

Erin Presbyterian Church News November 2003

Dear Friends,

I love this city. Over the past nine years, I've come to appreciate the beauty, buildings, people and places in and around Knoxville. I've been all over it – north, south, east and west – visiting homes and hospitals, going to different schools and churches, doing funerals in beautiful cemeteries and conducting weddings on farms and ranches. It's one of the perks of being a pastor – you get to travel all over this fine town – and I love it dearly.

There's always something happening; there's always something interesting to see. Whether it's trees in the Fall or looking towards the mountains in the summer, this place can be absolutely breathtaking. Or sometimes there's an art show on at the McClung, or a historical presentation at the downtown East Tennessee museum, or a craft display at the chocolate factory or an open-air concert in Market Street Square. We live in an exceptional town and I personally feel as though my family and I have been deeply blessed to live here.

Knoxville is a great town and has a wonderful cultural history. That's why the church production of "All the Way Home" is so important. It's a play about Knoxvillians. It's a play about the sturdy faith and true grit that previous Knoxvillians experienced. The play was written by Tad Mosel based upon James Agee's Pulitzer Prize winning book, "A Death in the Family." It's a play that everyone who lives in Knoxville should come and see.

Perhaps you remember the scripture, 'a prophet is never honored in his own



country.' Jesus said it when He was visiting His hometown and local region. The townsfolk were jealous of His success and thought that He had forgotten His humble beginnings and local roots. They tried to diminish His authority by refusing to accept Him as Messiah or even Savior. It was a shame because if they had stopped to think about it, part of Christ's success in ministry was due to His ability to relate to allsorts of common people, something He would have learned from the small town He grew up in. He was a credit to their upbringing, so they should have revered and honored Him.

I guess what I'm trying to say is that James Agee is a native son of Knoxville, whose works are read and studied throughout the United States and beyond. Perhaps it's time his very own people started to reclaim his works and revere his gifts for writing, scripting and storytelling. I believe that our Fall play gives all of us a perfect opportunity to do that – to reflect upon the people of Knoxville's past and to honor one of this town's greatest writers.

I hope that you, your family, your friends and neighbors will come to this production. Further details are contained in this newsletter. Tickets are available from the church office.

May God bless you all and may God bless Knoxville too.

John

SUNDAY WORSHIP*November 2***COMMUNION SUNDAY**

Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time
1 Kings 17:17-24 & Luke 7:11-17
"Christ Cares"

*November 9***STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY**

Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
Isaiah 40:1-5 & Luke 7:18-28
"Defeating Doubt"

November 16

Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
Hosea 14:4-9 & Luke 7:29-35
"Make Your Mind Up"

*November 23***CHRIST THE KING/REIGN OF CHRIST
THANK OFFERING**

Psalm 32:1-5 & Luke 7:36-50
"Say it with Tears"

*November 30***First Sunday of Advent**

Zechariah 8:1-8 & Luke 1:26-38
"Something Amazing"

*December 7***COMMUNION SUNDAY****Second Sunday of Advent**

1 Samuel 2:1-2 & Luke 1:39-56
"Heartsong"

VOLUNTEERS LIST

Please check the list below each month and mark your calendar for the week(s) when you are responsible for the following activities:

Greeters

November 2 Jane Yancey and Ruth White
November 9 Jessica Webb and Paula Tate
November 16 Marjorie Swanner and Pearl Swallows
November 23 Lauren Stuart and Evelyn Stuart
November 30 Charles Snodgrass and Marion Sanks
December 7 Charles Scarbrough and Chuck Scarbrough

October Communion Servers

November 2 Gary Blackburn, Mary Nelle Cate,
John House, Marjorie McLean,
Ann Snodgrass, Mary Scarbrough

**Ushers**

November 2 Tom and Harriet Ayers,
Randy and Regina Bishop
November 9 Gary Blackburn, Alex Jaynes
Mike and Mary Nelle Cate
November 16 David Cowen, Jimmy Dean
Tom Chesney, Jay Derrick
*Sierra Henshaw (*Pass Out Bulletins)
November 23 Ann Davis, Pat Sexton
Patty Britton, Evelyn Lowry
November 30 Ron and Sonja Dubois
Morgan and Pat Fitch
December 7 Catherine Landstreet, Dave Leckie
Evelyn Lowry, Bob McLean

