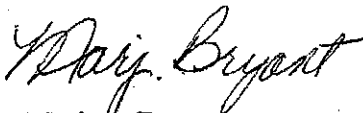


Just a note to update you on a few things that have what has been going on with Elm Street Presbyterian Church.

The Designated Pastor Nominating Committee is in a holding pattern right now. The Church Information Form is on line now and we are waiting (not so patiently) for responses. Dale Vandiver, from the Committee on Ministry, attended our last Session meeting and at the present time has no names to give us. He did suggest we extend our area of search, which we approved of his doing. So please continue with your prayers for responses to our CIF.

As you know, we are meeting with Twelfth Street Presbyterian Church regarding possible merger in the next few years. We have had several meetings expressing our concerns, sharing church information, etc. The committee comprised of Chance Shewmake, Cathy Bryant, John Kennedy and Marj Bryant and four members from 12th Street are studying the feasibility of this process. As I said before only the congregation can make this decision. The congregation of 12th Street worshipped with us on October 18 and 25, 2009. We enjoyed their fellowship with a special coffee hour one Sunday and a potluck the other. **We will be attending their worship service on Sunday, December 6, 2009, which starts at 10:30 am. There will be no service at ESPC.** We hope to have as good a response, as 12th Street did, to show your support. If you have any questions or suggestions see one of the committee members.

The Alton Area Presbyterian Churches are still meeting monthly. The next meeting is Wednesday, November 18, 2009 at 7:00 pm at 12th Street Presbyterian Church. A Musical Program and Potluck are being planned for Saturday, January 30, 2010. So save this date and more information will be made known after the next meeting. If interested anyone can attend the meetings, new people, new ideas.



Marjory Bryant
Clerk of Session

To start the Prayer Chain for someone in need of prayers call Mary Cordes at 618-465-1760 or 462-0677 ext 2835 or Marj Bryant at 618-466-5421 or 466-6005. We could use a few more people on the prayer chain, some of our callers have moved, others no longer have a telephone accessible. Mary and Marj get the request for the special prayers and they in turn call those they are to call, who in turn call their people on down the line. Then all are saying prayers for this person. Please contact either Mary or Marj if you would like to be part of the chain or have questions.

Next Elm Leaf Deadline
Friday, December 18, 2009

ESPC Web Site
<http://espcalton.tripod.com>

LITURGISTS

November 1 - Richard Sisk

8 - Michael Stolze

15 - Ann McLaughlin

22 - Chance Shewmake

29 - Debbie Wallace

December 6 - worship at 12th St. PC

13 - Chance Shewmake

20 - Richard Sisk

27 - Marjory Bryant

USHERS

November - Stewardship Committee

December -

As you can see we are desperately in need of ushers. If you can't usher every Sunday of the month sign up for the Sundays you can. Please volunteer. Sign up sheet in the sanctuary.

COMMUNION SERVERS

November 15 Marj Bryant, Chr.,
Sue Bryant, Audrey Stewart,
Lyndal Colburn, John Kennedy,
Ann McLaughlin (set up & serve)

December - Intinction

Kathy Steinmann, Chr., Chance Shewmake,
Terri Darr, Tanya Sisk
Katy Jarman (set up & serve)

ATTENDANCE

8/23 - 42, 8/30 - 33, 9/6 - 37, 9/13 - 43,
9/20 - 28, 9/27 - 47, 10/4 - 41, 10/11 - 30
10/18 - 78, 10/25 - 82, 11/1 - 40, 11/8 - 41

BIRTHDAYS

November

3.....Amanda Phelps
5.....Brent Phelps
6.....Greg Lister
7.....Esther Bott
11.....Norma Waggoner
12.....Debbie Wallace
18.....Florence Earnhardt
23.....Shaun Wallace
26.....Nancy Bailey
30.....Louise Norman

December

8.....Willa Humenick
13.....Marilyn Stephens
14.....Tanya Sisk
15.....Tess Phelps
16.....Jamie McLaughlin
18.....Joshua Shewmake
20.....Mildred Maguire
21.....Pat Gross
Emily Schultz
Dale Bailey
24.....Michael Gunning
28.....Lauren McLaughlin
29.....Garrett Oxford
31.....Lori Wedding

If I have missed your birthday, I'm truly sorry. I hope it was a good one. Please, let me know when it was.
Marj Bryant

THANK YOU'S

Thanks to those who helped serve the Salvation Army meal on September 19. They were *Harry Fessler, Carole Springgate, Richard Hetge, JoAnn Phelps, Jamie and Ann McLaughlin*

Thanks to *Richard Hetge* for having the Roberts and Phelps Memorial Benches refinished and replacing all of the light bulbs with new energy efficient light bulbs.

