

ERIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEWS

March 2009



1 Corinthians 14:12 So it is with you. Since you are eager to have spiritual gifts, try to excel in gifts that build up the church.

Dear Friends,

Our special church meeting on February 22nd was a wonderful event and an exciting time for the whole congregation. Earlier that morning, when I watched the snow falling on the ground, I wondered how many people would turn out. I was pleasantly delighted to see the sanctuary filled with interested members, guests, and their families.

The barbecue lunch was provided by Joe and Lou L Tate, and I would like to thank them for their generosity. Joe also kicked off the whole day with a memorable motivational speech, which included singing and playing the tambourine! Our Fellowship team, as always, prepared the Fellowship hall and served the lunch beautifully. I was absolutely delighted with the whole presentation and it turned out to be an historic day for the whole church.

Our chosen architect, Gary Best, led us through the present and future needs of our church. His drawings displayed how far our dreams can go and everyone seemed excited about the entire project. At the feedback session, many questions and positive comments were shared. It truly was a wonderful occasion.

Since then, we've realized that our new plans, which are not set in stone, still need some revisions. Families have asked about the playground which was not incorporated into the initial drawings. The Vision team will be meeting this coming Tuesday (3rd March) to ensure that this is not overlooked. Other people have asked about how we finance the whole project. Our Steering Committee, which is busy detailing a timeline for an eventual Church Campaign, will be working with a PCUSA appointed consulting team to discover how we can accomplish our goals. Our Presbytery executive, Carl Schlich, was also present at the morning worship service and he has offered Presbytery support to our project.

These are exciting times for Erin Church and I would ask us all to continually pray about these dreams. God has been blessing us and permitting us to grow each year. I think that Erin's future is important to Christ's ministry in this area. I also believe that it is the task of this present generation to provide a bigger church for a future congregation. Way back in 1955, the church members of that day provided for us; it is now our turn to do the same for the congregation of 2055.

If you have any questions or concerns about the plans or the process, please feel free to ask me about it, or any member of Session, the Vision Team, or the Steering Committee. Thank you for your continued love and support of our church. May God bless you and all your loved ones.

John Stuart



2009 Lent Studies

For the next six weeks, our church members and visitors are invited to participate in a special Bible Study that has been prepared by World Vision. This Christian organization sponsors many compassionate ministries and missions throughout the world. Knoxville's own Compassion Coalition group, of which our church is a supporting member, works with World Vision.

The six Bible studies deal with issues of poverty, peace, pollution, the environment, and the well being of people everywhere. Stewardship of the planet and faith on earth are also discussed. It is a study about being both a citizen in God's Kingdom and in the world.

The pastor will be leading the studies on three occasions each week. They will begin on **Monday March 2nd**. The times of the studies are as follows:

- Mondays 7.15PM in the church parlor**
- Wednesdays 10.30AM in the Church parlor**
- Sundays 9.45AM in the Noah's Ark Room.**

March Sundays

March 1

**Communion Sunday
1st Sunday in Lent**

Psalm 25:1-10 & Mark 1:9-15

“Back to the Future”

March 8

2nd Sunday in Lent

Psalm 22:23-31 & Mark 8:31-38

Sonshine Performance

March 15

3rd Sunday in Lent

Psalm 19 & John 2:13-22

“No Reservations”

March 22

4th Sunday in Lent

Psalm 137:1-6 & John 3:14-21

“A Matter of Life and Death”

March 29

5th Sunday in Lent

Psalm 51:1-12 & John 12:20-33

“Start Spreading the News”

