

A Voice in the Pines



Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines newsletter

Volume XXXIII, Issue 6, June 2017

Martha Nielsen honored as 2017 PW Woman of Faith

“I realized as I tried to put my faith journey into words that my church involvement and my faith journey were not necessarily linked,” Martha Nielsen said as she began to relate her story to the women gathered in Hoffius Hall.

“But I want to start by saying I had the benefit of being essentially ‘raised in the church.’”

Martha was dedicated as an infant in a Baptist church in Kansas City, Mo. When she was in second grade, her family moved to Junction City, Kan., and joined a Presbyterian church she attended through high school.

She went to Sunday school, youth group, church camp, and sang in the choir, but she never really thought much about her personal relationship with God.

When it came time during junior high to join the Presbyterian Church, she was upset that her parents hadn’t baptized her as a baby like all her other peers in the communicants’ class.

The controversy intensified when Martha’s mother, a Baptist at heart, wanted Martha to be immersed at the local Disciples of Christ church instead of being sprinkled. Martha declared she would not be “dunked under water” at somebody else’s church, so she was sprinkled like a Presbyterian.

Now, she says she is glad because she can truly “remember her baptism”!



Martha Nielsen is 2017 PW Woman of Faith. (Robert Sonnen photo)

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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



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



June 4: Pentecost Sunday and church birthday

According to the church's calendar, June 4 is a very important date – Pentecost.

Pentecost is the Greek name for the Jewish Festival of Weeks (*Shavuot*), a harvest festival in ancient Israel. For the rabbis, *Shavuot* is celebrated as the day God gave Israel the Torah.

For Christians, Pentecost marks the end of the great "Fifty Days" and is celebrated as "the birthday" of the Church and the giving of the Holy Spirit. No longer physically present, Jesus is now present through the power of the Spirit, filling and empowering the church to bear witness to Christ's resurrection and the work of the Kingdom.

In the Book of Acts, it is the Spirit that leads the disciples out from hiding, into the streets of Jerusalem to bear witness to Christ's living presence. Even when the magistrates threatened them to keep silent, it was the Spirit that empowered them to be faithful witnesses.

Over and over again, in the Bible as well as in Church



The Pastor's Corner Bill Bailey



history, it is the Spirit that leads the church into mission and outreach, overcoming our timidity and resistance. It is the Spirit today who continues to push and prod us to be faithful when we would just as soon remain safe and comfortable.

On June 4, we will join Christians all over the world in worship, with prayers and hymns, in hearing Scripture read and preached in celebration of the church's "birthday."

May this Pentecost season be a time of renewal and discernment for us all as we listen for the Spirit's call in our lives.

Summer brings change to Kirk's schedule

Summer is here, and that means a new schedule for some Kirk activities.

The Wednesday morning Bible Study and Thursday morning discussion group are taking a break and will resume in September. If you're interested in continuing with lively discussion, consider joining the Summer Book Club led by Lowell Gardner from 9-10:30 a.m. each Wednesday in July and August in the Kirk library. See story on page 16 for more details.

Presbyterian Women Circles also take a break in the summer and will begin again in September. Ladies Marathon Bridge ended its season in May. The group meets every fourth Monday, September through May, excluding December.

The Games Night Shepherd Group will continue to meet through the summer in Hoffius Hall. The group meets monthly for fun and food. Games include Mexican Train, Hand & Foot and other games members are interested in playing.

Tai Chi for Arthritis continues each Tuesday from 3:30 to 4:30 in Hoffius Hall. This low-impact exercise class for fitness and balance is led by Kathy Packard, director of education at Arkansas Center on Aging. Come join the fun each Tuesday from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. in Hoffius Hall.

Summer suppers, with delicious potluck dishes and interesting speakers, are a tradition at the Kirk. Watch your bulletins and newsletters for details.

Flood damage means we need your help

Massive flooding in areas of Arkansas and surrounding states caused severe losses of property and, in many cases, loss of life, for many families. We have been asked by the Presbytery of Arkansas to step up and help the affected communities recover.

In the past we have filled disaster buckets and sent them to Church World Services at Ferncliff. They were then shipped to the areas in need. These buckets are still needed. We have several buckets in the storage building in the back parking lot.

However, many other items are needed to help clean up and get families back to a somewhat normal life. The following items are requested: shovels, mops, trash cans, garden rakes, cleaning buckets, paper goods (toilet paper, paper towels, paper plates, plastic utensils), towels, and hygiene kits.

The drop-off station in our area is First Presbyterian Church in Hot Springs. The contact person is Candy at (501) 623-6668, Ext 117.

If you have filled disaster buckets, they can be dropped off at the Kirk. They will be taken to Ferncliff.

In the past, some members have found it easier to give money to the Kirk. Checks should be marked for disaster buckets. The money will then be used to purchase supplies for the buckets. If you wish to fill buckets, there will be a list of what goes into each bucket.

The Clerk's Corner

Jerral Johnson



Church statistics as of May 12, 2017

Members – 343

Family Units – 231

Visitors to the Kirk

Before and after the Saturday and Sunday services, try to identify those who are not members of the Kirk. Take time to stop and visit with them. Ask them to go downstairs for coffee and introduce them to other members. If you can find out where they are from, and if you know a member who is from that same area, make sure the visitors can meet that member.

