

Leaps & Bounds

Bob Bullock, Pastor

Tim Erskine, Interim Associate Pastor



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November 2006

“FOR CHRIST’S LOVE COMPELS US”

As I write, the change of the seasons is definitely in the air. I am reminded that I have always loved fall, when God adds beautiful colors to the trees and a fire in the fireplace becomes almost a magical thing.

November is also the stewardship season of the church. It is the time when we express our gratitude to God for all he has done for us by giving back to him what he has so generously given to us. When I think of the different motivations I may have for my giving, I am drawn first and foremost to how much he loves all of us and invests in our lives by sharing his own life with us through our Lord Jesus Christ. Among my favorite hymns is one by Charles Wesley written in 1738 that we used to sing in seminary, “*And Can It Be That I Should Gain?*” The first and last verses read: *And can it be that I should gain an interest in the Savior’s blood? Died he for me that caused his pain? For me, who him to death pursued? Amazing love! How can it be that Thou my God, shouldst die for me? No condemnation now I dread; Jesus and all in Him is mine! Alive in him, my living head, and clothed in righteousness divine, bold I approach the eternal throne, and claim the crown, through Christ my own.* And then comes the glorious chorus: *Amazing love! how can it be that Thou my God, shouldst die for me?* Wesley wrote from a deep personal experience of the grace of God in his life. He literally poured his love for God into the writing of his hymns which became an important part of the Great Awakening of the eighteenth century.

Today we often read the great Scripture Romans 5:8 in worship, which says: “***But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.***” In *Mere Christianity*, C.S. Lewis wrote: “...*the Church exists for nothing else but to draw men to Christ...What we have been told is how we can be drawn to Christ—can become part of that wonderful present which the young Prince of the universe wants to offer to his Father—that present which is Himself and therefore us in Him. It is the only thing we were made for.*”

Now considering all of this, how can we not but be moved to a deeper faith which shows itself in amazed gratitude to God. There simply is no gift too large that we can give him “***for Christ’s love compels us!***”

With growing gratitude to God,

Bob Bullock

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)

November 1

Meaf Loaf Baked Turkey

Rice, Peas and Carrots

Green Salad Rolls/Bread

Dessert

Kids: Hot Dogs, Mac & Cheese

November 8

Low Country Boil

Rice Green Salad

Rolls/Bread Dessert

Kids: Hamburgers, Fries

November 15

Mexican Night

Tacos, Enchiladas, Burritos,

Pork Tostados

Mexican Rice Refried Beans

Green Salad Rolls/Bread

Dessert

November 22

No Meal this week

Happy Thanksgiving

November 29

Beef Bourguignon Grilled Chicken

Buttered Noodles Green Beans

Green Salad Rolls/Bread

Dessert

Kids: Chicken Fingers, Fries



CHRISTMAS DINNER AND DANCE



You are cordially invited to Eastminster's Christmas Dinner and Dance. This year's event will take place the evening of Friday, December 8th at the Roswell River Landing. Tickets will be sold in the narthex starting Sunday, November 12th. The cost is \$30 per person and includes a fabulous dinner and appetizers prepared by Chefs Jeff and Mike, drinks, dancing, and a beautiful view of the Chattahoochee River. If you have any questions, please contact Christy Thomas at 770-509-7081.

Cub Scout Corner



The fun just continues in Pack 565! Our dens are all up and running smoothly, with activities and outings to help the boys work on their specific rank requirements. The Tigers are working on their Bobcat requirements. Wolves and Bears attended a bicycle safety course at Free Flite Bicycles. Webelos I and II's are working on their geologist pin at the Weinman Mineral Museum. October 13-15 will find our Webelo I and II's at "Camperol" on the Woodruff Scout Reservation. "Camperol" is an overnight camping opportunity for a Cub Scout to see what Boy Scouts is all about. We are being hosted by two local Boy Scout Troops for this event. Our leaders are receiving advanced training provided by the Atlanta Area Council including archery and BB range certification. Popcorn sales are coming to a close for the year. Thank you to those of you who have supported our fund raising project! Boys can join Cub Scouting at any time, we would love to have you join us!

