# Eastwood Epistle

July 6, 2025 Volume 45 Number 27
Available on-line at www.eastwoodcnarchojchrist.org

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Looking for employment? Try jobs2careers.com

<u>Ladies Bible Class</u> will take a summer break.

Class will resume September 2,

Teri will teach "Fruit of the Spirit."

Please write your offering check payable to **Church of Christ in Eastwood** 

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VBS 2025-The life of Joseph August 9, 8:30-3pm, Registration (ages 3-6,7-9 & 10-12) call Mike Dove 915-637-2626, Teri Dove 915-637-0341, Registration need 3 or 4 volunteers, 3 Teachers, one for each group, 3 Group leaders, 2 or 3 helpers for bathroom runs,4 kitchen help, prepare & serve lunch, clean up. 3 for crafts & games. Several for clean up and take down.

# **CONGREGATION MEETING**

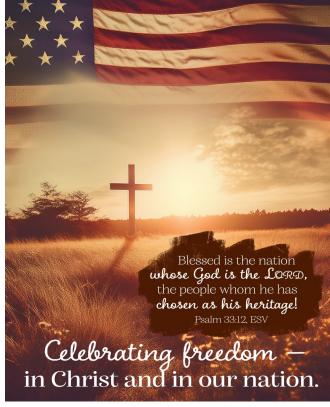
A congregational meeting for all members is scheduled for **August 10**, following the morning worship and lunch in the fellowship hall. Please plan to attend.

Men to Serve Sunday, July 6 Song Leader: Junie Chavez

Opening Prayer:
Martin Palomequez Spanish
Terence Wade English

Lord's Supper/Contribution: Carlos Garcia

> Scripture Reading: Bob Walker



Happy Independence week. Office will be closed July 4 to observe this day.



Care Group, July 13, Hot dogs provided. Need buns, mustard, ketchup, relish, chili beans, cheese, onions, fruit, veggies, chips, dessert. Please let Teri or Iretha know what you will bring. Everyone invited. Teri Dove 915-637-0341

## ABEL'S RETIREMENT PARTY

July12, 2025, from 4:30 to 8:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Dinner provided. Please RSVP to Sharlette. No gifts, please. Join us in celebrating Abel's second retirement. He served 24 years in the Army and 17 years at Clint ISD. Abel began working in 1975 at age 14 for a grand total of 50 years!



# Together

July the fourth marks the day that the USA has set aside in celebration for the birth of our nation. While most people would love the country of their origin and think it to be the best, many would like to live here. Many of us believe that America is the best country to have ever existed in this world. Not that it is perfect, but better than others.

There is another kingdom that is perfect, but it is a spiritual kingdom, the kingdom of Jesus Christ. There is no limit on the number of the population, it cannot be filled up. There is a restriction on citizenship. One cannot becomes a citizen by simply saying I am a citizen. It is bestowed when we follow the rules of King Jesus to become a citizen and we maintain that status by living by the rules of the kingdom.

Our citizenship in the Kingdom of Jesus is so much more important than our citizenship in any earthly kingdom. So when you think how happy you are to be in this country, also think of the blessing you have to be in the Kingdom of Christ. When you recognize that you have responsibilities to the earthly nation you will also see the obligations you have to the Kingdom of Christ.

Enjoy your celebration and if you get the day off, enjoy that also, but most of all let us remember the body of Jesus, the kingdom, the church of Christ. We have the blessing to be a part of two wonderful kingdoms, but one of them is perfect. The people are not, but the King and his will are perfect. Let us all strive to be better citizens in both.

Some will have small family activities, some will travel to meet with others or to visit special sites, a few will attend large group parties where many guests are unknown to them. Many will over indulge with food and with alcohol. You may encounter a situation where there is "road rage." You may find yourself in an argument with a friend. There may be someone who is drunk and behaves in an unruly manner.

Remember your citizenship and the words of the apostle Paul in Colossians 3:17.

"And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."

