

The "Good News" Paper

EAST MAIN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

"Every (worship) service is a tiny part of a magnificent, glorious service that is taking place all the time in heaven. Every time we worship we are joining with ten thousand times ten thousand angels in the adoration of God: every hymn we sing, every prayer we pray is part of something unimaginably lovelier, bigger, and richer than the thing we do." Ben Patterson from Waiting: Finding Hope When God Seems Silent.

Not long ago someone said to me, "More is going on around us than we can ever know." As I thought about those words later in the day it struck me that I often unconsciously operate with the opposite assumption: that maybe there's a lot *less* going on than I think, and that what I give my time and energy to really doesn't amount to much.

Do you ever wonder that? Whether the work you do really makes much of a

difference in anyone's life? If the love you feel for and try to show to the people closest to you is really even understood, let alone received? It's easy for us to doubt the significance of what we do – and of who we are. And in this I also believe there is, as my friend said, "more is going on around us than we can ever know": that we have a spiritual adversary who would like nothing better than to convince us that nothing that we do – nothing about us – is very significant.

Friends, this is why we so need to worship. Times of worship are when we catch glimpses of the truth that even in the ordinariness of life there really is more – more that is lovely and glorious! – going on than we will ever know. Read the above quote again.

And not only is the act of worship itself part of something that is

cosmically significant, but also in worship we are reminded that even the smallest, simplest things that are done for God, like an unselfish act of love here and there, that these are noticed and live on forever.

Each Sunday morning as we come together to sing, pray, listen to and respond to God's Word, we will be witnessing to the fact that we serve an incredible God who delights to take our seemingly insignificant lives and weave them into something of eternal importance. Won't you plan to join us?

In Jesus' Love,
Bill

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E A S T M A I N
P R E S B Y T E R I A N C H U R C H

A N D Y ' S U P D A T E S - Y O U N G A D U L T S

We're planning a 3-day Church Has Left the Building for July 8, 9, 10! We have a large and growing list of projects that will bless a LOT of people including handi-capped ramps, a Habitat for Humanity home, praying for the community, helping several Christian Assistance Network (CAN) clients, along with many others.

To reach out in this large of a way, we need a LOT—a LOT of help from volunteers! We need people with building and electrical skills along with many “unskilled” people who are willing to serve where needed!

CHLTB is one of the more significant ways that we, as a church, reach out to our community as a large group so I want to encourage you to sign-up and see how God might use you to bless/reach others! If you're interested, please sign-up in the Welcome Center. I'll be in touch with volunteers with all kinds of details as the event gets closer.

Also, Amy and I seem to be finally nearing the point, in our adoption, of bringing our son, Roody home. It appears that this will happen towards the end of August! We are currently waiting to get his

passport, then we need to get his visa. Once that's taken care of, we'll be able to travel to Petionville, Haiti to pick him up and bring him home. We are really excited but also not very sure what to expect. Our lives will change significantly when he first arrives home as we follow advice from all of our adoption training which encourages us to “cocoon”—which means we spend a LOT of time at home together with Roody and limit our contact (mostly his contact) with any others until he attaches and begins to understand that we are his mom and dad. I say this to say—please don't be offended if we seem less social or seem protective of Roody and his space J.

Thanks so much to so many who've encouraged us in praying for us. We are incredibly grateful and look forward to Roody growing to learn who his church family is!

In Christ,
Andy

M I S S I O N

The East Main Missions Committee is totally dependent on East Main's generous financial support of our missionaries. Thank you for being part of a great missions program that is furthering the Lord's work around the world.

Have you emailed one of our missionaries lately? Here's a few addresses:

The Funkas in Prague
aa_funka@hotmail.com

Barry & Suzzanne Nichol
(Wycliffe/Jaars)
barry_nichol@jaars.org

Craig & Kara Garrison
[The Garrisons in SE Asia Myanmar@mail.vresp.com](mailto:The_Garrisons_in_SE_Asia_Myanmar@mail.vresp.com)



M E L I S S A ' S M U S I N G S / / S U M M E R 2 0 1 6
H E A R T W O R K I S W O R T H I T

Over the past few weeks my family and I have spent a lot of time working on the outside of our home. We've planted flowers, put in our garden, added some shrubs, mulched, and pulled a lot of weeds. The lawn is being mowed weekly, if not twice a week. We will be washing windows, doing some exterior painting, and hope to complete a small patio in the front. We're putting a lot of time and energy into maintaining and improving the exterior of our home. It's hard work, but it's worth it!

