



November

THE FAMILY

Evangelical Presbyterian Church

NOVEMBER 2011



- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 4 Vera Hall | 15 Gloria Livaudais |
| 4 Austin Hall | 15 Seth Davis |
| 5 Samara Sartain | 17 David Strnad |
| 6 Adam Smith | 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 |
| | 29 Mark Patheal |



"O magnify the LORD with me,
and let us exalt his name together."
Psalm 151:1

Financial Update

		YTD
September 2011		
Giving Income	20,958	222,300
Expenses	25,232	233,608
NET	(4,274)	(13,531)

Kitchen Clean-up for November

Mary Jones and Shirley Ransom

Fellowship Lunch Hosts and Hostesses

November 13, 2011

- *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



Music Ministry

“There’s only One who could remedy our human condition, and only One Who did. Light came to shine in our darkness. Peace came to give rest to our warring. Love came to give life. In one unimaginable gesture, God Himself chose to become one of us...for all of us. And Jesus – the Word, the Father’s full expression of Himself – became flesh.”

Marty Parks

Plan to be a part of LIGHT LOOKED DOWN, by Marty Parks, the presentation by Voices of Worship Adult Choir and Joyful Sounds and More Children’s Choir, on Sunday, December 11, 6:00 p.m. We will follow the regular format from the last few years, in that, we will sit around tables. The evening’s presentation will be in two parts with a short time for food and fellowship in the middle. Please bring Christmas “goodies” to share during the fellowship time. Also keep in mind that we may have a large number of visitors here, due to our outreach with the children.

Please be in prayer for the choirs as they continue to rehearse for this musical. Also join us in prayer for all who attend. May lives be touched, and may anyone, who does not know Jesus, come to know Him in a very real and personal way.

In His Service,
Sarah Joe



Don’t forget to set your clocks back on November 6th.



Young at Heart will meet Tuesday, November 29, in the Choir Room, at 10:30 a.m. Lunch plans will be announced later. (Note: This is the 5th Tuesday, rather than the 4th, due to Thanksgiving.)



Children’s Ministry

Hello EPCers! Even though I am writing this before the Harvest Festival has even occurred, I want to thank everyone who signed up to help with games, food, donations, candy and set-up. It is my prayer that as we open our church and our hearts to those in our community, we will have the opportunity and the privilege to share Christ with them on a personal level. I am blessed to see so many of you already pursuing Christ through your pursuit of the lost or hurting. I'm thankful to be part of a church family who is used by God to make an eternal difference. I love you all!

In His Name,
Angie



The Youth and Young Adult Ministry

Church Family,

How do you understand and apply the Bible? This question is one few Christians can answer but it is a question that the long-term teenagers at Willoughby asked me to teach on. To that end two things have happened. First, *ESV Student Study Bibles* were purchased through the donations of EPC members and were handed out to the four long-term teenagers at Willoughby. Second, I have begun teaching a course entitled "How to Understand and Apply the Bible" at Willoughby. These three young men and one young lady are grasping for truth and requested that I teach these things to them. The Spirit of God, brothers and sisters, is moving at Willoughby Juvenile Detention Center. Praise be to God!

Here at EPC the Spirit is moving as well. Our Sunday Night Youth meetings have seen significant growth which has caused us to go over our food budget for the year. (We are now feeding twice as many students as before.) This growth is the fruit of the evangelistic work of our members, for which I thank God daily. We have some amazing men and women, "young" and "old," who want to see God magnified in the lives of teenagers. Whether it's throwing a football around, face painting, or simple conversations, relationships are being formed that are leading to gospel conversations. The gospel "is bearing fruit and growing" (Colossians 1:6).

So let's celebrate God's move here at EPC. The move is *outward*, into the community, as all proper evangelism is. Remember, we do not have a "come-and-see" gospel. We have a "go-and-tell" one. Or, as we were exhorted at our

missions conference, we should strive to be one of "them" (Matthew 28:18). We are disciples stirring up disciples. Brothers and sisters, **we have the gospel** (Romans 1:16).

Christ's and yours,
Ben



Happy Thanksgiving (food for thought from the Turkey)

"I have never understood why anyone would roast the turkey and shuck the clams and crisp the croutons and shell the peas and candy the sweet potatoes and compote the cranberries and bake the pies and clear the table and wash the dishes and fall into bed exhausted when they could just as easily sit back and enjoy a hamburger or a pork sandwich."

The Turkey



Women In Ministry

Dear Sisters,

We had a wonderful time at our organizational meeting. We thanked all who have worked hard for the last year and now we have a year of fellowship and the work of the church ahead of us.

Concerning fellowship, we would like to have more women's get-togethers this year. If you have ideas, please let Christy Sorenson or me know. Concerning the work of the church, Nancy Strnad would like to have an assistant to help her with the fellowship lunch.

Remember the story of the lady who wanted to be buried with a fork in her hand. She was

often told at church suppers to Keep her fork because "the best is yet to come," meaning dessert. She was looking forward to her future in the Lord's presence. May we have the same attitude. Keep your fork!

Love, Julie



I've been reading and contemplating Christ in The Gospel of Mark in my personal devotions. It is SO refreshing to think on Him! Today, in my email inbox, this timely message arrived, and I thought you might be encouraged, too (the underlining is mine):

The only relief for spiritual deadness

Do any of us find decays of grace prevailing in us; deadness, coldness, lukewarmness, a kind of spiritual stupidity and senselessness coming upon us? Do we find an unreadiness unto the exercise of grace in its proper season and the vigorous acting of it in duties of communion with God? And would we have our souls recovered from these dangerous diseases? Let us assure ourselves there is no better way for our healing and deliverance, yea no other way but this alone, namely, the obtaining a fresh view of the glory of Christ by faith, and a steady abiding therein. Constant contemplation of Christ and his glory putting forth its transforming power unto revival of all grace, is the only relief in this case.

— John Owen, *The Works of John Owen* (Carlisle, Pa.: Banner of Truth, 1965, 1993)

One of my seminary professors once facetiously told us, "Only pick dead heroes. They will never let you down." Well, John Owen (1616-1683) is one of my heroes of our faith. His comment above expresses an idea I have believed for a long time. Seeing it in Owen's words reinforces

my conviction because Owen was such a faithful man and a brilliant teacher of sound biblical doctrine.

When I'm feeling spiritually spent or cold, I can usually trace it to focusing on ministry – or just about anything else – rather than focusing on Jesus. And then I remember what the author of Hebrews said to do in order to run the race marked out for us with perseverance: "Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith" (Hebrews 12:1-2). In weal or woe, look to Jesus!

So as I said, I've been camping out in the Gospel of Mark and meditating on my blessed and glorious Lord. When I do that, I'm almost always uplifted. Give me Jesus, and you can have all the rest.

Do you need refreshment?

Christ is all!

Under His Mercy,
Pastor Craig

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