

ERIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEWS

February 2009



Isaiah 49:20 The children born during troubled times will yet say in your hearing, "This place is too small for us; give us more space to live in."

A couple of Sundays ago, on a very cold and bitter day, with nothing special going on at the church, we had 192 people in our sanctuary. Almost 200 men, women, and children of all ages had turned up for worship. Usually in January, because it is so cold, our church has about 140-150 at the worship service. I was amazed at how many God called that day, and yet I should have known it was going to happen, because earlier that morning, I walked around the adult Sunday school rooms and all of them had good sized classes.

Recently, we've undergone some setbacks and struggles, but God is still willing to bless us by calling many people to worship here. Something good is happening at Erin and all sorts of members are deepening their relationship with God. It's a wonderful gift and one that we daren't take for granted.

I fully believe that we have reached a beautiful crossroads in the history of this church. We're going to run out of room in the sanctuary, the education wing, and the fellowship hall. We're about to break through and carve out a new destiny for this church. And if things keep growing, we may have to go to two Sunday services in order to accommodate all of the people who want to come here to worship God.

It seems to be that God has chosen us for His purposes, and if we remain faithful to Him, then He will bring people here that will become our friends, our community, our church in years to come. This is a new year in which we have been given an almighty challenge to step forward and step up; to give of ourselves, our talents, and resources for all that God requires to build up His

church here at Erin. If we do this, it will bring more people to Christ, and to show our community what a positive impact faithful, knowledgeable, and charitable Christians can make in this town and throughout the world.

On February 22nd, we will be holding the most important meeting of our congregation in decades. A presentation will be made after the worship service, along with a free soup and barbecue lunch, about the new possibilities and expansion that we can potentially make and positively achieve over the next five years. Award-winning local architect Gary Best will bring new drawings and slides of proposed renovations and new buildings for the church. The pastor will cast a new vision for the congregation and lay leaders will express their enthusiasm for this new enterprise. It will be a remarkable time and everyone is encouraged to be there.

I hope that you will be excited about this new venture for Erin Church. Our goal is to Advance the Reign of Christ (ARC) in our community and beyond. Come and be an important part of this new era in the life, ministry and history of our congregation.

God be with you all.

John



Barbara and Bill Brazelton would like to thank our church family for the thoughtfulness during our recent health problems. Your prayers, phone calls, cards and meals were certainly appreciated. May God bless each of you.
--Bill & Barbara--

Session meets Thursday, February 19th @ 7:00pm in the Heritage Room

February Sundays

February 1
Communion Sunday
4th Sunday in Ordinary Time
 Psalm 111:1-10 & Mark 1:21-28
“A New Era”

February 8
5th Sunday in Ordinary Time
 Isaiah 40:21-31 & Mark 1:29-39
“No Rest for the Best”

February 15
6th Sunday in Ordinary Time
 Psalm 30:1-7 & Mark 1:40-45
“A Restoring Story”

February 22
Transfiguration of the Lord
 Psalm 50:1-6 & Mark 9:2-9
“Transfiguration Station”

February Birthdays

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



| | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| Ginger Thompson, | February 2 |
| Randy Bishop, | February 5 |
| Margaret Casteel, | February 6 |
| Sonja Funk, | February 7 |
| Betty McHargue, | February 8 |
| Eva Quinley, | February 10 |
| Joshua Getz, | February 11 |
| Dan Gibbs, | February 13 |
| Bette Brasher, | February 14 |
| Janet Getz, | February 17 |
| David McKay, | February 17 |
| Marc Miller, | February 19 |
| Cecilia Stinnett, | February 19 |
| Anna McKay, | February 20 |
| McLain Miller, | February 24 |
| Craig Stapleton, | February 24 |
| Mike Cate, | February 27 |
| Bob Luedeka, | February 27 |
| Aaron Sharp, | February 27 |
| Harter Crisp, | February 28 |
| Robbie Levering, | February 28 |
| Gaevin Miller, | February 28 |
| Mary Alice Vowell, | February 28 |

