

Hey folks!

When I first moved in to the Pastor's Study here at the church, I got almost all the decorations up in the first two weeks. But one poster remains undisplayed: a poem by Helen Mallicoat, entitled "My Name is I AM." The poem expands on the story of Exodus 3, where God reveals the divine name to Moses. It talks about the presence of God, which is with us in this moment, not in the regrets of past mistakes or in the fears about the future.

I'd like to say that I've given up regretting past mistakes, or worrying about the problems of the future, but those stresses and anxieties come round regularly. I've also grown to disagree with the poem's message that living in the moment means that life is not hard. Sometimes, in the middle of a mess, life is hard.

But that doesn't mean God is not present with us. I believe God is with us in the easy moments, and in the hard ones. I also believe there is wisdom in paying attention to who God is and what God is doing where we are in a given moment. That's part of why I don't preach much about the afterlife. I certainly believe in heaven, and a final judgment, and the resurrection of our bodies, and all that stuff. But I often need strength for today. I need "My Name is I AM." I am more comforted by the knowledge that God is with me than I am by the hope that one day I will be with God.

But apparently the verb tense of "I AM Who I AM" is ambiguous. Apparently, an equally valid translation would be "I Will Be Who I Will Be." I've got to believe that the God of the Hebrews, who wrote so many volumes of divinely inspired poetry, would want us to hold on to both meanings.

I can imagine the LORD saying to Moses, "Don't worry, I will be who I am. You will know me by the way I show myself to you this and every day. This isn't a trick, this is a revelation. Now you know only in part, but the day is coming when you will know fully, even as you are fully known." God's faithfulness is written in God's very name. I AM.

This year, the month of March begins in the midst of Lent, but it ends with Holy Week, when we see God most clearly. God is a risen savior, a love that is stronger than death, a redeemer and liberator who will not even let our own betrayal stop him. That same God prepares a place for us in eternity, and is also with us right now, both in the moment in which I am writing this, and the moment in which you will read it.

Because God's faithful love shows us who God is, and who we are meant to be as well. God's name is I AM, and thanks be to God for that.

Your brother in Christ,  
Rev. Joseph W. Taber IV

## FISH PANTRY LUNCHEON

WITH SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER

Join the Outreach team for lunch after church on March 15th to learn how FISH Hospitality Pantries are meeting the needs of hungry families in Knoxville.

A speaker from FISH Pantries will explain how the ministry started and how they are responding to the growing problem of hunger in our area.

Hear how Erin Church is already helping with this crucial need, and how you can get involved if you've been looking for a way to serve in our community. Watch for signups in the worship bulletin or call the church office to reserve your spot for lunch.



## ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

For more than 75 years the One Great Hour of Sharing has given Presbyterians a way to show God's great love to our neighbors in need around the world. In 2024, the last year for which data are available, nearly \$6 million was collected from all PCUSA congregations. From initial response to hurricanes, floods, droughts, earthquakes, and other natural disasters to ongoing needs such as hunger, poverty, effects of climate change, and migration due to war or other global crises, this offering provides people and communities with safety, sustenance, and hope.

Please consider giving to these crucial ministries. The offering is collected on Easter Sunday, and envelopes will be in the pew racks beginning on Palm Sunday, March 28. You can also send a check to the church office with One Great Hour of Sharing in the subject line, or you can give securely via our website, [erinpres.org](http://erinpres.org). Click on the DONATE tab on the home page and fill out the form; for FUND, select PCUSA SPECIAL OFFERINGS.



## SPRING CHURCH GROUNDS CLEANUP DAY

On behalf of the Property Team, we would like to invite you to our annual Spring Clean Up at the church on Saturday, March 21st at 9am.

We are in need of helping hands for both inside and outside tasks. All skill levels are welcome! Bring rakes, tarps, wheelbarrows, gardening and work gloves, power blowers, general tools and cleaning supplies if you have them. We hope you can join us!



## BRANDON BREAKFAST

### EASTER MORNING

Join us for the annual Brandon Breakfast at 9:30am on Easter morning!

