

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

3 Kathryn Bornhoeft 9 Craig Strand 18 John House
5 Peggy Cuany 14 Erin McCallum 21 Melinda Massengill
9 Dan Berry 16 Peter McKay 29 Jenny Rogers

Happy Birthday!

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



Dear Erin Folks,

For the first time in two years, it looks as though we can come out of our covid-imposed isolation and begin to be an in-person congregation again. This whole plague has been hard on all of us, so it will take a while before we can fully function again. It's a bit like the animals around us who have endured a winter hibernation – as they emerge from their burrows, nests, and caves, they begin things slowly and patiently, feeding themselves before resuming an active life. It's the same for us -spiritually we have hibernated, so we need to build up our faith in God using some basic steps: reading the Bible each day, attending a Sunday school class, and worshipping in the sanctuary on Sundays.

For some of our folks, this has been a very hard and painful time. Some have lost their jobs; others have seen their marriages fail; some have even lost partners, family, or friends during this pandemic. For them, coming back to church is an uphill task because they know it won't be the same, so they need our patience and understanding, support and love. Most of us have missed walking through the sanctuary doors in order to happily come into the presence

of God; for some of our folks, that will be a daunting experience.

I am grateful that Easter occurs this month because it's an amazing celebration when we're all encouraged to rise above whatever has held us down and to begin our lives anew. God lovingly calls us back through Jesus who saves us, not just from our sins, but from any hopelessness or sadness that we carry in our hearts and minds.

Christ offers to be our Good Shepherd, as well as our Savior, to give us the guidance and assurance that we need. All will be well again when we allow ourselves to be embraced and encouraged by Jesus.

The Good News about Easter is this: all are welcome to receive God's love, care, and compassion. We can begin again and we can reconnect again, with one another and with the Living God who truly accepts and loves us all.

Come back to church this Easter and receive God's blessing.

Pastor John

BIBLE CLASSES, STEWARDSHIP & CONFIRMATION

CONNECTIONS CLASS



Every Sunday, Pastor John teaches an in-person Bible Sunday school class. Since the beginning of the year, the class has studied and discussed different consecutive chapters from

the Book of Judges. It's amazing how relevant those ancient recorded events have become with regard to the Ukrainian invasion. Every week, the class finds parallels from the past with what we are presently experiencing today.

The class takes place in the Heritage Room from 9:45AM to 10:30AM and the pastor sends the text and discussion points by email every Friday. If you are interested in seeing how Biblical history reflects our current situation, then this is a great class to join and all are welcome. The chapters we'll be studying for the next couple of weeks are listed below:

April 03 Judges 12 Jephthah's Last Battle
 April 10 Judges 13 The Birth of Samson
April 17 Easter – no class
 April 24 Judges 14 Samson's Riddle
 May 01 Judges 15 Samson's Wrath

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY

Each Wednesday morning, the pastor emails a short Bible study with questions and also posts it on our Facebook pages. The studies can be completed personally or with family and friends. The passage for study is listed along with a number of questions for reflection, as well as a way to apply the lesson. At the moment, we are going through the Gospel of Mark.

If you would like to receive the study, just email April at admin@erinpresbyterian.org and she'll add you to the events email group which is where the pastor sends his study emails.

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

F.A.I.T.H. Focusing Ahead-Investing The Heart

At the end of April, we will begin our annual Stewardship Campaign. The theme for this year is FAITH which stands for **Focusing Ahead – Investing The Heart**. As we head out of this covid crisis, we are getting ready to fully be a church again, but there's no doubt that this experience has changed us as a congregation. The Stewardship Campaign will seek to put us on a new course which will require all of us to re-invest our time, talents, and resources for the future life, work, and ministry of our church.

Each Sunday, we will reflect on a passage from scripture that contains the word **'heart'** in it. Every week, Pastor Stuart will write short devotions to help us focus on the theme, as well as guiding us to think about why, how, and what we give to God as a congregation.

Sunday 24th April will be the beginning of the 5-week campaign. Look out for more details in the church bulletin, on our webpage (www.erinpres.org), and in your mail.