March Birthdays

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



Jaynes, Kim	March 1
Yancey, Jane	March 1
Bailes, Kristi	March 2
Lickliter, Erika	March 3
Matthews, Kari	March 3
Smith, Katy	March 5
Foster, Steve	March 11
Pfeifer, Davis	March 12
Swain, Pat	March 12
Erskine, Bayard	March 13
Jaynes, Eleanor	March 13
Massengill, Mike	March 14
Pennington, Kenleigh	March 14
Burger, Joe	March 15
Scarborough, Kayla	March 15
Stevens, Stan	March 17
Jenness, Kieran	March 18
Ritchie, Emme	March 22
Alver, Bob	March 25
House, Cynthia	March 25
Hilty, Happy	March 26
Fitch, Morgan	March 28
Hoskins, Ben	March 28
Robinson, Barry	March 28
Webb, Dale	March 28
Crawford, AJ	March 28
Dent, Berdine	March 30
Bilbrey, Thomas	March 31

ENRICHMENT SCHEDULE

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

March 1		
Julie Simpson	Sherry Draper	Tracy Foster
March 8		
Don Vowell	Dana McKenry	Heather Ritchie
March 15		
Pam Pfeifer	Kristi Bailes	Eva Quinley
March 22		
Pam Pfeifer	Susan Hannah	Denise Bilbrey
March 29		
Siri Hamilton	Jennifer Gahan	Carla Hoskins

First Days of April

Pfeifer, Tom Sr.	April 1
Snodgrass, David	April 1
Robbins, Carol	April 2
Bornhoeft, Kathryn	April 3
Getz, Matt	April 3
Ritchie, Henry Thomas	April 3
Bilbrey, Mike	April 4
Cameron, Becky	April 4
Cuany, Peggy	April 5
Price, Karen	April 6

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

DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRY



Yee-Haw!

**Mark your calendar:
Erin Vacation Bible School
Begins August 3rd!!**

**Please join us for a planning team meeting
Thursday, March 12th at 7:00.**

**Call Leslie in the church office if you need
childcare.**



Reminder: Knox County Schools
SPRING BREAK is March 16-20

Discipleship Opportunities

There are many opportunities within the Discipleship team right now. We would love for you to join our team. We meet on the first Tuesday of every month. Please just stop by. Also, if you are able to fill any of the following needs, please know that you do not have to join the team to do so.

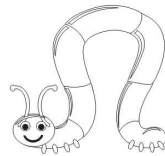
*Bulletin Boards and supplies-We need someone to change the bulletin boards in the Family Life Center and organize the supplies in the Sunday school rooms. This can be used for Key Club hours.

*We need more Enrichment volunteers. If we all pitch in hopefully we each will only have to teach about once per quarter. Please notify Pam Pfeifer at LittleIck@comcast.net if you are willing to help.

*Don't forget we need all the help we can get with VBS! Don't miss out on this rewarding experience.

Speech, Language, and Educational Services
"Helping your child succeed every inch of the way"

One of our members, Jennifer Gahan, recently started a new business. She has combined her background in education and speech-language pathology to create Small Talk, LLC. Small Talk, LLC, focuses on helping children with articulation, language, school readiness, reading, and writing. Services are available for children pre-school to 3rd grade. For a session, Jennifer can see your child at the church or come to your home. Check-out the website or contact Jennifer personally to learn about how Small Talk, LLC, can help your child "succeed every inch of the way."



Small Talk

www.knoxsmalltalk.com

865-386-9490

Jennifer Gahan,
MS, CCC-SLP

WORSHIP MINISTRY

KNOX AREA HANDBELL FESTIVAL



On March 27th and 28th 10 members of the Erin Handbell Ensemble will be participating for the first time in the annual Knox Area Handbell Festival hosted by Grace Lutheran Church. Joining them will be choirs from the Knoxville area, including First Presbyterian, Messiah Lutheran and Fountain City Methodist. Lloyd Larson, a widely known choral, instrumental and handbell composer and clinician, will be conducting the festival which will conclude with a short concert on Saturday, March 28th.

If you've never heard a gymnasium filled with handbell choirs perform familiar hymns and new and exciting compositions, don't miss this opportunity. This free concert begins at 4:00 p.m., March 28 at Grace Lutheran Church, 9200 Middlebrook Pike. For further information, contact Nancy Berry at 693-3560.

FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY



Men's Breakfast – join us Saturday, March 28 for a hearty breakfast and plenty of fellowship. Contact Dale Webb for more information.

LET'S DO DINNER

will meet Tuesday, March 3rd, 5:15pm @ Texas Road House. Call Maud Hoover for more information.



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



PW NEWS

Circle IV meets at 7:00pm on Monday, March 9 at Mary Scarbrough's house. **Circle II** meets at 10:00am on Tuesday, March 10 in the parlor. Our Bible study this year is "Jubilee, Luke's Gospel to the Poor." We look forward to seeing you!



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, March 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! The guest speaker will be Bob McLean will address "How to Study Hearing."



OUTREACH

The Furniture Ministry

One Saturday morning each quarter, members of our congregation participate in the pick up and delivery of furniture with coordination from the Compassion Coalition. Our Saturday in February was especially rewarding. On one delivery, we provided a bed to an individual who had been sleeping on an air mattress. Did I mention he had lost one leg and was wheel chair bound? Imagine getting off the floor with only one leg! We also delivered a recliner and a breakfast table. His joy was truly uplifting and a blessing for those of us who were there.

The Furniture Ministry is also a wonderful opportunity for fellowship between members and is a great way for parents and older children to be involved in a mission of love and service.



Erin H2O

The Outreach committee is preparing to send a team to Guatemala to install a clean water system. Our site will hopefully be El Rodeo school. This is the same place that the UT Presbyterian students went last year.

The Erin team will be installing a filtration system for the water that will not only benefit the school, but about 400 people in the town. Can you imagine if you drank water straight out of our water sources? The water borne illnesses affect the very young, old and anyone weak the most severely. Everyone else may recover, but still pay with malnutrition and suffering from the illnesses.

Living Waters for the World is the organization that has trained us and developed the system. You can go to their website for more information. Psalm 30:2 says "O Lord my God, I cried to You and You have healed me." I truly believe that God has called Erin to go to Guatemala and install this system so that these people may be healed. This is what it means to love one another, to help another in need.

You'll be hearing more about this project as we prepare for the trip. If you are interested in this project you can talk to Charles Snodgrass, Mike Pierce or Pam Pfeifer.





Habitat for Humanity

Habitat for Humanity International is a nonprofit, ecumenical Christian organization dedicated to eliminating substandard housing and homelessness worldwide and to making adequate, affordable shelter a matter of conscience and action. Habitat is founded on the conviction that every man, woman and child should have a simple, decent, affordable place to live in dignity and safety. Since its founding in 1976, over 300,000 homes have been built or rehabilitated - an average of 10,000 homes per year.

Among the more notable philosophies are sweat equity and no-profit/no-interest loans. Habitat houses are constructed WITH the family who will occupy the home providing equity in the form of 300-500 hours of their own "sweat". Covenant partners such as churches and businesses provide funding for construction materials and volunteers for work days.

Erin Presbyterian Church has a history of involvement with two local Habitat affiliates: Appalachia, located in Robbins, and Knoxville. The Appalachia affiliate is the second oldest Habitat affiliate and has provided approximately 175 new and 300 rehabilitated houses in the Morgan-Scott area of East Tennessee. Erin had a mission group support this ministry with mission trips in the mid-1980s - the late-1990s and has become re-involved the last two years. The annual Jimmy Carter Work Project was held in Robbins in 1997.

The Knoxville affiliate began in 1985 and recently held the dedication of its 357th house, in the Vestal area of South Knoxville. Knoxville has featured a multi-house blitz, and this year's is set for April 18-25 in Mechanicsville - seven houses are planned. Erin supports Knoxville with individual volunteers as well as providing a basket of household materials for each new homeowner.

