

Welcome to Echo Hill Presbyterian Church

Sunday, December 27, 2020 & Sunday, January 3, 2021



Worship Schedule

In-person worship has been suspended through January 31st because of the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

Wednesday:

7:00 pm: Worship on Wednesday
(held virtually via Zoom)



• Echo Hill Snapshot •

Here's a photo of accompanist Reagan Bieber and Pastor Cathy Allen preparing for a recently recorded worship service. These two, along with Bob Payne and Paul Varcoe, get together at the church each Sunday to record that week's worship service. Lynda Nelson formats the video and then Michael Becker posts it online. Thanks to Paul for the photo!

Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday: 8:30 am - 4:30 pm
Friday: 8:00 am - Noon

Visit Echo Hill on the web:

www.echohillchurch.org

Email:

echohill@echohillchurch.org

Phone:

(319) 377-4360

Address:

715 38th St. SE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403

Worship at Echo Hill is...

*Joyful. Spirit-filled. Thoughtful. Welcoming.
And intentionally diverse.*

Restrooms: Located next to the church office as you come in from the parking lot on the west end of the building.

Masks, Hand Sanitizer, & Wipes: Available for those who need them. Face masks are mandated by the City of Cedar Rapids.

Social Distancing: Please maintain a physical distance of six feet or more from others.

Questions? Please feel free to ask an usher for assistance!

*Missed a copy of
the Bulletin News?
Contact the church office
and we'll send you a copy.*

No Connection Cards Today -----

Because of the ongoing pandemic, we are not including connection cards in the newsletter. If you have a specific person, group, or event for which you'd like us to join with you in prayer, please email Genee Coles at ihcoles19@gmail.com or Michael Becker at m.becker@echohillchurch.org. This can be for a concern in your life or your health, or for a concern you have for someone else, or for a joyous event.

Welcome to 	
Name: _____	
Address: _____	
City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____	
Best Contact Phone (____) _____	
<small>(Email please print)</small>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Check if changes in contact information	
If 1st or 2nd-time guest, how did you hear about Echo Hill?	
<input type="radio"/> Radio ad <input type="radio"/> Church website <input type="radio"/> Church member <input type="radio"/> Parade/event	
<input type="radio"/> Facebook <input type="radio"/> Other _____	
<input type="radio"/> 1st-time guest <input type="radio"/> 2nd-time guest <input type="radio"/> Regular attendee	

Life at Echo Hill for the Weeks of Dec. 27 & Jan. 3

The per capita for 2021 is \$38.03. Of that, Presbytery's portion is \$23.65, the General Assembly's portion is \$8.98, and the Synod of Lakes and Prairies' share is \$5.40. Per capita contributions are the way we share the expenses of the PC(USA) system of government. The annual amount is a combined request from the presbytery, synod, and General Assembly – of which each congregation is a part. You can designate "per capita" on your check and either mail or drop it off at the church. Each member is responsible for this; otherwise, it's the church's responsibility to pay for the members.

The church office will be closed Thursday, December 24 through Friday, January 1 in observance of Christmas and New Year's. If you have an emergency during that time, you can call Pastor Cathy on her cell phone (217-550-2466).

The January/February/March issue of *These Days* (daily devotional) is now available. Free copies are located on the table just outside the church office.

A congregational meeting will be held via Zoom on Sunday, January 17 for the purpose of electing corporation officers and members of the nominating committee. More information will be available in January.

Gleanings from Jim White

Boustrophedon is a type of bi-directional text in which alternate lines are read in opposite directions. For example, if one line is read right-to-left, then the next is read left-to-right. This was a common way of writing in stone in ancient Greece.

Worship Schedule

In-person worship is suspended through January 31st. The session will revisit this topic at their next meeting. In the meantime, worship videos will still be available on the church's website at www.echohillchurch.org/worship. Please continue to [listen in on Facebook](#)... and also join us for WOW on Wednesday evenings.

Worship on Wednesday (WOW) is taking place via Zoom! WOW is held at its normal time (7:00 pm on Wednesday nights). And since we do it virtually, we can sing! If you'd like to participate, please email Carol Sindelar at fishlounge1@cs.com and she will send you a Zoom invite for that week's worship.

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, Dec. 27:

11:30 AM: Calvin-Sinclair Worship-Sanctuary
12:30 PM: African Congregation-Fellowship Hall
12:30 PM: Calvin-Sinclair Session Meeting-Room #1

Monday, Dec. 28: Office Closed

9:00 AM-12:00 PM: Sewing Group-Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, December 29: Office Closed

9:00 AM: Calvin-Sinclair Coffee & Conversation-Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, Dec. 30: Office Closed

7:00 PM: Worship on Wednesday (Via Zoom)

Thursday, Dec. 31: Office Closed

New Year's Eve

Friday, Jan. 1: Office Closed

New Year's Day

Saturday, Jan. 2:

No Events Scheduled

Sunday, Jan. 3:

Communion

11:30 AM: Calvin-Sinclair Worship-Sanctuary
12:30 PM: African Congregation-Fellowship Hall

Monday, Jan. 4: Office Hours: 8:30 AM-4:30 PM

9:00 AM-12:00 PM: Sewing Group-Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, Jan. 5: Office Hours: 8:30 AM-4:30 PM

9:00 AM: Calvin-Sinclair Coffee & Conversation-Fellowship Hall
6:30 PM: Deacons Meeting

Wednesday, Jan. 6: Office Hours: 8:30 AM-4:30 PM

Deadline for Bulletin News (10:00 AM)

7:00 PM: Worship on Wednesday (Via Zoom)

Thursday, Jan. 7: Office Hours: 8:30 AM-4:30 PM

6:00 PM: Worker Bees

Friday, Jan. 8: Office Hours: 8:0 AM-12:00 PM

No Events Scheduled

Saturday, Jan. 9:

No Events Scheduled



"Like" Echo Hill on Facebook! Just go to www.facebook.com/EchoHillPresbyterianChurch.

