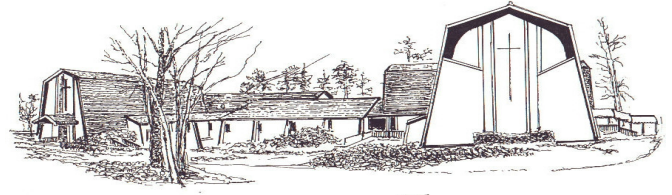


# THE WITNESS



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

**September 12, 2012**

## Music: Moving Forward With Optimism!

Music has always been a powerful part of our worship at Eastminster – bringing us closer to our God, the word, and each other. It has given us hope, lifted our spirits, filled our hearts, and provided a touchstone for our relationships. Even now, as we transition into a new phase, music is a bridge that carries us forward.

For many years, Ed Weaver led us into our relationship with music. As Ed moves on, we thank him for his tremendous contributions and wish him great success for his future. We also move forward with our commitment to continuing the great music tradition at Eastminster.

The Music Committee has been meeting frequently to find qualified people to fill in during the interim between Ed's departure and a new person taking charge. We're very committed to making the right choices for leadership during this sensitive time. It is our hope that those we choose for this task will bring vitality and excitement to the music program at EPC. During this time, the programs will be simpler, but no less meaningful. We strongly believe that God is leading us to those that will enhance the music program at Eastminster. In September, Joyce Chittick, John Roark, and Connie Melgaard bring their talents to Eastminster. In October and November, we welcome Larry Stokes and Rachel Ficklin as organists.

The Search Committee is working hard to find the right person to lead our music program on a permanent basis. This is not an easy task and takes many hours of preparation even before the first candidate is interviewed. This committed group of EPC members has been meeting weekly and will continue to meet until the perfect person is found. They are charged with an awesome task, but be assured, they will make the right decision for EPC.

If you have ever thought about joining the choir, this is a great time to do so. We welcome your voices. The more voices, the more praise we give to God. You do not need to be formally trained. You just need the desire to raise your voice to the glory of God. In addition, if you would like to assist with the children's music program we could use your help. The children are the future of EPC and we want them to have a meaningful, joyful, and spiritual musical experience. Please let the Music Committee know if you can help in any way.

The future of EPC is bright. Right now, we may not know where the road will lead but we have great faith that we are on the right road. We look to the future with optimism, excitement, hope, and the assurance that God has a plan for us – because He does! In closing, we ask that you take both comfort and inspiration from these words about God's plan for Eastminster: *"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."* – Jeremiah 29:11

Blessings,

The Music Committee:

Cynthia Heckman/Chair, Danice Eaton, Shelley Lee, David Morgan and Caroline Thompson

---

## Talent Show Returns



Mark your calendar for Saturday, October 13 and plan to join us for "Dinner and A Show". We are looking for a variety of acts and we encourage every age group to participate. If you would like to share your talent and participate in this fun and well loved event, please contact Barbara Hinkle 770-979-4137 or [jc.hinkle@comcast.net](mailto:jc.hinkle@comcast.net). Dinner will be served at 5:45 p.m. with the Talent Show immediately following. Make your reservations by calling the church office or Barbara. The dinner is free.



## Salt Shakers

Salt Shakers are small groups of members (usually about 8 members) who meet once a month for social activities and dining. Usually the groups meet in member homes, but the groups can also meet for lunch, dining in restaurants, movies, etc. The intention of Salt Shakers is to get church members to have closer relationships with other members. Some of the groups meet for lunch after church, once a month. We have about 50 members starting a new season in Sept. If you would like to join a group, please contact Larry Bentley 770 -921-7220 or [Lbentley2@gmail.com](mailto:Lbentley2@gmail.com).



