

Leaps & Bounds

Bob Bullock, Pastor

Tim Erskine, Interim Associate Pastor



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EXPERIENCING GOD COMES TO EASTMINSTER

If you have been in my study, you may have noticed the large framed print on my wall which depicts Moses at the burning bush. Moses' experience with God on the mountain was a life changing event that answered many of the greatest questions of his life, not the least of which was: What is God's will for my life? And now that I know what that is, how do I go about doing it? It is my observation that once we find answers to these two basic questions, our lives begin to make sense and take on new meaning. That is especially true when it comes to our understanding of how we fit into God's plan and how to make God's plan a reality in our everyday lives.

Having been the teaching pastor in some of our large Presbyterian churches, I have found Henry Blackaby's *Experiencing God* group study (from which the print in my study is taken) like no other in deepening the spiritual part of people's lives.

Beginning Wednesday, January 10th we will be offering *Experiencing God* Groups which are open to all who want to participate. Several of the groups who meet on Wednesdays have chosen to be a part of the study (the Lunch Bunch Bible Study which meets at 11:30 AM in classroom 6, the Happy Rocks small group, the Wednesday Night Bible Study, and The Element (our Youth), all who meet following dinner at 7:00 PM.). We will form other groups as necessary so that everyone can participate. To register your participation, please call the church office by Thursday, January 4th.

To give you a 'taste' for what we will be learning in our 13 week experience, here are '*The Seven Realities of Experiencing God*':

1. *God is always at work around you.*
2. *God pursues a continuing love relationship with you that is real and personal.*
3. *God invites you to become involved with Him in His work.*
4. *God speaks by the Holy Spirit through the Bible, prayer, circumstances, and the church to reveal Himself, His purposes, and His ways.*
5. *God's invitation for you to work with Him always leads to a crisis of belief that requires faith and action.*
6. *You must make major adjustments in your life to join God in what He is doing.*
7. *You come to know God by experience as you obey Him and He accomplishes His work through you.*

It will be exciting to see these Biblical realities come alive in our lives!

"Building Christian Lives,"

Dr. Bob

PS: You can imagine how excited I was to find that Dr. Erskine has led *Experiencing God* in the churches where he has been pastor. Tim and I will be working as a team in training our Group Leaders and I appreciate his assistance in preparing the materials.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNERS

Come join us for a great meal and fellowship.

To make reservations, sign up on the blue form in the friendship pad on Sundays OR call the office by NOON on Monday (770-977-2976).

Cost:

\$7.00 Adults (65+ - \$6.00)
 \$4.00 Children under 10
 \$20.00 Family of 4
 (Please pay at the door)

January 10

Italian Night

Lasagna Tortellini
 Fettuccine with chicken
 Spaghetti Italian Salad
 Rolls/Bread Sherbet

January 17

Pot Roast and Baked Chicken
 Red Potatoes Carrots Peas
 Green Salad Rolls/Bread
 Dessert
 Kids: Chicken Fingers & Fries

January 24

Fried and Baked Pork Chops
 Mashed Potatoes Green Beans
 Apple Sauce Green Salad
 Rolls/Bread Dessert
 Kids: Grilled Cheese and Tater Tots

January 31

Meat Loaf and Baked Turkey
 Rice Peas and Carrots
 Green Salad Rolls/Bread
 Dessert
 Kids: Hot Dogs and Mac & Cheese

BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKED



We will be checking B/P's between 10 - 11 AM each Sunday in the ushers' closet.

CUB SCOUT CORNER!



