

## ERIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEWS

### August 2008

Matthew 4:19-20 *"Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men." 20 At once they left their nets and followed him. (NIV)*

Dear Friends,

I love to go fishing on the man-made lakes of Tennessee. Sometimes, early in the morning, you'll find me down at Concord trying to catch a big fish. I've seen lots of fishing programs with professional anglers, who make the whole process look easy. They just seem to cast out into the water and effortlessly hook those big fish. I am envious of them and want to emulate that. I want to catch a big bass so badly, so that I can call myself a bass fisherman.

So, I go to the fishing store and buy different lures, crankbait, artificial worms, crickets, spinners, and mops. I read books about tying fancy knots, showing me the right size of hook to put on the line. I gaze at local maps and try to work out where those bass actually are. I come totally prepared and feel as though the fish had better watch out – John Stuart, Ace Fisherman is in the area – resistance is futile, bass, when I get you on my hook.

But then reality sets in. I snag the crankbait on a log and lose it. My line fankles around my reel and I have to cut it. I cast my spinners into the trees and they end up looking like Christmas decorations on the branches. The worms are the wrong color and I go home with no fish, half my lures lost, and a painful shoulder. The fish in the lake bubble their laughter at me and I leave disconsolate. Yet, when I'm driving home, all I can think about is getting down on to the water again, in order to catch the big one. I'm hooked on fishing.

I love the fact that Jesus chose fishermen to be His first disciples. They were the perfect guys to build a ministry. They never seem to give up and even in bad times, they put their boat out again and again, looking for that big catch of the season. I guess Jesus thought that if He could encourage them to think that way about God's Kingdom, they would always go out looking for more converts and disciples, more followers for Christ and servants for God.



He chose the right people because Christ's ministry, which began with 12 followers, has blossomed all over the earth into 2 billion souls. It's amazing to see what has been accomplished in 2000 years. Perhaps 2000 years from now, the whole planet will be Christian.

And that's where we come in at Erin. We continue this fishing ministry of Christ that Jesus gave to our Scots-Irish predecessors 131 years ago. Throughout that time, thousands of people have come to Erin to know the Lord. We are in the catching business and that kind of work is never over until the Kingdom comes. In recent years, we have used all of our resources, talents, and gifted people to attract others to this wee church. God has been good to us and we have been faithful to Christ's cause. It is my utmost hope and fervent prayer that we continue to do this by becoming the fishers of women, men, and children that Jesus expects us to be.

So, here's the challenge. The church year is about to begin in September. Let's all make an effort of inviting and bringing one other person to worship at Erin church this Fall. In doing this, we will all be fulfilling Christ's ministry and showing Him that we honestly care about the people we love and the community that we live in. If everyone who reads this newsletter successfully brought along just one other person, we would double our numbers by Christmas. That would be a great catch for the Lord and a wonderful work to honor His Name.

May God bless us as we carry on Christ's ministry here at Erin.

John

**August Sundays**

**August 3**

**Communion Sunday**

Psalm 119:33-40 & Philippians 3:12-16  
"Runaway"

**August 10**

**19<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Ecclesiastes 7:1-6 & Philippians 3:17-4:1  
"Suspicious Minds"

**August 17**

**20<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Isaiah 54:10-15 & Philippians 4:2-9  
"Gentle on My Mind"

**August 24**

**21<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**August 31**

**22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**September 7**

**Communion Sunday**

**Rally Day**



WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Save the Date.....

Women's Fall Retreat

October 10th and 11th

Look for more information  
in upcoming bulletins and newsletters.  
Questions?? Jennifer Gahan

**August Birthdays**

*(This may not be an accurate list and some names may be missing. If so, please accept our apologies)*



Amanda Baucom	August 2
Carl Dent	August 2
Agnes Kirby	August 3
Olivia Baucom	August 6
Lauren Stuart	August 9
Owen Matthews	August 10
Wayne Bridwell	August 11
Helen Henry	August 11
Mary Frierson	August 14
Hugh Jaynes	August 14
Virginia Chesney	August 15
Emily Jenness	August 16
Garren Miller	August 16
Sue Rayburn	August 20
Keeny Robinson	August 23
Mary Ann Hagler	August 24
Ruth Henderson	August 25
Hillary Pearson	August 25
Pam Stevens	August 25
Catherine Landstreet	August 27
Don Gunter	August 28
Mike Hurst	August 30
Ray Schall	August 30
Lynn Sexton	August 30
Lauren Gahan	August 31
Bob Price Jr.	August 31

