



# Birthdays

- |                     |                   |                       |
|---------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 3 Kathryn Bornhoeft | 14 Erin McCallum  | 18 John House         |
| 5 Peggy Cuany       | 16 Peter McKay    | 21 Melinda Massengill |
| 9 Dan Berry         | 17 Jennifer Gahan | 29 Jenny Rogers       |
| 9 Craig Strand      | 18 Duane Parker   | 30 Aaron Foster       |

Happy Birthday to You!

Visit us at: [www.erinpres.org](http://www.erinpres.org) to catch up on news, make an offering, and read John's devotions!

To: «Agnes Kirby»  
 «8007 Ball Camp Pike»  
 «Knoxville» «TN» «37931»

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**1 John 1:9** *“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” (ESV)*

Dear Friends,

The good thing about Easter is that Christ gives us the ability to begin again. Most of us carry regrets or emotional baggage from year to year, and the last twelve months have been difficult to endure for everyone. The stress that we have all been living under has probably damaged our bodies, affected our relationships, and diminished our spirituality. We may not realize how much of a toll this pandemic has inflicted on us; in the years ahead when we look back, we will probably see how deeply the last year has changed us.

Last Easter, we didn't get a chance to be together in worship. We missed seeing one another and spending the morning praising God for what has been accomplished through Christ. It was weird to go through that particular day without the closeness and contact of family and friends. We didn't realize how long this would last, but hopefully we are getting

ready to begin again.

I don't know about you, but I'm always thankful at Easter for the power of forgiveness and the promise of restoration. I've made many mistakes in my life, so without Christ's mercy and grace, I could never dream of starting over. When Holy Week comes around, I mourn the death of Jesus because I know that my sins pinned Him to that awful cross. However, when the Easter sun rises above the horizon, I know that I am forgiven and can start again. It's a beautiful gift from God – one that you and I don't deserve – but which empowers us to leave the past behind and move on forward into a future where God's love is limitless and unending.

So, when Easter comes, be reborn, renewed, and restored because that's what pleases God about human beings; we can begin again. ☺

May God bless you and all whom you love.

**Pastor John**

# Connections and Easter

## CONNECTIONS CLASS

At the moment, the class is studying the sermon Gospel passages a week ahead of the pastor preaching them on Sundays. Class members discuss the selected text with the pastor and offer their questions, ideas, and suggestions about what it means to them. It's a great way to study the Bible, share its meaning, and discover ways to apply it in our lives.

During these uncertain times, it's very comforting to look at the Gospels and be given guidance from what Jesus says or does. The class is open to anyone who wants to learn more about the Bible and draw closer to Christ. It starts at 9:15 AM on Sundays and concludes around 10:00AM.

If you'd like to participate or receive the weekly lesson, contact April, [admin@erinpresbyterian.org](mailto:admin@erinpresbyterian.org), and she will add you to the Connections class email group. The pastor will send out the weekly lesson by email, along with the Zoom link.

The lessons for the month of April are as follows:

- April 4** Easter - no class
- April 11** Luke 24:36-49 After the Resurrection
- April 18** John 10:11-18 Jesus Knows Us
- April 25** John 15:1-8 Connected to Christ

## SUNDAYS @ 7

The pastor is continuing the new Zoom group at 7PM on Sunday evenings, which began on March 7<sup>th</sup>. It's a weekly check-in with one another, a time to discuss and reflect on the worship service & sermon for that day. If you would like to participate in this group, just email April, [admin@erinpresbyterian.org](mailto:admin@erinpresbyterian.org), and she'll add you to the new group's email list. The pastor will then send out the weekly link via email.

