



THE FAMILY

Evangelical Presbyterian Church

NOVEMBER 2010



- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| 4 Vera Hall | 17 David Strnad |
| 4 Austin Hall | 18 Charlie Head |
| 6 Bill Chastain | 23 Austin Alderman |
| 6 Jennifer Tivet | 24 Mike Miga |
| 12 Jamal Dixon | 25 Barbara Lewis |
| 14 Sylvia Chastain | 26 Elliot Bach |
| 15 Gloria Livaudais | 29 Mark Patheal |
| 15 Seth Davis (Thompson) | |

Kitchen Clean-up for November
Vera Hall and Sarah Joe Strong

Fellowship Lunch Hosts and Hostesses for November

- *Jamie Vanbiber
- **Mary Jones
- *Barbara Lewis
- *Jane Littlejohn
- Bill Mills
- *Julie Mills
- Scott Holland

*Kim Holland

* Please bring one bag of ice. ** Please bring sliced lemons for tea. Each hostess should bring a portion of bread to share. If we have a special function in place of fellowship lunch, the team will be asked to serve in some capacity. Thank you for your help. God Bless. Please call me if you cannot be there. Kim



September	YTD	
Giving Income	29,429	216,824
Expenses	25,932	218,541
NET	3,497	(1,718)



Remember to set your clocks back. Daylight Saving Time ends at 2:00 a.m. on November 7th.



From the Music Director

This week the Joyful Sounds and More group is finishing up in packing the shoe boxes for Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child. Pictures are taken of each child, and a letter is written by each child to enclose in his box. The boxes will be taken to Jefferson, then to Texarkana, then to Boone, North Carolina, and finally will be delivered to over 100 different countries. Please join us in prayer as the boxes are delivered to the children with the message of Jesus, in their language, inside. Our desire is that many will come to know Him through these gifts and inserts.

Voices of Worship is not only preparing for Sunday mornings, but is also preparing for the presentation of "The Promised Hope" on December 12, 6:00 pm. Rehearsals for the musical are planned for each Wednesday evening in November (excluding Nov. 24), and the first two Wednesday evenings in December. Voices of Worship rehearsal time will be

extended until 7:30, with the last 30 minutes concentrating on the musical. We will also remain after the Fellowship Lunch on November 14 to rehearse for an hour. Several have already joined us for the presentation. If you would like to be a part of the Christmas Musical, see me, get a book and CD, and join us for these rehearsals.

It seems like the "holiday" season is rapidly approaching. Already we are getting very busy, and it will accelerate as we get into this month and the next. May we never forget what this season is all about, and especially Who this season is celebrating.

In His Service,

Sarah Joe



Due to Thanksgiving, Young at Heart will meet on Tuesday, November 30, at 10:30 am in the Choir Room. (YAH usually meets the fourth Tuesday of each month.) We will have soup and cornbread at the church following Pastor Craig's Bible study.

Put the date of Thursday evening, December 2, on your calendar for the Christmas Party. Plans are for dinner, dessert, and carol singing. Time and more details will be given soon.



Children's Ministry

Happy November everyone! As we enter the season of thanksgiving, I want to thank you all (in advance, since this will be published before the actual event) for your help with the Harvest Festival. Sometimes I feel as though a children's director's job is primarily to beg, badger and plead for volunteers in every area of ministry, and you may feel that way too (ha!) but the truth is that this church family has always tirelessly encouraged and supported children in every way possible, and I am humbled and grateful for that. I feel unified with you all as we come together to build up the Kingdom of Heaven, and glorify our Savior through all that we do. I see the face of Christ - not in our programs and ministries, but in the faces of each individual person involved in the work of God.

Love to you all,

Angie



From The Youth Ministry

Church Family,

November is "Green Envelope Month." We had one of these back in May and raised quite a bit for our summer camps. As the New Year approaches there will be some

winter camps and activities for our students and these students will be greatly benefited by your support. Here is how it will work. There will be a table in the foyer, every Sunday in November, with a bunch of Green Envelopes each with a 3x5 card with an amount of money on it ranging from \$1.00 to \$99.00. Pick up an envelope (or two or three) and donate either the amount on the card *or* what you can afford to do. Checks can be made out to the church with "Green Envelope Month" in the memo line. Please have all donations in by December 5th.