When Marilyn and I were moving to the Village and looking for a church, I mentioned to our Realtor we planned to visit the Kirk. He said his experience with the Kirk was not good. He had gone to a Sunday service and then downstairs for coffee. He got his coffee and

stood around, but no one ever acknowledged he was there. He went to Woodlands Presbyterian Church until he passed away.

The Kirk has many activities bringing non-members to the Kirk. If you see visitors, please take time to talk with them and make them feel welcome.

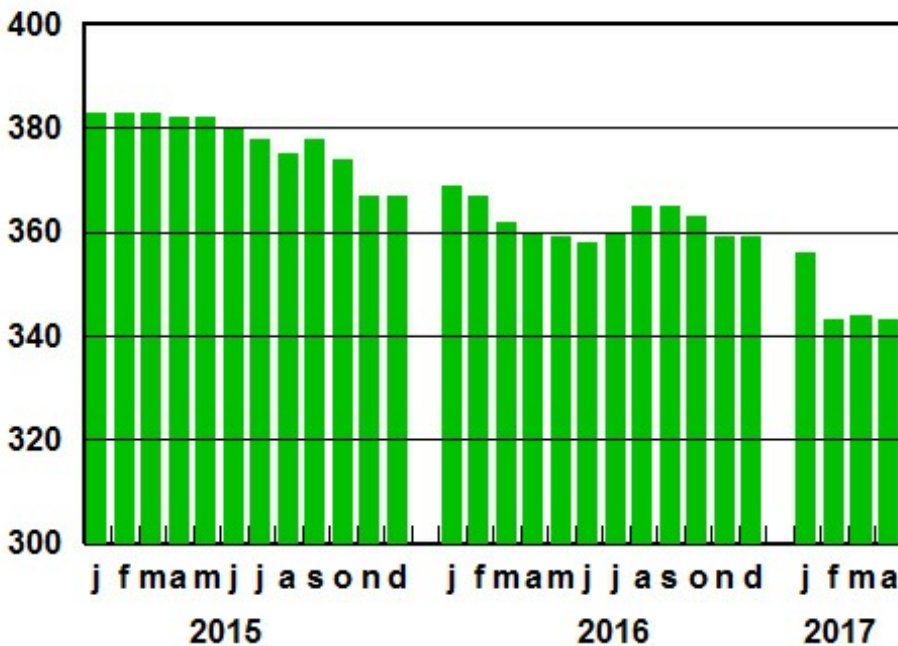
Session won't meet in June and July

If items develop that require action by the Session, special meetings will be called.

Hearing Loop

The sound in the Kirk continues to improve. When you see Barron Gage, take time to tell him you appreciate all the work that has gone into the improved system.

Number of Kirk members



Source: Kirk Clerk of Session

Joyce Leeming retiring as church secretary

Joyce Leeming, the powerhouse in the Kirk office for the last two years, is retiring this month.

“We are sorry for the loss of such a wonderful and efficient office manager,” said Pastor Bill Bailey, “but happy for her as she begins a new chapter in retirement.”

Joyce has been a presence at the Kirk since she and her husband, Frank, became members in 2005. She has served on the Fellowship, Administration and Memorial Receptions committees and was on Session and moderator of the Communication Committee for three years. Joyce continued to serve on Communication after she stepped down as moderator and often volunteered in the office before she became a staff member.

While we are sad to say goodbye to Joyce, we are pleased to welcome Christina (Chris) Taylor-Wilmoth as the new Kirk secretary. Chris began May 30 and was introduced to the congregation during the May 28 worship service.

The *Voice in the Pines* will feature Chris in an article in the July issue. In the meantime, stop by the office and introduce yourself.



Joyce Leeming (left) is retiring as the Kirk’s secretary and will be replaced by Chris Taylor-Wilmoth.

The Session plans a farewell reception for Joyce at a date to be announced. Watch the Sunday bulletins for details.

– Judy Carroll

Prayer life deepened in time of serious illness

Continued from page 1 She married in her senior year of college and joined the Disciples of Christ church she had attended occasionally with her sorority’s house mother. She remained in that denomination over the course of 35 years which included four different moves, ending in Lincoln, Neb.

“That church family in Lincoln became a saving grace in my life when they saw me through a divorce after 28 years of marriage,” she said.

She moved to Omaha, Neb., where she had been commuting to work, and three years later married Jay Nielsen. They came to Hot Springs Village for their wedding so they could be married by her older brother, the Rev. Dr. Mike Seitz, pastor of the Kirk at that time.

After all her years of church attendance, Martha’s faith journey took a major turn when she was diagnosed in 2003 with non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma. This eventually led to a stem-cell transplant and radiation treatments. She was given only a 15 percent chance of living.

During this stressful time, her prayer-life deepened, and her relationship with God grew. She has written about her experiences:

“Today, in large part due to my cancer experience, I can say with certainty, I not only *believe* there is a God,

but I *know* there is a God who watches over me and takes care of me at all times, whether I deserve it or not.

“It is not because I was healed. It is because every time I thought I couldn’t stand any more bad news or go through one more treatment, I would ask God for help, and invariably something would happen or someone would show up and provide exactly what I needed to keep going.”