Our traditional breakfast began 79 years ago when the Brandon Family prepared a hearty breakfast in celebration of our Risen Savior.

Every year, Diana Brandon and the Fellowship Team come together to make this special breakfast for their Erin Family. So, please join us for food, fun and fellowship!

Signups for the Brandon Breakfast are in the bulletin or you can call the office at 865-588-5350.

## EASTER LILIES

Our Easter Lilies provide a nice way to honor someone special in our lives. If you would like to purchase a lily, they are \$20 this year. The funds Fellowship receives are used to help provide meals to our members when they are needed, as well as mailing cards and simply caring for our Church Family. Please fill out the slip in the bulletin and note "Lily" on your check. Or email April at [erinpresbyterian.org](mailto:erinpresbyterian.org) and bring a check next Sunday. \*Take home your Lilies after the Easter Service!

## PALM SUNDAY & HOLY WEEK SERVICES

March 29<sup>th</sup> Palm Sunday

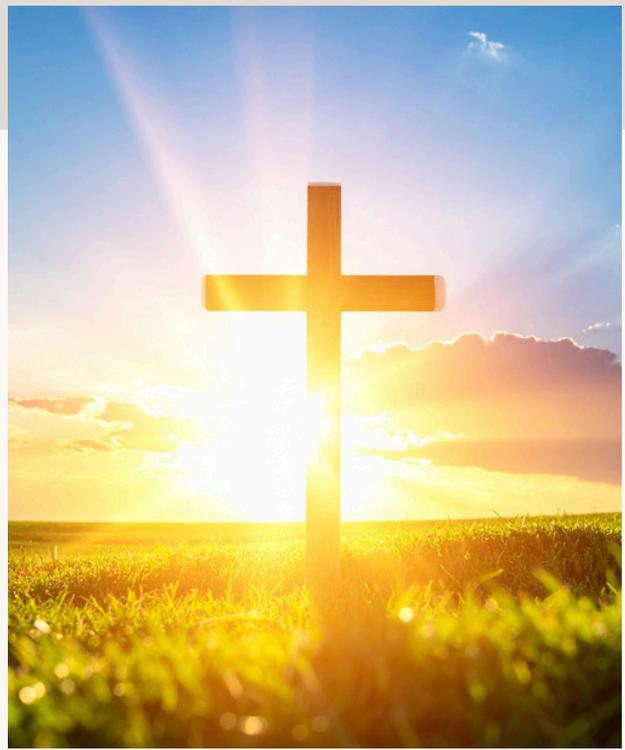
April 3<sup>rd</sup> Good Friday Service 6:30pm

### EASTER MORNING

Brandon Breakfast 9:30am

Kid's Scavenger Hunt 10:15am

Easter Celebration Service 11am



## WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Women of Erin, please join us for a 5 week Spring bible study: "Dying His Death, Living His Life" beginning Thursday, March 12 at 10am.

This study takes a look at those things that were put to death on the cross so that we might receive the blessings of new life in Christ.

Each week, we'll begin our session with a time for fellowship, coffee and treats. Then, through scripture readings and discussion, we will explore the themes of:

- sin and forgiveness
- pride and living for others
- doubt and faith
- turmoil and peace
- judgment and grace

Each session will end with a responsive reading and singing a hymn. Please bring your bibles so that we can explore God's Word together.

To Register: Sign up in the bulletin or contact Joy Bornhoeft at: [cec@erinpresbyterian.org](mailto:cec@erinpresbyterian.org).

## WORDPLAYERS SPRING RUMMAGE SALE

The WordPlayers will have a rummage sale on Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup> at Erin. All proceeds from the sale will benefit The WordPlayers and their upcoming productions.

If you would like to donate items to be sold, please mark them "For WP" and leave them in the last room on the left in the Noah's Ark hallway.

If you have any questions, please call Jeni at 865-531-2490 or email her at this link: [wordplayers@comcast.net](mailto:wordplayers@comcast.net).