While we've been focusing so much energy and effort on exterior projects, it has been easy to get behind on the work that needs to be done inside the home too - things like laundry, dusting, vacuuming, clutter control, etc. I confess that more often than I'd like, extra effort keeping up with the exterior means that order and cleanliness on the interior suffers! It can be easy to get carried away investing in what everyone else sees about our home from the outside and forget that what's on the inside - where most of the experiences of living there happen - matters the most. If things start falling apart on the inside, though,

what's going on outside ultimately won't matter very much!

If we're not careful, something similar can happen in our spiritual lives as well. Sometimes we can get so caught up investing in our *spiritual exterior* - the things we do to express our faith in God, things that other people can see -- that we forget to invest in our *spiritual interior* - the things we do to connect with God, things that other people don't often see. Some examples of spiritual exterior work might be participating in worship, going on mission trips, or attending Bible study. These are all good things! But if we don't make time to invest in the interior work that sustains the motivation and authenticity of the exterior work - things like devotional study of Scripture, prayer, being still and listening to God's leading - we will burn out.

One way to think about this is to describe it as the difference between the *work of our hands (exterior)* and the *work of our hearts (interior)*. In the life of faith, these efforts are complimentary, like two different sides of the same coin. Yet, when we

stop to look at the way we're living, many of us realize that we've gotten caught up investing the part of our spiritual life that others see - the exterior, and that we've neglected to invest as much time cultivating our spiritual interior - that part that's often hidden from sight. This is a concern because the work of our hands cannot be faithfully sustained if the work of our hearts has been neglected!

With the start of summer before us and the changing pace and rhythms that it brings for many of us I invite you to join me in keeping up with the work of our hands, AND also making an intentional investment in the ongoing work of our hearts. We need to keep up with the exterior and interior work that Jesus is calling us to. So invest in your interior and make time to devotional reading of Scripture, prayer, and being still so that you and listen to and hear the voice of God speaking into your life. The Heart Work will be worth it!

Peace,
Melissa

E A S T M A I N
P R E S B Y T E R I A N C H U R C H

Y O U T H S U M M E R M I S S I O N T R I P S

We are excited to be sending TWO groups of youth to serve on summer mission trips this year!

The Senior High Youth will be serving with Urban Promise in Wilmington, DE from June 26 – July 3. They will be working to support Urban Promise's summer day camps during the morning and completing work projects for the ministry in the afternoons. The group includes 11 students, 3 college students, and 4 adult leaders.

The Junior High Youth will be serving with The Pittsburgh Project in Pittsburgh July 11 - 15. They will be working with leaders to provide repair and improvements on the home of an elderly or low-income family in the city. The group includes 8 youth and 2 adult leaders.

Thank you for the support that makes these faith-growing experiences possible for our students! And thank you for your prayers and encouragement as we embark on these adventures!

UrbanPromise of Wilmington, DE., having started in the 1990's, is now in their second decade of service in Wilmington. Youth in their programs are graduating high school and entering college at unprecedented rates. The retention, attendance, and growth of their programs are strong. Sharing life in Christ has transformed a large, diverse, and growing corps of volunteers, organizations, businesses, schools, neighbors and families.

The mission of UrbanPromise Wilmington is to equip children and young adults through Christ with the skills necessary for academic achievement, life management, personal growth and servant leadership. Their vision is to be a community in Christ of servant leadership and transformation, seeking a full life for all involved: urban youth, families, staff, and volunteers in the neighborhoods of our city.

