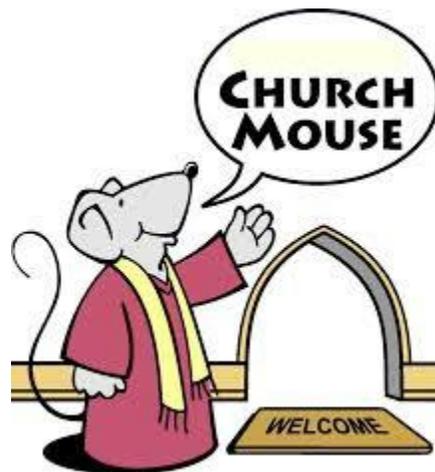


EATONTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



February/March 2016



307 North Madison Avenue | Eatonton, GA 31024 | 706-485-1103

www.eatontonpc.com



MOUSE MUSINGS – Van Nesbit

Dear EPC Friends and Family,

On April 4, 2010, I had the honor to stand at the pulpit and pronounce the Apostolic Blessing and proclaim the gospel for the first time. Almost six years later, I will preach the gospel and give the benediction as the Minister of Word and Sacrament for EPC for the final time. I began learning that first Easter Sunday that things were different at EPC when I watched everyone look on in shock as I swallowed the Host too soon. Yes, you taught me more than I ever expected to learn.

I learned the quickest way to the hospitals in Athens, Milledgeville, and Macon. I learned where the nursing homes were in Eatonton, Greensboro, Social Circle, and Gray. I learned the funeral homes and the cemeteries, too. I learned about the Dairy Capital of Georgia and its Festival. I learned that you really shouldn't have a fish fry on the hottest day of the summer. I learned about Friends and Family feasts. I learned to eat before the Men of the Church breakfasts (so I wouldn't be tempted to consume too much grease). I learned to time the Easter Sunrise Service so the fountain would spring to 'life' at just the right moment.

I could go on and on, but the many hundreds of kindnesses that Peggy and I received from the saints at EPC are simply too many to even begin listing. Let me say that the greatest honor one can be given is to be accepted as family and included in weddings, baptisms, and funerals. We have shared each other's mountain-top moments and those final footsteps through the darkest valley before our loved ones have gone home. Thank you for sharing your lives and your faith with us.

I am glad that our time together is ending for such positive reasons. With the call to Rev. Hart, EPC will be looking to begin a new era of service and growth. Our prayers for you and the church will be ones of thanksgiving and continued blessings. Peggy and I are preparing for our son's wedding in May and I hope to receive a call to another church by the close of the summer.

I learned long ago that you must go where the Lord leads you. I will always be grateful that our Lord led me to Eatonton and to you. I will be leaving Eatonton, but I'll continue to keep you in my heart and my prayers.

Yours in Christ, Van



PRAYER LIST

Prayer List: [Church Family]: Louise Poole, Janet Sidwell, Frances Poole, Dave & Jeannine Malm, Aileen & Stan Broome, Veta Powers, Bobby Hill, Hilda Spurlock, Toni Davis.

[Friends]: D Ridley (friend of many of our EPC Family), Chipper & Allison Yates (family of Toni & Monty Davis), Glen Sisson (uncle of Dottie Alliston & Joyce Gunn), Harold Little (uncle of Joyce Gunn & Dottie Alliston), Chris Malm (son of Dave & Jeannine Malm), Kenneth Holmes (father-in-law of Christa Holmes), Dennis Ballou (friend of Dick & Doris Findlay), Joyce Spivey (mother of Sheridan Qualls).

MISSIONS AND STEWARDSHIP – Frank Barbato



MISSIONS

Wednesday, March 9th is the date scheduled for our visit by John and Gwenda Fletcher, our Missionaries who serve in the Congo. We will be hosting a potluck supper beginning at 5:30 on the 9th and will hear a presentation from the Fletchers after the meal. Please invite friends, family and neighbors to visit with the Fletchers and hear about their work in Africa. Please bring a dish to share on the table. A Love Offering will be collected to help the Fletchers offset their travel expenses.

If anyone needs a ride to church on the evening of the 9th, please contact a member of the session and we will help with transportation.