Merry Christmas from Pack 565! The boys and their leaders are enjoying a fun-filled month. Our two Webelo II patrols enjoyed a fantastic trip to Charleston, South Carolina this month. A two night stay on the USS Yorktown in Patriot's Point with a side trip to Fort Sumter and a walking ghost story tour of downtown Charleston, made for some wonderful memories! Most of the boys will tell you that it was the "best trip ever!" We teamed up with Boy Scouts from St. Peter and St. Paul to sing Christmas carols at Sunrise Assisted Living Center on the 16th. Handmade cards were prepared to the residents, and everyone enjoyed hot chocolate and cookies together. The Pack celebrated the joy of the season with a party on December 12. Food, games and a visit from Santa was enjoyed by all our families. As a "Good Turn for America Project," the Pack collected new toys for Toys For Tots. We are proud to announce that we re-chartered "on time" with 83 boys and 11 adults on December 9. The re-charter fee is sizable (\$2,000.00). Our annual dues as well as popcorn sales make it possible for us to provide wonderful opportunities for our boys. Thank you, again, Eastminster for being our Charter Organization. Happy New Year!

JANUARY YOUTH CALENDAR

- 7 Wild Side 6 - 8 PM Movie Night (FH)
- 10 The Element 7 - 8:30 PM (T)
- 12 Senior High Fellowship Breakfast
- 14 Middle & Senior High Bowling 6 - 9 PM AMF Lanes
- 17 The Element 7 - 8:30 PM (T)
- 19 Senior High Fellowship Breakfast
- 21 Wild Side 6 - 8 PM (FH)
- 24 The Element 7 - 8:30 PM (T)
- 26 Senior High Fellowship Breakfast
- 28 Wild Side 6 - 8 PM (FH)
- 31 The Element 7 - 8:30 PM (T)

Total Committed	\$1,444,675
Oct. Receipts	34,354
Total Receipts	290,968

BIRTHDAYS for January

1	John Broadwell	23	Sarah Nielsen
1	Shawn Hanson	24	David Brentzel
1	Emily Schlecht	24	Russ Schlecht
1	Erin Yates	24	Nancy Toro
2	Tom Baskin	25	Dolly Kretsch
2	Don Preus	25	Elizabeth Schwartz
2	Bill Majoros	25	Andrew Warren
2	Jonathan Taylor	26	Arline Fifield
3	Pamela West	26	Hayden Karp
5	Greg Gibbs	27	Andrew Flood
6	Kevin Hishta	28	Mary Evelyn Starnes
6	Cathy Kennedy	28	Dax Denherder
6	Sutton Smith	29	Nickey Ice
7	Grey Hydrick	30	Elaine Denny
7	John Jennings	30	Kristin Hanson
7	Alessa Oviatt	30	Samantha Lounsbury
8	Megan Bunch	30	Jordan Gettys
9	Judy Ntore	31	Sandra Marin
9	Blair Erickson		
10	Maynard Gardner		
10	Nathaniel Frew		
11	Madeline Daw		
12	Richard Dubose		
12	Suzie Baur		
12	Steve Schatz		
12	Derek Hacker		
13	Jim Swann		
13	Cary Erickson		
13	Becky Melton		
13	Sarah Jones		
15	Charlotte Hayes		
16	Bill Freeman		
16	Kendra Brindley		
17	Jennifer Gettys		
17	Caroline Willard		
18	Marilyn Lewis		
18	Andrew Miller		
19	Beth Bousquet		
19	Jennifer Roberts		
19	Melanie Chesser		
20	Kevin French		
20	Eric Boyd		
21	Dylan Schwartz		
22	Allen Warren		
22	Jessica Gibbs		
22	Thomas DeVoe		

ANNIVERSARIES

12	Jeff & Karen Jones
12	Charles & Betty Ramsey
14	Duane & Lee Boise
20	Bill & Harriette Majoros

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY is expressed to:

Laura Johnson and family on the death of her mother;
Jan and Joe Walls and Kathryn Barrios on the death of Jan's mother, Lurline Youngblood.

