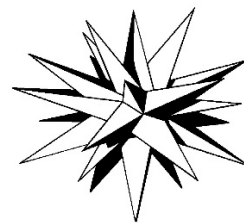


A Publication of East Hills Moravian Church

1830 Butztown Road
Bethlehem, PA 18017
610-868-6481



The Star

Volume 64, No. 5

May 2021



A Word from Pastor Linda Wisser

Go Ahead and Get Carried Away!

As we turn the calendar from April to May, we notice a definite change in nature here in Northeast Pennsylvania. The sun is warmer and brighter and the early spring nip in the air is gone. The grass is greening and growing. Gardens are being planted and swimming pools opened for the season. The dark, cold days of winter are now behind us and creation seems to have taken on a whole new life. This is a season that beckons us to *get outside!*

On Pentecost Sunday, May 23rd, the church celebrates the transforming nature of God's Spirit at work...always and everywhere. It is by this Spirit that creation comes alive. It is by this Spirit that God is making all things new, including us! On Pentecost Sunday, we remember how the church came alive as God's Spirit breathed energy and purpose and meaning into the lives of those earliest believers. It was God's powerful Spirit that moved them from behind closed doors at the beginning of the Easter season, and moved them out to the ends of the earth! It is this same Spirit that beckons us, as the church, to get outside...to move from behind closed doors and to bring the Good News out into the world!

In this newsletter, you will find many ways to gather with others for worship, fellowship, Christian service. We recognize that for some, this is a time of re-emerging into public spaces after over a year of isolation and we want to encourage you, as you are ready and able, to come on in and be part of the life of your church. And then, strengthened in love, held in community, filled with the Spirit... Go! *Get outside!* Go into the neighborhood, into your

workplace, into your summer recreational activities and bring that strength and love and belonging and fullness to others.

Concerning the Resurrection of Jesus and the coming of the Holy Spirit, author Clarence Jordan writes this: “On the morning of the Resurrection, God put life in the present tense, not in the future. God gave us not a promise but a presence. Not a hope for the future but a power for the present. The proof that God raised Jesus from the dead is not the empty tomb, but the full hearts of transformed believers...not a vacant grave, but a spirit-filled fellowship. Not a rolled away stone, but a carried away church!”

Let’s get ‘carried away’ in sharing Christ with others through acts of kindness, love and invitation. Join us this month to hear Good News and to be Good News! I hope to see you all very soon!

Grace and peace,

Pastor Linda



For Pastoral Care: Contact Pastor Linda via email at pastorlinda@easthillsmc.org, via phone or text message at 484-764-8629.



MAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

MAY 2nd –

10:30 service in Family Center
ZOOM and YouTube Service also available.

May 9th –

10:30 service in the Sanctuary
ZOOM and YouTube Service also available.

May 16th –

10:30 service in Sanctuary
ZOOM and YouTube Service also available.

May 23rd – Pentecost

10:30 service in Sanctuary
Celebration of Holy Communion
ZOOM and YouTube Service also available.

May 30th –

10:30 service in Sanctuary
ZOOM and YouTube Service also available.



Christian Fellowship News & Opportunities



We are back in the sanctuary for worship at 10:30! We will follow best practices for gathering indoors, including wearing masks and social distancing.



The church office is now open Monday - Thursday from 9:00 – 3:00.



Remote Worship Opportunities

YouTube recordings

Weekly Worship will be available live on YouTube for each week.

<https://www.youtube.com/user/EastHillsMoravian>.



Additional Worship Opportunities



EHMC Sunday Morning Coffee Class - EHMC is inviting you join us via ZOOM. Please use the URL below to join the meeting with your computer, tablet or phone with a microphone and webcam. If you need to download the app, please approve it and join the meeting with computer audio. **Every week on Sun. at 9:00 AM (NEW TIME!)** Eastern Time.



SPRING LEARNING AND GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES:

Group Spiritual Companionship

Spiritual Companionship groups are a way to create a safe, sacred space where a group of 3 to 5 people can share their life journey and listen for God's movement in their lives using spiritual listening—with their hearts. This is based on methods used by the early renewed Moravian Church in

the 1700's. One such group is already active at East Hills, and the church would like to start up 1-2 more groups of 3-5 people each, starting in late April or early May. They would be led by an experienced Spiritual Director, and would meet for 2 hours, monthly, for a commitment of 4-6 months.

