

WordPlayers

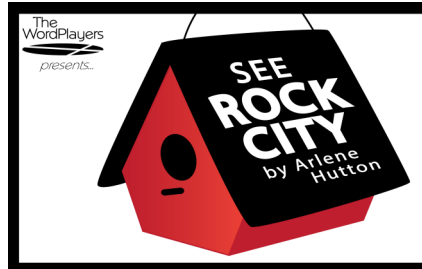
The WordPlayers invites you to *See Rock City!*

Set in rural Kentucky during the pains of World War II, this Award winning play by Arlene Hutton is a tender portrayal of married life set against the backdrop of World War II, showing the best of the human spirit and its ability to overcome any and all obstacles.

Nov. 2, 3, 9, 10 @ 7:30 p.m. here at the church.

Admission is PAY WHAT YOU CAN.

For more information, call 865.539.2490 or see wordplayers.org



The WordPlayers present **A Laura Ingalls Wilder Christmas** which tells a story of healing that celebrates the importance of enduring family bonds, with period songs, humor, depth of character and music based on the beloved series *Little House on the Prairie*. December 15 and 17 @7:30pm and December 16 @ 2:30pm at the Clayton Performing Arts Center, 10915 Hardin Valley Rd.

Adults: \$12, Youth(13-17): \$10, and Child (12 & under): \$8



Tickets are available online and at the door.

To order tickets by phone, call Pellissippi Box Office: 865-539-7529

For more information, call 865-539-2490.

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TO

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THE BEACON

A Publication of Erin Presbyterian Church

Message from the Pastor...

“So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.” Isaiah 41:10 (NIV)

Dear Friends,

We all go through some fearful times, especially when unexpected changes occur in our lives. Our comfortable routine can be disrupted causing us to become anxious about the future or worried about our loved ones. During those moments and experiences, we turn to God for help, guidance, and solutions to our discomfort or distress. Thankfully, God hears our prayers and through His strength we endure our troubles and seek His peace for our lives.

As we head into the latter part of the year, we may reflect on different things that have taken place in our lives, homes, schools, and work. We may wonder why things have happened to us or we may be relieved to be beyond whatever was disturbing us. This month’s Bible verse is a promise from God that generations of people have clung to during unsettling times and have relied upon through painful moments. Whenever I am personally affected by worry or doubt, it is verses like this that help me get through whatever I’m facing.

November is a month when we recognize the valuable service that our Armed Forces have accomplished in defending our people and maintaining our freedom. We are all indebted to those who have dutifully served our nation in all branches of our military. Some of the veterans among us may recall fearful times when they confronted our enemies and fought on our behalf. We should always be grateful for their commitment, dedication, and duty which have preserved our liberties and sustained our country.

We also celebrate Thanksgiving at the end of the month when we gather together with our families and friends, sharing our stories, enjoying our dinners, and rejoicing in the blessings which God has bestowed on us. It is a wonderful annual occasion which allows us to give thanks to God for His continued love, compassion, and grace, not just for us, but for the whole world which, as our kids often sing, is in His Hands.

May God bless and be with you. May He help you to fulfill all your hopes and dreams.

- Pastor John



November 2017

November 2

10am PW Circle

November 4

FALL BACK TONIGHT

9:30am Men’s Breakfast

November 6

6:30PM Property Meeting

November 7

6pm Staff Meeting

7pm Discipleship Meeting

7pm Fellowship Meeting

November 8

5:30pm Journey 7 Fun Night

November 11

6:30pm BreadBreakers at The Gibbs

November 12

12:15pm Outreach Mtg.

12:15pm Creative Exp. Mtg.

12:15pm Stewardship Mtg.

