

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 13, 2013

Family Ministry

“Would you tell me, please, which way I ought to go from here?”

“That depends a good deal on where you want to get to.”

“I don’t much care where.”

“Then it doesn’t matter which way you go.”

Alice in Wonderland

These are the words that the Cheshire Cat spoke to Alice when she asked him for help, and I think he spoke a wise truth. If you don’t care where you want to be, then it doesn’t really matter which way you should go now. Many of us, I believe, do not have a real grasp of what we need to be doing, much less where we ought to be going, and we need somebody to help us. I have recently become a homeowner and I am convinced that the phrase “jack of all trades” simply refers to someone who doesn’t want to pay a repairman to come fix things so they numbly learn enough to temporarily fix new problems themselves. The truth of the matter is that I don’t know what I am doing most of the time and I am scared I am going to really mess it up. Church members like Ed Jones, Ron Lee, and Norman Harrison have been my go-to people for advice and I give them a lot of thanks for the fact that my house is still standing today.

I can’t help but wonder if, like me, there are families at our church who could use some supportive guidance, too. Though we cannot help much with handiwork, I believe that the church can help families provide a solid Christian foundation for their children. I know that it matters to our families which way their children go. The goal of the family ministry at Eastminster is to help equip parents to initiate Christian development at home and to help parents reinforce what is taught at church. This includes help in parenting, help in matters of marriage, events focused on the whole family and also fun and fellowship.

Studies show that our religious convictions and habits are primarily a reflection of our parents’ religious convictions and habits, not our church’s. If most of our Christian education happens informally at home then we need to be intentional about what we are teaching our children. Our family ministry wants to get involved and be a resource for our families.

If I could offer one piece of advice for now, it would be to try and slow down a little bit. I’ll leave you with a quote from Barbara Brown Taylor’s book *An Altar in the World*.

“Most of us move so quickly that our surroundings become no more than the blurred scenery we fly past on our way to somewhere else. We pay attention to the speedometer, the wristwatch, the cell phone, the list of things to do, all of which feed our illusion that life is manageable. Meanwhile, none of them meets the first criterion for reverence, which is to remind us that we are not gods. If anything, these devices sustain the illusion that we might yet be gods – if only we could find the way to do more faster.”

I pray that we may all find a way to slow down and enjoy with crisp clarity the scenery of our lives.

Peace be with you,

Mark Sauls

Save the Date - Sunday, March 10

It has been a few years since our Church has participated, but Eastminster will be participating in the Hunger Walk/Run benefiting the Atlanta Community Food Bank. Help make a difference in the lives of those less fortunate in our community and challenge yourself to improve your health by walking. (Sounds like a terrific New Year's Resolution.) Rick Adle will have charts to track your miles and pledges, and promises terrific prizes for most miles, money raised, youngest walker and most senior participant.



This event is sponsored by the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta, Lutheran Services of Georgia, Jewish Federation of Greater Atlanta, and the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

Please visit www.hungerwalkrun.org for more information.



Thanks!

Thank you all very much for all your prayers for Charles' recovery and my patience in caring for him. I really do have to work on the word "patience".

Pat Sully

Found:

Wire rimmed prescription glasses

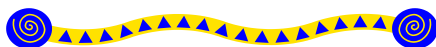


March Birthdays

3	Ron Heckman	12	Robert Carrick	18	Matthew Fleck	26	Matthew Lee
4	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		Mildred Magnuson	29	John Morgan
10	Ashlin Swinkola		Zachary Burger		Heather Sabatino	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

The next blood drive will be Sunday,
February 17 from 8:30-1:00 in the
blood mobile van (church parking lot).



Step up and forward to fight hunger.

Eastminster is not only participating in the annual Atlanta Hunger Walk on Sunday, March 10, we are also collecting the following items to contribute to our "Food Drive" during the months of March-April when each pound of food will be matched by the Feinstein Foundation. The list is divided into food and nonfood items. Please feel free to include any practical item not on this list. Designated containers will be located in the narthex, hall adjacent to the church office, and the Preschool entrance. All items should be non-perishable. Our Food Drive begins Sunday, March 3 and lasts through Sunday, April 28. ALL ITEMS SHOULD BE BROUGHT TO THE CHURCH NO LATER THAN SUNDAY, APRIL 28. All food will be delivered to the Co-ops that day.

QUESTIONS? CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE. THANK YOU, YOU HAVE MADE A DIFFERENCE!

Food:

FLOUR	SUGAR	COFFEE
SOUP	CEREAL (dry & hot)	JELLY
PEANUT BUTTER	MILK (dry)	MILK (Parmalat)
TUNA	RICE	JELLO
VEGETABLES (canned)	GRITS (instant)	OATMEAL (instant)
DRIED BEANS	FRUIT (canned)	MEAT (canned)
MAC & CHEESE (boxed)	PASTA (canned)	CEREAL (no sugar)
SPAGHETTI SAUCE	ALFREDO SAUCE	PESTO SAUCE
PASTA-SPAGHETTI	MACARONI, FETTUCINI	JUICE (bottled)
JUICE (boxed)		

Personal Care:

TOOTHPASTE	SOAP (liquid & bar)	TOOTHBRUSH
SHAVING CREAM	RAZOR	DIAPERS
SHAMPOO	WIPES (baby)	WET ONES

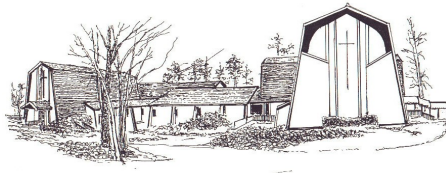
Household Items:

DETERGENT (laundry)	DETERGENT (dish)	TOILET PAPER
KLEENEX	PAPER TOWELS	

THE WITNESS IS
A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF

EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

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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 ~ 4 p.m. Thursday, February 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