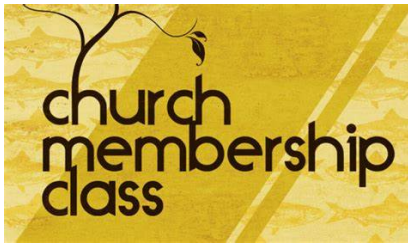
More detailed information about how these groups work and benefit the participants can be found in the July 2018 edition of The Moravian magazine, and can be found just by typing 'Spiritual Companionship, The Moravian' in a search engine. You can access a brief YouTube presentation by Marcella Kraybill-Greggo, who is coordinating the growth of these groups for the Northern Province in the link below. Please contact Karen Montgomery at 484-894-0604 or montgomerykaren04@gmail.com if you are interested. Also feel free to ask Jay Larson, Kevin Moyzan, or Lucy Thompson about their experiences with this type of fellowship.

A Quick Introduction to Spiritual Companionship can be found here:

<https://moravian.zoom.us/rec/share/n7ZTgf1qMKNRTLj50nQ3Umo3RYXc9lW0i0Kcxas5fe4COATeOVc-LxaKYXFIS8Xq.lrnTUoeMwYvYConV>

Passcode: w@GUF4Wv





Inquirer's Class is Now Forming! Save the Dates! Wednesday evenings, **May 19th, 26th, June 2nd and 9th from 7-8:30 p.m.** This class is for anyone interested in learning more about church membership with East Hills Moravian Church. It is ALSO an opportunity for existing church members to join with us for a 'refresher' on topics like the early Christian Church, Moravian History, Life of Disciple and living our faith through ministries of East Hills. Please call or email the church office to sign up. Pre-registration by May 9th, please. For more information, contact Pastor Linda.

OUTREACH:

Who are the People in Your Neighborhood? Contextual Outreach



At the Joint Board Retreat in January, our Board Members determined that two ministry priorities this year will be:

“Inreach” – building and re-building our sense of community among existing members of East Hills.

AND

“Outreach” – getting to know the people in our neighborhood and finding ways to establish new relationships with the neighbors surrounding the church building.

We invite you to join us for Contextual Outreach learning sessions led by Dr. Jill Peters, Missional Leadership Developer at Moravian Theological Seminary. Jill will help us look at data concerning neighborhood statistics and she will lead us in a process that puts our feet to the pavement in order to discover and re-discover our neighborhood and ways God is calling us to serve.

All members of EHMC are invited to participate.

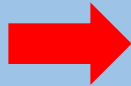
Wednesday, May 12th from 7 p.m. – 9 p.m.

If you are not currently serving on the Joint Board but would like to be part of the Contextual Outreach sessions, please email office@easthillsmc.org or pastorlinda@easthillsmc.org to register.

Worship and Mission Opportunities



Prayer Requests: Have a prayer request? Please email the “Detail Form” to the church office at office@easthillsmc.org. Only first names will be mentioned during worship since the YouTube broadcast is literally available to the world.



Online Giving: Please visit our website for online giving at <http://www.easthillsmc.org/online-giving/>. You can donate using your checking or savings account, debit card from your financial institution, or Visa, Mastercard, Discover, or American Express credit card. If you’re donating for the first time, you’ll be asked to set up a profile with your email address and financial information. Then you can schedule a one-time donation or weekly or monthly recurring donation. Your financial information is completely secure.