Nursery Volunteers

November 2 Shonda Evans
November 9 Jessica Webb
November 16 Henry & Heather Ritchie
November 23 Pam Pfeifer
November 30 Wes Harris
December 7 Christy Blanchard

Guide and Scripture Readers

November 2 Pat Fitch and Morgan Fitch
November 9 John House and Cynthia House
November 16 Eva Quinley and Tom Quinley
November 23 Sonja Dubois and Harriet Ayers
November 30 David Cowen and Stan Stevens
December 7 Bob McLean and Marjorie McLean

Enrichment I

November 2 Evelyn Stuart
November 9 Lauren Stuart
November 16 Lynsey Stuart
November 23 Nicole Webb
November 30 Kristi Bailes
December 7 Apryl Quinn

Enrichment II

November 2 Tracy Long
November 9 Mary Scarbrough
November 16 Lionel Sands
November 23 Kari Matthews
November 30 Anna McKay
December 7 Pam Pfeifer

Counters

November 2 Pam Pfeifer and Tom Quinley
November 9 Mary Nelle Cate and Morgan Fitch
November 16 Marjorie McLean and Gary Blackburn
November 23 Becca Berry and Ann Snodgrass
November 30 Mike Pierce and Morgan Fitch
December 7 Pam Pfeifer and Tom Quinley

*Communion Servers should meet in the Mini-Kitchen
at 9:00 a.m. to prepare communion.*

PRAYER REMINDERS



And the prayer of faith will save the sick man, and the Lord will raise Him up. Pray for one another that you may be healed.
James 5:15-16

Please remember these members of Erin's family in your prayers during the coming month:

- Arbor Terrace:** Helen Staples
- Baptist Hospital - ICU:** Carl Hall, *uncle of Ann Davis*
- Echo Ridge Retirement:** Dorothy Farnham; 8458 Gleason Road; APT 102
- Gallatin, TN:** Eva Denning, *mother of Eva Quinley*
- Greenwood, South Carolina:** Cornelia Erskine; NHC; P.O. Box 3109; Greenwood, SC 29648
- Huntsville, Alabama:** Mattie Tapp Beard (*former Erin Member*)
- Kansas:** Bob Ellis, *nephew of Helen Staples*
- Michigan:** Flora Hudson and Chuck Hudson, *sister and nephew of Mae Brandon-Pershing*
- New York:** Chris Skinner, *friend of Tracy Foster*
- Roanoke, Virginia:** Enid Clarke, *sister of Ruth White*
- San Jose, California:** Dee Ballard, *sister of Eleanor Jaynes*
- Scotland:** Barbara Smith, *mother of Evelyn Stuart;* Dollina Campbell, *friend of Cathy Satterfield*
- Shannondale Health Care Center - 801 Vanosdale Road:** Carolyn Cuany, Room 208; Lelia Rimmer, Room 215

St. Jude's: Walker Hecht (4-years-old)

At Home:

- Jeanette van Aalst Christy Blanchard
- Mae Brandon-Pershing Margaret Casteel
- Michelle Cross (*friend of Debbie Vowell*)
- Gladys Fisher Connie Hawkins
- Ruth Henderson Ann Johns
- Jo Ludwig Elizabeth Martinson
- JE Pershing Henry Thomas Ritchie
- Marion Sanks Ethan Shannon
- Edith Stellacci (*mother of Regina Bishop*)
- Pat Swain Pearl Swallows
- Michael Williams (*son of Bill Williams*)

