



# Prayer Requests

## HOMEBOUND

Please send a card (or visit) our homebound family and friends.

**Harry and Mary Franz** 1337 Farrington Dr. Knoxville, TN 37923

**Suzanne Levering** Lyons View Health & Rehab Rm #316 5837 Lyons View Pike, Knoxville, TN 37919

**Bill Brazelton** NHC Farragut 120 Cavette Hill Ln. #340 Farragut, TN 37934

## OUR CONGREGATION

<b>Barbara Edwards</b>	<b>The Sarles Family</b>	<b>Mike Cate</b>	<b>Tammy Murphy</b>
<b>Don Quinley</b>	<b>Joy Catron</b>	<b>The Leckies</b>	<b>Gabby Denny</b>
<b>Suzanne Levering</b>	<b>Harry and Mary Franz</b>	<b>Harter &amp; Hayden Crisp</b>	

## FRIENDS AND FAMILY OF OUR CONGREGATION

**Dr. Joe Taber Jr.** (Grandfather of Pastor Taber)  
**Randy Pennington** (brother of Gary Pennington)  
**Gynnae Lamb** (daughter of Tony Denny)  
**Linda McCune** (sister of Cynthia House)  
**Delaney Nicaud** (member of J7)  
**Mary Bryan** (daughter of Allyson Streckfuss)  
**Seth Turnbow** (son of Cynthia and John House)  
**Brian Leckie** (son of Dave and Sara Leckie)

## COLLEGE STUDENTS

<b>Ella Levering</b>	<b>Effie Fellers</b>	<b>Anna Bornhoeft</b>
<b>Kenleigh Pennington</b>	<b>Kathryn Bornhoeft</b>	<b>Amelia Brooke</b>
<b>Hallie Fellers</b>		

## MILITARY

**Jack Boswell** (nephew of Kay Pennington)  
**Zach and Noah Enix** (Nicole Waters)

email [admin@erinpresbyterian.org](mailto:admin@erinpresbyterian.org) to add or remove a name.



## Service of Worship

May 17, 2026

Easter 7

\*those able, please stand. Prayers written by Kellan Sarles.

*\*congregation reads aloud verses in bold italics.*

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PRELUDE** "Two Variations on 'All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name'" Janet Linker

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Today and every day, Christ calls us to follow Him.

***People: To feed His sheep and witness to the resurrected Christ.***

Pastor: In worship, we hear the Spirit's promptings.

***People: Christ provides all we need to care for one another. Let us worship the Good Shepherd!***

**\*HYMN** #475 "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

## PRAYERS OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION

Guide: Resurrected Christ, we can only glimpse the eternal world that You inhabit – a perfect Kingdom so unlike this earthly grave. We can hardly understand the Jesus who spoke intimately to God, healed and forgave, loved all, and died for those He loved. We gather here in anticipation of Your Presence, asking that the Holy Spirit give us vision beyond seeing, wisdom beyond knowing, love beyond desiring, and courage beyond caution. Shine on us, Lord God, that we might reflect your light.

**People: Holy God, we struggle to confess our sins because we are busy calling out the sins of others. We divert our eyes from poverty and despair. We shrug our shoulders about the lies and injustices of our culture.**

**Why doesn't someone do something? Why isn't someone feeding God's sheep? What can one person do, anyway? Yet, against the forces of Rome, Christ humbly took up His cross.**

**For all the times we failed to care for one another, for all the missed opportunities when fear controlled us, and for all the doubts that kept us from obeying the Holy Spirit, we are deeply sorry. Hear now our personal confessions and remind us when we fail to follow Christ's example. Show us what it means to be truly sorry for our sins, and forgive us as we confess them now.**

- Silent Confessions -

Guide: As Christ asks Peter, He asks us: "Do you really love me? If so, feed my sheep and shepherd my lambs." May the God of Mercy - who forgives all our sins - strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, motivate us to truly love one another. Let us pray the prayer he taught us, "Our Father, who art in heaven... ***"The Lord's Prayer" (debts/debtors) p. 35 in hymnal***

**PROMISE OF THE GOSPEL**

Guide: What is the good news? God is our divine parent and shepherd who loves us unfailingly. Though we disappoint Him, He hears our repentance and forgives us. God's mercies are new each morning. God's power is inexhaustible. What wondrous love is this?

