

A Voice in the Pines



Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines newsletter

Volume XXXIII, Issue 4, April 2017

Holy Week

April 9-16: Realizing the Resurrection

As the days pass since Ash Wednesday, we may fail to observe the changes around us. We may even forget what Lent is all about.

However, at the Kirk Lenten services, we have heard "Conversations by the Cross" with participants Wendy and Barron Gage, Sylvia Tate, Ruth Hamilton, Jean and Clark Mowry, Fred Kalsbeek, Paul Burpo, Gary Clark, Tom Hayek, Judy and Bob Corwin, and Sandy and Jim Adams.

Holy Week, from April 9 through 16, also prepares us for Christ's death and resurrection.

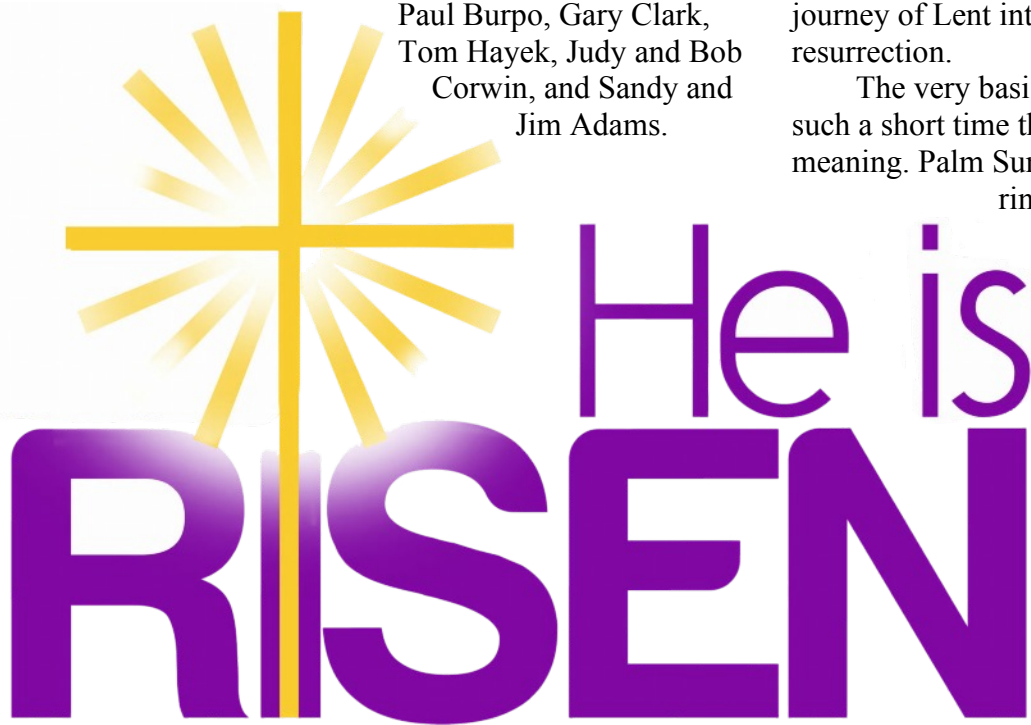
Children think about bunnies and eggs at Easter. They are too young to grasp the importance of Christ's death. Adults, like children, may become more interested in Easter hams, or the weather, or what we may choose to wear. This year, we encourage you to continue the journey of Lent into Holy Week by realizing the resurrection.

The very basis for our faith will be played out in such a short time that we might miss its beauty and meaning. Palm Sunday will feature our handbell choir, ringing in the hosannas of this sacred day.

Then don't miss our Maundy Thursday Tenebrae ceremony of candles at 7 p.m. April 13. In Latin, tenebrae means "darkness." It is the direct opposite of the Christmas Eve candlelight service.

This beautiful service joins music of flute (Marcia Gilmore) and piano (Donna Toney). John Jacob Niles' song, *The Robin and the Thorn*, will also be heard (Randy Toney).

Continued on page 2



He is
RISEN

When we meet

Sunday worship service
begins at 10 a.m.



Saturday informal service
5 p.m. in Hoffius Hall



Sunday children's class
10 a.m. in the Journey Room

Wednesday Bible Study
9 a.m. in Hoffius Hall.



Thursday Discussion Group
9 a.m. in Hoffius Hall



For more meeting times see
www.kirkinthepines.org/calendar



The Lord is with us whenever we travel

By the time you read this April newsletter, a group of us Presbyterians will have made our journey to the Holy Land. Some of us had been there before, but for many, this was their first experience in the land of Abraham, Moses and Jesus.

Most of us know when we travel we often feel more vulnerable. We stretch and grow when we enter another culture, but we also move out of our comfort zones.

