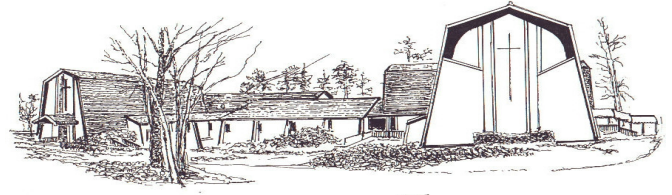


# THE WITNESS



The purpose of Eastminster Presbyterian Church is to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with all.  
EPC Mission Statement ~ Adopted by Session 2011

**February 8, 2012**

## *Traditions and Transitions*

I was taken back yesterday when Mark Sauls blew into my office and said, “You will not believe what *TIME* magazine is claiming in its last edition! It says Tim Tibow will have more influence on this generation than Billy Graham had on the last one!” Mark was right, I had a tough time believing that but then again I am a product of the last generation. As I thought about all of the changes we see going on today and the speed and variety of media by which we are able to communicate, I guess *TIME*'s claim is not so outlandish. About 60 years ago Billy Graham was the media star. William Hearst, the news mogul of the 1940's and 1950's took an interest in Graham and had all his newspapers run favorable articles about him. There was so much coverage and excitement that in 1954 *TIME* ran Billy Graham as its cover. Things they do change; I remember watching the Graham Crusades on television, I heard his sermons, and I love ‘Just as I Am’, but that was then and it is different now. Its YouTube, Twitter, and Facebook; why not Tibow too?

This Sunday will be Eastminster's time to celebrate the ‘Kirking of the Tartans’. It is a tradition here. We get all geared up for it each year and plan for the pomp and circumstance, the tartans, and the bagpipes. Kirking became popular about the same time Billy Graham was making a name for himself. It is as American as Graham is only with a flavor of Scotland. But, my grandchildren don't know what a tartan is, or who Peter Marshall was, or even the connection between the Kirking and the efforts of WWII. Times they do change.

Also this Sunday Eastminster will install its next pastor. Mary and I are so glad that we are a part of the Eastminster family. We came in a temporary capacity but you have made us feel that we are home and expressed your desire that we stay. So, we begin the next season in the life of this great congregation. There are things to finish and there are things to repair and replace but there will be time for all this. Time will tell whether or not the prediction about Tim Tibow is right or wrong. Time will tell whether or not my grandchildren will ever care that they are part of the Patterson Clan. But, what will ultimately matter is our individual response to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. That response is both extremely personal and profoundly public at the same time.

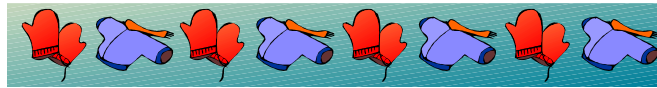
This I am certain, we cannot go out into the world with the Gospel unless we first have a personal relationship with the living God who loves us with an unconditional love. And we can't adequately respond to that love unless our lives are a witness to those around us that Jesus is Lord. Billy Graham does this his own way and Tim Tibow does it his. The question for each of us today is simply this: how do we do it? We most likely won't make it on the cover of *TIME*, but what we can do is obey God's call on our life one day at a time.

*Caleb*

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## Sympathy to...

- ◆ Linda Richardsen on the death of her husband, Jan, on January 11.
- ◆ Vicki Watchulonis on the recent death of her father, Charles Johnson.
- ◆ Lynn Maxwell on the death of her mother, Betty Maxwell, on February 5.



## EPC Presbyterian Women's Winter Retreat

Date: Saturday, February 25, 2012

Time: 9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

Place: Eastminster Presbyterian Church - 3rd Floor

Topic: Prayer

Information: Continental Breakfast and Salad Lunch Will Be Provided.

R.S.V.P. Please respond to church office (770) 469-4881 if able. Everyone is welcome with or without reservations.

Jan Day, former church member and Christian Educator will be leading us into a brief exploration of prayer. She shares: "Our brief exploration into prayer will encourage you to step into disciplines that will provide structure and direction for your personal growth in holiness and transformation." "It is my hope and prayer that it will then prepare you for your personal lives and church ministry in a rapidly changing environment, providing tools to develop and teach others to lead deeper spiritual lives in relationship to God." Please feel free to bring your Bible and personal journal if you desire.



