

NOVEMBER 2020



# Eastern Heights Lutheran Church & Open Arms Preschool and Childcare

616 Ruth St. N, St. Paul, MN  
651-735-4202 • [www.ehlc.org](http://www.ehlc.org) • [office@ehlc.org](mailto:office@ehlc.org)

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## Day of Thanksgiving, Prayer, and Resolve Sunday, November 22

**COME**

In-person, socially distant worship at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. (Drive-Thru Holy Communion available in the parking lot from 9:30 to 10:00 a.m.)

**WATCH**

Live-streamed on YouTube through [ehlc.org](http://ehlc.org) (and recorded for later viewing)

**LISTEN**

TurboBridge telephone conference call at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m.

**READ**

Receive a printed copy of this service in the mail (call the church office to get on the list)

- + Let us THANK and PRAISE our amazing God for His gifts that are new every morning.
- + Let us PRAY for all who are sick, grieving the loss of loved ones, worried about the future.
- + Let us RESOLVE to continue our God-given mission to this east metro community by connecting more precious people to the healing peace and hope that Jesus Christ offers.
- + A surprise! During the service we will have a “2021 REVEAL” announcement.

# 2020: The Home Stretch

This has been an *unusual* year.

As we try to make sense of our world and our lives in 2020, one of God's prophets, Micah, provides clarity. 2,700 years ago, things were not so different from how they are today.

We are entering that pre-Christmas season we call "advent." From November 29 to December 24, our Sunday messages will be based on the book of Micah from the Old Testament of the Bible.

Micah's name means "who is like God (in Hebrew, *Yahweh, the LORD*)?" This forms a bookend with the confession at the end of his book, "who is a God like you?" (Micah 7:18) By affirming God's uniqueness, Micah produced some of the most well-known texts within Israel's prophetic writings: Zion's elevation as the highest of all mountains (Micah 4:1-5), Bethlehem's role in the Messiah's birth (Micah 5:2), and the divine plan for all people to exhibit justice, kindness, and humility (Micah 6:8).

Our Advent/Christmas emphasis on Micah is titled "Fierce Judgment: Final Grace." The goal? That we—just like the prophet—will marvel at God's uniqueness and extravagant mercy in Jesus. Here is our sermon lineup:

**November 29:** God Arrives—You Are NOT Alone (Micah 1:1-5)

**December 6:** Final Grace—Defeating the Curse FOREVER! (Micah 4:1-5)

**December 13:** Walking the LOW Road (Micah 6:1-8)

**December 20:** HOPE Is Born (Micah 7:18-20)

**Christmas Eve:** O Little Town of Bethlehem (Micah 5:2-4)

Special thanks goes out to my seminary classmate and friend Rev. Dr. Reed Lessing, who wrote this series and graciously shares it with us.

*Pastor Steve Benson*

## In-Person Worship Updates

We have been able to come back and worship together because we put a plan into place to meet the CDC guidelines. Below are a couple of reminders as well as places we can still use your help.

- 1) Please use hand sanitizer when entering the building
- 2) Please make sure to sit on cushions in the pews or where the usher directs
- 3) Continue to maintain social distancing when near people.
- 4) We need people who are willing to help sanitize after the services, usually takes 10 minutes.
- 5) Our new communion process can also use your talents.
- 6) If you like to greet people your talents can be used checking people in or seating them. Contact the office to volunteer to help.

I would like to thank you all for keeping your masks on while in the building as well, following the one-way directions as well as adapting to the new communion process. Our Eastern Heights Lutheran Church COVID Preparedness Plan is available at [www.ehlc.org](http://www.ehlc.org) or the church office.

## TurboBridge

### *Listen to the Sunday worship service on your phone*

You can use your telephone and dial in to hear and follow along with our worship services. Here's how:

1. Dial **612-808-6338**
2. When connected, enter in **990-6073-#**
3. You may hear music until the service begins.
4. When done, simply hang up.

**Sunday services can be heard at 8:30 AND 10:30 a.m. every Sunday.**

## Updates from Pastor Chuck

Recently, you may have seen my name on the prayer list. Let me explain—first, some background. Karen and I had significant exterior landscape work done on our home. We had done pretty much nothing for about seven years. And the work was overdue when we moved here about ten years ago.

