

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

**2 Ginger Thompson**

**6 Neill Murphy**

**7 Lisa Osborne**

**10 Eva Lynch**

**12 Rose Armsworth**

**13 Dan Gibbs**

**14 Bette Brasher**

**17 David McKay**

**20 Anna McKay**

**27 Mike Cate**

**28 Robbie Levering**

**28 Harter Crisp**



# > Black History Month <



FEBRUARY 2023

## THE BEACON

A PUBLICATION OF ERIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

***Romans 12:21 Do not be overcome by evil but overcome evil with good. (ESV)***

Dear Friends,

I was born and raised in Glasgow, Scotland, one of the major cities in the old British Empire. Before the seventeenth century, Glasgow was a small city whose main commerce within Scotland and around Europe was in supplying wool for garments and salted herring for church folks. However, after slavery was introduced, Glasgow flourished and became the major port for receiving plantation tobacco, sugar, and cotton from the American Colonies, all forcefully hand-picked by innocent African people who had been kidnapped, sold, and enslaved. My home city became a mercantile giant, so many of its streets and beautiful buildings, which still exist today, were constructed from the excessive profits that the Glaswegian Tobacco and Cotton Lords accumulated from an inhumane system of repression. This, in effect, means that my family and I, who grew up in Glasgow, benefited from slavery.

It would be so easy to ignore this and turn a blind eye to it, to deny that I had anything to do with slavery, but that would be historically incorrect, as well as personally inaccurate. This is why recognizing and commemorating Black History month is so important for all of us. In some way, we are all connected to the unjust system of slavery, and if we honestly research our ancestors, especially about when and where they lived in the seventeenth to nineteenth centuries, we will find a distinct link to

what occurred during the appalling years of the Western Slave Trade.

Each February, we recognize and celebrate Black History month in some different ways at our church. In the past, we've had various studies on racism in our classes, quoted some of the writings of Black authors and leaders in sermons, and have sung various African American spirituals in our worship services. We have done this to express how important the issues that Black Americans face today are to us, as a body of Christian believers. We are also made aware of the history of suffering which slaves endured for centuries, and of the vile racism that their descendants still experience today.

The whole point of learning history is to give us a clearer understanding of what truly happened in the past, so that we may also be given the information and wisdom to avoid repeating it. If we are afraid or reluctant to learn those facts, then we will also become hesitant about doing the good that is necessary today to confront and overcome evil in the world. Celebrating and commemorating Black History month enables our church folks to be fully aware of the past, so that we can shape a better future together in all that we presently seek to do in our congregation and the community beyond our doors.

May God bless you and all of your loved ones.

*Pastor John*

# MAKING CONNECTIONS



## Connections Class

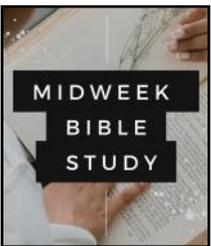
Each Sunday, Pastor Stuart teaches a Bible Class in the Heritage Room. The class begins at 9:30AM and all are welcome to attend it.

During the month of February, the class will be concluding its series on the Book of Acts and the extraordinary life of the Apostle Paul. It's been a remarkable series which has given all of the participants a better understanding of who Paul was and how he managed to share his faith in Christ throughout the Roman Empire. In these concluding chapters of Acts, the class will be reading about Paul's testimonies before Roman governors and kings, as well as his survival of a major shipwreck which forever changed the lives of the people on the island of Malta.

The classes are listed below.

- Feb 5th New Members Class
- Feb 12th Acts 26 - Paul testifies before Agrippa
- Feb 19th Acts 27 - Sailing for Rome and a Shipwreck
- Feb 26th Acts 28 - Rome at last!

### ***New series for Lent beginning in March – Looking at Lent through Psalms***



On Wednesdays, Pastor Stuart usually emails a short midweek Bible study which folks can download, print, and study at home. The studies take about twenty minutes to complete and can be done individually, with family, or

among friends over coffee. Presently, the studies are focused on the concluding chapters of Paul's first letter to the Corinthians. During February, a new series will begin based on the Book of Psalms, beginning with Psalm 1.

If you would like to receive the studies, send an email to April, our administrator, and she'll add your email address to the church events group. This group also receives emails about our worship services and some special events.

