

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

August 12, 2015

Faith Seeking Understanding

As Presbyterians we believe that being reformed in our theology also means that we are continually being reformed by God through our understanding of God's contemporary will for each of us. As Presbyterians being reformed is a part of who we are and natural; but, as humans we find 'being continually reformed' a very difficult concept to grasp. We just don't like change! The truth of the matter is that our faith is founded on following a Lord who calls his own to many and different places. His call is to service not comfort.

We will be exploring the reality of what it means to be "Following Jesus Today" over the six Wednesday evenings beginning September 9th. We will look at the challenges we face and the opportunities we will find. The first followers of Jesus learned how to follow Him from closely watching what he did and listening to what he said. Then they went out and tried to imitate him and receiving their strength through the power of the Holy Spirit. Maybe, just maybe, God's Spirit is moving in a fresh new way for us today. Maybe, just maybe, our journey is about to take on some new sounds and sights.

These six weeks will give us an opportunity to look at where we are individually and as a community of faith as we seek understanding as to what it means to follow Jesus today! For some it will be a time of confirmation that we are doing just what He calls us to do. For others it will be a time of exploring fresh and exciting steps along a new way.

This Sunday, August 16th, our New Testament study is from the 5th Chapter of Ephesians. One important point Paul makes there is that it is foolish to ignore the will of God for our lives. The Greek word used there is the plural form which implies we must be constant in our efforts to understand; "what the will of the Lord is".

Some of us may have never come to understand God's will for our lives, others maybe have some questions about that and still others may be bold enough to look at the possibility of a new journey following Jesus. If so, plan to be part of the Wednesday evening 'faithful' coming together seeking understanding of God's will for us today: right here and right now! If you are going to eat dinner don't forget to make reservations but otherwise plan to join us at 6:30 in the Adult Center.

Blessings,

Caleb



Thank you!

- ◇ Thank you for all your thoughts and prayers during my recent surgery and tests. Thank you for all the cards and meals, they were very much appreciated.
Susan Weimar
- ◇ I appreciate EPC's concerns after I cut my hand. Good care & prayer helped the healing & improved my tennis ball toss. Thanks for your prayers.
Thanks,
Al Stacer
- ◇ Thank you very much for the beautiful cards, caring thoughts and prayers, and most of all for your friendship and support during this difficult time. My Mom and Dad had been married 69 years and they passed away three weeks to the day of each other. I guess they could not stand to be apart, so now they're together once again. Thank you again and God bless you all.
Love,
Patti Staten
- ◇ Thanks to EPC for all the cards, phone calls and prayers following my foot surgery. Healing is going well and I'm doing fine.
Thank you all,
Lynn Stacer



September Birthdays

1	Catherine Dutton	5	Leigh Ann Ramos	13	Keith Bentley	23	Rebecca Hartle
	Jenny Hall Busch	6	Sam McCoy		Janey Burrell	24	David Burrell
	Courtney McCall		Jane Smith	17	Cynthia Heckman	25	Paula Parkinson
	James Willis	7	Mary Gobba		Anne Sorenson		Joshua Thomson
2	Blair Brown		Tim Meers	18	Karen Nielson	26	Hope Bentley
3	Ella Smith	8	Aaron Smith	19	Peggy McCurdy	27	Verle Mickish
	Hannah Wilborn	9	Andrew Meade	20	Rachael Abraham	28	Chris Petty
	Olivia Wilborn	11	Jackie Lamb		Kelly Frank	30	Peggy Meek
4	Mary Clarke		Abigail Hamburger	21	Frances Fleck		
5	Bob McWilliams		Jonathan Streich	22	Beth Brieske		



Join us!

Get ready for an "Evening in Italy" with a delicious Italian dinner and a Silent Auction for the Preschool! Special items will also be auctioned in a Live Auction. The date is Saturday, September 26, starting at 5:00 p.m. The money raised will go towards the playground and student scholarship fund. Please consider donating items for the auction or donating services. Tickets are \$12 for ages 12 and up, with childcare available for ages 11 and under. Tickets will be available for purchase at the Church Office, Preschool Office, or see Janet Uthlaut or Stacey Moura. For more information you may call the Preschool at 678-507-7584. Donations are greatly appreciated!



