

a loving neighborhood church



A recap of Sunday's Sermon from Pastor Doug.

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men. This is difficult to believe when there is often a lack of peace on earth. Jesus is our peace¹. Trust in Him as you keep seeking peace and keep on offering peace to others. You can simply say "Peace" to those you encounter². And finally, if you lack peace yourself in this moment, envision that first Christmas, and keep singing, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men." ..."

Click to hear the story of 'I Heard The Bells on Christmas Day' (YouTube)
Lyrics are in the 'Worship' block below.

¹ Eph 2:14 "For He himself is our peace..."

² Luke 10:5-6 "When you enter a house, first say, 'Peace to this house'

MEMORY VERSE CHALLENGE How did you do?

Chapter 4 | Unity in the Body of Christ

¹I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, ² with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love,

³ eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. ⁴ There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call—

⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

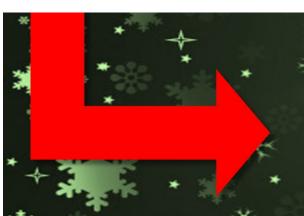
EVENT SPOTLIGHT



CHURCH POTLUCK LUNCH

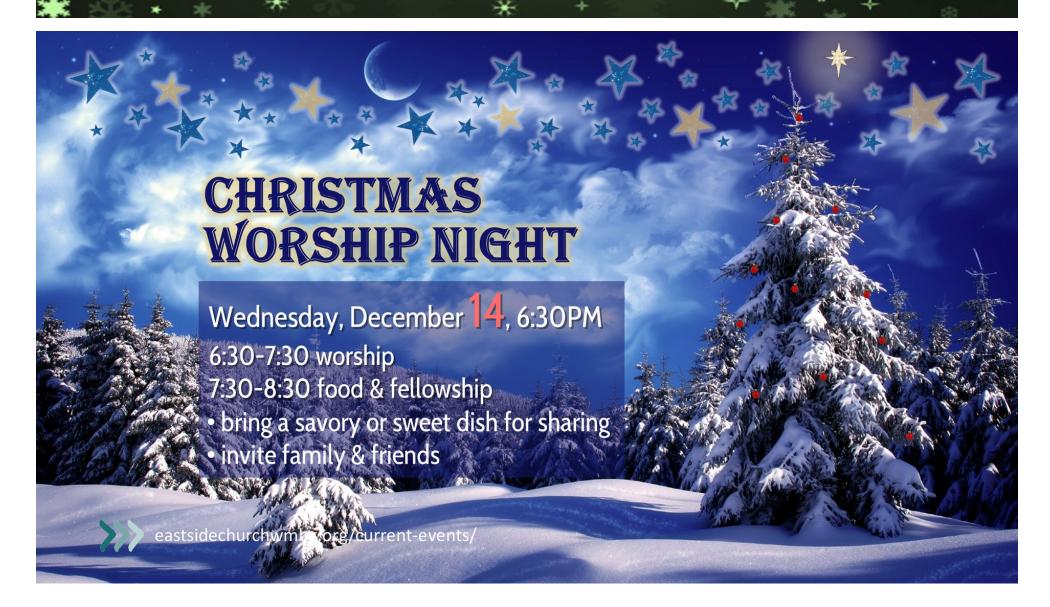
NEXT SUNDAY DEC. 11 right after the service

- bring a savory or sweet dish to share
- drop it off before the service



pssssst...

Plan to stick around after the potluck to help write Christmas cards with the Congregational Care team!



LESS STRESS, MORE MEANING THIS ADVENT SEASON

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid." (John 14:27)

On Sunday, we lit the Peace candle and heard an encouraging message of how we have received Peace even when we don't see peace around us. As Pastor Doug said, it is a choice to keep seeking and choosing Peace moment by moment.

The holidays are a time when we can fall into a trap of thinking we need to be the ones to create peace through perfection. Chasing perfection to get all the right gifts, cook the perfect meals, decorate every corner, show up to every event, see every relative, capture it all in perfect photos, and control all the outcomes, usually results in stress, burnout, or disillusionment. When we make an idol out "perfection," we fail to worship lesus who is our true Peace.

When you make your Christmas plans, are you open to interruptions? Detours? Second choices?

It's hard to choose Peace in the moment if we're busy judging other people, situations, and even God for not perfecting *our* plans. This may be your year to **delegate** some things and see others shine; **release** control in favor of togetherness; or **reduce** the number of dollars you spend or events you commit to hosting or attending.

Moment by moment, will the next choice draw you closer to the Prince of Peace? We don't need to be perfect because we are covered by The One who is!

"For He Himself is our peace..." (Ephesians 2:14a)

-- Ashley Willis | ashleyw@ecburg.org



As a congregation let's be faithful in prayer this week:

- 1. Pray for peace this advent season.
- 2. Pray for those who need the message of the coming of Christ.
- 3. Pray to be a peacemaker in the season ahead.