**\*CHORAL RESPONSE (in unison)**

#582 "Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me"

**ANTHEM** "Christ is Made the Sure Foundation" Dale Wood

**FAMILY SERMON** Pastor Joseph

(Parents and all children, including elementary school students, come forward)

DAILY BIBLE READINGS	
We talked a couple of weeks ago about how the Holy Spirit empowers us to live in love for God and one another. At Pentecost, we celebrate how the Holy Spirit equips the church for the ministry to which we are called. How have you been equipped for ministry? What gifts can you use for the glory of God?	
MONDAY	Psalm 99
TUESDAY	I Kings 8:54-65
WEDNESDAY	Exodus 19:1-9
THURSDAY	Exodus 20:1-21
FRIDAY	I Corinthians 12:3b-13
SATURDAY	Acts 2:1-21
SUNDAY	Acts 2:42-47

SUNDAY VOLUNTEERS			
	MAY 17	MAY 24	MAY 31
BELL RINGER	Lucas Barber	Eliza Barber	William Taber
GREETERS	Regina Bishop Jim Montgomery	Dave and Sara Leckie	Pat Wallin David Eggers
GUIDE	Kellan Sarles	Craig Strand	Carter McCallum
READER	David Eggers	Rickey McCallum	Erin McCallum
USHERS	Brooks and David Eggers Erin McCallum	Gary Pennington Dusty and Kim Pennington	Jim Montgomery Jim Thompson Susan Miller
COUNTERS	Neill Murphy Andy Sarles	Ann Snodgrass Joe Jaynes	Anna Snodgrass David Eggers
LIGHTS	Neill Murphy	Neill Murphy	
SOUND	Tammy Murphy	Tammy Murphy	Joe Jaynes
STREAM	Kevin Griffin	Phil Watkins	Anna McKay
SLIDES	David Snodgrass		

**SUNDAY, MAY 17**

9:30am Sunday School  
11am Worship Service  
12pm Youth Group  
7pm AA Book Study

**MONDAY, MAY 18**

7:30pm Men's AA

**TUESDAY, MAY 19**

12pm Staff Meeting

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 20**

7:30pm Choir

**THURSDAY, MAY 21**

7pm Session Meeting

**FRIDAY, MAY 22**

8pm AA

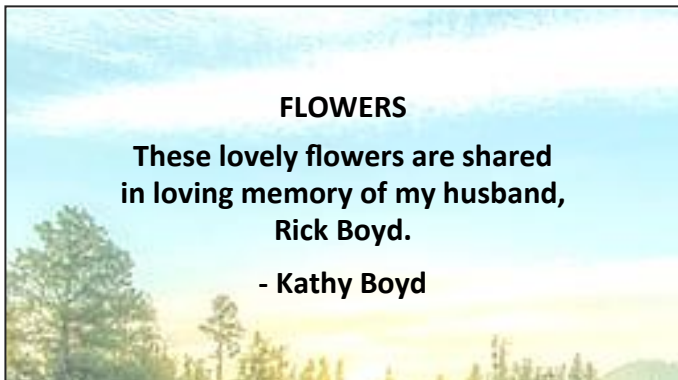
 Erin Presbyterian  
Church Community

 @erinpreschurch

 Erin Presbyterian Church

**OFFICE HOURS**

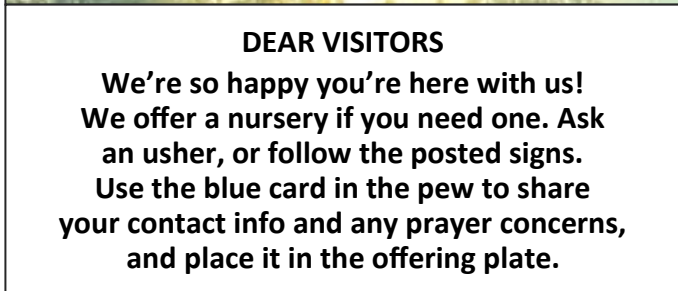
9am to 3pm Mon-Thurs  
Staff works from home Friday  
865-588-5350 M-F



**FLOWERS**

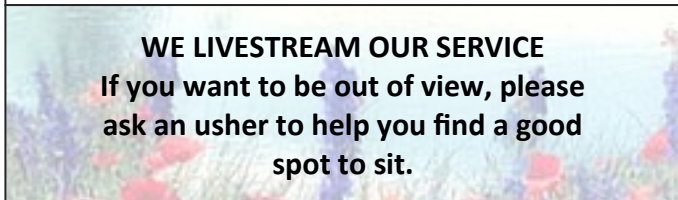
**These lovely flowers are shared  
in loving memory of my husband,  
Rick Boyd.**

**- Kathy Boyd**



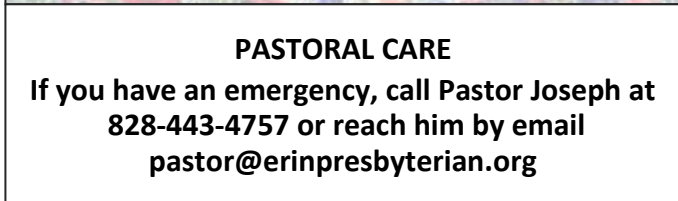
**DEAR VISITORS**

**We're so happy you're here with us!  
We offer a nursery if you need one. Ask  
an usher, or follow the posted signs.  
Use the blue card in the pew to share  
your contact info and any prayer concerns,  
and place it in the offering plate.**