4:45pm Youth Thanksgiving

November 16

7pm Session Meeting

November 19

**3pm Hanging of the Greens
and chili dinner for volunteers**

November 21

**10:30am Join John and Joy
for Coffee Club
in the Fellowship Hall!**

November 22

No WND or Wed. Night Activities

November 23-24

Office Closed for Thanksgiving

Classes and Outreach

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BIRTHDAYS

November

- 3 Sherry Draper
4 Hanna Matthews
5 Jackie Griffin
8 Julie Miller
10 Paul Yau
11 Dusty Pennington
11 Mia Quinn
15 Matt Cowen
15 Connor Backous
16 Nancy Berry
17 Sara Leckie
17 Rob Cameron
18 Connor Quinn
25 Bill Brazelton
26 Sam Pulsipher

December

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

CONNECTIONS CLASS

It’s November, so it’s time for Pastor Stuart to continue his annual “Faith of Our Presidents” series. This year, we will be looking at some of our most recent Presidents, their times and decisions, as well as their Inaugural speeches and Thanksgiving Proclamations. It’s a great history study and usually a lively discussion occurs because most of us can remember those years.

The Presidents that we will look at this year are:

Nov 5	Faith of Our Presidents – Gerald Ford
Nov 12	Faith of Our Presidents – Jimmy Carter
Nov 19	Faith of Our Presidents – Ronald Reagan
Nov 26	Faith of Our Presidents – George H.W. Bush

Each class takes place in the Heritage Room next to the parlor from 9:45 AM to 10:30 AM. Everyone is welcome to come and participate in the class.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

Every Wednesday, after dinner, the pastor leads an in-depth Bible study class. This year, he is presenting a study on Paul’s Letter to the Romans. This epistle was crucial to the survival of the early Christian Church movement across the Roman Empire. It was also very important to Reformers like Martin Luther and John Calvin.

Class participants are encouraged to bring their Bibles or use the text provided. The study centers on different chapters and during the discussion, the pastor presents contextual information, as well as some different commentaries and interpretations from the Reformers.

The class begins at 6:45 PM and ends at 7:30 PM and takes place in the Heritage Room. Everyone is welcome to attend and participate. The class for this month is looking at the following texts:

Nov 01 – Romans 2:17-29	Nov 08 – Romans 3:1-18	Nov 15 – Romans 3:19-31
Nov 22 – No Class	Nov 29 – Romans 4:1-12	

OUTREACH

THANK YOU for all who donated to the Volunteer Ministry Center’s collection of Christmas in September!

THANK YOU for all who participated in the work day at the FISH Pantry!

And last, but not least, THANK YOU for all who gave to the Peace and Global Witness special offering! You all really gave and supported the community with your work in outreach this past month!!

Coming soon... Angel Tree!! The tree will be set up after November 10. Choose an angel to purchase gifts for, and have the unwrapped presents back to the church by December 3.

We will also be participating in the Morgan Scott Project's Coats for the Cold. There will be a rack in the narthex, where you can place your new or clean and gently use coats. Bring in coats on December 3 or 10, 2017.

Join us for our next meeting on Sunday, November 12, 2017!



november

Give Thanks

NOVEMBER 5TH	NOVEMBER 12TH	NOVEMBER 19TH	NOVEMBER 26TH
Coffee	Coffee	Coffee	Coffee
Betty Gibbs	Dan Gibbs	Anna McKay	Betty Gibbs
Greeters	Greeters	Greeters	Greeters
Kristi Bailes	Dusty Pennington	Lynn Sexton	Gary Pennington
Buster Quinn	Kim Pennington	Pat Sexton	Kay Pennington
Bell Ringer	Bell Ringer	Bell Ringer	Bell Ringer
Rose Armsworth	Kenleigh Pennington	Isabella Armsworth	Carter McCallum
Guide	Guide	Guide	Guide
Sonja DuBois	Rob Lynch	Cathy Van Ostrand	Neill Murphy
Reader	Reader	Reader	Reader
Joe Jaynes	Stacie Armsworth	Anna McKay	Sara Leckie
Ushers	Ushers	Ushers	Ushers
Jim Montgomery	Larry McKay	Cathy Van Ostrand	Ron DuBois
Pat Wallin	Anna McKay	Jim Montgomery	Sonja DuBois
Rickey McCallum	Sara Leckie	Suzanne Levering	Tammy Murphy
Brooks Eggers	David Leckie	Robbie Levering	Nicole Waters
Planet Worship	Planet Worship	Planet Worship	Planet Worship
Stacie Armsworth	Jane Brannon	Joy Bornhoeft	Kim Pennington
Counter	Counter	Counter	Counter
Rickey McCallum	Sean Gahan	David Eggers	John House
Mike Jones	Eva Lynch	Neill Murphy	Mike Jones
Communion			
2018			

