

Let all
that you do
be done in
Love.

1 CORINTHIANS 16:14

THE BEACON

February 2019

John 15:16a (Jesus said) "You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit." (NIV)

Dear Friends,

Quite recently, we installed a whole new class of church elders. None of them had served on the church Session before, so all of them had to be specially ordained to the office of eldership. It was an amazing moment during worship when all four – **Nicole Waters, Kelcey Levering, Ian Bone, and Andy Sarles** – stood in front of the congregation, surrounded by past and present elders who sacredly laid hands on them, conferring the status of elder through the presence of the Holy Spirit.



The choosing of elders and laying on of hands goes back to the time of Christ which is wonderful to contemplate, but it also goes back to the first elders of our congregation who were appointed in the 1870s. It means that the elders we have today in Session are spiritually connected to the Session members who founded our wee church. Year after year, new elders have been chosen by the church and the ceremonial laying on of hands has been continued for almost 150 years. It's a beautiful gift from God and one which we will continue to practice for years to come.

Part of the important work of our current elders is to recast a vision of who we are in God's eyes and what work God wants Erin Presbyterian to accomplish for Christ. In the recent past, our elders have focused on ministry team tasks which have narrowed their understanding of the whole mission of our church. This new class of elders will be pioneers of a new leadership path where they will concentrate on the bigger vision for the whole church. Their role is to earnestly pray for God's guidance and to develop discipleship processes that will take us beyond our walls and out into the wider community.

Your own ministry as members is an essential key to the success of this new way of being the church. Your encouragement and support of our elders, as well as your prayers and commitment, will help them to discern the tasks Christ has chosen them to do, in order to bear fruit for the future. So, please pray for our elders on a regular basis.

Thank you for your faithfulness and dedication. May God also bless all of your own hopes and dreams.
Pastor John

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Erin Presbyterian Church
200 Lockett Rd.
Knoxville, TN 37919
865.588.5350
www.erinpresbyterian.org

BIRTHDAYS

FEBRUARY

- 2 Ginger Thompson
- 6 Neill Murphy
- 10 Randy Sarles
- 10 Eva Lynch
- 12 Rose Armsworth
- 13 Dan Gibbs
- 13 Jodi Yau
- 14 Bette Brasher
- 17 David McKay
- 19 Marc Miller
- 19 Cecilia Stinnett
- 20 Anna McKay
- 27 Mike Cate
- 28 Robbie Levering
- 28 Harter Crisp
- 28 Gaevin Miller



MARCH

- 1 Kim Jaynes
- 1 Madeline Griffin
- 2 Kristi Bailes
- 3 Kari Matthews
- 9 Mary Franz
- 11 XeAnna Burse
- 11 Steve Foster
- 13 Elliott Blanchette
- 13 Eleanor Jaynes
- 13 Bayard Erskine
- 14 Mike Massengill
- 14 Kenleigh Pennington
- 16 Maggie Gunter
- 16 Mollie Gunter
- 17 Stan Stevens
- 19 John Stuart
- 22 Emme Ritchie
- 19 Ian Bone
- 19 John Stuart
- 25 Cynthia House
- 26 Happy Hilty
- 28 Dale Webb

connections

CONNECTIONS CLASS

The pastor will be teaching his Connections Class on Sundays in the new Education Wing from 9:40 AM to 10:25 AM. All are welcome. Videos and PowerPoint presentations, as well as study material and talking points, are shared in the class.

During February, Pastor Stuart will recognize Black History Month by presenting several classes about the Belhar Confession which was written in South Africa during the time of Apartheid. At a recent General Assembly, the PC(USA) church wisely decided to add the Belhar Confession to our denomination’s Constitution. During this series, we will discuss the Confession and its impact on our church community today. The classes are as follows:

Feb 03	What is the Belhar Confession?
Feb 10	Parts 1 & 2
Feb 17	Part 3
Feb 24	Parts 4 & 5
Mar 03	Racism in America

Coming in Lent: A six-week series on Mark 14 – one of the most important chapters in the Bible.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE CONVERSATIONS

On Wednesday nights, the pastor leads an informal discussion class about different themes in the Bible, using videos and animations. During February, we will look at and discuss some of the excellent short videos on the scriptures from the Bible Project. The conversations start at 6:40 PM and end around 7:25 PM. Everyone is welcome – bring your after-dinner coffee and come enjoy these special lessons.

Coming Soon: During Lent, we will explore a six-week series about Discipleship.