## **KID'S KORNER**

We are in the process of setting up a new kids' corner for our church children in the welcome area of the building. A table with chairs, coloring sheets and crayons will be available each week for our children to enjoy before the worship begins. A cork notice board for their art will also be set up, so that our church kids can proudly display their work. Pastor Stuart may also join them from time to time because he likes coloring with crayons, too! 😊

## **SAVE THE DATE: TUESDAY, APRIL 25 6:30PM NEHEMIAH ACTION ASSEMBLY**

Significant strides have been made on so many issues, in part because of our delegates' dedication to committee work and their success at bringing people to the Nehemiah Action Assembly where we hold public leaders responsible for enacting needed changes.

Last fall, 27 Erin members, pledged their support for Justice Knox. Your help is again vital as we shoulder a new problem: The Many Experiencing Homelessness. Addressing homelessness will require careful examination and action on many fronts, but what is most important is a delegation of compassionate believers willing to stand up for the basic human rights of their brothers and sisters.

Brooks, David, Randy and I are proud to run point for Erin's delegation, and we cordially invite others to join this effort. We are all still in the learning phase of justice work, but we believe that our alliance with this faith-grounded organization is one way we can answer Jesus' command to love one another.

## **THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING ANGEL TREE**

Many thanks to everyone who took a tag from the Sunset Gap angel tree and purchased a gift. Erin members provided five presents each for eleven children to share the joy of Christmas with the kids and their families. Special thanks to Erin's youth, who wrapped all 55 gifts!

# FINANCIALS

Erin Presbyterian Church			
Profit & Loss Prev Year Comparison			
July 1, 2022 through January 20, 2023			
1/21/23	Jul 1, '22 - Jan 20, 23	Jul 1, '21 - Jan 20, 22	\$ Change
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>			
<b>Income</b>			
Administration Income	585.10	485.85	79.25
Bequests	0.00	108,000.00	-108,000.00
Creative Expression Income	18.00	0.00	18.00
Discipleship Income	90.00	330.00	-240.00
Fellowship Income	605.00	675.00	-70.00
Offerings	195,985.24	208,100.92	-12,115.68
Outreach Income	0.00	20.00	-20.00
Property Income	7,451.00	4,975.00	2,476.00
PW Income	135.00	0.00	135.00
Stewardship Income	150.00	0.00	150.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>204,999.34</b>	<b>322,586.77</b>	<b>-117,587.43</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>204,999.34</b>	<b>322,586.77</b>	<b>-117,587.43</b>
<b>Expense</b>			
Org Health & Culture Team	21.45	286.24	-264.79
Marketing & Communication Te...	119.40	380.80	-261.40
IT Team	3,491.19	5,881.20	-2,390.01
Administration Team	5,710.87	6,764.07	-1,053.20
Creative Expressions Ministry	6,268.20	5,550.00	718.20
Discipleship Team	2,577.39	1,076.30	1,501.09
Fellowship Team	1,235.97	1,065.33	170.64
Outreach Team	21,992.00	22,285.00	-293.00
Pastoral Ministry	60,168.20	60,547.95	-379.75
Property Team	43,231.49	36,242.04	6,989.45
PW expenses	135.00	0.00	135.00
Stewardship Team	61,933.38	65,814.98	-3,881.60
Worship Team	1,282.88	1,949.76	-666.88
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>208,167.42</b>	<b>207,843.67</b>	<b>323.75</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>-3,168.08</b>	<b>114,743.10</b>	<b>-117,911.18</b>
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>			
<b>Other Income</b>			
Restricted Accts Income	28,166.53	15,557.00	12,609.53
Property Fund Income	39.00	539.00	-500.00
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>28,205.53</b>	<b>16,096.00</b>	<b>12,109.53</b>
<b>Other Expense</b>			
Restricted Accts Expense	28,813.09	3,157.00	25,456.09
Depreciation Expense	3,200.00	3,200.00	0.00
<b>Total Other Expense</b>	<b>31,813.09</b>	<b>6,357.00</b>	<b>25,456.09</b>
<b>Net Other Income</b>	<b>-3,607.56</b>	<b>9,739.00</b>	<b>-13,346.56</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>-6,775.64</b>	<b>124,482.10</b>	<b>-131,257.74</b>