Charles M. Clodfelter

# **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
Children's hour
after communion

Our Ladies Tuesday Class 10am Ladies Bible Class. Rm #63. LBC will have a summer break. Back **Sept 2** Ladies are cordially invited to join us for a study in scripture, coffee, conversation. More info call Teri Dove Call 915-637-0351



CPS School supply drive, new uniforms, backpacks, loose leaf paper, spiral notebooks, composition books, pens, pencils, markers, colored pencils, crayons, dry erase markers, erasers, highlighters, pencil cases, pencil sharpeners, binders, pocket folders, glue, rulers, scissors, sanitizing wipes, tissue, gift cards to Walmart or Target. Drop off at church office, box in foyer or 501 Hawkins. For Amber Hansen 915-201-7974

# **Happy Birthday**

July 2, Mike Dove

July 2, Brandon Ripley

July 4. Mike Baron

July 4, Julio Alcala

July 11, Chuck Buckley

July 18, Alice Castillo

July 18, Ron Lindsey

July 23, Yolanda Garcia, July 23, Ronald Gaenzle,

July 24, Cristina Morales, July 28, Romelia Ramon



# **Happy Anniversary!**

July 4, Mr. & Mrs. Ron Lindsey July 7, Bob & Irma Pechanec July 8, Samuel & Christine Hooper July 13, David & Fannie Shearod





www.facebook.com/groups/ecocmembers/

**Sunday Morning Sermon Speaker - Charles Clodfelter** 

**Sermon: History: Refresh Your Memory** 

Scripture: 2 Peter 1:10-15

# **Keepers of the Aquarium?**

The news reports many evil and terrible things mankind does to each other. Our hearts are touched. However, it is not enough to feel sorry for our fellow humans. Empathy by itself does not feed the hungry or heal the sick. Compassion that changes lives stems from more than our commonality with those who are hurting.

Jesus came "to seek and to save the lost" (Luke 19:10) as the good shepherd who searches for his lost sheep (Luke 15:4). In this he expressed the heart of his Father, who declared through the prophet: "I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak" (Ezekiel 34:16).

The more we love Jesus, the more we will love others the way he loves us. And the more we will want them to experience the grace that gives our lives purpose and hope. By contrast, a lack of intimacy with Jesus will inevitably lead to a lack of evangelism in the church.

Eighty percent of Christians do not consistently witness for Christ; 95 percent have never won someone to Jesus. As Paul Harvey says, "We've strayed from being fishers of men to being keepers of the aquarium.

When we are closest to him, we most motivated to share him with others. This is like any other relationship: when you passionately love someone, you passionately want others to know about them. When you don't, you don't.

So, I am asking the Lord today to help me love him so much that I will pay any price to help hurting people and lead them to love him as well. And I am asking you to pray the same for yourself. If two billion Christians, or even two dozen of us, responded to broken lives with such practical and evangelistic compassion, could our world remain the same?

The Anglican priest and missionary Henry Martyn

"The spirit of Christ is the spirit of missions. The nearer we get to him, the more intensely missionary

How "intensely missionary" will you become today?



#### Fire transforming us for the good

For many people, relaxing by a campfire is a favorite summer activity. Nestling into the surrounding darkness while gazing into dancing flames, we sense God's love and let the day's chaos go. In contrast, Exodus 24:17 describes, "Now the appearance of the glory of God was like a devouring fire." Pastor Steve Garnaas-Holmes offers another take, writing about God using flames to change us. (The full poem is here: unfoldinglight.net/2025/02/24/fire) God, your presence is like a consuming fire not destructive, but transformative.

not the fire of anger but the flame of love,

the fire of glassblowers and bakers

the grace to make us more beautiful, strong and useful. Your glory is no tame campfire where we sit and make s'mores. It burns out of our control. The furnace of your love roars about our hearts, remaking us Teach us to be unafraid. ...

When you bask in firelight glow — and maybe eat some s'mores! — ponder how God is transforming you with love, and for the sake of love.

By churchartt.com

## Perspectives on patriotism-by churchart.com

While pondering differences between patriotism and nationalism, Ryan Hamm looks to Jesus' example in Luke 19:41-44. "Jesus, it seems, loved his people, his city, his nation — so much so that he cried over it," he writes in Christianity Today. "He didn't despise his country or wish ill upon it — instead, he wanted nothing but the best for it, and it grieved him to see how his people had rejected his teachings."

This example of "patriotism perfected" can serve as a guide for modern-day Christians, according to Hamm. "It's an example that's both pragmatic and romantic, shot through with justice, truth and love. It's not a nationalistic patriotism — it's a love for nation that doesn't pit it against other nations. Instead, it's a recognition of love followed by a mournful recognition of shortcomings."

Put another way, God doesn't love America more than any other nation. And he doesn't want us to worship our nation alongside him, because that is idolatry. Instead, we are to love and proclaim God above any earthly realm.



