
EBPC March Newsletter

1 message

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Mon, Mar 2, 2026 at 3:34 PM



EBPC March Newsletter

East Brentwood Presbyterian Church strives to be a campus of connection with an open seat for all to gather, worship, and respond to Christ's urgent call to address the hunger of God's people with action, love, justice, and mercy.



Pastor John's Message

Welcome to the March newsletter. This month we're centering on “**good news**”—ancient gospel stories and contemporary examples that show how Jesus' ministry calls us to lives that are beneficial, joyful, and life-giving. Cue Chaka Khan and Rufus: [“Tell Me Something Good.”](#)

Scan the newsletter and you will see our many invitations inviting you to connect: join a **small group** this spring to build relationships, pray together, and put faith into practice through service.

While drawing attention to the *good news* stories of Jesus this month, I must also name a serious concern. The recent escalation involving Iran has left many of us uneasy. I welcome the decapitation of the repressive and violent Iranian regime and embrace the “good news” coming from the citizens about what is possible in their future, but whatever happens in the coming weeks, the US has extended our post 9/11 forever war into Iran, an act that will reverberate across the Middle East for decades to come. That concerns many of us. Our denomination, the **PC(USA)**, has urged diplomacy, protection of civilians, and accountability, and warned that expanding military action risks grave human costs and wider regional instability. I invite you to read their [statement](#). I don't know what is going to happen. None of us do. But this I do know: the news will change. It always does. But the “good news” of God remains constant. It gets told in neighbor helping neighbor. It will be told in our church's planting of 50 trees (April 11) on our campus and in our neighbors' yards to replace the tree loss from the ice storm. The good news will be proclaimed on Easter Sunday, April 5th (9:00 am and 11:00 am) when we proclaim “Christ has Risen!”

Leaning into the Good News!

2026 Holy Week at EBPC

MARCH
29
PALM SUNDAY
the good news is inspiring us to act

10 am

As we move into Holy Week, Jesus will no longer be teaching through parables and verbal instruction; he will instead put his principles into action through physical embodiment. The good news should similarly compel us to move our beliefs into action.

APRIL
02
MAUNDY THURSDAY
the good news is even Judas gets his feet washed

6 pm

A thoughtful and intimate candlelight service that initiates the opening service of the Triduum. A restoration through the bold declaration of pardon; the act of footwashing connoting humility and intimacy; the celebration of the Lord's Supper embodying the mystery of Christ's enduring redemptive presence. Maundy Thursday's acts provide the paradox of a celebratively somber and solemnly celebrative service.

APRIL
03
GOOD FRIDAY
the good news is revealed through nonviolence

Stations of the Cross at the Grove
Children's path also available
Available from 10 am-7pm

The Good Friday Stations of the Cross consist of 14 traditional devotion scenes, or "stations," that allow believers to meditate on Jesus Christ's Passion and death on the cross. Held on Good Friday, these stations involve walking to specific images, offering prayers, and reflecting on the journey from condemnation to burial.



APRIL
05
EASTER SUNDAY
the good news is alive in the world

Easter at EBPC

9 am Early Barn Service
10 am Eggapalooza
11 am Traditional Easter Service



Worship with us Sundays at 10:00 a.m. Onsite or virtually (Facebook/ You Tube)

(10:00 a.m) East Brentwood Presbyterian Church

March 1 Second Sunday in Lent

the good news is...great love for God and neighbor

Simon and some Pharisees host a dinner for Jesus and an unexpected guest arrives: a woman from the city who kneels at Jesus' feet and washes him with expensive perfume. Simon scoffs at this party foul, but Jesus reorients his focus, asking him to truly see the woman and recognize that she has shown "great love," offering the tender hospitality he was not granted when he entered Simon's home. The woman with the alabaster jar shows a shocking, extravagant love that exemplifies the Greatest Commandment: to love God with all your heart, soul, and mind and to love your neighbor as yourself. Will the other guests see that loving God goes hand in hand

with loving neighbor? We've paired this story with Jesus' words in Matthew 25. When we care for the hungry, the naked, the imprisoned—each of whom are created in the image of God—we are showing love for God, too.