The contractor did excellent work. I put in significant effort into related exterior work to finish it off before the weather turned. All very well and good, we are pleased with the results.

At the end of this effort, our life became like a country song where stuff, like trucks and dogs, die. Only in our case, it was Karen's car and our refrigerator that died.

For me, the result was just plain working too physically hard for too long, along with the car and refrigerator's immediate demands. All stress, but not bad, mostly chosen work and stuff that I am good at and enjoy—just too much of it.

The result was atrial heart flutter. The next day a twenty-four-hour heart monitor showed significant improvement. My own daily self-check indicates the flutter may be entirely resolved.

The response from my two daughters and older brother to the heart news was the same: “Oh, I have had that! You need to watch your electrolytes and get a bit more rest.” Good advice.

I am due to visit my personal physician. I should have seen him by now, but his life has been turned upside down. His elementary-school-age daughter was diagnosed with Covid, so he is in quarantine. We have a scheduled phone call.

Please pray for our continued health and pace of life. Please pray for my doctor—Dr. Greg, and his family.

To happily end this country song, Karen has a new car, and I repaired the refrigerator.

And remember Romans 8:18: “For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to (and in and through) us.” Yes, we suffer. But we can use our experience of suffering to display the love of Christ. We do this by coming alongside our neighbor in their suffering to share hope in Christ, who suffered, died, and rose for us all.

Jesus is our present and eternal hope in our own personal country songs, now and forever. Amen.

*Rev. Chuck*



## Join Us for Christmas Worship...

***RESERVATIONS REQUIRED!***

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**Dec. 24—1, 4, 7, or 11 p.m. / Dec. 25—8:30 or 10:30 a.m.**

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- Go to [ehlc.org](http://ehlc.org) and click on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day
- Fill out the form and click submit
- Receive a confirmation email

You can also call the office (651-735-4202 ext. 0) and Tim will assist you in making your reservation.

Please make your reservation as soon as possible so we can safely accommodate all worshippers. *(MN Guidelines indicate maximum capacity of worship services to be 50% of capacity, 250 people or seating with social distancing, whichever is less.)*

We will continue to livestream services on YouTube, run TurboBridge, and mail worship materials as requested.

If you have any questions, please talk to Tim Germain.

# Updates from DCE Bradley

I hope and pray you are well! We have had several youth events with great turnouts, and we are looking forward to this next event where we get to serve God, learn about Him, and play some amazing, socially distanced, games! We have also reached out to some other churches to invite their youth as well!

Are you a "Young Adult"? Join us on Zoom for some fellowship as we look at how we can apply the Bible to our daily lives. We will talk about what we are currently facing and discuss how we can help each other and how Jesus helps us. DCE Bradley Asmus will be leading the Bible Study from 8-9pm on Tuesday nights starting November 17th! I hope to see you Zooming Tuesday Nights! Even though we have started this Bible Study, you are welcome any time! No need to worry if you missed a week, we still want you with us!

**Meeting ID: 998 5881 6519**

**Meeting Password: 55119**

Confirmation nights have started up again, but for November and December we are just doing it via Zoom! They will be Wednesday Nights, starting November 18th from 7:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.. This will be an easier way to get everyone back into the flow of Confirmation and help answer questions easier. So keep on completing your Bible Accounts and Catechism sections!

**Meeting ID: 928 8723 9614**

**Meeting Password: 55119**

Thanks again for all of your support and prayers for our youth and young adult ministries! If you would be interested in helping invest your time, prayers, knowledge, life experience, and share your own faith and Christian life (both successes and failures) with our amazing, smart, and caring youth, please reach out to me! I know several of you would be amazing mentors, teachers, and rocks for these youth. Please pray about it, and see what the Holy Spirit is calling you to do!

Blessings on your day, week, and the rest of this 2020 year! See you in December!

