

The Erin Spirit

Erin Presbyterian Church (USA)

"Serving the Community on the
same site since 1860."

JANUARY 2016



For in the one spirit
we were all baptized
into one body.

1 Corinthians 12:13



Pastor's Pen.....

The Past, The Future and The Present

Recently I saw a sign that said "Don't look back, you're not going that way." There was a part of me that was inwardly nodding to myself. It's true. Don't live in the past, people say. I see people rolling their eyes when people are

quick to talk about the "good old days." I can feel that frustration too, at times. At the same time, there is value in looking back. After all, when we're driving to a destination, we simply can not get to where we are going if we don't look back at times. There is value in looking at what is behind. What is behind us informs what is now. The truth is jarring: *we are not ever going back to where we were before* and we should not be too quick to romanticize it. It's human nature to remember the good parts of the past and overlook the struggle. (If you think I'm kidding, ask a mother who has just given birth if she'd like to do it again. Ask her the same question a couple of years later.)

Just as we should not be too quick to romanticize the days that are behind us, neither should we spend too much time dreaming about the future. I confess that this is where I struggle. My personality type lends itself to daydreaming and optimism. I love to think about the future, and I love to talk about it and building it. It's not all bad. Dreaming about the future helps us set goals and achieve new things. There is another jarring truth: we don't know what the future holds.

Let us enjoy this present moment, careful to respect the lessons and memories of the past and the dreams and hopes of the future. There is a beautiful progression in the book of Hebrews, chapters 11 and 12. Chapter 11 is a chapter that I've heard called "The Hall of Fame of

Faith." In it, the author of Hebrews lays out the faithful things done by many. The author writes "by faith Abraham... by faith Noah... by faith Moses, by faith the people..." After listing these many deeds, the author writes "Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith." What a great model of letting the past inform the future!

Even so, it's important to remember that the choice is not between the past and the future. We live in the present moment. Let us enjoy this present moment, careful to respect the lessons and memories of the past and the dreams and hopes of the future, careful not to glorify what is behind nor spend too much time daydreaming (or worrying!) about that which may or may not come.

This is the day the LORD has made! We will rejoice and be glad in it.

Grace and gratitude,
Nancy

Upcoming Sermons

- Jan. 10– Gospel Medicine
- Jan. 17-Three Ingredients for a Healthy New Year: Happiness
- Jan 24-Three Ingredients for a Healthy New Year: Hope
- Jan. 31-Three Ingredients for a Healthy New Year: Faith

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

From the church office:

- The DEADLINE for the **February 2016** Erin Spirit is Mon., January 18. Please, be sure to have your info to the church office by 1 p.m. if you want it in the February Erin Spirit.
- Any committee or person needing something put into the Sunday Spirit, I ask that you have it into the church office by 1 p.m. on Tuesday of the week you would like it put in.
- Any group or committee needing to use the lit up portable sign for event(s) advertising, please see Dorothy to schedule needed dates on the church calendar. It is the responsibility of the group using the sign to put up the message they want and to take the letters down and put them back when they are finished.
- **Committee Chairs & Boards:** Annual Reports need to be EMAILED to the office by Fri, Jan. 15, 2016. If not received by that date they will not be included in the report for review by the congregation prior to the Annual Meeting of the Congregation.

CALL OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION JANUARY 31, 2016

Pursuant to the by-laws and the Book of Order, the Annual Meeting of the Congregation is hereby called for Sunday, January 31, 2016 immediately following the worship service for the purpose of receiving the Annual Report, and for conducting other such business as may properly come before the congregation.

-Jean Jaworski, Clerk of Session

Committee Meetings for January

- **Presbyterian Men** is a committee that is open to all Men of the congregation, young and old. This is a wonderful opportunity to fellowship with other Christian men. We will meet for breakfast on Saturday, January 9th at 9 am with a meeting to follow. We will be making plans for the new year, including planning for the Chili Cook-Off in February, so please plan on attending this event. Come out and take part in this fellowship event of Christian men.
- **Evangelism will be** meeting Saturday, 1/9/16 at 10:30 am in MacDonald Hall
- **Property & Finance** will meet Wednesday, 1/13/16 at 7 pm in Pastor's study.
- **Session** will meet the 4th Wednesday, 1/27/16 at 7 p.m. in MacDonald Hall.

