



The El Estero Echoes
El Estero Presbyterian Church
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Pastor Ted Esaki

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The Mission of the El Estero Presbyterian Church is to Glorify God
through a Grateful Commitment
to the Great Commandment and the Great Commission.

Pastor Ted's Message

EE Christmas 2021



El Estero Church Family and Friends;

For the past several weeks, we have been in the midst of the Advent Season. This is the time of the year when we prepare our hearts for the celebration of Christ's birth and remember the Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love that can be found in a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

As we reflect upon the coming of Christ, we also remember that from the time of His birth, the mission of Jesus was to go to the cross. But for someone to discover and respond to the mysteries of Bethlehem and Calvary, it knocks the props out from the Devil's plans to keep men from knowing Christ. The reindeer on the roof overshadow donkeys beside the manger. Gifts under the tree detract from the GIFT on a tree. Wrapping paper and ribbon divert attention from the wrappings that first clothed Christ in his swaddling cloths. Cash registers and Master Cards drown out the MASTER. Madison Avenue replaces the little town of Bethlehem. Salesmen, ignoring the fact He was already sold for thirty pieces of silver, continue to market Him.

Today it seems that someone has changed all the price tags. Either the wise men were foolish, the shepherd's deceived, or the propaganda of the evil one has succeeded. Although Satan's puppet, King Herod, failed to murder the infant Jesus, his contemporary counterparts have succeeded in devaluing Him.

This Christmas, may God help us to cut through the maze of tinsel, snowmen, Santa's, reindeer, and Christmas trees, and come as wise men to the cradle of the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords. May we shout, "Emmanuel" God is with us. May your Christmas be a

time of Thanksgiving for the Incarnate Word, for Jesus the Christ, for the holy and anointed one of God, the Savior, the Great High Priest, the Wonderful Counselor, The Almighty God, the Everlasting Father, and the Prince of Peace.

My hope and prayer for you this Christmas is that your Christmas be truly filled with Hope, Peace, Joy and Love. Please join us via zoom this Friday night at 6:00 PM for our Christmas Candlelight Service as we give thanks for the indescribable gift we have through Christ.

In the name of Bethlehem's Babe,

Pastor Ted



Joys and Concerns

Please continue to pray for



Anne Bevier, Bill Bevier, Don and Dori Chin, Pastor Ted and Sherry Esaki, Cary Gota, Wendy Ichiuji, Akimi Irino, Adele and Marian Kageyama, Kiku Kuwatani, Hiro Manaka, Bob McIntyre, Helen Nakano, Joan Ouye, Lyle and Meja Quock, Robert Suzuki, Jean Tanaka, Tomi Tanaka, Magdalena Thomas, Nami Uyeda, Hedy Yamamoto, Setsuko Yamanishi, May Wong, Pat and Shirley Wong, George Wooding. The AmRhein and the Nakano family with the passing of Helen's daughter, Susan.

Prayers for our church family, for members who are ill, those away from their loved ones, and those who are concerned for family and friends.

Prayers for the citizens of our world that we may defeat this Coronavirus.

Prayers for our medical professionals, first responders, emergency workers, caregivers, grocery clerks., teachers

Prayers for those who have been laid off or are without income.

Prayers for our research and medical scientists as they work for vaccines and a cure for COVID19.

Prayers for our world leaders as they deal with the complex issues facing their nations and our world community.

Prayers for our state and local leaders as they work to keep our communities safe.

Prayers for social justice, racial equality, and peace.

While we have worship services on ZOOM, please let Pastor Ted know via email or a phone call if you have any prayer requests.

PER CAPITA DUES

As a reminder our annual Per Capita Dues are due to the Presbytery by February.

Per Capita for 2022 is \$40.50 per El Estero Presbyterian Church member.



Please make your check payable to El Estero Presbyterian Church. Indicate "Per Capita" on your check and please keep your per capita check separate from your offering or pledge. Sending separate checks helps our counting and book keeping. Thank you for attending to this compensation to the Presbytery



ADVENT and Candlelight Service

Candlelight Service, Friday, December 24, 6:00 pm on

Advent means “**coming**”. This is the time of year when Christians celebrate the awaiting of the birth of Jesus. Tradition include lighting of the Advent Candles to signify Hope, Peace, Joy and Love and the birth of the Christ Child. El Estero Church has been observing the first through the fourth Sundays of Advent beginning on November 28 until Christmas Eve when we will be holding a Candlelight Service on Friday, December 24, 6:00 pm on ZOOM. Thank you to all of our Advent readers. If you wish to send a Christmas Offering donation to El Estero Church, in the spirit of this joyous season ,we appreciate your generous giving

COME AND JOIN A BIBLE STUDY

*Magnify * Maturity * Membership * Ministry * Mission*

Please join us.



Let's learn together.

**Sunday Morning
Adult Study**

Daily Devotional: Everyday Pastor Ted writes a Daily Devotional that you can receive online through our church webpage: elesteropc.org and click on This Week

Wednesday Bible Study: Every Wednesday morning, 10:30 – 11:45 am, online through ZOOM. A follow up of Pastor Ted's Sunday Worship Service message. Discussion follows a review of Sunday's sermon with the Sunday worship study guide. Please watch for Pastor Ted's invitation to join each Wednesday's Bible Study on ZOOM. If you would like to join a ZOOM online Bible study, please contact Pastor Ted for more information.

Thursday Evening Q&A: Every Thursday evening, 7:00 pm, Pastor Ted will host a session of questions and answers about Christianity and the Bible. You may submit your questions to Pastor Ted via email and he will respond to your thoughts on Thursday evening. All are welcome to join the group for discussion and in depth learning. Please contact or email Pastor Ted if you are interested and your questions.

