

# Currents

The  
thankful

receiver bears a plentiful harvest.  
—William Blake

A PUBLICATION OF EAGLE RIVER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## Update from the Board of Trustees

You may not see many changes in the Church this week, but things keep happening. Our biggest news is the request we sent to seven companies asking them to bid on fixing the uneven floor (mainly the area under the Sunday School room hall). We expect this could cost up to \$30,000, most of which will be paid for by our insurance and FEMA. We hope to pick a contractor next month and have work done in January.

Have you seen the possible designs for the new grand door into the Sanctuary? There are drawings in the narthex. Let us know what you think, which one looks best to you? You can leave notes on the back of the drawings. Our color and flooring committee has submitted their choices. The samples they chose are in the administrative office if you want an advance peek.

Our next volunteer request..... interested in washing and taping heating ducts? Let Dale or Elizabeth know if you are available.

Your Trustees

### FROM THE PASTOR:

*For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven.*  
*Ecclesiastes 3:1*

Time and space are the canvas God has prepared for our lives to mature and unfold. Not our life, nor our place, nor our moment are empty of God's presence and purpose, and in faith we seek to be attuned to the workings of God.

Ecclesiastes points to purpose-filled time, and calls the wise to live accordingly. Christ Jesus does the same when he admonishes His disciples "You know how to interpret the appearance of the sky, but you cannot interpret the signs of the time." (Mt 16:3) The signs of the times are many and varied: termination dust, sunrise at breakfast, aspen turned golden. But what of spiritual times, times of the heart, times of a congregation? To discern these, we must be deliberate and expectant. *(continued on pg. 2)*

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- Insert: Financial report & Calendar

Please plan to attend our annual Congregational Meeting on **October 27**, immediately after the Worship service. The purpose is to elect officers and to conduct other business as can be properly brought before the congregation.



(continued from pg.1)

In our own life – your own life—what is the movement of the spirit, the call of Christ, the urging or hunger of your heart? What, or who, has God placed in your hands or path? Sometimes it cannot be missed or avoided; rather often we must pause from our busyness and listen. But the signs are there. So, too, with a congregation, with ERPC. Earthquake damage can't be missed, and the work to repair and restore and reconfigure our building so that it best serves the ministry of Christ. Pastoral sabbatical. Continuous changes in the community around us. What is this

season in the life of ERPC? The thought of a settled and comfortable routine has appeal, particularly when we're tired or troubled, or at our wits' end. But our life in Christ leads elsewhere. To be sure, we need to be regular and deliberate in our prayers and study and contemplation, else the swirl around us and the chatter inside drown the voice, or obscure the signs, by which Christ Jesus calls and leads us. But lead He does. And equip and send He does. In what season are you?

David Dobler



- Lorinda Mitchell 2-Oct
- Patti Malecha 3-Oct
- Barbara Jordan 4-Oct
- Travis Duft 4-Oct
- McKayla Peterson 8-Oct
- Ethel Dougherty 9-Oct
- Colin Ossiander 10-Oct
- Elias Gobeille 13-Oct
- Bill McCarthy 14-Oct
- Alex Davidson 15-Oct
- Dale Berry 15-Oct
- Joan Brossia 15-Oct
- Nancy Davis 17-Oct
- Paige Saylor 17-Oct
- Dave Charlton 19-Oct
- Joshua Saylor 26-Oct
- Jay Ossiander 31-Oct

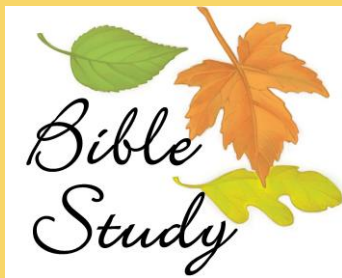


- Jerry & Ruth McNearney.....2-Oct
- Mike & Paige Saylor.....14-Oct
- Tony & Allison Petroccia.....29-Oct



Wednesday night Bible Study resumes this month, at 6:30pm. The six-week study is called Mountaintop Moments. "We're sometimes told that 'mountaintop moments'—those times when we experience the power, love, and grace of God in a way that's difficult to put into words—are not the stuff of every day. In Mountaintop Moments, Dr. Ed Robb associates these personal spiritual mountaintop moments with the mountains in the Old and New Testaments and the events related to these sacred places, showing us how their lessons can be woven into our everyday lives.

