

A Voice in the Pines



Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines newsletter

Volume XXXIII, Issue 3, March 2017

Mmm, mmm, good ... that's what these soups are!

Do too many cooks spoil the broth? The cooks on our Kirk Soups & More team would certainly disagree. And many people who routinely take containers of delicious soup from the Kirk's kitchen freezer would disagree as well.

The Kirk Greenhorns provide this ministry to assist our members and our members' neighbors and friends who often need an easy meal, especially those recovering from hospital stays or those experiencing hard times.

This ministry is self-funded, but the Greenhorns are thankful for donations which allow them to offer their food free to our members.

On a beautiful January day, I found this busy group of ladies making up casseroles to stock the freezer. Not only do they mix up casseroles for members who gladly receive them, but they cook up simmering broth into a hearty soup.

The Campbell jingle ran through my head as I savored the smells drifting from



Sampling their soup are Greenhorn members (left to right) Judy Rosenthal, Donna Toney, Ellen Marshall, Wendy Gage, Becky Baldwin, and Carol Clark. *(Judy Corwin photo)*

the Kirk kitchen ... Mmm, mmm, Good, mmm, mmm Good, that's what Soups & More is, mmm, mmm, Good! (You're humming it right now, aren't you?)

So what kinds of soup do they cook up?

Well, the chicken-broth-based soups are many and varied. The delicious ground-beef soups – chili and such – are on the menu. Even gluten-free soups are offered. Cream soups and the favorite, Tomato Basil, will fill the freezer throughout the month.

If the cupboard is looking bare, they restock it with such soups as Vegetable Beef, White Chicken Chili, Creamy Corn Chowder and Ham & Bean.

There was a lot of chatter coming from these dedicated cooks, but it didn't seem to distract them from the task at hand. They

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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

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



Lent is a time for reflection, repentance

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent – March 1, this year. The name derives from specific passages in the Hebrew Scriptures and the ancient practice of wearing “sackcloth and ashes” as symbols of repentance.

On March 1, we will join Christians from all over the world to begin our Lenten Journey with worship and the imposition of ashes.

Elder Sylvia Tate and I will be marking those who come forward with the ashes from last year’s palm fronds. In the sign of the cross, these ashes remind us of our mortality and dependence upon God.

Lent is not the most exciting time of year for most of us. It is, however, a season we need – a season for reflection, repentance and focusing on the cross.

Author and poet Ann Weems put it this way:

*Those of us who walk along this road
do so reluctantly.*

*Lent is not our favorite time of
year.*

*We’d rather be more active –
planning and scurrying around.*



The Pastor's Corner Bill Bailey



All this is too contemplative to suit us.

*Besides we don't know what to do with
piousness and prayer.*

*Perhaps we're afraid to have time to think,
for thoughts come unbidden.*

*Perhaps we're afraid to face our future
knowing our past.*

*Give us the courage, O God, to hear
your word*

and to read our living into it.

*Give us the trust to know we're
forgiven,*

*and give us the faith to take up our
lives and walk.*

Do make plans to join us as we
seek to deepen our faith.

Lent begins Ash Wednesday

The Greenhorns' great food is there for you

Continued from page 1 accomplished this cooking in about two hours. Hey, it takes me that long to figure out a recipe!

That's why many people make a beeline to our Hoffius Hall kitchen after the service on Saturday night or Sunday morning. They know how tasty these casseroles and soups will be, saving them the time of preparing their own lunch or dinner menu.

If you've ever wondered how much cooking these

angels do, here is a fact worth pondering: In 2016, the Greenhorns provided 1,075 casseroles and soups.

We can't give them blue ribbons for their service, but we can name them and tell them "Thanks!" Here are their names: Becky Baldwin, Marcia Bauer, Carol Clark, Wendy Gage, Ellen Marshall, Sue New, Judy Rosenthal, Doris Simmons, Donna Toney, and Becky Wakefield.

– Judy Corwin

Sanctuary's air-conditioning units replaced

Death of Members:

Cathy Clowers died Jan. 28, 2017, in Hot Springs, Ark. A memorial service celebrating Cathy's life was held at Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines on Feb. 9, 2017, Hot Springs Village, Ark.

Jean Brown died Feb. 7, 2017, in Hot Springs, Ark. A memorial service celebrating Jean's life will be Feb. 25, 2017, at Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines, Hot Springs Village, Ark.