**First Days of September**

Julie Simpson	September 5
Joe Jaynes	September 6
Ethan Sharp	September 6
Joshua Stinnett	September 6
Lydia Foster	September 7
Donald Quinley	September 7

*Your birthday not listed?  
Please call the office at 588-5350.*



**REMINDER**  
**Knox County Schools**  
**start back August 11**  
**on a full day schedule**

## **DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRY**

### **ENRICHMENT SCHEDULE**

The following is the August schedule for Enrichment - if you are unable to attend on your scheduled date, please contact someone to take your place:

	August 3		
Linda Quinley	Jennifer Gahan	Heather Ritchie	
	August 10		
Eva Quinley	Apryl Quinn	Denise Bilbrey	
	August 17		
Pam Pfeifer	Kim Pennington	Kelcey Levering	
	August 24		
Erin McCallum	Carla Hoskins	Susan Hannah	
	August 31		
Mike Sharp	Kristi Bailes	Kelli Crisp	

### Youth News

Wow! This summer has been a fun and relaxing one for the Erin Youth Program. Although we've taken a break from our Sunday night activities, don't think there's nothing going on! This summer, our book club has taken off and this fall we'll be moving on to the second book in the Chronicles of Narnia series, "The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe". If you're in middle or high school, I'd love to see you at Book Club! Our next meeting is July 29th, 6:00 PM at my house (660 Shadywood, off Gleason). Bring your book and your appetite, because like every good youth event, there will be food!

This summer, we also got the opportunity to serve by helping the Jenness family stain their back porch. With many hands, the work went quickly and we all had a great time! Thanks to all the kids who turned out and to the Jenness' family. Our youth also served by working at Vacation Bible School. We had around 13 youth each day! They sang, taught, danced, and had a lot of fun! We also participated in the Habitat for Humanity trip this summer. Mary Bryan McLeod and I spent 4 sweaty days outside Oneida building a subfloor on a Habitat house. We were hot, dirty, and tired, but we had a great time and hope that more youth are able to experience this trip next year!

In July, the youth went to Montreat for the annual Youth Conference. The theme was "Throw Open the Doors." We sent 11 youth and 2 adults, myself and Emily Jenness (our "male" chaperone). Montreat is

always such a wonderful experience and this year was no different. Through small groups, worship, keynote, and recreation, our youth learned more about themselves and their relationship with God. When we left, they were already asking me if we could go ahead and register for next year! Thanks again to the entire congregation for all you do to get our kids to Montreat.

Youth Sunday was July 20th. The youth created, wrote, and lead the entire service, from the pre-worship music to every prayer. I was so proud of them for all the hard work they did and the beautiful outcome. What a moving service! To see our kids behind the pulpit gives me so much hope for the future of the PCUSA.

I love the summer because, as a teacher, it gives me time to spend some one on one time with our youth. Over these last 2 months, I've gotten to "hang out" with almost all of them in a small group setting, be it on a trip, over lunch, at an ice cream parlor, or at my house. As we head into fall, I want to encourage any middle or high school youth in the congregation (or in the community!) who are not yet involved with the program, to come join us. We have a wonderful bunch of youth who are loving, accepting, and most of all, tons of fun! I pray constantly that those who need this program will be lead to it. Please help me in that by encouraging your children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, neighbors and friends to check out the Erin Youth Program! Our first meeting of the new school year will be August 10th, at church, 5:00-7:30!

Love in Christ,  
Becca Berry



Montreat 2008

### Graduated Erin Senior Highs: Where are they now?

Many of you ask me often about where our former Sr. Highs have gone after high school, so here is a little blurb to keep the church updated about the whereabouts of these great "kids"! Because we have so many former youth, I'll be writing about one graduating class each month. This month is "Class of '06"

**Zach Cowen:** Zach is pursuing a degree in Fashion Photography at the Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD). He's currently working at a bike shop in town and still loves music, art, and of course, taking beautiful pictures!

**Zach Ludwig:** Zach is pursuing a degree in Psychology at Tennessee Tech where he is in the Honors Program. He also works as a lifeguard at the TN Tech Fitness Center.

**David Snodgrass:** David is pursuing a degree in Instrumental Music Education at MTSU and works in the kitchen at the Chop House there. He is an officer in the music fraternity, a rank leader in the Band of Blue, and a leader in the trombone studio!

**Ryan Holliday:** Ryan has changed majors and schools over the past couple years, and has now decided to pursue a degree in Education! He is also recently engaged to Whitney Wallace (another former Erin Senior High!) and they plan to marry this September.