Cindy Moran (whmracer99@aol.com)

FLU SHOTS

November 2, 3:30 - 7:30 PM



For those who have a Medicare card, please bring it. Sign up sheets in the narthex. Cost: \$25

Total Committed	\$1,444,675
Sept. Receipts	14,787
Total Receipts	237,486

COLLEGE CARE PACKAGES

If you have a college student, please call Hank Erfurt at the church office and give or confirm your son's/daughter's college address. We will be sending gift cards this year. The deadline for names is November 19.

THANK YOU

We would like to thank all who have helped us throughout the surgeries and recoveries of Don and Karl. They are both still recovering but doing much better. We feel so fortunate to be part of such a caring and supportive congregation.

Don, Karl, and Sharon Melcher

GREETERS

Nov. 5

9:00 Andy & Mary Evelyn Starnes
Scott & Pam Keller

11:00 Stan & Flo Sharp
Mark & Alana Nigro

Nov. 11

9:00 Don & Diane Preus
Wendy & Kayla Brodrick

11:00 Stan & Ellen Bread
Billy & Sandra Allen

Nov. 19

9:00 Kedrick & Sara Daw
Bob & Sara Nielsen

11:00 Mike & Jennie Adams
Glenn & Beth Bousquet

Nov. 26

9:00 Joyce Lester
11:00 Chuck & Reta Frew

Session Meeting Highlights October 15, 2006

- ◆ D. Fifield and B. Douglas, members of the Columbarium Team reported on the team's successful efforts in obtaining advance commitments for niches from members of the congregation. Session approved a motion that the Memorial Garden-Columbarium design and Operating Policy (dated 8/1/2006) be accepted as presented by the Memorial Garden-Columbarium Team. Session also approved the Memorial Garden-Columbarium expense budget as presented, subject to funding.
- ◆ Session approved the baptism of Cristina Belen Barrios, infant child of members Kathryn Walls Barrios and Luis Adrian Barrios Casanova on November 19, 2006 at the 11:00 service.
- ◆ The death of member Paul E. Grigg II on September 29, 2006 was noted and shall be recorded.
- ◆ A motion was made and approved to receive Peter and Glenna Sullivan into the membership of Eastminster by Letter of Transfer from St. Andrews Presbyterian in Atlanta.
- ◆ Session approved the transfer of Brian Janssen's membership to the roll of Carlisle Presbytery in Pennsylvania, as he is now ordained and serving a church in that presbytery, according to the Book of Order G-14.0406.
- ◆ Session approved a request for a Letter of Transfer from Roswell Presbyterian for Richard and Barbara Enlow.
- ◆ Session voted unanimously to concur with the Silver Creek Session Resolution to be presented to the November Meeting of Cherokee Presbytery which states "*In its discernment of the essentials of Reformed polity and for the sake of the peace, unity, and purity of the church, Cherokee Presbytery adopts the principle that compliance with the standards for ordination adopted by the whole church in the Book of Order is an essential of Reformed polity. Therefore, any departure from the standards for ordination expressed in the Book of Order will bar a candidate from ordination or installation by this governing body. Provisions of the Book of Order are signified as being standards by use of the term "shall", "is", "are to be", "requirement", or equivalent expression.*", and that a letter stating our concurrence be sent to the Stated Clerk by the Clerk of Session.
- ◆ Session also voted to concur with the Providence Session Resolution to be presented to the November Meeting of Cherokee Presbytery which states "*Ministers of Word and Sacrament who wish to serve within the bounds of Cherokee Presbytery of the PC(USA) must be fully examined by the whole presbytery before entering the field of his or her call.*", and that a letter stating our concurrence be sent to the Stated Clerk by the Clerk of Session.

