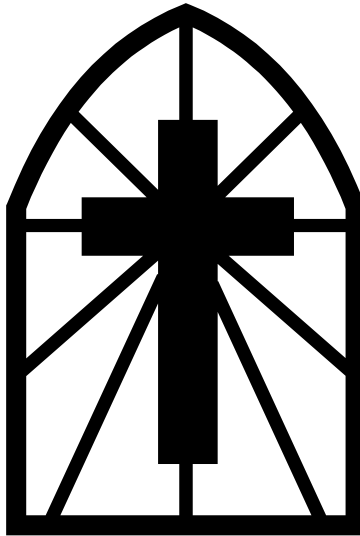


# Announcements July 2019

## Elmhurst Presbyterian Church

367 Spring Road - Elmhurst - IL  
Fax: 630-834-1974  
The Website

Phone: 630-834-7750  
Email Address: [epc@elmhurstchurch.org](mailto:epc@elmhurstchurch.org)  
[www.elmhurstchurch.org](http://www.elmhurstchurch.org)



**“We are a church called by Jesus Christ to Proclaim, Teach & Serve.”**

**In Our Prayers** Audrey Pauwels upon the passing of her mother, Lynn Mense, Audrey’s address is: 918 North Park Ct., NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49525. And Sally Schult.

There is a list on the bulletin board in the Nelson-White Room on the “news” bulletin board. It shows the latest parishioners who are in a health center or are hospitalized. If you would like your name added to the board or put on the prayer list, please contact the church office.

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**Traci Smith, Pastor**  
**Emily Culella, Director of Children & Youth Ministry**  
**Susan Smentek, Director of Music**  
**Karen Bircher, Office Administrator**  
**Jesus Garcia — Custodian**  
**Liz Johnson, Clerk of Session**  
**Cheryl Turek Technology Assistant Sunday morning’s**  
**Tim Christopher, Frank Dattillo & Rick Rodriguez —**  
**Sound Techs, Sunday morning’s**  
**<http://www.elmhurstchurch.org>**  
**Find EPC on Facebook: Elmhurst Presbyterian Church &**  
**Find on Facebook: Elmhurst Presbyterian Church & Youth Ministries**  
**Follow us on Twitter @EPC\_tweets**

*God Answers  
Prayers* 

## PASTOR'S CORNER

### Using the Psalms for Personal Devotion

Think of someone whose faith you admire. Maybe it's a relative or saint of the church. What do you imagine that person doing to nurture or develop their faith? Perhaps its prayer, or meditation, or a regular study of scripture. All of these spiritual disciplines are useful for deepening our faith and our relationship with God. And yet, when we think about developing a regular spiritual practice, we often become overwhelmed. Where should I start? What if I don't know much about the Bible? What if it's hard for me to sit still with my own thoughts?

Developing a regular spiritual practice does not come naturally for everyone, and each of us connects with the Spirit in different ways. If you're feeling a bit lost when it comes to developing a spiritual practice of reading the Bible, I encourage you to consider taking a bit of time with the Psalms. The Psalms are written as poems/songs, and they encompass a wide range of themes. Reading a single Psalm and thinking about what it says will take, at most, five minutes out of your morning. You may decide to start at Psalm 1 and work your way through all 150 of them. Or, take a look at the list of Psalms by theme at the end of this article and work your way through a particular theme or emotion. Once you decide which Psalm to read during your time, you may choose to structure your time with the Psalms in this way:

First, (30 seconds to a minute): Prayer. Say a simple prayer to open up your time. "God, by the power of your Spirit, make my heart attentive to what you have to say to me today, through the reading of your word."

Next, (1-3 minutes): Read the Psalm. Read through the Psalm aloud or quietly one or two times.

Finally (1-3 minutes): Reflect. Was there any word or phrase that jumped out at you? Any message for today? If nothing comes immediately to mind, don't be discouraged. Sometimes God's word steepes and marinates in us and comes back to the surface when we need it most.

## GARDEN NEWS July, 2019

### Children's Vegetable Garden

Several cool-weather crops have been delivered to the food pantry—radishes, spinach, scallions, herbs, and sugar snap peas so far. This month we're expecting initial pickings of kale and other greens followed by warm-weather crops later in the summer. Watch for the produce contribution total posted in the Nelson-White Room each week. Thank you, kids and adults, who weed, water, and harvest.