**Lauren Stuart:** Thankfully we all get to keep up with Lauren on a regular basis! We are so blessed to have her at Erin during her college years. Lauren's pursuing a degree in Social Work from Pellissippi/UT, although who knows what her plans will be once she's finished her mission work in Africa! ([www.theroadtoafrika.blogspot.com](http://www.theroadtoafrika.blogspot.com))

**Whitney Wallace:** You may not have known Whitney well while she was at Erin, because she was "Catholic by day, Presbyterian by night"! We were so lucky to have her active with Erin's youth programs while she attended Sacred Heart with her family. Whitney is also pursuing a degree in Education and plans to marry Ryan Holliday this September!

Erin has truly been (and continues to be) blessed with bright, talented, wonderful kids and I am continually blessed to be able to work with them during these formative years.

Becca Berry, Youth Director



*Each month, I'll be introducing you to one of our awesome youth! This month's youth is:*

Name: Jenny Carter

Grade: 11th [junior!!! :D]

School: Hardin Valley Academy

Name some stuff you do, besides school: *I love to do things like hang out with my friends, and also I play guitar like all the time.*

Favorite snack: *Salt and Vinegar chips...they're just so delicious!*

Favorite day of the week: *Friday! For the obvious reasons...*

What do you want to be when you grow up?: *Well, really, I wasn't planning to grow up. But apparently, you can't really reverse this process called life, so I would like to start out in something like music or art therapy, and then eventually open my own restaraunt.*

Favorite thing about Erin Pres: *I feel like Erin is my 2nd home and that the people there are like my 2nd family. I love that.*

Best thing about youth group: *We all really have great connections with each other and I think thats something thats unique about the Erin youth program. We're all BFFs. (For all of you that don't speak "teenager", that's "Best Friends Forever")*

One thing people don't know about you: *I watch wayyyyy too much tv.*

Jenny's a creative, laid back, hilarious girl! Next time you see her around Erin, say hello!

Becca Berry, Youth Director





**MOPS NEWS**

Attention Mothers of Preschoolers! Come meet other moms of preschool-aged children at our MOPS Open House on Thursday, August 28<sup>th</sup> from 10 am – 12 pm in the Family Life Center.

MOPS (Mother's of Preschoolers) is a non-denominational Christian group designed to nurture and inspire mothers of young children. Erin's MOPS group meets in the Family Life Center on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays (9:30 – 11:30 am) during the months of September through May. This year's MOPS theme is "Adventures in Mothering": we will share in the challenges of daily mom life, celebrate the fun in our experiences, and realize that we are not alone in this great adventure! So come learn more about Erin MOPS at our Open House August 28<sup>th</sup>! For more information, contact Joy Bornhoeft (jbornhoeft@knology.net).

**SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY**

**Happy Summer – Body Recall** will meet Monday afternoons only at 4:00pm throughout the month of August. We look forward to seeing you this summer!



**PW NEWS**



**Circles will start back in September--Save the Date:** Saturday, September 6<sup>th</sup> we will have an overview of our Bible Study for next year, "Jubilee, Luke's Gospel for the Poor."

**NEW!!!! Wednesday Night Science Lab**



This Fall, for ages 4-104, Erin offers a fun and lively science lab every Wednesday night!

- Did you know that one of the plagues was the plague of frogs? This will be studied in depth in the Science Lab including an actual Frog Terrarium.
- Did you know that the pyramids were made out of bricks? They are going to make actual bricks in the science lab using clay and straw, just like they did it in the Bible, including mixing it with your feet.
- Did you know that Mt. Sinai may have been a volcano? Do you know how a volcano works? They are going to build an actual working model of a volcano in the Science Lab.

Mary Alice and Kelli, the non-scientist organizers of the Science Lab, are conducting a scientific experiment to find volunteer scientists willing to help with the programs. There are many more topics besides the ones listed. If you are willing to help with one or more of the programs, please use your phone, invented by Scotsman Scientist Alexander Graham Bell, to call them. Lab coats will be provided.

Mary Alice Vowell: 207-8542

([maryalice@gcarltonsalon.com](mailto:maryalice@gcarltonsalon.com))

Kelli Crisp: 556-2477 ([kellicrisp@knology.net](mailto:kellicrisp@knology.net))

**FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY**



**LET'S DO DINNER** meets Tuesday, August 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:15pm.

Join us at Bravo's for good food, fun and fellowship!