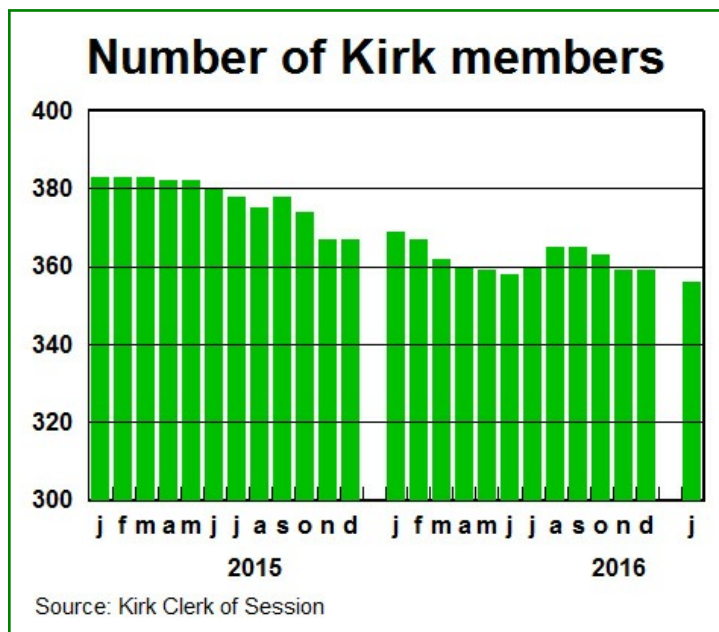
Glen Huff died Feb. 14, 2017, in Hot Springs, Ark. Plans have not been completed for a memorial service.

Please keep the families of Cathy, Jean and Glen in your prayers.

The
Clerk's
Corner

Jerral Johnson





Church Statistics as of Feb. 16:

Members – 356.

Family units – 238.

Annual Statistical Report:

This report was completed, approved by the Session at the February meeting, and sent to the presbytery.

Replace Air Conditioner Units for Sanctuary:

The large units servicing the sanctuary had to be replaced. The Session approved \$14,190 to cover the cost of replacement. This was paid out of monies left over from the 2016 budget.

Increased Security:

The Building Committee is developing a plan to use improved cameras and recorders around critical doors to improve security within the building. The total cost will be from \$400 to \$500.

Lenten Services and Soup and Bread Lunches:

Make plans to attend as many of the Wednesday services and lunches as possible.

Final plans made for Pastor's trip to Israel

They're ready to take off to the Holy Land.

Pastor Bill Bailey will be leaving March 20 from Dallas with 28 fellow travelers on their overnight transatlantic flight to the Holy Land.

Joining 12 Kirk members on this exciting 10-day journey are relatives and friends from Rhode Island, Arizona, West Virginia, Texas, Missouri, Kansas, and Hot Springs.

After landing in Tel Aviv, they will begin their exploration of Israel from border to border beginning on the coast and then on to other sites on their extensive itinerary.

To help prepare for the trip, those from the Village and Hot Springs, plus one from Missouri, attended Pastor Bailey's orientation meeting on Feb. 10. Having been to Israel several times, he explained

what to expect – the different Israeli customs, the kind of food, exchanging money, even how to bargain with shop keepers.

It was evident from the enthusiastic questions everyone is very excited about this new journey. We wish them a safe, and inspiring trip and look forward to them sharing their pictures and stories with us when they return.

New high-tech camera helps screen children for eye issues

Helen Van Stone loves working with tots to identify eye problems early

If you question why a person is motivated to do something she loves, even though it is time-consuming and she could be out playing golf, you need to ask Helen Van Stone. For seven years she has been involved in a Lions Club project providing eye exams for preschool and kindergarten children in Garland County.

In late summer when schools re-open, every preschool and elementary school is contacted. Three or four members visit the school, explain the program, and after permission forms are received from the parents or guardians, the volunteers can go to work doing what they love.

The Lions purchased a \$10,000 Pedia Vision SPOT camera. Since it is wifi-compatible to a printer, all the team has to do is type the name, birth date, and sex of the student, and enter the information into the computerized camera.

The children are brought into a darkened room accompanied by a teacher to help them feel comfortable. Each child sits about four feet from the camera. It takes only seconds to capture a digital image which reveals normal eyes or eye misalignment, near or far sightedness, crossed or lazy eyes.

