



PASTOR'S PASSAGE

Dear Friends,

We have entered the season of Epiphany. From now until we reach Ash Wednesday and begin Lent, we will be observing the season in which God revealed the gift of our salvation through the birth of the Christ child. Epiphany is a Greek word that can be translated into English as “to shine upon,” “to appear,” “to be manifest,” and “to reveal.” God revealed that the promised Messiah/Christ is the savior that will take away the sins of the world. God comes to us in a form we can comprehend to make known to us the love, grace, mercy, and promise that we receive through the gift of the Son—our Lord and Savior.

I have been focused on how blest we are to be warm and well during this first part of January 2011. The weather has been rough on everyone, but I have been most concerned about those who are not fortunate enough to have the food and shelter needed to endure the frigid temperatures and the icy conditions. It is easy to feel blessed sitting inside sipping on something warm. I have had an epiphany, however. I believe that those who are truly blessed—are truly God’s children--are those who don’t just say grace over their warm meals, or give thanks for their comfortable homes; but are those who give food and clothes to help others. The ones who are the most blessed are the folks who plan and prepare ministries that give shelter and help get people back on their feet again.

Jesus told a parable (Luke 16: 19-31) about a rich man and a beggar named Lazarus. The rich guy had all the money he needed. He bought the best and lived a life of comfort. The beggar lived outside the gates of the rich man’s home because he was unable to work due to sickness. Everything he had was from someone’s charity—whether it was food scraps or clothes donated to the poor. When they died, Jesus said the rich man went to hell and was tortured by the heat. Suffering from thirst, he begged the poor man who was in heaven to give him a drink of water. Jesus said that the rich guy had received everything in life and now it was time for the beggar to enjoy. Jesus didn’t criticize the guy for being rich. He didn’t say that he was a crook, or that he cheated on his taxes, or that he was evil. He simply pointed out that the rich man never “saw” or paid any attention to a poor beggar. He was guilty of passing the beggar without thinking how God had blessed him so that he could be a giver of blessings in return. He didn’t stop and see the image of God in one of the least of his neighbors. He lost his chance to really be blessed by not paying attention to his opportunities to share his blessings.

I pray that you and I will continue to have epiphanies throughout the new year. Let’s learn to look for opportunities to share our blessings. Let’s remember that the most blest are those who have received and give thanks to God and give help and hope to others.

May the Lord continue to bless you!

Van

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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Elementary through High School aged Youth save the weekend of January 28th and 29th for Pizza and a Movie. Watch for more info coming soon!



Dean's Notes
Dean Cason, Minister of Music



Dear EPC,

I trust everyone has found the music of all choirs worshipful during the Advent Season. The music department is now looking forward to the Winter Extravaganza. I want to thank the choirs, the church, and others for your many acts of kindness and remembrance of me during this season. Also, thank you for your prayers for Sara during her recent illness. February is the month set aside to show others love. There is an old song entitled "The Love of God." The lyrics are: "The love of God is greater far Than tongue or pen can ever tell; It goes beyond the highest star, And reaches to the lowest hell. The guilty pair, bowed down with care, God gave His Son to win, His erring child He reconciled, And pardoned from his sin. Oh, love of God, how rich and pure! How measureless and strong! It shall forevermore endure, The saints' and angels' song." [words and music by F.M. Lehman, copyright 1917, renewed 1945 Nazarene Publishing House].

Dean

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS (Jan. 9, 2011 Meeting)
Tom Strickland

-Authorized the Session and Dr. Nesbit to complete a Stated Supply Pastor Agreement to be submitted to the Committee on Ministry for approval. If approved, it will become effective April 1, 2011 (his current Interim Pastor agreement expires March 31, 2011).

-Tom Strickland was elected to serve as Clerk of Session and Treasurer.

-Committee Chairs are Bill Spurlock/Admin., Bubba Gunn/Property, Jim Yamshak/Missions and Stewardship, Marge Balling/Member Care and Christian Education, Melvin Rozar/Fellowship and Doris Findlay/Worship.

-Bubba Gunn/CEO, Tom Strickland/CFO, Doris Findlay/Secretary and Jim Yamshak/Agent were elected to serve as officers of the Corporation.

-Our Annual Meeting will be January 30, 2011 and will have three items on the agenda.

1. Reports from the Session.
2. Vote to dissolve the PNC.
3. Elect three members from the congregation to serve on the 2011 Nominating Committee.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Tom Strickland

The 2011 budget was approved by the Session.

Our monthly gifts for Missionaries, Drs. Leslie & Cynthia Morgan in Bangladesh and Dr. Michael & Nancy Haninger in the Congo, were sent to Presbytery.

The Christmas Joy Offering of \$360.00 was sent to Presbytery.

A gift, in memory of Mrs. Dana Kastory, was received from Dick Kastory.

Gifts, in memory of Mr. Jimmy Poole, were received from PCHS Class of 1971 and Dr. Thomas Brown.

A gift to our Youth Fund, in memory of Mr. Jimmy Poole, was received from Van & Peggy Nesbit.

A gift, in memory of Mr. David Poole, was received from Mr. & Mrs. Edwin Little.

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE –

Melvin Rozar

The next Family and Friends Luncheon will be Sunday, January 30th in the Fellowship Hall. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend and bring a covered dish.



Member Care

Please keep in prayer:



[Church Family]: Sara Jane Cason, Louise Duncan, Evelyn Jackson, Teresa & Leon Smith, Aileen & Stan Broome, Sylvia Smith, Martha Adams, Janet Sidwell, Veta Powers, Will Durham, Buddy Beckstine, Jane Waldhauer.