*Those who are scheduled the Sunday before and after Thanksgiving: If you have plans to be out of town please trade with someone and let April know. admin@erinpresbyterian.org

Stewardship, PW & BreadBreakers

As you are no doubt aware, depending on your financial circumstances, your Tithes and Gifts to The Lord through your Sunday Offerings may reward you in THIS life also - through lower Income Taxes.

Currently, there is a Policy Debate raging in Washington over a Possible Income Tax Reform and /or Tax Rate Cuts. You should monitor these discussions, as they may affect your Income Taxes, possibly even this year! I've named this article:

"Federal Income Tax Reform: Will They or Won't They and How Will it Affect My Charitable Deduction for Erin Contributions?"

Short Answer: "Shrugs"

Honestly, they don't even know. "They" meaning, of course, Washington Politicians. It does seem likely that some type of Income Tax Rate Cut and/or Reform will take place before the 2018 Mid-Term Elections. What form it will take and when it will take effect is anyone's guess, however.

Some possible Scenarios and their potential effect on you:

1. Tax Rate Cut enacted, Retroactive to January 1, 2017. Charitable Contributions still allowed. This scenario may actually decrease the Tax Saving impact of your Charitable Contributions to Erin in 2017. Example: Before the Tax Rate cut you were in the 25% Tax Bracket. For every \$100 contributed to Erin, therefore, you would have reduced your taxes by \$25. If "They" lower your Tax Bracket to 20%, however, then for every \$100 you contribute to Erin your taxes would drop by \$20.
2. Tax Rate Cut, NOT Retroactive, but goes into effect January 1, 2018. Your 2017 Charitable Contributions to Erin would not be impacted by changes. Your 2018 Contributions may, however. Since we are currently using a Fiscal year (July 1 to June 30) instead of a Calendar year, you may want to "speed up" some of your contributions from 2018 to 2017, in order to receive the greater tax benefit (as shown in example 1 above).

The Good News is, at least for now, no one is discussing getting rid of the deductibility of Charitable Contributions. With Washington however, anything is possible. Make sure you stay current with potential Tax Law changes so you can make some last minute 2017 changes, if they would benefit you.

PW CIRCLE will meet on Thursday, Nov. 2, at 10 am in the Parlor.

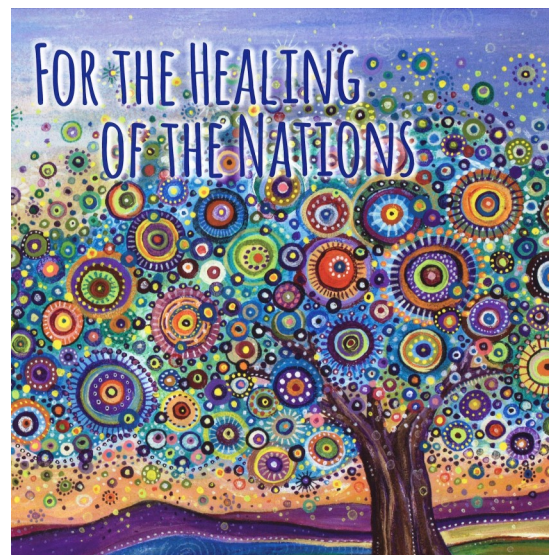
Cecilia Stinnett will be leading a discussion on Fruits of the Spirit Chapter 3 – Peace. Everyone is invited to attend.

The 2017 PW Thank Offering will be celebrated on Sunday, Nov. 19, during worship. This year's theme is "For the Healing of All Nations". One of the recipients of a grant this year is our own Sunset Gap. Cecilia Stinnett was instrumental in obtaining a \$50,000 grant for the purchase of a refrigerated box truck for their weekly trips to Atlanta to pick up food that is distributed to families in the Appalachia area. Other recipients of grants include Blue Monarch in Nashville helping develop positive parenting skills in mothers recovering from addiction. Please prayerfully consider giving to this worthwhile offering.