Warm welcoming greeters needed!

A new greeter rotation schedule is being made for September-December 2015 and January-May 2016. Please let Janice Wilmot know (gwilmot@comcast.net) if you want to continue to greet for the 11 a.m. service or would like to volunteer. Thank you!

Yoga-Balance & Stretching Class

The next round of classes started on Tuesday, August 11th and runs through September 22nd. Your first class is free and the series costs \$84.00. Classes are at 10:00 on Tuesday at Eastminster and if you miss a class you can make it up at Smokerise Baptist on Thursdays, also at 10:00. Come join several of your Eastminster friends as we stretch our way to healthier living.

Welcome to our newest member

Alberta Hunt

who joined Eastminster on
July 19!

Alberta, who goes by Bert, lives at Park Springs and has been visiting Eastminster for 5 years. Her husband Harry passed away in April 2015. He was 91 years young. He served in the military during WW II and was a prisoner of war. Bert is from New Jersey, and has lived in Hilton Head, SC and Florida before moving to Georgia. She has 4 children, 8 grandchildren, and 4 great-grandchildren with the recent birth of the first girl. In Berkley Heights, NJ she was president of a women's club and raised funds to purchase defibrillators for use in responding to heart attacks.





You are Invited to a "Diaper Shower"

Sunday, August 30 after Worship

Founders Hall

Light lunch served

New Meade Baby

Lydia will be a sister
She will be so glad!
Having a new playmate --
Whether lass or lad.

We've all been a-wonderin'
Which one will it be-
But whatever, with such parents,
A note of JOY,
Speaking musically!

They'll sure need diapers,
You'll all agree-
Come to our celebration
Of love for the family!

(Andrew is our Director of Music Ministries)

Reminder:



Summer is a busy time for many of us which includes vacations and Sundays away from Eastminster. Eastminster, like many churches, often experiences a drop in giving during the summer months, however all the expenses continue. So remember to keep your contributions current.

Caroline Thompson, Treasurer

Living Till We Die: A journey of faith practices



August 24th-27th
10:00am –12:30pm
Eastminster Presbyterian Church
5801 Hugh Howell Road
770469-4881 www.eastminster.us

You are invited to a free program for adults
10:00am to 12:30pm, August 24-27!

Living Till We Die will be an engaging four mornings of speakers, activities, singing, fellowship and lunch based on the excellent book
Practicing Our Faith: A Way of Life for a Searching People

By Dorothy Butler Bass

The program will run from 10:00 am to 12 noon.

An optional complimentary lunch will be from 12:00—12:30.

Registration (to make sure we plan for the numbers) can be made by calling Mardee Rightmyer at 770-469-4881 ext. 228

We truly hope you will come and bring a friend!



Upcoming C.E. News:

September 13th is the date all Sunday school classes will begin again. This seems late but it is the first Sunday after Labor Day. The entire church will be studying prayer –both from the aspect of personal prayer and as a church community. A detailed brochure will be available mid month.

December 6th is the date for the Christmas Pageant. This year, we need all ages to participate! No speaking or acting ability needed. The pageant will be presented in a series of tableaux so if you can hold a pose for a minute, you are qualified to be a star! There is also a need for helpers for costumes and sets to be restored and created during the fall months. Please let Mardee know if you are willing to participate or help ahead of time. You can do both!!



Welcome Back Potluck Picnic

Sunday September 13th

@ Lilburn Park in downtown Lilburn

4:00-6:00 p.m.

Bring a blanket / tailgate chair and a side dish to share. There will be games for the kids and a playground for monkeying around.

