

# 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

**October 14, 2015**

## STEWARDSHIP

*Every faculty you have, your power of thinking or of moving your limbs from moment to moment,  
is given you by God. If you devoted every moment of your whole life exclusively to His service,  
you could not give Him anything that was not in a sense His own already.*

— C. S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*

**What does stewardship look like in our lives today?** Unfortunately many Christians today only associate the idea of stewardship with sermons they have heard about church budgets and building programs. But there are four important principles about biblical stewardship we must understand:

**Who owns what?** The psalmist begins the 24<sup>th</sup> Psalm, “*the earth is the LORD’s, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it*”. This is the fundamental principle of biblical stewardship. God owns everything, we are simply managers or administrators acting on his behalf. Therefore, stewardship expresses our obedience regarding the administration of everything God has placed under our control, which is all encompassing. Stewardship is the commitment of one’s self and possessions to God’s service, recognizing that we do not have the right of control over our property or ourselves.

**Who is responsible?** Although God gives us “all things richly to enjoy,” nothing is ours. Nothing really belongs to us. God owns everything; we’re responsible for how we treat it and what we do with it. While we complain about our rights here on earth, the Bible constantly asks, What about your responsibilities? Owners have rights; stewards have responsibilities. We are called as God’s stewards to manage that which belongs to God. While God has graciously entrusted us with the care, development, and enjoyment of everything he owns as his stewards, we are responsible to manage his holdings well and according to his desires and purposes.

**Who is accountable?** A steward is one who manages the possessions of another. We are all stewards of the resources, abilities and opportunities that God has entrusted to our care, and one day each one of us will be called to give an account for how we have managed what the Master has given us. Like the servants in the Parable of the Talents, we will be called to give an account of how we have administered everything we have been given, including our time, money, abilities, information, wisdom, relationships, and authority. We will all give account to the rightful owner as to how well we managed the things he has entrusted to us.

**Where is the reward?** The Bible shows us in the parables of the Kingdom that faithful stewards who do the master’s will with the master’s resources can expect to be rewarded incompletely in this life, but fully in the next. As Christians in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, we need to embrace this larger biblical view of stewardship, which goes beyond church budgets or building projects, though important; it connects everything we do with what God is doing in the world. We need to be faithful stewards of all God has given us within the opportunities presented through his providence to glorify him, serve the common good and further his Kingdom.

(CONDENSED FROM AN ARTICLE “FOUR PRINCIPLES OF BIBLICAL STEWARDSHIP BY HUGH WHELCHER)

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## Congratulations to...

Andrew and Joy Meade on the birth of their son Elliott James born October 11. Proud big sister is Lydia.



## Ornament Workshop

The PW's first Christmas ornament workshop will be held on Monday, October 19 from 9:30 - noon in Room 323. Please plan to join us and bring your hot glue guns too! The high temp ones are best. Additional workshops (at least one evening one) will be held and announced later.



## November Birthdays

1 Shelley Lee	11 Vicki Watchulonis	18 Matt Adams	27 Stephen Gowland
2 Karen Hicks	14 Griffin Boven	Beverly Hutchinson	Steve Roberts
3 Marilyn Davino	Paige Lord	19 Kori Deal	28 Christa Davis
Lauren McManus	Pat Patterson	21 Joyce Chittick	Mattie Malloy
5 Denise Roberts	Patty Swift	22 Susan Adle	Brett Wilmot
Riley Weyher	15 Julian Wade	Patricia Baumann	29 Larry Thompson
6 Kay Bennett	16 Don Burrell	Ramona Warren	30 Patrick Robbins
8 Lawer Kisseih	Rachel Pendley	Hugh Weimar	
9 Ken McMillan	17 Bella Acosta	Jim Willis	
Lindsey Ramos	Mark Hartle	23 Tricia Swift	
10 Hannah Deal	Dumas Kisseih	26 Jimmy Meers	