Results are printed immediately. When a child fails the vision test, notification is sent to family members. If a family cannot afford a doctor's exam, Lions Club pays for the exam and glasses, if needed.

"Of the 1,500-plus children screened last year, 10 percent failed," Helen said. "This screening is far superior to the old-fashioned E-chart we're familiar with."

Helen loves this volunteer opportunity. She also helps with the FOCUS group in the Village for low-vision adults.



Helen Van Stone with an old E chart and a picture of the new Pedia Vision SPOT camera. Helen has been a Lions Club volunteer for seven years giving eye tests to area youngsters. (*Judy Corwin photo*)



**The Kirk
in the
Community**

So a tip of the hat to H E L E N V A N S T O N E -- even her name looks like an eye-chart!

And by the way, if you think this kind of volunteering might interest you, give her a call and find out more about the program.

– *Judy Corwin*



***Help us rejoice
by making our
Kirk a beautiful
sanctuary this
Easter season***

Help decorate the Kirk for Easter with beautiful lilies, hydrangeas and azaleas. Order your choice of flowers from the form in your church bulletin.

Christine Hoagland will order the potted plants and arrange them artistically in the sanctuary and narthex. You may take the plant home after services on Easter Sunday.

Prices for the flowers are as follows:

- Easter lily, \$12.95.
- Hydrangea, \$17.25
- Azalea, \$18.25.

Please have your order with accompanying payment to the church by March 12. Thank you.



Large numbers of Kirk members have been attending Pastor Bill Bailey's Bible Study sessions, which are from 9-10:30 a.m. every Wednesday in Hoffius Hall. All members are invited to attend the informative classes. (Joyce Leeming photo)

Here's the story behind a colorful newsletter

At the urging of Communication Committee Moderator Judy Carroll, the Kirk's Session agreed in December to print our *Voice in the Pines* newsletter in color.

A major effort has been made to make our newsletter as colorful and attractive as possible.

The newsletter is one of the Kirk's best marketing tools in attracting new members – an issue facing most churches in the Village and around the country.

At the same time, we've urged members to read *A Voice in the Pines* on their computers. There are several reasons we've pushed this:

- The full vibrancy and colorful presentation can be seen in the PDF documents we send out on-line each month, and which are available at the Kirk's website, kirkinthepines.org.

- It saves 94 cents in postage and envelope costs to deliver the newsletter by email.

- Sending the newsletter to members electronically delivers it faster than sending it by mail.

- We can save the volunteer time it takes to put the newsletter in envelopes and apply labels and postage.

The number of mailed copies has been reduced to about 60 each month. These are sent to out-of-town

members and those who don't have computers, are vision-impaired or are homebound. Another 30 or so printed copies are picked up at the church.

The 16-page January newsletter was the first we printed in color and on a slightly better stock of paper.

Alas, we learned later the company we lease our printer from charges us based on the number of 8½x11-inch images we print, not on the number of sheets of paper we run through the printer. By printing on both sides of an 11x17-inch sheet of paper, we get four pages of our newsletter.

Bottom line: It costs \$240 to print and distribute 125 copies of a 16-page newsletter in color, and \$88 to do the same thing in black and white.

So now we're only printing about 35 copies in color. They're used for visitors, the Hot Springs Village Visitor Center and at the Newcomer's meeting every other month. The other 90 are printed in black-and-white. The saving amounts to \$125 a month.

We'll continue to do our best to publish *A Voice in the Pines* you'll find attractive and enjoy. And we hope over time most readers will enjoy it on their computer screens where it looks really good.

– Frank Leeming



Lenten services, lunches begin March 1

The season of Lent begins on Wednesday, March 1, with a traditional Ash Wednesday service at 11 a.m. It continues with weekly services through April 5. (For more on the Lenten service, please see the article on page 13.)

Each service will be followed by a soup and bread lunch in Hoffius Hall. What better way to share spiritual renewal and fellowship than over a bowl of homemade soup?

Please let us know if you would like to share your favorite soup or bread by filling out the form in our worship bulletins. We need about a dozen pots of soup and loaves of bread each week.

Kirk committees hosting the soup and bread lunches are: Fellowship on March 1, Member Outreach and Building on March 8, Education and Grounds and Memorial on March 15, Communication and Administration on March 22, Mission and Congregational Care on March 29, and Worship and Finance on April 5.