Thank you ESPC for the prayers and condolences on the death of my mother
Jenny Wyatt and family

A Special Thank you to all who helped make the Potluck happen on Sunday, October 25. Those who planned, those who set up, those who served and helped clean up. God Bless You All! You are ESPC.

Many thanks to all my friends at Elm St. for making my 75th Birthday so special. Your thoughts and efforts made everything just perfect. I won't forget this birthday.
Thanks again, Carole Springgate

I'd like to thank *Richard Hetge* for helping get the curtains down and up again from each side of the "choir" loft so they could be washed and refreshed once again. *Verna Wilson*

And thanks to *Verna Wilson* for washing those curtains and bringing them back clean and pressed.

CONGRATULATIONS

On the births September 4, 2009 of
Brendan Michael Sisk - 6# 13oz
Brittany Lynn Sisk - 6#
Parents - Bryan and Stacy Sisk
Grandparents - *Tanya and Richard Sisk*

Matthew Stolze, son of Pam & Rick Stolze, grandson of Zada and Chance Shewmake, who graduated Magna Cum Laude from Robert Morris College in Springfield on May 15. He was the class representative member of the Eagle Scholar Program and the editor of the school newspaper, The Eagle. He earned a bachelor's degree in graphic art and design. He is employed at Robert Morris and the Illinois Institute for Continuing Legal Education and is also a freelance designer.

New Addresses

Marjorie Johnson's new room number in White Hall is 43-C

CRISIS FOOD CENTER REPORT

ESPC sent 110 items to the Crisis Food Center since reported in our last newsletter. We have received several letters from the CFC thanking us for our donations. Ninety one new families came to the food center in October. The holidays are approaching, Thanksgiving and Christmas so they need turkeys, etc. So continue with your donations. **The Session voted to give the Crisis Food Center the money collected in the Lost Coin Ministry for the months of October and November. Give generously.**

DEACONS REPORT

The Deacons are asking you to continue using your green Deacon Fund envelope (found in with your pledge envelopes) as often as you can. their money goes fast. **They are still collecting empty ink-jet cartridges with printer heads, don't forget to bring your empty ones in. The Deacons are selling Watkins products through November 15, 2009., so that your order will be back for your Thanksgiving cooking.**

SESSION INFORMATION

The Session met on Tuesday, September 23 with Rev. George Humbert as moderator. The Session approved:
1. Minutes of all previous meetings.

2. To help a member of the United African Presbyterian Church in St. Louis with money to continue her nursing studies so she can go back to her home in Kenya to help her people and to help this church paint their facilities when a date is set.
3. To use the Lost Coin offering for August and September to help her and to use the Lost Coin Offering for October and November for the Crisis Food Center.

The Session meet on Tuesday, November 3, 2009 with Rev. Jay Kanerva as Moderator.

The following were approved:

1. Minutes of all previous meetings.
2. Cathy Bryant to serve as Elder Commissioner at Presbytery on November 14, 2009.
3. To disband the Sunshiners group and put their treasury balance in the church's general fund.
4. To leave the youth group bank account as is.
5. Approved the Slate of Officers Class of 2012
Elders - Lyndal Colburn, Mary Cordes and Richard Sisk
Deacons - Tanya Sisk, Katy Jarman and Terri Darr
5. Set the date of December 13, 2009 for a Congregational meeting to approve the Slate of Officers and December 24, 2009, Christmas Eve to Ordain and Install the new officers.

The Per Capita for 2010
is \$25.98 per member not family

Outreach Committee

The committee has met several times. They are adding to the Calling list and are also sending out thinking of you cards. They gave \$100.00 to help those going to New Orleans on the Katrina Mission and \$100.00 to the young lady from Kenya for her schooling. They are planning a special service for the church's 90th Birthday and a light luncheon catered by Mary Busler. They will also be giving to First Fruits, Kemmerer Home, Arms of Love, the young girl they sponsor and 20 angels for the Prison Fellowship Angel Tree program.