CONFIRMATION CLASS OF 2022

The pastor has begun teaching the new Confirmation Class and we have eight students who may be confirmed on Sunday April 10th during the church worship service. These young folks have all been through a very critical and demanding time, so we want to welcome and support them in their journey of faith by officially accepting them into our congregation. Your presence at the worship service on Palm Sunday will be a great way to encourage them, so please make it special for them by turning up. This is our first Confirmation Class in three years, so it will be a remarkable and blessed moment for us all. 😊

APRIL VOLUNTEERS

CHURCH CALENDAR

5th 10:30am Coffee Club
7pm Discipleship Team

7th 10:30am PW Meeting
7pm Worship Team Meeting

8th 12pm Staff Meeting

10th 12pm Outreach

11th 6pm Property Zoom

14th MAUNDY THURSDAY
10:30am PW Meeting
6:30pm Maundy Thurs. Serv.

15th GOOD FRIDAY

17th EASTER SUNDAY
Sunrise Service at Tate's
9:30am Brandon Breakfast
10:15am Egg Hunt
11am Easter Worship Service

21st Session Meeting

23rd 9am Sonshine Dress and Tech Rehearsal

24th 12pm Stewardship Mtg
3pm Eleanor Jaynes' Celebration of Life Service

30th 9am Sonshine's second Tech Rehearsal

SUNDAY CHURCH VOLUNTEERS

APRIL 3RD	APRIL 10TH	EASTER	APRIL 24TH
GREETER	GREETER	GREETER	GREETER
Joanne Clelland	Nehemiah Freter	Brooks Eggers	Jim Thompson
GUIDE	GUIDE	GUIDE	GUIDE
Kellan Sarles	David Eggers	Kelcey Levering	John House
READER	READER	READER	READER
Diana Brandon	Yvette Freter	Ella Levering	Erin McCallum
USHERS	USHERS	USHERS	USHERS
Christa Mueller	Randy Sarles	Rob Levering	Jim Montgomery
Susan Miller	Kellan Sarles	Kelcey Levering	Dusty Pennington
COUNTER	COUNTER	COUNTER	COUNTER
Neill Murphy	David Eggers	John House	Rickey McCallum
Ian Bone	Joe Jaynes	Craig Strand	Ian Bone
NURSERY	NURSERY	NURSERY	NURSERY
Brooks Eggers	Lizzy Freter	Lahla Deakins	Kenleigh Pennington

ONLINE SERVICE VOLUNTEERS

	APRIL 3RD	APRIL 10TH	APRIL 17TH	APRIL 24TH
GUIDE	Randy and Kellan	Cathy and Kelly	Yvette and Kids	Robbie and Kelcey
READER	Stacie and Girls	Don and Linda	Dave and Sara	Kelcey and Ella

APRIL EVENTS

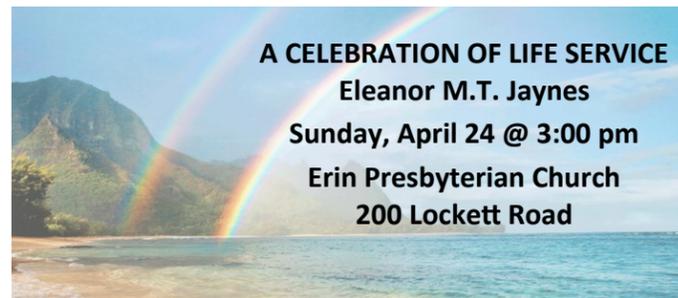
A CELEBRATION OF LIFE SERVICE

Eleanor M.T. Jaynes

Sunday, April 24 @ 3:00 pm

Erin Presbyterian Church

200 Lockett Road



Please join us to celebrate the life of Eleanor Jaynes on Sunday, April 24 @ 3:00 pm. We will gather as her family and friends to share memories of the many ways she touched our lives.

COFFEE CLUB

Join Pastor John, Joy and April on the first Tuesday of each month for our Coffee Club in the Fellowship Hall. The next one is on Tuesday, April 5th at 10:30am.

Anyone who is free can come enjoy refreshments and conversation for an hour. We always have a great time.

JUSTICE KNOX - NEHEMIAH GATHERING

Are you disturbed by the high number of homicides and gun-related incidents in Knoxville? Why there are so few treatment centers for people with mental illness? These are important questions —ones for which Justice Knox seeks answers., problems which Justice Knox seeks to solve.

