

# ***MOVING SPIRIT***

December, 2005

## ***Eskaton Village Community Church***

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### ***Pastor's Parcel***

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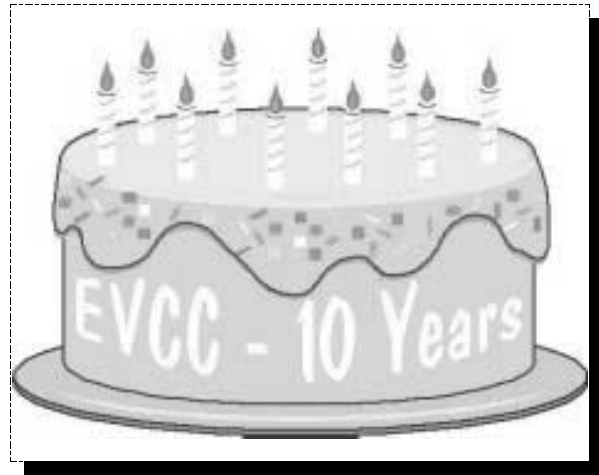
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Eskaton Village Community Church is a body of believers, and as such, it has a personality, a spirit, a soul. That soul will turn one decade old in January! That's still young and may not sound like much, but we praise God for each one of those ten years.

A decade ago, our team from Arcade Wesleyan came here to start a church for interested residents at Eskaton. My wife Rosemary was our pianist, Judy Evans and Warren Rogers served as greeting ushers, Craig Evans was pastor, and I led worship. Craig and I were ministerial students at that time and shared in the preaching. In June, when he returned to Arcade, I became EVCC's pastor.

It was shortly after that we began the *Moving Spirit*, which was described in its 1<sup>st</sup> issue as "*a forum for sharing with one another those things which inspire us, comfort us, edify our hearts, and bring us closer to the Lord Jesus Christ and to one another.*" This is our 28<sup>th</sup> issue, and as long as those who attend EVCC keep contributing Bible verses, inspirational poems, stories, quips and quotes, we will keep publishing it!

In those short 10 years, many who first



made up our congregation are no longer physically among us, but are part of that "*great cloud of witnesses.*" They are probably leaning over Heaven's portal walls to cheer our faith as we journey onward to join them. EVCC remains in ministry at Eskaton to help in meeting the challenge of that goal. Looking forward to another decade. -- *Rev. David L. Hatton*

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### ***Parish Proclamations***

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#### **"HAPPY BIRTHDAY EVCC!"**

We are going to celebrate EVCC's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ministry at Eskaton Village on Sunday afternoon, January 22<sup>nd</sup> in the South Auditorium at 3 PM. It will be a time of recollection, testimony, and vision-casting for the future. Whether or not you attend church at EVCC, we invite you to

join us for this momentous occasion. So, reserve that date and come to our **Birthday Party:**

**what day:** Sunday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>

**what time:** 3:00 PM

**what place:** the South Auditorium

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## *Personal Pulpit*

### **EVCC Personal Testimonies**

The following are replies received from the church congregation on a slip of paper with a short fill-in-the-space for the phrase "I like EVCC because..." "...it is friendly and there is always a good message of love and understanding."

"...I like to hear the sermons given by Pastor David and Terry. The words of God have taught me to be closer to God, and I have met many dear friends."

"...it gives me the opportunity to continue weekly services and also enjoy the messages of Christian faith and fellowship."

"...the two ministers are very good, spiritual and thoughtful -- friendly churchgoers and a handy location."

"...the ministers are good and the convenience of a church at Eskaton Village is great."

"...they come here to feed us the Word."

"...I can attend church, hear an inspiring message and be with friends."

"...I can attend services here at Eskaton and we seem like a family."

"...I need the fellowship and inspiration of other believers; I need to renew my faith regularly and to hear God's Word and Truth. Our pastors are excellent leaders,

sincere, truly inspired by the Holy Spirit." "...it's a very friendly congregation, always ready to accept newcomers. The music is mostly familiar."

"...I love the sermons and the prayers, particularly the dedication the whole team has for Eskaton."

"...We have an excellent pastor and a very good assistant pastor. I also appreciate Rosemary very much. I have gained and grown so much in spirituality since attending here for the last 10 years, and enjoying the convenience of it. I love the warm and friendly atmosphere of the congregation and the welcoming feeling that surrounds the room. I feel so fortunate to be able to attend, and thankful, too. It's great!"