Ironically, we often become even more aware of our homes and those things we often take for granted. We become especially mindful of loved ones we each left behind and things we are seeking when we make a pilgrimage such as this.

We become more grateful as we become aware of all the efforts made by many on our behalf.

I always find myself praying more when I travel – drawn more to pray for God's traveling mercies as well as for loved ones at a distance.

This Holy Land pilgrimage is also a reminder that all of life is a journey. In ways small and large, all of us have to deal with those we leave behind and with those

The Pastor's Corner *Bill Bailey*



things we seek as we make our way through life. As people of faith, we trust God is with us in this journey. This is also the promise of Easter. We believe we are not alone but that God is with us in all of life.

As the Psalmist reminds us, "the goodness and the mercy of the Lord shall follow us all the days of our lives ..."

Whatever our circumstances, wherever the journey takes us, our risen Lord reminds us we need not be afraid, because we are surrounded by God's traveling mercies.

Holy Land trip show will be May 18

Come hear all about the Kirk's recent Holy Land trip at a potluck dinner and slide show at 5 p.m. May 18 in Hoffius Hall.

Tom Hayek, Pastor Bill Bailey and other travelers will share photos and highlights from their trip.

Mark your calendar and plan to attend. The evening is sponsored by the Education Committee. More details will be in the May newsletter.

Here's what you'll find in the freezer

Busy day? Stop by the Kirk kitchen and pick up a container of delicious soup or a hearty casserole whipped up by the Greenhorns. The menu includes Vegetable Beef, Tomato Basil, Ham & Bean and Creamy Corn Chowder, to name a few of the tempting flavors. An envelope is on the freezer door if you'd like to leave a donation.



Join us celebrating Holy Week

Continued from page 1 Through scripture, while candles are extinguished one at a time, we share communion with our Lord. We hear the words of his Last Supper before he was arrested. Perhaps most moving is our exiting the sanctuary in silence.

But ... our journey through Holy Week is not over.

We continue through the sadness of

Good Friday to experience the joy of Easter on April 16. At 10 a.m. Sunday we will rejoice with trumpet, horn and timpani! Our choir will sing *Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise*.

Join us, won't you, and bring a friend. This year, experience anew the realization of Christ's glorious resurrection.

– Judy Corwin

Two join, but screening pares church rolls

Session received two new members:

Annie and Joe Sara were received by Affirmation of Faith. They came to the Village from Marion, Iowa, where they were members of Marion Christian Church. They have been coming to the Sunday service for the last few weeks.

When you see them in church, take time to visit with them. Tell them about upcoming activities. Now is a great time to ask them to attend the Lent program and meet many members of the congregation.

We lost some wonderful members in the last month.

Glen Huff died Feb. 14 in Hot Springs. A memorial service will be at 11 a.m. on April 8 at the Kirk.

Robert R. Throckmorton Jr. died Feb. 22 in Hot Springs. A memorial service was Feb. 27 at Cedar Vale Funeral Home. Interment was in Cedarvale Cemetery.

Rhonie Zymboly died Feb. 24 in Hot Springs. A memorial service was March 6 at the Kirk and interment was in the Kirk's Memorial Garden.

The Clerk's Corner

Jerral Johnson



Loss of members due to removal from the roll:

Members who requested their names be removed from the roll: David and Sherry Howle, Richard and Shirley Lyle, Robert (Bob) and Elaine (Jan) Waters, and Louise Witte.

Members who were sent letters but did not respond after a period of time:

Thomas and Patricia (Pam) Cave, June Geissler, Bob and Gretchen Mayfield and Dorothy Schulte.

This screening of the rolls is done when members have not been in touch with the Kirk for an extended period of time. If they request to be removed or do not reply, the Kirk is required by the Book of Order to drop them from the roll.

The Member Outreach Committee, moderated by Katy Hill-Hancock, and Beverly Schaumburg, Kirk Business Administrator, should receive a vote of thanks for the excellent job they have done to make sure the Kirk follows the Book of Order.

