

ENSLOW PARK PRESS

Rev. Chris Perkins, Pastor chrisbunnyperk@netscape.net 1-859-361-2797

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PASTOR'S CORNER

"It may be hard for an egg to turn into a bird: it would be a jolly sight harder for a bird to learn to fly while remaining an egg. We are like eggs at present. And you cannot go on indefinitely being just an ordinary, decent egg. We must be hatched or go bad." C.S. Lewis, Mere Christianity

To what degree are you moved by the truth, "Jesus Christ is Lord!"? For the Apostle Paul, it first moved him to his knees, and then into Christian community, and ultimately into full-time mission work. The truth of Jesus is meant to be a moving experience. Does Jesus move you to your knees? Our answers probably depend on how we view Christ. If Jesus is more of a historical figure, an advisor from the past, then we might let Him bend our ears a bit but be more reserved about bending our wills to His. If Jesus is primarily a deity for Sunday mornings and times of crisis, then our likely posture is to stretch out our hands either in praise or in pleas - both, by the way, are respectable postures of the heart. It's when we grasp that Jesus, as God in the flesh, let Himself be mocked, tortured, and killed in order to set us free from sin that we're more likely to drop to the ground Such amazing love is and worship Him. overwhelming, and unqualified gratitude is the right and true response.

Does Jesus move you into Christian community? This question can be a difficult one to answer. Some of us have experienced the fellowship of the so-called faithful more as abuse than as something that reflects the love of God. Let's face it: Christians have demonstrated a capacity, and at times a tendency, to be very un-Christ-like. Scripture, however, tells us that being "in Christ" links all Christians together. This link consists of much more than a certificate of membership to a local congregation. There is a community that transcends time, space, and death. A community that is established and marked by the grace of Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit (2 Cor. 13:14). It's a community of the forgiven that is formed by Christ, for Christ, and for Christ's mission in the world. If we are in

Christ, we are not to neglect meeting together. Instead, we are to spur one another on to love and good works and to encourage one another, especially as we anticipate the day of Christ's return (Heb 10:24-25). The truth of Jesus moves his followers into community with one another.

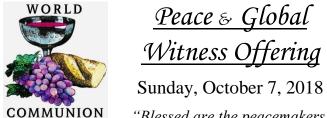
Does Jesus move you into mission? Are you routinely, creatively, and generously moved by the love and knowledge of Christ such that you share that love and knowledge with others? All too frequently I'm afraid we want to refer this question to the Witness and Service Team – they're the ones supposedly doing this aren't they? Perhaps we feel that faith is a private matter, and that only Baptists and Jesus freaks talk about their faith in public.

A few will say that they let their actions speak for themselves – and make no mistake about it – actions are critical in showing the world of Christ's love. But actions, by themselves, seldom result in someone grasping that Jesus was God incarnate. Passages like Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8; and 1 Peter 3:15 tell us to make disciples of all people, teach them to obey all that Jesus commanded, be witnesses to all that Jesus is, and to always be prepared to give an answer to why we believe. Paul's experience of "Jesus is Lord!" sent him not only into the world but into harm's way, and all the while he kept proclaiming and explaining that Jesus is indeed the Lord and our Savior.

So are you moved by Jesus? Does your gratitude routinely allow you to perform tasks and enter into relationships outside your comfort zones? As we here at Enslow Park look for congregational renewal these are important questions for us to consider. How will you respond?

God Bless Always, Chris





COMMUNION *"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God." (Matt. 5:9)*

For many years, the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program and the Presbyterian Church (USA) have been committed to supporting the efforts of peace seekers and advocates working in the Presbyterian peacemaking community. What you've known as the PC(USA) Peacemaking Offering has been transformed into the "Peace & Global Witness Offering". This new Offering will have a greater global reach, more significant impact, and bring peace to people through Christ.

A gift to the Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of injustice across the world. Individual congregations are encouraged to utilize up to 25% of this Offering to sustain their local peacemaking ministries.

Make this year a time to renew your commitment to peacemaking as part of your calling as a follower of Christ, who not only taught us the ways of peace but is our peace.

FPPC Celebrates the 15th Annual "Kirkin' o' the Tartans" Worship Service



on Reformation Sunday <u>October 28, 11a.m.</u> followed by a Reception in the Parlor

Special, Called Session Meeting

A special Called Session Meeting convened on September 27th, moderated by Ed Thompson, General Presbyter of the Presbytery of WV.

The main objective was to make an action plan addressing two major issues. First, assessing our current and future financial position, and second, with the pending retirement of Rev. Chris Perkins at the end of December 2018, planning our direction to staff our pulpit supply, pastoral care & moderator of our session, beginning January 2019.

Based on prior year income patterns, EPPC Treasurer David Fabry, projected our 2019 pledge income at \$111,000 (v \$151,000 in 2018). Using Presbytery Pastorate average salary/benefits rates for 2018, Paul Foard projected a net loss for 2019 at \$54,000 - \$93,000 for our church. Additional considerations may reduce this loss some.

Knowing this, our Session discussed possible ways to reduce costs, including hiring individual pulpit supply (\$125/week), contracting a temporary moderator for our Session, and arranging pastoral care for our members.

A motion was passed to create an Interim Pastor Search Committee to recommend the best means to accomplish this goal. The Session approved Linda Brewster, David Fabry and Rod Allen to serve on this committee.

Paul Foard, Session Elder

"Interim Pastor Search Team"

As you know, our pastor, Rev. Chris Perkins, will be retiring from Enslow Park at the end of December 2018. At a special Called Session Meeting on September 27th, our Session authorized an "Interim Pastor Search Team" to begin work, looking for a person to lead us beginning in January 2019. The team consists of Rod Allen, Linda Brewster and David Fabry.

Their first meeting was held on October 4th, with several options being explored and thoroughly discussed. If anyone has suggestions or thoughts to convey to the Search Team, please feel free to contact any team member.

Please keep these people and our church in your thoughts and prayers during this transitional time.

Rod Allen 304-654-0071 Linda Brewster 304-525-3864 David Fabry 304-523-0891



<u>Hope Chest</u>

Our Hope Chest "Item of the Month" for **OCTOBER** is <u>HAND-HELD</u> <u>CAN OPENERS.</u>



Please leave your donations on the table in the Donaldson Room. They are very much appreciated.



Halloween Party

Enslow Park Presbyterian Church

Saturday, October 27

3:00 ~7:00 p.m.

Trick-or-Treat (indoors) Costume Parade



Gamæs Dancing Goodiæs



All Kids are welcome!

Wear your costumes!

For more info

contact Rodrígo Almeída

eppcoutreach@gmail.com 304-972-8103 Volunteers are needed !



Happy Birthday to You!

- 1 David Fabry
- 2 Mallory Harris
- 4 Jane Jones
- 6 Libby Goetz
- 13 Frank Gilliam
- 22 Carrie Underwood
- 24 Rod Allen
- 28 Sally Edwards
- 30 Johnny Turner
- 31 Emily Damron Heidi Sowards Spook Smith



Food & Clothing Pantry

Christian Associates' Cridlin Food & Clothing Pantry has asked EPPC to contribute:



<u>36 Boxes of</u> <u>Mac & Cheese</u> in October

Our day for volunteering at the pantry is the 3^{rd} Monday of each month 12:30 - 2:30 p.m.