### Garden Beds

Flowers are blooming! Larkspur and hollyhock on the east side of the parking lot, zinnias and sunflowers in the butterfly garden, geraniums in the Memorial Garden and by the church sign, and lovely pots by the entrances. Thank you, volunteers who keep our gardens beautiful.

### A Garden Tip

Mulching around trees is a good idea if done correctly—it keeps the soil moist, smothers weeds, and protects the tree from lawn mower and trimmer damage. Just don't apply "volcano mulch"—an unfortunately common habit. When mulch is mounded against the tree bark (like the top of a volcano), it encourages disease and insect damage. So please don't smother the root flare at the base of your tree; keep mulch 3-4 inches away.

Garden Coordinator: Ruth Schroeter (**708-562-5346** or **[SchroeterRuth@yahoo.com](mailto:SchroeterRuth@yahoo.com)**)

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE EPC CHURCH PICNIC!

Sunday, September 8th

Following the church service out on the church lawn.

Watch for more details.



PASTOR'S CORNER CONTINUED ON PAGE 3.

A Table of Psalms by Theme\*

God the Creator.	<a href="#">8</a> , <a href="#">19</a> , <a href="#">33</a> , <a href="#">65</a> , <a href="#">111</a> , <a href="#">104</a> , <a href="#">145</a> , <a href="#">147</a> .
God the Redeemer.	<a href="#">15</a> , <a href="#">33</a> , <a href="#">102</a> , <a href="#">103</a> , <a href="#">111</a> , <a href="#">113</a> , <a href="#">114</a> , <a href="#">126</a> , <a href="#">130</a> , <a href="#">138</a> .
God the Judge.	<a href="#">1</a> , <a href="#">7</a> , <a href="#">11</a> , <a href="#">46</a> , <a href="#">50</a> , <a href="#">62</a> , <a href="#">75</a> , <a href="#">76</a> , <a href="#">82</a> , <a href="#">90</a> , <a href="#">96</a> , <a href="#">97</a> , <a href="#">98</a> .
God's Glory.	<a href="#">18</a> , <a href="#">29</a> , <a href="#">99</a> , <a href="#">36</a> , <a href="#">46</a> , <a href="#">148</a> , <a href="#">150</a> .
God's Sovereignty.	<a href="#">24</a> , <a href="#">46</a> , <a href="#">47</a> , <a href="#">72</a> , <a href="#">89</a> , <a href="#">93</a> , <a href="#">96</a> , <a href="#">97</a> , <a href="#">98</a> , <a href="#">99</a> , <a href="#">112</a> , <a href="#">146</a> , <a href="#">145</a> .
God's Wisdom.	<a href="#">33</a> , <a href="#">104</a> , <a href="#">111</a> , <a href="#">113</a> , <a href="#">139</a> , <a href="#">145</a> , <a href="#">147</a> .
God's Law.	<a href="#">19</a> , <a href="#">50</a> , <a href="#">62</a> , <a href="#">111</a> , <a href="#">119</a> , <a href="#">147</a> , <a href="#">23</a> , <a href="#">33</a> , <a href="#">34</a> , <a href="#">37</a> , <a href="#">89</a> , <a href="#">121</a> , <a href="#">124</a> , <a href="#">139</a> , <a href="#">145</a> , <a href="#">146</a> , <a href="#">147</a> .
God's Mercy.	<a href="#">23</a> , <a href="#">32</a> , <a href="#">57</a> , <a href="#">61</a> , <a href="#">62</a> , <a href="#">63</a> , <a href="#">73</a> , <a href="#">77</a> , <a href="#">85</a> , <a href="#">86</a> , <a href="#">100</a> , <a href="#">103</a> , <a href="#">118</a> , <a href="#">130</a> , <a href="#">145</a> .
The Incarnation.	<a href="#">2</a> , <a href="#">8</a> , <a href="#">85</a> , <a href="#">89</a> , <a href="#">102</a> , <a href="#">110</a> , <a href="#">111</a> , <a href="#">113</a> , <a href="#">132</a> .
The Passion.	<a href="#">22</a> , <a href="#">40</a> , <a href="#">42</a> , <a href="#">54</a> , <a href="#">69</a> , <a href="#">88</a> , <a href="#">116</a> , <a href="#">130</a> .
The Church.	<a href="#">46</a> , <a href="#">48</a> , <a href="#">84</a> , <a href="#">111</a> , <a href="#">122</a> , <a href="#">133</a> , <a href="#">147</a> .
Worship.	<a href="#">5</a> , <a href="#">26</a> , <a href="#">43</a> , <a href="#">63</a> , <a href="#">65</a> , <a href="#">66</a> , <a href="#">67</a> , <a href="#">84</a> , <a href="#">96</a> , <a href="#">100</a> , <a href="#">102</a> , <a href="#">116</a> , <a href="#">122</a> , <a href="#">138</a> .
Thanksgiving.	<a href="#">30</a> , <a href="#">65</a> , <a href="#">67</a> , <a href="#">92</a> , <a href="#">98</a> , <a href="#">100</a> , <a href="#">111</a> , <a href="#">103</a> , <a href="#">107</a> , <a href="#">116</a> , <a href="#">134</a> , <a href="#">138</a> , <a href="#">145</a> , <a href="#">147</a> , <a href="#">148</a> , <a href="#">150</a> .
Prayer.	<a href="#">4</a> , <a href="#">5</a> , <a href="#">17</a> , <a href="#">20</a> , <a href="#">28</a> , <a href="#">31</a> , <a href="#">54</a> , <a href="#">61</a> , <a href="#">84</a> , <a href="#">86</a> , <a href="#">102</a> , <a href="#">141</a> , <a href="#">142</a> .

