

March Birthdays

- | | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------|
| 1 Kim Jaynes | 11 Ripley Linkous | 14 Mike Massengill | 19 John Stuart |
| 1 Madeline Griffin | 11 Steve Foster | 14 Kenleigh Pennington | 25 Cynthia House |
| 3 Kari Matthews | 13 Elliott Blanchette | 16 Maggie Gunter | 26 Happy Hilty |
| 9 Mary Franz | 13 Eleanor Jaynes | 16 Mollie Gunter | 28 Dale Webb |
| 10 Randy Sarles | 13 Bayard Erskine | 19 Ian Bone | 31 Glenda King |

On your birthday, remember that you were wonderfully made by God, and rejoice in His love. You are a blessing to all of us here at Erin Church!



Pictured above is the University of Glasgow where Pastor Stuart attended college.

A note from the Pastor...

Psalm 84:3 *“Even the sparrow has found a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may have her young —a place near your altar, Lord Almighty, my King and my God.” (NIV)*

Dear Friends,

By the time you read this, I will be back in Scotland for a short visit. My youngest nephew Ewan is getting married, so I thought I would go over and celebrate with my family. I haven't been to Scotland for sixteen years, so I am both excited to see my siblings and a wee bit anxious because a lot of changes will have taken place over there since 2004.

During my short trip – only five days – I will try to squeeze in as much as I can and catch up with a few friends. Some thoughtful folks at church suggested I could stay longer, but I just want to see a few things before heading back home to Tennessee. If the weather cooperates, I'll be worshiping with old friends in the church at Maybole on Sunday. It will be good to share some moments of faith with them. On Monday, the day before I fly out, I'll visit the Kelvingrove Art Gallery, and my Alma Mater, Glasgow University – two

places that still mean a lot to me.

There's an old saying that 'home is where the heart is.' For me, home is where I find Christ, either in the sanctuary or among His people. I dearly love my Scottish brothers and sisters, the family with whom I grew up, but I also truly love my brothers and sisters in Christ, the family at Erin with whom I am still growing. Your kindness to me and my family over the years has been such a blessing, so my heart is with you all.

This month's highlighted verse from Psalm 84 also reminds us of the welcome that God gives to all of His creatures, even the lowliest of birds. The House of prayer and praise which we also call 'sanctuary' is a special place where our weary spirits can nest and be nurtured by God. It's this divine acceptance, that no matter who we are or what we've done, we can always find a home here at Erin – a safe place where God's love strengthens us and Christ's presence comforts us. All being well, I look forward to seeing you, back home, when we meet again.

May God bless you and all of your loved ones.

Pastor John

Visit us at: www.erinpres.org
For all of our upcoming events and opportunities to serve.

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Connections

Class *Lessons for Lent: 5 week series of preparation for Holy Week and Easter*

Lent is a special spiritual season when we reflect on our faith and think about what God has done for us through His Son Jesus. This year, the Connections Class will look at some passages from Paul's Letter to the Philippians to help us prepare spiritually for Holy Week and Easter.

The classes begin at 9:40 AM in Pastor John's classroom and all are welcomed to attend the lessons. Here is the proposed schedule:

Mar 01	No Class – John in Scotland	
Mar 08	God's Good Work	Philippians 1:3-14
Mar 15	Living in Christ	Philippians 1:15-30
Mar 22	Jesus is Lord	Philippians 2:1-13
Mar 29	The Prize	Philippians 3:4-14
Apr 05	Rejoice in the Lord	Philippians 4:4-13

Agape Feast

You are invited to an Agape Feast! The term comes from "agape" the Greek word for 'love' in its broadest sense, coupled with the early Church custom of believers coming together for a common meal.

On April 9th, Maundy Thursday, the Worship Team of Erin Presbyterian will host a simple meal, followed by the Lord's Supper as it would have been offered on the night of Christ's arrest. All who wish to attend will be asked to sign up in advance.

We will gather in the Fellowship Hall at 6 PM, serve one another through foot-washing, enjoy soup and one

and bread, and then - while still at table - worship through the sacrament of communion. We invite you to deepen your Holy Week observance by joining your Christian family for a time of fellowship and worship.

Mission: Sunset Gap

Worship & Workday

When: Sunday, March 29, 2020

Where: Sunset Gap Community Center in Cosby, TN

We are excited to have our congregation join together at Sunset Gap for our second annual Mission Sunday. We will caravan to Sunset Gap Community Center, where we will enjoy our worship service, followed by lunch, and then we will provide much needed service at Sunset Gap.

Work will vary from light organizing and cleaning to bigger repairs. There will be service opportunities for all ages and experience! This is an amazing opportunity to assist an organization that provides so much for the people of Appalachia.