If there are any changes needed for the above prayer list, please contact Millisa, 588-5350, at the church office.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------|
| Peggy McKinyen | November 1 |
| Lindsay Pfeifer | November 3 |
| Hanna Matthews | November 4 |
| Savannah Johnson | November 5 |
| Amanda Scarbrough | November 5 |
| Kathy Claiborne | November 8 |
| Zach Ludwig | November 8 |
| Julie Miller | November 8 |
| Robby Wadhams | November 8 |
| Hannah Hewgley | November 8 |
| Beverly Sharpe | November 9 |
| Devin Sharpe | November 9 |
| Tom Chesney | November 10 |
| Luke Patterson | November 12 |
| Matthew Cowen | November 13 |
| Nancy Berry | November 15 |
| Alison Robbins | November 16 |
| Sara Leckie | November 16 |
| Connor Quinn | November 17 |
| Scott Blind | November 18 |
| Shirley McLean | November 19 |
| Karen Lewis | November 19 |
| Caroline Pfeifer | November 20 |
| Douglas Sharpe | November 20 |
| Christy Blanchard | November 21 |
| Bill Brazelton | November 25 |
| Heather Ritchie | November 25 |
| Morgan Bitz | December 1 |
| Lionel Sands | December 3 |
| | December 7 |



*Your birthday not listed?
Please contact the church office, 588-5350.*

WE EXPRESS OUR LOVE AND SYMPATHY to Ann Davis on the loss of her friend John Ball, who died on Friday, October 10, in Jacksonville, Florida.

WE EXPRESS OUR LOVE AND SYMPATHY to Claude Houbler on the death of his wife, Pat, who died on Thursday, October 23, 2003 in Knoxville.

MY FAMILIES WANT TO EXPRESS OUR APPRECIATION AND THANKS to our Erin Family for their thoughtfulness and support during the recent passing of our wife and mother, Pat Houbler. The delicious food, cards, calls, and personal contact greatly aided us in getting through a sad time. Claude Houbler, Jenny Boyd, and Judy Clapp.

LETTERS FROM KAREN HARRIS**I Will Never...???**

Have you ever done something you said you would "never" do? Today, I did one of the things that was on my "never" list.

So far, in Belize, I have been stretched and challenged many times. I have encountered new situations with enthusiasm and have enjoyed learning each new thing. Today, on the other hand, I did something that was really hard for me.

Due to a car accident where a power line was knocked down this morning, BCA had no power the entire day. This proved to be a challenge many times: the computer classes could not do anything, the copier would not work (this did save many students from tests!), the fans could not help cool the humid weather, and most importantly, the bell would not ring.

Why, you might be asking, is the bell not working the biggest imposition Karen faced during a day of no power at BCA?

At BCA, the bell ring signifies many important things such as the start of school, beginning and ending of breaks and lunch, and the end of school. Students are told they are not allowed to leave to go to break, lunch, or to leave school until they hear this bell. Since the power going out is not a foreign thing at BCA, the school has a back up plan and because Mrs. Grace left during the middle of the day, I was left to carry out the plan.

During each time the bell was supposed to ring, I had to walk around school ringing a cowbell, yes a cowbell, just like the ones at Mississippi State. All I could think the many times I had to do this was that a Vol fan should never, ever participate in an activity such as this.

I will say I was relieved when my duties as the cowbell ringer ended when Mrs. Grace returned to campus.

Everything else is going good for me. My bug bites have all gone down in size and no longer itch or

hurt. Amazingly, I haven't gotten a new bite since last week. I am also spending time every day acting as the librarian, which is fun.

Thank you all for keeping me updated on the happenings up north. Karen

KAREN HARRIS NEEDS YOUR HELP!

Karen, a Missionary Volunteer at the Belize Christian Academy of Belmopan, Belize, which is a school for about fifteen different nationalities of students, needs your help. **How can you help?** *Commit to pray* for Karen as she faces significant life changes as she depends on God for all of her needs (financial, emotional, physical, spiritual, etc.). *Provide financial support* for Karen. Her missionary position is voluntary. *Communicate with Karen*, by providing positive correspondence. More information is available at the church office. For financial support, please make your check payable to Erin Church; write *Karen Harris* in the memo line.

