

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

May 8, 2013

From Worship:

Summer Worship will be COOL, CASUAL CHURCH...at 10 A.M

The Worship Committee has decided that Sunday, May 26th is the Sunday we will combine the 9 and 11 O'clock services into just one. We will gather for worship at 10 for an exciting time of worship which is being described as **Cool, Casual Church** so you need to **Come!** Although Christian Education Committee has scheduled a Sunday evening educational program [see below], several of our existing Sunday school classes will continue to meet.

Part of the reason for combining the two services is because our attendance drops off during the summer months and so we hope to make the 10 A.M. service one that is convenient for more people and meaningful for all. We also want it to be a service to which we can invite guests. That is right! We all need to start thinking about who we can invite to come to church. That is part of our being faithful to the Gospel as Jesus calls us to spread the Good News and one way to do that is to invite friends or neighbors to join us for church on Sunday.

The combined service will continue through August 25th and then we will resume our normal schedule. But for the summer it is a season to bring someone to church!

From Christian Education:

Keeping the Now AND Reclaiming the Past ...in a New Way

Summer Interactive Vespers...at 7 P.M.

Many of us over fifty years of age remember Sunday evening vespers; going to church twice on Sunday was just a given for folks in the south. Many under fifty probably respond with a perplexed look and ask "What are "Vespers?" Well, vespers specifically refers to an evening service of prayers in the Roman Catholic and Anglican (Episcopal) churches. Other denominations picked up the term to refer to a Sunday evening service that was less formal than the morning service and often included more singing and praying.

The Christian Education committee is reviving vespers ... with a new twist. "Sunday school" is moving from morning to the evening for the three months of summer. Vespers will start at 7:00 p.m. with singing and prayers, then instead of a sermon there will be an interactive Bible lesson. (Adults don't worry! Your interaction can be as simple as reflecting on the questions, if that is your level of comfort!) After the lesson, we will have social time – with the refreshments coordinating with the theme of the service! This will be for all ages! If you go away for the weekend don't bother to change into "churchy clothes" – just come as you are! And we promise to have you home before dark!

But for the summer it is the season to bring someone to church!

Notice:

The annual Meeting of the Congregation will be on Sunday, May 19 after the 11:00 service for the purpose of hearing reports from 2012 and for the election of the Nominating Committee.

Sympathy to

Bob Waggoner on the death of his wife, Betty, on April 19.



Stepping up to the Challenge

Kudos to everyone who participated in our Eastminster Annual Food Drive. We delivered 86 bags of food/non-food items to the Stone Mtn. Co-op and 27 bags to Lilburn Co-op. Usually we divide our donations equally, but during the months of March-April the Stone Mtn. Co-op receives matching funds from the Feinstein Foundation for each pound or dollar collected. Both Co-ops continue to need these particular items: Peanut butter, jelly, soup, canned fruit, canned vegetables, and cereal. Please consider placing some these items in your shopping cart each week and bringing them to the church to feed others in our community.

Outreach Committee



June Birthdays

1	Terri Aycock	11	Susan Spears	15	Carolyn Johnson	27	Tom Grissom
	Linda Richardsen	12	Susan Bentley	18	Bill Bussey		Steven Weimar
2	John Brieske		Joshua Williams	19	Olen Duncan	28	Kelly Gobba
3	Cassidy Nix		Melanie Hicks		Annie Flynn		Paul Wade
5	Nene Kisseih		Benjamin Kapsch		Rebecca Streich	29	Anne Dean
	Robert Smith	14	Brian Adle	20	Jan Thompson		Katherine Gordon
6	Howard Ripley		Jennifer Alff	21	Benjamin Smith	30	Dickie Bowes
8	Tim Matthews		Teresa Hartle	22	Jacque Ripley		
	Jessica Warren		Bill Norman	23	Lei Norman		
10	Lawrence Garrett		Chris Uthlaut	26	Pete Craig		

Thank you!

- ◆ What a great church family! Thank you for stepping forward with generosity and kindness. News of my accident and broken leg on March 5 spread quickly throughout the church. So many of you offered equipment and volunteered assistance in other ways as well. Meals provided got us through a full month. Thanks to all of you who provided those yummy meals. A special thank you to my great deacon Larry Bentley who coordinated those meals and to Jeannie Simpson for numerous visits and much moral support. I have gotten tons of cards, calls and emails which I have enjoyed and appreciated. Thank you Caleb and others for your visits and most of all thank you all for your prayers which have held me up and helped me and my family more than you can know.