"On either side of the river is the tree of life...and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. Rev. 22:2b

BREADBREAKERS will meet on Saturday, Nov. 11, at 6:30 pm at the home of Dan and Betty Gibbs. Sign ups will be in the bulletin. The entrée for this month will be meatloaf. Yum! Be sure to join the group for an evening of relaxed fellowship.

If you are interested in hosting a BreadBreakers event in 2018, please contact Diana Brandon at 607-8528 or at dmarybrandon49@gmail.com. Only one month has been reserved (February), so get it while the dates are free! Hosts can choose either Friday or Saturday night...usually around the 3rd weekend of the month. Please consider opening your home for a fun evening of friends and fellowship.



2020 Elder Statement of Faith Kim Jaynes

I officially became a Christian on April 16, 1968 – that's the day I joined Rocky Hill Baptist Church and was baptized. Over the next few years I was active in their youth group and in a great Christian fellowship that met in the Bearden Junior High cafeteria every day before school. I came to Erin in the winter of my senior year of high school, when Joe and I started dating. Since the Baptist church more or less told members what they should believe, I was impressed by the way Erin encouraged me to ask questions and find out the answers for myself through prayer and Bible study. Joe and I were active in the Sunday evening college group led by Tony and Melanie Thomas. We met in their apartment down the street from the church, and their young son was part of everything we did. They were great role models for us.



Joe and I were married by Erin pastor Kerry Stoltzfus after we graduated from U.T. in 1978. We moved to Minneapolis for Joe's graduate school, and found a mission-oriented Presbyterian church and a dedicated small group who helped us grow as a newly married couple, and as Christian parents when Andy was born in 1980. We were far from our families in Tennessee and our budget was tight, so we learned to depend on God and on our church family.

We moved to Massachusetts in 1982 and joined Eliot Presbyterian in downtown Lowell, a city that was a magnet for refugees from the war in Vietnam and Cambodia. Many of them had become Christians in refugee camps, and our church not only offered them a spiritual home but helped with housing, clothing, and furniture as well as assisting with enrolling their children in school, dealing with slum landlords, and anything else that came up. I worked full time with an architect in Boston until Alex was born in 1986, but after that I devoted 20 hours a week to the refugee ministry while teaching college part-time.



We applied for grants and started an ESL class for more than 30 women, providing care for their preschool children. Lessons focused on basic tasks like buying stamps at the post office and calling the school to report a sick child. We also helped locate family members who were still in refugee camps and worked with U.S. and U.N. agencies to try to bring them to America. The church was about half Cambodian, with Vietnamese and Lao members and a few African immigrants along with very traditional Anglo New Englanders.

I loved the hands-on ministry and the experience of learning about faith with both long-time and brand-new Christians.

We returned to Erin in 1995 when we moved back to Knoxville. We found a welcoming though much smaller congregation, but families were joining because of the enthusiastic and energetic new minister from Scotland.

A few years later I began teaching an adult Sunday School class for people who "didn't already know everything," as one member put it. Today I work full time for an Oak Ridge contractor, but spend as much time as I can supporting Erin and its programs. I served on Erin's Session twice before, and it was rewarding to help lead the congregation in new directions. I look forward to the next few years as we work together to figure out how God wants us to further His kingdom here at Erin, in this community, and in the wider world.



Youth and Sunday School



MS FALL RETREAT AT CAMP JOHN KNOX

We had 4 of our middle school youth attend the fall retreat at Camp John Knox September 29th through October 1st. The theme of the weekend was "Who Are You"? The youth learned that while the world may label them, sometimes good and some bad, they should always know that first and foremost they are a child of God. It was a beautiful weekend to be at camp and our ladies took advantage of all the fun Camp John Knox has to offer. There was ziplining, "Flying Squirrel", and hanging with snakes in the nature center. The retreat wrapped up on Sunday with an outdoor worship service and communion led by Youth Council.