Schedule of events for our Worship & Workday:

9:00am Meet at Erin Presbyterian Church to carpool and caravan to Sunset Gap

11:00am Worship service at the Sunset Gap Auditorium

Lunch to follow the Worship Service

12:30-3:00 (or however long you are able to stay) Putting our hands to God's work at Sunset Gap!

Visit <https://sunsetgap.weebly.com/> for more information about Sunset Gap and all of the ways they serve their community.

Easter Lilies

It will soon be time to place orders for your Memorial Easter Lilies. Lilies may be purchased for Easter Sunday in memory, or in honor, of a loved one. The cost is \$15 per lily and the proceeds go to helping the Fellowship Committee support programs for the members of Erin Church. Signups will be in Sunday bulletins later in the month.

Brandon Breakfast

Put Easter Sunday morning, April 12, on your calendar and join us for our Annual Brandon Breakfast! Join us at the annual Brandon Breakfast and Easter Egg Hunt on Easter morning. Our traditional breakfast, prepared by your Fellowship Team and friends, is at 9:30am. The egg hunt begins at 10:15 for the children. Please be sure they bring their own baskets! There will be no Sunday School, and our Easter Church Service will begin at 11am. So please join us for food, fun and worship! Signups for Brandon Breakfast will be in the Bulletin 2 weeks before Easter.

Coffee Club

Do you have questions for the staff? Would you like to have some fellowship and conversation? Maybe you'd just like a cup of coffee and some delicious treats!

Join Pastor John, Joy and April on the third Tuesday of each month for our Coffee Club in the Parlor. The next one is on Tuesday, March 17th (St. Patrick's Day) at 10:30am. Anyone who is free can come enjoy refreshments and conversation for an hour. Near the end of our time, we have a short devotion and prayer. We really hope you'll come on over!



Spring Break

Knox County Schools Spring Break takes place March 16th-20th. Our Wednesday Night Dinner teams take this week off to be with their families, so most of our Wednesday night activities are suspended, as well. WND, Pioneer Club, Middle School Youth Group, and Sunshine will return the following Wednesday.

Sonshine Show

The Sonshine show this year is an original musical set in Nasa's Space Camp. The book was written by our own Cynthia House and Kelly Boyd. Show Dates:

April 2&3 at 7:30pm

Sunday, April 4th at 2:00pm

Students and Seniors \$8

Adults \$10

Preschoolers \$5

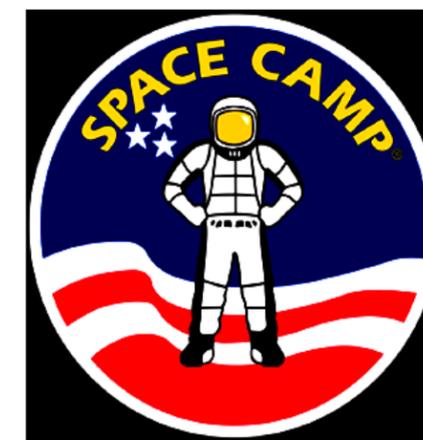
Family Maximum \$30

The troupe recently took a trip to Space Camp at One Tranquility Base, Huntsville, Alabama.

Space Camp is a one-of-a-kind experience at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center. Trainees learn space and flight history, work together as teams, experience simulators. Space Camp trainees explore amazing artifacts and experience firsthand the National Historic Landmark Saturn V rocket, the Apollo 12 moon rock; and the Pathfinder Space Shuttle!

**Sonshine Company 2020
Presents...**

A Place in Space!



An original musical set at NASA's Space Camp
Book by Cynthia House and Kelly Boyd

Music by Withers and Scarborough, Audrey Snyder, Cristi Cary Miller, Robert Kelly and Mac Huff, Bill Staines and Ed Harris, Tom Anderson, Jesse Reeves, Laura Story and Jeff Sandstrom

Friday & Saturday, April 2 & 3 at 7:30 pm & Sunday, April 4 at 2:00 pm
Students & Seniors: \$8.00 Adults: \$10.00 Preschool: \$5.00
\$30.00 Family Maximum

Please come out and support this great troupe of kids!!

Sonshine Company is part of the Creative Expression's ministry of Erin Church.