Since there have been no offers of a Coffee Hour coordinator, it has been decided to have a coffee hour on the second and last Sundays of the month. If you would like to volunteer to host a coffee hour on any Sunday, see Sue Bryant. On Sundays when no coffee hour is scheduled if you make coffee and get out the supplies you will be responsible for cleaning up after worship

Worship Committee

The Worship Committee met on Thursday, October 15, 2009 at 6:00 pm.

Scheduled Preaching:

- Nov. 1 - Cherilyn Trusty
- Nov. 8 - Patrick Thatcher, CLP
- Nov. 15 - Rev. Joan Marshall
- Nov. 22 - Patrick Thatcher, CLP
- Nov. 29 - Patrick Thatcher, CLP
- Dec. 6 -ESPC goes to 12th Street PC
- Dec. 13 - Rev. George Humbert
- Dec. 20 - Cantata
- Dec. 24 - Rev. George Humbert

Special Services:

- Nov. 8 - Honoring Veterans
- Nov. 22 - Hanging of the Green, Honor Patrick Thatcher, ESPC's 90th Birthday
- Dec. 6 - ESPC at 12th St. PC
- Dec. 20 - Cantata and Christmas Brunch
- Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve Service - Ordination and Installation of Officers Class of 2012

The Advent themes will be Waiting, Preparing, Rejoicing, Loving and Arriving.

A Sunday school teacher asked her class. "What was Jesus' mother's name?" One child answered, "Mary." The teacher than asked, "Who knows what Jesus' father's name was?" A little kid said, "Verge." Confused, the teacher asked, "Where did you get that?" The kid said, "Well, you know, they are always talking about Verge n' Mary."

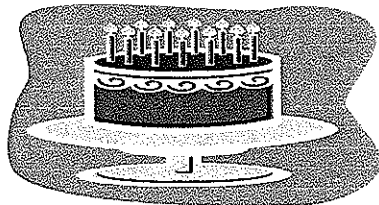
UPCOMING EVENTS

Choir Practice is on Thursdays at 7:00 pm. It is open to those who feel the call to praise the Lord. Come join us.

Over 55 Tuesday, December 8 - Missouri Botanical Gardens to see two special Christmas exhibits, both in the main building. One is the Gardenland Express. Eight model trains will travel along 800 feet of railway track in the Floral Display Hall through a colorful palette of plants, flowers and garden landmarks in miniature. The other exhibit is of holiday wreaths, designed by area floral designers. Unless you want to go in the garden, you can spend the entire day in the main building eating lunch (On your Own) and visiting the gift shop. Cost of the event is \$33.00 which includes bus, garden and exhibit admissions. Leave CAPC at 9:00 am

All Alton Presbyterian Churches are meeting and planning events.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, November 13, at 7:00 pm at 12th Street Presbyterian Church.



ESPC will be celebrating it's 90th Birthday on Sunday, November 22, 2009, which will also be the Hanging of the Greens Sunday. A light luncheon will be served. If you have a church memory to share call the church office.

Catholic Children's Home Open House - Sunday, November 22, from 1:00 to 5:00 pm at 1400 State Street, Alton, IL.

Refreshments will be served and you will have the opportunity to meet the staff and take a tour that outlines programs and

services offered. If you or someone you know has a story, or thought to share about the Catholic Children's Home, please send them to 1400 State Street Alton IL attention of Michael Montez or email to Info@catholicchildrenshome.com or call 618-465-3594.



ESPC will be ringing bells for the Salvation on Saturday, December 5, 2009 at the Godfrey Schnuck's Store. Come in and sign up if you would like to participate.

On Saturday, December 19, 2009 ESPC will be working at Rock Spring Park, Christmas Wonderland. If you would like to help come in or call the church office.



On Sunday, December 6, 2009, the congregation of ESPC will be

attending the Worship Service at Twelfth Street Presbyterian Church. Their service starts at 10:30 am

ESPC let's have as good a turn out at their church as they did at our Worship Service.

There will be a Congregational Meeting following Worship on Sunday, December 13 to vote on the Slate of Officers Class of 2012.