SESSION HIGHLIGHTS – Sue Paulin

- Susie G'Segner is the Clerk of Session for 2016
- Congregational Meeting on February 21, 2016
- We will have an Easter Sunrise Service on March 27th with FBC and FUMC
- March 9th Potluck Dinner with the Fletchers, Missionaries from Congo
- Ordered 32 Easter Lilies for delivery on March 21st



IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

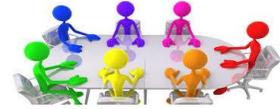
Sunday February 28th will be the last day that Pastor Van and Peggy will be with our Congregation. Immediately following the service on the 28th, we will all join in fellowship with Van and Peggy and wish them well in life's journey of serving the people of God.

We are asking members of the Congregation to bring "finger foods", i.e., small sandwiches, desserts, etc. to the Fellowship Hall prior to the service. There will be a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board to list what you will be bringing to the table. The church will provide beverages.

Sunday March 6th will be Pastor Garland's first day with us as our pastor. We will once again gather in the Fellowship Hall immediately after the service to meet Garland in person. We ask that members bring similar "finger foods" to share on Sunday the 6th as well. There will also be a sign-up sheet for that date on the bulletin board. The church will provide beverages.

The
HEAVENS
declare the
glory of God;
the **Skies**
proclaim the work
of his **HANDS**
Psalm 19:1

PASTORAL NOMINATING COMMITTEE – Frank Barbato



As part of the process of Calling a Pastor, the Calling Church prepares and posts information on the Presbyterian Church Leadership Connection Website. The document is referred to as the **Ministry Information Form**. Pastors looking to move to a new Church download information into the Presbyterian Church website as well, and their information is referred to as their **Personal Information Form**. There is then a process that evaluates and matches information provided on the MIF with submitted PIFs. Matching information is submitted to the local Presbytery where backgrounds are checked and references are contacted.

The Committee on Ministry at the Presbytery forwards information to the calling Church with recommendations on individuals they believe best match the wishes and needs of the congregation. It then becomes the responsibility of the Pastoral Nominating Committee to decide on which candidate best fills the need of the Church, but most importantly, who they believe is the Pastor chosen and sent by God's will. Reverend Garland Hart was chosen and has answered our call.

Part of the information submitted on a Pastors Personal Information Form is that pastors Statement of Faith. Our Pastoral Nomination Committee wishes to share with you Reverend Hart's Statement of Faith.

I believe in the Trinity, God revealing himself to the world in three distinct ways.

I believe in God the Creator.

God created the world and rules everything.

I affirm God's care and control in the regularity of the universe.

God is present in every event.

God's ultimate purpose in every event is just and loving.

The Creator works in all things toward the new creation which is promised in Christ.

I believe in God the Christ who came into the world as a child, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of Mary.

I affirm that Jesus was born of God's power.

The coming of Jesus was fulfillment of prophecy.

Jesus brings to us the relationship with God that God always intended.

Through his life, death and resurrection, Jesus makes eternal life with God possible for us.

PASTORAL NOMINATING COMMITTEE – continued

When Jesus died on the cross, he bore the sins of the world for the forgiveness of our sins.

God was reconciling the world to himself.

Our only hope for salvation is to be found in Christ.

I believe in God the Spirit, the Giver of Life.

The Spirit enables people to become believers.

The Spirit makes us aware of our sins, moves us to leave our old ways of life, encourages us to trust in Christ and adopt his way.

We are justified and reconciled to God, not by our faith, but by God's grace.

Yet we accept God's grace only by faith and live by it.

As most of you are aware, Reverend Garland Hart will be joining Eatonton Presbyterian as our new full time Pastor on March 1st. The Session is calling a Congregational Meeting for February 21st immediately following the service, to ask the congregation to vote and approve the Call of Garland Hart as our new Minister. We have asked Reverend Hart to be with us on Sunday February 21st and partake in the Service with Pastor Van. He has agreed to do so and will be preaching the sermon.



TREASURER'S REPORT – Dottie Alliston

| | January 2016 | YTD 2016 |
|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Income | \$9,875.35 | \$9,875.35 |
| Expenses | <u>\$8,740.29</u> | <u>\$8,740.29</u> |
| Surplus or (Deficit) | \$1,135.06 | \$1,135.06 |

A memorial in memory of Chase Montgomery was received from Mr. & Mrs. Bubba Gunn.

In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust; let me never be ashamed; deliver me in thy righteousness. Bow down thine ear to me, deliver me speedily! Be thou my strong rock, for a house of defense to save me.

-Psalms 31:1-2



Like us on Facebook



@ Eatonton Presbyterian Youth



A Valentine Letter to YOU

This week I have been going through the thousands (yes, thousands) of pictures I have taken over our six years at EPC. I am leaving digital files for your archives.

