

Member Spotlight

By Sarah Guthrie



Emily Box

Have you ever wondered what happens to faded, torn dollar bills? They wind up at the Federal Reserve Bank – and into the hands of someone like Emily Box.

Emily worked for the bank for 39 years, beginning in 1943. Her first job was working in the money department – counting unfit \$1.00 bills.

“Sometimes they would come in held together by safety pins, scotch tape or pinned together with small nails,” she remembers.

Emily counted the bills and sent them to Washington, DC to be destroyed. When she retired in 1982, she was a senior payroll clerk who trained many younger workers.

Emily and her husband Kenny visited WPPC in 1969. She remembers that “Everyone was so friendly we didn’t stop going.”

Emily was an active member of Women of the Church, serving as Treasurer, Secretary and circle leader. She also served as an elder on the Worship committee. One of her favorite memories was Halloween when former minister Charles Johnson would dress up and delight the children. She also loved the music – particularly at Christmas.

Although Emily has been unable to attend services because of health issues she is still an active member of the prayer chain. Hers is the voice you hear giving telephone updates when someone requests prayers.

In 1983 Emily’s husband was diagnosed with Parkinson’s disease. Because she knew so little about the disease she went to the Parkinson’s Foundation. Soon she began to volunteer, even serving on the Board of Directors. In 2009 she received the initial Emily Box Service Award.

Emily, 92, says she’s had a good life and she’s learned a few things along the way:

- Be an optimist – optimists live longer.
- Keep a smile on your face
- Trust in the Lord
- Pray – God hears our prayers.

Reflections from Pastor Connie



“By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.” John 13:35

Dear Ward Parkway Presbyterian Family,

As I sit to write to you on this New Year’s Eve, I look back on 2012 with thanksgiving for all God has done in and among us. The last year was a good one for us. We were strengthened in many ways. We saw answers to the prayers of Sarah Guthrie and many others that God would send children to our church. In fall of 2012, we reinstated children’s Sunday School and began a monthly Sunday evening dinner and bible study with games and songs for our children (youth@wppc). Both of these efforts are supported by enthusiastic teams who love children. We served many children and families through Vacation Bible School, Parents’ Night Out and family-friendly outreach events.

Our preschool continues to bring light and life to our building and to families who seek a Christian preschool for their children. The Preschool Board is up and running, strengthening the relationship between the church and the preschool and giving the Preschool the support they need. Susan Stewart and I began a weekly preschool parents group and we are blessed by these new relationships.

In 2012, we entrusted some of our beloved church members into the Lord’s care. We miss the presence of Allan Dodge, Eloise Swalwell and Floyd Yarnall. We also had some staff changes. We bid a fond farewell to Margaret O’Brien last spring and in May, we were blessed when Tina Hill joined us as our office administrator. We said goodbye to long-time organist Joe Wilkinson and we trust that the Lord will supply an organist for us in 2013.

We were intentional about being God’s people in community through short term and long term disciple groups, a lively choir, and much food and fellowship and community service together. We also reached out to our neighborhood with our first Fall Fest and Trunk or Treat. Our neighbors know that something good is happening at WPPC and that our doors are open to them!

God is at work here and I delight in seeing what God will do in 2013!

Yours in Christ’s love,
Connie

Preschool News!

The Children of WPPC Preschool presented their Christmas program on December 18 to a sanctuary filled with parents, grandparents and friends. Afterwards, all enjoyed punch and cookies in the fellowship hall.



Preschool has resumed and many of our classes will be planning activities about the weather and seasons. We are always grateful for a little snow this time of year as the children love to have snow in the sensory table in their classrooms and participate in science activities related to snow.

We are going to be hosting Open Houses for prospective families to tour our preschool on Tuesday, January 15th and Thursday, January 17th, from 9-12. If you have any family, friends or neighbors who might be interested, please help us spread the word.

There will be no school on Monday, January 21st, due to the observance of Martin Luther King's birthday. During the week of January 28th, we will hold Parent-Teacher Conferences in each classroom.

Enrollment for the 2013-2014 is right around the corner. Church members may enroll on Sunday, January 27 or Monday, January 28th. Preschool alumni and siblings will enroll February 4th and 5th. Open enrollment begins February 11th. Please stop by the Preschool office and talk with Kathy or Kim, if you have any questions.

We are looking forward to a great year during 2013, and we wish all of you a happy, healthy, and blessed new year! *Kathy & Kim*



Preschool Board

Harriet Plowman, **Chairperson** Sean Stoy, Candis Lochmann, Ramona Nelson, Connie Happell,
Kathy Montgomery **Co-Director**, Kim Manford **Co-Director**, Leslie Bullington **Teacher**, Patty Quick **Teacher**