

The Erin Spirit

Erin Presbyterian Church (USA)

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

OCTOBER 2015



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

1 Corinthians 12:13



Pastor's Pen.....

Ministry 101 Some Reflections On "It Could be Worse..."

I often hear people who are suffering or struggling say some variation of "it could be worse." We say it to ourselves:

I shouldn't complain, at least I don't have (some illness worse than the one

we're discussing). My problems are small compared to all of the suffering in the world. At least my child is not (the victim of some horrible fate). I shouldn't talk about (whatever issue she is having). Even worse we say it (or some variation) to, or about other people.

Hey, at least you have your health, right? I can't believe she's all worked up about (whatever the person is worked up about). Seriously. What's the big deal? Some people have real problems. In my opinion, there are a few fundamental problems with this type of talk. For one, people have different levels of sensitivity to pain in the world. What's a big deal to one person isn't challenging at all to another; and it's impossible for us to know everything behind a person's story of suffering. We hear someone getting riled up about something that seems like no big deal to us, but we don't know the deeper trauma underneath it all. Often, the real thing the person is upset about is something he or she isn't willing to reveal to us.

Human beings are infinitely more complex than the circumstances we hear about. When we tell someone that it "could be worse" (even if we don't use those words) we're not listening. We're not showing compassion. It doesn't matter if you're a parent, pastor, teacher or friend. Telling someone who needs your compassion that their problems could be worse, is a quick way to get people to stop confiding

in you. Saying "it could be worse" is a very quick way to shut down a conversation, and the best listeners and helpers always want to know more.

Another problem with "it could be worse" is that sometimes it does get worse. If we spend our lives saying, "At least I didn't suffer (unimaginably difficult fate)" and then that thing happens...then what? It's not a competition. There are no suffering Olympics, no grand prize for living through the most painful thing.

There's an easy adjustment and course correction to "it could be worse" and its many variations) and that course correction is simple: gratitude.

When we are saying "it could be worse," the value we're trying to tap in to is **gratitude**. So instead of "at least I'm not suffering from x, y, or z" we can shift our focus to gratitude:

Even though I'm sick, I'm so thankful for the network of support I have.

This tough time is teaching me something valuable, and I'm thankful for that.

I'm thankful for clean air to breathe and my warmth in my house.

If we're listening to someone who says "it could be worse" about their own situation, we might consider doing two things: Validate both the sentiment that things could be worse, but also that their circumstances are valid "True, It could be worse, but it sounds like x is really affecting you. It's ok to feel that way." We might find ways to help bring gratitude in to the conversation.

Gratitude is one of the most powerful spiritual practices we can develop, it's good for our physical health, our emotional health and our relationships. Rather than focusing on the negative "it could be worse," make the subtle shift to the positive "I'm thankful because..." and see what you think.

Grace and gratitude, Pastor Nancy

INSIDE

- Financial Page
- For Your Information
- Monthly Calendar
- Prayer Needs
- Puzzle Page
- Sunday Leadership Schedule

For Your Information...

Session Committees for 2015

Administration

Property & Finance

Dave Marshall, Chair
 B. Nowaczewski, Treasurer
 Ruth Harris
 Roger Harrison
 Dave Jaworski
 Tom Pietrzak
 Jim Pinello

Evangelism

Mission & Outreach

Tom Pietrzak, Chair
 Edna Bassett
 Joyce Lawrence
 Ramona Hoggarth
 Carol Weidenbach
 Nancy Weidenbach

Chancel

Kevin Smith, Chair

Fundraising

Roger Harrison, Chair
 Carla Harrison

Christian Education

Jean Jaworski, Chair

Church Officer Nominating

Dave Marshall, Co-chair
 Jean Jaworski, Co-Chair
 Margaret Kirkindall, Deacon
 Congregation Members:
 Betty Ireland
 Edgar Kirkindall
 Kelly Morris
 Bob Nowaczewski

Kitchen

Margaret Kirkindall, Chair
 Carla Harrison
 Sue Le Fevre
 Ruby Scalf

Memorial & Endowment Committee

Dave Marshall, Moderator
 Nancy Bass, Pastor
 Bob Nowaczewski, Treasurer
 Jean Jaworski, Secretary
 Roger Harrison, Elder Rep.



Committee Meetings for October

- **Men of Erin** will meet for breakfast & a short meeting Saturday, 10/10/15 at 9 a.m. in Knox Hall
- **Evangelism** meeting Saturday, 10/10/15 at 10:30 a.m. in Knox Hall
- **Property & Finance** will meet Wednesday, 10/14/15 at 7 p.m. in Pastor's study.
- **Session** will meet Wednesday, 10/21/15 at 7 p.m. in MacDonald Hall

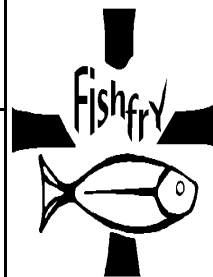


- The **DEADLINE** for the **NOVEMBER 2015 Erin Spirit** is Mon., October 19th. Please, be sure to have your info to the church office by 1 p.m. if you want it in the October Erin Spirit.
- Any committee or person needing something put into the Sunday Spirit, I ask that you have it into the church office 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.