They accomplish their mission and vision through the programs: After School Programs, Summer Camps, StreetLeader Job Training Program, Sports Ministry Program, UrbanTrekks, UrbanPromise School, UrbanPromise Academy, RiseUP Volunteer Partnerships, PowerUP Work Groups, International Intern Program

The Pittsburgh Project. This is a Christian non-profit community development organization with a more than 30-year track record of developing servant leaders and upholding the dignity of vulnerable homeowners.

They have a year-round staff of 28 (13 full-time; 15 part-time), along with summer staff of more than 70, operating a progressive series of afterschool and summer programs. These programs serve more than 250 urban young people, deploy over 1,500 people annually to perform free home repairs for more than 130 of Pittsburgh's elderly homeowners annually, and provide recreation space through the maintenance of Fowler Park and operation of Fowler pool. More information: www.pittsburghproject.org.

EAST MAIN CHURCH
PRESBYTERIAN

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY
AMY BIDDLE

Summer programming

The last day for Sunday School will be June 26 (One service Sunday - 9:00 Sunday school) and we will resume with Rally Day on August 28. Details for Rally day will be sent to parents in early August.

Adventures in Worship, a program for children age 4 through 2nd grade, will continue in the summer at both services.

There will be Nursery in the summer for children birth through age 4.

Volunteers are still needed in the Nursery for various Sundays. If you are able to help please contact Tricia Smith at tlp1022@gmail.com or sign up in the Welcome Center.

PICNICS in the PARK!



July 18
July 25
August 1

“Mom, what’s for dinner?”...
“Dad, will you come out and play?”.... “I am bored”. Does this sound familiar? Looking for some family fun... need a break from summer cooking.... some fellowship for

you.....a play date for the kids without having to be in charge.....THEN... THIS IS FOR YOU (and your family).

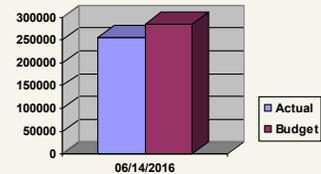
On Mondays (see above dates) we will be have PICNICS in the PARK! We will be having a picnic for the families, fellowship for adults and fun adventures for the kids (if you are a big kid... then you can help with the adventures). There is something for everyone!!

The picnics will start at 6:00 p.m. each Monday at the Fellowship Pavilion in Memorial Park. The dinner will be provided (Hot dogs – July 18th; Chicken – July 25th; and Pizza – August 1st). No need to bring anything....not even table service (wow, that is easy)! A small donation to cover the meal would be appreciated.

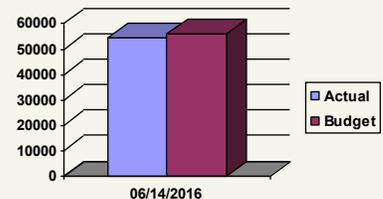
The “Adventures” for the children will be led by some excited teenagers ready for some fun and sharing God’s Word with you kids! What will you do? Good question...RELAX and enjoy FELLOWSHIP with your brothers and sisters in Christ.

FINANCIALS

Operating Income
Actual \$ 256,188
Budget \$ 285,598



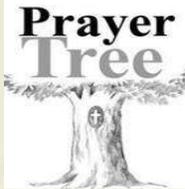
Mission Income
Actual \$ 54,416
Budget \$ 55,927



Electronic Giving Consider scheduling a recurring contribution today. It’s very convenient. You will no longer need to write out checks and prepare envelopes every week. Even when travel, illness or other circumstances prevent you from attending services, your electronic contributions will continue to be received on an uninterrupted basis. Please go to our website, www.eastmainpc.org to sign up today!

E A S T M A I N
P R E S B Y T E R I A N C H U R C H

A N N O U N C E M E N T S



EAST MAIN E-MAIL OR PHONE PRAYER TREES The Prayer Tree is a vital ministry of our church. If you would like to be a Prayer partner or to **INITIATE A PRAYER REQUEST**, please call or e-mail Eleanore Gregg, 724-458-6143, or emgregg@verizon.net or, LouAnn Bestwick, 724-458-5583, or the church office during business hours at 724-458-8270. or eastmain@zoominternet.net

Please help Collect Stamps

Please save cancelled postage stamps, domestic and foreign. It is requested that you tear off the right third of the envelope to avoid trimming the stamps too much. Presbyterian Women have found two sources that can sell these stamps to collectors to support worthy causes. Leave them on the counter in the office clearly marked "Used Stamps for Presbyterian Women." Do not bother with postage meter or prepaid post office envelopes. Thank you for taking a few minutes to help.