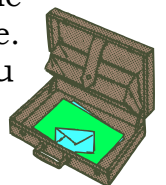
PASTOR BIBLE STUDY

The pastor is currently teaching a 13-week Sunday school class entitled "Christianity & Islam." The study gives a comparative view of both religions and provides class members with a lot of information about what Muslims believe. In times like these, where ignorance can breed aggression and fear, prejudice and misconceptions, this study could become a very important key as to how we cope with the current Middle East situation and how we relate to Islamic believers in our own community.

Everyone is welcome to attend these classes. They take place each Sunday from 9:45 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. in the church Heritage Room. If the class gets larger, it will relocate into the Noah's Ark room.

ARE YOU A "PACK RAT"?

Then you can help! The church is seeking newsletters prior to 1989 and bulletins within any period. These items will be used/donated for the Heritage Room...your heritage. Please drop off any items that you may have during normal office hours or contact Lionel Sands, 693-1567, for more information.



SENIOR SACK LUNCH

The Senior Sack Lunch will be held on Thursday, November 20, at 12:00 Noon in the Fellowship Hall. Earl White, our guest speaker, will present a slide presentation of his travels in Egypt. This is our opportunity to see the land of the Pharaohs, a place that most of us will only read about. *Please bring a sandwich* - chips, pickles, drinks and dessert will be provided. In December, we will have a Christmas Party!

FAMILY HELPERS

If you need help, please let us know. There are Request Forms in the Narthex or you may call the church office, 588-5350, and Millisa will start the ball rolling. If you have a job that you just can't do any longer, then this is a job for the Family Helpers.

LET'S DO DINNER

This is our Italian Month. The dinner group will meet on Tuesday, November 4, at 5:15 p.m. at the Macaroni Grill, which is located on Kingston Pike across from the Mall. You don't have to be a senior to join us - all you need is a love of food and fun. For those who plan to attend, please think about where we should eat in December. Please call Harriet, 966-9822, to make your reservation.

THANK YOU

Thank you for positively supporting this year's Stewardship campaign. Your response to placing your pledge cards in the offering plate each Sunday has been wonderful and heartening to the Stewardship team who are currently shaping next year's budget. If you have not returned your pledge card for 2004, please do so by Sunday, November 9. On that Sunday, the pastor will place all the returned cards on the Communion Table and give a special prayer of Thanksgiving, invoking God to bountifully bless all those who have pledged for 2004.

VOLUNTEER LISTS

If you signed up for a Volunteer activity recently and did not receive a list or if you were not listed for an activity that you wished to participate in or if you were accidentally listed for two places at once (where you couldn't do both) please contact Millisa, 588-5350, and let her know. Volunteer lists were mailed last week.

Attention: Convenors and Group Leaders, you should have received a list of those who *volunteered* for a particular activity. If you are an elder, the list(s) was/were placed in your box located in the middle office. If you are not an elder, you should have received a list via USPS already. If not, please let Millisa know. Copies of each of the volunteer activity lists are located in a binder in the middle office. Please, make as many desired copies; however, do not remove the book from the office area.

*My heart is...with the willing
volunteers among the people.*

Praise the LORD!

Judge 5:9

ERIN PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

The Women's Circles will meet in November to study Lesson 3 in the Horizon's Bible Study "The Face Is Familiar". The third lesson is "A Leader's Intervention". This is the story of a wise woman of Abel who averts disaster for her people and whose faith has led them to undertake risky, holy work. Please read 2 Samuel 20:1, 14 -22.



Come join us for fellowship and Bible Study. On Monday, November 10, Circle IV will meet at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Lionel Sands. Pam Stevens is the lesson leader. **On Tuesday, November 11,** Circle II will meet at 10:00 a.m. in the Church Parlor.

CAKES FOR LAKESHORE

Ladies, men, young and old, we need your help. November is the month that Erin supplies cakes to Lakeshore. These cakes are used to celebrate birthdays and other special occasions for the clients that reside there. YOU can help by baking or buying a cake and bringing it to church on Sunday, November 16. All you have to do is be sure to wrap the cake so that it may be frozen. Please place the cake in the middle office. Last year, we had 30 cakes - this year we would like to exceed that number. YOU CAN DO IT!!!!