**Men's Breakfast** will meet Saturday, August 16<sup>th</sup> at 8:30ish. Bring your tools, etc. – after a hearty breakfast and fellowship, join us



outside the main entrance of Erin for work in the Juanita Sloan Garden. We

look forward to seeing you then!

## OUTREACH

### IT'S FURNITURE MINISTRY TIME AGAIN

Erin's next date for participating in the Compassion Coalition's Furniture Ministry is SATURDAY, AUG. 9, from 8:30-11:30 am.

The Outreach Team invites all able-bodied men, women and youth to help. Pickup trucks and vans are especially needed. It's a rewarding and fun way to minister directly to the less-fortunate in our community.

The Furniture Ministry warehouse has moved to a new location: Lost Sheep Ministries, 1444 Breda Drive. (Breda Drive runs parallel to I-640 between the Clinton Hwy. and Broadway exits.)

Please contact Joe Jaynes at 675-1278  
([jtj@abacusarts.com](mailto:jtj@abacusarts.com)) for directions.



### THE ROAD TO AFRICA

Saturday, July 19

#### Frustrations

While the kids are busy listening to their MP3 players (yes, they have MP3 players- a past volunteer donated them), I figured I would write a quick update. It's been yet another long week, and this week was pretty frustrating. Tara and I are trying to handle being the only people here and it's been a lot of extra work on our part so far.

I was supposed to go with the kids to Rocken Hill on Tuesday, so we planned on leaving around 9:30 that morning. At about 11:45, I realized it wasn't going to happen. I was extremely annoyed by it because I had planned my day around it and I was completely ready to go. So then I was told to come in at 6:30 on Wednesday to leave with the kids. We didn't end up leaving until about 7:45, but at least we left. The ride there wasn't too bad. Although, it was 7 kids and myself on top of 7 kids worth of luggage and a mattress, so that was interesting. I have some pretty cute pictures of the kids all trying to take naps in the back of the truck. And I promise one day I will get them uploaded. But we got to Rocken Hill 3 hours later, and got the kids situated. The school was adorable and you could tell that the 7 of them were really excited to be there. It was extremely hard to say

goodbye to them, especially to Adelina. I gave her a huge hug and told her I loved her in Swahili and then I started crying a little bit. Then I told them good luck and for them to have fun, and then we left. For some reason the ride home took about 4 1/2 hours. It still doesn't make sense to me. And because I was the only thing in the back of the truck, the ride was even bumpier. But I did eventually get home and I was really glad I went with the kids.

Every week, we have a meeting with the staff to go over some things, and every week seems to be more frustrating than the one before. Tara and I both have things that we are very passionate about doing while we're here, and things always seem to get lost in translation during the meetings. My goal is to find either a social worker or child psychologist to come in once or twice a week to talk to some of the kids who have been sexually or physically abused, are living with HIV, or have parents dying of AIDS. I brought it up in the meeting this week, and I can't even tell you what the outcome of it was. I have no idea what they were saying. But I think it comes down to that they think they can handle these issues, even though they definitely don't have the training to do so. It must just be the social worker in me coming out, but I am very passionate to give these kids an outlet and I am so frustrated that it doesn't seem like anyone here wants to give them that outlet.

Oh well. Hopefully things will get better. I've learned that if you want something done here, you just have to do it yourself. So next week I'll probably end up making phone calls and visiting social workers in the area.

I better get back to the kiddies, but I just wanted to give you a quick update to let you know how this week went. I'll try and write again soon!

Ubarikiwe.

Posted by Lauren



## STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY

*How much is enough* for each of us so that all inhabitants of this good earth may share in the abundance God offers? G.K. Chesterton, the nineteenth century British author, suggested that there are two ways to have enough: one is to accumulate more and more. The other is to desire less.

Graceful living is about finding an answer to the question, '*How much is enough?*' The answer grows out of our love for God, neighbor and for all of God's creation. It means letting our faith and the values derived from that faith drive our consumption patterns—not advertising or the spread of global capitalism that seem to put the dream of 'the good life'—measured by material possessions and social status—within easy reach.

While most of us will continue to experience the tension created by living in a consumer society while trying to live as the people of God, it is possible to deal with that tension and resolve it to a large extent in the decisions we make about our lifestyles. How we spend, save or give away our money, our time and our God-given gifts reflects our faith and values.

Graceful living begins with an alternative vision of how you'd like to live. Now is the time to dream a dream of your own. What is 'the good life' for you and your loved ones? How much of what you want for yourselves is part of the American Dream and how much is related to the Dream of God?

