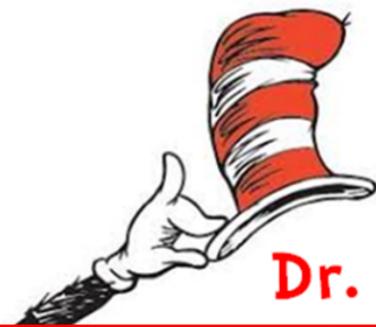


April Birthdays

- | | | | |
|---------------------|------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| 1 David Snodgrass | 6 Karen Price | 17 Jennifer Gahan | 30 Aaron Foster |
| 3 Henry Ritchie | 9 Dan Berry | 18 Duane Parker | |
| 3 Kathryn Bornhoeft | 9 Craig Strand | 18 John House | |
| 4 Becky Cameron | 14 Erin McCallum | 21 Melinda Massengill | |
| 5 Peggy Cuany | 16 Peter McKay | 29 Jenny Rogers | |

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!



PIONEER CLUB

celebrates

Dr. Seuss' Birthday in MARCH



A note from the Pastor...

1 Peter 5:10 *“And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.” (ESV)*

Dear Erin Family,
My daily prayers and thoughts are for your well-being and good health. The semi-quarantine that we have been under has been very hard on all of us, especially those who are vulnerable to colds, flu, and viruses. The fact that most of us have done our utmost to stay at home and keep our traveling to a minimum will help our whole community to endure this pandemic and eventually overcome this virus.

It's been strange to sometimes be in the church building with no one around. The sanctuary is empty and very quiet without us all gathering together. I used to complain about the noise in the narthex before worship services started – now I would practically give anything to both see and hear you cheerfully and loudly greet one another!

We all know that this pandemic like all others before it will pass. It will have changed us in many ways, but hopefully, it will also have made us appreciate all that we once took for granted. We are a church family, missing one another and yet praying for each other; we are a body of believers, isolated at home, yet in contact with one another. We have discovered that Erin church is a group of loving and faithful people who find community, not in the bricks and mortar of our building, but in the friendship and calls we share with one another.

Perhaps by the end of this month, we will begin to get out and be together. Or maybe this will go on until the end of May. We do not know, but this we do know: that God holds us and tomorrow in His hands and as Simon Peter so eloquently wrote long ago, **‘God Himself will restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.’**

May God bless you and all of your loved ones.

Pastor John

Connections Class

Zoom, Zoom!

On Sunday mornings, instead of meeting in the Pastor's classroom, our class – like the other Adult Sunday School groups – have been gathering online using Zoom. It's a fascinating way to share our thoughts and ideas about the Bible, as well as a neat way of checking in and checking up with one another.

Currently, our class is meeting on Sundays online at 9:30 AM to discuss Paul's letter to the Philippians for about 45 minutes. If you would like to join us, then send an email to Pastor John at pastor@erinpresbyterian.org and he'll add you to the Zoom invitation list.

You can also sign up for online classes with our other class leaders. If you would like to join Kim & Joe Jaynes' class or John House' online class, send an email to April, our Administrator, admin@erinpresbyterian.org and she'll pass on your request to the other teachers 😊

Zoom! Zoom! – Part 2

Our Church ministry and support teams are beginning to use Zoom for their meetings, too. If you are a part of a team, you will receive an invitation to take part in a meeting very soon. Instructions and a password will be assigned to the meeting and if you haven't done it before, it looks very like the opening title of the Brady Bunch on your computer screen 😊

Our Church Elders have also been meeting weekly as a Session on Zoom to discuss how to keep our connections with one another strong and supportive. After Easter, the pastor will set up a couple of chat meetings with members over coffee. Look out for details coming to you in future newsletters, church emails, and on our website & Facebook pages. If you would also like a confidential one-on-one Zoom meeting with the pastor, contact him by email pastor@erinpresbyterian.org and he will be happy to set it up with you.

Online Worship Services

Because the church is temporarily closed, we have been pre-recording our worship services and posting them online using Vimeo which is a video platform. Each week, the link will be sent out via our events@erinpresbyterian.org email, as well as being posted on our website and Facebook pages. If you would like to be added to our growing list of viewers, then send an email to April, our Administrator, admin@erinpresbyterian.org and she'll do that for you. 😊

APRIL EVENTS

13 6:30PM CREATIVE EXPRESSIONS ZOOM MEETING
14 7PM DISCIPLESHIP TEAM ZOOM MEETING
16 7PM SESSION ZOOM MEETING
17 12PM STAFF ZOOM MEETING
19 9:30AM CONNECTIONS CLASS
10AM ONLINE SUNDAY SERVICE
10AM HARD SAYINGS ZOOM MEETING
12PM OUTREACH ZOOM MEETING
2PM VISITOR FOLLOW ZOOM MEETING

23 7PM SESSION ZOOM MEETING
24 12PM STAFF ZOOM MEETING
26 9:30PM CONNECTIONS CLASS
10AM ONLINE SUNDAY SERVICE
30 7PM SESSION ZOOM MEETING

*We're going to begin Coffee Club over the Zoom platform. If you're interested in joining us, or hosting one, please send April an email: admin@erinpresbyterian.org

Memories...

Back in March we asked folks to send in stories about their earliest memories of Erin Church. Thanks so much, Jenny, for sending in your story!

I joined the church around 1964, I think. I can't be that old, can I?! The church is basically the same, with the exception of the nicer hall downstairs and the entry foyer.

I can remember Grace Horne being a Sunday school teacher and Suzanne Brooks Levering being my choir leader. Melinda Kirby and I were friends from the very Beginning, along with Debbie Swallows, Nancy McLean and Joe Jaynes. I always loved singing in the choir when I was a child and later as an adult.

My fondest memories are my mom, dad, Pearl Swallows, and Martha Marley in the kitchen. Randy and I were married at Erin by Reverend Kerry Stoltzfus in 1985, and our children, Thomas and Harrison, were both christened at Erin.

Our family always sat on the fourth row from the front, and I still sit there today. I can always see my dad clasping his hands and saying the children's prayer with the kids up front. When I sit there, I feel his presence.

I miss so many of our members; Marjorie Swanner, Pearl and Albert Swallows, the Hewgleys, the Parrots, Ron and Jacque Roberts, Bayard Erskine, Martha Marley, and many more.

When I'm at Erin, I know I'm in the presence of all who were there before me.

Jenny Boyd

Stewardship on Covid-19

Erin Presbyterian Family,

The Stewardship Team extends its sincere appreciation to our church people for their wonderful giving! With the circumstances of the COVID-19, our Erin family has faced some serious challenges in remaining connected personally, spiritually, and with each other. One of the difficulties that our members and the Church has faced is the financial strain posed by COVID-19.

In facing the issues of remaining connected, our Erin family has overcome and thrived. Despite the financial difficulties posed by COVID-19, the congregation has responded amazingly by giving in an extraordinary manner. For this, the Stewardship Team reaches out to every member to give its thanks to you!

With this appreciation, the Stewardship Team also encourages everybody of the importance to continue this amazing giving. With COVID-19, there is much uncertainty regarding the needs of the Church, its members, and our community. For Erin Presbyterian to carry out its mission and vision in these uncertain times, financial stability and strength will be necessary. So, we ask you to continue your gracious and faithful giving by either mailing payments directly to the Church at 200 Lockett Road, Knoxville, Tennessee 37919 or by giving online at <https://bit.ly/2WL0BdX>.

Sincerely,

Stewardship Team

"In facing the issues of remaining connected, our Erin family has overcome and thrived."