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Infant Room</u>	<u>Toddler Room</u>
Jan. 7	Ellen Parkerson	Robert & Jennifer Gettys
Jan. 14	Lindsay Waters	Kedrick & Sara Daw
Jan. 21	Mark & Sheri Sphar	Todd & Ashley Mordecai
Jan. 28	Cheri Olivier	Tom & Sara Dilworth

FLOWER CALENDAR

The 2007 Flower Calendar is on the bulletin board in the alcove. Flowers are \$45.00 and only two arrangements per Sunday. Sign up early to get the Sunday of your choice.



CPR CLASSES

American Heart Association CPR/AED (Automated External Defibrillator) Classes will be held in Fellowship Hall from 10am-12Noon on Saturday, January 20. Sign up sheets will be available in the Narthex. The cost is \$25 per person for the 2 year Certification. Anyone over 10 years old is welcome! For questions, you can call Kathy Wolfram at 770-315-5357.

TRUSTEES MEETING

The annual meeting of the Board of Trustees will take place on Wednesday, January 17 at 4:00 pm in the parlor.



ATTENTION SENIORS!

A handyman volunteer team is available to help any of our senior EPC members with minor home repairs. Please contact Barbara Bodenheimer at 770-971-3252 or Pat Provan at 770-973-2671 to make an appointment with a handyman.

GREETERS

Jan. 7

- 9:00 John & Lynne Buchanan
Marty & Melinda Taylor
11:00 George & Jane Merry
Mark & Sheri Sphar

Jan. 14

- 9:00 Brad & Elaine Malone
Robert & Jennifer Gettys
11:00 Bill & Melinda Freeman
Stan & Merrilee Morris

Jan. 21

- 9:00 Harry & Bonnie Anton
Karl & Susan Touset
11:00 Stephen & Mary Powell
Hart & Mary Alice Phinney

Jan. 28

- 9:00 Van & Becky Sammons
John & Leah Ortega
11:00 Gordon & Connie Scott
Andrew & Leigh Sain

SAVE THE DATE!

Our annual Youth Yard Sale is scheduled for Friday and Saturday, March 9 and 10, 2007, in the Fellowship Hall. We need your gently used cast offs to sell as we prepare for our youth summer mission trip to Kentucky and the Sr. High retreat to Montreat in North Carolina. What a perfect time to let us sell your reusable items and turn them into much needed funds for our trips.

So, as you store away your holiday decorations, and pack up those gifts received that you may not want or need at this time, remember our big sale in March. We will begin accepting donations in February, however, if you have something that must go immediately, please let us know. For information please call Sarah Nielsen 770-321-5476, or Cameron Pauquette 678-910-9691. Thank you, and SAVE, SAVE, SAVE!

WANTED: Shepherds No experience necessary

Please consider helping our church family by joining the Shepherd ministry team. We contact church members once per month to share church information, to lend a listening ear, and to just stay in touch with one another. If your family has not been contacted by a shepherd since October 2006, it is because we have a shortage of willing participants in this vital ministry, and we need you! All of our church family needs to be serviced by this important ministry. Won't you prayerfully consider joining us?

Please contact Sarah Nielsen for more information, 770-321-5476

SUPPERS OF EIGHT

The third Saturday is to be set aside by the participants of Suppers of Eight. For those who are not acquainted with this program, it is a wonderful way to meet and get to know other members or visitors. Participants spend one evening in February, March and April with three other couples. Each couple brings one food course to help the host family with the meal! Singles are welcome to sign-up also. Please complete the form below, place in the offering plate or call Reta Frew at 770-955-0588. *The deadline to sign up is January 14.*

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Please indicate here if you wish to participate only as an alternate (on a periodic basis if a primary participant is not available).

THANK YOU

We would like to sincerely thank everyone who generously contributed to Santa Express. When we delivered all the gifts to Presbyterian Village they were so appreciative. They loved all the decorated bags and hung the cards made by Sunday School classes up so all the residents could enjoy them. Your kindness certainly is appreciated. Thanks for making this mission such a success!