## March Birthdays

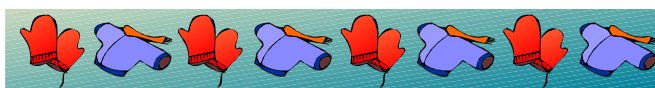
4 Ron Heckman	12 Robert Carrick	18 Matthew Fleck	26 Matthew Lee
Mackie Wilmer	13 Michael Brieske	19 Vincent Timko	Ginny Mickish
6 Mark Sauls	14 Susan Hartsfield	22 Lourene Collins	Ray Rivera
7 Danice Eaton	Linda Petty	23 Robert Thomson	Marriner Smith
Claudia Timko	15 Art Scott	25 Ken Carpenter	28 John Hinkle
8 Kathy Peters	16 Karl Alff	Heather Ferry	29 John Morgan
10 Ashlin Swinkola	Zachary Burger	Mildred Magnuson	30 Maureen Griffiths
11 Susan Gordon	Mollie Dunn	Buck Scott	31 Susan Dansberry
12 Lisa Bunce	Shari McWilliams	26 Barbara Hinkle	Samuel Gowland
Courtney Carpenter	Patricia Willis	Sally Jackson	

## Blood drive - Sunday, February 19

February is not only the month of Valentine's Day but is also celebrated as American Heart Month. Because blood supplies and donations are traditionally low and desperately needed during this time of year, your donation will impact many, giving them a chance at life. Donating your blood is absolutely the best way to show your love and commitment to the health of our own Church members and our community. Hebrews 13:2 charges us to "let brotherly love continue. Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so doing, some have entertained angels." Come be that angel and give from your heart....the gift of life. LifeSouth Blood Center will be here Sunday, February 19, 8:30-1 p.m. in the Gym. Sign-up sheets will be in the Narthex but all last minute donors are welcome. The only requirements are that you be at least 17 years old, weigh a minimum of 110 pounds and bring your photo ID. Be a part of this very special Outreach ministry of EPC. You have the power to save a life!!!!



Outreach Committee



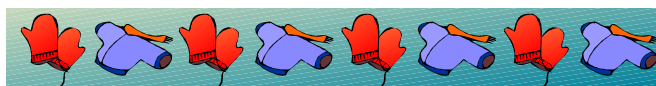
## OASIS Lunch ~n~ Learn

Thursday, February 23, 10:30-1 p.m. ~ Adult Center

*Spirituality in Senior Moments*

What is spirituality? How does spirituality differ from being religious? How and why do spiritual and religious viewpoints shift as one grows older? Let's find out together. Lunch and program, \$6. Lunch catered from Always Fresh.

Please call the church office, 770-469-4881 to make a reservation, and indicate your choice of sandwich.



## Score a Touchdown on Hunger

The following items have been suggested by the Lilburn and Stone Mountain Co-ops as needed for our Food Drive which begins Super Bowl Sunday, February 5 and lasts through Sunday, March 4. Designated containers for these non-perishable items will be located in the narthex, hall adjacent to the church office and the Preschool entrance. Items will be delivered to the Co-ops March 4.

flour  
soup  
peanut butter  
rice  
instant grits  
canned fruit  
canned pasta  
spaghetti, Alfredo and pesto sauce  
liquid and bar soap  
disposable razor  
baby wipes  
toilet paper

sugar  
dry and hot cereal  
dry and Parmalat milk  
jello  
instant oatmeal  
canned meat  
no-sugar cereal  
bottled and boxed juice  
toothbrush  
diapers  
Wet Ones  
Kleenex

small jars coffee  
jelly  
tuna  
canned vegetables  
dried beans  
boxed mac and cheese  
macaroni, spaghetti, fettuccini  
toothpaste  
shaving cream  
shampoo  
laundry and dish detergent  
paper towels

## Photos from the ordination of Rev. Robert W. Thomson, Jr. on January 14



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### It is time to join an Older Adult's group when:

You try to straighten out the wrinkles in your socks, then realize you aren't wearing socks.

Even when you stay home, your back goes out.

It takes you twice as long to look half as good for Sunday service.

Most of the names of your Facebook friends start with "Dr."

It takes you longer to rest up than it did to get tired.

The only birthday gift you desire from your fellow parishioners is NOT to be reminded of your age.

At the breakfast table, you hear lots of Snap! Crackle! and Pop! But you aren't eating cereal.

You sit in a rocking chair, but you can't get it started.

Your idea of weight-lifting is standing up after a long sermon.

Your pastor regularly compliments you on your patience, but you know that you probably just weren't paying attention.

COME to OlderAdultsSpirituallyIntegratingSelf!

# Music at Eastminster



## Kirking of the Tartans This Sunday ~ February 12th



Our annual service of Morning Worship with pipers and tartans reflecting the Scottish heritage of the Presbyterian Church with music past and present highlighting the traditions of the reformed church. We'll also celebrate the installation of Caleb Clarke. A luncheon and shortbread reception will follow in the service. Bring a friend to church with you.