First Days of March

| | |
|----------------|---------|
| Kim Jaynes | March 1 |
| Jane Yancey, | March 1 |
| Kristi Bailes, | March 2 |
| Kari Matthews, | March 3 |
| Katy Smith, | March 5 |

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

ENRICHMENT SCHEDULE

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

| | | |
|---------------|-----------------|----------------|
| | February 1 | |
| Tracy Foster | Pam Pfeifer | Kristie Bailes |
| | February 8 | |
| Tim Jenness | Jennifer Gahan | Denise Bilbrey |
| | February 15 | |
| Linda Quinley | Kelcey Levering | Carla Hoskins |
| | February 22 | |
| Pam Pfeifer | Susan Hannah | Kim Pennington |

YOUTH SUMMIT
 Attention Sr. High Parents: Youth Summit is March 6-8 and the registration deadline is February 15th. Forms will be passed out in youth group, but if you need an extra one, please check the box on Becca's office door!
 Cost is \$62.50 (\$30 for youth council members)

Attention 2009 Montreaters: We received our confirmation: Erin Sr. Highs will be attending **Youth Conference Week 3 (July 12, 2009-July 18, 2009) and are staying in Howerton Dorm!**

DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRY

Wednesday Night Women's Bible Study

Beginning Wed. Feb. 4, Janet Getz will lead a class on "How to Study the Bible" This series will teach people to study the Word for themselves using inductive study skills that they will learn and practice. There are three parts to inductive Bible study - observation, interpretation and application. This is a great opportunity for women that have never learned to study the Bible as well as those that want to refresh their skills, and would like a community of believers to grow with. The plan is to follow the study up with a short book of the Bible to practice what has been learned. The study will be held in parlor from 6:30 to 7:30.



Reminder: Knox County Schools will be closed on February 16 & 17.



Attention Erin artists: For this years Silent Auction, usually held in mid-May or late April, we would like to focus solely on hand crafted goods. We have so many talented artists and crafters here at Erin! We will begin collecting items for auction in March, so you have plenty of time to create something. The Silent Auction proceeds benefit our Sr. High trip to Montreat.

National Souper Bowl of Caring

Sunday, February 1st, is the National Souper Bowl of Caring. Each year, churches across the nation collect money on Super Bowl Sunday and then use it to benefit a hunger ministry. The Sr. Highs will be taking up spare change/dollars on your way out of worship that day. The money raised will go to support our WorldVision sponsored child, Chrislaine Cledanor. This money helps send her to school in Africa, provide medical care for her and her family, and connects her to a church youth group in her area. Thank you for your support!

Parents of Youth: remember to check the blog for dates and times: www.erinyouth.blogspot.com

Parent's Seminar – Sunday, February 22, 2-5 pm. This seminar is for ANY parent, grandparent, teacher, or adult who knows a teenager! Invite your friends, colleagues, spouses, and relatives – cost is \$5 per family. For more information, contact:



2nd Pres Youth Ministry

2829 Kingston Pike

Knoxville, TN 37919

Phone: 809-4983

E-mail: rhadin@2ndpres.org

FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY

Help is needed in the Kitchen both before and after dinner. If you are able to donate you time and skills for cooking or cleaning, please contact the office at 588-5350. We look forward to seeing you on Wednesdays!



Men's Breakfast – join us Saturday, February 21 for a hearty breakfast and plenty of fellowship. We will begin at

8:45ish in the Fellowship Hall...bring your appetite!

LET'S DO DINNER

will meet Tuesday,
February 2nd, 5:15pm

@ the Chop House (Kingston Pike). Call Maud Hoover for more information.



Yarn Overs – our February Thursday meetings include the 5th and the 19th @ 6:30pm – we look forward to seeing you!



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner.

Join us on February 24th in the Fellowship Hall @ 6:00pm for lively music, colorful decor and a game or two - fun for all ages!
Dress in your best Mardi Gras outfit and you may win a prize.

Sign up in the bulletin or call the church office by February 20th to reserve a spot. Want to come but need a ride...call Pat Wallin at 588-0219.



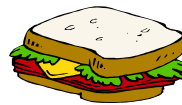
SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

BODY RECALL

We are on our regular Monday-Wednesday-Friday schedule! Join us from 4:00-4:55 PM in the Noah's Ark room. It is a great year to get fit!