Martha and Jay moved to the Village in 2012 and soon became active members of the Kirk.

They became co-Shepherd Group leaders with Bob and Judy Corwin their first two years, and Martha has been the Bible Study Leader for Circle 2 since January 2013. She is moderator of the Congregational Care Committee, and each month she and Jay help deliver Greenhorn meals for our homebound members.

Martha is active in Arkansas Presbyterian Pilgrimage and volunteers for Arkansas Hospice, providing respite care for those taking care of their loved ones at home.

Martha Nielsen’s faith is evident in everything she does, and we are thrilled to honor her as the 2017 PW Woman of Faith.

– Madelyn Young



Kirk PW members (from left) Rosalyn Halbert, Carol Sue Williams and Madelyn Young at the PW Presbytery Spring Gathering in Hot Springs.

Speakers show the way at PW Spring meeting

On Saturday morning, April 22, Kirk members Rosalyn Halbert, Carol Sue Williams and Madelyn Young met with many other Presbyterian women from across Arkansas for their annual PW Presbytery Spring Gathering. The women of First Presbyterian Church in Hot Springs hosted the event.

Participants enjoyed a beautiful worship service, including Communion.

The Rev. Elizabeth Gabbard, minister at First Presbyterian Church in Arkadelphia, delivered the sermon, "As We Have Been Taught." She cited the many women who have gone before us – faithful women in the Bible and faithful women in our own lives – who have led us to trust in God's love.

Following the service, Kathy Ratcliff from Westover Hills Presbyterian Church in Little Rock spoke about their PW group's literacy program at the Pulaski

County Detention Center. The women help inmates increase their reading and writing skills, and she related many delightful experiences.

Then Lyn Whaley, retired executive director at Vera Lloyd Presbyterian Home in Monticello, introduced a former resident, Bob Scott, who spoke about his life when he was a child and teen at Vera Lloyd. He's now a retired Little Rock businessman with a loving family, and he credits the staff at Vera Lloyd for setting him on the right path in life.

A short business meeting followed these presentations. Among the slate of officers installed for the PW Presbytery Coordinating Team, 2017-2018, is our own Carol Sue Williams, who will continue in her role as Cluster III Leader.

The day's keynote speaker was the Rev. Laura Fleetwood, Honorable Retired Minister in the PC(USA) who now lives in

Bentonville. Her presentation, "What Does It Mean to Be a Faithful Christian in a World of Many Religions?" encouraged us to learn more about our sisters in other faiths, and she focused on Islam.

Ignorance of what true Muslims believe leads us to fear them, she said. She related stories of her interactions with many loving, faithful Muslims in northwest Arkansas, and she drew a sharp contrast between the vast majority of Muslims in the world and the radical terrorists who dominate the news.

She cited an excerpt from *Presbyterian Principles for Interfaith Dialogue*: "Christians are called to relate to people of other faiths in full humility, openness, honesty, and respect."

A delicious buffet lunch and a wonderful time of fellowship ended the day's activities with our many Arkansas "sisters in the faith."

– Madelyn Young

PW ends their year with Bible lesson, birthday offerings and a bountiful salad luncheon



Becky Wakefield, incoming moderator, with Martha Nielsen, 2017 Woman of Faith. (Story and photos by Madelyn Young)

On Monday, May 8, Kirk Presbyterian Women ended their 2016-2017 year with a thought-provoking Bible lesson led by Pastor Bill Bailey, the collection of the annual Birthday Offering for three mission projects selected by the national PW, a bountiful salad buffet

to honor the Kirk staff and the Greenhorns, and the recognition of the new PW Woman of Faith.

The focus of this year's Bible study has been the Apostle Paul's letter to the Philippians.

In his presentation, Pastor Bill discussed the overall theme of the letter, Paul's thank-you to the small church he had founded on his second missionary journey.

While in prison, Paul had received gifts of money brought from Philippi by Epaphroditus, a Gentile convert. While Paul appreciated their gifts, he also assured them he had learned the secret of living with little or with plenty.

"I can do all things through him who strengthens me," Paul told them. But their gifts were pleasing to God, and for that, he was grateful.

During the worship service, Kirk PW presented

their gifts for this year's Birthday Offering. They will go to:

- The Navajo Water Project in New Mexico to provide a running-water system for families without running water.
- The Family Justice Center in South Carolina, serving victims of domestic violence.
- The First Hand Aid Rural Clinic Development Initiative to establish six medical clinics in partnership with, and located at, Presbyterian churches in rural Cuba.

Following the service, the women adjourned to Hoffius Hall for lunch and presentation of the 2017 PW Woman of Faith. Martha Nielsen received a standing ovation as her name was announced and many loving hugs after she spoke about her journey of faith. (See related article on pages 1 and 4)

Special gratitude goes to Christine Hoagland, this year's moderator, for her service to PW while often undergoing harsh medical treatments.



Members of Circles 2 and 3 helped decorate Hoffius Hall at the final PW gathering of the year. Rosalyn Halbert, Circle 2 Leader, created beautiful fresh flower centerpieces. Pictured are (from left) Marilyn Johnson, Vianne Huff, Barb Kalsbeek, and Shirley Siska.