Church Statistics as of March 10, 2017:

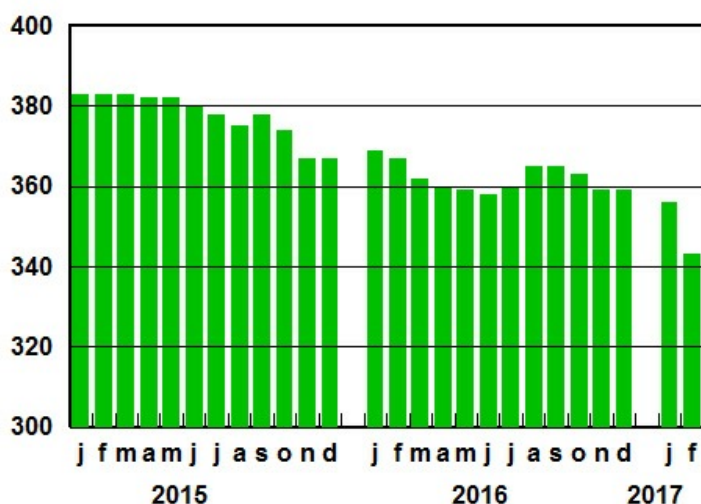
Members – 343

Family Units – 230

Loss of former member:

Ray Huntsinger died Feb. 4 in Appleton, Wis. He and his wife, Ann, lived in the Village for 30 years and were members of the Kirk. Ray wrote a weekly column, "Golf Matters," in one of the two local newspapers.

Number of Kirk members



Source: Kirk Clerk of Session

Melvis and Mabel coming to Kirk on May 11

Mark your calendar for Thursday, May 11, at 7 p.m. That is when the dynamic duo, Melvis and Mabel, will entertain us with their off-beat humor.

Who are they? Well, they are characters Bev Bullard and Judy Corwin will conjure up when they appear together for "Laugh Lines," an original script they have written.

Melvis and Mabel will take center stage in our sanctuary to entertain you and your guests in behalf of

the Mission Committee. This loony twosome (we're talking about Melvis and Mabel – not Bev and Judy, although at times it's hard to distinguish who's who) will be bringing smiles to the faces of their audience.

We don't want to give too much away, but proceeds of the event will benefit Safe Haven shelter in Hot Springs. Stay tuned!

– Gary Clark, Moderator
Mission Committee

Kirk members serve small Presbyterian church in Arkadelphia

Fourteen years ago, Kirk members Kenneth and Claire Rhodes were enjoying life as retirees.

They both sang in the choir. Kenneth was a member of the Kirk Men's Association and part of the group that cooked Easter morning breakfast for the community following the Annual Community Sunrise Service.

Claire served as moderator of Presbyterian Women. They occasionally filled the pulpit at an African American church in Morrilton.

In 2003, the Rhodes left retirement behind to answer God's call to a new ministry. As Commissioned Ruling Elders, the couple became part-time lay pastors for a small African American church in Arkadelphia.

West End Presbyterian Church, one of four African American churches within the Presbytery of Arkansas, has 50 members on the roll with an average Sunday attendance of about 30. The Rhodes drive from their home in Hot Springs each Sunday to lead Sunday school and worship.

"We're like a big extended family," Claire said with a smile. "We've had quite an increase of babies over the last year, too, so one could say we're growing our own church."

On Sunday, March 5, this writer and her husband attended a worship service at West End, and we can attest to the vitality of the small congregation.

The group included elderly persons, one in a wheel chair, middle-aged men and women, several high-school and college-aged youth, and toddlers and babies perched on their young parents' laps.

All actively participated in the lively singing and praying and paid careful attention to the Bible readings and sermon. Two dignified women elders served Communion. A six-year-old, dressed in a beautiful long dress, served as an acolyte to light candles on the altar at the beginning of the service.



Claire and Kenneth Rhodes below a Celtic cross built by fellow Kirk member Ken Wolf for their West End Presbyterian Church.

The small building has no place for children's classes.

"We're working to have a safe place for our new babies and young children to be on Sunday mornings," Claire said.

According to a report written by the Rhodes, West End Church is a diverse congregation of people with differing abilities and

Continued on page 5



West End Presbyterian Church in Arkadelphia where Kirk members Claire and Kenneth Rhodes serve as lay pastors. (Madelyn Young photos)

Claire and Kenneth Rhodes continue to serve

Continued from page 4

resources. Their membership profile ranges from those who are functionally illiterate to one with a doctorate.

Active members who are social workers and educators are able to identify members who are struggling and may need church assistance. About fifty percent of the members lives below the poverty level.

Some are classified as having developmental challenges, but the report says they are very faithful, attending Sunday school and church every Sunday.

"We are thankful for the Kirk's assistance over the years," Kenneth said. "Kirk members Ken Wolf, Dick Easter, and other men from the Kirk worked many hours to construct cabinets and make repairs to the building during our early years at West End, and Ken Wolf also created the beautiful Celtic cross that hangs in the chancel."

Kenneth was born in Hot Springs and graduated from DePaul University in Chicago with a degree in accounting. He also earned an MBA from Governor State in Chicago.

He worked 30 years in the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)

in Chicago, Indiana, Virginia and New York City. Kenneth retired in 1987 as Assistant Special Agent in Charge of the New York office.