March 8 Third Sunday in Lent

the good news is...together, the impossible is possible

Daylight Saving Time begins

As Jesus and his disciples head to a deserted place, perhaps seeking peace and quiet, many from the surrounding towns follow them. Instead of turning them away, Jesus expresses compassion and begins an impromptu teaching session. As the day goes on, the disciples have logistics in mind and urge Jesus to send the people back into the villages so they can feed themselves. Instead, Jesus presents them with an impossible task: "You give them something to eat." Dumbfounded, the disciples can only fathom the limitations and financial constraints of Jesus' suggestion. Yet when they "go and see," their meager provisions multiply so that thousands are fed. This week we focus on building networks of collective care in order to meet people's needs. Jesus models a way to be in community by coming together and sharing what we have, dispelling perceived impossibilities. The good news empowers us to believe in the miracles that can become possible through the power of community.

March 15 Fourth Sunday in Lent

the good news is...protection and care for the vulnerable

In many modern contexts, it may seem sweet that Jesus welcomed little children; however, in Jesus' setting, spending time with children would have seemed wasteful or useless. When Jesus blesses a crowd of children (after the disciples rebuke them and try to send them away), he once again reorients socially-constructed hierarchies to center the vulnerable. Throughout his ministry, Jesus emphasized the last, the least, and the lost, building upon the mandates of the Hebrew scriptures to care for the immigrant, widow, and orphan among you. Deuteronomy repeatedly reminds the Israelites, "you were once slaves in Egypt." Their memory of oppression

should impel them to provide for anyone under-resourced or cut off from the protection of a household. Similarly, Jesus uplifting children is a reminder that we were all once children and we have all been vulnerable at some point in our lives, relying on the protection and care of others. If we're truly living out the good news, then anyone vulnerable will not only be protected from harm, but cared for so they have the chance to thrive.

March 22 *Fifth Sunday in Lent*

the good news is...rooted in justice, mercy, and faithfulness

As we move toward Holy Week, we acknowledge the ways Jesus' ministry was increasingly at odds with the religious leaders who prioritized loyalty to legality and perceived Jesus' teachings as a threat. While Jesus is teaching in the Temple, some scribes and Pharisees interrupt Jesus to put both him—and a woman caught in adultery—on trial. Their questioning intensifies as they cite Mosaic Law and put the woman's fate in Jesus' hands. Instead of focusing on punishment, Jesus flips the script and invites each person to consider their own sin; Jesus defuses the spectacle by condemning no one. Much of Jesus' teachings were grounded in his understanding of the Torah; however, many of his actions called for reinterpreting the law. As we wrestle with our own rules, we should ask, "What is the most just, merciful, and faithful interpretation?"

March 29 *Palm Sunday*

the good news is...inspiring us to act

Roman triumph usually occurred during Passover week as a show of Rome's might. The governor would have been surrounded by the wealthiest and most powerful citizens. In contrast, Jesus' march is for the people—all the people: the hungry, the poor, the afraid. As Jesus enters Jerusalem, the crowd responds to Jesus' authenticity and humility. Perhaps they can see through the pageantry of the Roman parade; in contrast, the goodness of Jesus' leadership shines through, mobilizing the crowds to take action by throwing cloaks in the street and waving palm branches in the air. The energy is infectious, a climax moment in the grassroots movement of Jesus' ministry. This week's sub-theme intentionally places us in the crowd, inviting us to shout "Hosanna," to throw our coats down, and to wave branches. What will the good news inspire us to do? How will the gospel move us? As we head into Holy Week, how will we put Jesus' teachings into practice?

Volunteer at East Brentwood Presbyterian Church

Easter at EBPC - We Need You on the Team!

Easter is almost here, and we're gearing up for one of the biggest, most meaningful Sundays of the year. **We need volunteers now** to help us welcome, prepare, and care for everyone who walks through our doors.

Teams Needed:

- Hospitality
- 9 AM Children & Families Service
- 11 AM Traditional Service
- Set-Up (Easter morning)
- Tear-Down (After both services)
- Pre-Easter Decorating (Saturday before Easter from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.)
- Post-Easter Clean-Up (Tuesday after Easter from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.)

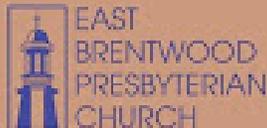
Your presence matters. A warm welcome, a prepared space, a simple act of service- these moments shape someone's entire Easter experience.