SUNDAY SCHOOL CHALLENGE

The results of the Sunday School challenge are in!

49 members of our congregation attended 5 of the first 7 Sunday School classes.

That means 52% of our regular church attendees go to Sunday School. Amazing!!

Add to that the 16 people who attended 3-4 of the first Sunday School classes and that means 68% attend Sunday School on a regular basis. This is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our Sunday School teachers. When you have a chance please thank them. For those who do not regularly attend a class please consider coming for both a learning and fellowship experience. In addition to our nursery, children and youth classes we have 3 adult classes.

Java Scripture with Kim & Joe Jaynes: This class is using a video series Modern Parables to review parables updated to modern times. Each class focuses on one parable.

Hard Sayings with John House: This class continues the study of *Not in God's Name: Confronting Religious Violence*.

Connections with John Stuart: For November this class will look at the faith of our presidents. Each Sunday will focus on a different president.



HELP A FAMILY IN NEED

For many years, PW has sponsored a family in the Sunset Gap area for Christmas. We will be collecting money to purchase Christmas gifts for the children in the family, and then maybe a little something for the parents, as well.

Please consider donating a few dollars to this project and make Christmas special for a family who, otherwise, might not have one.

You can give your donation to Joy Bornhoeft during the first weeks of November. We will be shopping for gifts right after Thanksgiving to take to the family.

Thank you for your continued generosity with this project!



Children's Ministry

PLANET WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

November 5	Stacie Armsworth
November 12	Jane Brannon
November 19	Joy Bornhoeft
November 26	Kim Pennington
December 3	Sherry Draper
December 10	Brooks Eggers
December 17	Erin McCallum

Planet Worship Offering

During November and December, the children will be collecting an offering in Planet Worship each

Sunday. They have chosen the **Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Gifts of the Heart Hygiene Kits** as the offering project. PDA is PCUSA's emergency and refugee program that provides national and international assistance during times of crisis and natural disaster, such as the recent hurricanes, earthquakes, floods, and fires.



**PRESBYTERIAN
DISASTER ASSISTANCE**

OUT OF CHAOS, HOPE

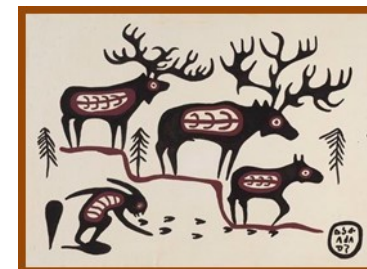
Our children have been moved by the news of recent hurricanes and floods and are inspired to help those in need by making hygiene kits for the PDA program. Each week this month, children may bring in an offering of hygiene items (see list below) or money. Monies will be used to purchase needed items.

On Sunday, December 3rd, the children will assemble the hygiene kits during Planet Worship.

Our goal is to assemble 12 – 15 kits. This will be the First Sunday in Advent, when we light the candle of **HOPE**.

The motto of PDA is "Out of Chaos, Hope." By participating in this project, our children can help shine the light of hope on those in need this Christmas.

- toothbrush • bar soap • washcloth • hand-towel (approx. 16" x 28") •
- nail clipper • wide-tooth comb • band-aids •



**Pioneer Club Returns
Wednesdays 6:30 - 7:30pm
Family Life Center**



This month in Pioneer Club, we'll learn about some of our national treasures.... our native wildlife – the white-tailed deer, bison, and wild turkey. We also will read some Native American folklore and learn how these animals were important to the life and culture of our indigenous people. As we celebrate the season of Thanksgiving, we remember how blessed we are and give thanks for God's beautiful creation!

Pioneer Club will not meet on November 22nd due to the Thanksgiving Holiday.

◆▶◆▶◆▶◆▶ What is life? ◆▶◆▶◆▶◆▶

It is the flash of a firefly in the night. It is the breath of a buffalo in the wintertime.
It is the little shadow which runs across the grass and loses itself in the sunset.

Crowfoot, Blackfoot Warrior and Orator 1830 - 1890