

BIRTHDAYS

- | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 11 Jim Hilty | 17 Carter McCallum | 21 Rickey McCallum |
| 14 Linda Quinley | 19 Sonja DuBois | 24 Randy Boyd |
| 16 Isabella Armsworth | 20 Kelsey Sarles | 29 Michelle Waters |

Happy Birthday To You!

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

TO:

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



“And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified.”

Acts 20:32 (ESV)

Dear Friends,

We all need God’s grace in our lives right now because of the pressure we are under, dealing with this pandemic. This time last year, we all thought that it would eventually go away and we could get back to where we once were. Instead, Covid is still lingering in our area, so we have to constantly adjust our lives around it and can’t seem to find any continuity. We’re forever making decisions about what to do and taking risks with our health. Our worries are beginning to weary us and our problems are personally affecting our relationships. It’s a hard time to experience and endure; it’s a heavy burden to keep on carrying.

In the past, when Christians and their churches were going through critical moments, they relied more on God to see them through dark days and turbulent times. They appealed for God’s help to enable them to push through their problems and overcome their obstacles. They still met for worship on Sundays and saw that as the best way to start each new week. Coming before God in the places where they worshiped – outdoors, as well as indoors, kept their connection to Christ and one another strong. No matter what they faced, they could overcome it together; no matter what they feared, their faith would help them succeed.

How do we know this worked? Because after almost two thousand years, Christianity is still here and worshiping still goes on each Sunday. Christ’s Spirit has enabled millions of Christians to endure different hardships and crises through the centuries, so shouldn’t we hold on to the same faith and seek the same grace that empowered them to get through the worst of their times?

On Sundays, we will still worship at Erin whether it be in the sanctuary, on the church parking lot, or at home. We will not forget our faith or set aside Christ. We will make time to be at one with God and His people at Erin by either sitting together in the pews or on our lawn chairs, or even on our sofas at home. God’s grace has been given to us because we are all still here today, reading this message, so here’s a question: how are we going to thankfully worship God this weekend for sustaining us?

May I commend you and all your loved ones to the grace of God, so that you can be built up and renewed in Christ.

Pastor John

CONNECTIONS & OUTREACH

BIBLE STUDIES

Pastor Stuart leads a Bible study on Sunday mornings called "Connections." It usually takes place on Zoom, but if the local Covid numbers decrease, we may get back to being in-person.

The classes start at 9:30AM and finish around 10:15AM. Currently, the class is studying and discussing the Letter to the Hebrews from the New Testament. Hebrews is an interesting letter because it emphasizes a lot of Christ's work in terms of the Jewish faith that He practiced. It actually builds a bridge between the two faiths and helps a lot of people in the First Century understand and accept Jesus as their Savior.

If you would like to participate in the class, send an email to April, our administrator (admin@erinpresbyterian.org), and she'll add your email address to the Connections list. Each week, you will receive the text and discussion questions for the current lesson, as well as the secure Zoom link, in an email that Pastor Stuart sends.

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY

Pastor Stuart also writes a short Bible study every Wednesday and emails it to the congregation. At the moment, the studies are focusing on the Gospel of Mark. The emailed material includes a link to the text, as well as some follow up questions which can be done personally, in a small group or with family.

The studies take 20-30 minutes to consider and complete. If you would like to receive these Midweek studies by email, communicate with April, our administrator (admin@erinpresbyterian.org), and she'll add your email address to the Events list. Pastor Stuart also posts the study on our Facebook pages.

PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

One of the missions that Erin Church Outreach Team is involved in on a yearly basis is the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA). We donate out of our budget approximately \$1500 yearly to the PDA as well as participating in the One Great Hour of Sharing special offering which is usually collected in the spring. Individuals may also go to their website PDA.PCUSA.org and donate on their

Own. Individuals may also volunteer to help in other ways with disaster response by volunteering their time to work, pray or donate supplies. PDA enables congregations and mission partners to witness to the healing love of Christ through caring for communities adversely affected by crisis and catastrophic event. PDA is the emergency and refugee program of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A. The core budget, including staff and administrative costs, is funded through the One Great Hour of Sharing, and its program work is additionally funded through designated gifts.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

- Focuses on the long term recovery of disaster impacted communities.
- Provides training and disaster preparedness for presbyteries and synods.
- Works collaboratively with church partners and members of the ACT Alliance (Action by Churches Together) internationally, and nationally with other faith based responders.