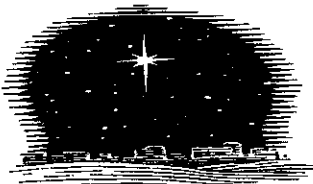
Christmas Cantata, "Emmanuel"



Celebrating Heaven's Child Sunday, December 20, 2009



The Christmas Brunch will on Sunday, December 20, 2009 following the Cantata. Because of the economy the cost will be \$5.00 for adults, \$3.00 for youth 6-12 and under six free. Tickets will be available on Sunday, November 22, 2009.



Christmas Eve Worship Service
Thursday, December 24, 2009
at 5:30 pm Rev. George Humbert will be leading the service.
Ordination and Installation of the Officers Class of 2012 will done during this service.

The Christmas Joy Offering will be collected in December. Did you know in 2008 ESPC collected \$413.21 for the Christmas Joy Offering?
In 2009 ESPC collected \$502.00 for One Great Hour of Sharing

Rev. Humbert sent this to the office and I thought all might enjoy it also.

This poem is done to the cadence of Joyce Kilmer's poem "Trees"

I think that I shall never see
A Church that's all it ought to be;
A church whose members never stray
Beyond the straight and narrow way;
Whose pastor never has the blues
Because the faithful tithe their dues;
A church whose deacons always "deac"
And none are proud and all are meek,
Where gossips never peddle lies,
Or make complaints or criticize;
Where all are always sweet and kind,
And all to others' faults are blind.
Such perfect churches there may be,
But none of them is known to me.
But still I'll work and pray and plan
To make our own the best I can.

Taken from the Mizpah Congregational Church bulletin, Hopkins, Minnesota

NOVEMBER 2009

<u>Sunday</u> 1	<u>Monday</u> 2	<u>Tuesday</u> 3	<u>Wednesday</u> 4	<u>Thursday</u> 5	<u>Friday</u> 6	<u>Saturday</u> 7
9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Prayer 10:15 Worship Cherilyn trusty	7 pm Outreach Committee meets 8 pm AA/Al Anon	7 pm Sesssion	7 pm Boy Scout T-7	6:30 pm Girl Scout -CE Bldg 7 pm Choir practice	6:30 pm Girl Scout -CE Bldg 7 pm Choir practice	9:00 am Presbytery at Hillside PC House Spirings, MO
8 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Prayer 10:15 Worship Honoring our Veterans Patrick Thatcher CLP	9 8 pm AA/Al Anon	10 6:30 pm Girl Scouts - church	11 8:15 Over 55 trip St. Louis Ragtimers 7 pm Boy Scout T-7	12 6:30 pm Girl Scout -CE Bldg 7 pm Choir practice	13	14 9:00 am Presbytery at Hillside PC House Spirings, MO
15 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Prayer 10:15 Worship Communion	16 6:30pm Deacons meet 8 pm AA/Al Anon	17 6:30 pm B&P Women meet	18 7 pm Boy Scout T - 7 7pm Alton Area PC meet at 12 th St. PC	19 6:30 pm Girl Scout -CE Bldg 7 pm Choir practice	20	21 ESPC - Salvation Army meal
22 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Prayer 10:15 Worship Hanging of the Greens Church's 90 th Anniversary Celebration Patrick Thatcher CLP	23 8 pm AA/AL-Anon	24 6:30 pm Girl Scouts - church 7 pm Session	25 7 pm Boy Scout T-7	26 Thanksgiving Office Closed	27 Office Closed	28
29 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Prayer 10:15 Worship 1 st Sunday of Advent Theme-Waiting	30 8 pm AA/Al Anon					