To help in your ongoing search for a lifestyle consistent with your faith and values, I want to suggest seven key graceful living concepts that grow out of faith in a gracious God. These concepts are abundance, frugality, simplicity, generosity, sustainability, justice and Sabbath.

Creating a lifestyle based on these core values challenges our culture's most basic assumptions about what constitutes a life well lived, and yet taken together, they are consistent with God's dream that all shall have enough.

Excerpted from *Graceful Living: Your Faith, Values, and Money in Changing Times* by the Rev. Laura Dunham, Certified Financial Planner.

## Stewardship Figures YTD July, 2008

	Jan- Jul 08	Jan - Jul 07
<b>Income</b>		
Bequests	33,146.05	0.00
Creative Exp	4,916.80	4,724.00
Property	13,378.00	7,872.13
Discipleship	5,312.00	6,624.59
Fellowship	2,902.20	5,336.04
Stewardship	455.82	162.63
Memorial	100.00	980.00
Outreach	11,919.30	5,515.30
Offerings	178,446.59	168,917.47
Worship	500.00	550.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>251,076.76</b>	<b>200,682.16</b>
<b>Expense</b>		
Creative Exp	10,217.49	7,804.86
Property	33,086.32	39,771.57
Discipleship	15,420.16	16,705.67
Fellowship	4,736.06	7,781.73
Outreach	33,490.01	21,784.86
Stewardship	63,500.83	58,127.00
Worship	2,783.17	2,137.56
Pastoral		
Ministry	58,911.79	55,544.06
Memorial	1,835.29	989.75
Session	380.30	328.94
PW	0.00	100.00
Payroll	500.00	0.00
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>224,861.42</b>	<b>211,076.00</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>26,215.34</b>	<b>-10,393.84</b>

### 1 Timothy 3:1-7

Here is a trustworthy saying: If anyone sets his heart on being an overseer, he desires a noble task. Now the overseer must be above reproach, the husband of but one wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not given to drunkenness, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. He must manage his own family well and see that his children obey him with proper respect. (If anyone does not know how to manage his own family, how can he take care of God's church?) He must not be a recent convert, or he may become conceited and fall under the same judgment as the devil. He must also have a good reputation with outsiders, so that he will not fall into disgrace and into the devil's trap.

**PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE WEEK OF July  
27 2008**

**IRAQ**

*Joseph McLeod*

*Don Gunter* (husband of Paula Tate-Gunter).

*Andrew Alger* (nephew of Susan Hannah)

**TENNESSEE**

*Chuck Scarbrough*

*Lora Yard*

*Peggy Dean* (friend of Robin Cuany)

*Jimmy* (friend of Apryl Quinn and Kari Matthews)

*Anne Latimer* (mother of Jill Burger)

*Jody McKenry* (cousin of John McKenry)

*Henry Thomas Ritchie*

*Stephanie Montgomery* (co-worker of David Eggers)

*Anne Estes* (friend of Sue Rayburn)

*Jennifer Shaw* (MOPS mom)

*Joanne Hill* (Friend of the Hickmans)

*Marion Sanks*

*Marjorie Swanner*

*Kari Matthews*

*Mrs. Pat Swain*

*Alicia & Charlie Gross* (friends of Bud & Lora Yard)

*Georgia Parry* (friend of Ruth White and Jane Yancey)

**ILLINOIS**

*Dorothy Burns* (aunt of Allyson Streckfuss)

**MICHIGAN**

*Flora Hudson* (sister of Mae Brandon)

**MARYLAND**

*Robert L. Cutts* (friend of Ray and Donna Schall)

**CALIFORNIA**

*Linda Gaspar* (sister of Dave Leckie)

**SOUTH CAROLINA**

*The Chai Family* (relatives of the Jaynes')

*Sara Mantle*

*Janie Cross* (friend of Jane Yancey)

**GUATEMALA**

*Luis Angel* (student at the Guatemala School)

The Erin Presbyterian Church News is published monthly. Comments and submissions are welcome. Please submit articles by **Wednesday, August 27** for inclusion in the next month's issue. Place submissions in Administrator's mailbox in the Church Office or send articles and/or calendar events via e-mail to "**admin@erinpresbyterian.org**".

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**ERIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

200 Lockett Road Phone: (865) 588-5350

Knoxville, TN Fax: (865) 584-7775

37919-4808

[www.ErinPresbyterian.org](http://www.ErinPresbyterian.org)

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