Continued on page 7



“Mabel” and “Melvis,” Kirk members Judy Corwin and Bev Bullard, presented their “daily radio show” from the Kirk. Quapaw House’s Dian Glover and her husband, Thomas, (below) attended the show. (Photos and story by Madelyn Young)



Lots of laughs at Kirk with Mabel and Melvis

On a recent rainy evening in the Village, two delightful characters, “Mabel” and “Melvis,” brought their “daily radio show” to Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines from “Lazy Oaks, Ark.” The showers did nothing to dampen the banter between this pair nor the laughter of their listeners.

Laugh Lines, an original comedy, written and produced by Bev Bullard and Judy Corwin to

Wakefield to lead PW team

Continued from page 6

Now, Presbyterian women offer support and prayers for Becky Wakefield, incoming moderator; Mary Ann Reynolds, secretary; Norma Stevens, treasurer, and Circle leaders Charlotte Massey, Rosalyn Halbert, Yvonne Jones, Lois Dykstra and Barbara Fuquay. They will be leading Kirk Presbyterian Women during the 2017-2018 PW year.

benefit Safe Haven Shelter in Hot Springs, lived up to its name.

Melvis (Bev) dressed in her spiffy, red-and-white outfit, gaudy earrings, and red-laced tennis shoes, questioned why Mabel (Judy) still had her hair in curlers and was dressed in her old bathrobe.

“It’s Casual Friday, that’s why,” Mabel said.

“Well, today’s Thursday, not Friday,” Melvis replied, rolling her eyes at her ditzy friend.

“Okay. Then it’s Casual Thursday. I don’t care.”

Mabel proudly played her kazoo to introduce every announcement, and the duo talked about hometown events, took call-in questions, previewed local happenings, and even shared some gossip.

“Well, it’s not really gossip,” explained Melvis. “We get it off the police log.”

“And we never use names,” chimed in Mabel. “We only use initials.”

The two lamented the fact that they no longer had many sponsors,

but they performed an hilarious rendition of the old Halo Shampoo song, *Halo, Everybody, Halo*.

And they also sang a jingle about their hometown to the tune of *Country Roads*:

La-zee-Oaks, Ar-kan-saw,
Where the folks love the past,
We don’t hur-ree
We don’t wor-ree
And our life-style’s
Not too fast.

After the show, Melvis and Mabel greeted their many fans in the narthex.

Among the audience was Dian Glover, Director of Community Relations for Quapaw House, Inc., the administrative agency for Safe Haven Shelter. She and her husband, Thomas, drove from Hot Springs to attend the performance, and Dian thanked Gary Clark and the Kirk’s Mission Committee for sponsoring the show.

The evening’s free-will offering yielded \$655 to benefit homeless women and children in Safe Haven Shelter.

Changing attitudes help you discover miracles

About 70 Kirk members and guests gathered in Hoffius Hall on April 27 to vicariously share a pilgrimage with the Rev. Dr. Debbie Freeman, a Presbyterian minister.

Dr. Freeman shared with us her 590-mile, 35-day trek along the ancient Camino de Santiago, beginning in the Pyrenees at the border of France and Spain and ending at the Compostela Cathedral in Galicia, Spain, which houses the shrine of the Apostle James. She walked an impressive 13 to 20 miles each day.

She took her journey in spring 2015 and intends to go back again this year. This time, her daughter will accompany her. It was a remarkable physical challenge, and it was obviously a spiritual growth experience for her.

Debbie, as she prefers to be called, began the day-long program at the Kirk by showing the full-



The Rev. Dr. Debbie Freeman discussing her 590-mile hike in Spain. (Sharon Gardner photo)

length film *The Way*, starring Martin Sheen. In the film, Tom (Sheen), an ophthalmologist, is playing golf in California when he learns that his son Daniel has died in an accident while walking the Camino.

Daniel and Tom had argued just before Daniel left for his trek. He told his dad, "You don't choose a life, you live one." This was wisdom that Tom didn't understand at the time. Tom decided to finish the walk "for both of us."

He carried a box of Daniel's ashes with him, which led to several misadventures.

The trek took him through towns and beautiful countryside, staying at designated inns along the way. Tom began his trek alone.

Then an unusual group of four – an American (Tom), a French woman, an Irish man and a Dutch man – slowly morphed into a community of friends.

Each person had a reason for walking the Camino. Tom wanted to finish his son's walk. Another had writer's block. One wanted to lose weight. One hoped to quit smoking. As the plot develops, we see deeper reasons unveiled for each walker.

They say miracles happen on Camino. If a transformation of attitude and facing one's underlying "issues" is a miracle, we certainly see that occur. Debbie suggested that "if you go with some question, you usually have the answer; you just haven't listened."

After a tasty lunch of sliders and fixings prepared by the Kirk Greenhorns, Debbie talked about her experience on the walk. She had beautiful slides to *Continued on page 9*



Greenhorn Carol Clark (left) takes a break from fixing lunch to greet Rosalyn Halbert.

Sign up for art class with Bev Carpenter

Bev Carpenter will teach a two-day Decorative Arts Class from 9 a.m. to noon on Wednesday and Thursday, June 7-8, in Hoffius Hall.