# FINANCIALS

Erin Presbyterian Church  
**Balance Sheet**  
As of January 20, 2023

	<u>Jan 20, 23</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
HF Primary Checking	3,925.57
HF Savings	<u>340,019.40</u>
Total Checking/Savings	<u>343,944.97</u>
Total Current Assets	343,944.97
Fixed Assets	
Building Improvements	46,547.00
Computer Equipment	2,420.97
Furniture and Fixtures	35,699.89
General Equipment	9,764.55
Accumulated Depreciation	<u>-80,255.45</u>
Total Fixed Assets	<u>14,176.96</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u><u>358,121.93</u></u>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
Payroll Liabilities	<u>603.76</u>
Total Other Current Liabilities	<u>603.76</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>603.76</u>
Total Liabilities	603.76
Equity	
Retained Earnings	317,018.74
Unrestricted Funds	47,275.07
Net Income	<u>-6,775.64</u>
Total Equity	<u>357,518.17</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<u><u>358,121.93</u></u>

# FAMILY MINISTRIES



## Planet Worship February 19th



Planet Worship, our children's worship program, is the second Sunday of each month. Children leave the sanctuary after the Family Sermon and go to the Family Life Center for their own age-appropriate lessons. This month, we will begin learning about the Sacraments with a focus on The Lord's Supper - Communion.



## Carnaval de Québec

### Pioneer Club

**February 1st 6:30 - 7:30 pm**  
**Family Life Center**

This month in Pioneer Club, we travel north to Canada to see the northern lights and experience all things snow and ice! We'll celebrate the Carnaval de Quebec, the country's oldest festival and the world's largest winter carnival. So, bundle up and get ready for some frosty fun!!

# PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



## PW LENT STUDY

### *Lent in Plain Sight*

By Jill J. Duffield

**A six week study**  
**Thursdays at 10am**  
**beginning Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup>**  
**Family Life Center**

God is often at work through the ordinary: ordinary people, ordinary objects, ordinary grace. Through the ordinary, God communicates epiphanies, salvation, revelation, and reconciliation. It is through the mundane that we hear God's quiet voice. In this bible study for the season of Lent, Jill J. Duffield draws our attention to ten ordinary objects that Jesus would have encountered on his way to Jerusalem: dust, bread, the cross, coins, shoes, oil, coats, towels, thorns, and stones. In each object, we will find meaning in the biblical account of Jesus' final days. Each week, we encounter a new object to consider through Scripture, prayer, and reflection.

Contact Joy Bornhoeft, in the church office, for more information and to sign up for this study.

# YOUTH & JUSTICE KNOX

## YOUTH NEWS

**High School Montreat** is the week of June 11-17 and the 2023 theme is "In Joy" and is estimated to cost \$728, depending on how many students and chaperones we have. (\$200 of which will be covered by the church) It's open to rising freshman - seniors. We'll have off campus housing, and I have included the cost of food in the amount above. (See Fundraiser info below) If your youth will be joining us, **turn in an initial deposit of \$100.00 by February 19th.**

Checks can be made payable to Erin Presbyterian, and please note HS Montreat on the memo line.

**Middle School Montreat** will be July 19-23 at Maryville College. Their 2023 theme is "Igniting a Spark" and is open to rising 6<sup>th</sup> graders - graduating 8<sup>th</sup> graders. The total cost of the middle school trip is \$430.00, the church covering \$150 of the cost, leaving the rest to be fundraised and out of pocket for youth. (Fundraisers details below) If your youth is planning to attend, **they will need to turn in an initial deposit of \$100.00 by February 19th.**

## MONTREAT FUNDRAISERS!

And since we're talking Montreat trips, let's talk about **Montreat fundraisers!** Our summer trips would not be able to happen without the generous support of our congregation. We have 2 chances for you to support our youth in being able to attend Montreat.

## MINI M&M TUBES

First, be on the lookout for a sweet treat from the youth on February 12th, as they pass out tubes of Mini M&M's to each congregant. Enjoy the candy, then fill the empty tube with quarters (or cash or checks 😊) and **turn them back in to the youth on March 5th.** If filled with quarters, each tube can hold \$14.00!

## MARDI GRAS PANCAKE BREAKFAST

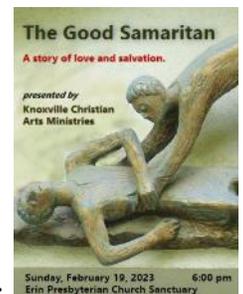
The youth will also be hosting a **Mardi Gras pancake dinner fundraiser on February 22nd.** The fundraising meals have been on hiatus during COVID, but we're going to bring it back for 2023. The cost will be

\$10.00 per adult and \$5.00 per child (8 and under please). We'll have pancakes, bacon, eggs, and fruit. And King Cake, so everyone can try to find the baby! Be on the lookout for sign up sheets in the bulletin in February. Signing up and letting us know you'll be joining us helps us so much in planning how much food to buy to make sure everyone has enough, and we don't waste much either!