This is what I saw: Baby faces yearning to be older and take on the world. Young faces full of joy, promise, questioning and determination to make the world better. Middle aged faces full of drive, ambition and hope for a better world. Older faces (who have changed the world) full of wisdom, encouragement and love.

Those babies have gotten their wish. Our six years with you have passed so quickly, but you have given us a lifetime of lessons and memories that we will never forget, family that we will always love, and a church home that we will continue to pray for as you welcome new faces and move ahead to change the world!

Thank you for the many ways you have ministered to Van and me and loved us. We love you all!

To the children and YOUth of EPC: you have definitely changed my world! Thanks for putting up with all my crazy plans and heavy-duty mothering. You have made my time at EPC so much fun! With each of you (Angel, Arryanna, Bobby, Carolyn, Colin, Emily, Hart, Holt, James, Jim, Joel, Kendell, Lily, Macclellan, Robert, Sara, Spivey, Sydney, Travis, and Thomas) I leave a piece of my heart. I have confidence that you will share the love you have shown to me through your faith, actions, and caring. Take on this world and make it a better place, so that all who know you throughout your lives can say they have seen the face of Jesus in you. I have seen your hearts and have been blessed to see Jesus in each of your faces. Please know that you are precious and you are loved.

I will miss you, so keep me posted. You can text, FB, snail mail or call.

“Oh the places we went, the fun we had, and the faith and struggles we shared!”

In His love always, Peggy

Please sign up in the fellowship hall to feed the YOUth.

YOUth Meetings are at 12 noon until 2 PM on the 2nd and 4th
Sundays of each month for all youth from grades 5-12+.

Our mission is: Worship, Service, and Fellowship



February 2016

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|----------------------|---|----------|---|--|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| | Bible Study 4:00 Adult Choir Practice 5:00 Handbell Choir Practice 6:00 | <i>Groundhog Day</i> |  Travis Bridges | | | YOUth Pancake Breakfast 8:00- 10:00  Jeannine Malm and Levi Miller |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| SS 9:45 Worship 11:00 Session Meeting 1:30 | Bible Study 4:00 Adult Choir Practice 5:00 Handbell Choir Practice 6:00 | EPC Woman 9:45 | Ash Wednesday Service 6:00 | | Mouse Articles Due | |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| SS 9:45 Worship 11:00 YOUth meeting 12:00 <i>Valentine's Day</i> | Bible Study 4:00 Adult Choir Practice 5:00 Handbell Choir Practice 6:00 <i>President's Day</i> | | | |  Joan Warren | |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| SS 9:45 Worship 11:00 Congregational Meeting 12:00  Madelyn Wharton | Bible Study 4:00 Adult Choir Practice 5:00 Handbell Choir Practice 6:00 | | | |  David Thomas | |
| 28 | 29 | | | | | |
| SS 9:45 Worship 11:00 Nesbit's Reception 12:00 YOUth meeting 12:00 | Bible Study 4:00 Adult Choir Practice 5:00 Handbell Choir Practice 6:00 | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| notes |  Birthday  Anniversary | | | | | |





March 2016

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|----------------|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| | | Rev. Hart's first day | Bubba Gunn | | Beth Alford and Nicolas Sturm | Russell Thomas |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| Rev. Hart's first Sunday SS 9:45 Worship 11:00 Reception 12:00 Session Meeting 1:30 Jim Morgan | Bible Study 4:00 Adult Choir Practice 5:00 Handbell Choir Practice 6:00 Spivey Davis and Emily Morgan | EPC Woman 9:45 J.T. Sidwell | Potluck Supper with Missionaries | Christie Sturm | Mouse Articles Due | |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| SS 9:45 Worship 11:00 <i>Daylight Savings Time Begins</i> | Bible Study 4:00 Adult Choir Practice 5:00 Handbell Choir Practice 6:00 | | Fred Floyd | Thomas Davis <i>St. Patrick's Day</i> | Tyler Alliston | |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| SS 9:45 Worship 11:00 <i>Palm Sunday</i> | Bible Study 4:00 Adult Choir Practice 5:00 Handbell Choir Practice 6:00 | | | <i>Maundy Thursday</i> | <i>Good Friday</i> | Leon Smith |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | |
| Sunrise Service SS 9:45 Worship 11:00 <i>Easter</i> | Bible Study 4:00 Adult Choir Practice 5:00 Handbell Choir Practice 6:00 | | | | | |
| notes | Birthday Anniversary | | | | | |

MARCH



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We're on the Web!
See us at:
www.eatontonpc.com

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