## WORDPLAYERS COLLEGE PREP WORKSHOPS

### FOUR IN ONE: The Complete College Audition Intensive

March 21 12-4pm

4-in-1 is an interactive and informative four-part experience that's designed

to help High School Sophomores and Juniors who dream of training for the performing arts in college, and to navigate the process of realizing that dream.

### Be Limitless: Called, Gifted, and Sent

March 28 10am to 2pm

Be Limitless is a transformational workshop designed to help high school students of faith discover their God-given identity, uncover their unique talents, and create a clear plan to live with purpose.

These workshops will be held at Erin Presbyterian Church, 200 Lockett Rd., Knoxville. The cost is \$35 (EARLY BIRD SPECIAL - \$25 - until Feb. 28)

For more information, call 865-531-2490 or click here:

<https://wordplayers.org/2026/02/01/wordplayers-spring-workshops-2026/>

Curious what the WordPlayers are serving up in 2026?

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

**WordPlayers Theatre Company**

# THE WORDPLAYERS PRESENTS...

## College Prep Workshops

### 4-IN-1: THE COMPLETE COLLEGE AUDITION INTENSIVE

4-in-1 is an interactive and informative four-part experience designed to help students, who dream of training for the performing arts in college, to navigate the process of realizing that dream.

**WHO:** High School Sophomores & Juniors  
**WHEN:** March 21 from 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM  
**WHAT:** Work with industry professionals; Shamicka Jones, Leann Dickson, Casey Sams and Limitless Williams!! The day ends in a Q&A panel.

### BE LIMITLESS: CALLED, GIFTED, AND SENT

**WHO:** ALL High School Students  
**WHEN:** March 28 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM  
**WHAT:** A powerful four-hour workshop helping students of faith discover their God-given identity, uncover their unique talents, and create a clear plan to live with purpose. Led by Dr. Limitless Williams, this experience goes beyond inspiration into action through interactive activities, reflection, and real-world application.

**SIGN UP TODAY**

Programming@wordplayers.org @wordplayers



## PIONEER CLUB

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18  
& TUESDAY, MARCH 24

6:30-7:30 PM  
FAMILY LIFE CENTER

This month, we will be reading the classic Dr. Seuss books "Cat in the Hat" and "One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish."

We'll play some silly games, make some crafts, and do a little science experiment. Don't miss out on all the fun!

**A STORY TO TELL**

COME DISCOVER HOW YOUR STORY FITS INTO GOD'S GRAND STORY!

scan here to register

**COST: \$150**

**2026 YOUTH SUMMIT**  
**APRIL 10-12, 2026**  
**JOHN KNOX CENTER**

Presbytery of East Tennessee

Questions? Email [Paul.earheartbrown@maryvillecollege.edu](mailto:Paul.earheartbrown@maryvillecollege.edu)

## PLANET WORSHIP



SUNDAYS  
MARCH 8 & 22

During Lent, the children of Planet Worship will follow Jesus on his journey to the cross. We will learn about the liturgical season of Lent and the symbols that represent this season as we read from the bible about key moments in Jesus' last days.

## YOUTH SUMMIT 2026

Join us for the 2026 Presbytery Youth Summit from April 10-12 at John Knox Center! Come discover how your story fits into God's grand story!

**When:** April 10-12, 2026

**Where:** John Knox Center, Ten Mile, TN

**Cost:** \$150 per person (adults and youth)

**Register by clicking [Here](#)**

## REMEMBER TO SPRING FORWARD!

Move clocks forward one hour before you go to bed on Saturday night, March 7th.



## CHANGES TO SPECIAL OFFERINGS

Members who are long-time Presbyterians will recall that in past years our denomination has sponsored four special offerings each year: One Great Hour of Sharing on Easter Sunday in March or April; the Pentecost Offering in May or June; the Peace and Global Witness Offering on the first Sunday in October; and the Christmas Joy Offering on Christmas Eve. Two years ago, responding to feedback from congregations who felt there were too many special offerings, the PCUSA decided to streamline its yearly offerings. Beginning this year we will collect only three offerings, but they will continue to fund the causes and ministries supported previously by the four offerings.