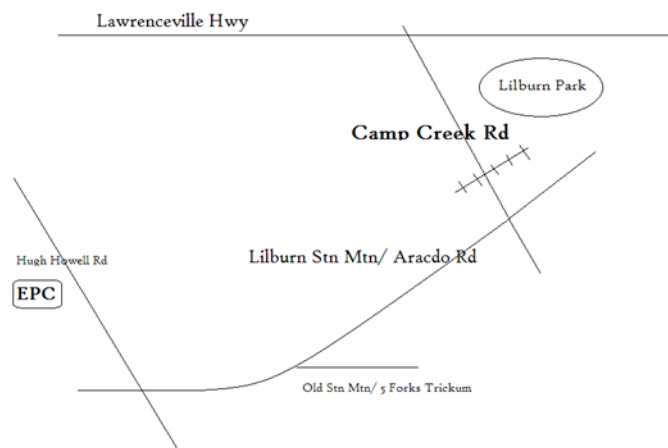
BBQ will be provided.

Sign Ups for side dishes (Last name alphabetical order):

A-G: *Desserts*

H-N: *Vegetables*

O-Z: *Starch*



Address: 78 Main St NW Lilburn, GA 30047 (Camp Creek becomes Main St.)

Time, Talent and Treasures

Hospitality

A minister shared a problem that had a happy ending.

An unusual set of circumstances impacted the funeral of an elderly church member. Well, not the funeral itself, but the luncheon afterwards. The problem? Absolutely no space! An educational program for children took up every inch of the facility, except for the sanctuary where the funeral was held.

A chance and unrelated conversation with the pastor of a neighboring church happily solved the problem. The other church was mostly empty during the week and would love to host the funeral luncheon.

It all worked out to perfection. The deceased's family was very pleased, and two churches that really didn't know each other had the chance to meet. Who knows where an experience of hospitality will take them?

Julian Wade

Chair, Ways and Means



Wanted!

Are you retired but still a little restless, wanting to do something useful? Do we have some volunteer opportunities for you! We need help answering phones, we need folks to send cards or call or visit those who cannot get to church, and we need folks to pray for our congregation and our community. You don't need a hammer or a degree in engineering or a degree in anything but Christian commitment. Please let Jeanne Simpson know if you can be a Senior in Service!



PW News

The Horizon Bible Study for the Presbyterian Women for 2015-16 is *Come to the Water* by Judy Record Fletcher. Books are available from Janet Uthlaut (checks payable to her please) for \$8.80. The study book is extremely well written by a minister from Texas with two of her long time minister friends that have been involved in PW for many years. It is very user friendly and covers subjects of Creation, Justice, Thirst and Longing, Forgiveness, and Hope. The study is positive and refreshing in the examination of stories involving water in the Bible with many references to how the Presbyterian Church is actively involved in positive faith actions.

Circle of Blessings meet the first Tuesday morning of each month beginning September 1 at 9:30 a.m. in the Adult Center. Susan Adle is the Bible Moderator and Marjory Crawford is the Circle Moderator.

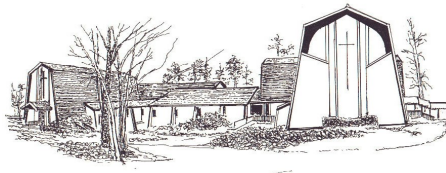
Evening Stars Circle meet the first Thursday evening of each month beginning September 4 at 7 p.m. in room 208A. Jeanne Simpson is the Bible Moderator and Janet Uthlaut is the Circle Moderator.

Please join us for fellowship and this wonderful Bible study. If you have any questions, please contact one of the Bible or Circle moderators.

THE WITNESS IS
A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF

EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

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



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. August 31
Sunday Bulletin ~ Wednesdays at 8:00 a.m.

Church Staff

Pastor ~ Rev. J. Caleb Clarke III
Pastor to the Senior Adult Ministries ~ Rev. Jeanne Simpson
Director of Mission and Youth ~ Mark Sauls
Director of Christian Education ~ Mardee Rightmyer
Director of Music Ministries ~ Andrew Meade
Director of School Age Program ~ Celeste Sears
Director of Preschool Program ~ Stacey Moura
Communications Coordinator ~ Paula McGill
Financial Coordinator ~ Jan Zabarc