The new slate of officers and Committee Chairs, along with the Church Nominating Committee and Memorial and Endowment Committee will be listed in the February 2016 Newsletter.

We would like to thank the out-going church officers for their time and efforts they committed to serving Erin.

Dave Marshall, Elder
Kevin Smith, Elder
Priscilla Smith, Deacon

Please keep in mind that every year brings changes and new opportunities. If you find that your situation allows you some extra time to participate a little more we are always in need of volunteers in the following areas:

Please contact the committee in parentheses after the duty.
Ushers Sound Tech Worship Leader (Chancel committee)
Being on a offering counting team (Treasurer)
Coffee Hour hosting Greeting (Evangelism committee)
Maintaining message on bricked Gratiot Sign Board (office) this takes a team of 2 people.

Roseville Community Schools sponsors Gleaner's Mobile Food Bank at Erin Church in the parking lot on rolling Mondays of the month. If you are able to help distribute the food (it usually takes an hour to an hour and a half of your time) please come to the church around 12:15/12:30 on Monday, January 11th.

EVENTS for JANUARY

Fourth Friday Feast

Please join us and invite your family, friends and co-workers.
FRIDAY, January 22, 2016 5:00 pm – 8:00 p.m.
cost: \$10.00 per dinner (includes: baked or fried fish, fries, Cole slaw, roll & butter, & dessert!!) Held in Knox Fellowship Hall.
50/50 Raffle Basket Auction
Donations of desserts are appreciated. If you are able to do a dessert please contact Carla Harrison.

LOOKING forward to FEBRUARY.....

Men of Erin are sponsoring a Soup/Chili Cook-Off & Game Night

*Saturday, February 10, 2016 4:30 to ?
\$5 at the door (12 and under free)*

If you have a favorite game(s) bring them with you!

There will be a 50/50 Raffle and Basket Auction
1st, 2nd, and 3rd prize will be awarded to the best soup or Chili recipe entered!

Please use the available sign up sheet beginning January 10th to let us know if you will be entering a recipe in the cook off or just joining us for the tasting and the fellowship.

Financials to Date

A note from the Administration, Property & Finance Committee...Below is our financial position for the months of January through November 2015:

Cash Receipts

<i>Total offerings</i>	\$ 59,502.02
<i>Fundraisers</i>	5,446.22
<i>Church use & interest income</i>	17,392.72
<i>Total Income</i>	\$ 82,340.96

Cash Expenditures

<i>Staff Salaries</i>	\$ 29,740.76
<i>Building/operational expenses</i>	33,329.24
<i>Committee expenses</i>	12,141.62
<i>Total Expense</i>	\$ 75, 211.62

Net Operating Total (favorable) \$ 7,129.34

Total income through November 2014 was \$80,641.69 compared to \$82,340.96 for this year, thus our income has increased over last year by \$1,699.27. Expenses through November 2014 were \$90,116.42 while this year our expenses have dropped to \$75,211.62, a reduction of \$14,904.80 in spending. Last year at this time our expenses exceeded our income by \$9,474.73, this year we have improved to a favorable position with income exceeding expenses by \$7,129.34. Offerings received for the month of November averaged \$1,540.00, up from October which averaged \$921.00 per Sunday. Our investments recorded a net gain of \$5.99 during November and now total \$4,977.10 for the month, up from the December 31, 2014 balance of \$4,938.40.

Thank you,
Administration, Property & Finance Committee

2016 Offering envelopes are available for you to pick up at the church. Please take the box with your name on it. Some members have been assigned a new envelope number.

Per Capita amount (per member, not family) for 2016 is: \$25.04

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

As of December 9th, we have received 36 pledges totaling \$49,175.00, which is behind our last year campaign total by \$4,600.00.

Thank you to everyone who has already turned in your 2016 pledge. For those who haven't turned in your pledge, it's never too late. Please pray on what your financial commitment supporting Erin's ministry can be and complete your pledge card, enclose in an envelope addressed to the Treasurer, and drop it in the offering plate on any Sunday. Pledge cards are available in the church office if you have misplaced yours or in the reception area of the church.

ERIN FAMILY UPDATES

We want to take the opportunity and would be pleased to join you in praying for specific needs. If you are at worship please fill out the prayer request card and turn over to Pastor, put in offering plate, or call the church office and let Dorothy know the name of the person you would like us to pray for.