Step in. Lift the day. Be part of the story.

Sign up today and help us create an Easter filled with hope, beauty, and belonging.

Ready to Serve?

Contact Leticia Tyler at (585) 319-7999 or tyler@ebpctn.org or scan the QR code to join the group in our app.



COFFEE & COMMUNION

Join us before worship on
Communion Sunday for a time of
connection and community.

9:30 AM

Prayerground

Pastries, Fruit, and Hot Coffee/Tea



Children and Families

☪ ☪ Communion & Coffee - Communion Sundays ☪ ☪

Join us before worship for a time of connection, conversation, and community. We'll have pastries, fruit, and hot coffee waiting—just bring yourself and a heart ready to connect.

Let's keep building something beautiful together. ❤️



Youth

There's something powerful about stepping away from our usual routines and gathering around a fire. On **March 21 at 5 PM**, our youth are invited to an overnight camping experience right here on the church grounds — a night designed to spark connection, courage, and a sense of shared adventure.

We'll build community through campfire conversations, games, team-building challenges, and the simple joy of being together under the night sky. This overnight is more than a campout; it's a chance for our young people to discover new strengths,

deepen friendships, and experience the kind of wonder that only emerges when we slow down and make space for it.

We hope your youth will join us and invite others for this night of community and fun.

RSVP on ebpctn.org or contact Chris and Kayla.



the good news is...

together, the impossible
is possible

This Easter Let's Plant New
Life - Together!



Community Engagement/Mission

🌱 This Easter, Let's Plant New Life-Together

This year, instead of sponsoring lilies, we're inviting our church family to **sponsor and plant saplings** to help restore the trees our community has lost. **We're ordering 50 new trees** to be delivered by March 22, and we need volunteers to help plant and care for them.

Why this matters:

Replanting trees is a simple, powerful way to care for our neighbors, our land, and our shared future. Every sapling becomes a long-term gift to the community.

What's possible:

A few hours of digging can transform a neighborhood. A team of volunteers can turn loss into renewal. A single tree can become shade, beauty, and hope for decades.

What we need now:

WE ARE FORMING TREE-PLANTING TEAMS FOR SATURDAY, APRIL 11 - AND WE NEED VOLUNTEERS.

Here's the plan:

- 50 trees ordered (delivery by March 22)
- Possible planting sites include neighborhoods where trees were lost
- Blessing of the Trees on **April 11** before teams head out
- Please document planting day with photos!

Want to help plant or care for a tree?

Contact Leticia Tyler at lyler@ebpctn.org or scan the QR code to join the team!
Let's bring new life to our community-one sapling at a time.



ROOM
IN THE INN

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



RITI WINTER SHELTER & LUNCH SERVE
3RD FRIDAY EACH MONTH FROM 11:30AM TO 1:30 PM

CARPOOL LEAVES CHURCH AT 10:30 A.M.