Open to all men of the congregation, young and old, this is a wonderful opportunity to

Presbyterian Men

We will meet at the Church on Saturday, October 10th at 9 a.m. for breakfast and a short meeting. Afterwards, we will be setting up for the annual Soup & Chili Cook-off. Every man of the church is encouraged and expected to come out for this event featuring a great breakfast and wonderful fellowship with other men.



Fourth Friday Feast

Please join us and invite your family, friends and co-workers.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2015
5:00 pm - 8:00 p.m.

cost: \$10.00 per dinner (includes: baked or fried fish, fries, Cole slaw, roll & butter, & dessert!!)

50/50 RAFFLE and BASKET AUCTION



Soup/Chili Cook-Off Game Night
Saturday, October 10, 2015 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 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.

Finances

A note from the Admin./Property & Finance Committee...Below is our financial position for the months of January through August 2015:

Cash Receipts

Total offerings	\$ 43,745.45
Fundraisers	4,444.56
Church use & interest income	<u>13,390.41</u>
Total Income	\$ 61,580.42

Cash Expenditures

Staff Salaries	\$ 21,382.24
Building/operational expenses	22,058.91
Committee expenses	<u>8,261.62</u>
Total Expense	\$ 51,702.77

Net Operating Total (favorable) \$ 9,877.65

Total income through August 2014 was \$59,453.70 compared to \$61,580.42 for this year, so our income has increased by \$2,126.72. Expenses through August 2014 were \$67,800.58 while this year our expenses have dropped to \$51,702.77, a reduction of \$16,097.81 in spending. Last year at this time our expenses exceeded our income by \$8,346.88, this year we have improved to a favorable position with income exceeding expenses by \$9,877.65. Offerings received for the month of August increased to an average of \$1,389.93 per week, up from July which averaged \$862.00. Our investments recorded a net loss of \$110.86 during August and now total \$4,941.73 for the month, up from the December 31, 2014 balance of \$4,938.40.

Thank you,
 Administration, Property & Finance Committee

OUTREACH to COMMUNITY & ERIN FAMILY...



Roseville Community Schools sponsors **Gleaner's Mobile Food Bank** at Erin Church in the parking lot every first

Monday of the month. If you are able to help distribute the food please come to the church around 12:15/12:30 on Monday, October 5th .



Temporary Concerns:

Jeremy Bass, Pastor
Nancy's son
Paul Hughes
Nick Klave
Connie Kline
John Le Sage
Karen Marshall
Sandy McMullen
Allie Miller
Diane Miller
Don Morgan, Vice
Moderator POD
Kathy Parker
Richard & Paulette
Rogers
Sandra Rogers
Gail Scheffer
Al Spinella
Larry Stefani
Sandy Van
Beth Whitler

Long Term Concerns:

Frank Allor
Kevin Atcho
Terra Brozik
Butler Family
Vi Ferguson
Heather Welch
Gleason
Grace Graebert
Dale Harrison
John Harrison
Joe Hoggarth
Cindy Hogman
Kelly Keller
Sandy Maley
Sally Marks
JoAnn Moore
Debbie Palutis
Dick Radatz
Alton Rausch
Pauline Rush
Helen Stewart
Linda Wright
Chuck & Linda

Pray for US Military...especially:



- 127th Wing Air National Guard from Selfridge, deployed overseas.
- Dan Heaton, USAF Reserves, stateside
- Gary Rojos, US Army, stateside
- Rivan Frazee, USAF, stateside
- Timothy Harrison, USMC, Afghanistan

Dear Erin Family and friends,

Thank you for your thoughts, prayers and kindness during this difficult time we are going through as we grieve the loss of our dear sister, Nancy Van Rosenberg.

Love, Ruth Ann Harris & David Van Rosenberg



Dear Erin friends:

We wish to extend our sincere thanks to all of the people from Erin Church. The kind words of sympathy, cards and all of the prayers were deeply appreciated. Thank you to those who worked so hard to help with our Mom's Memorial Service and Luncheon.

Love, The daughters of Gloria Rutkowski
Kim, Pam, Linda, Gena and Jane



We extend our deepest sympathy
And our heartfelt prayers to the
family of
Everett Martin

Everett entered the Church Triumphant on
September 24, 2015.

He will be missed by all of us at Erin.