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### **Lillian Horning's Farewell Note**

(written in beautiful penmanship a few days before "crossing over," as she put it) "My dear Relatives and Friends, You have made my life meaningful and so wonderful. We've had so many good times together. That means a Big Thank You."

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## *Pithy Pieces*

I'll live my life to the fullest,

As long as I may live.

I'll give of myself to others.

Oh--what a joy it is to give!

(from Eloise Hoyt)

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**A Perfect Minister** is one who...

... preaches exactly 15 minutes, but shares the wisdom of the ages.

...condemns sin but hurts no one's feelings.

...works from 8 a.m. until midnight and is also the janitor.

...makes \$300 a week, wears good clothes, buys good books, drives a good car, and gives 25% to the church.

...is 26 years old and has been preaching for 30 years.

...is, above all else, good looking.

...has a heart for young people, but spends most time with older folks.

...smiles all the time with a straight face, because a sense of humor must be subordinate to the seriousness of ministry.

...makes 20 calls a day on members, while evangelizing the unchurched and always being in the office when needed.

This PERFECT MINISTER doesn't exist.

By following Christ in baptism, we all become ministers, so the question is: "How are we doing?"

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## Praise's Portion

I worshiped Him the oftenest that I could, keeping my mind in His holy presence.... I found no small trouble in that exercise, and yet I continued it...without troubling or disquieting myself when my mind wandered involuntarily.... Even in the height of my business I drove away from my mind everything that was capable of interrupting my thought of Him.... When we are faithful to keep ourselves in His holy presence it also begets in us a holy freedom wherewith we ask the graces we stand in need of.

Those whose spirits are stirred by the breath of the Holy Spirit go forward even in sleep. if the vessel of our soul is still

tossed with winds and storms let us wake the Lord, who reposes in it, and He will quickly calm the sea.

He lays no great burden upon us; a little remembrance of Him from time to time; a little adoration; sometimes to pray for His grace, sometimes to offer Him your sorrows, and sometimes to offer Him thanks for the benefits He has given you, and still gives you, in the midst of your troubles. He asks you to console yourself with Him the oftenest you can. Lift up your heart to Him even at your meals when you are in company; the least little remembrance will always be acceptable to Him. You need not cry very loud; He is nearer than you think.

--Brother Lawrence (17th century)

## Prayer's Priority

### **AN IRISH FRIENDSHIP WISH**

May there always be work  
for your hands to do;  
May your purse always hold  
a coin or two;  
May the sun always shine  
on your windowpane;  
May a rainbow be certain  
to follow each rain;  
May the hand of a friend  
always be near you;  
May God fill your heart  
with gladness to cheer you.

\* \* \* \* \*

### **The "PUSH" acronym:**

**P** is for Pray

**U** is for Until

**S** is for Something

**H** is for Happens

which goes together to say:  
" Pray until something happens!"

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### **Jesus Prayed for You**

Did you know that when Jesus was praying for His disciples, He also included all of us? "*My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message.*"

-- John 17:20 (NIV)

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## *Poetry's Place*

### **HOW DO YOU LIVE YOUR DASH?**

I read of a man who stood to speak  
At the funeral of a friend.  
He referred to the dates on her  
tombstone  
From beginning - to the end.  
He noted that first came her date of birth  
And spoke the last date with tears,  
But he said what mattered the most of  
all  
Was the dash between those years.  
5  
For that dash represented all the time  
That she spent alive on earth...  
And now only those who loved her  
Know what that small line is worth.  
For it matters not, how much we own;  
The cars.. .the house.. .the cash,  
What matters is how we live and love  
And how we spend our dash.  
So think about this long and hard:  
Are there things you'd like to change?  
You'll never know how much time is  
left,  
For what you can still rearrange.  
If we could just slow down enough

To consider what's true and real,  
To try to understand the way  
That other people feel,  
To be less quick to anger,  
To show appreciation more,  
And love the people in our lives  
Like we've never loved before.  
If only we'd treat others with respect,  
And more often wear a smile,  
Remembering that this special dash  
Might last just a little while....  
So, when your eulogy's being read  
With your life to rehash,  
Will you be proud of the things they say  
About how you spent your dash?

\* \* \* \* \*

Poetry comes nearer to vital truth than  
history. -- Plato

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### **Give Lavishly! Live Abundantly!**

The more you give, the more you get--  
The more you laugh, the less you fret--  
The more you do unselfishly,  
The more you live abundantly...  
The more of everything you share,  
The more you'll always have to spare--  
The more you love, the more you'll find  
That life is good and friends are kind...  
For only what we give away,  
Enriches us from day to day.