Contact Erin Morrow to sign up at (615) 275-7518

Mission and Service

Room In The Inn: Winter Shelter and Lunch Serve

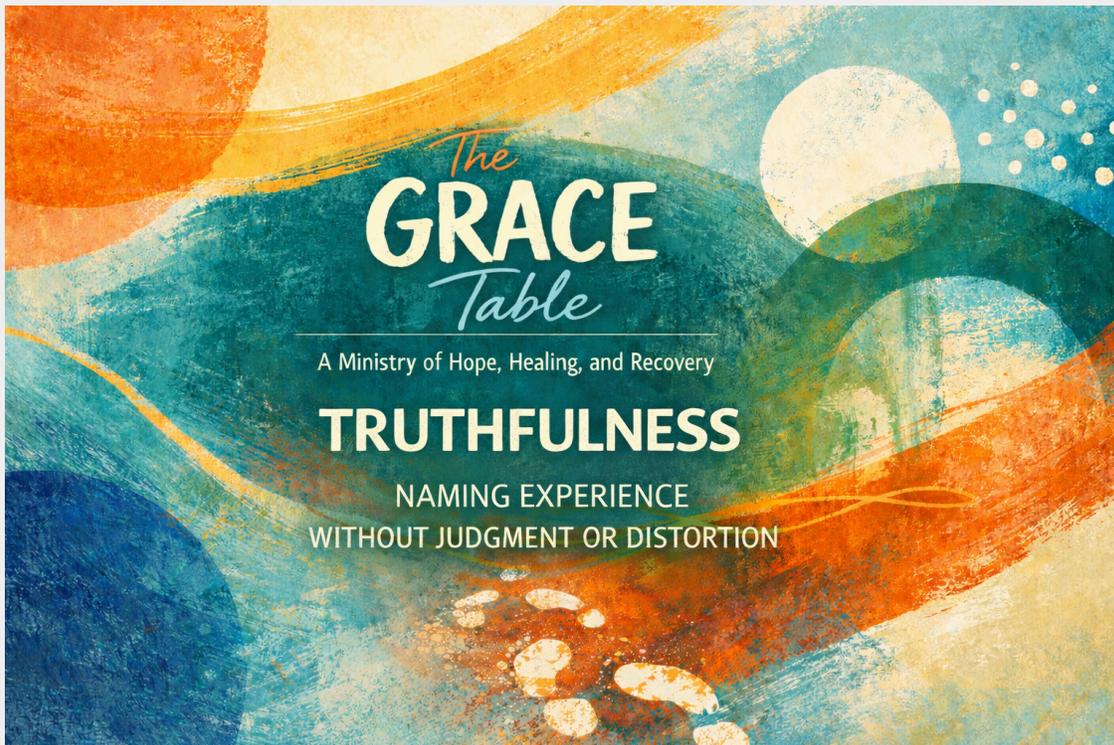
EBPC's Winter Shelter program launched - and we need your heart, your hands, and your hope.

🏠 Whether you're preparing a meal, offering a warm smile, or simply showing up with love, there's a place for you in this ministry of compassion. 🙏

We also serve lunch every 3rd Friday of the month - join us! Carpool leaves EBPC at 10:30 AM.

👉 Together, let's keep showing up with love in action.

🔗 Visit ebpctn.org/serve or contact **Erin & Louis Morrow at (615) 275-7518** to get involved.



Mission and Service

The GRACE Table

3/10, 6-7:30 p.m. Dinner

3/24, 7-8:30 p.m. Dessert & Coffee

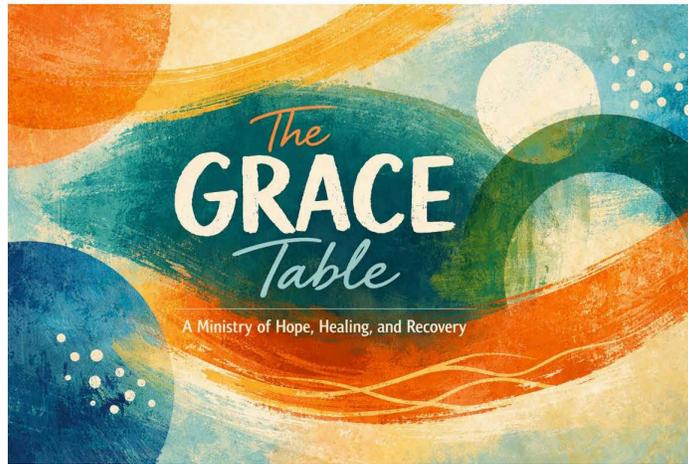
3/31, 6:30-8:00 p.m. Panel-led Discussion

The Grace Table - March's theme is: "Truthfulness: Naming Experience Without Judgment or Distortion". What do we do when we look at our lives and we don't like what we see? Sometimes accepting truth is hard, but often what comes next is the real test.

The Grace Table is beginning a year-long healing and formation journey for those in recovery or seeking deeper healing and wholeness. Meeting twice a month on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays and gathering around a meal, The Grace Table offers thoughtful teaching, reflective dialogue, and creative, embodied practices that support honesty, emotional regulation, relational repair, and meaningful spiritual growth. This is a slow, grounded space where grace meets real life—no fixing, no performing, just faithful presence around a shared table.

Please Mark Your Calendars:

On March 31st (6:30-8:00PM), EBPC's GRACE Table will host a community panel-led conversation. You are invited to attend as we explore how many of the issues, including substance misuse and mental health challenges, are rooted in our early years and can continue to impact us in negative ways, if not fully addressed. We will learn that it is never too late to pivot and break these patterns that have developed as we adapt our own parenting and grandparenting styles.