*DCE Bradley Asmus*

# Open Arms Child Development Center

## Do You Shop on Shutterfly?

Open Arms now has a Shutterfly Storefront! If you go to our store-front and place an order with Shutterfly, Open Arms will receive 8% of your order with no additional cost to you! The storefront does not work on mobile devices, so you will need to access it via a computer. Please check out our storefront when placing any Shutterfly orders: [openarms.shutterflystorefront.com](http://openarms.shutterflystorefront.com)

## Thank You to All of Our Prayer Sponsors!

Thank you to everyone who signed up to be a Prayer Sponsor. All of our children are sponsored in prayer this year and have received a gift of their very own Bible! A few reminders for our Sponsors: Please pray for your child. If you wish to send a card for their birthday or any holiday that is great but not necessary. Please DO NOT send money in the card. If you wish to send a treat, stickers are a great option. All communications need to come to the Open Arms office; please mark them *attention MaryEllen*.

## Important Dates for Open Arms

- Open Arms will be closed November 26-27
- Open Arms Norwex Fundraiser Dec 6-11
- Open Arms will be closed December 24-25

## Open Arms Norwex Fundraiser!

Do you wish cleaning could be easier, faster and use less chemicals? If you said yes to any of those questions we invite you to check out our Norwex Fundraiser December 6th to 11th. We will have a Facebook party set up where you can take part in demos, polls and learn more about Norwex products. We will also have a shopping link for those who are not on Facebook or who just wish to place an order. Orders placed during our fundraiser will not be guaranteed to arrive for Christmas. Please watch the church emails and the Church and Open Arms Facebook pages for more information and the links to the party.

*If you have any questions please Contact MaryEllen @*

*[maryellen@ehlc.org](mailto:maryellen@ehlc.org)*

**ANNOUNCEMENT:**  
**Regular Annual Meeting of the Congregation**  
**Eastern Heights Lutheran Church**

The Leadership Council of Eastern Heights Lutheran Church has scheduled the Regular Annual Meeting of the Congregation for Sunday, December 6, 2020—recorded with voting via email and/or mail-in ballots. The meeting was delayed from its normal April 15 through May 15 date due to the pandemic.

The agenda for the meeting is articulated in the EHLC Bylaws and will be as follows:

1. **Call to Order, Explanation of the Agenda, Roll Call** (Graeme Chaple)  
NOTE: per ARTICLE III of the Bylaws of the Congregation, the order of *business for Regular Congregation Meetings is established.*
2. **Devotion** (Pastor Steve Benson)
3. **Approval of the Minutes from the last Congregational Meeting**—January 26, 2020
4. **Report from the Treasurer** (Travis Pearson)
5. **Report from the Pastor** (Pastor Steve Benson)
6. **Reports from Board and Open Arms Early Childhood Ministry**
  - a. Elders
  - b. Education
  - c. Missions
  - d. Stewardship and Finance
  - e. Trustees
  - f. Open Arms Early Childhood Ministry to Children and Families
7. **Unfinished Business**
  - a. none
8. **New Business**
  - a. Election of Officers
9. **Closing Prayer and Adjournment**



# Slate of Nominees for Election

*(to take office December 31, 2020)*

Vice President of the Cong./Council: Craig Nelson

Treasurer of the Cong./Council: Travis Pearson

Member of the Cong./Council:

Member of the Cong./Council: MaryEllen Wunrow

Member, Board of Elders: Howie Arntzen

Member, Board of Elders:

Director, Board of Stewardship and Finance:

Director, Board of Missions: Michelle Urban

Director, Board of Education: Kathy Petschl

Director, Board of Trustees: Kevin Rosbacka

Financial Secretary (minimum of 4): Geneva Laatsch, Laura  
Burbach, Sue James, Dianne Chapeau, and Kathy Jacobson

Recording Secretary (minimum of 3): Cindy Germain

**Note:** You will receive an email and/or a letter providing information on how to participate in this meeting. All members of Eastern Heights Lutheran Church age 18 and older are eligible to vote.