## WHEN WILL WE REOPEN?

Session and our Reopening Team are actively working on this and we may have good news soon. The positive rate for Covid infections is coming down quickly, so let's hope and pray that this continues due to more vaccinations being given and for our local folks to keep practicing safety precautions. Watch

out for a special letter, email, and Facebook post with details. ☺

## EASTER SERVICES

On Easter, Sunday April 4<sup>th</sup>, we will have several opportunities to celebrate Christ's resurrection in-person and outdoors. ***These services will take place so long as the Covid numbers keep decreasing. If there is a sudden spike, we will cancel.***

The first service will take place on the grounds of Joe & LouL Tate's beautiful School of Discovery which is off Cedar Bluff just before it meets Middlebrook Pike. We will gather at the flagpole at 7:10 AM for a ten-minute worship service of prayers, poems, and readings. Sunrise takes place at 7:17 AM. We will keep to the usual health precautions.

The second worship service takes place at 10:00AM in the church sanctuary. Only sixty people can attend this service and all of the places have been fully booked. The worship will last between 30-40 minutes and all participants will be required to follow the distancing and mask requirements. Another indoor service may take place at 12noon if sufficient people sign up for it online. Check our website [www.erinpres.org](http://www.erinpres.org) for details.

A third worship service will take place in the church parking lot at 11:00 AM with all of the usual health requirements. So long as the weather cooperates, this will take place.

Communion will take place during the sanctuary and parking lot services. Ushers will hand out the paper bulletins and communion containers.

Thanks for your great patience and faithful support. We will also continue our pre-recorded services for those who wish to remain at home. Where we are when we worship is not important because we worship God from our hearts and not our buildings. ☺

# April Volunteers and Events

	APRIL 4TH	APRIL 11TH	APRIL 18TH	APRIL 25TH
GUIDE	Don and Linda Quinley	Robbie and Kelcey L.	John & Cynthia House	Cathy Van O. Kelly Boyd
READER	Randy & Kellan Sarles	Suzanne & Ella Levering	Stacie and Girls	Dave and Sara Leckie
CHILDREN'S SERMON	John Stuart	Joy Bornhoeft	Kelly Boyd	Mary Virginia Paletta

## SUNDAYS

9:30am Online Worship Service  
 9:15am Connections Zoom  
 9:30am Hard Sayings Zoom  
 9:30am Living in Faith Zoom  
 9:30am HS SS Zoom  
 9:30am MS SS Zoom  
 9:30am Children's SS Zoom  
 5pm MS Group

## MONDAYS

7pm High School YG  
**WEDNESDAYS**  
 6pm Journey 7  
 6:25pm Sonshine Zoom  
 6:30pm BridgeBuilders

## FRIDAYS

12pm Staff Mtg (1st/3rd Friday of the month)

## SATURDAYS

10am Journey 7

## INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

1st 10am PW Lent Study  
 2nd **GOOD FRIDAY - Office Closed**  
 4th **EASTER SUNDAY**  
 6th 7pm Discipleship/Fellowship Mtgs.  
 8th 7pm Worship Team Meeting  
 11th 12pm Outreach/Stewardship Mtgs.  
 12th 6pm Property Meeting  
 15th 7pm Session Meeting  
 18th 12:30 Org H&C/2pm Visitor Follow-up  
 19th 7pm MIT Meeting  
 23rd & 24th 7:30pm Outdoor Sonshine Show  
 25th 2:30pm Outdoor Sonshine Show

## Erin Youth

### MIDDLE SCHOOL MONTREAT

Montreat Middle School Conference will happen in person July 13-17. This year's conference theme is "Just As I Am." Cost: \$415.00

### HIGH SCHOOL MONTREAT

We're still hopeful that we will be able to gather in person for this summer's conference, themed "Called to Connect": June 13-19.

Let Farrah know of if you're attending.

**Middle School Sunday School** - 9:30am via Zoom

We are currently using the Feasting on the Word Curriculum,

**Contact Farrah if you'd like more details about these events or student ministry.**  
[youth@erinpresbyterian.org](mailto:youth@erinpresbyterian.org)

## Stewardship

### STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

Hello Erin Family,  
 The 2021 Stewardship Campaign will begin immediately following Easter. This year's theme is "Making Ends Meet". It is based on The Great Ends of the Church, written at the turn of the century....the 20th Century. Like our beloved Bible, it is still relevant today. The campaign will include 4 weeks of learning about The Great Ends, accompanied by daily devotions written by Pastor Stuart. These will be sent to each of you, along with a pledge card. At the end of the campaign, we hope you will prayerfully consider completing and returning your cards, representing your financial commitment to The Lord's work at Erin.