I love you all. Deborah Abraham

- ◆ A huge thank you from the Building & Grounds committee to the 35 people who gave up their Saturday morning on April 27th to participate in the Spring work day. So much was accomplished: 150 bales of pine straw were spread, multiple flats of flowers were planted, bushes were trimmed, the awning over the sanctuary was cleaned, sidewalks were pressure washed, all pews in the sanctuary were polished, marks were scrubbed off the walls, windows were washed inside and out, and the list goes on. Your efforts have been noticed and commented on by many, and are so appreciated.
- ◆ Your loving support after Betty's passing has meant a great deal to our family during this difficult time. Words alone cannot express the gratitude we feel for all of the prayers, food, visits, cards, and calls we have received from this congregation. A special thanks to Caleb and the deacons for their beautiful preparation of Founders Hall and wonderful food provided for the visitation service. We feel so blessed to have been members of this loving church.

In Him,

Bob, Jimmy, and Connie Waggoner

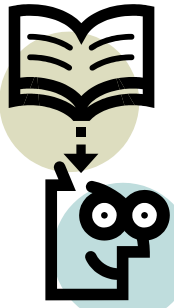


What's For Dinner?

If you are missing Wednesday night dinners with your Eastminster friends then come join us as we **DINE AROUND THE WORLD** during the summer months. All are invited to join us at 6:30 on these Wednesdays.

June 5th	Enzo's Pizza (Tucker location)
June 19th	Greater Good Barbecue (Tucker)
July 10th	Pool Party/Cookout at the Adle's **Time 5:30, Please bring a dish to share
July 24th	Las Colinas (Tucker)
August 7th	Big Joy (St. Mountain)
August 21st	Always Fresh (Lilburn)





Clerk's Corner

EXCERPTS FROM MINUTES OF MARCH 17, 2013 SESSION MEETING

General information for Session and congregation - Monthly calendar and scheduling of events. As part of the communications project, EPC is changing how events are to be scheduled on the calendar. Going forward all requests for activities, events, meetings, etc. will go thru Paula. There will be a form to complete and she will update the master calendar which will be available on the website and a copy outside the church office on the bulletin board.

Worship committee recommended for approval going to one Sunday service from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Session approved recommendation from committee with the time to be determined.

Weekday Ministries – Our pre-school and afterschool programs currently have 133 children enrolled. The directors' goals are to increase enrollment for both programs to a total of 150 children. Plans are underway for the summer camp afterschool program.

Ways and Means – Budget continues to be in black –for month of February \$17,251.95.

Congregational Life committee and In-touch committee will be combined to form Congregational Life and Care. Committee will include involvement and members representing the deacons, OASIS/Sr. Adult and Stephen Ministry.

Music Search Committee is working diligently in search for EPC music director.



Thornwell Trip...

Outreach and the Youth are teaming up this summer to serve our neighbors at Thornwell Home for Children and we want you to be a part of it! Bring your work gloves July 14-20 as we frame an interior room, assistant in landscaping, and interact with the Thornwell kids. We will have devotions led by Thornwell, recreation afternoons, and we'll take off to the lake one afternoon, too! The cost will be \$150 per person and there will be something to do for all ages! If you're looking for a way to get involved with missions this summer you'll want to find out more about Thornwell! Contact Mark Sauls to sign up.

Success!

The Talent Show, Artwork Display, and Fundraiser was a great success! It was great to see some of the many talents that our church members are blessed with. The youth raised \$2,700! These funds will be used to help send youth to Montreat, Thornwell, and to cover a fall retreat. The youth want to give a big "thank you" to everybody who participated!

Talent Show and Auction – A Hit with Audience

A fun evening was enjoyed by all whom attended the Talent Show and Silent Auction at Eastminster Presbyterian Church on Saturday, April 27. From youth to adult performers, the show brimmed with a wide range of talent including musicians, comedians, singers, a poetry reading and remote controlled model airplane flying. The Silent Auction was held to raise funds for the Youth Ministry. Items auctioned off included assorted baked goods, original artwork, hand knitted and crocheted items, and hand painted bird houses.