## The Faithfully Departed 2020

Joan Miles – 01/09/20 – Funeral 01/15/20

Erma Kicker – 01/12/20 – Funeral 01/25/20

Gary Wunrow – 02/08/20 – Funeral 02/15/20

Esther Fuhr – 02/23/20 – Funeral 02/28/20

Walter Proft – 03/30/20

William Naatz – 04/12/20 – Funeral 09/14/20

Lois Raatz – 04/16/20

Tony Malm – 04/28/20 – Committal 05/04/20

Buzz Wilson – 05/2/20 – Memorial service 07/18/20

Judith Croft – 05/03/20

Marge Northup – 05/18/20 – Funeral 06/13/20

Richard Carlson – 05/19/20 – Committal/burial 6/23/20

Betty Schultz – 05/20/20 – Funeral 06/26/20

Marvis Stanchfield – 06/02/20

Carol Draz – 06/03/20

Donna Brueske – 06/21/20 – Funeral 06/29/20

Judy Reedy – 07/20/20 – Funeral 08/11/20

Wally Radtke – 08/28/20 – Funeral 09/03/20

*Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on. Yes, says the Spirit, they will rest from their labors. Revelation 14:13*

**Note:** We will send out announcements when deferred memorial services are scheduled.

## Caring Ministry update:

As you know, the coronavirus pandemic has prevented us from personally visiting those who are ill, disabled, elderly, etc. Most of our Senior Living Center Bible studies and worship services have been suspended since March. We are attempting to reach people through direct mailings (U.S. Postal Service), phone calls, etc.

### Get On The List

If you would like to receive a printed copy of our Sunday worship service, hymns, and sermon every week, simply contact the church office and request to get on the weekly mailing list. You can write to **Eastern Heights Lutheran Church, 616 Ruth Street N, Saint Paul, MN 55119** or call **651-735-4202**.

### Speaking Of Calling

We are trying to call our members and friends as frequently as possible. So far, our team of callers includes: Betty Oppenheimer, Rosanna Wunrow, Donna Ewalt, Pam Hoppe, Kim and Don Lewandowski, and our coordinator, Geneva Laatsch. Our team:

1. Calls one of our Eastern Heights family members;
2. Asks how they are doing (and then listens);
3. Asks if they need any help/assistance or prayer requests (to be forwarded on to our pastors);
4. Offers to say the Lord's Prayer (or another simple prayer) together, out loud, over the phone;
5. Then offers to call them again next week.

If you are willing to call one (or more) people each week, please join our team: email **office@ehlc.org** or call **651-735-4202**

## Special Project Updates

The Sanctuary has received new upgrades to improve the worship inside with the new screens and projectors. New lighting has also been installed to make the on-line services better. New cameras are also being researched which will enable the online services to be enhanced. As we continue to make technical improvements for in-person and on-line services we NEED your time and talent to help make it all work. Consider joining our tech team—please contact Al Arntzen, Emily Arntzen, or Tim Germain to find the right spot for you!

## Financial Update

From January 1 through October 31, 2020, there have been 167 families or individuals who gave to the operations, needs, and projects. We thank you for your continued sacrificial giving as you are able. We are currently running short \$1,567 per week for a total of \$67,360 behind what was budgeted to receive. Over the past months we also managed to reduce expenses to help offset the reduced income and continue to not access the line of credit. The roof loan balance is down to \$2,800. Although some have lost jobs and income, others are giving more and new people are joining our team in supporting the mission from God to the people of the east metro. We are truly grateful and appreciate your partnership of connecting people to God through faith in Jesus.

*DCE Tim Germain*

## How to support our mission of “Connecting people to God through faith in Jesus”

- 1) By mail—send your check to Eastern Heights Lutheran Church, 616 Ruth St. N, St. Paul, MN 55119
- 2) Electronically—[www.ehlc.org](http://www.ehlc.org)—If you have any questions please contact DCE Tim Germain at **651-735-4202 option 0** or send an email to [tim@ehlc.org](mailto:tim@ehlc.org)
- 3) In the offering boxes as you exit in-person worship on Sunday

## Use Your Gifts in Worship 🎵

Do you like to sing or play an instrument? Contact Josiah Bode ([josiah@ehlc.org](mailto:josiah@ehlc.org)) if you would like to help with the music here at Eastern Heights!

