

Financials

Erin Presbyterian Church	
Balance Sheet	
As of November 15, 2016	
11/14/16	Nov 15, 16
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
HF Primary Checking	19,831.93
HF Savings	127,318.54
SunTrust Checking	1,001.72
SunTrust Debit Card Account	469.94
Total Checking/Savings	148,622.13
Total Current Assets	148,622.13
Fixed Assets	
Building Improvements	21,587.00
Computer Equipment	1,109.97
Furniture and fixtures	35,699.89
General Equipment	9,764.55
Accumulated Depreciation	-32,255.45
Total Fixed Assets	35,905.96
TOTAL ASSETS	184,528.09
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
Payroll Liabilities	549.15
Total Other Current Liabilities	549.15
Total Current Liabilities	549.15
Total Liabilities	549.15
Equity	
Restricted Funds	250.00
Retained Earnings	134,163.50
Unrestricted Funds	47,164.25
Net Income	2,401.19
Total Equity	183,978.94
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	184,528.09

Erin Presbyterian Church	
Profit & Loss	
July 1 through November 15, 2016	
11/14/16	Jul 1 - Nov 15, 16
Income	
Other Income	25.00
Memorial Income	2,955.00
Creative Expression Income	285.53
Discipleship Income	2,716.07
Fellowship Income	3,057.10
Offerings	104,499.70
Property Income	3,850.00
Restricted Accts Income	1,211.00
Stewardship Income	102.00
Transfer from Capital Campaign	0.00
Total Income	118,701.40
Gross Profit	118,701.40
Expense	
Creative Expressions Ministry	2,551.59
Discipleship Team	2,148.45
Fellowship Team	2,378.77
Outreach Team	9,332.79
Pastoral Ministry	35,902.62
Payroll Expenses	2,183.88
Property Team	18,448.26
Restricted Accts Expense	606.27
Stewardship Team	42,101.30
Worship Team	646.28
Total Expense	116,300.21
Net Income	2,401.19

TO
«Andy & Kelsey Sarles»
«7117 Stockton Dr»
«Knoxville»
«TN» «37909»

865.585.5350
www.erinpresbyterian.org
admin@erinpresbyterian.org



The Beacon

A Publication of Erin Presbyterian Church



DECEMBER EVENTS

December 4
5:00pm CHRISTMAS POTLUCK

December 5
5:30pm Staff Meeting
6:30pm Property Meeting
7:00pm Fellowship Meeting

December 6
10:00am PW Morning Circle

December 8
9:00am MOPS

December 11
12:15pm Creative Expressions
12:15pm Outreach Team

December 12
7:00pm PW Evening Circle

December 13
7:30pm Discipleship Meeting
7:30pm Stewardship Meeting

December 15
7:00pm Session

December 18
6:00pm Christmas Caroling, then
cookies and cocoa!

December 23
OFFICES CLOSED

December 24
6:30pm Christmas Eve Service
December 25
11:00am Christmas Service

December 26
OFFICES CLOSED

December 30 and January 2
OFFICES CLOSED

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Message From the Pastor.....	1
Birthdays, Year End Gifts and Advent Classes.....	2
Ministry Events.....	3
Holiday Fun.....	4
Family Ministry.....	5
Stewardship and Fall Cleanup.....	6
Volunteer Schedule.....	7
Financials.....	8

Message from the Pastor

December 2016

“Glory to God in the highest Heaven,
and on Earth peace to those on
whom His favor rests.” – Luke 2:14



Dear Friends,
As we all get ready for the last few weeks in the year, we may feel under pressure to get a lot of things done in so short of a time. We’ve just exited the stress of Thanksgiving and are now in a hurry to complete heavy tasks, projects, and preparations before December 25th arrives, or just as the year ends on December 31st.

I wonder if Mary and Joseph felt the same stress. They were in a hurry to get to Bethlehem before the tax census was taken. Mary was ready to give birth at any time and when they reached their destination, we know they were the last to arrive because all the inns were full. I’m probably wrong in thinking it, but I can imagine Mary saying to Joseph, “If you hadn’t left everything to the last minute, we might have been able to find a room!”

Perhaps Christmas is meant to be busy because it symbolizes us as human beings, getting so caught up in our own wee world, that we forget it all belongs to God and we are just passing through. Maybe the busy-ness of the First Christmas reflects our own worries and fears, anxieties and stress. Like Mary and Joseph, we want everything to be perfect, but the reality of the situation is that Christmas comes and goes, no matter where we are or whatever we are doing.