November 23 - Thank Offering Sunday
(Including Health Ministries)

HELP NEEDY CHILDREN

Each year Erin's Presbyterian Women collect items for the Christmas Store at Sunset Gap. This Holiday event also teaches the children the Spirit of giving. Participating children are to earn money by doing small chores. They shop for their immediate family only and bring 25 cents or a canned good for our food pantry per each gift purchased. We will be collecting gifts for the store during the last 2 weeks of November so that they may be delivered to Sunset Gap by December 5. A list of items will be posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Please help these needy children by bringing your gifts. Gifts should not be wrapped. **Look for the gift box in the Narthex.** *For more information, please contact Harriet Ayers, 966-9822.*

A FULL CIRCLE

On the Sunday before Thanksgiving, we will be collecting our annual Thank Offering (including Health Ministries).

Throughout the years, many grant requests both overseas and in the U.S are honored. As you know, there are so many needs, and you can imagine the many grants the Churchwide Coordinating Team reviews each year. So we were delighted when we learned that last year Montgomery Village, Child Development Center was chosen to receive \$30,000 for the construction of a new playground. That was actually the largest non-medical grant distributed.

Thank you so much for your contributions. As part of a large group we can and do make a difference. This year we can once again help by participating in the Thank Offering on Sunday, November 23.

Contributed by: Sonja DuBois

Where Does Our Money Go?

*Montgomery Village Child Development Center,
Knoxville, Tennessee,
\$30,000 Grant Recipient*

Presbyterian Women was a very visible part of the September 11, 2002 "day of caring," celebrated in Knoxville, Tennessee. The Knoxville United Way compiled a list of several places in the Knoxville area where people could demonstrate their caring following the tragic events of September 11, 2001. Among the suggested locations was the Montgomery Village Child Development Center, where \$30,000 worth of new playground equipment was needed.

A Thank Offering (including Health Ministries) grant provided a safe and healthy playground for Montgomery Village. Many little faces peered anxiously from the windows the day volunteers from the First Tennessee Bank of Knoxville installed the new playground equipment, replacing an empty place where some broken and unusable play equipment used to be. Large, fanciful animals and climbing structures, all in bright colors, were built and wood chips were spread beneath them to provide a safe surface for playing.

"It was wonderful to see the playground grow," said Helen Sears, former member of the Churchwide Coordinating team of Presbyterian Women, and moderator of the Creative Ministries Offering Committee that selected Montgomery Village as a grant recipient. "Seeing our Thank Offering (including Health Ministries) dollars take shape in such a dramatic way, was a profoundly stirring experience. Thank you, Presbyterian Women."

TOYS • TOYS

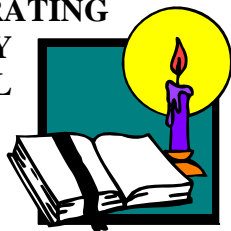
for Girls 'n Boys

Discover...Discovery Toys at 25% off plus no shipping charges or sales tax. Twenty-Five percent (25%) of the profits will be donated to Erin Church's Playground Fund. Toys are available from Erin's church secretary during normal office hours (8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday) through November only.

If your Discovery Toy breaks, you may return it for replacement. Two of my children, ages ten and four, have loved each and every toy purchased for them. *What a great Christmas gift to give...to your loved one and to the Playground Fund.*

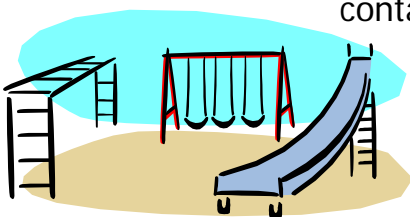
STILL AVAILABLE

BOOKMARKS CELEBRATING ERIN'S 125TH ANNIVERSARY AND DIRECTORIES are still available at a cost of \$5. Please contact the church office, 588-5350, to get yours!



KROGER CARES

DO YOU SHOP AT KROGER? Gift certificates are available. For every \$5,000 we use, the church will get \$250! This money will be used for the Playground Fund. Please see Pam Pfeifer, 691-8492, or contact the church office, 588-5350, to get yours!