## October Birthdays

1 Rick Adle	14 Travis Adle	21 Peter Boven	26 Donna Kellogg
2 Lydia Rivera	Ted Kapsch	Ashley Burger	27 Carol Burrell
3 Charles Smith	Bo Ramos	Hil Craig	28 Cathy Alexander
4 Dick Warren	15 Michael Gowland	Mitch Dunn	Dominic Szathmari
6 Courtney Craig	16 Francie McCormick	22 Ruth Adams	29 Chuck Gobba
Chris Gerard	17 Ray Hartsfield	Andrew Smith	30 Kirk Alexander
7 Barbara Garrett	18 James Brandon	23 Amy Carmichael	Parker Bennett
Kathe Gowland	19 Susan Ahls	George Mitchell	Bunny Smith
9 Lila Smith	Kelly Gunter	25 Cooper Frank	31 Bill Hicks
11 Charlotte Scott	Rueleen Kapsch	George Nielson	
13 Sarah Lawley	Betty Willis	26 Pat Carmichael	

## Success!

Heartfelt thanks to all those who donated items to our 2012 School Supply Drive. Thirty-four bags were delivered to Stone Mtn. Co-op and thirty-one bags to Lilburn. Once again your generosity and support have provided a brighter start for those in our community beginning a fulfilling school year ahead. Each child deserves the necessary tools to succeed and thrive daily in an academic environment.



## Congratulation to...

Catherine Simpson and Randy Dutton who were married in Calhoun, GA on August 3.

## Found

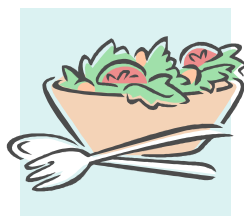
Silver hoop pierced earring

## November 7

You are invited to attend a very special Wednesday night program on November 7. Dr. Jamie Wise will be here at Eastminster to share with us her presentation on "Spiritual Generosity". Mark your calendar and plan to attend.



## PW Fall Salad Luncheon



Please mark your calendars for Sunday, Sept. 23 following 11:00 A.M. worship for our annual PW fall luncheon in Founders Hall. A thank offering will be collected, 2012-2013 officers installed, and the speaker will be our very own Jeanne Simpson. Plan to attend and hear all about the memorable challenges and opportunities she experienced in Africa this past summer. Bring any delicious salad to share: (marinated, tossed, congealed, layered, chicken, tuna, etc.). Think about inviting a friend and/or neighbor to enjoy the fellowship of other women.



## Come and join us in September

**Thursday, September 13, 10:30-12:30**, Adult Center: The Bible and Brunch. *Bring* a brunch item to share, and we will try our hand at Bible trivia concerning Abraham and Joseph, two parts of **The Story**.

**Thursday, September 27, 9:30-1:30**: The Carlos Museum, Emory University. Visit the Michael C. Carlos Museum of Emory University, which collects, preserves, exhibits, and interprets art and artifacts from antiquity to the present. The Carlos Museum is now one of the Southeast's premier ancient art museums with major collections of art objects from ancient Egypt, Numbia, Near East, Greece, Rome, ancient Americas, Africa and Asia, as well as a collection of works on paper from the Renaissance to the present. Lunch following in the Caffee Antico, located on the Museum's third floor. The café offers seasonal menus of salads and sandwiches priced \$7-\$10. **Please make a reservation with the office by Monday, 9/24.**

## And in October

**Monday, October 8, 12:15**: DBE's out to lunch, Red Lobster, Lilburn

**Thursday, October 18, 10:30-12:30** : The Bible and Brunch, Adult Center

**Monday, October 22, 9:30-1:30**: The Monastery of the Holy Spirit, Conyers

**Saturday, October 27, 8:30-4:30**: Apple pickin' in Elijay. Dessert at the Willis' home following lunch.



## When Do You Become a Presbyterian Woman?

This was a thought provoking question that was asked at the PW workshop by our moderator, Mabel Jones-Allen, and I wanted to ask the women of Eastminster the same question. For myself, not having grown up Presbyterian, I really didn't think of myself as a Presbyterian woman when I joined Eastminster, or the first time I decided to go to one of the Sunday salad luncheons following church, or even the first time that I joined a circle. Somewhere along the years of bible study in my circle, fellowship and retreats, I now consider myself a Presbyterian Woman. I am not sure at what point that happened, but I am glad of my involvement and how it has helped my spiritual growth.

