



# The Shepherd's Star

*"We have seen (Christ's) star and have come to worship him."-Matt: 2:2b (NIV)*

**Easton Place United Methodist Church**  
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**October 2020**

## Cephas's Corner

**Sunday school**  
For all ages  
Gathers at  
9:00 am

**Worship Service**  
Every Sunday 10:30 am

### Post Quarantine Reflection

Thus, in the words of the Prophet Isaiah "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand." Indeed, in times like these in our beloved country and world we do need to rest on God's unchanging hands. Brothers and sisters of this household of faith we must understand that our world had changed so do our context of ministry since the world health organization announced COVID-19 and we had a national shutdown, where majority of worship places had to close their doors; even some churches in our city have not returned to in-person worship.

I must admit since our return to in-person worship you continue to embrace our new reality, even though we are wondering when or if we will do things as we did before the shutdown. The truth must be told we will no longer have the context or world before quarantine; thus, it is a time we revision as a congregation how we minister in our new context. Another, reality of post-quarantine is we now have two mission views, virtual audience and in-person audience, so new context calls for new ways and revisioning of our ministry. It is also noted in recent research that about 30% of worshipers will not return to in-person service and among the 30% some will remain virtual worshipers and some will not. Therefore, reaching our virtual audience will require us to support new ministries and create means for our virtual audience to give to our ministries online.

As I said during our Ad council meeting and the last Sunday in September, we must revision new ways of during ministry, focusing outwardly more than inwardly, reaching our community, and knowing and hearing their stories. As we look to the future, I envision a ministry/congregation that will make ministry a service and not a burden; what do I mean? For example, our book of discipline requires Ad Council to meet quarterly but we meet more than that so we will follow quarterly meetings as noted in our discipline. Thus, it is time for us to review our ministries programs and see what works best for making disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world and it is also time for new ideas for ministry that engage our community. Finally, ministry happens when we become intentional not by filling our calendar with activities. As always say DO not forget to be God's Hands and Feet!

Rev. J. Cephas Z. K. Davis. MDiv. MDR.  
Pastor

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## The Mission of Easton Place UMC

To Make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Gather in a safe, nurturing Christ-centered way in worship, meetings, and small groups as we...Grow in relationship with Christ; and Go into the world, to share the love of Christ with others.

**As members of the Easton Place UMC,  
we vow to faithfully participate  
in its ministries**

### Asking Jesus into your life:

O God, without you, I am lost-a sinner in a sinful world. Jesus, I believe in you. I need you. Be my Lord and Savior? Receive me-your child. I ask for forgiveness. I ask for guidance. I accept you as my God, my Guide, my Help, and my Hope from this day forward into the very light of eternity. I lift this prayer in the power of Jesus' mighty name. Amen

God's Promise of Forgiveness-1 John 1:9  
 God's Promise of Salvation-John 3:16  
 God's Promise to You-Romans 8:15b-17a  
 All you need to do-Romans 10:9

### EASTON PLACE WOMEN UNITED

<b>October 7</b>	<b>7 pm</b>	<b>EPWU General</b>
<b>October 8</b>	<b>1 pm</b>	<b>Easton Service Group(?)</b>
<b>October 9</b>	<b>1 pm</b>	<b>Esther Circle</b>
<b>October 14</b>	<b>6:30 pm</b>	<b>Deborah Circle</b>
<b>October 21</b>	<b>1 pm</b>	<b>Mary Circle</b>

### UNITED METHODIST MEN

**October 10 8:00 am (?)**



### PRAY FOR

**LOST A LOVED ONE:**

**Thomasson family**

**(Virginia Kimberling's grandson)**

**Taylor Webb**

**719 46<sup>th</sup> St**

**West Des Moines, IA 50265**

**HOSPITAL:**

**RECOVERING AT HOME:**

**NURSING HOME AND ASSISTED LIVING**

**RESIDENTS:** Nadine Layton (Brio, Johnston), Anna Mascaro (Mill Pond, Ankeny), George & Jenny Schultz (Afton IA, assisted living), Keith Mascaro (assisted living, group home in DSM)

**KEEP IN PRAYERS:** Ray Olson, Kim Cox, Dennis Bishop

**Keep in Prayer for Healing:**

(Remember to let the office or the Pastor know if you are in the hospital)

**To start prayer chain:**

**Call Romona Moore 515-262-9489**

### Missions Report

As everyone knows, the Missions Committee has not been able to offer the Free Meal. But we know there is a need for food in the neighborhood.