I like what the angels have to say to the shepherds on the hills above Bethlehem, away from the hustle and bustle of the tiny town. They seem to be the only ones who are capable of receiving and carrying the message of God’s peace. The humble herders are given the godly words which we will hear again and again throughout this month:
“Glory to God in the highest Heaven, and on Earth peace to those on whom His favor rests.”

In the end, praising God is all that matters; when Christmas comes, Christ’s peace will be all that we will ever need.
May God bless you and all your loved ones throughout this sacred season.

Pastor John



“When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

BIRTHDAYS! Year End Gifts and Advent Classes

December

- 1 Heather Ritchie
- 7 Lionel Sands
- 10 Susan Miller
- 12 Jim Brannon
- 12 Margaret Pfeifer
- 14 Lynne Jones
- 15 Lori Hudson
- 16 Sean Gahan
- 17 Jenny Boyd
- 19 David Eggers
- 20 Diane Montgomery
- 20 Matthew Miller
- 20 April Cyr
- 21 Farrah Linkous
- 22 Cathy Van Ostrand
- 26 Henry Ritchie
- 27 Paula Gunter
- 29 Barbara Brazelton
- 30 Sarah McKay
- 31 Fran Ayers



January

- 1 Christa Mueller
- 3 Joe Tate
- 4 John Moxham
- 4 James Montgomery
- 4 Suzanne Levering
- 4 Lanie Webb
- 6 Mary Nelle Cate
- 6 Tracy Foster
- 6 Chloe Webb
- 10 Kelly Boyd
- 11 Alea Strand
- 12 Kelli Canan
- 14 Paul Armsworth
- 19 Tara Link
- 21 Al Wallin
- 21 Evelyn Stuart
- 28 Mike Jackson
- 30 Lora Yard
- 31 Hallie Fellers

Stewardship: End of Year Gifts

As we come to the end of the year, we like to remind our Erin folks of giving something special or extra to the church during December. A lot of our expenses for the church are actually incurred in the first four months of the calendar year. Making a special contribution can help us substantially through those heavy expense months, so we greatly encourage you to prayerfully consider making Erin part of your year-end charity giving.

Thank you for your consistent support throughout the year and for giving this request some due consideration. May God bless you all during the coming holiday season and may 2017 be a year of goodness, prosperity, and health to you and your loved ones.

Pastor John

Connections Class

The pastor is teaching a special Advent Class on Sunday mornings in the Heritage Room at 9:45-10:30AM. If you want to learn more and discuss the ancient Messiah prophecies that were given hundreds of years before the birth of Christ, come along to the class. Everyone is welcome and the class is an open study group where all participants can join in the discussion.



Wednesday Night Studies

The Simplify series is at an end. The pastor will begin a new Bible Study series in January. Look for more details in the January issue of our newsletter. God bless you all.

Volunteers

If you need to change your volunteer slot, please organize a swap or a substitute. Then, let the front office know at 588-5350 or admin@erinpresbyterian.org.

December

December 4th	December 11th	December 18th	Christmas Eve Service 6:30pm	Christmas Day Service 11am
Coffee Host	Coffee Host	Coffee Host		No Volunteers Today
Dan Gibbs	Dave Stinnett	Lori Hudson		
Greeters	Greeters	Greeters	Greeters	
Lynn Sexton	Kim Pennington	Mike Cate	4 greeters needed	
Pat Sexton	Dusty Pennington	Mary Nelle Cate		
Bell Ringer	Bell Ringer	Bell Ringer	Advent Candles	
Aiden Strand	Kenleigh Pennington	Isabella Armsworth	Kenleigh and Ella	
Guide	Guide	Guide		
Suzanne Levering	Anna McKay	Stacie Armstrong		
Reader	Reader	Reader		
Joy Bornhoeft	Eva Lynch	Cynthia House		
Ushers	Ushers	Ushers	Ushers	Merry Christmas
Ricky McCallum	Larry McKay	Cathy Van Ostrand	Kim Pennington	
Erin McCallum	Anna McKay	Suzanne Levering	Dusty Pennington	
Tammy Murphy	Jim Montgomery	Robbie Levering	2 more ushers needed	
Nicole Waters	David Leckie	Dave Stinnett		
Planet Worship	Planet Worship	Planet Worship		
Stacie Armsworth	Joy Bornhoeft	Brooks Eggers		
Nursery	Nursery	Nursery		
Kelcey Levering	Erin McCallum	Tammy Murphy		
Counters	Counters	Counters		
Dave Stinnett	Sean Gahan	Neill Murphy		
Mike Jones	Eva Lynch	John Stuart		
Communion				
2018				

Don't end up with coal in your stocking.
Please notify the office
if your event has been cancelled or rescheduled,
so we can adjust the thermostat.