One Great Hour of Sharing

On Easter Sunday, April 12, we will take up the first of the four special offerings that the PC(USA) receives annually, the One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS). The three programs that carry out the OGHS ministries are the Self Development of People, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, and the Presbyterian Hunger Program. The theme for 2009 is, "Sharing resources, changing lives." Bulletin inserts, a Minute for Mission, and a special letter will give you more information about this opportunity for us to share Christ's love for people.

STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY

NINE THEMES OF THE TEACHINGS OF JESUS ABOUT MONEY

1. Money is a reality. Jesus understood commerce and the need for money. Jesus had a treasurer, and a treasury. Jesus clearly understood the interactive, homogeneous relationship of money and the world.
2. Jesus promoted and appreciated generosity. In Luke 8:1-3 we learn about a group of women who provided resources for the ministry of Jesus. He praised the widow who gave out of her poverty. He promised that God would reward humble and sincere giving. (Matt. 6:1-4; Luke 12:33-34)
3. Money CAN separate people from God. Many of Jesus' teachings illustrate this theme. His conversations with Zacchaeus; the rich young man; his parables about the farmer who built bigger barns and the saying about the difficulty of rich persons entering the Kingdom of God are all evidence of this theme.
4. Money CAN be used to serve God's purposes. It is a "HOLY TOOL." The parable of the Kingdom illustrates Jesus' strong conviction that doing good in practical ways should be a way of life. (Matt. 25: 31 ff.) Generous giving goes beyond expected levels.
5. Money NEITHER takes the place of faith NOR substitutes for righteous living; (Matt. 23:23; Luke 11:42)
6. Money CANNOT satisfy or provide fulfillment, happiness or true security. (See the story of the rich man and his barns; Luke 12:13 - 21, Matt: 6:19 - 21)
7. Money itself is not evil, but greed, selfishness and/or dishonest accumulation of money IS evil, and leads to devastating results. (Luke 12:15)
8. If having some money is needed, how much is enough?
9. God's love is extravagant, even impractical.

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The Erin Presbyterian Church News is published monthly. Comments and submissions are welcome. Please submit articles by **Monday March 23** for inclusion in the next month's issue. Please send articles and/or calendar events via e-mail to "admin@erinpresbyterian.org".

February Stewardship Figures

	Jan - Feb 09	Jan - Feb 08
Income		
Creative Exp	400.00	635.00
Property	2,250.00	2,040.00
Discipleship	490.00	637.50
Fellowship	1,209.10	867.00
Stewardship	67.75	69.95
Memorial	350.00	0.00
Outreach	1,430.97	8,197.94
Offerings	48,649.99	48,367.84
Total Income	54,847.81	60,815.23
Expense		
Creative Exp	1,720.92	1,393.34
Property	10,939.25	6,059.10
Discipleship	1,546.95	3,106.19
Fellowship	1,388.23	1,265.43
Outreach	4,798.66	7,121.89
Stewardship	15,568.88	17,685.70
Worship	1,743.66	738.62
Pastoral		
Ministry	17,461.36	16,665.30
Memorial	559.96	795.31
Session	190.18	69.69
Payroll		
Expenses	0.00	500.00
Total Expense	55,918.05	55,400.57
Net Income	-1,070.24	5,414.66

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

MIDDLE EAST

Randy Genau (grandson of Bob and Carol Alver)

Jamey Waters (grandson of Ruth White's cousin)

Andrew Alger (nephew of Susan Hannah)

TENNESSEE

Chris Levering (uncle of Robbie Levering)

Family of Russell McCurdy

Jessica & Julia Pierce (associated with the stage performances at Erin)

Chase Anderson (friend of Jim & Jane Brannon)

Jim & Jane Miller (friends of Helen Henry)

Garrett Estes (grandson of Sonja Funk)

Peggie Howard Snyder (friend of Ruth White and Jane Yancey)

Rick Kennedy (cousin of Jenny Boyd)

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)

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)

MICHIGAN

Sue Genau (daughter in law of Bob and Carol Alver)

OKLAHOMA

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

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)

ERIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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