### Solos and Duets

For our special music, there will be an emphasis on vocal and instrumental solos and duets. All instruments (piano, organ, guitar, strings, woodwinds, brass...) are welcome! Contact Josiah to see when we can fit you in.

### Adult Choir

The adult choir has resumed rehearsals and is starting to work on some music for Advent and Christmas. More singers are always welcome! We will continue to utilize the space in the sanctuary to rehearse at a safe distance from each other. Please bring your mask, and be prepared for assigned seating. Contact Josiah or call the church office for more details.

### Praise Band

We have started to see a few more people play and sing with the praise team, but there's always room for more! This is a great opportunity for talented high school and college students as well as adults. Contact Josiah to set up an informal audition.

### Private Music Lessons 🎵

Want to lead hymns on the piano or join our handbell ensemble? Want to join the band but can't play an instrument (yet)? Contact our music director, Josiah Bode, at [josiah@ehlc.org](mailto:josiah@ehlc.org) for information about private lessons! Instruments that can be taught include piano, saxophone, clarinet, bass guitar, and handbells. A special discount is available for anyone planning to use their new skills in the context of our worship services! Lessons available online via Skype.

# Zoom Bible Study Opportunities

## Study the Book of Matthew

Every Thursday at 10:30 a.m. we are reading and discussing the book of Matthew. A few guiding questions are emailed about the two chapters we are reading for the week. We then meet over Zoom to discuss the questions and any other items that come up. If you are interested in joining our group, please contact Tim so he can add you to the communication list. Tim can be reached at **651-735-4202** or via email at [tim@ehlc.org](mailto:tim@ehlc.org).

## Thursday Night Zoomers—7 to 8 pm

Join Pastor Steve as we complete our Thru the Bible overview on November 19. On Thursday, December 3, we will begin a study of Micah. (*Note: No Zoom on Nov. 26, Dec. 24, or Dec. 31*). Email [office@ehlc.org](mailto:office@ehlc.org) to receive the link.

## Saturday Morning Women's – 9AM

Email [michelle@ehlc.org](mailto:michelle@ehlc.org) to receive the link.

## Tuesday Young Adults – 8PM

Email [Bradley@ehlc.org](mailto:Bradley@ehlc.org) to receive the link

## Hope for the Journey Home

We support HOPE FOR THE JOURNEY HOME shelter. The shelter is in the process of opening 1 to 2 facilities. Things will be different, but you can still volunteer. You can also drop off needed items at Eastern Heights: condiment packages, individual packaged snacks (for adults and children), individual oatmeal, paper towels, paper plates, Clorox wipes, hand sanitizer, hand soap, and sposable masks.

For any questions about volunteering, donations or assisting with meal preparation please contact Kim Lewandowski. Thank you!

# Options for Women

Options for Women East is a pregnancy medical clinic in Saint Paul. To help their prenatal patients, they are in need of donations of gloves, masks, hand sanitizer, and antibacterial wipes. Please email Jennifer Meyer at [edjm@optionsforwomeneast.com](mailto:edjm@optionsforwomeneast.com) for more information.

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## WE WANT TO HELP

*If you or someone you know is sick, has lost a loved one, or has any prayer need, let us know: [office@ehlc.org](mailto:office@ehlc.org) or call 651-735-4202*

**Pastor Chuck Fenton**

[chuck@ehlc.org](mailto:chuck@ehlc.org)

651-735-4202

**Pastor Steve Benson**

[steve@ehlc.org](mailto:steve@ehlc.org)

651-734-3787

**DCE Bradley Asmus**

[bradley@ehlc.org](mailto:bradley@ehlc.org)

