



# Evergreen Pres

Evergreen Presbyterian Church  
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## *From the Pastor's Pen -*

## January 2009

A little over half way through the book of Exodus, tucked away in the twenty fourth chapter, you will find a wonderful passage to take us into the New Year. Moses "rose early in the morning, and built an alter at the foot of the mountain, and set up twelve pillars, corresponding to the twelve tribes of Israel" (Exod. 24:4). In truth, the book does not tell us why Moses set up those pillars. However, it has been suggested that the pillars were a visual reminder to the people of Israel, like the alter, of the sacred covenant they entered into with God. As humans we need help remembering the things that are of sacred worth to us, like our faith and our church.

With all that we have to do and deal with in our lives, we often become so busy we forget, or don't find time, for the sacred. Whether it pertains to our daily devotions, life of prayer, scripture reading, or attendance each Sunday for worship, or actively participating in the ministry and mission of the church. We are very capable of neglecting those things that give our life meaning and purpose.

The pillars that Moses set up as part of the Exodus 24 covenant ceremony can remind us of those "sacred" things that we too often neglect. January offers us a vision for ourselves and Evergreen. The year in front of us is as clear and clean as a brand new calendar. It is a year full of incredible opportunities to return to the sacred.

*The One Year Book of Hymns* tells the story of Frances Ridley Havergal. For her, New Year's Day was always a day of promise. It was a day that looked forward in faith to God's blessings in the upcoming year. She was such a positive person and had such a positive spirit that when she entered a room, it was said that she brought a "burst of sunshine".

She wrote the hymn, "Another Year is Dawning," on a card she sent one of her friends. It is a wonderful hymn to have on our hearts and lips as we enter this new year.

Another year is dawning:  
Dear *Lord* let it be,  
In working or in waiting,  
Another year with Thee:  
Another year of progress,  
Another year of praise,  
Another year of proving  
Thy presence all the days.

Another year of mercies,  
Of faithfulness and grace;  
Another year of gladness,  
In the shining of Thy face;  
Another year of leaning  
Upon Thy loving breast;  
Another year of trusting,  
Of quiet, happy rest.

Another year of service,  
Of witness of Thy love;  
Another year of training  
For holier work above.  
Another year is dawning:  
Dear *Lord* let it be,  
On earth or else in heaven,  
Another year for Thee.

Frances Ridley Havergal (1836-1879)

Although she died when she was only forth-three, she remained steadfast in reminding Christians that "fresh glory" is just as important as fresh air and water. Let us each celebrate the "sacred" in our lives and church each new day this new year.

Please covenant to be constant in prayer, faithful in worship, and active in the life of the Church this new year





## January Birthdays

Faith Cooper	2
Sophie Merchant	3
Matthew Condren	3
Harriet McLean	5
Elizabeth Nathan	11
Lester Van Middlesworth	13
Diane Row	15
Dakota Thomas	15
Joe Sohm	17
William Graves III	17
Doris Madsen	18
Alba Castro	22
Chuck Wallace	24
Paige Southard	25
Patty Wiley	25
Celeste Bursi	28
Jean Phelps	30
Andrew Miller	30
Sue Miller	30
Joan Wilkinson	30
Mike Letterman	31
Matthew Letterman	31



## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



Presbyterian Women will gather in Millard Hall on January 20<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am. Jan Thomson, Together In Service Representative, from the PWP Coordinating Team will again join us to share information on Missions that PW is doing world-wide. It promises to be an enjoyable and informational program. Circle #2 will provide the refreshments, and Circle #3 members are reminded to bring items for the Johnson Auxiliary.

The Coordinating Team will meet prior to the gathering at 9:45 am in the Session Room.

