

# Stewardship & Covid

Erin Presbyterian Family,

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

As to the challenges of remaining connected, the Erin family has overcome and thrived. Financially, the Erin Presbyterian Church is no different. Despite the financial difficulties posed by COVID-19, the Erin family 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 reminds 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.

We understand that certain members may not be able to give in the same manner as before this crisis. Every amount given by every person counts. We encourage everyone to give whatever amount they can.

Please continue your gracious giving by either mailing payments directly to the Church at 200 Lockett Road, Knoxville, Tennessee 37919 or by giving online at <https://bit.ly/2WLOBdX>.

Sincerely,  
Stewardship Team

# Outreach

Erin Pres sent relief money to Chattanooga and Nashville through Presbytery Disaster Assistance (PDA) for tornado relief.

Also, Erin Pres sent relief money to Sunset Gap via Outreach emergency budget.

We will have more details coming soon about a restructure of work days at Sunset Gap due to COVID.

Instead of large group, we are working on smaller teams to achieve specific projects.

We won't be able to select dates for awhile.

MAY 2020

**Thank You**

**Hebrews 13:16**  
**"And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased." (NIV)**

**A note from the Pastor...**

Dear Friends,

You are all incredible lifesavers! The sacrifices that each of you have made by staying mostly at home has helped many vulnerable people in our community. Without such selflessness, tens of thousands of more folks in our region would have contracted the virus and suffered greatly. Hospital workers and medical professionals would have been endangered for maintaining their invaluable work on the frontline of this pandemic. So, pat yourselves on the back for being willing to flatten the curve of this plague. It hasn't been easy and we still have a lot of cautious weeks, if not months, ahead of us, but your sacrifice has saved lives – there is no doubt about that whatsoever. 😊

Church has changed and we are now in a post-normal world. At the moment, we cannot congregate for worship, but thankfully, we have had a great team of people working on presenting and producing our online services. Each week, we learn a new set of skills and add to the Erin worship experience. Our videos are full of wonderful music and photographs, meaningful prayers and teaching moments that are helping all of us to deepen our faith in God. The number of messages and emails that I get from folks, both near and far, are amazing.

People are very appreciative of being able to worship at home and are also sharing those services with their families and friends. It's a beautiful blessing that God has given and we should be especially grateful for the wonderful work that our Choir Director, Joe Jaynes, has done in splicing the

videos together. If you would like to watch one of our recent videos, go to this link: <https://vimeo.com/411588624> or you can watch them on our website at [www.erinpres.org](http://www.erinpres.org).

Our Session elders have also been meeting each week to make important decisions on behalf of our congregation. For first four Sundays in May, the church will remain closed for worship services. Staff will be working mainly from home, although some have been in the office to work, too. I check the building each day and keep isolated at my office desk. Things are very quiet and I miss our folks, but I know that we will be together again one day.

We've also set up a congregational phone tree to send you a weekly message and give you any updates about what's happening. It should reach every household and hopefully will keep you both encouraged and informed. If you haven't been getting a call, send an email to April, our Administrator, at [admin@erinpresbyterian.org](mailto:admin@erinpresbyterian.org) and she'll add your telephone number to the list.

Finally, I'd like to say 'thank you' to all of you who have continued to give your tithes, pledged offerings, and gifts to the church by check via the mail, or online by using our website. Your contributions are enabling us to maintain our services, ministries, and missions. We don't know what the summer may bring, but your faithfulness is helping us to keep afloat. It's another example of a sacrifice which pleases God.

May God bless and protect you and all your loved ones.

**Pastor John**

# Connecting

## Sunday Connections Class: On Zoom!

Like our other adult classes, the Pastor's Connections Class is taking place on Zoom on Sundays morning from 9:30 AM. Several class members have been attending and it's a good place to share our news, prayers, and discussions.

If you'd like to join us, just send an email to John at pastor@erinpresbyterian.org and he'll send you back the link to join the class. You don't have to have a camera on your phone or laptop. If you have a microphone, you can join the class by audio and still participate fully on what's going on.

During the Sundays in May, Pastor Stuart will be teaching a four-week series on Acts 1 & 2 from the New Testament. It's all about waiting for something to happen – which is precisely the position we are all in right now! If you can't make the class, but would like a copy of the study to do at home, just email Pastor Stuart and he'll send you the lesson 😊

## Coffee Club & Coffee Club Extra

We have two weekly check-in meetings on Zoom for our folks to come together to talk, catch up, pray, and share a devotion. They take place on Tuesday mornings at 10:30 AM and Wednesday evenings at 7:30 PM. If you would like to participate in either or both, just send an email to April or Pastor John and we'll send you the link to the meeting. All are welcome 😊

## Contacting Pastor Stuart

If you have a special need or require help, if you would like a prayer said or just someone to talk to, you can contact Pastor John at the church office during the day (865-588-5350), or on his cellphone (865-454-3942) at any time. You may also text him on his cellphone, too. Please feel free to send him emails at [pastor@erinpresbyterian.org](mailto:pastor@erinpresbyterian.org) or you can message him via Facebook.