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An Update from Your BUILDING DESIGN TEAM

A contract has been signed for architectural and engineering design services with Saunders and Riddle, a local design/build firm who has worked on numerous church facilities around Atlanta including two within our Presbytery at Heritage and Macland Presbyterian. The Building Design Team presented preliminary floor plans at the September Session meeting and these drawings are on display on easels by the church office. After another round of meetings and comments from our Youth leaders, Worship leaders, kitchen staff, and other congregational members, we have released Saunders and Riddle to proceed with developing construction drawings. In a few weeks, the team will go before Session for approval of the facility layout. A full set of construction drawings should be ready in 2 to 4 weeks after Session approval to submit for a building permit with Cobb County. At the same time, we will receive a price from Saunders and Riddle to construct the building. The team will review this price and make a recommendation to Session for final approval and to start construction.

The facility that the team feels best meets the needs of Eastminster is a two-story, 22,000 sq. ft. multi-purpose building on the east side of our property adjacent to but slightly separated from the fellowship hall. This facility would match our current brick façade and include:

- ◆ Dedicated youth rooms for both fellowship and classrooms
- ◆ New fellowship hall capable of seating around 400 people
- ◆ New kitchen approximately one and a half times larger than our current kitchen
- ◆ 9 new classrooms
- ◆ Additional office space and storage areas

The Building Design Team is very excited about all the possibilities that this new building will bring to Eastminster's ministry and mission programs. And we are confident that we have found the professionals who can maximize our \$2 million budget and give us the space we need for short-term and long-term growth.

We will be reporting back in several weeks in regards to schedule, costs, and final space configurations. As we move forward and lift high the cross to the next stage in the life of our church, the team thanks you for your patience and your comments throughout this process. If you have any questions about the building program, please contact Andrew Sain or Robert Caput.



YOUTH YARD SALE Save the date!

Start saving your stuff! The Youth of the church are planning their annual garage sale for Friday, March 9 and Saturday, March 10, 2007, in the Fellowship Hall. We need your gently used cast offs to sell as we prepare for our summer mission trip and Sr. High week at Montreat. More info to come -- --JUST START SAVING! For information call Sarah Nielsen 770-321-5476 or Cameron Pauquette 678-910-9691

THANK YOU

Dear Friends: I want to thank all of you for the extraordinary support you have bestowed upon my family this year. All of your prayers and kind deeds have been our strength. The graciousness you have shown will never be forgotten. We are forever grateful!

Love,
Karrie Willard and Family

No words can express my family's appreciation for all the prayers, cards, calls, food and spiritual support expressed by our Eastminster family during Paul's brief illness and his untimely passing. Your love continues to support us during this difficult time as we adjust to his absence. Yet know he is in the most glorious place imaginable. Imagine that smile on his face as he now has the answers to all his questions!

In Christ's love,
Karen Grigg



Thanksgiving Baskets

November kicks off the Presbyterian Women's Thanksgiving Basket mission project. We will be providing thanksgiving dinner for families in need in Cobb County.

The Center for Family Resources and Cobb County Department of Family and Children Services join together each year to distribute Thanksgiving Food Baskets to Cobb County's low income citizens. They rely entirely on donations from organizations and churches. Please join us in making this important program a success. Here's how you can help:

- ◆ Pick up a grocery bag from church narthex beginning Sunday, October 29th. The bag will have a list of suggested items to donate.
- ◆ Return the bags to the church alcove through Sunday, November 19th.
- ◆ Donate money for the purchase of turkeys and other perishable items. You can do this by placing a check payable to Eastminster, marked 'turkeys', in the offering plate by Sunday, November 19th.
- ◆ Volunteer to help sort the food on Sunday, November 19th between 1pm and 4pm.
- ◆ Volunteer to help deliver the food on Monday, November 20th.

For more information or to volunteer please contact Sara Brown at (770) 612-2507 or sara.brown@yahoo.com.