Some of you may have grown up Presbyterian and may be the second, third or fourth generation of Presbyterian Women, but one of the discussion points was do our young girls and women consider themselves Presbyterian Women? Is this something that we can foster in our young women? Some churches have added information about Presbyterian Women to their confirmation class and other classes to appeal to younger women. I would hope that all of the young women and girls at Eastminster think of themselves as Presbyterian Women and that there is no certain age requirement.

I would like to personally invite all to come to the fall luncheon on Sunday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> following the 11:00 service. Jeanne Simpson is going to be our speaker and share her story of her ministry in South Africa this past summer. It should be a wonderful testimony. I hope to see tables full of women and girls of all ages!

Blessings,  
Janice Wilmot

## “My health is my biggest asset.”

If that is the case, plan to participate  
Eastminster’s 2012 Health EXPO\*  
Saturday, October 20, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

DeKalb Medical Center will provide:

- ◆Blood pressure screenings
- ◆Blood Glucose screening
- ◆Educational materials
- ◆Give-a-ways



DeKalb County Board of Health will provide:

- ◆Flu shots, \$20, covered by Medicaid and Medicare
- ◆Shingles vaccine, \$195, people over 60, not covered by Medicaid and Medicare
- ◆Pneumonia vaccine, \$70, covered by Medicaid

All Medicaid and Medicare participants, please bring your benefit card.

Other vendors on hand:

- ◆In home older adult care services
- ◆AARP
- ◆Local Coops
- ◆Voter registration
- ◆Assisted Living arrangements
- ◆DeKalb County Fire and EMT services
- ◆Children’s activities
- ◆Give-a-ways



\*Sponsored by Older Adult Ministries and In-Touch



## Thank you!

Thank you for all the calls, cards, e-mails and prayers - especially the prayers! God has brought Bill through yet another crisis and we are so thankful. It means everything to be a part a of such a loving and caring church family.

Blessings to all, Ann Lee and Bill Bussey

# Tidal People

It is 4:30 p.m. The tide is out, and the air is dead still. No Spanish moss is moving, no birds are seen flying, and even the oyster beds are quiet. The heat is oppressive, and we've entered the "dog days", the hottest time of the year in Crescent, Ga. So, why come at this time of year? It's all about the moon, the tides, and the fishing: trout, redfish, blue crabs, and of course the famous Georgia shrimp, the sweetest and best in the world.

In this day and time, we can control so many things in our lives. We are able to communicate with anyone, anywhere, at any time of the day or night. We can set up a huge conference with people from all over the world without ever leaving our homes. We have landlines, cell phones, laptops, iPhones, iPods, Tablets, and Androids. We can launch rockets with the push of a button and know that the target will be dead on, with immediate visual results. We are able to make our computers recognize our voices or even identify us by the iris of our eyes. Seemingly, there is little beyond our ability to manipulate, at least to some degree; but alas, we cannot control the tides.

This tiny, hidden piece of coastal heaven is ruled by the tides. Many people work two jobs, and chances are that at least one of them involves the river. Some drive gas trucks and fish for crab. Some own barbershops and run shrimp boats. Others clean houses and provide oysters or fish to local restaurants. The main job is not the one on land, but the one on the river. Working hours all depend on the tides, something man will never conquer.

Here it is not just the honest, hardworking individuals whose work is tide driven. Even the thieves depend on the tides. Their boats steal through the night to docks of isolated homes that sit so far off the road one would not know they existed. An unoccupied house on the river is all too frequently a target of thieves. Homes are burglarized, and appliances, furniture, air conditioners, even pictures on the walls are stolen. Some do not stop at burglary. The poor county of McIntosh hosts many a drug deal as desperate people try to make a living "the easy way". Deals gone bad sometimes end in death, with a list of missing persons never to be seen again. The marsh makes quick work of a body, with river creatures quickly erasing all evidence of a human life. It is rare that the one responsible for such sadness is ever brought to justice. Fortunately, these beings are the exception rather than the rule.