### Circle Hostesses for January

**Circle 1: Julia Boyd**

Ernest Workers Class

**Circle 3: Jamie Wright**

263 Bremlington Place  
Memphis, TN 38111

**Circle 2: Lady Margaret Arnold**

157 Bishop Morton Way  
Memphis, TN 38111

**Circle 4: Pat Lewis**

7452 Glenmere Way  
Cordova, TN 38018

**Circles 1, 2, and 3 will meet on January 6. Circle 4 meets January 10.**

*Thank you— from the Lettermans*

*Christmas is that wonderful time of year when we become ever more mindful of the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ and all that incredible event means to our lives. The season also brings a deeper sense of how thankful we are for one another. Melinda and I are grateful for our Evergreen family and all the special acts of kindness that have been shown to us this season, it means so much to us. A most blessed New Year to each of you and those you love.*

*Ken, Melinda*

### Memphis Theological at Evergreen Lifetime—Lifelong Christian Learning

Saturday, January 24, 2008, from 8:30am-12:30pm. Dr. Mitzie Minor will conduct a class as part of lifelong learning at Evergreen. The cost will be \$30 for each participant. Mark your calendars—more information will follow. Contact the church office if you are interested.

### NEW CHURCH OFFICE HOURS—

Beginning January 1, 2009, Church office hours will be 8:30am until 5:00pm, Monday through Thursday. Offices will be closed on Fridays. Playschool and Recreation hours will remain the same.



# WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS AT EVERGREEN



## STARTING BACK JANUARY 14

The New Year will bring some changes to our Wednesday night programming. We will begin a Serial Model of programs. With the exception of Lent, we will meet in three week series. It is our hope that families who had a difficult time attending the Wednesday programs every week will be able to commit to three week series. We will begin the year with a bang! **Dr. Mitzi Minor**, a New Testament scholar and professor at Memphis Theological Seminary will lead us in a three week Bible study **January 14, 21, and 28.**

There will **not** be a Wednesday night program February 4, 11, and 18. We will join Farmington Presbyterian and Shady Grove Presbyterian for an Ash Wednesday service at Shady Grove on February 25. Our Lenten series will be at Evergreen March 4, 18, 25 and April 1.

We will finish the Spring season with a three week series April 29, May 6 and 13<sup>th</sup>. Details to follow.

Amid the changes, some things will stay the same! Dinner will continue to be at 5:30 before each program at a cost of \$6.50 for adult meals and \$2.00 for peanut butter and jelly plates. The permanent list will work the same as it has in the past. If you are on the permanent list, you are reserved for dinner every time we have a program. If you do not wish to be on the permanent list, either make reservations on the friendship pad during worship or call the church office by the morning of the preceding Tuesday.

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT MENUS

January 14

Beef tips over Noodles, Baked Cinnamon Apples, Garden Salad, Orange Cake



January 21

BBQ Chicken, Candied Yams, Cole Slaw, Oreo Pie



January 28

Spaghetti with Meatballs, Green Beans, Garden Salad, Apple Pie



### AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM. .

. The fall semester of Afterschool went well. We now have around 8 Rhodes volunteers that come and help the children with homework. We want to thank Melanie Marcom for all her hard work with the Afterschool and Playschool choir. The pageant was a great success and we look forward to working with Melanie again this spring. Hope everyone has a blessed New Year!

Leslie

### Change of Address



If your home address or email address has changed, *please* notify the church office. We need to be able to continue to communicate with you, especially those of you who have indicated that you would like to receive *The Pres* via email! Many are being returned as "undeliverable"! Your cooperation is truly appreciated

*Music Notes*

I want to thank everyone who participated in or helped with the music ministry at Evergreen during 2008. You gave of your time and your talents unselfishly to create music to the glory of God. Your musical gifts add so much to the worship life of Evergreen and are deeply appreciated. *Thank you!*

What a wonderful Christmas Pageant we had! We had 15 children from Playschool and After-school participate in the musical "Calling All Angels." The children looked so precious in their angel costumes! Many thanks to the children who participated and to everyone who helped with the pageant!

Children's choirs will be starting up again after the first of the year. More information will be announced at a later date.

December 31: No Choir Practice  
 January 7: Adult Choir Practice at 7:00pm  
 January 14: Adult Choir Practice returns to 7:30pm

*Melanie*

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**Remember Evergreen in Your Will**

**Evergreen Presbyterian Newsletter**

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