# Children's Ministry

*Come Worship with Me*  
*A Journey through the Church Year*  
By Ruth Boling



It's still dark when my mom wakes me. She doesn't even make me comb my hair. Everyone is still yawning when they get to church. We don't go inside. Instead, we all walk uphill together as the sky turns from gray to pinkish blue. Just as the golden sun slips over the edge of the earth, the Sunrise Service begins.

"Christ is risen!" we say. "Christ is risen indeed!" Jesus died on the cross, but now he is alive again. He will live with God forever, and we will too, after we die. This is God's plan.

We hurry home to eat breakfast and change clothes, because we're going back! My mom says to wear my good tie since everyone dresses up on Easter. We can smell the Easter flowers even before we go inside. There are red tulips, yellow daffodils, and Easter lilies that look like small white trumpets. There are real trumpets, too!

Our Pastor stands and reads the story of the women who came to Jesus' tomb and found the stone rolled away. The tomb was empty. Jesus appeared to the women and said, "Greetings!" He also said, "Do not be afraid."

We stand and sing "Jesus Christ is Risen Today." My dad closes his eyes while he sings. He knows all the words. I love Easter even more than Christmas. It's the most important day of the year! **God is alive!**



Erin Church Families  
with children in the Nursery - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade:

**You are invited to an Easter Egg Hunt!**  
**Saturday, April 3rd at 11 am**  
**on the church playground**

Masks are required and hand sanitizer will be available. Kids will be divided into small age-based groups and spread out on the playground and grassy area for the egg hunt. There will be a **PRIZE EGG** for each age group.

The Family Life Center will be open for access to the restrooms.

**Other activities include:**  
Sidewalk Chalk in front of the Fellowship Hall  
Games and Balls on the Basketball Court

Families can bring a sack lunch or snack to eat at the picnic tables after the egg hunt.

If it rains, the outdoor Egg Hunt will be canceled and families will be notified by email that morning. In the event of rain, a set of pre-filled eggs will be delivered to each home!!



# Outreach and Erin Grads

We are preparing for our special offering, One Great Hour of Sharing, which is going to be collected on April 4, during our Easter services. The One Great Hour of Sharing offering is collected to benefit the Presbyterian Mission Agency in the following ways:  
**36% to the Presbyterian Hunger Program**  
**32% to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance**  
**32% to self-development of people**  
All of this offering collected on Easter Sunday will be sent to the Presbyterian Mission Agency.

## LENT COLLECTION BOXES

We'll keep working on our boxes through Easter Sunday. See the updated list for March - April 4th. Feel free to drop off at little at a time, or bring your box into the church on Easter Sunday.

- March 1: Dry Erase Markers**
- March 2: Sandwich Ziploc Bags**
- March 3: Sharpie Markers**
- March 4: Box of pasta**
- March 5: Paper Plates**
- March 6: 30-Gallon Trash Bags**
- March 7: Bag of rice**
- March 8: Dish Detergent**
- March 9: Can of Soup**
- March 10: Peanut Butter**
- March 11: Span canned meat**
- March 12: Hand Soap**
- March 13: Can of vegetables**
- March 14: Canned chicken**
- March 15: Paper towels**
- March 16: Brillo Pads**
- March 17: Can of Spaghetti O's**
- March 18: Gallon Ziploc bags**
- March 19: Copy paper**
- March 20: Clorox wipes**
- March 21: Container of cooking oil**
- March 22: Paper bowls and/or cups**
- March 23: Toilet Paper**
- March 24: Bag of Corn Meal**
- March 25: Wide packing tape**
- March 26: Vienna Sausages**