MARCH EVENTS

- | | | | |
|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------|----------------------------------------------|
| 1 | MARKETING AND CREATIVE EXPRESSIONS MEETINGS 12:15 | 17 | ST. PATRICK'S DAY/COFFEE CLUB 10:30AM |
| 3 | FELLOWSHIP TEAM MEETING 7PM | 18 | NO WND OR ACTIVITIES |
| 5 | MOPS 9:30AM & SESSION 7PM | | (KNOX SPRING BREAK) |
| 6 | SESSION MEETING 7PM | 19 | MOPS 9:30AM |
| 7 | MEN'S BREAKFAST 9:30AM | 21 | SONSHINE REHEARSAL 9AM AND |
| 8 | IT, OUTREACH, AND STEWARDSHIP MEETINGS 12:15PM | | BREADBREAKERS 6:30 |
| 9 | PROPERTY MEETING 6:30PM | 21 | SONSHINE SET LOAD-IN 1:30PM |
| 10 | STAFF MEETING 6PM & DISCIPLESHIP 7PM | 28 | SONSHINE REHEARSAL 9AM |
| 12 | PW 10AM & WORSHIP PLANNING TEAM 7PM | 29 | CHURCH AT SUNSET GAP/WORKDAY |
| 15 | VISITOR FOLLOW-UP TEAM & | | IN LIEU OF REGULAR WORSHIP SERVICE |
| | ORGANIZATION HEALTH 12:15PM | | |

Good Earth

GARDEN PROGRAM

The Morgan-Scott Project - A hand up, not a hand out.

“We provide vegetable seeds, plants and fertilizer to more than 350 families each year so they can grow their own food. We also have a garden we share with needy families during harvest.”

The Outreach Team will collect seeds, plants and fertilizer for the for the Morgan-Scott Good Earth Program so families will be able to grow their own food this year. We will receive seed packs (vegetable/herbs), and fertilizer, during the Month of March for their April 18th event. Visit Morganscottproject.org for more information on the project or to find volunteer opportunities.



More info on the Good Earth Project:

In 1976 The Good Earth program was established to provide vegetable seeds, tomato and cabbage plants, onion sets, potato seeds and fertilizer for home gardens. MSP also owned a tractor, a plow, a disk, and two roto-tillers that could be rented at very reasonable rates or lent in cases of extreme need. These gardens provided fresh foods in the summer and canned vegetables in the winter. Many seeds and plants are donated by churches in the area. This program has been very popular, particularly in poor economic times, serving anywhere from 126 families in 1981 to 387 in 1982, and over 300 in 2008.

Spring Clean Up

The Property Team, we would like to invite you to our annual Spring Clean Up at the church on Saturday, April 4th from 9:30am - 12:30pm. Breakfast will be served at 9:30am and then we'll get started beautifying the grounds in time for Easter.

We are in need of helping hands for all of our outside tasks, and all skill levels are welcome!

Bring rakes, tarps, wheelbarrows, garden gloves, weed-killer, power blowers, and general tools, if you have them.

Signups will be in the bulletin near the end of March so we can get a head-count for breakfast. Let us know if you can join us!

BreadBreakers

SHARING DINNER AND FELLOWSHIP
FROM HOUSE TO HOUSE

Breadbreakers will meet at the home of Al and Pat Wallin on Saturday, March 20, at 6:30 pm. Come on over to enjoy a fun evening of food and fellowship!

If you haven't attended before, we hope you'll give it a try! We each bring a dish, side, or dessert - and the food is ALWAYS good.

You don't have to host one in your home in order to attend. All adults are welcome and we hope to see you there!

Presbyterian Women

The Presbyterian Women Bible Study will meet at 10am on Thursday, March 12th, in the parlor.

Nancy Berry will lead us in the Seventh Word, Do Not Steal.

Sonja DuBois will bring light refreshments.

If you're new to Erin Church and you're interested in attending the PW Bible Study on the first Thursday of each month, just contact Joy Bornhoeft for details and join us for the next one!

Dates of Interest

Sunday, March 8th: Daylight Saving Begins

Sunday, April 5th: Palm Sunday

Friday, April 10th: Office closed for Good Friday

Sunday, April 12th: Breakfast, Egg Hunt & Easter Worship

PLANET WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

MARCH 1 Kelly Boyd

MARCH 8 Erin McCallum

MARCH 15 Brooks Eggers

MARCH 22 Mary Virginia Paletta

MARCH 29 No Planet Worship
(Worship at Sunset Gap)

APRIL 5 Kelcey Levering

APRIL 12 Joy Bornhoeft



Children's Ministry

Wednesdays
6:30 - 7:30
Family Life Center

It's a PARTY! This month in Pioneer Club, we will celebrate Dr. Seuss' Birthday with a Birthday Party for EVERYONE on March 4th!! Then, we will go fishing as we explore the classic stories of "One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish" and "McElligot's Pool." Just a reminder: There will be no Pioneer Club on March 18th due to the Knox Co. Schools Spring Break.

SPRING Mission Project

Erin's Outreach Ministry and Presbyterian Women are teaming up to support **SUNSET GAP** for our churchwide Spring Mission Project. The Outreach Team is asking for donations of cleaning supplies, and Presbyterian Women are requesting donations of kitchen items. Collection boxes will be in the narthex beginning March 1st - 27th. Donations will be delivered on Sunday, March 29th when we travel to Sunset Gap for our Worship & Workday. Please consider donating some of the items listed below.