Mailing donations: You may also send pledges to the office at the church. The mail is being checked daily so that no money or checks are sitting in the mailbox for long. 1830 Butztown Rd., Bethlehem, 18017



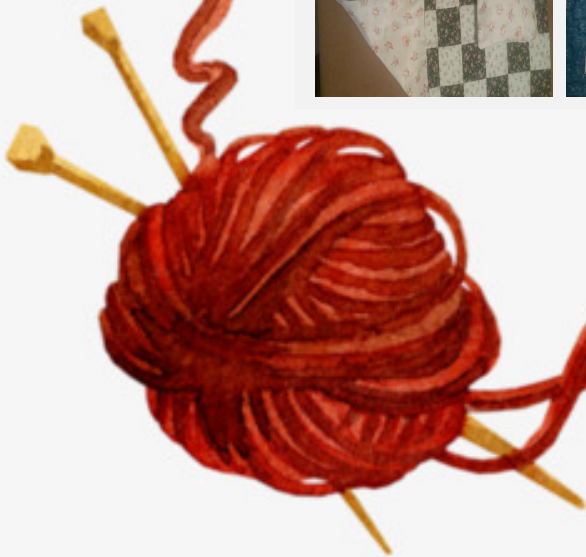
Women’s Fellowship meets monthly on the first Tuesday evening at 7 PM on ZOOM. All women are invited to join our evenings of study and fellowship.

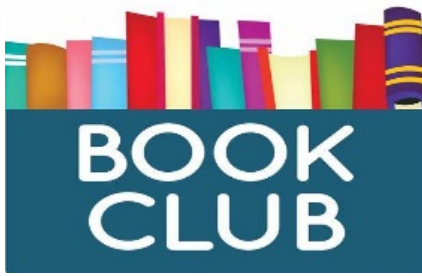


Men’s Fellowship: As we continue to open areas of the church and our lives, the Men’s Fellowship Group wants to let you know we are still here. Many of our fundraising events were canceled and we had to scale back our donations to causes that we earmarked funds for. Men’s Fellowship is available to assist members whenever possible. We have an email chain setup so that if a member needs some sort of assistance, an email can be sent out looking for the proper assistance. For example, if a member becomes ill and needs some temporary jobs/outside chores completed he/she can let one of us know and we can try to find a volunteer to help accommodate that need. As of now, social distance and safety guidelines need to be met to safeguard each of us. We will try to assist you as best as we can. We hope you all stay safe in this uncertain time.



WHY KNOTS – Our WHY KNOT members have beautiful hand-made items for sale on the EHMC Facebook Page! There are baby quilts, buntings, and blankets, hand-woven kitchen towels, and doll bedding (sized for American Girl style dolls) to name just a few things. You can view their work on Facebook by clicking on “Albums” or on “Media” and then “Albums,” and you can access descriptions and prices by clicking on specific pictures. Contact Bobby Shimer (610-739-7665) for information. She or several others members of the group can help you see something “in person” to aid in making a purchase. We meet at **7 pm on zoom each month on the 4th Wednesday**, and we always welcome new members. Contact the church office for information.





EHMC Book Club: Everyone is invited to join the East Hills Moravian Church Book Club on Monday, June 14th at 7pm location TBD to discuss "Commonwealth" by Ann Patchett.



Calling all East Hills Musicians - Pastor Linda and the Worship Committee are looking for special music to include in the Sunday morning recorded services. Feel free to record singing or instrumentals as an individual, a family, etc., within our current safe guidelines for social distancing, of course. Videos of any performance can be uploaded to the Google album below:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/wcrvjrnqiEepRUUe9>. Music can be a powerful tool to unite the community in this potentially stressful time. We appreciate our musicians' contributions to our East Hills community, now and always.



Cash Cards - Plan now for Mother's Day, Father's Day and graduations gifts. ShopWithScrip.com has cash cards for moms, dads, and grads. And for you too! When you purchase physical cards or e-cards at face value, EHMC receives a percentage of that purchase. Consider retailers such as 1-800-FLOWERS, Shutterfly, eBay, Wayfair, Target, Walmart, L.L.Bean, Dick's Sporting Goods, Xbox, Sony PlayStation, Hulu, Uber, UberEATS, Instacart, or over 750 others for giving or your own shopping. Use enrollment code 8897CBD34973 to create an account at ShopWithScrip.com or on the RaiseRight app. **Next order deadline is May 2nd**. Cards for Giant, Wegmans, and Valley Farm are also available.