This is the official Facebook site for Echo Hill. Check it out for words of guidance, photos, event information, and more!

“Where there is no vision, the people perish.” – Proverbs 29:18

Thank You from Olivet



Dear Echo Hill,

Words cannot express the appreciation and gratitude for your recent donation for Olivet Neighborhood Mission! Your donation will be used to help our neighbors in need!

In 2019 alone, 38, 117 individuals/families were served by our food pantry and clothing closet. We are one of the largest food pantries in Linn County with 12,137 food boxes distributed in 2019 (feeding an average of 3,100 people per month). We distributed over 456 tons worth of food during 2019. Nearly 1,000 children and families were adopted through our Thanksgiving and Christmas adoption programs. Our youth programs (after-school and all-day summer) were at capacity serving over 100 children with over 6,000 contact hours. Both Head Start classrooms were full of 16 preschool children in each classroom. Our Mercy Parish Nurse was onsite at the Mission consulting with clients for 375 hours in 2019. In Fiscal Year 2019, there were a total of 6,609 volunteer hours donated by 28 active weekly volunteers. The valuation per hour for this volunteer time is \$25.43 per hour. This is a total yearly in-kind valuation of \$168,067.

We so appreciate your support – you play an essential part in allowing us to continue our stewardship and growth in service for our community. On behalf of our Board of Directors, staff, and the grownups and children we serve, thank you for investing in Olivet Mission.

With Gratitude,

Julie Palmer, Director, Olivet Neighborhood Mission

Food Bank Update for December



We are trying a new approach to donating to the food bank we support each month. If you would like to support the organization, instead of bringing items to the church, consider making a monetary donation. Often, the organizations can purchase food at a lower cost, and more efficiently than we can. The food bank we will be supporting in December is Olivet Neighborhood Mission. If you'd like to contribute, simply leave your donation in the office, or mail it to church, with a notation on the check for "food bank." Make your checks out to "Echo Hill Church" and we'll send one check at the end of each month. Thank you, Echo Hill, for your support of these organizations.

December 27 Worship Links Available Here



The Presbytery of East Iowa is excited to offer a pre-recorded worship service for Sunday, December 27. The service utilizes liturgical resources from Sanctified Art. The preacher is Ruling Elder Marta Pumroy, member of First Presbyterian in Marion and co-moderator of the PC(USA)'s Racism, Truth and Reconciliation Committee. To watch the video on the presbytery's [YouTube page, click here](#). To see a bulletin for the worship service, [please click here](#). You can also go to Echo Hill's Facebook page on Sunday morning to see the links.

The worship video includes a slide show of missional photos from churches within the Presbytery. Check it out – you might see some people you recognize from Echo Hill!

Interim Pastor:

Cathy Allen
censignallen@gmail.com
Church Office: 319-377-4360
Cell Phone: 217-550-2466

Accounting Specialist:

Sandy Minger
s.minger@echohillchurch.org
Church Office: 319-377-4360

Communication Coordinator:

Michael Becker
m.becker@echohillchurch.org
Church Office: 319-377-4360

Accompanist:

Reagan Bieber

Custodian:

Sarah Switalski

Order of Worship – January 3, 2021

The January 3rd worship service will be recorded and will be available online later.
You can find it by going to www.echohillchurch.org/worship.

Gather for Worship -----

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship -----

L: The Magi had a dream. They dreamed of a Messiah. They dreamed of just rulers. They dreamed of a new day for all people.

The Magi had a dream, and this dream led them to action. They journeyed to unknown places. They followed a star. They walked for days to get to Jesus.

So may we be like the Magi. May our dreams inspire action. May we worship the one true God. Amen.

Hymn

Prayer of Confession -----

All: God, I love to worship you when the stars are bright above me. I love to worship you when the sky is clear, and the breeze just right. I love to worship you when the journey to Bethlehem is an easy one.

Unfortunately, as you know, this journey of life, love, and faith is rarely easy. Now and again, the stars disappear. My feet get blisters, and the journey is far too long and lonely. On these days, forgive me for giving up quickly. Forgive me for allowing the dream to die and for taking the shortcut home. I want to be as brave as the Magi. I want to persevere. Guide my feet. Show me the stars. Amen.

Proclaiming God's Word -----

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Matthew 2:1-12

Message

Pastor Cathy Allen

Responding to God's Word -----

Offering Dedication

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper -----

Invitation to the Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving & Words of Institution

Communion of the People

Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer

Leave to Serve God's People -----

Benediction/Blessing

Postlude