The GRACE Table is a stigma-free community centered on healing, recovery, and transformational spiritual growth and is grounded in trust, thoughtful teaching, reflective dialogue, creativity, and hope.

Tuesdays at The GRACE Table in 2026:

A Year-Long Healing and Formation Journey

Location: East Brentwood Presbyterian Church

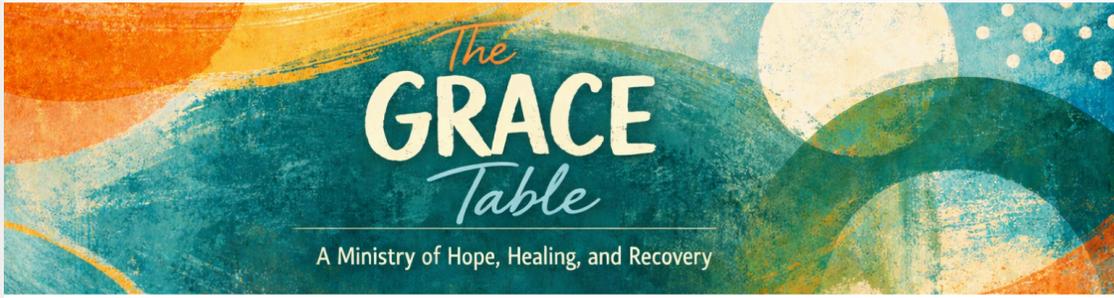
9000 Concord Road-Brentwood, TN (At the Corner of Concord Road and Wilson Pike)

Second Tuesdays: 6:00-7:30PM (Dinner and Facilitated Discussion);

Fourth Tuesdays: 7:00-8:30PM (Dessert and Creative Expression)

Additional Small Groups Will Be Forming on First and Third Tuesdays beginning in February.

Month	Monthly Theme	Dates
January	<i>Arrival: Becoming Conscious of Where We Actually Are</i>	Jan. 13th and Jan. 27th
February	<i>Safety: Creating a Stable Psychological Container</i>	Feb. 10th and Feb. 24th
March	<i>Truthfulness: Naming Experience Without Judgment or Distortion</i>	Mar. 10th and Mar. 24th
Community Forum: Mental Health Awareness Month	<i>Generation to Generation: How Parent-Child Relationships Impact Our Lives</i>	March 31st, 6:30-8:00PM
April	<i>Embodiment: The Body as Carrier of Unconscious Material</i>	Apr. 7th and Apr. 21st
May	<i>Belonging: Relationship Patterns and The Need For Connection</i>	May 12th and May 26th
June	<i>Release: What Once Protected Us But Now Limits Life</i>	Jun. 9th and Jun. 23rd
Community Forum: Men's Health Month	<i>The Specific Topic TBA</i>	June 30th, 6:30-8:00PM



The GRACE Table Presents...
“Generation to Generation: How Parent-Child Relationships Impact Our Lives”

Tuesday, March 31, 2026, 6:30- 8:00 PM

East Brentwood Presbyterian Church 9000 Concord Road
(Corner of Concord and Wilson Pike)

For so many adults, issues such as addiction and anxiety and depression, can be traced to their early relationships with their own parents. This community forum will feature a guided panel discussion with four mental health professionals and an opportunity for audience questions around this topic. Some of the subtopics to be addressed include:

- **Identifying** how events or patterns in our own childhood or teen years can spill over into our adult relationships and affect our mental health throughout our lives.
- **Understanding** how the experiences of our parents affected and may have limited their ability to parent us and our siblings in a healthy manner.
- **Learning** how to address these issues and break the generational cycles with our own children and grandchildren without swinging the pendulum too far in the opposite direction. (Absent parent v. helicopter parent)
- **Co-parenting** with a spouse who has been affected by childhood trauma.



Pam Dyson

Lee French

Chris Peterson

Marianne Richmond



Pam Dyson

Pam is an experienced educator, Licensed Professional Counselor, and Registered Play Therapist Supervisor with a background in early childhood education and play therapy. After twenty years as an early childhood educator, she went on to own and operate private play therapy practices in both Missouri and Texas. As an Association for Play Therapy-Approved Provider, Pam delivered hundreds of hours of continuing education to professionals nationwide. Her work is grounded in child development and evidence-based practice, with a commitment to helping children and families build emotional resilience and coping skills that support success at home and in school.