MEN'S WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

We are now studying *ROMANS* using William Barclay's commentary, which is providing all of us a greater insight into this remarkable book of the Bible. Please join us in room #7, from 7:00 - 8:30pm ... after the Wednesday night supper. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Devin Brown at 404-259-7147.

BOOMER PLUS SOCIAL GROUP

Mark your calendars for a casual Christmas gathering, that is being hosted by Susan and Ed Bryg, on Saturday night, December 2, at 7:00 PM. Bring your favorite appetizer to share... and be prepared for yet another fun evening. To RSVP and for further information, please contact the Brygs at 770-565-2852.



YOUTH CALENDAR

- 1st The Element 7-8:30pm (T)
- 3rd SH fellowship breakfast (Einstein's)
- 5th Wild Side MH & SH 6-8pm (FH)
- 8th The Element 7-8:30pm (T)
- 10th SH fellowship breakfast (Einstein's)
- 12th Wild Side MH & SH 6-8pm (FH) Food Scavenger Hunt for Cobb Family Resource Center
- 15th The Element 7-8:30pm (T)
- 17th SH fellowship breakfast (Einstein's)
- 18th Noah's Ark Mission Project Meet at church at 7:15am return about 4:30pm.
- 19th Wild Side MH & SH 6-8pm (FH)
- 22nd No Element
- 24th No SH Breakfast Fellowship
- 26th Wild Side Movie Night 6-8pm (FH)
- 28th The Element 7-8:30pm

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Tuesday Evening Circle is moving to Thursday night to accommodate the busy schedule of more ladies. Ladies coming from work, moms who can have dads babysit, all are welcome. This year's Horizons Bible study is on the book of *Genesis*. Please join us on Thursday November 9th at 7:00 pm in classroom #7.

Circle of Friends continues to be on a roll! Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, November 8th from 10:00 - 11:30 am in the parlor. We will be discussing Chapters 3 and 4 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 ladies of Eastminster! Please contact Jennifer Gettys at 770-578-9525 or Janie Bunch at 770-579-1301 for more information and to secure child care. Come and join us!

The Spunky Spirits Circle meets the second Thursday of each month. We are studying *Finding Joy* by Luci Swindoll. We usually meet in our members homes and in November we will be meeting in the home of Karen Jones, 126 Newcastle Walk, Woodstock, GA, at 11am. If you plan to attend, please bring a dish to share, and call Karen Jones at 678-445-8080. See you November 9.

KITCHEN CLEAN UP

We will be cleaning the kitchen and serving area on Sunday, November 5, after the 11am service. Lunch will be provided.

SANTA EXPRESS

Can you believe that Christmas is just around the corner??? Well, it is and it's Santa Express time as well! Santa Express is a mission to the elderly at Presbyterian Village. Each year Presbyterian Churches around the state of Georgia collect gifts for the residents of Presbyterian Homes. Some of these gifts are given at Christmas, birthdays, to new residents, and given as prizes for games and therapy sessions. In December, Santa visits the residents and presents each of them with wrapped gifts. For some, these are their only gifts and for many, this is the most joyful day of the year! Eastminster would like to help make sure that joy continues this year as well! Some of the suggested gift items for Santa Express are:

Ladies: cosmetics (lipstick, blush, powder), costume jewelry, perfume, scarves (silk-like material), cardigan sweaters, nail polish, socks

Men: after shave, cologne, shaving cream, cardigan sweaters, belts (L), socks, sweat suits (M, XL)

Grooming Items: combs, brushes, mouthwash, kleenex, nail clippers, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, lotion

Craft, Keepsake & Party Items: watercolor markers, scissors, large art paint brushes, 12" Balloons (colorful), photo frames and /or albums, general wrapping paper and ribbon, assorted colorful stickers, artificial flowers, hard candies, sugar-free candies

Miscellaneous Gifts: stamps and calendars, adult sized bibs, board games, jigsaw puzzles (easy, 100 pieces or less), CDs and cassette tapes (Broadway, classical, 20's-50's, gospel, hymns, swing), VHS or DVD videos (classics, light and short comedies, musicals)

Please do not send : previously owned or used items, sample items, bar soap, bubble bath, bath beads, candles, medical supplies

We will be collecting these items beginning **Sunday, November 5th** and will continue through **Sunday, December 3rd**. For ease in sorting, we ask that your items be unwrapped and in ziploc bags .

