

Eaton First Church of God

JULY 2026

PASTOR'S THOUGHTS

What does it mean to step out on faith? Peter trusted the command of Jesus and walked on water, and while we love to hear the story, I've yet to see anyone attempt the same. Every church wrestles with this question, especially when it comes to finances and the process of forming a budget.

There will always be some in the church who want to jump first, ask questions later. Without this group you would never think of training squirrels to pass out church invites.

This is terribly stressful for another group equally important in the life of the church: sensible people. These are the ones asking uncomfortable questions like, "Who's catching them?" "How do you feed an army of squirrels?", or "Does insurance cover squirrel bites?".

Which one is right? I think this is the wrong sort of question. As we make decisions in the body of Christ, I think God is most honored when we agree together in prayer and seek His face rather than assuming our natural inclinations are the way everyone should go.

SPECIAL BUSINESS MEETING RESULTS

At a special business meeting on Sunday, June 28, the church voted to bring on Allie Little as a full-time Youth Pastor for a one-year trial period. Please keep Allie in your prayers as she transitions into this full-time ministry role.

CARRY-IN ON AUGUST 2

Exciting news! We are hosting a group of 40 girls from one of the Church of God's schools in Tokyo on Sunday August 2nd. They will join us for worship as part of their English Immersion program, and for a church carry-in immediately after church. Please plan on staying and eating with them and making them feel welcome! See Matthew Duffie if you have questions.

11TH ANNUAL BLOOD DRIVE

Help the Jones family honor a young father's memory and legacy while saving lives by signing up to donate blood at the 11th Annual Vincent Jones Memorial Blood Drive on Saturday, July 18th from 7:30 am to 1:30 pm at the church. Go to www.donortime.com or call 937-461-3220 to sign up to donate today! We have LOTS of spots and need your help to fill them, so sign up today to be a #Lifesaver!

UPCOMING

KEENAGER'S BREAKFAST | Tuesday, July 7 @ 9am
All senior retirees meet for breakfast at Bob Evans in Eaton.

MEN'S BREAKFAST | Saturday, July 11
For all men - 7:30am in the gym for great food & fellowship!

NURSING HOME MINISTRY | Sunday, July 12
All are invited to join us as we worship with those at Maple Gardens Nursing Home (515 S. Maple St., Eaton) at 2pm.

BACKYARD SERVICE COMING IN JULY

Join us as we gather together in July & August for our backyard services. Bring lawn chairs and a dish to share for a fellowship time before the service.

- July 19th @ 6:00pm at the home of Scott & Robin Judd (4555 Pyrmont Rd., Lewisburg).
- August 9th @ 6:00pm at the home of Terry & June Creech (5289 Bantas Creek Rd., W. Alexandria).

Note: If the service is cancelled due to weather, a notice will be put on the church's Facebook and an email sent.

WOW SMALL GROUP | Widows or Widowers

Thursday, July 30 at 4:00pm. Meet in our east-end church parking lot to carpool to Ros Morey's home (518 NW M St., Richmond, IN). While there, we will share the cost of pizza & enjoy games on her patio. Please bring your own drink, and any additional "sides" you prefer. Contact Shirley Clark 937.733.2628 with questions/comments.

DONORS OF THE CAPITAL FUNDS CAMPAIGN

If you donated to the Capital Funds Campaign between December 2015 - November 2018, you'll be receiving a letter asking for your permission to broaden the use of those funds to include renovating/reconfiguring our existing spaces to better support our ministries. Please read the letter carefully and respond promptly so we can move forward. If you have any questions, please see Karen Bryant (karen@e1cog.com).

SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

We are partnering with the Common Good to provide required school supplies for students in need. Our church has been asked to provide:

Colored Pencils (12ct) - 30 Pocket Folders - 100
Cap Erasers - 40 packs Back Packs

If you are able to donate, please sign up at the resource center. All donations need to be put in the container in the commons by **Sunday, July 26.**

EATON FIRST KIDS

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

Join us Friday July 24th at 6pm for some fun family fellowship! We will begin at 6pm with some outdoor games families can enjoy together. Hot dogs, chips, and drinks will be provided. All you need to do is bring movie snacks to share and lawn chairs, bean bags, or blankets to set up in the gym while we watch the movie "David"! Movie will begin around 7:15pm for those that need to join in a little late!



*PLEASE NOTE: There will be a designated area for anyone wanting to indulge in some water balloon fun! A change of clothes and a towel wouldn't be a bad idea for the enjoyment of the movie in the air conditioning! 😊

EATON FIRST KIDS WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

We are on break until September. Make plans to join us then!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL UPDATE

Our Rainforest Falls VBS is all wrapped up and many of our decorations, as well as, curriculum are being passed on to another church that will also be passing it along to another church! It is such a good feeling to work in unison with other churches to reach the kids in our area for Jesus. We had a wonderful week at E1COG! We had 79 kids that attended at least one night. As usual, we had an incredible showing from our church family in the form of crew leaders, station leaders, security, kitchen crew, and people that came to help set up and tear down. The most exciting of course is the way God showed up for us every single night! We saw souls saved and seeds planted. God is so good and all glory is due Him! We are already looking forward to Vacation Bible School for the summer of 2027!

JUNE GIVING/ATTENDANCE:

	AM Attn.	Offering	Bldg/Reno Fund	Faith Promise
June Online		\$4,883.00		\$475.00
5/31/26	186	6,838.41	164.00	526.00
6/7/26	165	7,720.69	104.00	371.00
6/14/26	179	6,021.00	104.00	451.00
6/21/26	182	2,460.00	34.00	327.00
6/28/26	163	5,878.30	499.00	576.00

Average Weekly Offering: \$6,760.28

Average Weekly Offering Needed 2026: \$8,056

EATON FIRST YOUTH

NERF, NACHOS....AND GLOW!

If you don't have a Nerf gun, you better get one! Join us on Sunday, July 19 at 7pm for some friendly competition! Bring a Nerf gun, Nerf darts and friends! And don't forget to wear neon because it's going to "glow" down!

YOUTH SUMMER BREAK

Youth Wednesday nights and the Guys & Girls Bible Studies are on break until September - enjoy your summer!

GET CONNECTED @ elcog.com

Small groups and Sunday classes offer an opportunity to study the Bible in a smaller, more discussion-based setting. Check our website for more information.

COMMUNITY

CHECK OUT THESE BOOKS!

Our very own Kenn Barton has written six books, including journals, devotionals, poetry, and prayer collections. Visit his website at www.Barton-Books.com to explore his work and purchase copies. You can also browse sample books at the Welcome Center in the Commons.

LOVE PACKAGES

Love Packages need donations of Christian materials to send overseas. See container in Commons for list of what they need.

FOOD BANK NEEDING DONATIONS

Food Needed: condiments (ketchup, mustard, mayo, bbq sauce, etc.), cream of chicken soup, jelly, hygiene products (deodorant, shampoo, bar soap, toothpaste, toilet paper). Please put all donations in the marked box in the Commons.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT THE COMMON GOOD

Volunteer at The Common Good of Preble County! They need cashiers and warehouse helpers, with flexible and temporary shifts available. Make a difference and meet great people. Call 937-456-6560, Option #2 to get started.

NEED HELP WITH SCHOOL SUPPLIES?

If you are in need of help with back packs, school supplies, and new tennis shoes for your Preble County student, the Preble County Back to School Program would like to help. Sign ups start in July at the Common Good. For more info stop in (114 N. Cherry St., Eaton) or call 937-456-6560.