Our Lenten services and lunches are a special time in the life of our church. Please join us – and invite your friends and neighbors to come with you. All are welcome!



Worship
Schedule
For Lent

How you can help the Kirk in perpetuity

There are many ways we remember the Kirk. We give of our time, talent and treasure as we enjoy the many blessings we receive in the Kirk family. We are given rich messages from Pastor Bailey, wonderful music to lift our soul from Donna and Randy Toney and from the choir and other ensembles who share their gift of music.

There will come a time when we won't actively share these blessings, but we can continue to give. With the permission of Kirk members, we will share some ideas about how to do that.

Keith Brown has identified the Kirk as beneficiary to money invested in Texas Presbyterian Foundation. You can do that, too, by contacting Charles Reece or one of the other elders on the Kirk Session. You can also contact Stephanie Ray at Texas Presbyterian Foundation. Contact the Kirk office for her phone number and email address.

Jean and Clark Mowry have bequeathed a percent of their estate as a tithe to the Kirk in their will.

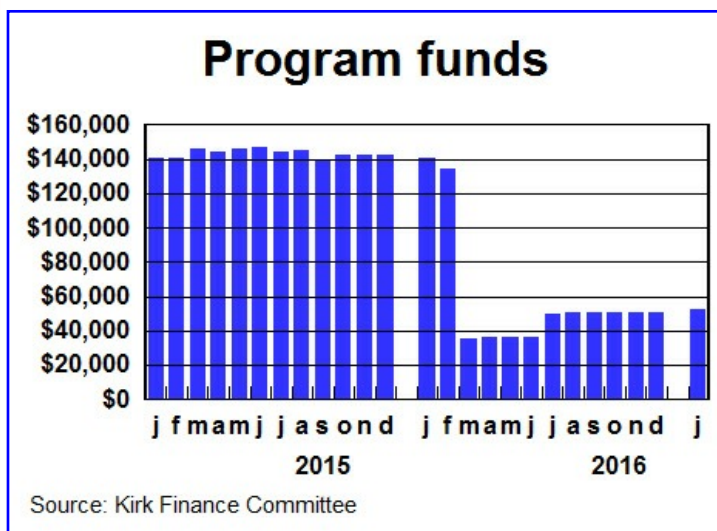
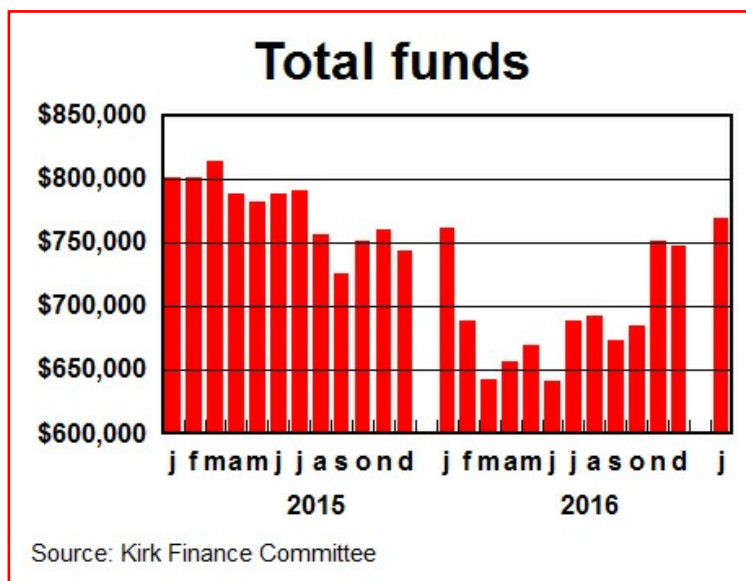
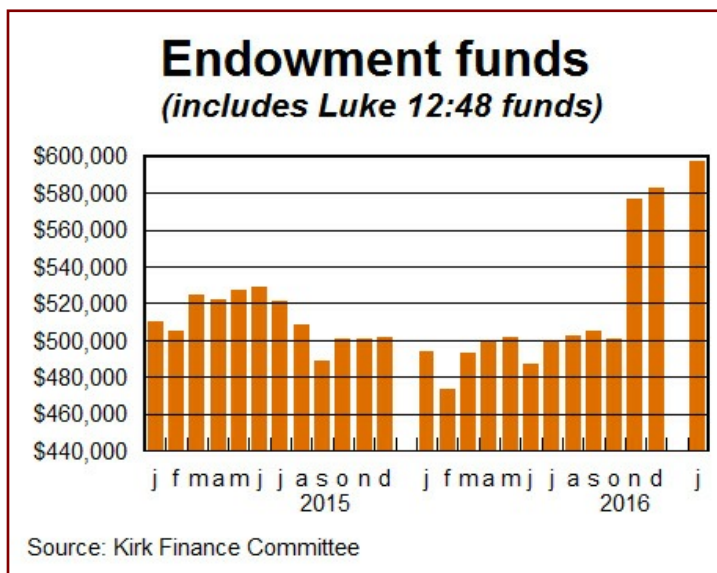
While we hope these members of the Kirk family are with us for a long time to come, we are grateful they have chosen to continue supporting the Kirk even after they are gone. As you plan, consider the Kirk family.