Janie Bunch and Jennifer Gettys

CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

Our next Circle of Friends gathering will be Wednesday, January 10 from 10:00 - 11:30 AM in the parlor. We will be discussing chapters 6 and 7 of the book, *Cultivating Contentment* by Luci Swindoll. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn about Christ, share your thoughts and feelings, and create friendships with other Eastminster ladies! Please contact Jennifer Gettys at 770-578-9525 or Janie Bunch at 770-579-1301 for more information and to secure child care. We would love for you to join us!

ANNUAL SPUD NIGHT

Monday, January 29

All ladies are invited to join us in the Fellowship Hall Monday, January 29th at 7:00pm. Ben Mathis of ROW will be our guest speaker. We had record attendance last year and would like to meet/exceed again this year! A sign up sheet will be placed in the alcove in January. Please contact Wendy Brodrick (770-565-6618) if you would like to volunteer a small amount of time preparing for this event.

SPUNKY SPIRITS

The Spunky Spirits will be meeting at the home of Barbara Duda, 4034 Bradbury Drive, Marietta, at 11:00 a.m. on January 11. We will continue our study of "*Finding Joy*". Please bring a dish to share and come and enjoy the wonderful fellowship. If you have any questions please contact Susan Bryg, 770-565-2852 or Barbara Duda, 770-321-4400.

SQUARE DANCE CLASSES...

for couples and singles begins Thursday, January 25th at 7pm in fellowship hall. Call the office (770-977-2976) to reserve your place. The fee is \$5.00 per person for a two hour lesson.

SPECIAL MEN'S BREAKFAST Saturday, January 13, 8 - 9 AM

Paul and John will be providing their special breakfast creation. Scrambled Eggs, Bacon, Pancakes (Paul's special and secret recipe) Coffee, and Orange Juice.

Former Atlanta Falcon, Wallace Francis will be with us and we will be announcing some very special events for the New Year.

Wallace Francis was born in Franklin, Louisiana and graduated from the University of Arkansas in 1973. He played football for the Buffalo Bills for two seasons and was traded to the Atlanta Falcons where he played until 1982. He was chosen player of the year in 1979. At the end of the 1979 season he was invited to a weeklong conference held by Christian athletes. It was at this conference that Wallace began to be seriously convinced of a need for a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. He retired from football in 1982 and attend a Bible College in Greenville, South Carolina. In 1990 he joined Ambassadors for Christ International/USA. Wallace and his wife, Cheryl live in Smyrna, Georgia with their four children.

This is one Breakfast you won't want to miss. Every man in the church is part of the Men's Ministry. This is your meeting organized by the Leadership Team especially for you. Please come.