PASTOR'S CORNER CONTINUED ON PAGE 4.

Trust in God.	<a href="#">27</a> , <a href="#">31</a> , <a href="#">57</a> , <a href="#">62</a> , <a href="#">63</a> , <a href="#">71</a> , <a href="#">73</a> , <a href="#">77</a> , <a href="#">91</a> , <a href="#">118</a> , <a href="#">121</a> , <a href="#">123</a> , <a href="#">124</a> , <a href="#">125</a> , <a href="#">143</a> , <a href="#">146</a> .
God our Refuge.	<a href="#">4</a> , <a href="#">17</a> , <a href="#">20</a> , <a href="#">37</a> , <a href="#">46</a> , <a href="#">49</a> , <a href="#">54</a> , <a href="#">61</a> , <a href="#">71</a> , <a href="#">91</a> , <a href="#">103</a> , <a href="#">121</a> , <a href="#">146</a> .
Divine Guidance.	<a href="#">25</a> , <a href="#">43</a> , <a href="#">80</a> , <a href="#">85</a> , <a href="#">111</a> , <a href="#">112</a> .
In Time of Trouble.	<a href="#">3</a> , <a href="#">11</a> , <a href="#">12</a> , <a href="#">13</a> , <a href="#">18</a> , <a href="#">20</a> , <a href="#">30</a> , <a href="#">40</a> , <a href="#">46</a> , <a href="#">49</a> , <a href="#">57</a> , <a href="#">62</a> , <a href="#">63</a> , <a href="#">80</a> , <a href="#">85</a> , <a href="#">86</a> , <a href="#">90</a> , <a href="#">107</a> , <a href="#">118</a> , <a href="#">144</a> , <a href="#">146</a> .
Righteousness.	<a href="#">1</a> , <a href="#">11</a> , <a href="#">12</a> , <a href="#">15</a> , <a href="#">18</a> , <a href="#">19</a> , <a href="#">26</a> , <a href="#">34</a> , <a href="#">40</a> , <a href="#">92</a> , <a href="#">111</a> , <a href="#">112</a> .
Peace.	<a href="#">29</a> , <a href="#">46</a> , <a href="#">76</a> , <a href="#">85</a> , <a href="#">98</a> , <a href="#">100</a> , <a href="#">124</a> , <a href="#">125</a> , <a href="#">126</a> .
The Transitoriness of Life.	<a href="#">39</a> , <a href="#">49</a> , <a href="#">90</a> , <a href="#">102</a> .
The Hope of Immortality.	<a href="#">16</a> , <a href="#">30</a> , <a href="#">42</a> , <a href="#">49</a> , <a href="#">66</a> , <a href="#">73</a> , <a href="#">103</a> , <a href="#">116</a> , <a href="#">121</a> , <a href="#">139</a> , <a href="#">146</a> .
Morning.	<a href="#">3</a> , <a href="#">5</a> , <a href="#">20</a> , <a href="#">63</a> , <a href="#">90</a> , <a href="#">143</a> .
Evening.	<a href="#">4</a> , <a href="#">13</a> , <a href="#">16</a> , <a href="#">17</a> , <a href="#">31</a> , <a href="#">77</a> , <a href="#">91</a> , <a href="#">121</a> , <a href="#">134</a> .
Penitential Psalms.	<a href="#">6</a> , <a href="#">32</a> , <a href="#">38</a> , <a href="#">51</a> , <a href="#">102</a> , <a href="#">130</a> , <a href="#">143</a> .
Preparation for Holy Communion.	<a href="#">23</a> , <a href="#">25</a> , <a href="#">26</a> , <a href="#">36</a> , <a href="#">41</a> , <a href="#">43</a> , <a href="#">63</a> , <a href="#">84</a> , <a href="#">85</a> , <a href="#">86</a> , <a href="#">122</a> , <a href="#">130</a> , <a href="#">133</a> , <a href="#">139</a> .
Thanksgiving after Holy Communion.	<a href="#">8</a> , <a href="#">15</a> , <a href="#">18</a> , <a href="#">19</a> , <a href="#">27</a> , <a href="#">29</a> , <a href="#">30</a> , <a href="#">34</a> , <a href="#">100</a> , <a href="#">103</a> , <a href="#">110</a> , <a href="#">118</a> , <a href="#">145</a> , <a href="#">150</a> .