#### **Elders**

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

#### **Deacons**

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

#### Minister

Charles Clodfelter - (915) 433-4227

#### **Church of Christ in Eastwood**

Office - (915) 593-2772 Español - (915) 593-2880 (Monday - Friday, 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.) Fax - (915) 593-2775

E-mail: coceastwood@gmail.com Website: www.eastwoodchurchofchrist.org

# Our Records

#### June, 29 2025

Morning Worship - 63 Wednesday - 15

Regular Offering: \$3903.19

#### Year to Date

#### Week

#### Year to Date

Baptisms - 1 Identification - 0 Year to Date - 4

Year to Date - 0

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# **In Our Prayers**

#### **OUR FAMILY**

Mike Breitinger -: Mike will be a resident of Rosedale Adult Foster Home, 3111 Edgerock Dr. El paso TX, 79935. He across from his wife Jill which he enjoys the ease of visiting her. Please keep him and Jill in your prayer.. <u>Leola Deal</u>– Prayers. For 2 tumors to diminish with medication...

Alberto Morales - Prayers. Sugar level is high causing dizziness & headaches, chest pressure & heel spur pain....

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

<u>Irene Rice</u> Thank you for Prayers. Doing well now.

Lorettia Strickland - Will have cataract surgery.....

Gracie Wade-deployed to Saint Lois, MS for 30 days, prayers for travels...

### **SHUT-INS:**

Mike Baron - He is on dialysis and back home from hospital .prayers. Jill Breitinger - In home care with dementia, prayers. Send cards to 3116 Edgerock, El Paso, TX 79935

Rose Cobb - Leg Rehab Thank you for prayers. Her therapy has helped and feeling better. Appreciates calls, cards, and visits. Please call before visit. 3630 Evelyn Ave., El Paso, Tx 79904, 928-715-9195. Love to all Christine Hooper - home and recuperating

<u>Lulu Ochoa</u> - Thank you for prayers. Sending greetings to everyone. Prayers needed. Will be on chemo therapy for a long time. God has been so good to her for cancer treatment.....

Ray Rivera— Thank you for Prayers. He is much better able to get around.

#### **Our Extended Family**

Audry Acquisto-loves the bulletin. Sends her love and appreciates everyone. Bob & Gina Walker, Teresa's family, Betty Lewis, Jan Myers. Amanda Buckley-(Chuck Buckley daughter) Prayers to find job quickly. Also has personal problem.

<u>Tanya Dawkins</u>-Prayers recovery from shoulder surgery back pain.... Toribio de la Cruz - (Eneida's dad) prayers for swift healing from broken

Norma Hernandez (Carol Baker neighbor's daughter) Norma is continuing to receive treatment, returning to MD Anderson every 3 weeks. Progress is slow. Please continue to keep Norma and her family in your prayers... Beni Krisko- (Ina Penala's daughter) Is being deployed to Jordan for 6 mths. Starting Nov. 2024. Pray for safety.....

<u>Jesus Licon</u> - (Cristina Morales's cousin) prayers recovering from 2 strokes, he is receiving therapy at home..

Linda Licón (Cristina Morales's sister in law) Thank you for prayers she is recuperating well at home from her aneurysm operation.

Charlene Looney (COC Truth or Consequences member) - Her sister Nancy Randlett asking for prayers for Charlene. Charlene is in Casa del Sol rehab, Las Cruces, #207. Prayers are needed.....

Sibilia Mendez-(Rosa Trevino niece) Prayers for help with job search & housing for her and kids..

Alexas Myre ( Jan Myre daughter in law) Has aggressive breast cancer that was caught early. Please pray for her.....

Celia Perez - (COC Montana member) Prayers needed. She was moved to Pebble Creek Nursing Center Room #108. Thank you for prayers her leg pain has decreased, more active & eating better....

Maria Gutierrez- (Rivera/Luna COC) prayers, in Pebble Creek Nursing Center room, she has less pain #414....

Luna Reyes De Ramos -. Sharon Swanson for health to schedule spine sur-

Keith Russell- Prayers. Keith has been diagnosed with cancer....

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

Joseph Shepherd—While I'm still in the process of moving in Cumming, GA. I attend Piligrim Rd Church of Christ..

Rosa Trevino - (Cristina Morales friend) Prayers for stomach & leg pain... Rocky Whiteman minister (Rose Cobb friend in Brian TX) Prayers for trip to Houston MD Anderson for biopsy on hip tumors..

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