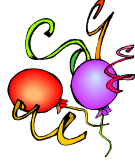


The Kirkindall's had a lovely phone conversation with Elizabeth MacDonald the other day and she asked them to please extend her fondest thoughts and well wishes to all of the people at Erin Church. She continues to hold Erin Church in her heart and in her prayers! Elizabeth is the widow of Erin's Pastor Emeritus, Rev. Joe MacDonald.

Erin sends you our best wishes & prayers Elizabeth. You are always lovingly remembered!

Happy **OCTOBER** Birthday to our Erin family & friends:

- 12 Hope Rodkey
- 15 Alan Bradbury
- 26 Sandra Hurst
- 28 Kristine Morris
- 29 Martha Kussner



Happy **OCTOBER** Anniversary to our Erin family & friends:



- 27 Tim & Lynn Siegel

Mission for the Month of October

Deacon's Food Pantry

Food for the needy, can be used in an emergency situation. Provides baskets at Thanksgiving and Christmas to local families in need.

Minute for Stewardship Speakers

- Oct. 4 Dave Marshall
- 11 Jean Jaworski
- 18 Edgar Kirkindall
- 25
- Nov. 1 Dorothy Pietrzak



Communion Sunday October 4, 2015
Deacon preparation: Martin Kirkindall
Elder clean-up: Kemin Smith & Ruth Harris

GREETERS  SCHEDULE

- 4 Edgar & Margaret Kirkindall
- 11 Dave & Karen Marshall
- 18 Gary & Kelly Morris
- 25 Carol Weidenbach

Sunday Worship Leader



- 4 Kelly Morris
- 11 Dorothy Pietrzak
- 18 Kevin Smith
- 25 Dorothy Pietrzak

Oct. 4-Team 3
Terry Bossick
Dave Jaworski

Oct. 11 -Team 1
June Frazee
Tom Pietrzak



Oct. 18 -Team 2
Sandra Rogers
Dave Marshall

OFFERING COUNTERS

Oct. 25 -Team 3
Terry Bossick
Dave Jaworski

USHER TEAM

- 4 Team 2, Carla Harrison & volunteer needed
- 11 Team 3, the Pietrzaks
- 18 Team 4, Men of Erin
- 25 Team 5, S Le Fevre & volunteer needed



Deacon of the Day

- 4 Priscilla Smith
- 11 Carol Weidenbach
- 18 Carol Eickhoff
- 25 Priscilla Smith

- 4 Roger Harrison
- 11 Kevin Smith
- 18 Roger Harrison
- 25 Kevin Smith



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


- 4 The Kirkindalls
- 11 Roger & Carla Harrison
- 18 Carol & Nancy Weidenbach
- 25 Sue Le Fevre & Carol Eickhoff





OCTOBER 2015



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Notes: _____ _____ _____ _____ _____				1 6 - 8 pm WTCC in Chapel	2	3
4 8:30-WTCC in Chapel 9:30-CCC-B Bible study in MacDonald 10:30-Erin Worship & communion 11-CCC-B in chapel 11:30-Coffee Hour: Kirkindall Family in Knox Hall 12:30-NLCOGIC in sanctuary 4-WTCC in Chapel	5 12:30-2 Gleaner's Mobile Food Bank in parking lot	6 6:30-New Directions in Knox 7- NLCOGIC in Chapel 7:30-Scottish Dancers in	7 6:30 to 8 CCC-B in Chapel	8 6 - 8 pm WTCC in Chapel	9	10 9-Men of Erin Mtg & Breakfast in Knox 10:30 Evangelism mtg. in MacDonald 4:30 Soup/Chili Cook-off
11 8:30-WTCC in Chapel 9:30-CCC-B Bible study in MacDonald 10:30-Erin Worship 11-CCC-B in chapel 11:30-Coffee Hour: Harrison fanukt 12:30-NLCOGIC in sanctuary 3-Private use of Knox Hall 4-WTCC in Chapel	12	13 6:30-New Directions in Knox 7- NLCOGIC in Chapel 7:30-Scottish Dancers in MacDonald	14 6:30 to 8 CCC-B in Chapel 7- Property & Finance in Pastor's study	15 6 - 8 pm WTCC in Chapel	16	17
18 8:30-WTCC in Chapel 9:30-CCC-B Bible study in MacDonald 10:30-Erin Worship 11-CCC-B in chapel 11:30-Coffee Hour: Carol & Nancy Weidenbach 12:30-NLCOGIC in sanctuary 4-WTCC in Chapel	19	20 6:30-New Directions in Knox 7- NLCOGIC in Chapel 7:30-Scottish Dancers in MacDonald	21 6:30 to 8 CCC-B in Chapel 7-Session Mtg. in MacDonald Hall	22 6 - 8 pm WTCC in Chapel	23 5 to 8 4th Friday Feast in Knox	24
25 8:30-WTCC in Chapel 9:30-CCC-B Bible study in MacDonald 10:30-Erin Worship 11-CCC-B in chapel 11:30-Coffee Hour: Sue Le Fevre & Carol Eickhoff 12:30-NLCOGIC in sanctuary 4-WTCC in Chapel	26	27 6:30-New Directions in Knox 7- NLCOGIC in Chapel 7:30-Scottish Dancers in MacDonald	28 6:30 to 8 CCC-B in Chapel	29 6 - 8 pm WTCC in Chapel	30	31  Halloween