(\*This table found at [http://bookofhours.org/psalms/tool\\_themes.htm](http://bookofhours.org/psalms/tool_themes.htm))

As you give Psalm reading a try this summer, let me know how it goes and what you learned from the Spirit. I believe that if you give it a try over a period of a few weeks, you will come away with new insights about studying the Bible as a spiritual practice. May God’s Spirit be your guide as you seek to know God better and better this summer.

With gratitude,  
  
Pastor Traci

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

We will meet Wednesday, July 3rd from 1:00-2:30 p.m. to knit and crochet shawls or lap robes. Please join us.

We will be happy to teach or refresh you on either knitting or crocheting.

Contact person is Mary Mueller at [mayway@comcast.net](mailto:mayway@comcast.net).



## NOTE FROM BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

To all who use the rooms, the A/C, the lights and the doors:

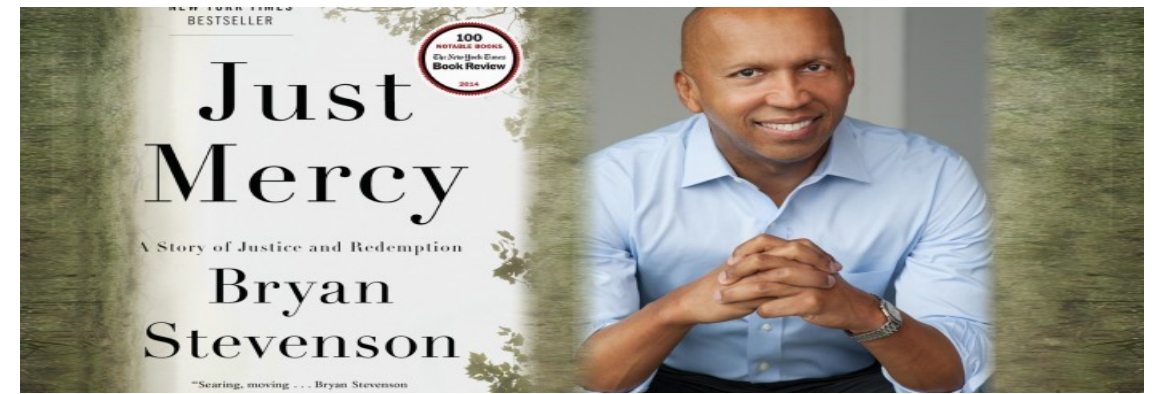
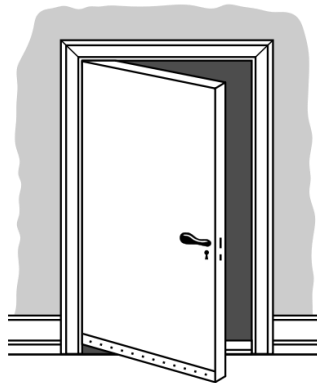
This must mean all of us!

If you turn on the A/C, please turn it off when you finish your gathering in that room .

If you turn on the lights, please make sure you turn off the lights.  
If you prop open a door, make sure the door is “unpropped” and the door is closed.

We are all responsible keeping our utility bills low and keeping our church safe.

### Building and Grounds



The Elmhurst Public Library has chosen the book *Just Mercy* as a community wide study for the summer. EPC is participating by hosting our own discussion of this remarkable book. Please come on July 24th at 7:00 p.m., in the Tallman room for a wide ranging discussion of this important book.