Claire was born in Guyana (formerly British Guiana), South America. Her parents migrated with their five teen-aged children to the United States in 1971 so Claire and her younger siblings could get a quality education. She graduated from Rutgers University in New Jersey with a degree in accounting. Claire worked at the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) in New York City for 20 years.

Both Rhodes have held numerous committee positions in the Presbytery of Arkansas, and Claire has served as moderator of presbytery, as a delegate to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA), and most recently as a member of the Stated Clerk Nomination Committee of the General Assembly.

In spite of growing older and no longer driving at night, this faithful couple perseveres in their service.

"In a sense, we are serving as missionaries from the Kirk," Kenneth said. "We feel sure that the Kirk will continue to assist us in these endeavors."



Acolyte Lucy Besong and her sister, Lydia-Sherry Meangwe in front of the altar at the West End Presbyterian Church.



The Chamber Singers Choir

from University of the Ozarks

directed by Dr. Jonathan Ledger

will perform at Presbyterian

Kirk in the Pines

Saturday, April 1, 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, April 2, 10 a.m.

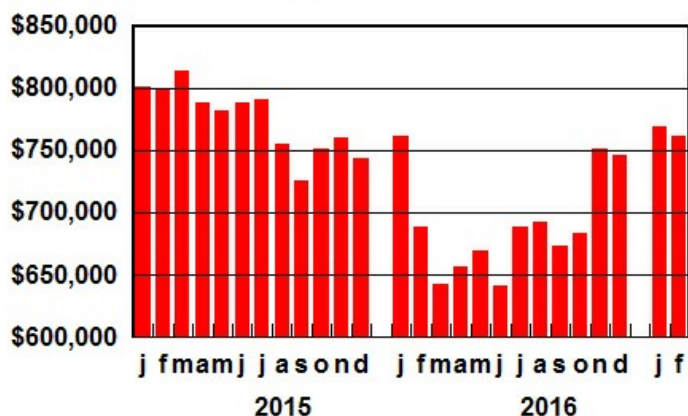
Invite your friends and neighbors!

Kirk in the Pines Financial Report

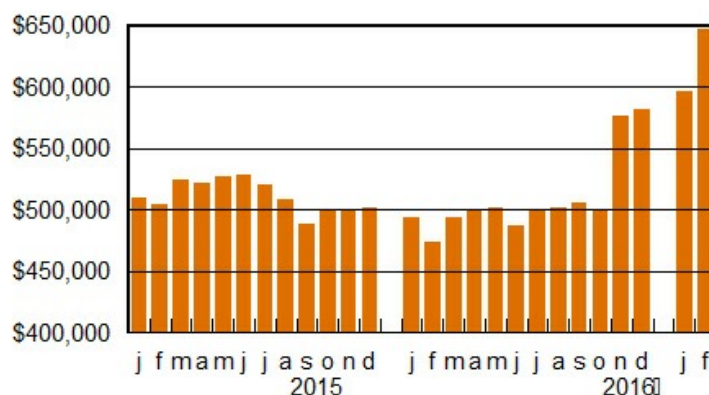
Year to date as of Feb. 28, 2017

	Month		Year to date	
	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>
General Fund:				
Receipts	\$ 35,755	\$ 29,424	\$ 71,509	\$ 75,057
Disbursements	\$ 35,755	\$ 28,277	\$ 71,509	\$ 55,168
Building Fund:				
Receipts	\$ 4,148	\$ 14,591	\$ 8,297	\$ 19,238
Disbursements	\$ 4,148	\$ 16,581	\$ 8,297	\$ 19,794
Total all funds:				
Receipts	\$ 39,903	\$ 44,015	\$ 79,806	\$ 94,295
Disbursements	\$ 39,903	\$ 44,858	\$ 79,806	\$ 74,962
Checking and Money Market Funds Balance				\$ 605,402
Special funds:				
Memorial fund (new)				\$ 40,000
Luke 12:48 fund				\$ 79,091
Programs fund				\$ 52,949
Endowment fund				\$ 528,324
Total special funds				\$ 700,364

Total funds



Endowment funds



Special envelopes for important ministry

On Sunday, April 2, and Palm Sunday, April 9, One Great Hour of Sharing offering envelopes will be in the pew racks. Please use the envelope to support this important ministry. The offering will be received on Easter Sunday, April 16.

One Great Hour of Sharing began in response to the devastation of World War II. The offering is distributed in three ways: Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, 32 percent; Self Development of People, 32 percent; and the Presbyterian Hunger Program, 36 percent.

As we offer these gifts, let us thank God for this opportunity to reach out with love in Christ's name.