Temporary Concerns:

Andrew Allor
LaRue Berkley
Ramona Hoggarth
Paul Hughes
Dave Jaworski
Nick Klave
Connie Kline
Sandy McMullen
Allie Miller
Diane Miller
Kathy Parker
Cheryl Preimer
Larry Stefani
Sandy Van
Shirley Waters
Robert Weidenbach
Beth Whitler
Irene Wingate
June Zydek

Long Term Concerns:

Frank Allor
Kevin Atcho
Terra Brozik
Butler Family
Blanche Dunn
Vi Ferguson
Heather Welch Gleason
Grace Graebert
Dale Harrison
John Harrison
Cindy Hogman
Kelly Keller
Sandy Maley
Chuck Marshfield
JoAnn Moore
Anthony Nowaczewski
Debbie Palutis
Dick Radatz
Alton Rausch
Linda Wright



Pray for US Military especially:

127th Wing Air National Guard
from Selfridge Air Base
Cody, USMC
Aubrie, USMC
Dan Heaton, USAF Reserves
Gary Rojas, US Army
Rivan Frazee, USAF
Timothy Harrison, USMC



*Deepest sympathy & prayers to
Jean Jaworski and Priscilla Smith.
Both of these lovely ladies suffered
the loss of a dear sister in
December.*

*Our prayers, love and deepest
sympathy go out to Pam Spinella and her family on
the passing of Helen Stewart, Pam's mother and a
44 year member of Erin church.*

*Helen entered the Church Triumphant on
December 13, 2015*

*Our prayers, love and deepest sympathy go out to
Ramona (Vicks) Hoggarth and family on the passing
of Joe Hoggarth, Ramona's husband and a dear
friend to the Erin family.*

*Joe entered the Church Triumphant on
December 23, 2015*



*Our Dear Erin Family:
Thank you so much for your
prayers, your cards, and your kind
words of encouragement over
these last difficult weeks. Your
support has really helped us
through my sister's passing and David's surgery
and recovery.. Erin may be small in number but
Erin is huge in love.*

Love, David & Jean Jaworski

Happy JANUARY Birthday to our Erin family & friends:

6 Kevin Smith



11 Daniel Getz

23 Dave Mansfield



Communion Sunday January 3, 2016

Deacon preparation: Carol Weidenbach & Martin Kirkindall

Elder clean-up: Jean Jaworski & Volunteer Needed

Mission for the Months of January & February

Helping Hands Covenant (Joining hearts & hands)

An emergency assistance fund for Presbyterian churches to use in crises situations for members and friends.

GREETERS  SCHEDULE

- 3 Dave & Karen Marshall
- 10 Gary & Kelly Morris
- 17 Carol Weidenbach
- 24 Sue Le Fevre & Carol Eickhoff
- 31 Joyce Lawrence & Ilene Morris

Sunday Worship Leader



- 3 Kelly Morris
- 10 Kevin Smith
- 17 Kelly Morris
- 24 Kevin Smith
- 31 Kelly Morris

USHER TEAM SCHEDULE



- 3 Team 5, Sue Le Fevre & volunteer needed
- 10 Team 1, Ruth Harris & volunteer needed
- 17 Team 2, Carla Harrison & volunteer needed
- 24 Team 3, Tom Pietrzak & Dave Marshall
- 31 Team 4, Men of Erin



Deacon of the Day

There are two new members to the Deacon Board so on the 3rd and the 24th two Deacons are scheduled so that a current Deacon can do a Sunday Deacon of the Day walk through of duties with a new Deacon.

- 3 *Carol Weidenbach & Gary Morris*
- 10 Volunteer needed
- 17 Martin Kirkindall
- 24 *Margaret Kirkindall & Edgar Kirkindall*
- 31 Volunteer needed

Jan. 3 -Team 2

Sandra Rogers
Dave Marshall

Jan. 10 -Team 3

Terry Bossick
Dave Jaworski

Jan. 17 -Team 1

June Frazee
Tom Pietrzak



Jan. 24 -Team 2

Sandra Rogers
Dave Marshall

Jan. 31 -Team 3

Terry Bossick
Dave Jaworski

- 3 Kevin Smith
- 10 Roger Harrison
- 17 Kevin Smith
- 24 Roger Harrison
- 31 Kevin Smith





If you are interested in helping run the sound during worship please talk to Kevin or Roger.