If these issues worry you, you are not alone! Faith communities across the city, banding together under the leadership of Justice Knox, pray about, research, and advocate for positive change. As people of faith, we seek to bring justice to those whose voices are often ignored. And your help is needed.

On May 2nd, at 6:30, Justice Knox will hold its annual Nehemiah Action Assembly in the pavilion of World's Fair Park. Local leaders and politicians will be present to hear and enact the recommendations ("asks") brought forward by Justice Knox after careful and well-researched consideration.

Can you spare a few hours to advance the work of Justice Knox by attending the Nehemiah Action Assembly on May 2nd? - Kellan Sarles

Toward the end of last year, our congregation joined the city-wide Justice Knox Group. Along with almost 20 other churches, we hope to get effectively involved with some of the major community issues that are facing our beloved town. Those issues include gun violence, mental health, transportation, and affordable housing. Each year, congregants from the various churches and temples gather in one assembly to show our faith solidarity behind finding solutions for these serious issues.

This assembly is called the Nehemiah Gathering and this year it takes place on Monday May 2 at 7PM in the Amphitheater of the World's Fair Park. Our elected representatives and community leaders will be warmly invited to attend the gathering. Presentations and reports about city issues, as well as prayers and praise will be made. The purpose of the Gathering is to encourage those in leadership to effectively tackle these problems with the backing and support of the inter-faith community of Knoxville.

We hope to have over forty people from Erin attend the event. Perhaps you have already been given a personal invitation to be there. If you do, then please prayerfully consider responding positively to it. Even though we are a wee church, we can still make a substantial difference in the lives of others who have great needs, by attending this annual gathering. It's only one evening out of 365, one week out of 52 others, but it is a time when together we can do something good for the Knoxville community.

If you would like more information, just contact us at the office and we'll get in touch with our congregational representatives. - Pastor Stuart

EVENTS & KIDS' MINISTRIES



PLEASE SEE CHANGE OF DATES BELOW

WINNER! 2012 Children's Musical Theatre Festival, NYC Inspired by "The Grinch Who Stole Christmas", The Grunch tells the story of Rudy Grunch (played by our own Aiden Strand), a grumpy 6th grader who always feels like an outsider. When the entire school gets excited about the annual school musical, he comes up with a perfect plan to ruin it for everyone; he'll steal the sets, costumes and lights the night before it opens. But will the spirit of theatre prevail? The Grunch is a love letter to musical theatre with songs you will be singing as you leave! Don't miss Sonshine's return to the stage and the opportunity to support 12 great kids!!

NEW DATES

Friday & Saturday, May 6th & 7th at 7:30

Sunday, May 8th at 2:30



UPCOMING BRIDAL AND BABY SHOWERS

The Fellowship Team is thrilled to share that we will be hosting 2 showers in May....a bridal shower for Michelle Waters and a baby shower for Lauren Stuart Lindback. Invitations will be in the bulletin and newsletter....RSVPs will be requested ... what a wonderful way to support these happy events in the lives of these young women in our Erin family!



Pop-Up Pioneer Club

Wed. April 20th

6:15 - 7:15 pm

Family Life Center



Erin Church Families with children in the Nursery - 5th Grade:

You are invited to our Annual Egg Hunt Easter Sunday, April 17th at 10:30 am on the church playground

Kids will be divided into small age-based groups. There will be a **PRIZE EGG** for each age group. In the event of rain, the hunt will be indoors in the Family Life Center.

EASTER AND MISSIONS

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Maundy Thursday, April 14th, we will hold our annual Tenebrae Communion service at 6:30pm in the Sanctuary. This is one of the most moving and deeply spiritual worship experiences in the whole Christian year. Please consider coming on Maundy Thursday. It will have a deep impact on who you are as a follower of Christ.

BRANDON BREAKFAST



For 75 years, a Brandon has had a beat in the heart of the Erin Family. In the mid '80's my father was diagnosed with cancer. After 3 surgeries and many rounds of chemo, and surrounded by the support of his loving Erin family, he saw remission. His first thought was celebrating this good news with his Erin family on the day we celebrate the day of our Risen Lord....and the first annual Brandon Easter Breakfast was born.