President's Award given to Lu Otto for all he's done for Hot Springs Village

Kirk member Lu Otto has been awarded the prestigious President's Award for his volunteer work on behalf of Hot Springs Village.

Property Owners' Association board president Mike Medica told the POA's annual meeting Otto's service "in many areas and aspects and his valuable contributions of time and expertise have made a difference throughout the community."

Under Lu's guidance, the POA published *Hot Springs Village Social and Economic Impact 2016*, the most comprehensive and detailed study of the Village ever assembled. The 48-page document gathered demographic and historical information showing how the Village developed and is making a \$371-million impact on the region and the state.

Lu and his wife, Nancy, moved to the Village in 2000. Lu's photography is well known, particularly his *The Beauty of the Village* show presented to groups throughout the community.

The Ottos joined the Kirk in 2002. Lu, an ordained Lutheran minister, said: "We had decided we would join a church based not on denomination or travel distance but a parish that, in our judgment, reflected the mind and spirit of Christ as we had come to know it. We believed the Kirk best met that criterion, and we have not been disappointed."

Lu has been on the Kirk's Stewardship and Christian Education committees. Nancy has been an advocate for the sight-impaired and is president of the Breakfast Lions Club.

Five years ago, Lu decided he wanted to do more.

"When I was 75, I said to myself it's time to give back to the Village," he recalls.

He became a member of the POA's Governmental Affairs Committee (GAC) and pondered how Village leaders and staff could make important decisions with such meager information at hand.

"We weren't even sure how many people lived in the Village," Lu said.



Lu Otto has been a Kirk member for 15 years. (Frank Leeming photo)



**The Kirk
in the
Community**

Lu chaired a special committee which spent a year gathering information and working with UAMS on the impact study. Kirk members Frank Leeming and Madelyn Young helped produce the work, and Kirk member Gerald Allen is chair of GAC.

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Villagers must show culture of ownership

Continued from page 8 Based on what he's learned, Lu feels "we need to cultivate a culture of ownership" in the Village.

"This isn't Cooper's or the POA's place. It's our Village," he said. "It's the responsibility of people like me to get others involved. We haven't built mentoring into the system."

Lu says volunteering in the Village and membership in churches and civic clubs is slipping. Turning that around has to be a high priority.

What about the Kirk?

"In every age the church must ask 'What does it mean to be the people of God at this time and in this place?'" Lu said.

"The Kirk has responded with vibrant pastoral, pulpit, visitation, education, music and related ministries that empower the membership – each an indicator of growth.

"However, there is a sequence to the growth patterns. Numerical growth provides both the personnel and the resources for expanding the ministries. That's where it starts and that's what it's all about. That's how we fulfill the great commandments: 'Love God and love our neighbor.'"

Lu holds a master's degree from Concordia Theological Seminary-St. Louis and master's and doctoral degrees from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. His doctorate was in social psychology with a minor in scientific methodology.

He held senior pastor positions at the 1,600-member Immanuel Lutheran Church in Madison and at Calvary Lutheran Chapel and Student Center on the university campus.

He was director of the Social and Economic Research Center at Washington State University and research director at Father Flanagan's Boys' Town Research Center in Omaha. In 1986 he became head of the Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Social Work at North Carolina State.

On the occasion of one of his national awards he was described as "one of the most prolific authors of his cohort, his studies carefully reasoned, his research

rigorously executed, and his findings always properly qualified."

In 1996 Lu was named The William Neal Reynolds Distinguished Professor of Sociology, one of the highest faculty awards granted by the 16-campus University of North Carolina System.

Lu and Nancy have three sons, three daughters-in-law, and two grandsons living in North Carolina, Virginia and Massachusetts.

– *Frank Leeming*



Copies of the Village Impact study can be quickly downloaded from www.hsvgac.com/hsv-impact

PW Spring Gathering topic is 'Sisters in Faith'

"Sisters in Faith" will be the subject of the 2017 PW Presbytery Spring Gathering Saturday, April 22, at First Presbyterian Church in Hot Springs. The Rev. Laura Fleetwood will be keynote speaker and the Rev. Elizabeth Gabbard will be worship leader.

The Gathering begins at 9 a.m., worship service at 9:20.

Registration is \$10 and includes lunch. Please send registration by April 17 to: First Presbyterian Church, Attn: Presbyterian Women 2017, 213 Whittington Ave., Hot Springs, AR 71901.

Vera Lloyd Presbyterian Home's annual Pink Hat Day will be Saturday, May 6. Plan now to go with other PW members from the Kirk to Monticello, Ark., and visit the youth served in this Christian home supported by the Kirk PW and the Kirk Mission Committee.

Coffee Closet open April 9

The PW Coffee Closet is open the second Sunday of each month with a great selection of Fair Trade regular, decaf and flavored coffees. We also carry single-serve cups in three flavors, as well as many varieties of tea.