Within a few square miles there are at least four Baptist churches, all full on Sunday mornings. Salty, crusty, and weathered, the river people seem to have much more reverence and respect for God than do some city folk. They are reverent, prayerful, loyal Christians who worship on Sunday, eat dinner at noon knowing that their next meal may be provided only by the grace of God. They are quick to tell you that you will be lifted in prayer in times of difficulty. They rest on Sunday afternoons, do not hurry, for there's no reason to, and they work late and rise early. They visit the sick, and take meals to those grieving. River people help their neighbors, sharing whatever they have and are fiercely devoted to family and God. Their faith is as strong as the muscled arms that pull the traps and haul the nets. It is not questioned, for these people are raised from infancy with faith in their Lord.

In April, the Blessing of the Fleet begins the shrimping season. It is a time of celebration and hope for a season of prosperity. Those who make their living shrimping take the Blessing very seriously, and they are sent on their way with prayers and well wishes from the whole town. The town of Darien takes on an almost carnival like atmosphere, with locals singing and hawking their wares as they send their loved ones on their way. Each time a shrimp boat goes out, it is in God's hands more than that of man, and there is always a possibility that it may not return. The hours are long, the work is hard, and it is not for the lazy or faint of heart.

In this small town, strangers are quickly identified, though not just by their license plates. Many years ago, I was in the one, small grocery store and a young special needs boy was bagging my groceries. He talked to all of the locals, cheerfully greeting them by first names when he suddenly spied me. With a great big smile that revealed few teeth, he said to the cashier "Looky here! She has bluebirds in her eyes, pearls on her teeth and diamonds in her ears, she ain't from around here!" As I left the store laughing, I tried to imagine living this slow, southern life that is ruled by the tides. I thought of our hurried city lives, which often result in missing so many enjoyments of life. When we first arrive here in Crescent, we hurry to unpack, hurry to the grocery store, hurry to get the boat in the water, hurry to get going with our vacation. It takes a few days to slow down and accustom ones' self to this way of living. After finally settling in, we begin to adapt to the lifestyle. It is then that we realize we need no clock to tell us when to do anything; we need only watch the tides.

Ginny Matthews

## Chili Luncheon

Join the Deacons on Sunday, September 30 after 11:00 worship for our annual chili luncheon in the gym!



## Updates?

If you have a new email address, home phone number or cell phone number, please notify Paula in the church office.

## Help!

The Stone Mountain Coop needs canned vegetables!



## Circles to Remember

All Eastminster women & their friends in the community are encouraged to attend monthly gatherings for Bible study & meaningful Christian fellowship. We currently have three established "Circles": (1 Circle of Blessings - Meets first Tues. of each month (9:30 A.M. at member's homes (except September which will be on the 18th) - Moderator: Marjory Crawford, Bible Leader: Susan Adle; (2 Circle of Love & Friendship - Meets second Tues. of each month (10 A.M. at church Rm. 323, Moderator: Bunny Smith, Bible Leaders: Ann Clements & Sally Jackson; (3 Evening Stars - Meets at 6:30 p.m. once a month on Wednesdays in the church parlor - Bible Leader to be determined, Moderator: Janet Uthlaut. Every woman is welcome at any circle throughout the year. We begin our study & fellowship in Sept. & meet each month through May. Study books are available to purchase from your Circle Moderators & Janet Uthlaut for \$8. This is a wonderful opportunity to reach out to others in your neighborhood or workplace and invite them to accompany you to not only enjoy thought-provoking discussion of the Bible, but become an integral part of an important body of caring, supportive Christian women.

## Wednesday Night Programs

The programs for Wednesday night are themed around the part of THE STORY for the following Sunday. Here are the topics for upcoming weeks:

### September 19      New Commands and A New Covenant

Do we need the 10 Commandments *in stone* to honor and uphold them?  
Are they meant to separate us from culture or to demand all culture abide by them?