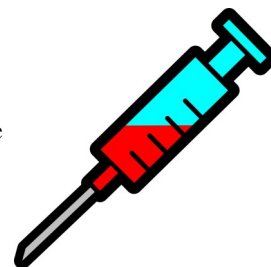
## Outreach Blood Drive - Sunday, October 25

The month of October is Mission Emphasis and Outreach. Make plans to join us Sunday, October 25, for our Fall Blood Drive, and renew your personal commitment and outreach through your "Gift of Life". Jesus, in the book of Matthew, said to his disciples, "The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few". Come and let us all give our "Fall Harvest" which is both free to give and so greatly needed. Help us reach our goal of 20+ units of donated blood.

The LifeSouth Van will be here Sunday, October 25, from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. 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 of age, weigh a minimum of 110 pounds, and have a picture ID.

Be a part of this very special ministry of EPC. Come Donate Blood - knowing that your generosity will save many lives.

The Outreach Committee



### The Power of a Simple Gift

It's that time of year again when we begin a Christmas outreach which is completed before Thanksgiving. Operation Christmas Child, a ministry of Franklin Graham's Samaritan's Purse, sends shoebox sized boxes (available in narthex) to children in 112 countries. Boxes are sent to boys or girls, with 3 age category choices. Include \$7 for shipping. Bring back to EPC by Sunday, November 22. Large collection boxes will be in narthex, Founders Hall and elevator hallway. More info call Mary Bentley 770-853-0378.



### Karen Nielson's recipe for Company Coming Pie

3 egg whites  
1/2 tsp. cream of tartar  
1 c. sugar  
18 soda crackers rolled fine  
1 c. chopped pecans  
1 tsp. vanilla extract  
1/2 pint whipping cream  
4-5 tablespoons preserves (I use strawberry)  
Grated coconut

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Beat egg whites until foamy. Add cream of tartar and beat until stiff. Add sugar gradually as you beat. Fold in crackers. Add pecans. Add vanilla. Put into greased pie pan and bake for 35 min. Cool well. Beat whipping cream until stiff. Fold in preserves to taste. Sprinkle with coconut. Refrigerate until used.

## Mission Opportunity Update at Mission Haven

**WE HAVE BIKES!** Thank you to all of the Mustard Seeds who helped our Mission Haven Team acquire the bikes we needed for our missionary teenagers. You were wonderful! The teenagers have started arriving and are so excited as they pick out their bikes. Also a big thank you to Fred Boykin at Bicycle South for helping us refurbish the bikes. It is true a few can do a lot.



**“WEAR IT FIRST” HALLOWEEN  
COSTUME CARNIVAL**

**SATURDAY, OCT. 24, 2-4  
EASTMINSTER GYMNASIUM  
PRESCHOOL AND ELEMENTARY AGES**



**FUN GAMES AND PRIZES  
MINI-PUMPKIN DECORATING  
FACE PAINTING**

**ADMISSION 1 CAN OF FOOD,  
1 BAG OF CANDY FOR CO-OPS**



**Helping Hands Needed for Fall Carnival**

All are invited to attend and bring your elementary and preschool age children, grandchildren, neighbors. Smiles and games will be abundant. Also needed are lots of volunteers to help make this happen! Please save the date and contact Janice Wilmot to volunteer, [gwilmot@comcast.net](mailto:gwilmot@comcast.net). Thank you!



## Mark your calendar for December 13 - Caring Tree



The Spirit of Christmas is evident at Eastminster, and this ministry needs lots of helping hands before December 13<sup>th</sup>. The Caring tree with cards of requested gifts for families and nursing home residents will be placed in the Narthex and Founders Hall. Volunteers can help by setting up and preparing the ornaments with names and requested gifts. If you want to assist in shopping for gifts, volunteers are needed. Taking a card and preparing the gifts requires an abundance of volunteers. Cards will be placed on the trees November 11<sup>th</sup>. Financial donations can be made to the Caring Tree fund. Caring Tree Sunday requires setting up the gym with tables, organizing the gifts and filling bags, wrapping additional items, delivering gifts. Many hands make light work! A lunch is prepared by volunteers for volunteers, so come join the joy and be a part of this long term ministry.