#### Book description:

#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • A powerful true story about the potential for mercy to redeem us, and a clarion call to fix our broken system of justice—from one of the most brilliant and influential lawyers of our time

“[Bryan Stevenson’s] dedication to fighting for justice and equality has inspired me and many others and made a lasting impact on our country.”—John Legend

SOON TO BE A MAJOR MOTION PICTURE STARRING MICHAEL B. JORDAN AND JAMIE FOXX • Named One of the Best Books of the Year by The New York Times • The Washington Post • The Boston Globe • The Seattle Times • Esquire • Time

Bryan Stevenson was a young lawyer when he founded the Equal Justice Initiative, a legal practice dedicated to defending those most desperate and in need: the poor, the wrongly condemned, and women and children trapped in the farthest reaches of our criminal justice system. One of his first cases was that of Walter McMillian, a young man who was sentenced to die for a notorious murder he insisted he didn’t commit. The case drew Bryan into a tangle of conspiracy, political machination, and legal brinksmanship—and transformed his understanding of mercy and justice forever.

*Just Mercy* is at once an unforgettable account of an idealistic, gifted young lawyer’s coming of age, a moving window into the lives of those he has defended, and an I inspiring argument for compassion in the pursuit of true justice.

The Elmhurst Public Library has many copies of the book available, and it's also available on Amazon or other online sellers. If you need help getting a copy of the book, please contact the front office.



## SESSION NOTES FROM THE JUNE MEETING

Session has been working, under the guidance of Karen Miller, to create a Message Map for EPC to assist us with our branding. In the coming weeks, Karen will be forming a task force to create a new tagline for our church. If interested in participating, please contact Karen Miller. This is a short term commitment and a chance to use those creative talents!

The EPC Education Fund has undergone a reorganization. Jim Davidovich will be the Chair; other participating members include Jim Rundle, Cheryl Kopecky, and Kathy Thompson. If you have a Senior in high school or a student currently in college, see Jim Davidovich regarding educational loan details and applications.

You may notice small improvements happening around EPC like painted rooms, new baseboard, and flooring changes. Buildings and Grounds is working with Pastor Traci to brighten our spaces, update our nursery and youth rooms, and create a welcoming space (new signs).

EPC Session and Trustees will be participating in a Healthy Congregations, Healthy Pastors meeting August 26th. This presentation will involve financial planning.

Pastor Traci has been hard at work completing our survey for Earth Care Congregations. If you are passionate about the environment and doing what we can to protect our Earth, contact Pastor Traci for a copy of the survey and share any ideas or thoughts about making EPC a greener church.

Session has decided, with the success of our Immigration Forum, to increase our community involvement by hosting a series of 4 speaker forums in 2020, one each quarter on different social justice topics. If you have ideas or this is something you feel passionate about, contact Pastor Traci.

Session will be hosting a Leadership Breakfast September 15th, 9-10 am. This is a chance for all the EPC Committees to meet and discuss goals, objectives, plans, etc. If you've been interested in what a committee does and want to find out more, you are invited to join the breakfast and see what it's all about! Watch for coming details!

Mark November 4th on your calendar! EPC is hosting Grace Cafe for the 8th time! This is always a fulfilling experience, sharing in community with others. Please consider volunteering as serving dinner to 80 people requires many hands!

Liz Johnson, Clerk of Session

**THURSDAY, July 4TH** the church office is closed for the Holiday.

**DEACONS** will meet on Tuesday, August 6th from 7-8:30 p.m. in the Tallman Room. Discuss upcoming EPC picnic.

### **R.O.M.E.O. Group (Retired Old Men Eating Out)**

Will meet on Wednesday, June 26th at Hi-View Restaurant in Villa Park. Time: 1:00 P.M. Contact: Doug Hall at (630) 279-8739.

**MONDAY AFTERNOON WOMEN'S SPIRITUALITY GROUP STUDY** is taking a break for summer. They will resume in September. The contact for the group is Muriel Gifford.

**EPC MOVIE NIGHTS** will resume in September. Contact Susan Leslie [kcleslie206@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kcleslie206@sbcglobal.net) to be added to the member list for EPC Movie Night for the fall.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

Would you like to become a new member of Elmhurst Presbyterian Church? You are free to connect with EPC instantly through Facebook, Instagram and [www.elmhurstchurch.org](http://www.elmhurstchurch.org). (Search "Elmhurst Church" in your social media browser). You can also contact Renee Gough at [renataskitchen@gmail.com](mailto:renataskitchen@gmail.com) because she is your membership gal and loves questions.