## Living Faith Class Joe and Kim Jaynes

Erin's adult Sunday school classes have continued to meet online while we're staying at home. We don't know when we'll be comfortable gathering in person again, but we've decided to continue either as a way of connecting if we're still home, or to make up for the weeks we've missed seeing each other when we're able to meet in person again. We'd love for you to join us!

## Living the Faith Sunday school class – May and June 2020

Joe and Kim Jaynes lead the Living the Faith class, a Covenant Group that meets at 9:30 on Sunday mornings. A covenant group implies a commitment to the group as members share their spiritual journeys and pray with and for one another. Participants help each other become more Christ-like by grappling together with God's truth and fleshing it out in study, conversation, prayer, and action as they seek God's will for their lives. Study is a big part of the group, but the focus is less on downloading information and more on community-building and relationship-based discipleship.

The group will finish up its current six-week study of the Psalms of Ascent on May 17, and will start a new discussion of Galatians on May 25 that will continue through the end of June. Group members will read a chapter of Galatians during the week and consider question from the study guide by Scot McKnight. If you'd like to join you can email, text, or call Joe Jaynes ([joseph.jaynes@gmail.com](mailto:joseph.jaynes@gmail.com) or 865-675-6432) and he will send instructions for the virtual meeting.

## Hard Sayings

We have decided to continue our Sunday School class through the summer. The group will discuss and then choose the next book together. More details to come!

# Graduates

## WE ARE SO PROUD OF YOU!



### Chloe Levering

Chloe is excited to attend the University of Tennessee and be a part of The Pride of the Southland Band. She is going to major in Journalism and Electronic media. Chloe hopes to have a career in sports journalism.



### Colton Pennington

He will either be attending University of Tennessee or Syracuse & will be studying Sports Broadcasting.



### Lauren Gahan

Attending UTK  
Major: Undeclared



### Henry Thomas

Henry Thomas is hoping to attend the University of Tennessee Futures Program in the Fall. His dream is to become a history teacher.



### Harter Crisp

Harter plans to major in business. He is planning to participate in the TN Promise program attending Pellissippi State then transferring to UTC or UTK. He also has a passion for Auto Body Repair and Custom Auto Body Modifications and has aspirations to own his own business.



### Keegan Stump

Wesley Keegan Stump is honored to have been chosen as a 2020 National Merit Scholars recipient as one of only 7,000 students in the country. He will be attending Davidson College just outside of Charlotte,

North Carolina. Davidson is a liberal arts college that maintains an affiliation with the Presbyterian Church (USA) and values it's Presbyterian heritage. Keegan plans to major in mathematics and minor in computer science or physics. He wants to continue on to graduate school for his PhD in Mathematics and become a Math professor in the future.



### Konnor Stump

Konnor Maxwell Stump is graduating from Bearden and is most likely heading to Valparaiso University in Indiana to study Meteorology with a minor in Broadcasting. Konnor was drum line captain at Bearden and plans to continue playing his tenor drums

with Valpo pep band. In his spare time he hopes to be involved with the "Eight ways a week to worship on campus" ministry. He also plans to participate with the Valpo Acapella group, their theatre, and stage tech if time allows. Konnor wants to be a meteorologist for the national weather service someday. He is sad that he will have to leave his twin brother and his nearly five year volunteer post at Erin running tech every Sunday.

# Moving Up ↑

## Congratulations to those who are moving up to High School!

**Kathryn Bornhoeft and Kenleigh Pennington**

## YAY for our preteens moving up to Middle School!

**Mia Quinn  
Carter McCallum  
Elizabeth Franklin  
Henry Fellers**

## MAY EVENTS

### SUNDAYS

9AM Online worship Service  
9:30AM Connections Class Zoom  
9:30AM Living the Faith Zoom  
10AM Hard Saying Zoom

### TUESDAYS

10:30AM Coffee Club Zoom

### WEDNESDAYS

7:30PM Coffee Club + Zoom

### THURSDAYS

7PM Weekly Session Mtg

### FRIDAYS

12PM Staff Zoom Mtg

### INDIVIDUAL TEAM MEETINGS

12 7PM Discipleship Zoom  
15 4PM Visitor Followup Zoom  
17 Stewardship Zoom (tbd)

## BIRTHDAYS

|                    |                      |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Henry Fellers    | 14 Joy Catron        |
| 2 Joan Miller      | 18 Cade Quinn        |
| 3 Carson Matthews  | 20 Wes Fellers       |
| 4 Gary Pennington  | 22 Jim Thompson      |
| 4 Will McCallum    | 26 Colton Pennington |
| 6 Kelcey Levering  | 28 Diana Brandon     |
| 7 Lavonne Knight   |                      |
| 9 Justin Bornhoeft |                      |
| 12 Mila Yau        |                      |
| 13 Ann Snodgrass   |                      |