The One Great Hour of Sharing is by far the largest of our special offerings, and will remain unchanged. The Pentecost Offering, historically the smallest of the four, has been eliminated. Its purposes—to help young people in the church grow and express their faith, and to address the needs of at-risk children—will be added to the existing Christmas Joy Offering causes, which are to support current and former church staff in need, and to develop leadership through PCUSA-affiliated colleges and universities, especially those who serve communities of color.

The Peace and Global Witness Offering is now called the World Communion Offering, and it will still be collected on World Communion Sunday. It will continue to focus on global witness, peacemaking, and justice.

Until this year, a percentage of this offering was held by local congregations to support peacemaking efforts in their communities. However, in most cases the amount retained by the church was too small to make much of a difference. Beginning this fall, 25 percent of the funds collected for the World Communion Offering will go to a new grant program to support local efforts consistent with the purpose of this offering. Individual churches or groups of local congregations can apply for grants of \$500 to \$5,000 in the fall, and grant awards will be announced each spring. This new process will still allow local congregations to direct funds to ministries important to their communities, but the amount awarded be more substantial and have a greater impact.

The PCUSA has taken care to communicate these changes through online meetings, slide presentations, and discussions with local presbyteries. If you still have questions, please contact Kim Jaynes or a member of the Outreach team and we'll do our best to get an answer for you.



**ONE GREAT  
HOUR OF SHARING**



**WORLD COMMUNION**



**CHRISTMAS JOY**

# VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

MARCH 1ST	MARCH 8TH	MARCH 15TH	MARCH 22ND	MARCH 29TH
<b>COFFEE</b>	<b>COFFEE</b>	<b>COFFEE</b>	<b>COFFEE</b>	<b>COFFEE</b>
Pat Wallin	Mary Nelle Cate	Suzanne L.	David Eggers	Diana Brandon
<b>BELL RINGER</b>	<b>BELL RINGER</b>	<b>BELL RINGER</b>	<b>BELL RINGER</b>	<b>BELL RINGER</b>
Addison Strand	Will McCallum	Luna Wiggins	Lucas Barber	Eliza Barber
<b>GREETER</b>	<b>GREETER</b>	<b>GREETER</b>	<b>GREETER</b>	<b>GREETER</b>
Kelli and Gabby Denny	Pat Wallin Tony Denny	Kathy Boyd Jim Montgomery	Dave Leckie Sara Leckie	Pat Wallin Kathy Boyd
<b>GUIDE</b>	<b>GUIDE</b>	<b>GUIDE</b>	<b>GUIDE</b>	<b>GUIDE</b>
Craig Strand	Diana Brandon	Kellan Sarles	Asa Deakin-Sohn	Erin McCallum
<b>READER</b>	<b>READER</b>	<b>READER</b>	<b>READER</b>	<b>READER</b>
Sara Leckie	Neill Murphy	David Eggers	John House	Rickey McCallum
<b>USHERS</b>	<b>USHERS</b>	<b>USHERS</b>	<b>USHERS</b>	<b>USHERS</b>
Jim Montgomery Linda Quinley Erin McCallum	Dusty Pennington Kim Pennington Gary Pennington	Mike Cate Brooks Eggers David Eggers	Tony Denny Robbie and Kelcey Levering	Mike Cate Gabby Denny Jim Montgomery
<b>COUNTERS</b>	<b>COUNTERS</b>	<b>COUNTERS</b>	<b>COUNTERS</b>	<b>COUNTERS</b>
David Eggers Rickey McCallum	Neill Murphy Andy Sarles	Ann Snodgrass Craig Strand	David Eggers John House	Neill Murphy Ann Snodgrass

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

1 Kim Jaynes

9 Mary Franz

14 Mike Massengill

14 Kenleigh Pennington

25 Cynthia House

26 Happy Hilty



## GIFTS OF CHILDREN & YOUTH SERVICE