Marjorie Swanner Honored for 80 Years of Membership

On Oct. 5, 2003, Erin honored Marjorie Swanner for 80 years of continuous love, devotion and ministry. Marjorie joined our congregation in 1923 at the age of 10.

During her 80 non-stop years at Erin Church, Marjorie has served as an elder, deacon, Sunday school teacher and leader of the Presbyterian Women.

Dear Ms. Swanner:

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

On behalf of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), I would like to express my most sincere congratulations on the celebration of your 90th birthday and 80 years of devoted ministry to Erin Presbyterian Church. You have made a tremendous contribution to our church by offering your many gifts and talents throughout the years serving in Sunday School, on the deacon board, as an elder on the session, as well as your continued active participation in the Presbyterian Women's Circle. Your faithfulness and excellent leadership is a rare and wonderful gift to us.

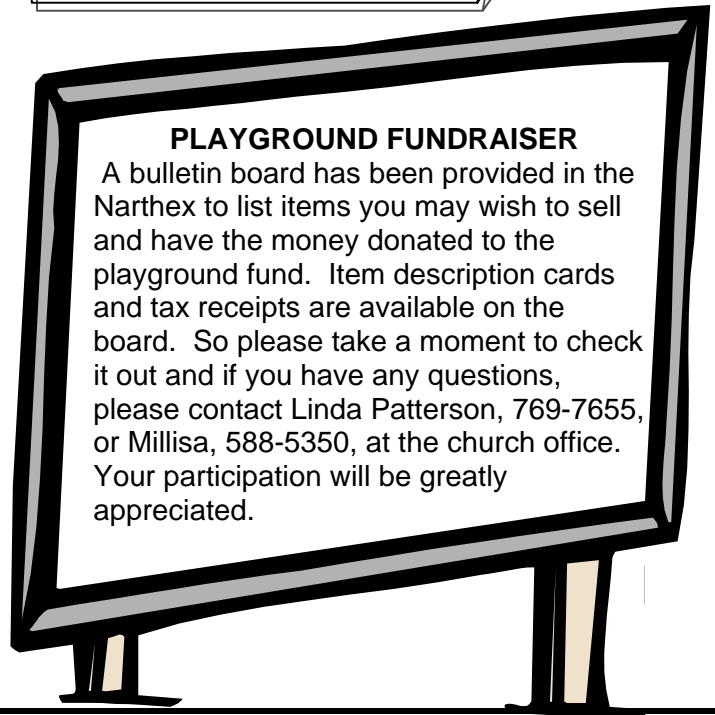
May God's richest blessings be with you and the members of your family. I hope you have a wonderful birthday celebration.

Cordially yours,
Clifton Kirkpatrick
Stated Clerk of the General Assembly



PLAYGROUND FUNDRAISER

A bulletin board has been provided in the Narthex to list items you may wish to sell and have the money donated to the playground fund. Item description cards and tax receipts are available on the board. So please take a moment to check it out and if you have any questions, please contact Linda Patterson, 769-7655, or Millisa, 588-5350, at the church office. Your participation will be greatly appreciated.





CLASS OF 2006

The congregation voted to accept the following individuals as the Elders for the Class of 2006. *Congratulations!*

VIRGINIA CHESNEY
DERRY EVANS
CYNTHIA HOUSE
SARA LECKIE
RON ROBERTS

**“Hanging of the Greens”
Wednesday, December 3**

Everyone is encouraged to participate, and more information will soon follow.

HALLOWEEN PARTY

Thank you Charles and Mary Scarbrough for hosting the annual Halloween Party! There was great food, fun and fellowship!

The Erin Presbyterian Church News is published monthly. Comments and submissions are welcome. Please submit articles by **Wednesday, November 19**, for inclusion in the next month's issue. Place submissions in the Newsletter mailbox in the Church Office or send articles via e-mail to "Erin1877@aol.com". Send Calendar events to "admin@erinpresbyterian.org".

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