651-735-4202

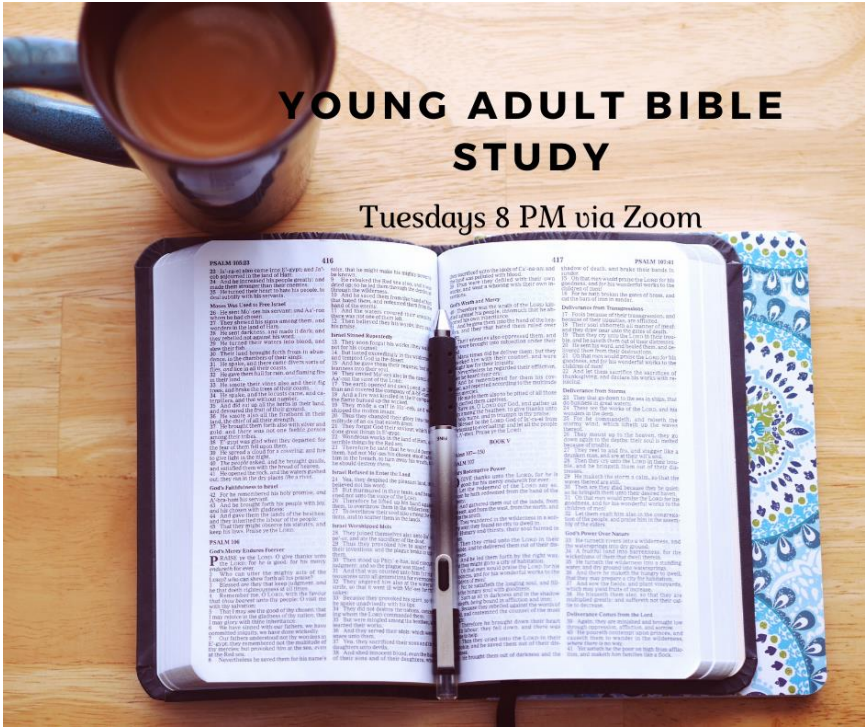
**DCE Tim Germain**

[tim@ehlc.org](mailto:tim@ehlc.org)

651-735-4202

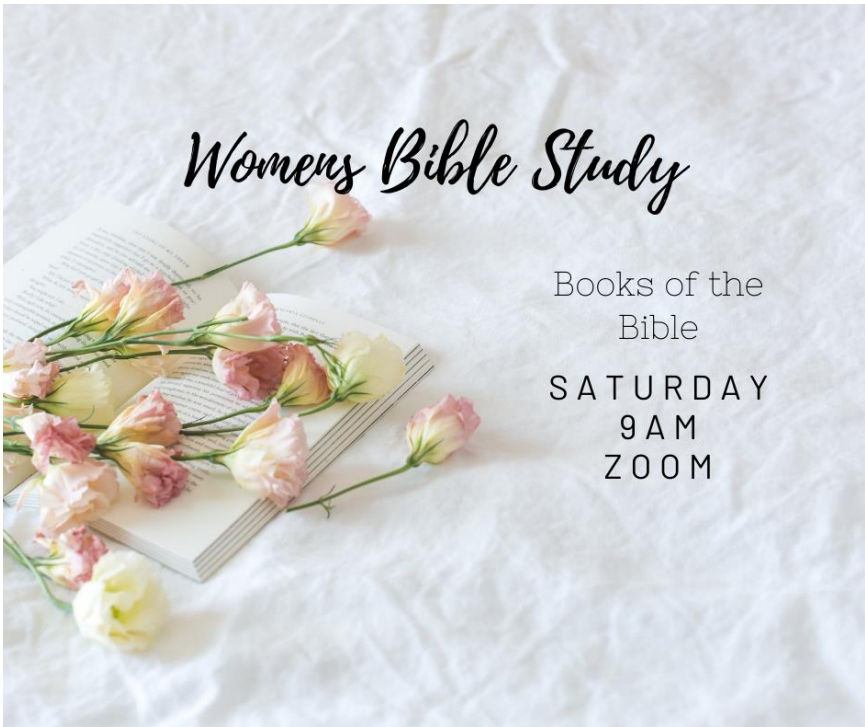
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*Our pastors and staff will NEVER contact you by phone, email, Facebook Messenger, etc. to ask for any gift cards or cash. This is a scam from anonymous criminals—not our staff. Please beware and contact the church office to let us know of any suspicious requests.*



# YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Tuesdays 8 PM via Zoom



# Womens Bible Study

Books of the Bible  
SATURDAY  
9AM  
ZOOM