February

FEBRUARY CALENDAR	FEBRUARY 3RD	FEBRUARY 10TH	FEBRUARY 17TH	FEBRUARY 24TH
	Coffee	Coffee	Coffee	Coffee
February 2 9:30am Men’s Breakfast	Betty Gibbs	Anna McKay	Dan Gibbs	Anna McKay
	Greeters	Greeters	Greeters	Greeters
February 3 Souper Bowl of Caring	Kevin and Jackie Griffin	Kristi Bailes Pat Wallin	Patty Britton Sonja DuBois	Nicole Waters Patty Britton
	Bell Ringer	Bell Ringer	Bell Ringer	Bell Ringer
February 5 6pm Staff Meeting 7pm Discipleship 7pm Fellowship	Aiden Hopkins	Kenleigh Pennington	Aiden Strand	Will McCallum
	Guide	Guide	Guide	Guide
February 9 1pm Gifts of Children Practice	Robbie Levering	Craig Strand	Chloe Levering	Jane Brannon
	Reader	Reader	Reader	Reader
	Joe Jaynes	Mary V. Paletta	Yvette Franklin	Kelly Boyd
	Ushers	Ushers	Ushers	Ushers
February 10 Gifts of Children Sunday 12:15pm Creative Exp. 12:15pm Outreach Mtg 12:15pm Stewardship	Sara Leckie Rob Levering Brooks Eggers Chloe Levering	Jim Montgomery Rob Lynch Dusty Pennington Kim Pennington	Dusty Pennington Kelcey Levering Ian Bone Linda Quinley	Joe Tate Kelli Canan Jim Montgomery Pat Wallin
	Planet Worship	Planet Worship	Planet Worship	Planet Worship
February 14 10am PW Circle	Kelcey Levering	No Planet Worship	Joy Bornhoeft	Jane Brannon
	Counter	Counter	Counter	Counter
February 15 6:30pm BreadBreakers	Neill Murphy Keith Stump	David Eggers Joe Jaynes	Rickey McCallum Mike Jones	Craig Strand John House
February 19 10:30am Coffee Club	Communion			
February 22-24 Youth Summit	2020			
	Nursery			
	Kenleigh Pennington			
February 28 7pm Session	Flowers	Flowers	Flowers	Flowers
	Gibbs	Montgomery	McKays	

missions

Mission “Trip” Sunday!!!!
When: Sunday, March 3, 2019
Where: Sunset Gap Community Center in Cosby, TN

We are excited to have our congregation join together for a Mission Sunday, with a trip to Sunset Gap in Cosby, TN! We will be traveling to the Sunset Gap Community Center, where we will “Come to the Table” for a worship service, followed by lunch, and then we will truly put our hands to work and provide much needed service at Sunset Gap. Work will vary from light organizing and cleaning to heavy outdoor repairs. There will be service opportunities for all sizes, shapes, and ages! This is an amazing opportunity to assist an organization who provides so much for the people of Appalachia who have a such a need. (There will be an alternative worship plan for those who are unable to make the trip. Details pending.)

Schedule of events for Mission “Trip” Sunday:
9:00 am: Meet at Erin Presbyterian Church to carpool and caravan to Sunset Gap
11:00 am Worship service at the Sunset Gap Auditorium
Lunch to follow worship
12:30-3:00 (or however long you are able to stay) Putting our hands to God’s work at Sunset Gap!!

UPDATE FROM PASTOR MAMISOA

I hope this email finds you and your family, the outreach team and all Erin congregation well. I am also reiterating my wishes for this new year that abundance Love, Joy and Peace would overflow among us while we are exploring our journey with God through our respective ministries.

Just to give some updates of my study here in Columbia. January hybrid class has started on 7th Jan. The on campus class was from 7-11 Jan but online classes are going on until 15th February. After that, an elective class for Spring term on "Pastoral Care and the experience of crisis and trauma" is scheduled from 28th Jan-May. The Summer term would start by 7th July but I am already working on some researches for that class. I did not receive my Jan grades yet but I am sending herewith the last Fall grade .

I am enjoying my study in Columbia and really excited about the idea of teaching and learning when I will be back in Madagascar once the study will be completed. This program is enriching my aspiration of training more educators while back in my country and as well as grounding my values through growing and living faithfully. Thank you for being part of this exciting, enriching and miraculous journey!

Blessings,
Mamisoa

Rakotomalala Ep Andrianjohary

Current term: FA18 [Change](#)

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Course Offering

My Grades

Grade Type: Final Grades

Student Information

Student ID: 61234

Student Name: Nomenanahary Mamisoa Rakotomalala Ep Andrianjohary

Phone: +261331263902

Address: Lot IP 15 Isotry Est Antananarivo, 101

Degree Prog: DEdMin

Advisor: Kathy Dawson

FINAL Grades Information

Course ID	Course Name	Credits	Grade	GPA Hrs	Grade Points
P770	DEdMin Introductory Seminar	6.00	A	6.00	24.00

Term/Cumulative Summary

	Attempted	Earned	GPA Hours	Grade Points	GPA	Comp Ratio
Term	6.00	6.00	6.00	24.00	4.000	100.00 %
Cumulative for GPA Group: DEdMin	6.00	6.00	6.00	24.00	4.000	100.00 %

fellowship

BREADBREAKERS

Breadbreakers will be at the home of Karen and Keith Stump, 6942 Old Kent Drive, on Friday evening, February 15, at 6:30 pm. Kim and Dusty Pennington will be co-hosting this evening. Please consider joining us for a fun time of food and fellowship. We still have one opening in March for a host house if anyone is so moved.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

PW Bible Study will meet on Thursday, February 14, at 10 am in the parlor. Our lesson is # 5, Rest With and Rely on God...scripture is Mark 6: 30-46. Suzanne Levering will be leading the lesson. Kellan Sarles will provide light refreshments. All Erin women are invited to attend.