DECEMBER 2009

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
5 ESPC rings bells for the Salvation Army at the Godfrey Schnucks		1. 7 pm Boy Scout T-7	2 6:30 pm Girl Scout -CE Bldg 7 pm Choir practice	3 6:30 pm Girl Scout -CE Bldg 7 pm Choir practice	4	5 ESPC - working at Christmas Wonderland Rock Spring Park
6 10:30 am ESPC will be worshipping at the Twelfth Street Presbyterian Church	7 7pm Outreach Committee meets .8 pm AA/Al Anon	8 9am Over 55 trip MO Botanical Gardens 6:30 pm Girl Scouts - church	9 7 pm Boy Scout T-7	10 6:30 pm Girl Scout -CE Bldg 7 pm Choir practice	11	12
13 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Prayer 10:15 Worship Congregational meeting Rev. George Humbert Theme-Rejoicing	14 8 pm AA/Al Anon	15 6:30 pm B&P Women	16 7 pm Boy Scout T - 7	17 6:30pm Girl Scout -CE Bldg 7 pm Choir practice	18	19 ESPC - working at Christmas Wonderland Rock Spring Park
20 10:00 Prayer 10:15 Cantata Christmas Brunch Theme-Loving	21 6:30 pm Deacons meet .8 pm AA/AL-Anon	22 6:30 pm Girl Scouts - church 7 pm Sesssion?	23 7 pm Boy Scout T-7	24 5:30 pm Christmas Eve Service Ordination and Installation of Officers Rev. George Humbert Theme-Arriving	25 Christmas Day Office Closed	26
27 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Prayer 10:15 Worship	28 8pm AA/Al Anon	29	30	31		

Elm Leaf Prayer Concerns - November & December 2009

"Members"

Esther & Bill Bott
Florence & Dan Earnhardt
Nellie Smithee
Evert Kingery
Jeannette Greene
June Justice
Lois Mitchell
Loretta Tague
Richard Sisk
Debbie Wallace

"In The Nursing Home"

Pat Gross.....Willow Rose
Lorene Peterson... St. Patrick's Residence
Clarabel Park.....Royal Oak Care Ctr.
Jean Freer.....Eunice Smith Nsg Home
Marjorie Johnson... White Hall Nsg & Rehab Ctr.
Willanette Ball.....Methodist Village
Ruth Wilson.....Robing's Manor
Sonia Hetge.....Jerseyville Manor

Relatives and Friends of ESPC

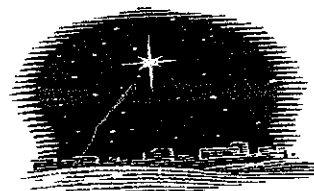
Dorothy Crabtree Louise Norman's sister
Gene & Anna Hopkins.....Kathy Steinmann's parents
Carol Jo & Don Domesick, Helen Waggoner..... Carole Springgate
Margo & Robert Greenwell..... Debbie Wallace
Mike & Lori Mortland & Debbie Kanyo..... Ann McLaughlin
Dorothy Conner..... friend of Mildred Maguire
The Reynolds family.....Cherilyn Trusty's Family
Scott BryantSon of Cathy Bryant
Kathy Shewmake.....Zada and Chance's daughter
Kin Stiebel.....daughter-in-law of Joyce Schrupf Goethe
Gary Lee Roberts.....nephew of Marjorie Johnson
Judy Stice.....friend of Nancy Bailey
Winifred Orris
Marilyn Law.....friend of Audrey Stewart
Ellen Hanold.....friend of Terri Darr
Joshua Shewmake.....grandson of Zada and Chance Shewmake
Dale Bailey.....Nancy Bailey's husband
Barb Markadonis & Ruth Roth..... The Bryant Family
Kathy Rain & Rachael Catanzaro..... friends of ESPC
The family of Lorene Schrieber..... Mildred Maguire's sister
Jane Hellrung
Gary Ralston..... Ann McLaughlin's father
Amanda Panyik,, Sue and Terry Heigert, Joe Mercurio friends of the Stolzes
Mary Calendar.....Katy Jarman's mother, Chance Shewmake's sister
Dennis Rucker , Carl Haworth, Sharon Held
The Family of Lynn Bushnell Pinkowski.....friend of Sue Bryant
Revs. Jay & Liz Kanerva
Mary Kay Ryan and Tim Murphy.....friends of John Kennedy
Barbara Olson

***If you know of anyone that can be taken off of the prayer list,
please call the church office and let us know.***

**ELM STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
101 WEST ELM STREET
ALTON, ILLINOIS 62002**

Elm Leaf

November & December Issue 2009



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday 8:30 am - 12:30 pm

Church Phone 618-466-5421 FAX 618-466-5475

Email ELMSTPRESBYCHURCH@SBCGLOBAL.NET

Web site: <http://espealton.tripod.com>

Cherilyn Trusty...Organist/Choir Director

Marjory Bryant...Administrative Assistant