If you are willing to help transport the donations on March 29th, please talk to Kelli Canan or Joy Bornhoeft.

CLEANING SUPPLIES	KITCHEN SUPPLIES
Bucket & mop	Coffee filters
Broom & dust pan	Plastic cutlery
Sponges and scrub brushes	Disposable plates and cups (hot & cold)
Rubber gloves	Paper napkins
Dish towels/washcloths	Aluminum foil and plastic food wrap
Paper towels	Disposable food prep gloves
Disinfectant sprays and wipes	Decorating items for all holidays
Dawn dish soap	Table covers (plastic and/or cloth)
All-purpose cleaning products	Disposable take-out containers for hot meals (clam shell)
Window cleaner	Ziploc bags - snack size, sandwich, quart, & gallon sizes
Floor cleaners	
Toilet bowl cleaners	
Trash bags (tall kitchen and outdoor)	

Youth News

PANCAKE SUPPER
YOUTH SUMMIT
NEW NURSERY WORKER
SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

Pancake Supper

Thank you to all that joined us for this year's Pancake Supper. It was another great year, and \$403 was raised! The Youth appreciate your support of their summer Montreat trips.

Youth Summit

Our girls at Youth Summit this past week...



New Nursery Worker

We are so pleased to welcome Allison Aldridge to Erin as our new Nursery Worker. She is a sophomore at UT studying interior architecture.

Allison came to us through UKirk, where she worships on campus and also lives. She has also worked with Camp John Knox, so she has lots of familiar connections! Please stop by the nursery on a Sunday morning and welcome her to the team!



Souper Bowl of Caring

This year, thanks to our awesome congregation at Erin, the Youth were able to collect \$372.94 as part of the Souper Bowl of Caring. The funds are used to fight hunger in communities across the country. Erin contributed the funds raised this year to FISH Pantry.

FISH Hospitality

Pantry

Working with communities to end hunger. Feed a body, nourish a soul.

Outreach has decided to provide info in case you'd like to serve at Fish Pantry, however, they will cease the Erin Group coordination as FISH doesn't need big groups on Saturdays.

So, if you're looking for an opportunity to volunteer at FISH, please see the link below for locations and times you can volunteer. Generally, you'll need to be there about 30 minutes before opening to get information on how you can assist. Please ask a member of the Erin Outreach Team if you have questions.

<http://www.fishpantry.org/>

**Fish Hospitality Pantry New Phone Number:
865.247.0521**

Over & Above

Ten years ago, we established the *Capital Campaign* to finance significant renovations to Erin Church's building. To aid our fundraising, we incorporated into it money from the then Property Fund, donations restricted to property-related expenses. After the renovations were complete, we used some of the remaining *Capital Campaign* funds, as well as your generous Lower the Debt Fund donations, to pay down the outstanding mortgage.

When the renovation debt was paid, money left over was put into a new Property Fund, and the congregation was asked to help grow this account to create a larger buffer for inevitable, and often expensive, repairs. Erin members once again responded with faithful giving. The Property Fund was healthy. Threat was averted. Good work!

Yet at the same time, we found ourselves behind on the overall operating budget. The congregation was asked to shift extra giving from the Property Fund to a general "*Building Up*" effort to help us catch up on general expenses. For a third time, Erin members responded, with both faithful tithing and additional giving. Now, our overall budget numbers are once again healthy. Threat averted once more. Great job!

Perhaps we are an anxious bunch in Stewardship, but we foresee a new source of potential financial burden for Erin Church. Renovating the church building was an important part of revitalizing the church, however it was only step one. Our ongoing Vision Project is the next and even more important step. While the Vision Project is not going to cost \$1.5 million dollars, it will create new expenses and at this point we really have no idea how to budget for them.

For this reason, Stewardship is again asking for your help. If you can, we request you to consider contributing to a newly created account that we are calling the *Over and Above Fund*. We've called it that in part because it is over and above regular pledged giving, but also because it is for things that are over and above our traditional budget needs. This *Over and Above Fund* is a restricted account that will only be used for supporting the Vision Project and corresponding team-related expenses. And these funds will only be spent with approval from Session.

As before, you'll find envelopes in the pews to collect your donations and we want to make it clear to you that you now have two options for designating donations. You may select giving to go to: 1) the new Over and Above Fund, or 2) the continued Property Fund. Funds that are not designated will be split evenly these restricted accounts.

And again, thank you all for your faithfulness and dedication to Erin Church and God's work here.

Sincerely,

Stewardship Team

"Our ongoing Vision Project is the next and even more important step."