Bev, who has a Master in Fine Arts degree from Arizona State University and taught art classes in Scottsdale, Ariz., for 10 years, stresses this is a *decorative arts class*, not a *fine arts class*.

“Fine arts classes stress skills like drawing and don’t allow tracing or copying,” said Bev. “The purpose of our class is to have fun and make something pretty you can hang on the wall.”

The class is for artists of all skill levels, including those “who may think they have no artistic talent.”

There is no charge, but students are asked to bring a glassed picture frame of any size. With Bev’s instruction and other provided materials, they will create a silhouette on a pastel background.



An example of Bev’s decorative art

Bev shares her talent with a number of Village organizations, including designing sets for the Hot Springs Village Players.

Since she and her husband, Mike, joined the Kirk 10 years ago, Bev has worked behind the scenes to create posters about Kirk events “for anyone who asks.”

Her creative ideas and energy have helped transform the nursery into a colorful, welcoming



Bev Carpenter (center) with Ruth Hamilton (left) and Millie Croson, painting the mural in the Kirk nursery. (Robert Sonnen photo)

space, and she was one of the driving forces behind the Summer Book Club.

With the help of Millie Croson and Lorna Kerr, Bev also creates cheerful, seasonal backgrounds for the bulletin board in Hoffius Hall. Millie and Lorna will be assisting Bev with this class.

The class is limited to 15 students to allow hands-on instruction. Interested Kirk members may sign up after church on May 28 or contact the Kirk office.

“If more people sign up than we have room for, we’ll have another class,” said Bev.

– Judy Carroll

Understanding yourself can be a challenge

Continued from page 8 accompany her talk.

Her experiences taught her two unexpected things: the patience of walking with others, and the joy of letting go of things one doesn’t need, thereby learning to do with less.

Her motivation for the walk was, in part, because she wanted a challenge. When she preaches, she

ends each sermon with a new challenge for her congregation. She applies this to herself as well.

Her challenge to us was: “Understanding that we are all on journeys, whether they take us across the world or down the street: pray for each other, help each other, spend time in community with each other and with God.”

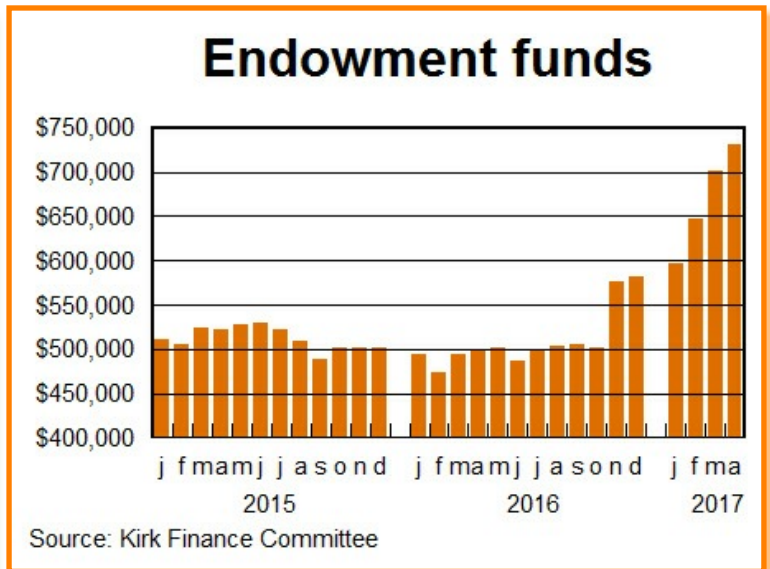
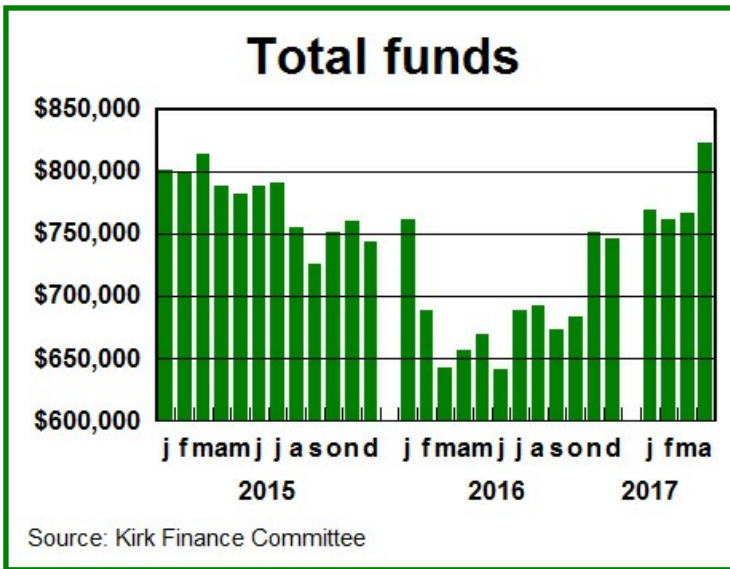
Several persons in the audience said they were interested in walking the Camino de Santiago. Maybe we will have a future program, featuring some of our own! In the meantime, you may borrow a DVD copy of *The Way* from the Kirk library and enjoy the walk in the comfort of your home.

