

# Eastwood Epistle

January 21, 2024 Volume 45 Number 3  
Available on-line at [www.eastwoodchurchofchrist.org](http://www.eastwoodchurchofchrist.org)

**Recycle** - Remember to save your aluminum cans and other aluminum for recycling. You may bring them in the foyer or toss your bag into the fenced compound to the trailer. If you crush the cans, we can get more in the trailer. We usually get several hundred dollars.

Family Storytime is BACK!  
January 27 (Saturday) 9:30-11:00  
Fellowship Hall  
Theme: Winter & Snow



\*\*\*\*\*  
Dove Care group will meet on February 4.  
Please let Iretha or Teri know what you will bring.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Men to Serve**  
**Sunday, January 21**  
**Song Leader:**  
**Junie Chavez**

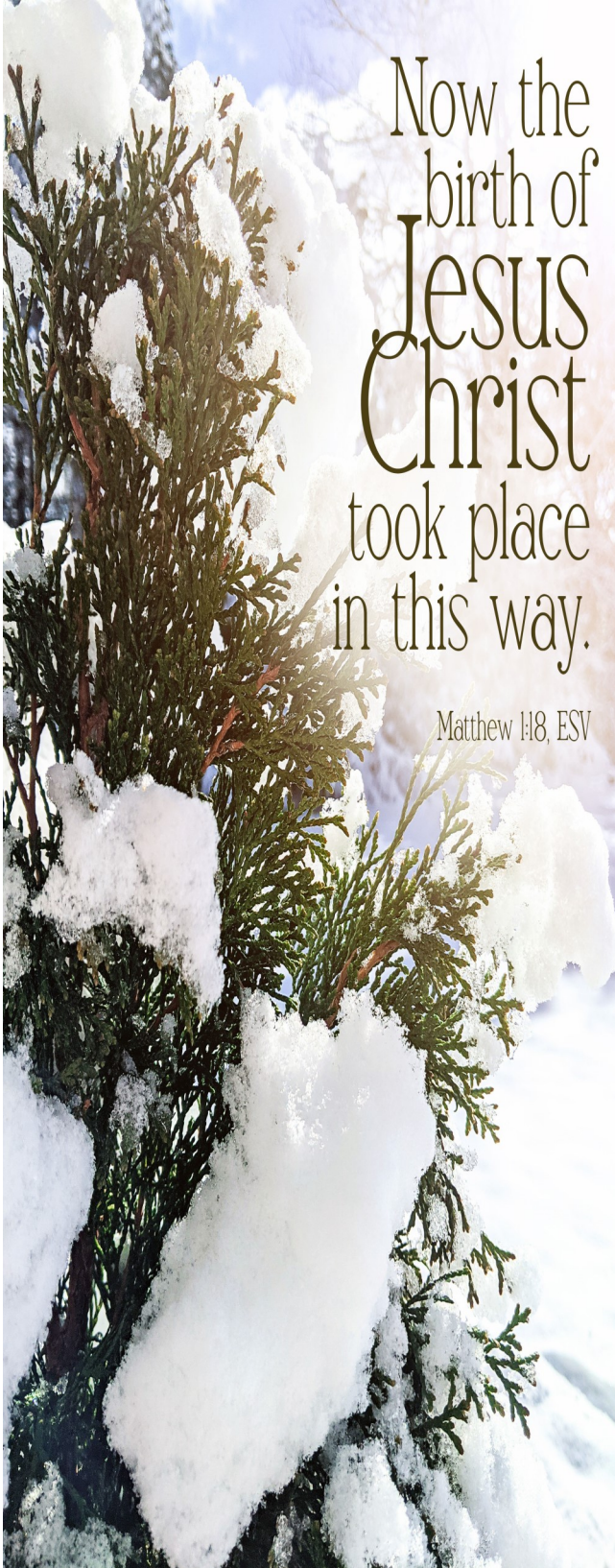
**Opening Prayer:**  
**Flaviano Enriquez Spanish**  
**Jimmy Moore English**

**Lord's Supper/Contribution:**  
**Samuel Hooper**

**Scripture Reading:**  
**Bob Pechanec**

Now the  
birth of  
**JESUS  
CHRIST**  
took place  
in this way.

Matthew 1:18, ESV



# Together

The reader should understand that you are important. You are important to your family, important to your friends, important to the church, important to me, but most of all you are important to God. God sent his son Jesus and Jesus came because you are important and loved by the Godhead.