Daddy's brothers, my brother, and my nephews all pitched in to help pull this off. This was a labor of love for his church family. It was to become a beloved annual event in our church life. When Daddy was no longer able to participate in the preparations, the Fellowship Team graciously took on the task to continue to provide this annual celebration for our congregation.

Upon my mother's passing, it was my goal to have the Breakfast become a self-sustaining function.... no church funds are used. Through the generous donations from family and friends near and far, this goal was reached, and the Breakfast has been "on its own" for the past 10 years and should be for many years to come. It is truly a celebration of the lasting legacy of past Erin generations and the wonderful Good News of the Resurrection. **My heart has always been with Erin....Erin will always be my home.** Please make plans to come and to celebrate the Good News of Easter.

- Diana Brandon

EGG HUNT

The fun continues at 10:15am with an Egg Hunt for the children, around the church grounds.

EASTER WORSHIP SERVICE

Finally, at 11:00am, we have our beautiful Easter Worship Service, which always has some wonderful music and is our happiest celebration in the whole year, as we joyfully sing about Christ's glorious Resurrection. Come and enjoy!

EASTER LILIES

Easter Lilies are available for purchase "In Honor of or In Memory of " your loved ones. The cost will be \$15 each and you may take it home after the Easter Service. There is a sign up slip in the church bulletin.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

One Great Hour of Sharing is one of our four annual PCUSA special offerings which is collected on Easter Day by many congregations in our denomination. This offering provides us a way to practically share God's love with our neighbors in need. The OGHS supports the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Program, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and the Self-Development of People program.

Please prayerfully consider giving to this special offering in-person on April 10 (Palm Sunday) or April 17 (Easter) when special envelope will be included in the church bulletin. Alternatively, you can give online via our church website at www.erinpres.org, or you may even text your offering directly to OGHS-91999.

For more information on the programs that the One Great Hour of Sharing supports, please visit the main PCUSA website at www.presbyterianmission.org.

Thank you for your support.
The Outreach Team

MISSIONS



FISH PANTRY WORKDAY IN FEBRUARY

Outreach team organized a group that

went to the FISH Pantry on Scott Avenue, and our church had 14 Volunteers! We served 211 clients during the 4 hours we were there.

There were a variety of tasks, including handing out food, offering choices of goods, assisting with directing the clients from one area to another, unpacking boxes, and organizing food to be put in the warehouse. There were jobs for all ages! Thank you to all who came and served our community We are looking at getting another date on the calendar soon, for our church to provide volunteers!

REMOTE AREA MEDICAL CLINIC

You can help with a Remote Area Medical clinic in our neighborhood!

Remote Area Medical will hold a dental, vision, and medical clinic at Central Bearden Baptist Church, just down the street from Erin, on June 25 and 26. Between 400 and 500 patients will be seen during the two-day clinic. According to the US Census, one in six Knox County residents under age 65 had no health insurance, and the number of area adults affected by chronic conditions such as high blood pressure, asthma, diabetes, and COPD is much higher than the national average. Many who have some form of medical insurance don't have coverage for dental and vision care, and getting a free pair of glasses or help for a painful tooth makes a world of difference.

Erin's outreach team is giving \$500 to help provide meals for the 200 to 300 volunteers who will assist that weekend, and we also encourage Erin members to help in person. You can:

- Help set up for the clinic on Friday, June 24.
- Direct parking and provide security on Friday evening when people will start arriving to camp

out in the parking lot and ensure they get a place in line.

- Help direct patients, distribute water and food to volunteers, and assist with other behind-the-scenes efforts on Saturday or Sunday.

Organizers are starting to fill volunteer slots, so if you can help please call Mike and Pam Davis at 865-368-5508 to get your name on the list.

Doctors, nurses, dentists, and other medical professionals can sign up to offer their services on the Remote Area Medical website.

Remote Area Medical was founded in 1985 by Stan Brock, who died in 2018. As a young man he managed the world's largest cattle ranch in Guyana, South America, and was injured while living among a local Indian tribe, a 26-day journey from the nearest medical facility. He realized then that entire tribes could be devastated by what would otherwise be considered minor illnesses. In 1968 he became the co-host of NBC's Mutual of Omaha's Wild Kingdom, one of the most watched shows in television for many years, and in 1985 he settled in East Tennessee and founded Remote Area Medical to bring free medical care to the people who need it.