Autumn

Find and circle all of the Autumn words that are hidden in the grid.

L O N G E R N I G H T S N A A U C N
T O R U E S T U N Y R O K C I H R I
M S O A Y Q E N I S I A O T R W O K
R C Y H N E U V S T E R F H E O P P
C E A A C G K I A S N O A A B R S M
K N D N D S E R N E D S R N M C O U
S C Y L N R G L U O L P M K E E C P
Q R A K E I E R E T X G I S V R T S
U Y D T M A N T S A E F N G O A O E
A D Y D S I V G R T V S G I N C B P
S N R N G Y W E H O E E N V W S E T
H I E L P P A E S P H A S I V O R E
B W T Y L L I H C T E S P N R F L M
F T S E V R A H Y E L O I G C R E B
A A U H A L L O W E E N E F I O S E
A F L S E V A E L W O L L E Y S L R
I O R I W F C H F S T N U T S T R C

ACORN

APPLE

BIRD MIGRATION

BLOWING

LEAVES

BLUSTERY DAY

CANNING

CHESTNUTS

CHILLY

COLD

CROPS

EQUINOX

FALL



FARMING

FEAST

FROST

HALLOWEEN

HARVEST

HAYSTACK

HICKORY

NUTS

LONGER

NIGHTS

NOVEMBER

OCTOBER

ORANGE

LEAVES

PIE

PUMPKIN

RAKE

RED LEAVES

SCARECROW

SCHOOL

SEASON

SEPTEMBER

SHORTER DAYS

SQUASH

SWEET POTATOES

THANKSGIVING

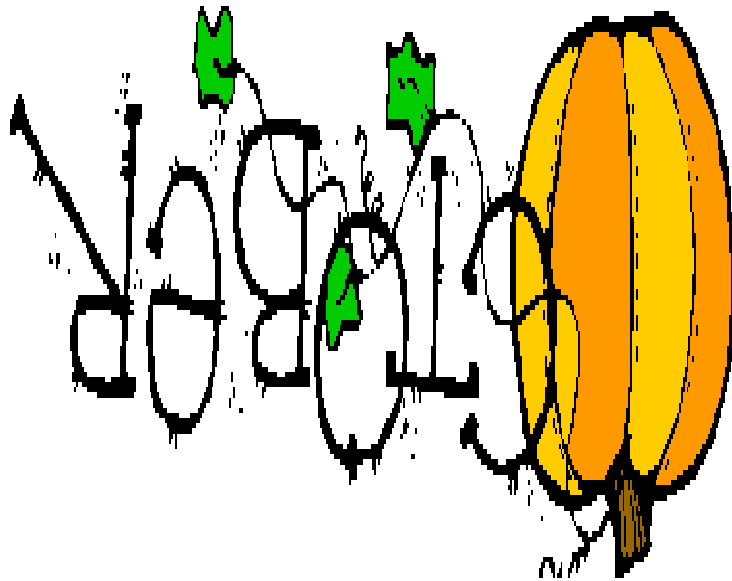
TURKEY

WINDY

YELLOW LEAVES



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



Phone: 586-777-9200 or 586-777-9201
Fax: 586-777-6397
Office Email: churchoffice@erinchurch.org
Pastor Email: pastor@erinchurch.org
Office is open Monday thru Thursday 9 am to 1 pm

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

3000 Gratiot Avenue
Roseville, MI 48066
Nancy D. Bass, Pastor

Erin Presbyterian Church (USA)

Rev. Dr. Roxie Davis, Moderator

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.

Nancy D. Bass, Pastor

Jean Jaworski, Clerk of Session

Class of 2015

Carla Harrison
Roger Harrison
Dave Marshall
Kevin Smith

Class of 2016

Ramona Hoggarth
Jean Jaworski
Tom Pietrzak

Class of 2017

Ruthanne Harris
Sue Le Fevre

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.

Class of 2015

Carol Eickhoff
Margaret Kirkindall
Priscilla Smith

Class of 2016

Dave Kussner
Carol Weidenbach

Class of 2017

Martin Kirkindall