The question is what is important to you? You may make a list even rank them and claim these are the important things in my life. But what is the reality? If you tell your spouse or child that they are important to you, but you hardly spend time with them or talk to them, isn't that the real truth?

If your child was in college declaring it was important for her to get an education, but he was failing every class, would you ask if partying or learning was the essential. The actions of an individual reveal the truth about what is of first importance.

God revealed by sending Jesus, Jesus revealed by coming that YOU are very important to God. How do you respond?

Perhaps, you have seen a parent and child eating together. One or even both are on a digital device. The child is asked, did you have a good time with your \_\_\_? The child says Yes. What did you talk about?

God desires that you worship him, but to just mindlessly repeat ritual is not it. God wants you to give as you have been prospered. But, if you gave double or even triple, thinking you could buy you way. . . .

Seek first the Kingdom of God does not mean neglect the other responsibilities you have. It means bring those important items into your relationship with God. At work, let your integrity be known. In the family, bring them into the love of God. With friends, stand for holiness.

When Jesus is first in life, he is first in all that you do.

The next time you go out, take Jesus with you: to the grocery, mall, gym, shop, work. You are important to God, let God be in your life in all that you do, even at home.

*Charles M. Clodfelter*

Did you speak to our Guests on Sunday? Look for them.  
[www.eastwoodchurchofchrist.org](http://www.eastwoodchurchofchrist.org)

## Schedule Services

### Sunday

Bible Class - 9:00 A.M.  
Morning Worship - 10:00 A.M.  
Children's Class 9:00A.M.

### Wednesday

Bible study 7:00pm  
**No Children's hour  
after communion**

Our Ladies Tuesday Class 10am  
Ladies Bible Class will begin  
again on Jan 9. We will be  
studying the Psalms. See  
Teri Dove about getting a book.  
Call 915-637-0351 or  
915-822-2419



## Happy Birthday

Jan 4, Sharon Armendariz,  
Jan 5, James Conyers  
Jan 5, Carlos Alvarado  
Jan 12, Julyet Carrillo  
Jan 15, Lillie Wayne  
Jan 19, Julie Conyers  
Jan 22, Johnnie Roberson  
Jan 24, Samuel Hooper  
Jan 28, Mike Fernandez



## Happy Anniversary

Jan. 8, Alberto & Cristina Morales  
Jan 14, Richard & Denis Boles  
Jan 26, Israel & Maria Alvarado



Be completely  
Humble and  
Gentle, be patient,  
Bearing with one  
Another in love. Ep 4:2



[www.facebook.com/groups/ecocmembers/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/ecocmembers/)

## Sunday Morning Sermon

Speaker - Charles Clodfelter  
Sermon: Hard Things about Being a  
Christian

Scripture: 1 Pet 4:17-18

## PRIORITIES

Giving our offering to God is important to the Lord. It should be a priority and not an afterthought. We are to be motivated by our love and gratitude toward God.

When asked about priorities, most people will say that they have them. They may actually have some, but they are not written down or solidified in some way, as a result they tend to shift.

Some claim to be devoted to Jesus, but they never take on any responsibility in His family. They are not “bad,” they just don’t have their priorities straight. It is necessary to be intentional, deliberate and committed about what is first and most important in life.

Charities are asking for donations with TV ads. The suggested amount often ends in a 9 as in \$19 a month. The statement, “your one dollar will mean so much to” the cause/child/dog/et cetera. The effort is to make us feel that it is not too much, just send a little bit. They also know that the holiday season and the end of the tax year motivates many to be generous. Seeking to

touch our emotion and tax saving senses.

Recently our offering was greater than usual because a family had missed due to sickness and made up the time they were not here. Definitely not a part of the, we don’t have to give if we don’t attend, thinking.

Another faulty priority is, when we have extra expenses, offerings will not be given. This effectively is making God pay for vacations, birthdays, Christmas and long weekends.

How about, “oops, I forgot. O, well. No matter.”

There is also, “They won’t miss my offering.” That is not the point, God will see the priority.

Back in 1970 there was a couple that spent \$2,000 to have surgery on their 17 year old dog. In today’s dollar that amounts to \$15,827. They talked about it too and it was obvious the dog was a priority and the cost really didn’t matter to them.

Just make sure your priorities are right is all things.

Charles M Clodfelter

### A year that whispers Jesus

For author Nancy Tichy, a small holiday gift once sparked big-picture thoughts about Christian living. One December she received a kitchen towel with the message “I want a Christmas that whispers JESUS.” That prompted thoughts of what it’s like to have an entire year that whispers Jesus.