## Singing for Palm Sunday and Easter

If you are not able to sing with the choir each week, but would still like to participate in the joy of singing during Palm Sunday, Holy Week, and Easter, you are invited to join the choir on Wednesday evenings beginning March 21st at 8:00 pm to learn the music. The choir would be delighted to have you join them as we express our faith through music and lead in Worship. Please contact the Director of Music Ministries for details.

## *Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs* April 22nd ~ 6:00 pm

The Spring concert by the Chancel Choir will be a program of choral selections taking the words of Paul's letter to the Colossians to heart. *Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.* Please mark your calendar now to attend a program which will contain music to delight the ear and inspire the soul. Invite a friend, bring a neighbor to a very special evening of music.

## *And speaking of Hymns - What is a "hymn"?*

Our word comes from the Greek *hymnos* which was a festive song or ode - that is either music or words. When most people think of the word "hymn", they think of a particular set of words with a particular piece of music. However, we have learned that very frequently the words and music were created at different times; for example: *Be Thou My Vision* - the words date from the 8<sup>th</sup> century and yet we sing them to an 18<sup>th</sup> century Irish melody - and that familiar words can be set to a different melody; as when we sing *The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want* - the 1650 Scottish Psalter paraphrase of Psalm 23 - with *Brother James's Air* or the tune CRIMOND - or new words to a familiar tune as when we sing *God Has Spoken by His Prophets* to the tune BEECHER. John Newton wrote the words to *Amazing Grace* for a sermon in 1773, but it wasn't until 1835 and had traveled from England to America that it was being sung to the tune that is so familiar to us today. The hymns we sing can date from centuries ago or be from recent years. No matter, hymns are our way of raising our voices together to praise God, to offer our prayers, to give thanks, or to remember God's great gift of salvation through Jesus Christ.

## Dates to Remember

February 12<sup>th</sup> - Sunday  
*Kirking of the Tartans*  
11:00 am Worship

Joyful Noise & Jubilation practice  
at Tucker Methodist 4:45 pm

Chancel Bells will not meet tonight

February 18<sup>th</sup> - Saturday  
Concert Choir Rehearsal  
Choir Room 9:00 am

February 19<sup>th</sup> - Sunday  
Joyful Noise & Jubilation sing  
and sign with *Little Light of Mine*  
Tucker First U. M. Church 11:00 am

February 22nd - *Ash Wednesday*  
Kids Kwires will meet 6:30 - 7:00  
(Please Note Change)  
7:00- Service of Ashes  
7:30 Chancel Choir Rehearsal

February 26<sup>th</sup> - Sunday  
*1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent*  
Eastminster Orchestra  
at 11:00 Worship

March 11<sup>th</sup> - Sunday  
*3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent*  
Chancel Bells & Sonshine Singers  
at 11:00 Worship

March 17<sup>th</sup> - Saturday  
Concert Choir Rehearsal  
Choir Room 9:00 am

March 18<sup>th</sup> - Sunday  
*4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent*  
Eastminster Orchestra  
at 11:00 Worship

## OASIS B~brunch

Thursday, February 9, 10:30-noon, Adult Center

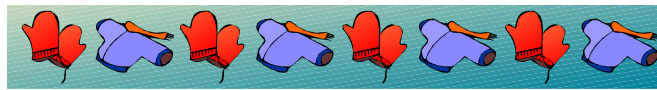
*10 Key Events in Jesus' Life*

We will begin a study of ten events in Jesus' life, and we will start at the beginning with focus on the birth of Jesus and his baptism. Other events include the temptation, the cleansing of the temple, Sermon on the Mount, a healing story, Lord's Supper, crucifixion, the road to Emmaus and the Ascension. (Perhaps we will play some bingo, as well.) Bring a brunch item to share.

## Soup and shortbread

Sunday, February 12 following 11:00 service

Please join us for lunch and our usual shortbread as we celebrate our Presbyterian heritage and the installation of Reverend Caleb Clarke as EPC's pastor. Lunch will be provided but we do need volunteers to bring shortbread. Shortbread recipe is available in the office.

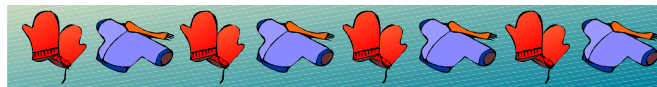


## Dear friends-

My words are inadequate in expressing extreme gratitude and thanksgiving that my journey to ordination began, and culminated at Eastminster. You all are encouraging, supporting, caring, nurturing, and more than anything loving brothers and sisters in Christ. You continue to surprise me as with the gift of robe and stole. The stole is meaningful in many ways, that it is from you, that it conveys one faith, one baptism, one Lord of all, and portrays children of the world, not unlike the 200 some students I encounter every day in Gwinnett County.