### September 26      Wandering

Location devices on our phones and in our cars make it almost impossible to get lost but could we benefit from intentional wandering? We'll read and discuss together the fifth chapter of Barbara Brown Taylor's book *An Altar in the World*. Copies are available in the office or the narthex (the entrance to the sanctuary.)

### October 3            The Battle Begins

Conquering the land for Israel...then and now. What does it mean to seek peace in the Middle East today? Is God just on one side?

### October 10          A Few Good Men ...and Women

The U.S. Supreme Court will have just begun the 2012 session on Monday, October 3. What are the truths and systems the Judges of Israel bring to modern judicial systems?

### October 17          The Faith of a Foreign Woman

Immigration Issues....What is required of us as people of faith?

### October 24          Standing Tall, Falling Hard

This story begins with Samuel as a small boy and ends with the fall from power of King Saul. We will combine the child aspect of Samuel and the music aspect of Saul as Marilyn Dunn leads Ms. D's Cherub Choir in concert in Founders Hall.

### October 31          HAPPY HALLOWEEN – NO SUPPER

Treat the neighbors so you don't end up with a trick played on you!

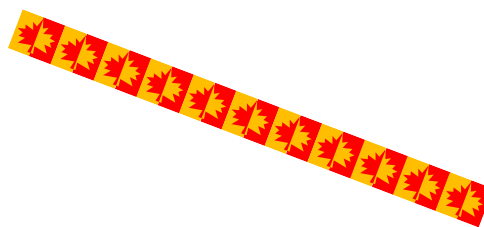




## Kitchen Cleanup

I asked and you came! Thank you to Carol Carmichael, Linda Chapman, Pat Sully, Audra Swinkola and Helen Wilborn for coming out and helping me get the kitchen in order.

Marjory Crawford



## If your child is college-bound...

please call the church office and provide their college address. The PW will be corresponding with them on a monthly basis during the school year.

## Labels and Boxtops

If you don't have an elementary age child already clamoring for your Campbell's Labels for Education (including Goldfish bags) and Boxtops for Education (they're on a lot of items), bring them to EPC! There's a collection box in the office kitchen.

The Campbell's labels will go to our own EPC Preschool/Kindergarten program and the Boxtops will go to Arcado Elementary School.



Note: Boxtops must have a date



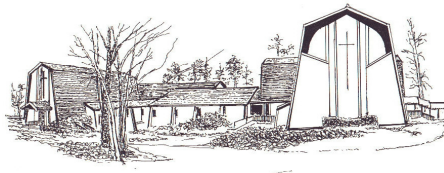
## The Power of a Simple Gift

A simple shoebox filled with toys, hygiene items (toothbrushes, comb, mirror, nail clippers, etc (no liquids), and school supplies can bring joy to a hurting child in over 130 countries. A booklet sharing the love of God for them will bring hope to the child. Over 57 languages are used. This year Eastminster Presbyterian will be participating in this "Samaritan's Purse" ministry headed by Franklin Graham. Flyers with suggestions for box inclusions will be located in the Narthex and other locations around our church campus. Shoeboxes can be supplied if you need one. A large collection box will be located between Founders Hall and the gym. The boxes will be picked up on Nov. 11 to be delivered to the collection point in Atlanta. If your group would like to see a video, or get more information, contact Mary Bentley 770-921-7220 or email, [mchbentley@gmail.com](mailto:mchbentley@gmail.com).

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



Non-Profit Org  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 45  
Stone Mtn. GA  
30086

**Return Service Requested**

**PHONE NUMBERS**

Church Office: 770-469-4881  
Fax: 770-879-9590  
Preschool: 770-469-4880  
School Age Program: 770-469-9489

**DEADLINES**

Newsletter ~ 5 p.m. **Friday, September 28**  
Sunday Bulletin ~ Wednesdays at 4 p.m.

---

**Church Staff**

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