## KNOXCAM SHOW

KnoxCAM is on mission to share the good news of Jesus Christ with some of the most forgotten people in our culture.

They will be performing their play, "The Good Samaritan: A Story of Love and Salvation" at Erin on Feb. 19th at 6pm.



## COME ONE, COME ALL TO ERIN'S ANNUAL(?) CHILI COOKOFF!

All you Home Chefs are invited to prepare your favorite chili recipe and enter the contest. Each recipe should feed 6-8 people, and those participating eat free!

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8TH AT 5:45PM**

**COST: \$5 ADULTS \$2 KIDS**

**PLACE: FELLOWSHIP HALL**

Salad, drinks and dessert included!

More information to come...

Contact Betty Gibbs with questions. 865-357-3935

## VALENTINE'S DAY COFFEE CLUB

Would you like to have some fellowship and conversation? Maybe you'd just like a cup of coffee and some delicious treats! Join Joy, April, and Pastor Stuart for a special Coffee Club in the Fellowship Hall at 10:30am on Tuesday, Feb. 14th.

Stop in, spend some time with us, eat some good food! We hope to see you then!



# FEBRUARY VOLUNTEERS

FEBRUARY 5TH	FEBRUARY 12TH	FEBRUARY 19TH	FEBRUARY 26TH
<b>BELL RINGER</b>	<b>BELL RINGER</b>	<b>BELL RINGER</b>	<b>BELL RINGER</b>
Lucy Cate	Addison Strand	Ginger Thompson	Craig Strand
<b>GREETER</b>	<b>GREETER</b>	<b>GREETER</b>	<b>GREETER</b>
Kelli and Tony Denny	Anna McKay Pat Wallin	Jim Montgomery Joanne Clelland	Mike and Mary Nelle Cate
<b>GUIDE</b>	<b>GUIDE</b>	<b>GUIDE</b>	<b>GUIDE</b>
Sonja DuBois	Craig Strand	Kim Jaynes	Anna McKay
<b>READER</b>	<b>READER</b>	<b>READER</b>	<b>READER</b>
Betty Gibbs	Evelyn Stuart	Neill Murphy	Elaina Wood
<b>USHERS</b>	<b>USHERS</b>	<b>USHERS</b>	<b>USHERS</b>
Ella Levering Robbie Levering Kelcey Levering	David Eggers Brooks Eggers Linda Quinley	David Leckie Elaina Wood Yvette Freter	Kim Pennington Dusty Pennington Gary Pennington
<b>COUNTERS</b>	<b>COUNTERS</b>	<b>COUNTERS</b>	<b>COUNTERS</b>
Joe Jaynes Rickey McCallum	Andy Sarles Craig Strand	Neill Murphy David Eggers	Craig Strand Rickey McCallum
<b>NURSERY</b>	<b>NURSERY</b>	<b>NURSERY</b>	<b>NURSERY</b>
Lizzy Freter Ella Levering	Kay Pennington Kelcey Levering	Elaina Wood Lizzy Freter	Farrah Linkous Lindsey Barber

## ONLINE SERVICE VOLUNTEERS

FEBRUARY 5TH	FEBRUARY 12TH	FEBRUARY 19TH	FEBRUARY 26TH
Don and Linda Quinley	Andy and Kelsey Sarles	Dave and Sara Leckie	Cathy and Kelly

## FEBRUARY EVENTS

- |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1st Pioneer Club 6:30pm</li> <li>5th New Member Class 9:30am</li> <li>6th BridgeBuilders every Monday 7pm</li> <li>7th Discipleship Meeting 7pm</li> <li>9th Worship Team Meeting 7pm</li> <li>10th Staff Meeting 12pm</li> <li>12th Outreach 12pm</li> <li>14th Valentine's Coffee Club 10:30am</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>16th Session Meeting 7pm</li> <li>17th -20th Youth Summit</li> <li>19th Planet Worship 11am</li> <li>Stewardship 12pm, KnoxCAM Concert 6pm</li> <li>20th 12:30 Visitor Follow-up Team</li> <li>21st Justice Knox Meeting 6pm</li> <li>22nd Mardi Gras Pancake Dinner 5:45pm</li> </ul> |
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