**WE LIVESTREAM OUR SERVICE**

**If you want to be out of view, please  
ask an usher to help you find a good  
spot to sit.**



**PASTORAL CARE**

**If you have an emergency, call Pastor Joseph at  
828-443-4757 or reach him by email  
pastor@erinpresbyterian.org**



**ERIN CHURCH STAFF**

**Rev. Joseph W. Taber IV: Pastor  
April Cyr: Office Administrator  
Joy Bornhoeft: Family Ministry Director  
Joseph Jaynes: Choir Director & A/V  
Nancy Berry: Organist, Handbells, Pianist  
Chloe Levering: Youth Director  
Amelia Brooke: Nursery Assistant**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Reader: Creator God, we know so little. We have contented ourselves with the husks of faith, confusing empty shells for holy essence. We have stopped wondering, stopped taking risks, stopped believing Your promises. In this moment, reignite in us a hunger for the miracles of Christ Jesus. Amen.

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**1 Peter 5:1-6**

1 Therefore, I have a request for the elders among you. (I ask this as a fellow elder and a witness of Christ's sufferings, and as one who shares in the glory that is about to be revealed.) I urge the elders:

***2 Like shepherds, tend the flock of God among you. Watch over it. Don't shepherd because you must, but do it voluntarily for God. Don't shepherd greedily, but do it eagerly.***

3-4 Don't shepherd by ruling over those entrusted to your care, but become examples to the flock. And when the chief shepherd appears, you will receive an unfading crown of glory.

***5 In the same way, I urge you who are younger: accept the authority of the elders. And everyone, clothe yourselves with humility toward each other. God stands against the proud, but he gives favor to the humble.***

6 Therefore, humble yourselves under God's power so that he may raise you up in the last day.

***All: This is the Word of the Lord. Amen.***

**John 21:15-19**

15 When they finished eating, Jesus asked Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" Simon replied, "Yes, Lord, you know I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs."

***16 Jesus asked a second time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Simon replied, "Yes, Lord, you know I love you." Jesus said to him, "Take care of my sheep."***

17 He asked a third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter was sad that Jesus asked him a third time, "Do you love me?" He replied, "Lord, you know everything; you know I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep."

***18 I assure you that when you were younger you tied your own belt and walked around wherever you wanted. When you grow old, you will stretch out your hands and another will tie your belt and lead you where you don't want to go."***

19 He said this to show the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. After saying this, Jesus said to Peter, "Follow me."  
***All: Thanks be to God. Amen.***

**SERMON** "Sustaining Grace" Pastor Joseph

**\*HYMN** #803 "My Shepherd Will Supply My Need"

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Pastor: As we light this candle, we bring to God the names of those who suffer, saying, "Have mercy, O Lord."

Pastor: Gracious God, we pray for loved ones in the midst of terrible suffering.  
***All: Have mercy on them, O Lord.***

Pastor: We name loved ones whose spirits are crushed.  
***All: Have mercy on them, O Lord.***

Pastor: We name loved ones whose memories have failed.  
***All: Have mercy on them, O Lord.***

Pastor: We name those who are grieving or lonely.  
***All: Have mercy on them, O Lord.***

Pastor: We pray for those who are desperate - who flee war, live in fear, have nothing to eat, and see no future for themselves or their children.  
***All: Have mercy on them, O Lord.***

Pastor: We pray for the street children and orphans, the "throw-away" kids, too soon made old.  
***All: Have mercy on them, O Lord.***

Pastor: We pray for ourselves, our church, our community, state, and nation – that truth and goodness would prevail against falsehood and greed.  
***All: Have mercy on us, O Lord.***

**MINUTE FOR MISSION** Stewardship

**OFFERTORY** "In Thee is Gladness" Dale Wood

**\*OFFERING** (*in unison*) "God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending"  
***God, Whose giving knows no ending, from Your rich and endless store, Nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom, Costly cross, grave's shattered door: Open wide our hands in sharing, as we heed Christ's ageless call, Healing, teaching, and reclaiming, serving You by loving all.***

**DEDICATION** (*unison*)

***Holy God, may these gifts be used to feed Your sheep. Amen.***

**TEACHER & GRADUATE APPRECIATION**

**\*CLOSING HYMN** #726 "Will You Come and Follow Me"

**BENEDICTION** Pastor Joseph

***For the benediction, please turn toward the center aisle and face one another as we prepare to go out into the world.***

**\*DOXOLOGY** (*in unison*) #609

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, alleluia!  
Praise God in Jesus fully known:  
Creator, Word and Spirit one. Alleluia, alleluia!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia***

**POSTLUDE** "Praise the Lord" Lani Smith