**Want to be part of the activities? Sign up by November 1st!**

Speak to or contact Linda Redman at [lindaredman@bellsouth.net](mailto:lindaredman@bellsouth.net) or any member of this Outreach project committee (Chapmans, Sally McMillan, Counts, Howards, Bill Hutchinson, Carmichaels, Adles, Barbara Hinkle, Beth Heckman, Kelly Gunter, and Mark Sauls). They will pass on your name and contact information to Linda so you can be part of this picture!



## CONCERT: Samantha Burke and Maryna Kysla

Sunday, November 15 @ 3:00 pm

Presented by *The Atlanta Concert Series*, this event will feature our own wonderful soprano, Samantha Burke, as well as the talented young Ukrainian pianist, Maryna Kysla. Ms. Burke and Ms. Kysla will share a program of vocal music and works for solo piano. Please mark the date on your calendars and invite someone to join you for this great afternoon of music! More information about *The Atlanta Concert Series* and its artists can be found online at: [theatlantaconcertseries.org](http://theatlantaconcertseries.org)

## Welcome to our newest member!

On September 13, 2015, the Session of Eastminster Presbyterian Church welcomed Samantha Burke into membership. She is currently the Soprano section leader and soloist in the choir. She has an impressive musical background and is a recent graduate of Bard College where she studied classical voice with New York Times acclaimed tenor, Rufus Muller, and violin with American Symphony Concertmaster, Erica Kiesewetter.

Samantha has received many awards and scholarships. She was recently accepted as 1 of 8 singers to participate in Michigan's Bay Music Festival's Negro Spirituals Intensive. She is a private voice, violin, viola, and piano teacher for Gwinnett School of Music and Arts.

She is the founder and director of the Atlanta Concert Series which seeks to promote young artists' involvement in the Atlanta community through a series of performances in the Fall and Spring. You can enjoy one of these concerts in our sanctuary on November 15<sup>th</sup>! Check out her website: [theatlantaconcertseries.org](http://theatlantaconcertseries.org)



Introduce yourself to Samantha and get to know this very talented woman.



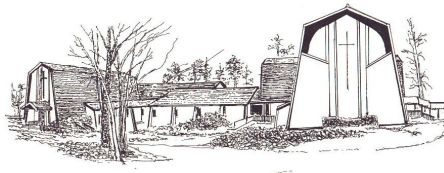
## Thank you!

- ◆ Thanks be to God for Eastminster, my church home, who surrounded Joe and me with love, kindness, generosity and the gift of time. During the three months of constant hospitalization you were there keeping Joe alive long enough to say good-byes and make amends. Joe was overwhelmed emotionally by your love. My deepest thanks to Rueleen Kapsch, Ginny Matthews, Pat Bauman and Caleb who were with us during the darkest of days and nights. Each one of you who prayed, the prayers were answered each time. Thank you to the deacons and other members who made the reception after the funeral service so special. I gained strength from all of you.  
Bonnie Evans
- ◆ The "Evening in Italy" dinner and auction was a GREAT success for the preschool! Thank you so much to all the church family members who volunteered their time to help in making donations, preparing and serving food, and setting up for the auction. Thanks to Mr. Rick Adle for being our MC for the Live Auction. A BIG thank you goes to Ms. Mardee Rightmyer for running the childcare downstairs during the event, as well as a big thanks to the preschool teachers and assistants for organizing and creating beautiful crafts, artwork, and gift baskets. The preschool could not have done any of this without the tireless efforts of Mrs. Janet Uthlaut and Mr. Scott Uthlaut. It was truly a wonderful evening and the preschool thanks you all very much!  
Stacey Moura

THE WITNESS IS  
A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF

EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

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

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**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