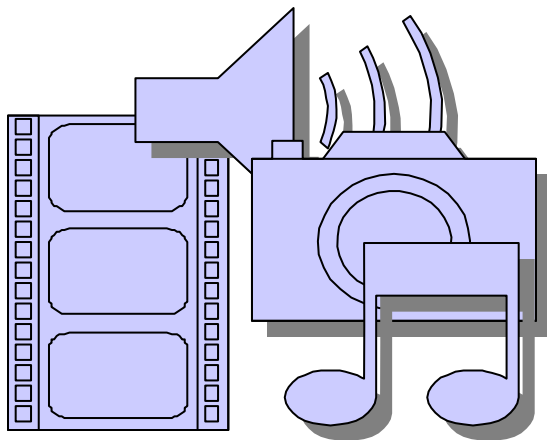
Rick Adle, EPC's illustrious master of ceremonies, opened the evening with a joke and instructions for bidding in the auction. Then, Sienna and Merida Watchulonis led everyone in the singing of our National Anthem; they also sang again later in the evening. Paige Lord and Mary Bentley also sang some of their favorite pieces including selections from Broadway, Disney and Country Music stars. Father and son, Chip and Brett Wilmot played an original piece on the guitar and saxophone; the audience yearned for more when they had finished. Other skilled musicians included Hannah Wilborn on the flute and Kyle Loughman on the tuba – both had strong lungs and made their performances seem effortless. Additionally, Sally Jackson inspired the crowd with her poetry readings. The youngest performer was Gabriella Addy – a real crowd pleaser with her hula hooping! Also, Barbara Hinkle, back by popular demand, stole the show with her special comedic/pantomimed song. And, Doug Peters closed the show with two original songs. His "Dear Abbey" song, personalized to include Pastor Caleb Clarke, was a laugh out loud piece for the audience. The audience was also in awe of Charles Sully; he showed us his skill of flying a remote controlled model airplane indoors and without crashing!!

Other members displayed their talents such as the stained glass pieces created by Scott Uthlaut, and photography by Rick Adle. There were also doll house models, handmade rugs and placemats, as well as other artwork/water color paintings by EPC members. Henrietta Kisseih had a display of beautiful African carvings and fabrics. Betty Willis' display showed us how to make hooked rugs from beginning to end. Ginny Matthews displayed her calligraphy and embroidery. Pat Sully her needlework and wreath making abilities. The many talents of Eastminster members made a grand display.

The auction had some highly fought for items including but not limited to Audra Swinkola's cupcakes to order, Lourene Collins knitting, and Verle Mickish's artwork. The homemade baked goods were a big hit as were the youths' birdhouses. The funds raised by this evenings' show and auction will be put to the Lord's service by Eastminsters' youth.

It was a wonderful program which showed off the diverse gifts and talents of the church's congregation. And, it was an evening of camaraderie and pleasure enjoyed by all. Special thanks to all that participated and attended, to our sound board operator -- Henry Howard, and to Susan Adle, Caroline Thompson, Mardee Rightmyer and Sally McMillan for the delicious refreshments. See y'all next year!!!

Author's Note: Please excuse me if I've left anyone out or not paid proper tribute. This was all written from memory.



Where in the world is FRED*??

Vacation Bible School July 8-12, 2013

9:30a.m. - 12:30p.m.



All children who are currently four years old through those who have completed fifth grade are invited to participate in VBS. Through stories, songs, games, art and even food, we will look for FRED in our self, our home, our school, our community and our world. At the end of the week we will celebrate by planting a FRED pole at the preschool entrance of the church. Adults, even you will want to be a part of this celebration!

Register on the Eastminster website or by completing the registration form included in this newsletter. **Deadline for registration is June 30th.**

*A Special prize to the first VBS age person who tells me what FRED means. (The Norwegian gnome is a hint.)

Volunteers are needed for both Vespers and VBS

We are looking for leadership for and participation in music, art, drama, movie production, cooking, website re-search, discussion leaders and social hour coordinators.

If you will help the week of Bible School (July 8-12) and/or one Sunday evening or more, please contact Mardee Rightmyer at 770-469-4881 ext. 228 or educator.epc@gmail.com

Eastminster Presbyterian Church
Vacation Bible School 2013
July 8-12, 9:30 am - 12:30 p.m.

5801 Hugh Howell Road - Stone Mountain, GA 30087 - 770-469-4881
Return to: Mardee Rightmyer, Director of Christian Education
educator@eastminster.us

Registration Form

Child's Name: _____ Gender: M F

Nickname/Name the child prefers to be called: _____

Child's Birth Date: _____ Last School Grade Completed: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____

Address: _____

Best phone number to reach during VBS: _____

Home church of faith (if any): _____

In case of emergency, please contact:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Please list any allergies/medical needs: _____

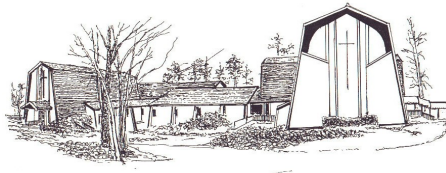
Name of person responsible for picking up this child at the end of VBS each day if not parent/guardian: _____

Signature of Parent or Guardian

THE WITNESS IS
A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF

EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

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www.eastminster.us
eastminsterpres@yahoo.com
Contact: Paula McGill



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PHONE NUMBERS

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

DEADLINES

Newsletter ~ 4 p.m. Thursday, May 30
Sunday Bulletin ~ Wednesdays at 2 p.m.

Church Staff

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