[Friends]: Pop Smith, Larry Dycus, Jean Dolvan, David Hawthorne.



January 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 HAPPY NEW YEAR
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
EPCYC/SS 9:45 Worship 11:00		PW Meeting 10:00  Stan & Aileen Broome	Bible Study 6:00 EPC Ringers 6:00 Worship Choir 7:00	 Jerry & Sylvia Smith		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
EPCYC/SS 9:45 Worship 11:00 Session Meeting 1:30  Harold Keen		 Joey Davis & Marjorie Hanson	Bible Study 6:00 EPC Ringers 6:00 Worship Choir 7:00  Sharon Miller		Mouse Articles Due	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
EPCYC/SS 9:45 Worship 11:00		 Helga Lewis	Bible Study 6:00 EPC Ringers 6:00 Worship Choir 7:00  Bobby Hill	 Martha Lindsey		 Joe DeLoach
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
EPCYC/SS 9:45 Worship 11:00  Aileen Broome & Doris Findlay	 Bill Spurlock & Tim Sturm		Bible Study 6:00 EPC Ringers 6:00 Worship Choir 7:00		 Sally Walkovik Youth Weekend	 John Holmes Youth Weekend
30	31					
EPCYC/SS 9:45 Worship 11:00 Annual Meeting Family & Friends Luncheon  Robert & Sharon Miller						

 Anniversary  Birthday

February 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
		PW Meeting 10:00	Bible Study 6:00 EPC Ringers 6:00 Worship Choir 7:00			
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
EPCYC/SS 9:45 Worship 11:00 Session Meeting 1:30  Jeannine Malm & Levi Miller			Bible Study 6:00 EPC Ringers 6:00 Worship Choir 7:00		Mouse Articles Due	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
EPCYC/SS 9:45 Worship 11:00			Bible Study 6:00 EPC Ringers 6:00 Worship Choir 7:00			 Joan Warren  Donald & Brenda Jarrett
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
EPCYC/SS 9:45 Worship 11:00	 Madelyn Wharton		Bible Study 6:00 EPC Ringers 6:00 Worship Choir 7:00			 David Thomas
27	28					
EPCYC/SS 9:45 Worship 11:00						



Anniversary



Birthday

CELEBRATIONS



Happy Anniversary

January

- 04 Stan & Aileen Broome
- 06 Jerry & Sylvia Smith
- 30 Robert & Sharon Miller

February

- 19 Donald & Brenda Jarrett

Happy Birthday

January

- 09 Harold Keen
- 11 Joey Davis
- 11 Marjorie Hanson
- 12 Sharon Miller
- 18 Helga Lewis
- 19 Bobby Hill
- 20 Martha Lindsey
- 22 Joe DeLoach
- 23 Aileen Broome
- 23 Doris Findlay
- 24 Bill Spurlock
- 24 Tim Sturm
- 28 Sally Walkovik
- 29 John Holmes

February

- 06 Jeannine Malm
- 06 Levi Miller
- 19 Joan Warren
- 21 Madelyn Wharton
- 26 David Thomas

Thank you

Dear Church Family,
Peggy and I want you to know how much we appreciate all of your kind cards, letters and gifts, that you gave to us at Christmas. We are so blessed to be part of such a loving church family, and we thank God for each of you every day. May God bless you during the New Year with hope and love and happiness.

In His Love, Van and Peggy

WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

The Presbyterian Women of Eatonton Presbyterian Church met on Tuesday, December 7, 2010 in the Fellowship Hall.

Jerry Smith presented our fourth Bible Study Lesson, Book of Acts Chapter Four. Peter & John are arrested and put on trial before the high court, they are warned of their teachings through Jesus, and released.

We finished up our Teddy Bear project, a total of 24 Bears were completed. The Bears were given to Joey Davis and he delivered them to Police & Fire Departments. Thank you Joey!

After our lesson we enjoyed a delicious salad luncheon, to everyone's amazement, we did not have any duplicates.

Please continue to save those Box Tops for Education & Campbell Soup Labels, every little bit helps, so let's keep clipping! Thornwell is most appreciative of these labels.

On January 4, 2011, the Presbyterian Women met in the Fellowship Hall. Jerry Smith presented our fifth Bible Study Lesson, Book of Acts Chapter Five. During our lesson we celebrated Doris Findlay's 80th Birthday with song and cake. Congratulations to Doris, we wish her many more to come!

We received a wonderful Thank you from the Ferst Foundation for our Donation - Thanks to all who contributed.

Our next meeting will be February 1, 2011. Please read Chapter Six of the Book of Acts.

"We do ourselves and others a disservice when we make old age something to be feared. Life is not a resource to be used up, so that the older we get, the less life we have left. Life is the accumulation of wisdom, love and experience of people encountered and obstacles overcome. The longer we live, the more life we possess."

Candyce Hudson - Moderator

2010 New Members At EPC:

Sue Paulin



Susan & Charles Poole and J.T. Sidwell



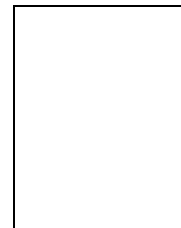
Russell & Pam Thomas, Lily, Carolyn, and Robert



Not Pictured: Peggy Nesbit

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

"The Mouse"

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Articles for the
February/March issue are due
by February 11, 2011