Please join us for this inspirational study!



### Update from the Garden:

On September 8, the Sunday school joined with adults and teens to harvest 95 pounds of vegetables for the food pantry! It has been an amazingly productive season. From our landscape/garden committee chair, Brent Koenen: "We will surpass 500 lbs. of produce this year; almost 200 lbs. more than we have ever produced before!"



The biggest blessing of the year's garden is the fabulous volunteer participation. Debra Grundman has been the cornerstone of this year's success, but many hands young and old have contributed. God bless all of you."

Thank you Debra, Brent, and all of the volunteers who helped.



In summer, our church parking lot is bordered by beautiful Alaska wild iris beds, diligently cared for by Lloyd Pool. The plants produce seed pods that, when dried and collected, can be planted in the fall to produce flowers in the spring and summer. They are perennials, so will produce for many years to come. If you would like some seeds for your own yard, please contact Lloyd Pool.



This month, look for a table set up in the narthex to write cards to soldiers deployed overseas during the holidays, as part of the Friends of Our Troops' Mail for the Military campaign. If you have any unused Christmas cards you would like to donate, please bring them in to the office. (No envelopes needed.)



Youth from 7<sup>th</sup> grade to 12<sup>th</sup> grade now have the opportunity to join a combined youth group. ERPC has joined with First Presbyterian Church and Immanuel Presbyterian, both in Anchorage, to form a youth group of middle- and high-schoolers. The group meets on most Sunday afternoons, usually from 1-2:30, in rotating locations. There is food, fellowship, service opportunities, Bible study, and fun! Questions? Call Elizabeth in the church office, 694-5753.



In September, the youth helped bag sugar and rice for the Chugiak/Eagle River food pantry.

## Music Director Position

Gretchen Clayton, our music director for the past year, has decided to play for the church where her husband has recently been called as assistant pastor. We appreciate her time with us, and for sharing with us her musical gifts. We will miss her and wish her the best in her new position!

If you know someone who may be interested in serving as our music director, please contact the church office at 694-5753 or Debbie Ossiander at 688-2308 or [Ossiander@hotmail.com](mailto:Ossiander@hotmail.com)



## HARVEST Trail Mix

This portable snack combines favorite fall flavors.



### What you need:

- 1/4 cup maple syrup
- 1 tsp. pumpkin pie spice
- 1/8 tsp. salt
- 2/3 cup pecan pieces
- 1/3 cup roasted pumpkin seeds
- 1/3 cup almonds
- 1/4 cup raisins
- 2/3 cup dried fruit (any)

### What you do:

1. Microwave syrup, spices, seeds and nuts for 30 seconds at a time, stirring frequently, until mixture thickens.
2. Spread the mixture on a baking sheet lined with wax paper. Let cool and harden.
3. Break the candied nuts into chunks. Combine with dried fruit.
4. Store in airtight container.



Sunday school for K-6<sup>th</sup> grade began in September. The class is in the Season of Creation from now until Advent. Our wonderful Christian Education teacher Whitney Lewis welcomes children ages 5-12 to participate in activities and art projects that are FUN as well as faith-building. Please join anytime!

Looking ahead: Our yard sale this summer raised \$1000 for the Sunday school to spend on missions of their choice. The first beneficiary will be the Chugiak/Eagle River Food Pantry. This month, after worship (date TBD), the class will go to Fred Meyer and purchase items that are most needed in the pantry.



- Build a scarecrow stuffed with newspaper  
Have an apple cider "tea" party.  
Bob for apples.  
Jump into a leaf pile.  
Make popcorn balls  
Create leaf rubbings.  
Play "I Spy" during a nature walk.  
Take a hayride.  
Visit a pick-your-own pumpkin patch.  
Have a pumpkin-carving party.  
Toast the pumpkin seeds from your carved pumpkin.  
Make pumpkin ice cream.

Happy Halloween!



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**SALVATION**

*is nearer to  
us now than  
when we*

**FIRST  
BELIEVED.**

ROMANS 13:11, ESV