Connects partners locally and internationally with key organizations active in the response — United Nations, NVOAD (National Voluntary Agencies Active in Disaster), World Food Program, Red Cross, FEMA and others.

WAVERLY TENNESSEE FLOODING

Heavy rain and flash flooding caused catastrophic damage in Middle Tennessee beginning August 21st. PDA is responding to this disaster and is processing an initial assistance grant to meet emergency needs. They will continue support through the long-term recovery phase.

Erin held a collection for Waverly and those items were delivered. If you'd like to continue to help those in need in Waverly, go to the PDA website (noted above) to make a donation with gift code DR000191.

JUSTICE KNOX

Dear Fellow Erin Members and Friends,

I am pleased to announce that the session of Erin Church, at its September 16th meeting, took a great step. Acting on the recommendation of the Outreach Team, and with the support of Pastor John Stuart, elders unanimously approved an alliance between Erin and Justice Knox, becoming the 22nd Knox County religious community to link arms with this organization and its mission.

As explained on the Justice Knox website, the grassroots organization follows a clear path to identify community problems, research possible solutions, develop action plans, identify boards and elected officials who can bring change, and hold them accountable. The strength of Justice Knox lies in the power of large numbers of organized people who seek the common good. And the first and most important step is listening.

Each fall participating churches conduct house meetings where trained facilitators invite their fellow congregants to gather informally and share stories about a problem they, their families, or their friends have experienced. These are the concerns that may keep you up at night or appear again and again on your prayer list – perhaps about your job, your health, your financial security, housing, or the environment. We listen and support one another in what is often a sacred opportunity for community building within our own church body.

What happens then? Our stories (as recorded by a note-taker), along with those of other churches, are compiled and aggregated by a Justice Knox panel to identify one important undertaking for the coming year. This new initiative will be added to ongoing Justice Knox efforts on affordable housing, education, mental health care, and public transportation. Then it's time to go work on the new initiative: researching, studying, reaching out to experts, formulating policy proposals, and identifying policy

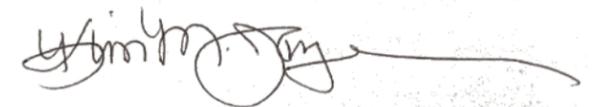
makers. At its annual Nehemiah Assembly in the spring, over a thousand people of faith convene in one place to present the solutions proposed by Justice Knox and hold public leaders and boards accountable for enacting positive change. Through solid advocacy and consensus-building over the past five years, the people of God through Justice Knox have ensured that all county and city police officers receive crisis intervention training; helped people in mental health crises avoid jail; secured ongoing funding for affordable housing; and reduced school suspensions that have fallen most harshly on students of color. Still, many people continue to struggle and their stories are important.

Will you attend a house meeting? Are you willing to commit 90 minutes to speak up for yourself, your family, and your neighbors? In the near future you will be invited to join either a virtual or in-person gathering. We sincerely hope you will say yes. You have heard the words of the prophet Micah:

"He has told you, O Mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and love mercy, and walk humbly with your God?"

Let us be about the work of justice here in our own community!

Sincerely,



Kim Jaynes, Outreach Convener
Justice Knox Team

SUNDAY VOLUNTEERS

OCTOBER 3RD	OCTOBER 10TH	OCTOBER 17TH	OCTOBER 24TH	OCTOBER 31ST
GREETER	GREETER	GREETER	GREETER	GREETER
Jim Thompson Susan Miller	David and Brooks Eggers	Nehemiah Freter Jenny Boyd	Susan Miller Dave Leckie	David Eggers Joanne Clelland
GUIDE	GUIDE	GUIDE	GUIDE	GUIDE
Joy Bornhoeft	Yvette Freter	Diana Brandon	John House	Kim Jaynes
READER	READER	READER	READER	READER
Elaina Wood	Rob Levering	Kellan Sarles	Erin McCallum	Neill Murphy
USHERS	USHERS	USHERS	USHERS	USHERS
Christa Mueller Jim Montgomery	Rob Levering Kelcey Levering	Randy Sarles Kellan Sarles	Jim Montgomery Dusty Pennington	Dave Leckie Brooks Eggers
COUNTERS	COUNTERS	COUNTERS	COUNTERS	COUNTERS
Neill Murphy Ian Bone	David Eggers Joe Jaynes	John House Craig Strand	Rickey McCallum Ian Bone	Joe Jaynes Neill Murphy
NURSERY	NURSERY	NURSERY	NURSERY	NURSERY
Kenleigh Pennington	Ella Levering	Lizzy Freter	Kathryn Bornhoeft	Lahla Deakins