Stewardship and Fall Clean Up

It is that time of year and we are so busy with holiday activities, that it is easy to forget to make our contribution to Erin. While we have seen a slight increase in donations to the Lower the Debt Campaign, giving to our operating funds is down quite a bit. We want to make our members aware of this as some of you may be a bit behind in your giving. The Stewardship Committee would like to encourage you to remember Erin this holiday season so that our operating funds continue to be positive and our debt for our wonderful church building continues to go down. Now a word about Stewardship (paraphrased from an article published by the Catholic Stewardship Council)

Probably nothing challenges a Christian steward's use of time as much as the seasons of Advent and Christmas. Each year, we marvel at the irony of it: a time to honor and ponder the miraculous birth of Jesus somehow falls prey to a time of stressful shopping, endless "to do" lists, strained checkbooks, and guilt over what's not getting done. Sometimes even those non-stop Christmas tunes begin to grate on our senses. We all get a bit "crabby", failing to act in a Christ like manner.

So how does the Christian steward answer this challenge to devote time to reflection and prayer while incorporating the best and most fruitful of our cultural traditions into this festive season?

One suggestion would be to set aside a special time of reflection right at the beginning of Advent for determining what our priorities for the season will be. Set aside an hour and begin by rereading the Christmas story. Ask God to help you know what is the most generous and beneficial use of time in God's service during this season. Ask for help in setting aside time for prayer each day. Don't be afraid to cross things off your "must do" list if they add stress to what should be a peaceful time.

Only you and God can determine the best use of your time. For instance, some people find annual Christmas cookie baking a reflective, creative time and a wonderful way to share. For others, it's a self-imposed burden and a sure-fire way to a messy kitchen and a calorie overload. Likewise, that extra party may be just what someone needs to unwind and commune with friends while for another it may be the gateway to exhaustion or a temptation to overindulge in food or drink. Ask God which traditions are life-giving for you, and be bold enough to leave the others behind.

"I just don't have time," is the frequent lament of the holiday season. But the Christian steward is aware that we all have the same amount of time, and to each is given an opportunity of returning the first fruits of that time back to God. The season of Advent offers just such a grace-filled opportunity. Remember to take time to reflect on God's most beautiful gift to us, and breathe in the spirit and joy that comes with that gift.

The Stewardship Team

FALL CLEAN UP

We want to thank EVERYONE who helped with Fall Clean Up at the church. You're the reason we have great- looking grounds and healthy plants this season of the year. You're amazing and we couldn't do it all without you!



Ministry

CEX: Kevin Griffin
Discipleship: Joe Jaynes
Fellowship: Jim Montgomery

Outreach: Cecilia Stinnett
Property: Jane Brannon
Stewardship: Eva Lynch

OUTREACH TEAM NEWS

REMINDER: The deadline for returning gifts for the Angel Tree is Sunday, December 4th!

Volunteer Opportunities with Water Angels

What: Water Angels Christmas Service (Meal and Shoes for Souls distribution)

When: Sunday, December 11 from 2 to 4 p.m.

Where: Water Angels Ministry, at 900 University Ave., will host the children.

Just across the street at Maynard Elementary (737 College Street) they will host the adults.

Who/What: You, your family, church group and/or small group. They will be setting-up/tearing-down, serving food, distributing shoes and toys, playing with children, and being the hands and feet of Jesus.

Areas of Service: Set-up (10 a.m.) Kids Event (12 noon–5 p.m.)

Prayer Warriors (2:30-5 p.m.) Food Service (1:30–5 p.m.)

Registration (11:30 a.m.–3 p.m.) Tear Down (4 p.m.)

Shoe Room (2:30-5 p.m.) Security (varies)

If interested, contact Season Henry at (714)457-3626 or via e-mail: season.henry@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATE:

Sunday, January 15, 2017

MISSION FAIR @ Erin Presbyterian

Join us in the Fellowship Hall after worship to meet our mission co-worker, Janice Heckler!

Jan will be home on furlough from Madagascar. More details to come!

TIME TO RETURN M&M CONTAINERS!

Bring your tube of quarters back to church on **Sunday, Dec. 4th**, for collection by the youth.

If you would rather write a check as a donation, you can do so. Make checks payable to:

Erin Presbyterian and note

"Youth M&M Fundraiser" in the memo line.

Then, just place your check in the tube to turn in!