Session Meeting Highlights - December 17, 2006

- ◆ Session approved the baptism of Maximus Robert Melton, infant child of members Patrick and Rebecca Melton, on February 18, 2007 at the 11:00 service.
- ◆ Session approved removing Stephen and Mary Powell and Roy and Suzanne Strickland from the rolls as they have joined other churches, according to the Book of Order G-10.0302b.(4). Session approved a request for a Letter of Transfer from East Cobb United Methodist Church for Phil and Amy Polefrone; and from First Presbyterian in Somerset, KY for Jane and Ed Ledford.
- ◆ The following motions were made by the Worship Team and unanimously approved by the Session (1) To receive the report of the New Organ Search Team (NOST) and to agree with their recommendation of retaining the Holtkamp Company of Cleveland, Ohio to design render specifications and specific costs to build and install a new organ for the EPC Sanctuary for the design fee of \$15,000. (2) To establish the Stephen H. Janssen Memorial Organ Fund for the sole purpose of receiving and dispersing funds in direct support of the EPC new organ which will be primarily dedicated in his name and honor his ministry. (3) To transfer \$5000.00 from the Wedding Guild fund to the SHJ Memorial Organ Fund. (4) To transfer the balance of funds held in the Psalm 150 Fund to the SHJ Memorial Organ Fund following the payment of current outstanding bills and that this action will close the Psalm 150 Fund. (5) The Organ Fund Drive Preparation Team, created by Session in their September 17, 2006 Stated Meeting, convene and bring an initial funding report to Session by the close of the first quarter, 2007 on how to raise approximately \$850,000 in support of the organ project.
- ◆ The Session approved the 2007 budget for \$955,370 as presented by the Stewardship and Finance Team.
- ◆ Session approved a motion that in recognition of God's call on Alan's life, Eastminster Presbyterian Church grant Alan Gibson a seminary (RTS) matching tuition scholarship gift of up to \$4,000 during the 2007 academic school year.
- ◆ Session approved the following off-campus activities for the Youth Ministry: Jan. 14th – MH & SH Bowling 6-9PM AMF Lanes, Feb. 16th - 18th MH & SH Ski Trip to Gatlinburg TN. Stay at Mordecai's house. Leave church Friday at 4:30 PM, arriving back on Sunday by 7:00 PM, Mar. 2nd – 4th MH Presbytery-wide Retreat at Camp Cherokee, Mar 4th SH off campus -Time and Place to be decided later, Mar 17th Homeless Lock Out 9PM-9AM Sunday Morning. Mar 23rd -25th SH Presbytery Wide Retreat at Camp Cherokee, April 22nd- MH & SH -play Whirley Ball in Roswell 6-8 pm, April 28th - Noah's Ark Mission Project 7:15 AM-4:30PM, April 29th - SH off campus time and place to be announced, May 19th - Rock Climbing time to be announced.
- ◆ Session approved adding Snookie Goldberg to the Congregational Care Team as the Shepherd Program Team Leader and adding Sarah Nielsen to the Congregational Care Team as the Spiritual Treasures Program Team Leader.
- ◆ Session approved members, Shanna Bridges and Teri Gibson be added to the Evangelism Team .
- ◆ Session approved the addition of Kathy Schuette to the Fellowship Team as Christmas Dinner Party coordinator and Easter Egg Hunt coordinator.
- ◆ The Session approved a motion from the Christian Education Team that the Youth Mission Trip to Appalachian, KY be held the week of June 23-29th, 2007.
- ◆ Session approved adding member Nancy Toro to the Christian Education Team as a Youth Leader.
- ◆ Session approved a reception be held to welcome the new DCE, Allison Hayes, on January 14th immediately following the 11:00 service.
- ◆ Session approved adding member Amanda Pooser to the Worship Team.
- ◆ The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be held on February 4, 2007.
- ◆ The next Stated Meeting of Cherokee Presbytery will be on February 27, 2007 at 10:00 AM at Eastminster.
- ◆ The four commissioners will be M. Gardner, K. Jacquot, T. Tolbert, and E. Gilbert. J. McIntire will serve as alternate.
- ◆ The next Stated Session Meeting will be held on January 28, 2007 at 12:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Jones, Clerk to Session