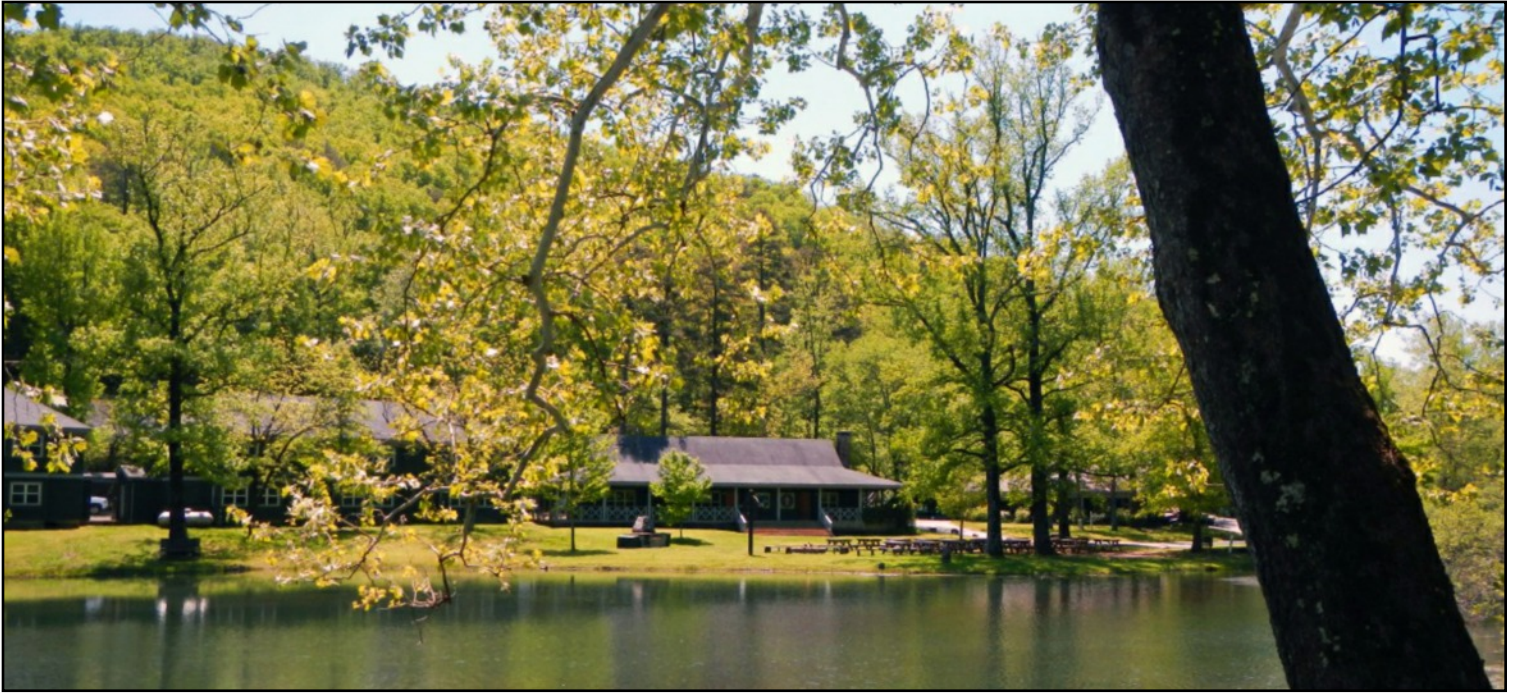
– Finance Committee

Kirk in the Pines Financial Report Year to date as of Jan. 31, 2017

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>
General Fund:		
Receipts	\$ 35,754	\$ 45,632
Disbursements	\$ 35,754	\$ 26,891
Building Fund:		
Receipts	\$ 4,148	\$ 4,647
Disbursements	\$ 4,148	\$ 3,213
Total All Funds:		
Receipts	\$ 39,903	\$ 50,280
Disbursements	\$ 39,903	\$ 30,104
Checking/money market balance		\$ 120,429
Luke 12:48 Fund		77,730
Programs Fund		52,037
Endowment Fund		519,235

—Charles Reece, Moderator
Finance Committee





The beautiful Ferncliff Camp and Conference Center offers a peaceful setting for Presbyterian Pilgrimage Weekend. (*Arkansas Presbyterian Pilgrimage photo*)

This Pilgrimage is something very special

Arkansas Presbyterian Pilgrimage will hold its 26th Weekend at Ferncliff Camp and Conference Center on April 27-30.

A Presbyterian Pilgrimage Weekend is not just “another retreat.” It is part of a personal spiritual journey for Christians seeking to grow and renew their faith.

You can experience a deepened relationship with Christ that can continue growing and last a lifetime.

Pilgrimage Weekends provide an opportunity to:

- Meet Christ face-to-face.
- Develop a renewed sense of hope and purpose.

- Better understand God’s love, grace, and forgiveness.

- Experience fun and fellowship with other “Pilgrims.”

Pilgrimage Weekends are open to all Christians. We hope you will prayerfully consider attending this spring.

You can register quickly at www.pilgrimage-arkansas.org. The cost is \$200 for lodging and meals. Scholarships are available, so don’t let cost be a barrier.

If you have questions or need help registering online or by regular mail, contact Martha Nielsen at 922-0672.



Head Shepherd Group Leaders Wendy and Barron Gage (far right) discuss activities which begin March 1. They met with (from left) Ed Baldwin, Becky Baldwin, Lorraine Berry, Millie Croson, Richard McPheters, LuDean Walston and Dennis Zymboly. (*Joyce Leeming photo*)

Put March 7 on calendar for fun and games

The Games Night Shepherd Group meets the first Tuesday night of each month in Hoffius Hall to play Hand & Foot, Mexican Train, Sequence, and any other game someone wants to play.