This Month at EHMC:

MAY 2021						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesd	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25 <u>9:00 Sunday Morning Coffee Class</u> <u>10:30 Worship</u>	26	27	28	29	30 BAM Italian Dinner Fundraiser pickup in lot.	1 BAM Italian Dinner Fundraiser pickup in lot.
2 <u>9:00 Sunday Morning Coffee Class</u> <u>10:30 Worship</u>	3 Bible Study 7 p.m. What on Earth Am I Here For?	4 7 PM Women's Fellowship	5	6	7	8
9 <u>9:00 Sunday Morning Coffee Class</u> <u>10:30 Worship</u>	10 Bible Study 7 p.m. What on Earth Am I Here For?	11 7 p.m. Worship Committee	12 7 p.m. Contextual Outreach with Jill Peters	13	14	15
16 <u>9:00 Sunday Morning Coffee Class</u> <u>10:30 Worship</u>	17 7 p.m. Joint Board Meeting	18 7 p.m. Board of Elders	19 7 p.m. Inquirer's Class	20	21	22
23 <u>9:00 Sunday Morning Coffee Class</u> <u>10:30 Worship & Communion</u>	24 7 p.m. Board of Trustees	25 Pre-synod Training for Delegates	26 7:00 – Why Knots (ZOOM) 7:00 - Inquirer's Class	27	28 Office is Closed - Happy Memorial Day Weekend	29
30 <u>9:00 Sunday Morning Coffee Class</u> <u>10:30 Worship</u>	31 Office is Closed - Happy Memorial Day Weekend	1	2 7:00 - Inquirer's Class	3	4	5





DONATION OPPORTUNITIES



Northeast Community Center: Last week we had the joy of assisting in the delivery of a large donation of food from our local Giant on Easton Avenue to the NECC Foodbank. It is wonderful to see a neighborhood business provide much-needed assistance to the effort of feeding the hungry. We all miss the satisfaction of being able to provide A CAN A WEEK, but we can support this ministry through our prayers and financial contributions. Our EHMC group of foodbank volunteers looks forward to the day when we can safely return to our work on site, sorting, packing, and distributing food to the many people with food insecurity.

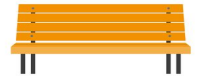
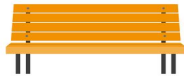
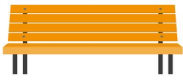


A Can A Week and Joyful Noise - Since we are now holding in-person worship, we can restart CAN A WEEK! For the time being, please limit your donations to the following: shampoo, diapers, and baby wipes. Clients are not given the opportunity to choose specific food at this time, and we are streamlining the packing process by using canned goods from 2nd Harvest, which have been ample enough to meet the current need. We of course will continue to use **JOYFUL NOISE** donations to fill any gaps in food availability. Thanks for your ongoing support to these important ministries!



Drive-By Food Pantry - Help us restock our Food Pantry shelves at Central Moravian Church with much needed items for our next food distribution. Pull in front of our church office building at 73 West Church Street on **May 2nd from 1 pm to 3 pm**. Items needed: Sugar, chicken soups of any variety, canned fruit, black beans, garbanzo beans, navy beans, stovetop stuffing, spaghetti sauce, decaf coffee, cookies, jelly, mustard, ketchup. We are also needing anything that is low sodium. Look at the label and if it lists sodium at 10% DV or less, we are saying that is "low sodium." We are asking that donations come in paper bags (doubled) or cardboard boxes. Those can be recycled or repurposed. We will accept donations in any form, but believe plastic is not the best for our environment.

TREX Plastic Challenge Update – BAM Churches – 2020

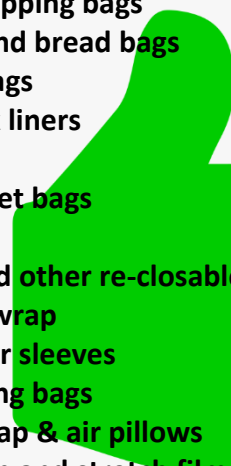


Trex plastics collections: As of January, East Hills has met the goal of 500 pounds of recycled plastics and we are now eligible to receive a park bench for our campus! Collection accumulations will now accrue to West Side Moravian Church. When they have met their goal, the BAM churches participating in the Trex Plastic Challenge will have recycled plastics equivalent to the weight of a compact car!