You continue to inspire me in your commitments to faith, mission and one another. I have been cradled with your prayers, your strength, and your compassion for a long, long while. What could possibly be next along the journey? I am excited to see God's hand continue to lead in love.

In Christ's bond, Robert



## Please join us for an unforgettable evening!

Sunday, February 26th

Dinner and a Movie with the Global Village School



All are invited to join the youth on Sunday, February 26<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. for dinner and special program presented by the Global Village School. An insightful and moving documentary about GVS will be shown during the meal followed by a question and answer session with the director and students from the School. The program will end by 8:00, and we ask that you call the Church office to RSVP 770-469-4881 or email Paula at [eastminsterpres@yahoo.com](mailto:eastminsterpres@yahoo.com).

The Global Village School provides an enriched education to teenage girls whose formal education has been interrupted by war and refugee camp experiences. Pioneering an innovative curriculum, the school provides teenagers with intensive English language training and enhanced education, including an emphasis on science and math, the humanities and integrated arts. GVS is located in the educational wing of Decatur Presbyterian Church but has no affiliation with any religious faith. More information about the school can be found at [www.theglobalvillageschool.org](http://www.theglobalvillageschool.org)



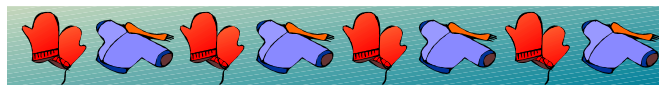
## Youth Events

### February

- 10, Fri            Lock-In – Wii Night  
26, Sun            Global Village program with meal (6-8 p.m.)

### March

- 2, Fri              Gwinnett Gladiators vs. Trenton (7:55 p.m.)  
16-18, Fri        Confirmation Retreat



## L3: Living, Learning and Loss

*Loss like ice cream comes in lots of different flavors. Grief occurs throughout our lives due to a variety of losses.*

*Where is God in our losses?*

*Loss in death*

*Loss of job*

*Loss of health*

*Loss of relationships*

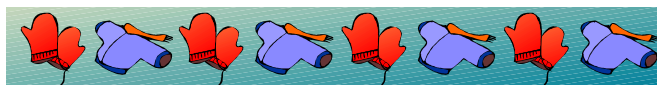
*Healing is a process, not an event!*

Sunday, March 11 following 11 a.m. worship

Founders Hall

Lunch and seminar

12:00-1:30



## Upcoming Wednesday Night Programs

**Feb. 15 – Book Discussion of *The Hunger Games*** by Suzanne Collins. This page turning young adult novel (the first of a trilogy) has captured the attention of youth across the country and will be released as a movie in March. The author wrote it in response to the ever growing “reality shows” on television. Youth who have read the book are especially encouraged to come to enrich the discussion through their insights. (By the way, an interesting tidbit for Presbyterians: the upcoming movie was filmed in Montreat, NC)

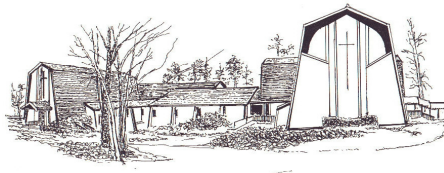
**Feb. 22 – Ash Wednesday Worship Service** - This traditional service of the imposition of ashes will be held in the sanctuary **at 6:45p.m.**

**Feb. 29 through March 28 – *Chasing the Wind*** – Will Norman, seminary intern, will lead a five week Lenten study on Ecclesiastes.

THE WITNESS IS  
A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF

EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

5801 Hugh Howell Road  
Stone Mountain, GA 30087  
www.eastminster.us  
eastminsterpres@yahoo.com  
Contact: Paula McGill



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Fax: 770-879-9590  
Preschool: 770-469-4880  
School Age Program: 770-469-9489

**DEADLINES**

Newsletter ~ 5 p.m. **Wednesday, February 29**  
Sunday Bulletin ~ Wednesdays at 4 p.m.

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**Church Staff**

**Pastor** ~ Rev. J. Caleb Clarke III  
**Director of Music Ministries** ~ Edward Weaver  
**Director of Family Ministries** ~ Mark Sauls  
**Director of Christian Education** ~ Mardee Rightmyer  
**Director of School Age Program** ~ Celeste Sears  
**Director of Preschool** ~ Jennifer Neu  
**Secretary** ~ Paula McGill  
**Financial Coordinator** ~ Jan Zabarac