ONLINE SERVICE VOLUNTEERS

	OCTOBER 3RD	OCTOBER 10TH	OCTOBER 17TH	OCTOBER 24TH	OCTOBER 31ST
GUIDE	John/Cynthia House	Don and Linda	Cathy Van O.	Freter	April and Joy
READER	Armsworth Family	Randy and Kellan Sarles	Dave and Sara Leckie	Andy and Kelsey Sarles	John and Evelyn Stuart

OCTOBER CALENDAR

SUNDAYS 9:30am Sunday School Classes and Connections Class 11am Worship Service 12:30pm Youth Group	6:30pm Sonshine 7:30pm Choir	8th 12pm Staff Meeting 10th 12pm Outreach 11th 6pm Property 17th 12pm Visitor Follow-Up 21st 7pm Session 24th 12pm Stewardship
WEDNESDAYS 6pm Journey 7 6:30pm Handbells	MONDAYS 7pm BridgeBuilders	
	INDIVIDUAL EVENTS/MEETINGS 1st –2nd Preteen Retreat 3rd 12:30pm Creative Expressions 5th 7pm Discipleship & Fellowship	

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY & PW



Sunday School Challenge Offering

Thank you to everyone who attended Sunday School during the **Welcome All** Multi-age Lessons and gave to the Challenge Offering!

Together, we collected \$120!

This offering will be matched by funds from the Discipleship Team and a total of **\$240** will be donated to **Sunset Gap Ministries**.

Thank you Erin Church for being such welcoming and generous disciples!

PW - Presbyterian Women's On-Line Fall Bible Study

Join us for a unique and exciting 6 week study beginning **Thursday, October 7th, at 10 am on Zoom**. Using the new online bible study: **The Rock, the Road, and the Rabbi** By Kathie Lee Gifford and Rabbi Jason Sobel we will explore the Bible's rich ancient landmarks and historical places. Each lesson will include relevant scripture readings, a 12 minute video, discussion questions, and, of course, fellowship time.

Contact Joy Bornhoeft, cec@erinpresbyterian.org, to sign up today!

This is what the Lord says: 'Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls.'
Jeremiah 6:16

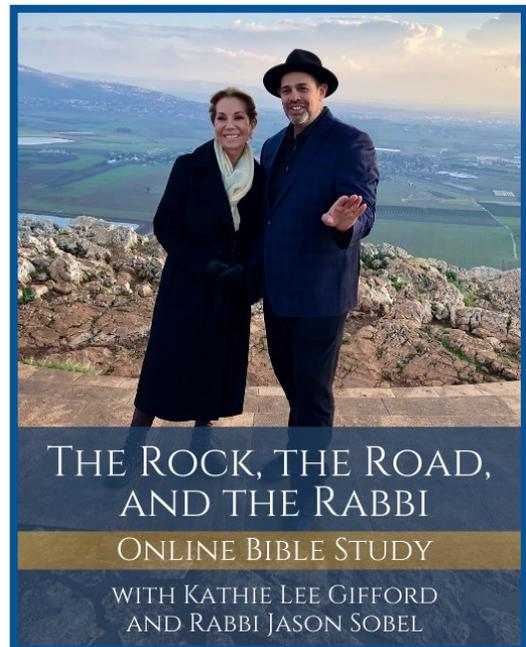
"Something profound happens when we follow along the ancient paths in the actual places where Jesus taught, healed, lived, died, was resurrected, and ascended into heaven." ~ Kathie Lee Gifford

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY
SCHOOL
9:30 - 10:10 am



Join us every week for Sunday School on Zoom! Be on the lookout for your October Sunday School Kit in the mail. This kit includes a Bible Story card and activity pages for each lesson in October. We'll use these pages for fun, interactive lessons during our Zoom meetings.

A reminder email, with the Zoom link and details, is sent out every Friday to parents. Children's Worship Bulletins also are sent by email each Friday for use during the On-line Worship Service and printed copies are available at the Outdoor Service.



LESSONS:

- 1 - **Bethlehem:** Where It All Began
- 2 - **Nazareth:** The Early Years
- 3 - **Capernaum:** Ministry Headquarters
- 4 - **Galilee:** Ministry Grounds
- 5 - **Mount of Olives:** The Triumphal Entry
- 6 - **Jerusalem:** Crucifixion and Resurrection