The SAM Sack Lunch is scheduled for Thursday, February 19 at noon. (SAM Council will meet at 10:30am.) Bring your own sandwich, and we will provide the chips-n-dip and pickles and drinks!



MOPS News

Erin's MOPS group will be hosting **Wednesday Night Dinner on February 4th**. Dinner will be in the Fellowship Hall at 5:45pm as usual. The menu will include Italian dishes (lasagna, stuffed shells, ziti), salad, and bread. There will be macaroni and cheese for the children and, of course, dessert! A love offering will be collected in support of the church's mission trip to Guatemala and the installation of water purification systems there (the Living Waters for the World Project).
We hope you can join us on February 4th for good food and great fellowship with our MOPS families!

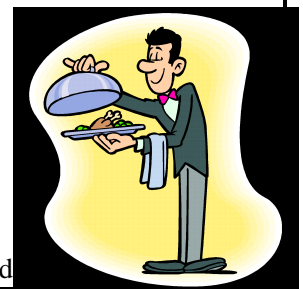
OUTREACH

Want a great service project for your small group? Is a Sunday School class at your church looking for a way to serve? Do you and your friends want to experience joyful singing and fellowship with young people? If so....why not bring dinner for the students at the Presbyterian Center Campus Ministry?

We worship on Sunday evenings at 6pm and then eat dinner together. We are in need of churches to bring dinners this semester. Please look at the list of dates and see if there is a time when you or others from your church could bring dinner for the students...and if you're up to it, we'd love to have you worship with us before dinner!

- Open Dates:
- | | |
|-------------------|-------------|
| February 1 | February 15 |
| February 22 | March 8 |
| March 29 | April 5 |
| April 12 (Easter) | April 19 |
| April 26 | May 3 |

Please contact Kally Elliott at 525-7475 if your group is interested



PW NEWS

PW Co-Team will meet Monday, February 2 at 2:00pm @ Diana Chappell's home. **Circle IV** meets at 7:00pm on Monday, February 9 at Mary Scarbrough's house. **Circle II** meets at 10:00am on Tuesday, February 10 in the parlor. Our Bible study this year is "Jubilee, Luke's Gospel to the Poor." We look forward to seeing you!



STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY**January Stewardship Figures****STEWARDSHIP FACTS TO PONDER**

1. Although money is of supreme importance in our world, it really isn't everything. We ultimately don't OWN money, we only have the use of it temporarily (Luke 12:15; 22-23, Matt6:19-21)
2. Generosity and sacrificial giving is a spiritual discipline. Money is a "Holy Tool," not a necessary evil. Generosity, in the form of sacrificial giving, goes hand in hand with spiritual development. It is far more important for the giver to give out of a heart of gratitude, and to give from a spiritual commitment, than to give to meet a budget or pay bills.
3. The Bible speaks often about the prominence of money in our faith and in the Church. There are more than 2,300 references to money in the Bible. Jesus said more about money than any other subject except the kingdom of God. 16 of the 38 parables of Jesus are about money. One of every ten verses in the Gospels is about money. For John Wesley money and the use of money was a consistent theme in his preaching.

| | Jan 1 - 29, 09 | Jan 1 - 29, 08 |
|----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Income | | |
| Creative Exp. | 350.00 | 0.00 |
| Property | 1,255.00 | 835.00 |
| Discipleship | 305.00 | 0.00 |
| Fellowship | 129.00 | 210.00 |
| Stewardship | 0.85 | 12.62 |
| Memorial | 125.00 | 0.00 |
| Outreach | 445.00 | 2,959.00 |
| Offerings | 26,484.00 | 19,384.59 |
| Total Income | 29,093.85 | 23,401.21 |
| Expense | | |
| Creative Exp. | 445.00 | 0.00 |
| Property | 5,903.25 | 3,294.65 |
| Discipleship | 190.79 | 1,618.72 |
| Fellowship | 646.11 | 88.19 |
| Outreach | 117.81 | 2,396.87 |
| Stewardship | 7,100.45 | 6,699.10 |
| Worship | 290.95 | 401.40 |
| Pastoral | | |
| Ministry | 8,822.87 | 8,030.75 |
| Memorials | 469.40 | 443.70 |
| Session | 54.32 | 39.69 |
| Payroll | 0.00 | 500.00 |
| Total Expense | 24,040.95 | 23,513.07 |
| Net Income | 5,052.90 | -111.86 |