Please place your donated items in the Santa Express box located in the alcove. Flyers containing a complete list of suggested items will be located next to the Santa Express box.

Questions? Contact Jennifer Gettys (770-578-9525) or Janie Bunch (770-579-1301)

Thank you so much
for your generosity.
Merry Christmas!



Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service

Tuesday, Nov. 21, 7 PM

Temple Kol Emeth
TKE Sanctuary

WHY GO TO CHURCH?

A church goer wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday. "I've gone for 30 years now," he wrote, "and in that time I have heard something like 3,000 sermons. But for the life of me, I can't remember a single one of them. So, I think I'm wasting my time and the pastors are wasting theirs by giving sermons."

This started a real controversy in the "Letters to the Editor" column, much to the delight of the editor. It went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher: "I've been married for 30 years now. In that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But, for the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals. But I do know this .. They all nourished me and gave me the strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today.

Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today!" When you are DOWN to nothing.... God is UP to something! Faith sees the invisible, believes the incredible and receives the impossible! Thank God for our physical AND our spiritual nourishment! I think everyone should read this! "When Satan is knocking at your door, simply say, "Jesus, could you get that for me?"

Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church

November 12, 2006

Not a few thousand years ago during the time of the New Testament,
But TODAY. In countries without the amenities we have, and in
countries which are well developed,

Every hour, every day, people are being persecuted for their Christian
faith. More than just a social snub or loss of business,
But beatings, jail, torture ...

We in America cannot fathom how hard it must be.

Every day, and especially November 12 when churches around the
U.S.A. are praying, Please, pray for the persecuted church –

For the individuals persecuted, For their families,
And for those persecuting them;

For their country which condones the persecution,
And for other countries which look the other way.

For more information, go to www.OpenDoorsUSA.org and see their
Prayer Force Alert for daily prayer requests.

"He holds victory in store for the upright, He is a shield to those
whose walk is blameless, for He guards the course of the just and
protects the way of the faithful." Proverbs 2:7-8



ATTENTION SENIORS!

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



HAT, MITTEN and SCARF TREE

Sharin'n Carin Craft Circle is sponsoring a hat, mitten, and scarf tree that will be in the Fellowship Hall for the Christmas Season. All items will be donated to MUST. Just bring hats, mittens, or scarves and place them on the tree. You can either make them yourselves or buy them! Warm your heart as you help others warm their heads and hands. If you have any questions, please call Shirley Byrd at 770-517-9518 or Jane Merry at 678-560-0218

Session Minutes (continued from page 4)

- ♦ Session approved Dr. Bullock administering and serving the Lord's Supper for the Georgia Presbyterian Cursillo Fourth Day Worship on Saturday, October 28th at Rabun Gap Presbyterian Church.
- ♦ Session approved a motion that an unbudgeted amount up to a maximum of \$1000 be approved for use by the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee in 2006 for their expenses related to the search for an Associate Pastor.

- ♦ Session approved members Chad Ervin, Larry McIntire, George Merry, Gordon Scott and Chris Foster be added to the Building and Grounds Team as team leaders.
- ♦ Session approved a motion that Joyce Coleman, Dan Collins, Andy Starnes, Alana Nigro, and Tonya Pirlot be added to the Christian Education team.

- ♦ Session approved adding Paul Goldberg to the Congregational Care Team as the Small Groups Team Leader.
- ♦ Session approved Presbyterian Women be allowed to sell cookbooks until they are gone.