Kirk office closed April 17

The Kirk's business offices will be closed Monday, April 17, the day after Easter. Regular hours will resume at 9 a.m. Tuesday, April 18.

Spring Lecture will focus on 800-mile trek and pilgrimage

Physical and spiritual journeys will be the focus of the Rev. Dr. Debra (Debbie) Carl Freeman's Spring Lecture at 9 a.m. Thursday, April 27, in Hoffius Hall at the Kirk.

Dr. Freeman will begin with an



The Rev. Dr. Debra
(Debbie) Carl Freeman

introduction to the history of the Spanish Camino de Santiago, and participants will view *The Way*, a 2010 American drama film directed, produced and written by Emilio Estevez, starring his

father, Martin Sheen. "The Way" is about the pilgrimage of Camino de Santiago. A discussion of the film will follow its showing.

A box lunch will be offered by the Greenhorns for a nominal cost. Early notice of your plans to attend will help in lunch preparation. Please call the church office to make a reservation.

After lunch Dr. Freeman will describe her own six-week pilgrimage walk. It covered nearly 800 miles over mountainous terrain. She will share her reflections on faith, accompanied by some of her photographs.

Dr. Freeman is transitional minister at First Presbyterian Church in Jacksonville, Ark. In 27 years of ministry, she has served congregations in Arkansas, Virginia, and East Kilbride, Scotland.

She comes from a family of Presbyterian clergy, as does her husband, Jim Freeman, who is serving as pastor of Broadmoor Presbyterian Church in Shreveport, La.

The Freemans have two children. Lindsay is a student at UALR studying Spanish (currently attending the University of Salamanca, Spain), and William is a graduate of Trinity University with a degree in Art.



Martin Sheen and Deborah Kara Unger in the film *The Way*.

Dr. Freeman has co-authored a children's book with her son and loves sharing her experiences on pilgrimage in Spain walking the Camino de Santiago. She enjoys running, walking, cycling, traveling, adventure, spending time with friends and family, Celtic spirituality, laughing, and experiencing God's blessings in worship and service.

— Lowell Gardner



The PW Choir, rehearsing under the direction of Patty Van Cleave, participated in both services.

Women of the Kirk take over on PW Weekend

On one special weekend each year, the women of Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines step forward to lead the congregation in worship at both the Saturday evening informal service and the Sunday morning traditional service.

They call this annual celebration "Presbyterian Women Weekend."

This year, on Feb. 18 and 19, Elder Leader Sylvia Tate brought the message, "A New Paradigm: Love." Barbara Fuquay served as worship leader on Saturday evening, and Cindi Erickson served as liturgist on Sunday.

A PW Choir presented *Gaudeamus Hodie (O Be Joyful)* under the direction of Patty Van Cleave at both services. This lively anthem was accompanied by Donna Toney and Sharon Collar on the piano and by Carol Clark, using handheld calypso-style instruments.

Other Presbyterian Women served as greeters and ushers, and the Greenhorns, a special cooking group at the Kirk, prepared refreshments. The women hosted a coffee hour before the Saturday service and after the Sunday service.

Many women around the world are prevented from leading worship in their churches. The women of the Kirk are thankful for this privilege and responsibility.

— Madelyn Young

Elder Leader Sylvia Tate brought the message on Saturday night and Sunday morning. A beautiful table of goodies awaited the congregation in Hoffius Hall. (Madelyn Young and Robert Sonnen photos)





**Tom Hayek
photos**

Kirk Gardens and grounds are alive with spring's colors

We have all heard about the hills being "alive with music." Well, here in Hot Springs Village and at the Kirk, the grounds and Memorial Garden are coming to life with bursts of color.

Too bad the daffodils have already spent their color, but they were plentiful and beautiful. The forsythia and flowering quince have put on a very nice display. Other bulbs add to the color, and now red buds are showing their stuff. The camellias lasted a long time with awesome displays.

So, what else is there? The answer is plenty!

Our spring fashion show is just getting ready and not just in the Memorial Garden. The rest of the grounds have much to gloat about.

Check the perimeters of the parking lot. Keep an eye down Asturias Drive toward Carmona Road as well as



toward the garden displays at the entrance of the main parking lot. And did you notice the pretty flower display in front of the big Kirk sign at the east parking lot?

There are colors to be seen between the office entrance and the mail box.

The entire grounds have been swept clean of leaves, twigs and branches. The Hoffius Hall garden is looking alive, filled with the beauty of more flowers and flowering shrubs beginning to shine.

Yes, some hills are alive with music, but our grounds are alive with an abundance of very welcome spring color.