Band Aids - Romans 8:15: *For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father."*

The current economic situation gives us a wonderful opportunity, as Christians, to show our support to those who have greatest needs. We have a faith that not only gives us comfort in times of despair, but it also grants us the confidence not to be enslaved by our worries, anxieties, or fears. If Christians are insecure about life, then what is the point of our faith?

Last night, when I was watching the College Football Game for a while, I marveled at the Florida quarterback Tim Tebow. It wasn't his playing that captivated me, but the fact that below his eyes he had placed two black band aids which read John 3:16. To the whole watching audience, Tim Tebow was using the broadcasted game to tell others that he was a Christian. To some people, this might have looked like a piece of religious arrogance, but to me it reflected Christian confidence. He was going out to battle for his team and whether he lost or won, he was using the opportunity to let others know about his faith.

During this time of recession, a lot of people are going to have their confidence down-sized and their resources diminished. That's when the church can step in to offer the opportunity of faith, compassion, and care. It's a perfect time to witness for the Lord. It's the right occasion to show others what God can do.

So today, let's think about our families and friends, neighbors and colleagues who are going through tough times. And let's also have the confidence to step up to the mark and offer them the friendship, understanding, and support that they need.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, these are tough days for all of us and many people are fearful about their future. Help us, as Your servants, to show them how faith works through good deeds, acts of compassion, and complete confidence in You, Your power, and Your Kingdom. In Your Holy Name, we pray. Amen.

**PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE WEEK OF
February 1, 2009**

TENNESSEE

Garrett Estes (grandson of Sonja Funk)
Peggie Howard Snyder (friend of Ruth White and Jane Yancey)
Becca Berry
Rick Kennedy (cousin of Jenny Boyd)
Daniel Berry
Cole Hammond (young friend of the Vowells)
Evelyn Jeffries (grandparent of a student at Tate's)
Larry Parker, Sr., (father in law of Kay Parker, Erin's nursery worker)
Carolyn Chambers (aunt of Denise Bilbrey)
Todd Lamson (son of John Lamson, Erin's custodian)
Cecilia Stinnett
Marion Sanks
Sue Rayburn
Angie Johnson (friend of Margot Emery)
Margaret Casteel
Barry Robinson
Kari Matthews & Family
Lora Yard
Jimmy (friend of Apryl Quinn and Kari Matthews)
Anne Estes (friend of Sue Rayburn)
Marjorie Swanner
Mrs. Pat Swain
Georgia Parry (friend of Ruth White and Jane Yancey)

MIDDLE EAST

Randy Genau (grandson of Bob and Carol Alver)
Jamey Waters (grandson of Ruth White's cousin)
Andrew Alger (nephew of Susan Hannah)

OKLAHOMA

Wanda Parr (sister of John Lamson, Erin's custodian)

ILLINOIS

Dorothy Burns (aunt of Allyson Streckfuss)

MARYLAND

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

MASSACHUSETTS

Marise Fallon (friend of Cecilia Stinnett)

CALIFORNIA

Linda Gaspar (sister of Dave Leckie)

SOUTH CAROLINA

Sara Mantle (friend of Sara Leckie)

VIRGINIA

Enid Clarke (sister of Ruth White)

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 **Monday February 23** for inclusion in the next month's issue. Please send articles and/or calendar events via e-mail to "admin@erinpresbyterian.org".

Copyright © 2009 Erin Presbyterian Church
 Permission to reprint is hereby granted provided this copyright notice is included

ERIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

200 Lockett Road Phone: (865) 588-5350
 Knoxville, TN Fax: (865) 584-7775
 37919-4808
www.ErinPresbyterian.org

Non-Profit
U.S. Postage PAID
Knoxville, TN
Permit #261
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