To protect our continued eligibility for the program and the safety of the East Hills members who process the recycled materials, please observe the following criteria for acceptable goods: Look for the recycling symbols 2 or 4 printed on the packaging. Please limit other recycling to items on the following list. The plastics **MUST NOT** be contaminated with any foreign material or chemicals. The only exception is small paper labels.


After volunteers bagged and weighed the plastics for our recent delivery to Weis Market, our community recycling partner, we found materials that DO NOT comply with the requirements for this program. **Please recycle only acceptable materials!*

ACCEPTABLE PLASTICS



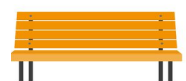
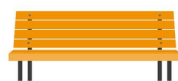
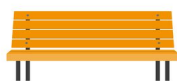
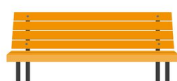
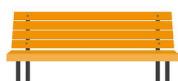
- Plastic shopping bags
- Produce and bread bags
- Grocery bags
- Cereal box liners
- Ice bags
- Wood pellet bags
- Salt bags
- Ziplock and other re-closable bags
- Case overwrap
- Newspaper sleeves
- Dry cleaning bags
- Bubble wrap & air pillows
- Pallet wrap and stretch film

NOT ACCEPTABLE PLASTICS



- Plastic bottles or other rigid plastic containers
- Degradable/compostable bags
- Pre-washed salad mix bags
- Frozen food bags
- Candy wrappers
- Any Chip bags
- Dried fruit and nut bags
- Six-pack plastic rings
- Pouch packaging
- Cheese wrappers
- Zip lock bags
- Saran Wrap
- Bread wrappers with little air holes
- Cellophane wrappers
- Bird seed or other bulk bags that are not #4
- If material does not stretch easily
- If material is shiny & crinkles or crunches

**** All plastic must be clean, dry and free of food residue.****



Central Moravian Church Presents

**Earth Day, 2021: Healing the Earth:
From Local to Global Initiatives
(Continuing from last month into May)**



**Eli
Stogsdill**



**Kathy
Fox**



**Lynnette
Delbridge**



**Beth
Behrend**



**Alfred
Griffin**



**Fletcher
Harper**

**Zoom Presentations from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.
Sundays, May 16 and 23, 2021**

May 16, 2021

The Infrastructure Revolution: Financial Support for Sustainability Projects
Alfred Griffin, Senior Managing Director and Head of Generate Credit

May 23, 2021

Changing Hearts and Minds: Interfaith and International Advocacy for the Planet
Fletcher Harper, Executive Director of Green Faith

This program is funded by the Elizabeth Johnston Prime Fund of Central Moravian Church and planned by members from Central Moravian Church, The Cathedral Church of the Nativity, and the Unitarian Universalist Church of the Lehigh Valley.

Presentations Will be Available after the Sessions on the
Central Moravian Church YouTube Channel
Register no later than the Friday before each presentation.

To Register and Receive your Zoom Invitation
Please follow: <https://forms.gle/8Tbhjc2temTKxRw58>