COFFEE CLUB

Do you like coffee? Do you like sweets?
Do you know what a good baker Joy is?

Maybe your favorite thing is just a hot cup of Dunkin Donuts Coffee and some delicious treats!

Join Pastor John, Joy and April on the third Tuesday of each month for our Coffee Club in the Fellowship Hall.

The next one is Tuesday, February 19th at 10:30am

We hope you’ll visit with us!

CANCELLATIONS

We’ve created this new email in order to let our church family know about weather cancellations and changes in the schedule of larger-scale church events. related changes, arise.

In case of cancellation, we will update our facebook page and webpage with the information.

You should also receive an email from cancellation@erinpresbyterian.org.



youth news

Souper Bowl of Caring

Erin Youth will once again be participating in the Souper Bowl of Caring. Our young people will be collecting monetary donations on Super Bowl Sunday, February 3rd, as we leave church. The funds will benefit the FISH Pantry.

Valentine Cookie Baking at Bethel Presbyterian Our youth group will be joining with other area youth on February 10th at Bethel Presbyterian in Kingston to do some Valentine baking. We'll head out from Erin at 2:30. We will be ordering pizza with the group, so bring \$2.00 to chip in if you're coming along.

Youth Summit

Youth Summit is fast approaching, February 22-24 in Gatlinburg. There is still time to register if you haven't already signed up! The weekend retreat is open to high school youth as well as rising freshmen. For February registrations, the cost of the trip is \$77.50 for Erin members and \$140 for non members. If you have any questions, please contact Farrah at youth@erinpresbyterian.org.

Middle School Montreat

The theme for this year's middle school Montreat Conference is "For Such a Time as This." The conference is July 17-21 at Maryville College. All middle school youth and rising sixth graders are invited to attend. If you haven't already registered and are interested in attending, please contact Farrah at youth@erinpresbyterian.org.

High School Montreat

The theme for this year's high school Montreat Conference is "Let Love Lead." Erin youth will be attending the conference at Montreat College the week of June 9-15. All high school youth as well as rising freshmen are invited to join us. If you haven't already registered and are interested in attending, please contact Farrah at youth@erinpresbyterian.org.

Save the Date - Pancake Dinner Youth Fundraiser - March 6 - Benefits summer Montreat trips

Gifts of Our Children Service on February 10!!

The Discipleship theme this year is COME TO THE TABLE. Our children and youth will share with you what this theme means to them through their words, music, readings, art, drama and worship leadership during this very special service on February 10th.

The *Gifts of Our Children Service* is a special Sunday in the life of our church, and our children are an important part of the life of Erin. Sometimes the words that impact our lives the most come from the youngest among us. If you have not experienced this service before, we encourage you to attend to support our kids. But we also encourage you to attend for you. This service will be one of the most inspirational and uplifting of your year.

children's ministry

Planet Worship Volunteers	
Feb 3	Kelcey Levering
Feb 10	Gifts of Children Sunday No Planet Worship
Feb 17	Joy Bornhoeft
Feb 24	Jane Brannon



This month in Planet Worship, we begin a new study, ***Disciples Then! Disciples Now!***, a multi-part series of lessons dispersed throughout the year. Through this study, children will learn about the life and work of each of Jesus' twelve Disciples and several prominent women in the Bible. As we study the Disciples and faithful women, we will discuss how we too are called to be Disciples of Christ. This month, we will study **Simon Peter, Andrew, and Philip**.

Also, we continue to take up an offering each week in Planet Worship to donate to World Vision to help a child waiting for sponsorship. We are about half way to our goal of donating \$40!



Gifts of Children Sunday - Feb. 10th

Join us for a special service as our children and youth lead us in worship.

This year's theme is ***Come to the Table***.

There will be NO Planet Worship on this day, but the Nursery will be available for children under 4 years old. Also, children's activity bulletins will be available in the Narthex near the worship bags.

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



This month, we travel to China for the Chinese New Year, also known as the Spring Festival. The Chinese New Year has over 4,000 years of history and is the longest holiday of the year in China. This year, 2019, is the year of the Pig. Kids will learn about the Chinese Zodiac and will look up their zodiac animal based on their birth year. We'll sample authentic Chinese cuisine, like dumplings, and make dragon blowers.