We are asking the congregation for nonperishable food items, and/or money. We want to put together bags of food, that we can give out I a drive by pantry. If God has laid this on your heart to help, and need more information, feel free to contact the Missions committee, or the pastor.

Thanks

The Mission Committee

**Trustee Notes**

None submitted at this time

**Worship Committee Report**

None submitted at this time



**Finance Report**

8/2/20 - \$3,431.99  
8/9/20 - \$2,193.00  
8/16/20-\$3,592.00  
8/23/20-\$1,801.00  
8/30/20-\$2,677.23  
Total \$13,695.22

9/6/20 - \$1,908.69  
9/13/20-\$1,423.00  
9/20/20-\$2,116.00  
9/27/20-\$1,801.00  
Total \$6,520.69

God is Good! What a time this has been the last few months, we know we are all wondering, when will it be "normal" again? The people of Easton Place have been very faithful through all of this, and we are so very thankful for this. As we move forward with the rest of the year, lets continue to be faithful.

In Christ's Love  
The Finance Committee

**October**

Samuel Hoffman	10/1
Janet Dyer	10/2
Tamie Grenz	10/2
Jessica Chiles	10/3
Ramona Kintz	10/4
Megan Rus	10/6
Marlene Schultz	10/12
Janice Hoffman	10/14
Julie Marker	10/14
Shelby Cook	10/15
Craig Bellis	10/19

**Gifts -Tithes and Offerings Received**  
**September \$6,520.69**

**Presence:**  
**September 125**

**Lectionary Scriptures for October**  
**Personal Devotions and Study**

**October 4 Communion-**  
**World Communion Sunday**  
**18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20  
Psalms 19  
Philippians 3:4b-14  
Matthew 21:33-46

**October 11**  
**19<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

Exodus 32:1-14  
Psalms 106:1-6, 19-23  
Philippians 4:1-9  
Matthew 22:1-14

**October 18-**  
**Laity Sunday**  
**20<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

Exodus 33:12-23  
Psalms 99  
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10  
Matthew 22:15-22

**October 25**  
**Reformation Sunday**  
Deuteronomy 24:1-12  
Psalms 90:1-6, 13-17  
1 Thessalonians 2:1-8  
Matthew 22:34-46

**Worship Helpers for October 2020**

**October 4, 2020**

**Worship Leader:** Romona Moore  
**Liturgist:** Bruce Tillotson or Jeannie Staton  
**Sound:** Mike Hoffman  
**Ushers:** Mike and Sandy Mathews  
**Offering Counters:** Mike Parsons  
Kay Dilks  
**Communion Stewards:** Mike Parsons

**October 11, 2020**

**Worship Leader:** Romona Moore  
**Liturgist:** Bruce Tillotson or Jeannie Staton  
**Sound:** Mike Hoffman  
**Ushers:** Mike and Sandy Mathews  
**Offering Counters:** Mike Parsons  
Jeannie Staton

**October 18, 2020**

**Worship Leader:** Romona Moore  
**Liturgist:** Bruce Tillotson or Jeannie Staton  
**Sound:** Mike Hoffman  
**Ushers:** Bryan and Kay Dilks  
**Offering Counters:** Mike Parsons  
Ellen McFadden

**October 25, 2020**

**Worship Leader:** Romona Moore  
**Liturgist:** Bruce Tillotson or Jeannie Staton  
**Sound:** Mike Hoffman  
**Ushers:** Bryan and Kay Dilks  
**Offering Counters:** Mike Parsons  
Bryan Dilks

## **Circle Reports September**

### **EPWU General**

General meeting was at Phillips Elementary on September 2, 2020 at 1pm and was hosted by Mary Circle.

We offered up prayers for Sue Turner, Sue Bellis, Julie Marker, Janet Dyers' friend, and Janice Hoffman.

Romona had a devotion: Psalm 18:16-19.

Connie Bishop read March's secretary's minutes and Midge gave the treasurer's report. Mary Circle's program included the "Gossip Game." It's amazing how you can tell someone something, pass it around to a few people and it does not sound anything like what it started out. We discussed how gossip and slander tear friendships apart. It is referenced in the Bible 87 times of tale tellers.