– Dotty Rector

Kirk in the Pines Financial Report

Year to date as of April 30, 2017

	Month		Year to date	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
General Fund:				
Receipts	\$ 35,755	\$ 39,566	\$ 143,017	\$ 146,138
Disbursements	\$ 35,755	\$ 27,946	\$ 143,019	\$ 112,016
Building Fund:				
Receipts	\$ 4,148	\$ 11,869	\$ 16,593	\$ 37,983
Disbursements	\$ 4,148	\$ 1,139	\$ 16,593	\$ 27,158
Total all funds:				
Receipts	\$ 39,903	\$ 51,435	\$ 159,612	\$ 184,121
Disbursements	\$ 39,903	\$ 29,285	\$ 159,612	\$ 139,174
Checking and Money Market Funds Balance			\$ 91,495	
Special funds:				
Memorial fund (new)			\$ 40,015	
Luke 12:48 fund			\$ 79,769	
Programs fund			\$ 65,563	
Endowment fund			\$ 545,480	
Total special funds			\$ 730,827	



\$865 for Mission campaign

Thank you for generously supporting our Mission Dollar campaign by placing your single dollar bills in the offering plate. A total of **\$865** was collected in April.

If you wish to give more than a dollar, please use the envelopes in the pew racks. We are always grateful for your generous gifts and prayers.

Please wear name tag

Let's wear our name tags to each service. We ask our visitors to wear one, and we should do as much for them. Thank you.

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.



Honored for their many hours of work supporting the Kirk Choir are Charlotte Massey (above), Sharon Collar (right), Rosemary Claveau (below) and Norm Martin (bottom). (Jamie Federick photos)



15,474 pieces of music inventoried for Choir

Every week, September through May, one church “committee” meets on Wednesday afternoon for 90 minutes, then presents its prepared “report” during Sunday morning worship.

This hard-working committee is, of course, the Kirk Choir. Our church is lucky to have singers and musicians who enhance our weekly worship.

To support the work of the choir, our choir librarians and “hymns manager” are busily working – week in and week out – before weekly rehearsal and after Sunday worship.

Charlotte Massey, Rosemary Claveau and Sharon Collar are our librarians, and Norm Martin takes care of our hymn sheets.

Each choir member’s personalized anthem copy and hymn sheets for the next week must be distributed before rehearsal begins. And

after every Sunday morning service, our helpers collect the anthems, re-sort them, and re-file them in our library.

A HUGE job was recently completed by the librarians. Every anthem in our library was inventoried and moved to more accessible files. Charlotte, Rosemary, and Sharon handled 327 anthems, inventorying and sorting 15,474 pieces of music!

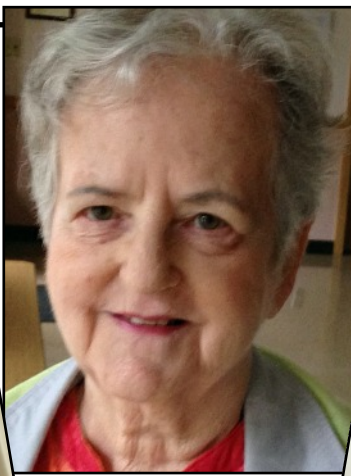
We recently feted all four volunteers at a celebration for the entire choir after their hard work during the Easter season.

In addition, our president, Dotty Rector, and vice-president, Ro Easter, lead off every rehearsal with a short fellowship and prayer time. We have enjoyed the “Getting to Know You” segment introduced by Dotty this year.

The choir is a great group who loves singing together and making beautiful music. Come join us and “make a joyful noise unto the Lord!”

– Randy Toney,
Director of Music





JoAnne Rich has been keeping track of newspaper articles about the Kirk for the last 10 years. (Ralph Greene photos)



Keeping tabs on the Kirk for the last 10 years

Thanks to the hard-working Communication Committee, Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines is regularly featured in our local newspapers.

Madelyn Young sends articles and photos to the *Hot Springs Village Voice* and the *Hot Springs Sentinel-Record* about new members, special events and services, and other comings and goings at the Kirk.

When the articles are in the paper, JoAnne Rich clips them and puts them in the Kirk's official scrapbook – which adds up to quite a few scrapbooks over the 10 years JoAnne has been in charge of the task.

The latest scrapbook will be on display June 11 in the narthex. Stop by and take a look at the names in the news – one of them just might be yours.

– Judy Carroll



Nothing dampened the old radio humor

Thanks to all the members who joined us at our Lazy Oaks, Ark., radio show on May 11.

Despite the weather, it didn't dampen your laugh responses to our show.

It was fun putting together the program to help the Mission Committee support the Safe Haven Shelter and the work they do for the Hot Springs area.

**Bev Bullard (Melvis) and
Judy Corwin (Mabel)**

Flower calendar

Providing flowers for worship service is a lovely way to remember a loved one or special occasion.

Bouquets are \$39 and rose buds are \$10.

Our new florist, The Arrangement on Park Avenue, delivers free of charge.

If you would like to provide flowers for worship service, please sign up on the 2017 Flower Calendar in Hoffius Hall.

It's a lovely way to remember a loved one or special occasion.

Once you've chosen the date, call Sandy Adams, flower coordinator, at 915-9006, with your dedication.