Friday Evening Prayer Meeting: Every Friday evening, 7:00 pm, Pastor Ted will host a prayer meeting. All are welcome to join the prayer session for fellowship, joys and concerns, personal prayer and prayers for those on the weekly Prayer Fuel. This is a ZOOM meeting. Please email Pastor Ted for the ZOOM invitation.

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Coach Ken's Corner



Wishing everyone the happiest and best possible holiday season. Hope you are well and staying safe. I've been a little reluctant to go out with the crowds of people all doing their holiday shopping and celebrating. I have gotten my booster shot and have been getting tested weekly for Covid. Since I coaching at Monterey

High School, I need to be tested weekly since I come in daily contact with students. So far so good. I been staying safe, wearing a mask, washing my hands and trying to be smart about staying in a safe environment. Also I've been exercising daily to try maintain a healthy life style. This is what I try to do to keep fit. Everyday I try to get to the gym for some light lifting, some cardio work, and a least 30 to 45 minutes of swimming. After a workout, try and eat a healthy breakfast, then out in the yard to work on raking leaves and pulling weeds. In the afternoon it's off to the pool to coach swimming and water polo. I find that getting into a routine is helpful to me. Everyone needs to find their own comfort zone. As we finish the year remember to treat yourself well. Find some time for yourself, stretch daily, some light cardio work and maybe some light lifting. Find some time to walk, keep your joints limber (some bending and stretching). Hope you all have a wonderful holiday. Talk to you in the New Year!

Coach Ken



ART and HIKING FELLOWSHIP

Our ART and Hiking Fellowship will meet on January 22, 2022.

Pastor Ted will send out more information.

See you all in the new year for an invigorating morning walk.



During this time with our church activities suspended, let us know how you have been staying busy. Here are some photos from our church friends. Send Marilyn a photo to let us see what you have been doing.



Van Gogh's Starry Night. Lynn

Koi. Lynn



Foggy Day with Pedestrians. Nancy

A Past Sketch. Mili





Café Terrace (Van Gogh).
Mark



Gull at Carmel River Beach. Mark

Big Sur Coast Comp Studies. Mark





Arizona Landscape Drawing. Rose



Mushrooms and Strawberries. Rose



A Winter Walk. Linda

Arizona Lake. Tim





Snuggles.
Mike



PG Rec Trail Coast.
Mark



Andrew Wyeth. The Grannary.
Nancy

Madeleine and Juno Sunset.
Nancy



Irises. Van Gogh. Irene

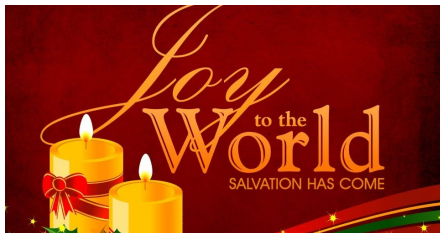
Black Callas. Irene



Coast House Late Afternoon. Mark

January 2022

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|-----------|--|--|---|---|--|
| Sunday Worship Service on ZOOM starts at 10:30 am. Communion is celebrated on the first Sunday of each month. | | | | | | 1 HAPPY NEW YEAR |
| 2 10:30 am Worship Service on ZOOM Communion | 3 | 4 | 5 10:30 am Bible Study on ZOOM | 6 7:00 pm Q & A on Christianity and the Bible on ZOOM | 7 11:00 am Deacons' Mtg 7:00 pm Prayer Mtg on ZOOM | 8 10:00 am ART on ZOOM |
| 9 10:30 am Worship Service on ZOOM Session Mtg. | 10 | 11 3:00 pm Outreach Mtg | 12 10:30 am Bible Study on ZOOM | 13 7:00 pm Q & A on Christianity and the Bible on ZOOM | 14 7:00 pm Prayer Mtg on ZOOM | 15 10:00 am ART on ZOOM |
| 16 10:30 am Worship Service on ZOOM | 17 | 18 | 19 10:30 am Bible Study on ZOOM 7:00 pm Spiritual Growth Mtg. | 20 9:30 am Elders/ Deacons Meeting on ZOOM 7:00 pm Q & A on Christianity and the Bible on ZOOM | 21 Echoes Articles Due 7:00 pm Prayer Mtg on ZOOM | 22 9:30 am Art and Hiking Fellowship |
| 23 10:30 am Worship Service on ZOOM | 24 | 25 | 26 10:30 am Bible Study on ZOOM | 13 7:00 pm Q & A on Christianity and the Bible on ZOOM | 28 7:00 pm Prayer Mtg on ZOOM | 29 10:00 am ART on ZOOM |
| 30 10:30 am Worship Service on ZOOM | 31 |  | | | | |



El Estero Church's ZOOM worship service on Sundays, 10:30 am, please contact Pastor Ted Esaki and watch for his email invitation. To access the "Sermon Outline" and the "Worship Bulletin" for Sunday's worship service, go to our website elesteropc.org and click on Messages.

To join our Wednesday morning Bible Study 10:30 am on ZOOM, please contact Pastor Ted and watch for his email invitation.

To join our Thursday evening Q & A session 7:00 – 8:00 pm on ZOOM, please contact Pastor Ted and watch for his email invitation.

To join our Friday evening Prayer Meeting 7:00 pm on ZOOM, please contact Pastor Ted and watch for his email invitation.

To join our Open Art Studio on Saturday, 10:00 am on ZOOM, please contact Bob McIntyre and watch for Lynn's email invitation

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*The true light that gives light to everyone,
was coming into the world.*

John 1:9