Mary Circle then handed out little bags of candy and each piece of candy in the bag had a meaning.

We adjourned at 2:10pm.

### **Easton Service Group**

Easton Service Group had a great lunch out on September 10, 2020. Ardyce and Diana were scheduled as our hostess for that day, so we just decided to treat everyone to lunch at Culvers. It truly was a great way to spend a rainy day. The four of us had a wonderful time eating and fellowshiping.

Diana A.

### **Esther Circle**

Esther Circle had our meeting September 11, 2020 at 1:00 pm at Romona's. We had five members in attendance, plus we were incredibly happy Amanda joined us. Not much business, we voted to give \$25 to the Hunger Hike. Also, we decided our October 9, 2020 meeting will be at Diana's and Sandy will be the hostess. Romona did our program using John 13:12-17 and Luke 13:12-17, praise the Lord God's Word is always there to help us, even if we get the wrong scripture. Romona served us a wide selection of Little Debbie's and drinks. Thanks, Romona, a perfect way to spend a rainy afternoon!

Diana A.

### **Mary Circle**

Mary Circle had a nice meeting on September 16, 2020 at Pizza Ranch in Altoona. Good food, great fellowship and we even got some business discussed. We are all happy about meeting at 1:00 pm, that works out so much better for all of us. We elected officers for 2021. We all shared who we gave our "bags" from General to, and who we called to share God's love with. Jan will be our hostess next month, so she will decide where we meet. The six of us in attendance left full and happy, enjoying the sunshine!

Diana A.

We met on the 16<sup>th</sup> of September at Altoona Pizza Ranch with 6 members. Sandy read the August minutes and Jan G. passed out the Treasurer's report, both approved. We elected officers for 2021, along with hostesses. A fun meeting with lots of delicious food to choose from. As we closed our meeting, Diana presented each of us our choice of beautiful candles-so many choices to choose from. Thanks Diana!!! Our October meeting may have another "surprise location."

God Bless

Sandy Fleck

### **Deborah Circle**

Deborah Circle met on September 9, 2020 in the church sanctuary at 7pm with 11 members present. Our next meeting will be October 14, 2020 at 6:30pm. We voted to keep our start time the same as always. The October meeting will also be at the church. We are discussing if we will be bringing canned goods in November for the sack meals that the mission meeting.

Since Deborah Circle never got around to pulling names for Secret Sister this year, we will only be doing grab bags if you so choose in December.

Diana and Kathy Fedson were slated to be hostesses for September, so Diana brought some wrapped candy for us to enjoy. Connie Bishop and Darlene McFate are the hostesses for October.

## Mark your Calendar October 2020

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
5. 6:30 pm Bible Study  
(Romona Moore's home)
6. 9:30 am Women's Bible Study  
(Romona Moore's home)  
6:00 pm COVID reentry committee  
6:00 pm Education (?)  
7:00 pm Worship (?)
7. 7:00 pm EPWU-General
8. 1:00 pm Easton Service Group (?)
9. 1:00 pm Esther Circle (Diana Alton's home)
10. 8:00 am UMM (?)
11. **Pastor Appreciation Day**
12. 6:30 pm Bible Study  
(Romona Moore's home)
13. 9:30 am Women's Bible Study  
(Romona Moore's home)  
6:00 pm Trustee's
14. 6:30 pm Deborah Circle
15. 4:30 pm Missions (?)  
6:00 pm Charge Conference (Zoom)
- 16.
- 17.
- 18.
19. 6:30 pm Bible Study  
(Romona Moore's home)
20. 9:30 am Women's Bible Study  
(Romona Moore's home)  
6:00 pm SPRC (?)
21. 1:00 pm Mary Circle
- 22.
- 23.
- 24.
- 25.
26. **Star Articles DUE!**  
6:30 pm Bible Study  
(Romona Moore's home)
27. 9:30 am Women's Bible Study  
(Romona Moore's home)  
6:00 pm Finance (?)  
6:45 pm Ad Council-Church Parking Lot
28. 7:00 pm EPWU Board (?)
- 29.
- 30.
31. **HAPPY HALLOWEEN**