I continue to thank the helping hands that enjoy serving to preserve this awesome display.

– **Tom Hayek**, Moderator
Grounds and Memorial Garden Committee

Fred Raskin on road to recovery

Fred and I want to thank members of the Kirk for your prayers, concerns, cards, phone calls and gifts of food during Fred's recovery from his three surgeries, which started with his heart surgery to replace a valve and bypass.

It has been a long haul, but we think all of that is finally behind him and he can keep going forward in his efforts to regain his strength and good health.

We really appreciate and love our church family.

– *Bev Raskin*

Bill and JoAnne Rich appreciate food, words

Words cannot express how much Bill and I appreciate the phone calls and words of encouragement we received while we were “under the weather.”

A big thank you to Janie Smith and all our dear friends from Games Night for the wonderful food that kept us nourished.

We are so glad to be a part of this wonderful congregation.

– *JoAnne Rich*

Potter's Clay getting help from food Basket

During April, the Kirk is collecting non-perishable food for Potter's Clay.

They need canned meat, fish, vegetables, soups, stew, Spam, chili, pasta and pasta sauces, dry boxed dinner helpers for hamburger, chicken and tuna, macaroni and cheese, dry rice, beans, and milk, dry hot and cold cereals and canned milk and juices.

If you can't bring food to the Kirk, you can leave an offering in the pew envelopes marked “Food Basket” for a monetary gift.

We thank Potter's Clay for the work they do, and we thank you for helping them.



After falls and surgery, Pat Hightower doing well

So many unexpected falls finally led me to have surgery to correct the problem. With all your love, prayers and support surrounding me, I am recovering quickly.

I am amazed and so grateful for the many expressions of love and concern during my month away from you. My Kirk Family has showered me with calls, cards, visits, treats, flowers, love and prayers.

Knowing I had your support lifted my spirits and cheered me. Thank you all for your thoughtfulness.

Special thanks to Brother Bill for his many hospital visits. They were so comforting and helped calm my fears.

Blessings and love to all,

– *Pat Hightower*

Need a ride?

If you need a ride to church, call the Kirk office at 922-1333, or Janie Smith at 922-7548. We will happily have someone give you a ride.

First golf outing will be April 9 at Magellan

On the second Sunday in March, 34 of our members enjoyed dinner and fellowship at DeSoto Club, preparing for our 2017 monthly golf and dinner events.

We'll begin our season on Sunday, April 9, at Magellan Golf Course, with dinner following golf at Last Chance restaurant.

If you are new to our Kirk and would like to join our Kirk Golf Group, we welcome you. We are a group of single and couple golfers, playing 9 or 18 holes, your choice.

We play Village courses the second Sunday of each month, April through October.

If you would like additional information, please call 915-0134 or email jimobhess@suddenlink.net

– *Jim Hess*

Read about secession here and in the Bible

Between 1861 and 1865 our country was engaged in a bloody civil war after 11 southern states chose to separate themselves from the federal government in Washington. They united to form the Confederate States of America with its capital in Richmond, Va.

Their cause was states rights and the defense of their agricultural economy which was sustained through enslaved labor.

They justified their practice by dehumanizing the Negro race, listing them as property and tallying each of them on census rolls as two-thirds of a person.

President Abraham Lincoln, although disagreeing, chose not to act against the Confederacy until their artillery fired on a federal military installation in Charleston, S.C.'s harbor.

It seems sad this occurred less than 100 years after the establishment of our government.



Carnegie Corner

By Lowell Gardner

Actually, talk of secession was present as early as 1804 but under far different circumstances.

The Federalist Party of George Washington and John Adams was in decline following the presidential election of Thomas Jefferson in 1800. In February 1804, a group of dispirited New England politicians met in Washington to discuss forming "two distinct and separate governments."

They urged Aaron Burr to join them and think beyond the New York governorship, which he was seeking. They wished New York to secede with them.

Later, they met in Lewis City Tavern in Albany. Both the plan and Burr's governor's race bore little fruit, but the idea and the Federalist Party lingered through the presidency of James Monroe (1817-1825).

Secession also became an issue in events recorded in the Bible. Do you know where, when and all the circumstances? Why not check it out in the scriptures as well as commentaries and/or a Bible dictionary in our church library?



Good Golly! Games Gang goes green

The Games Night Shepherd Group met March 7 in Hoffius Hall for St. Patrick's Day fun and games.

Seventeen members attended and enjoyed green EVERYTHING prepared by Stanley and Cheryle Dean and Walter and Barbara Fuquay. Not only did we have green cookies and green punch, we also had green tortilla roll-ups.