Don't worry if you are unfamiliar with these games. Someone will be glad to help you.

Everyone is invited to join us at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 7, for some "game-playing" fun. Refreshments and snacks are provided.

For more information, contact Shepherd Group leader Barbara Fuquay at 922-2400.

– Barbara Worthley

March 3 is Garden workday

There will be a Memorial Garden workday at 9 a.m. Friday, March 3. Come enjoy the beautiful early blooms and help us get the garden ready for spring. All are welcome.

– Tom Hayek, Moderator
Memorial and Grounds Committee

PW Coffee Closet open Sunday, March 12

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.



Potter's Clay getting help from Food Basket

During March, 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.



Clip & Save

Phone numbers

For help:

- Kirk office.....922-1333
- Prayer needs (Della Reimers).....915-8235
- Communion at home.....922-1333
- To be assigned a Christian friend
(Janie Smith).....922-7548
- For meals, transportation, minor house repairs, have someone sit with a spouse:
Martha Nielsen.....922-0672
Janie Smith.....922-7548
- To be assigned a phone buddy:
Judy Pogemiller.....915-0062
- For other congregational-care needs:
Martha Nielsen.....922-0672
Kirk office.....922-1333

For staff (home numbers):

- Pastor Bill Bailey.....984-0445
- Elder leader Sylvia Tate.....870-219-3260
- Visitation Coordinator Janie Smith.922-7548

Email addresses

- Pastor Bill Bailey.....kirkpastor@sbcglobal.net
- Kirk secretary
Joyce Leeming.....kirkoffice1@sbcglobal.net
- Kirk business administrator
Beverly Schaumburg.....kirkfin@sbcglobal.net

Website

Kirkinthepines.org



Members of three Sweet Adeline International barbershop quartets combined to sing *Rain* before an enthusiastic audience at the Kirk. (Robert Sonnen photos)

Three award-winning quartets entertain enthusiastic Kirk crowd



Emcee Danielle Spacey

On Sunday, Feb. 12, three award-winning Sweet Adeline International barbershop quartets entertained a full sanctuary of enthusiastic Kirk members and visitors.