January 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Office Closed	2 7a Prayer Group (P) 6:30p Bear Den 3 (7) 7p Boy Scout (T)	3 10a Garden Club (FH)	4 6p Worship (P)	5 7:15 Senior High Youth - Einsteins	6 7a Job Seekers (FH)
7 9a Worship 10a Sunday School 11a Worship 12:15p Conf. Class Mtg with parents (P) 12:30p Visitor's Lunch (FH) 3p God & Country (7) 3:30p Cub Scouts (FH) 5p Youth Choir 6p Youth Groups (FH)	8 6p Wolf (FH) 7p CT Meeting (P) 7p Fellowship (7) 7:15p LRP (CR)	9 7a Prayer Group (P) 4p Cub Scouts (FH) 6:30p Bears (7) 6:30p Webelos 1 (6) 6:30p Webelos 2 (FH) 7p CE (P) 7p Boy Scout (T)	10 10a Circle of Friends (P) 11:30a Lunch Bunch (6) 5p Cherub Choir 5:30p Junior Choir 6p Meal 6:30p Handbells 7p The Element 7p Bible Study (P) 7p Men's Bible Study (7) 7:30p Chancel Choir	11 11a Spunky Spirits 7p Thurs. Eve Cir (P) 7p S. Min. Train. (FH)	12 7:15 Senior High Youth - Einsteins Cursilla Reunion	13 8a Men's Breakfast (FH) 7p Couples' Bridge
14 Elder Ordination 9a Worship 10a Sunday School 11a Worship 12:15p Reception for Allison Hayes (DCE) 3p God & Country (7) 4p Wolf (6) 5p Youth Choir 6p Youth Groups-Bowling	15 Cobb School Closed 7p S. Min. Sup. (CR) 7p Men's Ministry (FH) 7p Finance (7) 7:30p Cong. Care (6) 7:30p Evangelism (P)	16 7a Prayer Group (P) 6:30p Health Min (P) 7p Boy Scout (T)	17 11:30a Lunch Bunch (6) 4p Trustee Mtg (P) 4p Prime Time (P) 5p Cherub Choir 5:30p Junior Choir 6p Meal 6:30p Handbells 7p The Element 7p Bible Study (P) 7:15p Happy Rocks (FH) 7p Men's Bible Study (7) 7:30p Chancel Choir	18 7p S. Min. Train. (FH) 7p Women's Leadership Team (P)	19 7:15 Senior High Youth - Einsteins	20 7a Job Seekers (FH) 10a CPR (FH)
21 Ground-Breaking 9a Worship 10a New Member Class 10a Sunday School 11a Worship 12:15p Lunch 12:30p Ground-Breaking & Lunch 3p God & Country (7) 5p Youth Choir 6p Youth Groups (FH)	22	23 7a Prayer Group (P) 6:30p Pack 565 (FH) 7p Boy Scout (T)	24 11:30a Lunch Bunch (6) 5p Cherub Choir 5:30p Junior Choir 6p Meal 6:30p Handbell Choir 7p The Element (T) 7p Bible Study (P) 7p Men's Bible Study (7) 7:30p Chancel Choir	25 7p S. Min. Train. (6) 7p Square Dance (FH) 7:30p Mission (P)	26 7:15 Senior High Youth - Einsteins 6p Pinewood Derby Set-up (FH)	27 9a Pinewood Derby (FH)
28 9a Worship 10a New Member Class 10a Sunday School 11a Worship 12:30p Session (FH) 12:30p Confirmation (P) 3p God & Country (7) 5p Youth Choir 6p Youth Groups (FH)	29 7p Spud Night (FH)	30 7a Prayer Group (P) 7p Boy Scout (T)	31 11:30a Lunch Bunch (6) 5p Cherub Choir 5:30p Junior Choir 6p Meal 6:30p Handbell Choir 7p The Element (T) 7p Bible Study (P) 7p Men's Bible Study (7) 7:30p Chancel Choir			



January

GROUND-BREAKING - January 21

The Building Design Team is pleased to join with the Fellowship Team for the ground-breaking ceremony on January 21 celebrating our campus expansion. Everyone is invited to join in this joyous milestone. The planning and design effort are complete and now the real fun begins. Construction is expected to take 10 to 12 months, so there will be a few logistical challenges along the way, but our current facilities will remain fully operational during construction. With God's guidance and our prayers, we embark on a journey that will shape Eastminster's future. The Holy Spirit is at work. Can you feel it?

We will be having a covered dish lunch immediately following the ground breaking-ceremony in the fellowship hall. The church will provide ham, fried chicken, rolls and dessert. If your last name begins with A-M, please bring a vegetable dish to share (potatoes, rice dishes, or vegetables). Last names beginning with N-Z, please bring a salad to share. We look forward to a yummy lunch and wonderful church fellowship.