- ♦ A motion that the Craft Mission Circle have a Hat & Mitten tree in the Fellowship Hall for the month of December; with hats and mittens made by the Craft circle as well as any donated by the congregation placed around the tree was approved. These would all be donated to MUST and needy families.
- ♦ Session approved a motion that the Men's Ministry establish a separate account to manage their account, with the treasurer reporting monthly to the Fellowship Team.

- ♦ Session approved the Men's Ministry taking orders for smoked turkeys through Sunday, Nov. 19th; smoke them and have them available for pick-up Nov. 21st and 22nd.
- ♦ Session approved adding Mary Evelyn Starnes to the Long Range Planning Team.

- ♦ Session approved Scott Keller as Treasurer and Marty Taylor as Assistant Treasurer, effective January 1, 2007.
- ♦ Session passed a motion to approve the \$2,250,000 loan commitment of First Cherokee Bank, and will request that Cherokee Presbytery approve this loan and authorize Eastminster Presbyterian Church incur this debt and to collateralize the church property as security for the loan.

- ♦ Session approved Eastminster's participation in an Interfaith Thanksgiving Service held on November 21, 2006 at 7:00 PM at the Kol Emeth Temple.
- ♦ The following dates and events involving the youth were approved: 10/29-Halloween Carnival, 11/4- trip to Cagle's Dairy, 11/12-Food Scavenger Hunt to benefit Cobb Family Resources, 11/18- Noah's Ark Mission Project, 12/10-Progressive Dinner, 12/17- Caroling at Presbyterian Village, 10/20 & 27, 11/3, 10, & 17, 12/1, 8, & 15 - Senior High breakfasts at Einstein's, and 3/9 & 10/2007-Church-wide Yard Sale.

- ♦ The next Stated Meeting of Cherokee Presbytery will be on November 28, 2006 at 10:00 AM at the Westminster Church in Rome. D. Brock, M. Gardner, J. McIntire, and T. Schuette will serve as commissioners.
- ♦ There will be a Called Session Meeting on November 5, 2006 at 10:30 AM in the church parlor for the purpose of receiving new members.

- ♦ There will be a Called Session Meeting on November 12, 2006 at 10:15 AM in the church parlor for the purpose of examination of new elders.
- ♦ The next Stated Session Meeting will be held on November 19, 2006 at 12:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Jones, Clerk to Session



November

FOUNDATIONS: GIVING FAITHFULLY

When you were young, did you ever build a sandcastle? I can remember building them as a child, and I can remember helping my own children build sandcastles. They were often magnificent, or so we thought, with turrets, drawbridges, shell windows and pennants and flags made from whatever beach finds we could add.

But the next day when we'd come back to our favorite spot, these magnificent edifices were reduced to nothing more than perhaps a mound of sand in roughly the same location. If we waited longer than a day, there was nothing left to show of our efforts.

Adding on to Eastminster is much the same. We envision a magnificent new structure, raised to the glory of God, in which we can do more of His work. We imagine the building filled with people finding God's love and grace, serving Him, perhaps singing His praises, small groups meeting in His loving embrace, scores of people in Christian fellowship dining, learning or any of dozens of other activities.

But like our sandcastles, without a firm Foundation, our efforts will be for naught. To build this addition we must continue to maintain the firm foundation on which we are building. As faithful stewards, we must not lose sight of our commitment to keeping Eastminster financially grounded. This year's stewardship program is the first of three that will run concurrent to our Step in Faith building campaign. Each of the next three stewardship programs will begin with the word "Foundation" to help remind us of the fundamental importance of stewardship at Eastminster. This year our focus is simply "Giving Faithfully". Faithful giving will ensure that we protect and preserve the foundation of our new building and indeed the very future of Eastminster.

As with all stewardship programs, but especially at this exciting time, please prayerfully consider your 2007 commitment to "**Foundations: Giving Faithfully**". The Church needs your commitment to this program; your pledge is important to help the church in its ability to faithfully plan for its foundational ministries. Remember, Commitment Sunday is November 12th. Stewardship materials have already been mailed, but additional pledge cards are available in the Narthex should you need one.

Ken Wood