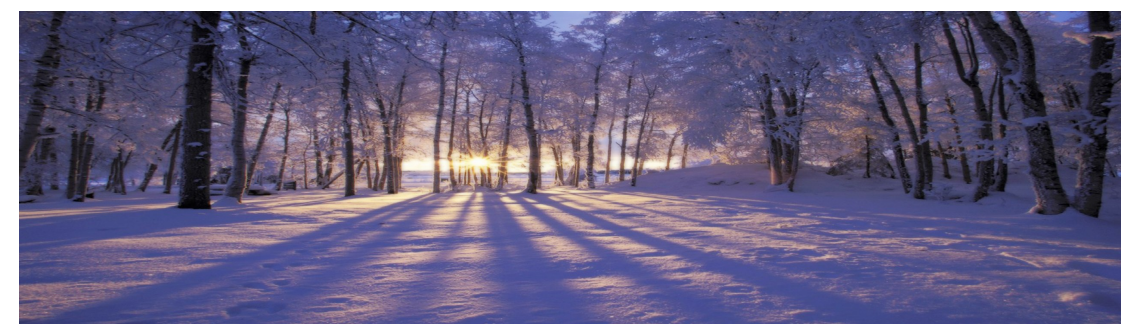
Thank you so much for helping us get to Montreat next year!



WINTER WEATHER POLICY

If we experience inclement weather, please check to see if Cedar Springs Presbyterian Church is closed.

If they are closed, we will be, as well. You may also find information at the Erin Presbyterian Church Facebook page and local news websites.



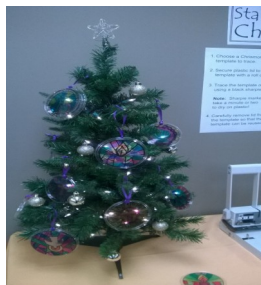
Holiday Fun

ADVENT WORKSHOP

Thank you for joining us for the Advent Workshop this year!

A great time was had by young and old, alike.

A special thanks to Joy Bornhoeft who spent many hours preparing the crismos to be decorated, and big thank you to the whole Discipleship Team who put it all together!



CHRISTMAS POTLUCK

The Christmas Potluck will be on Sunday, December 4th at 5 PM in the Fellowship Hall.

Just bring a covered dish and join us for a delicious meal and good fellowship!

You can sign up in the Narthex.

*Drinks and entertainment will be provided!

CHRISTMAS CAROLING

Join us on Sunday, December 18th at 6pm to go Christmas Caroling at Shannondale and some other local places.

We'll return to the Fellowship Hall afterward to enjoy cookies and cocoa together!



CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

We look forward to seeing you on Christmas Eve for our 6:30pm Candlelight Service.

We'll sing all of our favorite Christmas Hymns together and enjoy Scripture Readings in between.

It will be a beautiful service as we celebrate our Lord's birthday.

*There will be fun for the kids in the Narthex!



Family Ministry

Planet Worship Volunteers

November

12/4:	Stacie Armsworth
12/11:	Joy Bornhoeft
12/18:	Brooks Eggers
12/25:	No Planet Worship
1/1:	Joy Bornhoeft



Advent in Planet Worship

"And a shoot will rise up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. The Spirit of the LORD will rest on Him - the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding. The Spirit of counsel and of might., the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the LORD - and He will delight in the fear of the LORD." Isaiah 11

Our Planet Worship theme for this month is **Sing a Song of Christmas**, based on the children's devotional booklet by Stephanie Hoveland. Advent helps us get ready for Christmas. One of the best ways we can prepare is by filling the world with songs about our Savior's birth.

As we follow the New Testament readings, children also will learn the prayerful words of some of the most popular Advent and Christmas Hymns – favorites like *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*, *On Jordan's Bank*, *The First Noel*, *Away in a Manger*, and *Joy to the World*.

There will be no Planet Worship on December 25th. Children are encouraged to remain in worship for a special family-friendly service. Join us on Christmas morning as we sing of Jesus' birth and learn about the Twelve Days of Christmas. That's correct – Christmas is not just *one* day, it is a whole season in our church year. Special children's bulletins will be provided near their worship bags.

There will be no Sunday School on December 25th or January 1st.

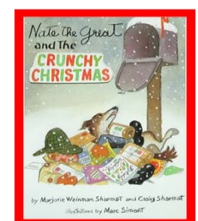
Just come join us at 11 am in the Sanctuary for Worship

as we celebrate the birth of our Savior

and ring in a New Year!



Pioneer Club
Wednesday, 6:30 – 7:30 pm
Family Life Center



Pioneer Club meets only twice this month. On December 7th, we'll have a Pajama Party and read *The Case of the Pillowcase*. Wear your PJs and slippers, and bring your favorite pillow to cuddle with. On December 14th, we'll celebrate all things Christmas as Nate tries to solve *The Case of the Crunchy Christmas*! Don't miss out on all the holiday fun, treats, and crafts!!