Do you need prayer? Eastside prayer team members would love to pray for you confidentially. If you would like your prayer requests to be shared, we will lift them up during our weekly prayer times.

Contact prayer@ecburg.org

Scheduled Prayer Times This Week:

Saturday Mornings

In person @ Eastside 9-10 am (stay for the Bible Study @ 10!)

Thursday Evenings

7-7:30 pm call-in

Sunday Mornings

9:30 in the foyer before the service

Check times and instructions here.



Get involved in neighborhood ministry.
Reach out to serve@ecburg.org

LITERACY FOR LIFE

Each Wednesday Eastside hosts a Literacy for Life group, which is usually attended by several women from our neighborhood. Lively discussion and laughter help these women build confidence in their English in a wonderful and meaningful time together.

Interested in joining in? We'd love to hear from you. Better yet, just show up at the church at 9:30 Wednesday morning!

BRENTWOOD APARTMENTS

Brentwood ministry continues!

Extra hearts and hands are always welcome. We yearn to divide the children into small groups to increase effectiveness of this precious ministry.

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Welcome Kids!

We're having a great time with the 'Hands-on Bible Curriculum'!

Please click here to register your child(ren) and learn more about what we do.

A few more helpers are needed -- contact Michelle Flanagan for details OR signup at the church.



YOUNG ADULTS

As advertised! You are invited! Sundays at 6 PM at the Cox's house: 5500 Scotts Pond Dr., Williamsburg. Bring your friends!

Questions?
Contact Gigi at coxsgjpeb@comcast.net



YOUTH GROUP

"Children are a gift from the Lord; they are a reward from him" (Psalms 127:3). As our Youth continue to grow, let us pray for them. They are a gift from God and His love for them is reflected through the love we have for them.

Grades 6 - 12 are welcomed!

For more info regarding all things youth and meeting schedules please contact our Youth Director Kris Samuel at 908-227-2421 or at - youth@ecburg.org



WOMEN / MEN

- Women's Bible Study: every other Tuesday afternoon, 1:00-2:30 PM
 Contact Jinks Babey at 757.375.0167 or <u>JinksBabey@gmail.com</u>
- Coffee w/ Friends Wednesday mornings @ 8:30, Column 15 all are welcome show up and join in!
- Small Group every other Wednesday, 6:30 PM
 for info contact Patty at <u>pattygrayeastside@gmail.com</u> or Ashley at <u>ashleyw@ecburg.org</u>

ADAM-TO-NOAH BIBLE STUDY

Saturdays @ 10 am

understanding the relevance of Eden for your life today





eastsidechurchwmbg.org/current-events/

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

TURNING POINT

Are you going through a challenging time in your life? Would you like to talk it through in a confidential setting? If so, Eastside's Turning Point Ministry is here to give you an extra layer of emotional and spiritual support.

To make an appointment, please email **ashleyw@ecburg.org** or call Ashley Willis (M.A. Pastoral Counseling) at 757-784-5165.

TURNING POINT

CARE TEAM IN ACTION!

Are you able to help members of your church family? Run errands, write notes of encouragement, provide meals are just a few ways you can help others who are experiencing illness, grieving a loss, or welcoming a new addition to the family.

If so, please email **susanc@ecburg.org** for more info.

If you or someone you know has a need that can be met by our Care Team, please email susanc@ecburg.org



I heard the bells on Christmas day Their old familiar carols play And mild and sweet their songs repeat Of peace on Earth, good will to men

And the bells are ringing (peace on Earth)
Like a choir they're singing (peace on Earth)
In my heart I hear them (peace on Earth)
Peace on Earth, good will to men

And in despair I bowed my head "There is no peace on Earth, " I said For hate is strong and mocks the song Of peace on Earth, good will to men

But the bells are ringing (peace on Earth) Like a choir singing (peace on Earth) Does anybody hear them? (Peace on Earth) Peace on Earth, good will to men

Then rang the bells more loud and deep God is not dead, nor doth He sleep The wrong shall fail, the right prevail With peace on Earth, good will to men

Then ringing, singing on its way
The world revolved from night to day
A voice, a chime, a chant sublime
Of peace on Earth, good will to men

the bells, they're ringing Like a choir they're singing with our hearts, we'll hear them Peace on Earth, good will to men

Do you hear the bells, they're ringing? The light, the angels singing Open up your heart and hear them Peace on Earth, good will to men

SUPPORTING EASTSIDE



BUDGET STATUS:

as of Nov 28, 2022

Jan to Oct 2022 Budgeted: \$241,000 Received: \$241,471

November 2022

Budgeted: \$33,000

Received Month-to-Date: \$18.004

Annual 2022

Budgeted: \$310,000

GIVING:

You are a blessing! We so appreciate your continued support.

<u>Click here</u> for everything you need to know about giving to Eastside Church online, by text or by mail.

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