**March 27: Can of chili**  
**March 28: Lysol Spray**  
**March 29: Manwich**  
**March 30: Sheet Protectors**  
**March 31: Can of fruit or vegetables**  
**April 1: Envelopes-No. 10**  
**April 2: Box of Pasta**  
**April 3: Stamps**  
**April 4: Plastic Forks, Spoons, Knives**  
**Thank you to all who have dropped off items all ready. It's a great help to Sunset Gap!**

## WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

As our beloved Erin children and youth grow up and graduate from high school, we often wonder what paths they have chosen. Erin's Fellowship team contacted the 22 youth who have graduated in the past several years. Following are graduates' responses we have received so far. Enjoy!

### Michelle Waters

I graduated magna cum laude with a B.A. in Child Development & Learning with Teacher Licensure (K-5) from Maryville College in May 2020. My favorite experience while at Maryville College was my study abroad trip to Switzerland which enabled me to discover new perspectives related to international culture and child welfare as it pertains to education. I am currently a second-grade teacher for Blount County Schools. This summer I am looking forward to being involved in the learning loss plan in Blount County Schools. Some exciting news from this year is that I have recently become engaged to Austin DeLozier. We are currently planning our wedding for the Summer of 2022.

### Keegan Stump

I've been doing really well these past few months, and college has been the best experience of my life thus far! I'm currently involved in a few groups around campus, including a problem-solving club, an a cappella group (the Generals), and the Davison Sustainability Collective. Although my school doesn't have a Dean's list, I did get all A's last semester. Also, earlier this week, I declared my major in pure mathematics, plus I'm currently seeking out opportunities to research this summer!

# Erin Graduate News

## **Chloe Levering**

Things are going well for me at UT! I live on campus and am studying sports journalism. I have an internship at the radio station (WUTK 90.3 The Rock), where I am part of the sports crew. In fact, you can listen to me on the sports show Rock Solid Sports, Mondays from 7 - 8 pm on 90.3 FM. I am also the Lady Vols basketball reporter, so I cover their games at Thompson-Boling Arena and get to interview Coach Kellie Harper and players. I also played in the Pride of the Southland Band this year and plan to next year as well.

I plan to pursue a career as a sports journalist/sports reporter, hopefully covering either basketball or football. I am involved in the honors program here at UT and I also try to attend UKIRK services when I can (I have late afternoon classes that interfere on Wednesday nights sometimes).

Because of the pandemic I have learned how much my friends and family truly mean to me, but I have also learned that sometimes all I can do is try my best to protect others around me and trust God.

## **Hanna Matthews**

I will be graduating from East Tennessee State University in May with a bachelors of science in Nursing. I recently just accepted a job as a nurse at UT Medical Center in the Emergency Department. So interesting information from 2020 is that I served as Chapter President for my sorority Alpha Delta Pi. I have also been a peer ambassador for the college of nursing for two years now!

## **Lauren Gahan**

I am currently a freshman at the University of Tennessee Knoxville majoring in Supply Chain Management. I have loved college so far and have been presented with many opportunities to help me grow. I am serving as the Assistant Vice President of Chapter Development for my sorority, Alpha Omicron Pi. This basically means that I work with the other women in my chapter to improve and plan sisterhood events around Knoxville. Our most recent

event was a picnic in Sequoyah Park where we supported a small, black-owned business by having them cater our event.

Aside from leadership in AOII, I am involved in Women of Haslam, which is an organization for women that are majoring in business to improve our networking and professional skills. I am also all about going to the campus ministries. I go to The Walk on Sundays, RUF (reformed university fellowship) on Tuesdays, UKRIK, and I go to a Bible study. That may seem like a lot, and it is, but I can just not decide which one is my favorite to attend.

Due to Covid, all of my classes are online this semester. It's a bummer, but I have learned to adjust to online learning and find the joys in that. I love doing my classes at the Haslam Business School because it's such a beautiful building, or even going to a coffee shop near campus. And now that it is getting warmer, I have started to do my classes outside on the steps of HSS. I love that I can do my classes from anywhere!