SOLDIER CARE PACKAGES



Small Items Sought for Care Packages for Soldiers
The "Yellow Ribbon Girls" are 3 sisters on a mission. When their brother was deployed in 2003 he asked his 3 sisters to get involved. With the help of family and friends they began sending small care packages to more and more soldiers...over 35,00 packages and counting. From Sunday, June 26 through Sunday, July 10, East Main Presbyterian Women will have a marked box in the Welcome Center to collect any of the following items and then forward them to the Yellow Ribbon Girls for distribution.

If you have questions, see Sue Ellen Hamilton.
FOOD ITEMS such as sunflower seeds, Gatorade and similar powdered drink mixes, beef jerky, tuna, ramen noodles, hard candy, licorice, single serve cereal, microwave popcorn, packs of crackers, instant oatmeal, instant coffee, tea, coffee creamer, sugar packs, packs of gum, energy/granola bars.
TOILETRIES such as throat drops, nail clippers, tissues, toothbrushes, toothpaste, dental floss, mouthwash, hair brushes, soap, washcloths, Qtips, cotton balls, travel size shampoo, foot powder, bug spray/lotion, sunscreen, travel size toilet paper,

deodorant, saline nasal spray, Tylenol, waterless hand sanitizer, eye drops, hand lotion, baby wipes, feminine hygiene products, chap stick, disposable razors.

OTHER COMFORTS such as white socks, black cushioned socks, batteries (AA,D), disposable cameras, DVDs, movies, writing paper, pens, envelopes, puzzle books, shoe insole cushions, battery powered fans, cards, board games, small flashlights with extra bulbs, sewing kits, pipe cleaners, fly swatters. Also Pringle cans, and seasonal decorations, especially Christmas, Easter, Halloween.

Thanks for helping us support the troops. Remember to pray for them and their families.



There will be an all Church picnic on June 26 at 12:00 pm in the Memorial Pavilion at Memorial Park in Grove City. Please bring a dish to share. Meat, table service, beverages and dessert will be provided.

WE'RE ON THE WEB!
WWW.EASTMAINPC.ORG



**EAST MAIN
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

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Growing in Christ Inside-Out

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Visitation Pastor:
Rev. Tom Funka
funkatng@aol.com

Young Adult Pastor:
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Youth Pastor:
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abiddle@eastmainpc.org

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Janal Crissman
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Financial Controller:
Stacey Foster
sfoster@zoominternet.net

U P C O M I N G W O R S H I P S E R V I C E S

"Praise the Lord, O my soul." –
Psalm 103:1

Here's what's coming up in
worship services this summer at
East Main:

June 19: Father's Day!
Communion at both 9:00 and
11:00 services.

**June 26: SINGLE SERVICE
AT 10:00...** VBS Celebration!
Sunday School at 9:00 am and
Picnic in the Park! (after wor-
ship)

July 3: Independence Day
Weekend. Back to 2 services,
9:00 & 11:00 a.m.

July 10: Worship at 9:00 &
11:00 a.m. "Doubt" series con-
tinues.

July 17: Worship at 9:00 &
11:00 a.m.

July 24: Worship at 9:00 &
11:00 a.m. "Doubt" series
concludes.

**July 31: SINGLE SERVICE
AT 10:00 A.M.** Lunch in
Fellowship Hall afterward!

Aug. 7: Worship at 9:00 &
11:00 a.m.

August 14: Worship at 9:00 &
11:00 a.m.

August 21: Worship at 9:00 &
11:00 a.m.

August 28: RALLY DAY!
GCC Students arrive.

*CD's of Sunday sermons preached
at East Main are available through
the church office. You can also
listen to sermons on the our website:
eastmainpc.org and following the
links.*