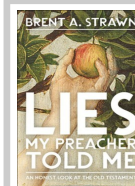
**Sign up to serve a meal to the youth!** We are looking for folks who are willing to provide and serve dinner. To accommodate our safety needs at this time, we will have dinner on the east patio serving out of the Huxtable Lounge. You might be interested in serving individually or you might get a group together to provide dinner. At this time, we will be serving around 25. You can use the following link for a list of dates available and to sign up. <https://bit.ly/EPCyouthmeal>



## 2021 Budget \$ 552,800

In the general fund, we have received \$ 316,517 year-to-date (September 17)

In order to make budget for the year, we should be at: \$ 393,338



**Fall Bible Study!** Led by Pastors Melodie and Thomas: *Lies My Preacher Told Me* by Brent Strawn. There are two ways to join! Zoom with us Tuesday mornings 11:30-12:30 and/or participate through the private Facebook Group. Books are available at the Welcome Desk. Sign up: <https://bit.ly/liesstudy>



Join us for another year of Holy Friends, a group of people in Lincoln gathering monthly to get to know our neighbors of various faith traditions. We usually meet on the fourth Monday from 7:00-8:30pm, starting on September 27th. **Will you join us?** Contact Thomas to learn more, or to be added to our email list:

[tdummermuth@eastridge.org](mailto:tdummermuth@eastridge.org)