## **Carolyn Gahan**

I am currently a junior vocal music education major at the University of Tennessee. As you probably know, I just completed my junior recital this past Friday, which is a milestone in my college career towards graduation (which seems to be coming too soon!). I have one semester of classes left in the fall, and then I will be student teaching Spring 2022, where I will be placed in a middle school and high school. I have somehow made the dean's list every semester of college! After graduation, I hope to pursue a master's degree in choral conducting before becoming a high school choir director.

This year, and next school year, I am serving and the worship intern at the Presbyterian campus ministry, UKirk. In this position, I work closely with our campus minister, Rachel Penmore in writing liturgy and putting together worship. I also lead music in worship each week. This has been such a fulfilling experience for me! I have also been ac-

# Erin Graduate News

tive in my sorority, Alpha Omicron Pi, which my little sister Lauren also joined this year. This is also my second year as an ambassador for the school of music as well!

The thing I have learned the most about with Covid is how to be flexible! Especially in my position at UKirk, we have had to make a lot of last-minute decisions, and we really have to be able to go with the flow.

## **Konnor Stump**

My time up here in Valpo (Valparaiso U) has been amazing. I have had a lot of opportunity to get involved in campus activities. I have several friends and am a part of 5 clubs. I recently had a job promotion to a Building Manager at our Student Union. Another exciting thing that happened was that I was recently elected to serve as the Freshman Chair of the American Meteorological Society for the Chapter of Northwest Indiana. I have been very busy with all I have been part of, as well as my classes. Last semester I even made Dean's list. Right now I am planning on finishing out my education in hopes to work for the National Weather Service. One thing that I have been able to appreciate from the Pandemic was how important my family is. My family cares so much about me and are so supportive. They help me light my passions with their encouragement. I am super thankful for my parents and the true friends that I have met here at Valpo. A storm is brewing up here and I have no idea what might come next.

## **Madeline Stinnett Blanchette**

I'm the director of Salon Azure, a local salon and spa with locations in Bearden and Alcoa. I love my job! We purchased our house during the pandemic and added our puppy, Millie, to the family. 2020 was pretty exciting in the Blanchette household

## **McKenzie Stump**

(From Berry College) I have been crazy busy this week! I just finished my senior evidence-based practice Capstone presentation and am officially done with my academic studies. Currently I am working three, 12-hour shifts every week for my

clinical preceptorship and am learning so much! I will be graduating in May with my BSN-RN and as a recipient of the Dean's List. I have accepted a position starting this summer working on the cardiology floor at UT Medical.

## **Colton Pennington**

I am currently a Freshman at UTK majoring in Journalism and Electronic Media with the hopes of one day becoming a sports journalist. I have a job/internship lined up next fall for Diamond Clear Media, a website that broadcasts high school sports, which will help me gain some experience in my field. I was also on the dean's list last semester and am on track to be on it again this semester as well. Covid-19 has obviously affected my college experience so far, but it has allowed for me to focus more on my studies and become a better student. The pandemic has also allowed me to become more interested in hiking as friends and I go on hikes almost every weekend. "

## **Sarah McKay**

I am currently finishing my final (thank goodness) semester at UT finishing up my degree in Supply Chain Management. This past Fall I spent 7 months doing a co-op with a Memphis based company called International Paper. I am very passionate about my degree and am eager to begin my career in supply chain upon graduation. I am in the midst of a long interview process with two companies in Memphis, either of which I would be happy to work for.

My goals right now include beginning my career and moving to Memphis, TN. People tend to be shocked when they hear about how eager I am to go to Memphis, but I have two close college friends who have taken jobs there and feel that it would be a nice change from Knoxville. The biggest positive from Covid has been getting to spend so much time with my brothers. We have had the opportunity to do so many fun things that typically would not have been possible due to jobs in other states and the fast paced lives we all live.