Flag to be honored June 14 at Kirk picnic



This year our Kirk family will be honoring the nation's flag at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 14, at Balboa Pavilion.

So don your red, white, and blue and join us for some fun and fellowship. Smokin' In Style will provide the BBQ and all the fixings for \$8. Quite a bargain!

Sign-up has already started, so look for the poster in the breezeway and Hoffius Hall on Saturday nights and Sunday mornings to make your reservation.

We're in the final stages of planning the entertainment, so don't miss out on an evening full of good food and enjoyment. Hope to see you there! Questions? Call Vicki Rosenquist, 706 371-2877.

Kirk golfers enjoy DeSoto course and club

May 14 was a beautiful spring day shared by 30 Kirk golfers at our Desoto Golf Course.

Bragging rights for the day went to:

Women

- Closest to the hole on #9 – Eve Webb
- Longest putt on #3 – Diana Milligan

Men

- Closest to the hole on #4 – Tom Hayek
- Longest putt on #7 – Ron Lovett

Dinner after golfing at Desoto Club was attended by 36 golfers, spouses and friends.



follow golf at 5:30 p.m. at J K's Grill at Isabella. Save the date on your calendar.

If you are new to our Kirk, or looking for a friendly golf game, we welcome you. We are a group of single and couple golfers of all skill levels, playing 9 or 18 holes – your choice.

We play our 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

Our next event is June 11 at Isabella Golf Course. Dinner will

At our age, we must measure what we can do

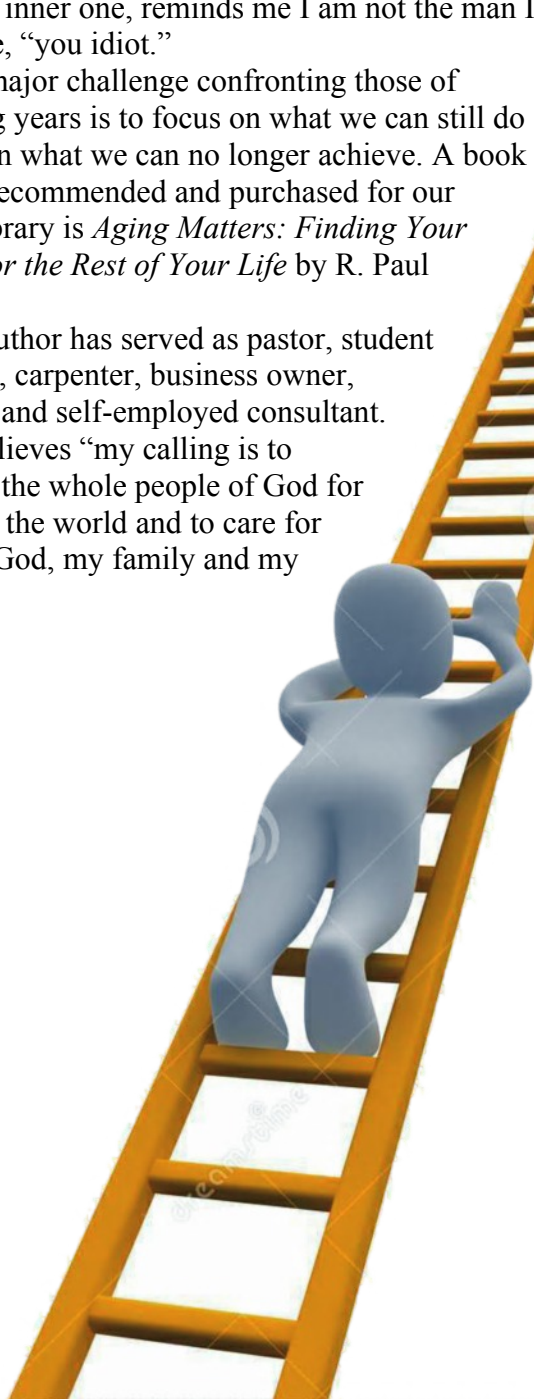
A family of wrens has taken up residence in a rain gutter on the roof just outside our front door. I am sure it seemed like a good idea: height, safety, a good view. For many and varied reasons, I do not share their opinion.

They have not yet been evicted. I did not notice the nest until they were well established. The incubator may well be engaged.

Also, whenever at my age I consider getting out the ladder, two voices vie for my attention. The loudest, belonging to my wife, is accompanied by words like “broken neck or worse.” The softest, but equally persistent inner one, reminds me I am not the man I used to be, “you idiot.”

One major challenge confronting those of advancing years is to focus on what we can still do rather than what we can no longer achieve. A book recently recommended and purchased for our church library is *Aging Matters: Finding Your Calling for the Rest of Your Life* by R. Paul Stevens.

The author has served as pastor, student counselor, carpenter, business owner, professor and self-employed consultant. Yet he believes “my calling is to empower the whole people of God for service in the world and to care for and love God, my family and my



Carnegie Corner By Lowell Gardner

neighbor, and to make beautiful things to embellish the earth and people.”

Stevens invites his readers to join “in an exciting journey, a journey of both self-discovery and God discovery,” regardless of our age or circumstances. Quoting Psalm 92:14, he reminds us all that “the righteous will still bear fruit in old age, they will stay fresh and green.”