The table was attractively decorated with a green shamrock tablecloth and



napkins. Did I mention we even drank our green punch out of green glasses?

We played Mexican Train or Hand & Foot. You are welcome to come join us at 6:30 p.m. on

April 4 and bring a friend, or two, or three. We have several other games we could play if anyone is interested.

— *Barbara Worthley*



Happy dates



Birthdays

April 1	Lois Dykstra	April 16	Darlene Spiller	April 23	Jean Fisher
	Joe Milligan		Marty Volkema		Claire Rhodes
April 2	Jeanne Kleinschmidt	April 17	Lu Oto		Doris Simmons
April 4	Pat Kuntz	April 18	Michael Erickson	April 24	Ray Beal
April 8	Adele Baldwin	April 20	Linda Smith		Cheryle Dean
	Ron Lovett		Bob Smith	April 25	Bill Bailey
	Tom Martick	April 21	Cal Sloma	April 26	Sheri Swan
April 9	Judy Sonnenburg	April 22	Georgia Hill	April 28	Ken Poole
April 14	Blair Stroud		Ruth Richards	April 29	Pat Hightower
April 16	Jerry Hancock	April 23	Sandy Adams	April 30	Ruth Fox

Anniversaries

April 3	Sandy and Jim Adams	24 years	April 15	Bev and Charles McFadden	11 years
April 4	Cindy and Frank Morgan	44 years	April 22	Gretchen and Bob Mayfield	67 years

Choir has special music for Easter celebration

The choir is preparing special music for Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday and Easter Sunday. Additional instrumentalists will add to the beauty of the seasonal music.

Also, expect a treat at the worship services on April 1-2. The Chamber Singers of University of the Ozarks will sing on Saturday evening and Sunday morning. This



Choir Notes

Dotty Rector

Ruth Hamilton installed

Ruling Elder Ruth Hamilton was installed Feb. 17 as 2017 Moderator of Presbytery of Arkansas at its 134th Stated Meeting in Clarksville. Outgoing Moderator Rev. Lacy Sellars presided over the evening installation in the Munger-Wilson Memorial Chapel at University of the Ozarks.

The following morning, Ruth, in her new role as Moderator, presided over the installation of new Vice-Moderator Rev. Leslie Roper.

A member of the Kirk since 2002, Ruth has served on the Education, Mission, Evangelism and Fellowship committees and as moderator of Kirk Presbyterian Women. She also co-chaired the Pastor Nominating Committee that recommended the Rev. Bill Bailey to be pastor of the Kirk.

group is the premier, auditioned choral ensemble at the university.

University of the Ozarks, in Clarksville, Ark., is affiliated with the Presbyterian Church (USA) and focuses on undergraduate liberal arts education. There are 675 students now enrolled.

The Chamber Singers is composed of 21 students, freshmen through seniors. Only a few of them are music majors.

The university has a new choral director this year – Dr. Jonathan Ledger. Dr. Ledger has restored an old custom of the choir touring Arkansas, Texas and Oklahoma for a week in the spring.

The Kirk has hosted this choir for a number of years and enjoyed the infusion of their youthful voices.

On Sunday morning, the Kirk choir will join the university choir in singing the benediction response.

Come and be inspired by these services.

Time to get out of the house and meet fellow Kirk members at Dinners for Six

"Spring has sprung, the grass has ris, tell me where Dinner for Six is!"

Spring is a wonderful time to get out of the house and have dinner and conversation with fellow Kirk members. During the next four months, you'll spend three quality

Send us the news!

Have some news you'd like to share?

Send it to us at this email address:
kirkvoice@sbcglobal.net

Or put it in the Communications mailbox in the hall outside the church office.

Our deadline is the 15th of each month for the next month's publication.

evenings with other Kirk members.

Do you know when they came to the Village and where they came from? Great stories will abound.

Remember, the meal doesn't have to be grandiose. It's the



fellowship that is the point of the evening. We've been doing this for years, and every evening provides new insights into the life of our congregation. Try it, you'll like it.

Each couple/pair will host an evening by providing a main dish while the others bring salads or desserts.

Sign-up sheets for May through August will be in the bulletins the first two weekends in April. For more information

contact Barbara or Tony Booth at 922-6475 or tb4booth@sbcglobal.net

Remember the old adage: "Make new friends but keep the old; some are silver and the others are gold."

– ***Tony and Barbara Booth***

Kirk Staff

William B. Bailey – Senior Pastor
Sylvia Tate – Elder Leader, Informal Worship
Randy Toney – Director of Music
Donna Toney – Organist/Pianist
Janie Smith – Visitation Coordinator
Joyce Leeming – Secretary
Beverly Schaumburg – Business Administrator
Paul Stivitts – Sexton

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