Questions? Call 610-866-5661

April Calendar Celebrations

May 5th – Cinco de Mayo



May 6th – National Day of Prayer



May 9th – Mother's Day



May 13th – Ascension of the Lord



May 15th – Armed Forces Day



May 31st – Memorial Day

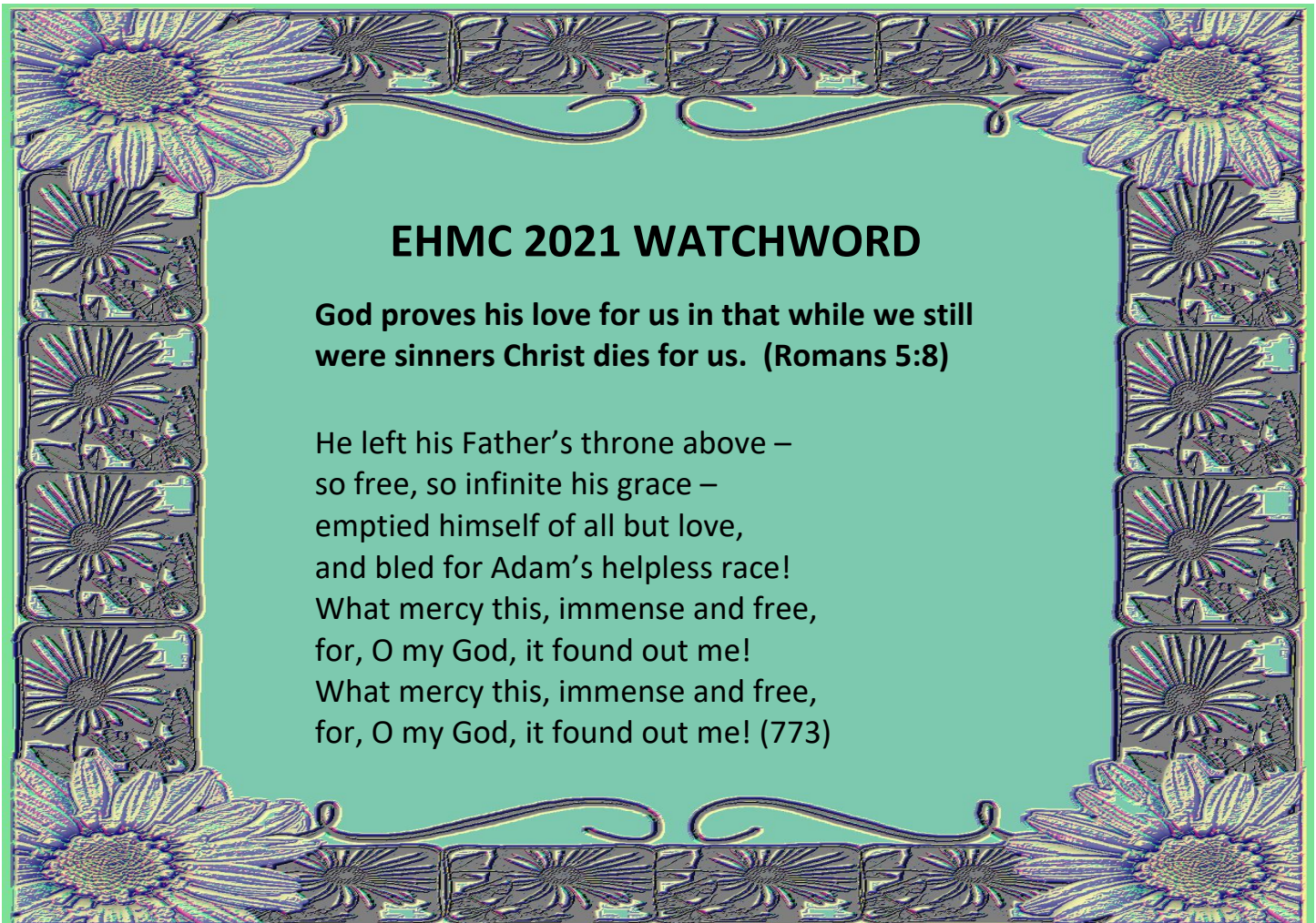


Every Day...



Do not lack diligence;
be fervent in spirit;
serve the *Lord.*

—Romans 12:11 HCSB



EHMC 2021 WATCHWORD

God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ dies for us. (Romans 5:8)

He left his Father's throne above –
so free, so infinite his grace –
emptied himself of all but love,
and bled for Adam's helpless race!
What mercy this, immense and free,
for, O my God, it found out me!
What mercy this, immense and free,
for, O my God, it found out me! (773)



MAY

Happy Birthday to all who celebrate being born in May!!



DETAIL FORM

ANNOUNCEMENTS / NEWSLETTER / EMAIL BLAST / PRAYER LIST

(CIRCLE ALL APPROPRIATE FOR YOUR REQUEST)

(All must complete this section)

CONTACT NAME:

PHONE:

EMAIL ADDRESS:

START DATE:

END DATE:

ANNOUNCEMENT / NEWSLETTER / EMAIL BLAST CONTENT:

PRAYERS FOR?

WHY?

MEMBER?

MEMBER'S FAMILY?

MEMBER'S FRIEND?

OTHER?

If this prayer request is for someone other than your immediate family, do you have that person's permission to share this?

****If you need something extended or updated, please contact the office. ****

EHMC Office email address: office@easthillsmc.org

EHMC phone: 610-868-6481