Are you willing to accept the challenge? It's coming from God! Read the book. It's in our library. Remember, it's not what we can't do but what we can that matters.

Games Night is June 6

Games Night met Tuesday evening, May 2, in Hoffius Hall for Mexican Train and Hand & Foot. The smaller-than-usual group had a good time and enjoyed snacks prepared by Sherry Bingham and Lois Dykstra.

The next Games Night will be at 7 p.m. June 6, and all are welcome. We are always open to new games, so come and bring your favorite game. If you have a friend or neighbor who would enjoy the games and fellowship, please invite them to join us.

– Barbara Worthley

Traffic to Kirk's Facebook page is increasing steadily

More than 600 persons saw one of the posts on the Kirk Facebook page pop up on their own Facebook page. People liked, commented, or shared a post with friends more than 1,400 times!

If you haven't visited our page, click here:

<https://www.facebook.com/Presbyterian-Kirk-In-The-Pines-113161225371282/>

See the beautiful photo by Robert Sonnen of the sanctuary.

– Ralph Greene



Happy dates



Birthdays

June 1	Lynn Wallace	June 13	Anne Bailey	June 21	Jackie Herbst
June 3	Nadean Cannon		Shirley Siska	June 22	Char Martin
	Anne Sara	June 14	Jan Holtberg	June 24	Chuck New
	Sylvia Tate		Bob Wessel	June 26	Jim White
June 5	Ginnie Hastings	June 17	Judy Pogemiller	June 27	Norm Fisher
	Diana Milligan	June 18	Nancy Otto	June 28	Bill Wiard
	Joe Perryman	June 20	Sherry Bingham	June 30	Ed Baldwin
June 9	Carol Burpo		Linda Wessel		Barbara Booth
June 12	Ellie Elsenheimer				Martha Wilson

Anniversaries

June 2	Nancy and Lu Otto	55 years	June 14	Barb and Daryl Henry	45 years
June 4	Ruth and Dave Hamilton	53 years	June 17	Bev and Fred Raskin	40 years
June 5	Ro and Dick Easter	62 years		Janette and Bill Wiard	17 years
June 6	Anne and Joe Sara	36 years	June 19	Charlotte and Dick Massey	35 years
June 8	Jean and Heinrich Eiler	66 years	June 20	Martha and Wayne Copeland	30 years
June 10	Theresa and Dave Nottrott	55 years	June 22	Norma and Steve Stevens	32 years
	Merilyn and Mike Seitz	55 years	June 24	Wendy and Barron Gage	34 years
June 11	Lorna and Dean Kerr	67 years	June 27	Marjorie and Gene Carlisle	64 years
	Judy and Bob Rosenthal	52 years	June 28	Patricia and Ken Poole	59 years
June 12	Becky and Ed Baldwin	50 years			

PW Coffee Closet will open Sunday, June 11

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.

Fair Trade products are natural and delicious, but the best part is each purchase helps a family farm across the world and helps support a community's economy.

Call Carol Clark, 915-8497, for information about special orders.



Jackson House getting help from food Basket

During June, the Kirk is collecting non-perishable food for Jackson House. 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.

We thank Jackson House for the work they do, and we thank you for helping them. The generosity of the Kirk congregation never ceases to amaze. The Mission Committee appreciates your help with this worthwhile local ministry.



– Gary Clark, Moderator
Mission Committee

Summer Book Club has two titles to discuss

For the second year in a row, the Kirk Education Committee is sponsoring a Summer Book Club each Wednesday morning in July and August. The first meeting will be from 9-10:30 a.m. July 5 in the library. The final meeting will be Aug. 30.

As before, iced tea and "crumpets" will be served.

The first book to be read and discussed is James Baldwin's *Go Tell It on the Mountain*. The second will be *Creation Untamed: The Bible, God, and Natural Disasters* by Terence E. Fretheim.

The first is a semi-autobiography. The second is an edited series of addresses delivered by a Princeton theology professor to an audience at Nazarene Theological Seminary in Kansas City.

James Baldwin was an African-American, Harlem-born essayist, poet, novelist and race advocate. His own experience as the adopted son of a Pentecostal preacher in the early 1930s is the backdrop of this fictional boy's story.

"Everyone had always said that John would be a preacher when he grew up, just like his father. Not until the morning of his fourteenth birthday did he begin to think about it, and by then it was already too late," Baldwin wrote.

With this intriguing opening paragraph, the story of this boy's spiritual, sexual and moral self-discovery and possible "self-invention" begins.

Some who read this article may be turned away by "theological professor" and "seminary lecture."

There is no denying the second book in this summer's series will be challenging. But the topic itself is puzzling and plagues all of us. Where, what, when, and how does the God we believe we know fit into the midst of the bold headlines and TV sound bites?

The major premise of the professor is that God might have made the world "good" and we who inhabit it "good," but neither the world nor humanity is "perfect." He wants and expects us to have a part with him in completing the work.

Intriguing? Where better to engage such issues than with a group of fellow believers. Come and join us in exploring these ideas.

— *Lowell Gardner*

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William B. Bailey – Senior Pastor
Sylvia Tate – Elder Leader, Informal Worship
Randy Toney – Director of Music
Donna Toney – Organist/Pianist
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