Speaking of **December 5th**, that night from 6pm to 7pm we will be having our **180^o service** but it will *not* be your normal service. Instead of a speaker we will be watching a movie entitled *Don't Waste Your Life Sentence*. This 37 minute movie is about a maximum security prison in Louisiana known as "Angola" or "the Alcatraz of the South." At this prison the gospel of Jesus Christ is *revolutionizing* these hardened prisoners, causing them to see the light of the glorious gospel of our Savior. This is an evangelistic movie and our intent is evangelistic. We are asking you to not only come to this meeting but to also invite people to it. My wife will be making up flyers to hand out to people and I plan to take it to Wal-Mart, the neighborhood surrounding our church, and other places in Marshall. Brothers and sisters, we are interested in relieving the eternal suffering of hell or else we have no other reason for being here on this earth. Partner with me as we seek to show forth the glories of Christ to a world that is dying, especially Marshall, TX.

For Christ and his Bride, the Church,

Ben



WOMEN IN MINISTRY

Dear EPC Ladies,

The fall weather has arrived! In East Texas, it seems that it is either really hot or there is ice all around, so enjoy the cool days and falling leaves while they last. With time passing as quickly as it does, the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays will be here before we know it. Due to how fast the year has moved along and working with scheduling a speaker we will be pushing our Fall/Winter Meeting into the New Year. We are working on a wonderful evening of worship and fellowship, and I hope that you will feel that it was worth the wait.

The October Presbytery meeting was hosted by Christ EPC in Houston, and I am thankful that I was able to attend. I am always amazed at the workings of God through his people. It was nice to speak with other WIM ladies and ministry wives to hear their ideas and plans for the coming year. One way that you can serve, as a member of this local church, is to add an extra dollar to your offering and tithes. We are ask each year to send in \$1 for every women at EPC of Marshall. This money is used by the national EPC WIM to support projects that promote His kingdom.

I hope that by now everyone has picked up a WIM Handbook from the foyer. If not, please do so, and take some time to read it and

visit the web sites listed at the end of the contact list. I pray that each of us will make a great effort to stay connected with our Sisters in Christ and that we will be ready and willing when opportunities to edify and support them arises.

Your Sister in Christ,

Jackie Mills

WIM President



Jamie and I are back from our vacation and 25th Anniversary celebration. If you remember from last month's newsletter, we went on a Mediterranean Cruise. Now I've seen many places I had only heard about for a lifetime: Florence, Rome, Naples, and Venice in Italy; also Cassis, France; Dubrovnik, Croatia; Corfu, Greece; and Barcelona, Spain. What were our favorites, you ask? Florence and Venice tied for first place, with Barcelona not too far behind. What fascinating and beautiful cities! Actually, though, each and every day... each and every city... was wonderful; of course, for me it was all tremendously enhanced by the presence of my wonderful wife, Jamie! I will treasure for a lifetime the memory of that wonderful trip with the woman of my dreams (who is God's indescribably gracious provision for me).

Some of you have asked me about the trip, and I said that's kind of like breaking open Hoover Dam; it leads to a flood! There's so much to tell, it's hard to summarize. After all, we only

took 1,100+ photos. Hopefully soon, we'll have an abbreviated summary, and then we'll be ready for "show and tell"!

After the trip, we spent two days in Houston waiting for the Central South Presbytery meeting. I worked on my sermon for Sunday, sorted through about 200 emails that had piled up, and experienced the adjustment of "re-entry" after the cruise. You need to know that Presbytery went quite well. We thoroughly examined several candidates for ministry and ordination (they all passed the exams with flying colors). We saw a number of churches join the EPC Central South Presbytery. One of them is not too far away: Trinity Presbyterian Church in Texarkana, TX. The pastor of that church, Russell Wilkins, was a classmate of mine in seminary at RTS Orlando. In fact, we were in a study group together for those three years, and our families became friends. It's wonderful to have a close connection again! We welcome Trinity Pres. into our fellowship of churches!

Overall, Presbytery was a great time of worship, fellowship, and encouragement in the midst of the "business" of caring oversight by the assembly of elders of Christ's Bride, the Church. We have a great fellowship of churches in the EPC! But we all need to keep praying for the EPC... ongoing prayer is so very important for the spiritual life of the Church.

One of the Scripture memory passages that I have kept in mind over the past month, and plan to keep in mind for many days to come, is

Psalm 116:5-7: "⁵Gracious is the LORD, and righteous; our God is merciful. ⁶The LORD preserves the simple; when I was brought low, he saved me. ⁷Return, O my soul, to your rest; for the LORD has dealt bountifully with you." As I reflected over my walk with the Lord, I was struck with how readily I could relate to these words, especially in verse 7. There's no question about it, the LORD has dealt bountifully with me; and in light of that, my soul can... it ought to... rest. Sometimes it helps to talk to your soul about how things really are. The Lord has dealt bountifully with all of us, hasn't He? Reflect... Remember... and Rest!

To God be all the glory!

Grace and peace,

Pastor Craig

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