Lee French

Lee is a LMSW currently practicing as a Clinical Therapist at Switchback Counseling in Green Hills. She is a graduate of Auburn University ('09) and New York University's Silver School of Social Work ('11) with 15 years of experience coming alongside clients as they develop, deepen, & restore relationships- most importantly the one they have with themselves. After spending 10 years in vocational ministry, Lee is particularly passionate about the intersection of faith and justice and centers much of her work around those facing spiritual discomfort, religious harm and value de/reconstruction. Lee is an affirming clinician, committed to elevating and centering voices in Black, LGBTQ+, and other marginalized communities. Lee is wife to Herschel and Mom to two boys, Sellers (9) and Gray (6). When not in the therapy room, she can be found drowning in a DIY project.. or in the car taxiing her boys to and fro!



Chris Peterson

Chris is a Jungian Spiritual Director at The Pastoral Center for Healing in Brentwood, TN. His spiritual direction practice focuses on the intersection of depth psychology and contemplative spirituality, alternative sexual integration, addiction and recovery, and religious deconstruction. Chris holds a Bachelor's degree in religion from MTSU, and a Certificate in Spiritual Direction from The Haden Institute. He is also a Marine Veteran, a father of two daughters, and serves as a group facilitator and ministry coordinator at East Brentwood Presbyterian Church with a focus on ecumenical community and contemplative practices.



Marianne Richmond

USA Today bestselling author, artist and founder of Brave on the Page – expressive writing workshop for finding one's voice – Marianne Richmond has spent over three decades helping people of all ages find courage, connection and self-expression through stories and writing. She has written more than 60 picture books and sold more than 9 million copies. Recently Marianne went back to school for her master's in clinical mental health counseling to better understand how our brains and bodies process and hold our stories. Last year, Marianne released her memoir, IF YOU WERE MY DAUGHTER: healing an unmothered heart that illuminates how we have the power to change the narratives we inherit through our ancestry. To learn more about Marianne, please visit her website at mariannerichmond.com.

To **Volunteer** go to:

handson.unitedwaygreaternashville.org

NUEVA VIDA

LOOKING TO DONATE? WE'RE CURRENTLY COLLECTING THESE ITEMS:

CANNED
TOMATOES



MASA



OIL



CANNED
BEANS



CANNED
CORN



CANNED CHILIES



Collection box in office hallway
ebpctn.org

Mission and Service

Nueva Vida

Nueva Vida needs YOU!

If you'd like to volunteer, head to the Hands On Nashville website: <https://handson.unitedwaygreaternashville.org/>. On the homepage, click "Find a Volunteer

Opportunity," then search using the keyword "Nueva Vida" and the city "Brentwood."

Choose the date and time that works best for you, sign up, and a team member will follow up to confirm. It's that easy!

If you're looking to donate, check out the flyer for the items we're currently collecting. Thank you for always showing up with such generosity.

Help us stock the shelves with culturally familiar groceries for our neighbors in need.

We're collecting:

-  Canned Tomatoes
-  Canned Corn & Beans
-  Canned Chilies
-  Masa (Maseca)
-  Cooking Oil

Drop donations in the collection boxes in the office hallway.

If you're ordering through Amazon, please have items delivered to the church and addressed to **Leticia Tyler**.

Let's continue to show love and nourishment-one item at a time! ❤️



Mission and Service

Glenview TCAP Snack Collection

We're gathering snacks to support our Glenview students during TCAP!
February 22-March 15

- 🛒 Drop donations in the partner bins in the church admin hallway
- 📦 Sending deliveries? Please address them to Leticia Tyler

We're collecting:

- Granola bars
- Mini muffins
- Chips
- Fruit gummies
- Popcorn
- And more!

Thank you for supporting our students and showing up with love! ❤️

LADIES OPEN SEAT CLUB

MISSIONS AND OUTREACH EVENING

WED. 3/18, 6:30 - 8 P.M.