- 3 Sue Le Fevre & Carol Eickhoff
- 10 Carol & Nancy Weidenbach
- 17 Roger & Carla Harrison
- 24 Neil & Virginia Latham
- 31 volunteers needed

JANUARY 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Notes: _____ _____ _____ _____ _____				Dec. 31 New Year's Eve Office Closed	1 	2
3 Ephiphany  8:30-WTTC in Chapel 9:30-CCC-B Bible study in MacDonald 10:30-Erin Worship & communion 11-CCC-B in chapel 11:30-Coffee Hour: S. LeFevre & C. Eickhoff 12:30-NLCOGIC in sanctuary 4-WTCC in Chapel	4	5 7 NLCOGIC in Chapel 7:30—Scottish dancers in MacDonald	6 6:30 to 8 CCC-B in Chapel	7 6 - 8 pm WTCC in Chapel	8	9 9-Men of Erin breakfast & meeting 10:30 Evangelism meeting
10 8:30-WTTC in Chapel 9:30-CCC-B Bible study in MacDonald 10:30-Erin Worship in Sanctuary 11-CCC-B in chapel 11:30-Coffee Hour: Carol & Nancy Weidenbach 12:30-NLCOGIC sanctuary 4-WTCC in Chapel	11 12 to 2 pm Gleaner's Mobile Food Bank in Erin Parking lot	12 7 NLCOGIC in Chapel 7:30—Scottish Dancers in MacDonald	13 6:30 to 8 CCC-B in Chapel 7- Property & Finance in Pastor's study	14 6 - 8 pm WTCC in Chapel	15 Annual Reports Deadline	16
17 8:30-WTTC in Chapel 9:30-CCC-B Bible study in MacDonald 10:30-Erin Worship in Sanctuary 11-CCC-B in chapel 11:30-Coffee Hour: The Harrisons in Knox 12:30-NLCOGIC sanctuary 4-WTCC in Chapel	18 Information for the February Erin Spirit deadline	19 7 NLCOGIC in Chapel 7:30—Scottish Dancers in MacDonald	20 6:30 to 8 CCC-B in Chapel	21 6 - 8 pm WTCC in Chapel	22 5 to 8 pm Fourth Friday Feast	23
24 8:30-WTTC in Chapel 9:30-CCC-B Bible study in MacDonald 10:30-Erin Worship in Sanctuary 11-CCC-B in chapel 11:30-Coffee Hour: Neil & Virginia Latham in Knox 12:30-NLCOGIC sanctuary 4-WTCC in Chapel	25	26 7 NLCOGIC in Chapel 7:30—Scottish Dancers in MacDonald	27 6:30 to 8 CCC-B in Chapel 7-Session Mtg. in MacDonald Hall	28 6 - 8 pm WTCC in Chapel	29	30
31 8:30-WTTC in Chapel 9:30-CCC-B Bible study in MacDonald 10:30-Erin Worship in Sanctuary 11-CCC-B in chapel 11:30-Coffee Hour: Volunteers needed in Knox 12:30-NLCOGIC sanctuary 4-WTCC in Chapel Annual Meeting of Erin Congregation	Feb. 1	2 7 NLCOGIC in Chapel 7:30—Scottish Dancers in MacDonald	3 6:30 to 8 CCC-B in Chapel	4 6 - 8 pm WTCC in Chapel	5	6

The Deacons of Erin Church perform the ministries of service and compassion. Please contact its Members if you have or see a spiritual and/or physical need.

Slate of new Board of Deacon members will be given in February Spirit once ordained and installed.

The Session of Erin Church sets our vision and has authority over the entire ministry. Please contact its members with your questions, comments, and or ideas.

Slate of new Session members will be given in February Spirit once ordained and installed.

Rev. Dr. Roxie Davis, Moderator
Nancy D. Bass, Pastor
Jean Jaworski, Clerk of Session

Erin Presbyterian Church (USA)

30000 Gratiot Avenue
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Nancy D. Bass, Pastor

Worship with us Sundays at 10:30 a.m.

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Office is open Monday thru Thursday 9 am to 1 pm
Pastor Email: pastor@erinchurch.org

We're on the Web!
www.erinchurch.org