For starters, that involves daily quiet time, devotion and prayer. “Sometimes I wake with the thought of a person on my mind,” writes Tichy. “I’m quiet with this impression, interceding for the family member or friend until it has lifted. Could this be a whisper from our Savior?”

Many other daily occurrences are “worthy of [Jesus’] whispered response of love,” Tichy points out. That’s true whether we’re distracted by tasks and troubling thoughts or buoyed by encounters with contentment and joy. “For me,” she writes, “whispering is part of intimacy, and that is what I want to make a hallmark of the coming year. I want closeness with our Savior that enables me to hear from him, even when he whispers.”

Taken from ChurchArtPro



Please join us to meet, greet, and honor Mr. & Mrs. Tyler Sander. Lunch will be provided in the fellowship hall after worship service on Jan 28. A money tree will be available

[https://www.amazon.com/wedding/registry/R8U21GEIX4M1?ref=wr\\_search\\_page\\_result\\_6](https://www.amazon.com/wedding/registry/R8U21GEIX4M1?ref=wr_search_page_result_6)

Christianity affirms that at the heart of reality is a Heart, a loving Father who works through history for the salvation of his children. Man cannot save himself, for man is not the measure of all things and humanity is not God. Bound by the chains of his own sin and finiteness, man needs a Savior.—Martin Luther King Jr.



Praise God for his sure presence during the joys and challenges the new year brings!

**Elders**

Mike Dove - (915) 822-2419  
Abel Hernandez - (915) 449-1546  
Ray Rivera - (915) 592-8930

**Deacons**

Enrique Carrillo, Samuel Hooper, Alberto Morales,  
Venson Oliver, Lorenzo Porras, Bob Walker,

**Minister**

Charles Clodfelter - (915) 433-4227

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# In Our Prayers

**OUR FAMILY**

Anay Carrillo - Prayers of healing . She had a stroke and is recovering at home slowly. She having trouble with a leg but she is getting therapy at home. Your welcome to stop by her home.

Alberto Morales - Prayers. Sugar level is high causing dizziness & headaches. Need to go to otolaryngologist and cardiologist.

Robert Muñoz Jr - (Alberto & Cristina Morales grandson ) Thank you for prayers, need prayers for successful legal Issues....

Lulu Ochoa - Thank you for Prayers. Sending greetings to everyone. Will be on chemo therapy for a long time. She has some cancer pain lately. God has been so good to her for cancer treatment.

Robert Ochoa - Robert has not been feeling well these past couple of months. Needing prayers.

Venson Oliver - Keep Venson in your prayers for his Deployment. Send cards to SFC Oliver, Venson, B Co, 47<sup>th</sup> BSB 2-1 AD, Fos DPTA Konotop, Apo, AE 09754...

Bob Walker - Thank you for prayers. Thank you for cards. Waiting for results on radiation, chemo tests if needing more radiation.....

**SHUT-INS**

Mike Baron - Is on dialysis, prayers

Jill Breitinger - In home care with dementia, prayers

Teresa Dalke - Prayers for stronger immune system

Christine Hooper - home and recuperating

**Our EXTENDED FAMILY**

Hayden Cooper (Chuck Buckley's friend grandson) Jr High student Hayden has Brain cancer, Please keep him in your prayers.

Ruby - (Eneida de la Cruz sister in law) Prayers. Ruby's mom is home with hospice.

Maria Montanez - (ESL student) Prayers. Swift healing from cancer procedure..

Ofelia Ochoa - ( Lulu Ochoa's sister in law) Ofelia had a stroke Jan 13 and they are running test. Prayers needed.

River Russell - Keep him in your Prayers (Ida Russell's son) for his deployment ....

Maria Salazar - (Our Community Neighbor) Maria is asking for prayers, She has been diagnosed with cancer..

Fred Sierra—Prayers for good results from MRI.....

Javier Trevino( Rosa Trevino's brother)— prayers, recovering from cancer removal in liver. Prayers for swift healing...

Please remember in prayers the military & policeman in harms way. **Please call the office to update our prayer list. Names not updated 4 weeks will be deleted.**

## Our Records

**January 14,2024**

Morning Worship – 78

Wednesday - 14

Regular Offering: \$2573.00

**Year to Date**

**Week**

Baptisms - 0

Identification - 0

**Year to Date**

Year to Date - 2

Year to Date - 0

*Can Contribute on-line at [www.eastwoodchurchofchrist.org](http://www.eastwoodchurchofchrist.org)*

TIME VALUE

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