**WE WILL GATHER FOR A LIGHT MEAL
AND ASSEMBLE SUPPLIES FOR OUR COMMUNITY
PARTNERS**

EBPCTN.ORG

Women's Ministry

Ladies Open Seat Club

Wednesday, March 18: Ladies Open Seat Club *Missions and Outreach* evening at EBPC from 6:30 to 8:00 PM. We will gather for a light meal and assemble supplies for our community partners, purchased with the proceeds from Nate's February 28 *Community Cares* concert.

**WOMEN'S WELLNESS
RETREAT**

Developed around "Boundaries: When to
Say Yes, How to Say No To Take Control
of Your Life" by Henry Cloud and John
Townsend.

MAY 2
8:30-12:30

The Beatty's Home

Interested in
helping to plan
this event?

Contact:
Leticia Tyler
(585) 319-7999

More Information www.ebpctn.org

Women's Ministry

Women's Wellness Retreat

Saturday, May 2, from 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM: Women's Wellness Retreat at Liz Beatty's home, centered on *Boundaries: When to Say Yes, How to Say No to Take Control of Your Life* by Henry Cloud and John Townsend. If you are interested in helping to plan this event, please contact Leticia Tyler (ltyler@ebpctn.org) or Liz Beatty (aybeatty@comcast.net).

Music

Easter is one of the most joyful and meaningful Sundays of the year, and there's no better time to jump into music! Whether you love singing in the choir, ringing with the bell choir, playing in the praise band, or joining youth music, there's a place for you to share your gifts. Being part of the Easter celebration isn't just about making beautiful music—it's about helping tell the story of hope and new life in a powerful way. If you've been thinking about getting involved, this is the perfect season to step in, try something new, and be part of something joyful and inspiring. We'd love to make music with you this Easter!

 There's still time to sign up—
Just scan a group and you're in! 

 Men's Open Seat 3rd Tuesday each Month 6:30 pm	 Grace Table 2nd/4th Tuesday each Month	 Ladies' Open Seat Various Dates & Special Events	 Presbyterian Women's Bible Study 2nd Tuesday each Month 10:00 am
 Kids & Youth Gathering Various Dates & Special Events	 Sunday Bible Study 9:00 Sundays	 Hilley's Good Enough Gathering Various Dates 5:30 pm	 Contemplative Small Group 1st Tuesday each Month 6:30 pm

**Spring Gatherings Semester
April 6-May 22**

EBPC Small Groups

As we move towards Easter, relationships and community become more and more important within the life of a congregation. As our small group communities get established we want to invite you to explore these groups and the potential relationship formed within them. Every group will not be to your taste, but we have created something for everyone.



EBCA

Spring Break EBCA will be closed 3/5-3/13

Summer Camp registration opens up on March 2nd! See the flyer below for more information.

Registration for the 2026-2027 school year is still open! We have just a few remaining openings left. Please reach out to Director Amanda Cook for more information.

Save the Date! Our Preschool **Spring Fest** will be held on **April 16th from 5:30–7:00 PM!**

More details are coming soon, but we'd love for you to mark your calendars now and plan to join us for an evening full of community and springtime fun!

We can't wait to celebrate with you!

March 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Glenview TCAP Snack collection 10a Sunday Service 10a Children's Worship		5:30p Nueva Vida Food Bank Sup 6:30p Contemplative Small Group				12p Nueva Vida Food Bank Suppo
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Glenview TCAP Snack collection 10a Sunday Service 10a Children's Worship		10a Presbyterian Women's Bible S 5:30p Nueva Vida Food Bank Sup 6p GRACE Table				12p Nueva Vida Food Bank Suppo
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Glenview TCAP Snack collection 10a Sunday Service 10a Children's Worship		5:30p Nueva Vida Food Bank Sup 6:30p Men's Open Seat	6:30p Community Outreach Proje		11a Room In The Inn Lunch Serve	12p Nueva Vida Food Bank Suppo
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
10a Sunday Service 10a Children's Worship		5:30p Nueva Vida Food Bank Sup 7p GRACE Table				12p Nueva Vida Food Bank Suppo
29	30	31				
10a Sunday Service 10a Children's Worship		5:30p Nueva Vida Food Bank Sup 6:30p GRACE Table				



Sara Chang
East Brentwood Presbyterian Church



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