--Helen Steiner Rice

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## *Pearls of Prudence*

3 things in life that, once gone, never  
come back: Time - Words -  
Opportunity  
3 things in life that may never be lost:  
Peace - Hope - Honesty

3 things in life that are most valuable:  
Love - Self-confidence - Friends

3 things in life that are never certain:  
Dreams - Success - Fortune

3 things that can make a man or  
woman: Hard work - Sincerity -  
Commitment

3 things in life that can destroy a man  
or woman: Addictions - Pride - Anger

3 things that are truly constant:  
Father - Son - Holy Ghost

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We make a Living by what we get, We  
make a Life by what we give.

\* \* \* \* \*

God promises a safe landing, not a  
calm passage.... If God brings you to it,  
He will bring you through it.

\* \* \* \* \*

Why love if losing hurts so much? We  
love to know that we are not alone.

-- C. S. Lewis

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If we cannot trust God to have dealt  
effectively with our past, we may as well  
throw in the sponge now and have it over  
with. But if God has indeed pardoned and  
cleansed us, then we should count it done  
and waste no more time in sterile  
lamentations. -- A. W. Tozer

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What you do reveals what you believe.  
-- Henry Blackaby

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One person with a belief is equal to a  
force of ninety-nine who have only  
interests. -- Peter Marshal

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## *Pleasurable Pastime*

Don't give up! Moses was a "basket  
case," too.

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Heavenly forecast: "Reign forever."

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### **A SAFE HAVEN**

Don't ride in automobiles; they cause  
20% of all fatal accidents.

Don't stay at home; 17% of all  
accidents occur in the home.

Don't walk on streets or sidewalks;  
14% of all accidents happen to  
pedestrians.

Don't travel by air, rail or water; 16%  
of all accidents happen on these.

However, only 0.001% of all deaths  
reported occur in worship services. The  
safest place for you to be is in church!  
Sunday school is also relatively safe.

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### **WHAT IS GOD LIKE?**

5th graders at a Christian school, asked  
how TV commercials could be used to  
communicate ideas about God, wrote...  
God's like GENERAL ELECTRIC: He  
brings good things to life.

God's like FORD: He's got a better idea.  
God's like BAYER ASPIRIN: He works  
wonders.

God's like HALLMARK CARDS: He  
cared enough to send the very best.

God's like TIDE: He gets out the stains  
that others leave behind.

God's like ALBERTO VO-5 HAIR  
SPRAY: He holds in all kinds of weather.

God's like DIAL SOAP. Aren't you glad  
you know Him? Don't you wish

everybody did?  
God's like SEAR: He has everything.  
God's like ALLSTATE: You're in good hands with Him.  
God's like COKE: He's the real thing.  
God's like DELTA: Ready when you are.  
God's like ALKA-SELTZER: Oh what a relief He is!  
God's like SCOTCH TAPE: You can't see Him, but you know He's there!  
God's like the COPPER TOP BATTERY: Nothing can outlast Him.  
God's like AMERICAN EXPRESS: Don't leave home without Him!  
God's like U.S. POST OFFICE: Neither rain, nor snow, nor sleet nor ice will keep Him from His appointed destination.

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## *Precious Principles*

"You have it easily in your power to increase the sum total of this world's happiness now. How? By giving a few words of sincere appreciation to someone who is lonely or discouraged. Perhaps you will forget tomorrow the kind words you say today, but the recipient may cherish them over a lifetime." -- Dale Carnegie

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### **"TAKE TIME"**

Take time to think,  
It is the source of power.  
Take time to play,  
It is the secret of perpetual youth.  
Take time to read,  
It is the fountain of wisdom.  
Take time to pray,  
It is the greatest power on earth.

Take time to love and be loved,  
It is a God-given privilege.  
Take time to be friendly,  
It is the road to happiness.  
Take time to laugh,  
It is the music of the soul.  
Take time to give,  
It is too short a day to be selfish.  
Take time to work,  
It is the price of success.  
--author unknown

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### **Adamant Unbelievers**

Those who refuse to believe that Jesus was God's Son often seem stuck in a trap of denying obvious evidence of the Living Christ today--a hellish habit that may persist even in the after-life. Afraid of falling into the folly of an unfounded faith, instead they foolishly fall under the iron grip of blind unbelief, a gigantic mountain that only faith in Christ can move. (DLH)