The Kirk's Sharon Gardner organized the concert and welcomed the audience to the afternoon event.

"We always have fun," she said, "but having you here makes it even better."

Emcee Danielle Spacey introduced the opening number, *One Song at a Time*, sung by the three quartets together. This set a happy tone for the event, and the women's beautiful black and silver outfits, each one different from the others, shimmered as they moved to the rhythmic tempo.

Next, Roundelay, composed of women from Top of the Rock chorus in Little Rock, sang five pieces. Members are: Ellen Withers, Tenor; Kathy Allison, Lead; Mary Devine, Baritone; and Karen Wesson, Bass. Their final number seemed to be an audience favorite. *I'll Fly Away* had all in the audience tapping their toes and nodding their heads to the old Negro spiritual.

Providence also delighted the audience with five songs. This well-known quartet from the Crystal Chimes chorus in Hot Springs Village includes: Kay Latta, Tenor; Phillis Ruggieri, Lead; Kay Pearson, Baritone; and Lynn Holberton, Bass. Kay and Lynn are also members of the Top of ***Continued on page 11***



Roundelay from Little Rock (left), Providence (below) and Treble in the Village (bottom) joyfully entertained at the Kirk.

Continued from page 10

the Rock chorus. One number featured Phillis plucking the strings on a bass fiddle, obligingly portrayed by Lynn – an amusing way to choreograph the song.

Then the three quartets performed together again, and this time the audience participated to create sound effects to introduce the number *Rain*.

One section of the audience began by swishing their hands together. Another section was directed to snap their fingers while the next section slapped their hands upon their thighs. The last section stomped their feet in intermittent claps of thunder.

One quartet member opened an umbrella, stuck out her hand to feel the rain, and at last, each audience section was directed to stop their movements as the rain subsided and the umbrella was put away. *Rain* was one of the most beautiful pieces in the program.

Treble in the Village rounded out the program. Three members of this outstanding quartet are from the Kirk and one is from Christ of the Hills United Methodist Church.

The quartet has performed at the Kirk many times: Fran Stroud, Tenor; Patty Van Cleave, Lead; Kay Crews, Baritone; and Sharon Gardner, Bass. Among their five numbers, *Bring Me Little Water*, *Silvy* fascinated the audience as Patty and Kay moved their hands and arms in a rhythmic, body-slapping routine as the quartet sang.

The audience was mesmerized.

“How can they do that and sing at the same time?” people whispered.



To end the event, all members of Sweet Adeline International in the audience were invited to join the three quartets in their final number. Women moved to the chancel, and the “sisterhood” blended their beautiful voices in *How We Sang Today*.

A free-will offering totaling more than \$1,000 was collected for a scholarship to a deserving music student in honor of Peggy Gram, who directed Top of the Rock chorus in Little Rock for 40 years.

Following the program, the talented singers met Kirk members and guests in Hoffius Hall for ice-cream sundaes. A fun afternoon!

– Madelyn Young

Who-done-it murder mystery shrouds Shepherd Group 6's dinner

On a January evening – Friday the 13th – Shepherd Group 6 attended the Grand Opening of The Four Deuces. Little did they know someone would be murdered!

The group worked hard to discover “who dun it.” Each character had background information and confidential information to help find the culprit. “Mug shots” were taken of each character. Inspector Neville “The Nose” Nutella (aka Eric Van Cleave) did a great job interrogating and sharing the clues as they came to light.

Bribery was encouraged and money changed hands. At last, it was determined Rebecca Ravioli (aka Pat Kuntz) was, in fact, the murderer. Rebecca and Capo "Toto" Tequila (aka Mel Kuntz) tried to make a run for it, but were stopped by Investigator Incognito (aka Lowell Gardner). Handcuffs were placed on the suspect.

While the investigation was taking place, all the characters at this establishment were delighted with an appetizer buffet. While the “whodunit” sheets were tabulated, the characters enjoyed coffee and dessert.

An award went to Bob Berry for having the most money at the end. He is good at bribery!

Millie Croson was voted to have the best costume.

Joyce Hayek and Mel Kuntz received awards for being the best sleuths.

Ro and Dick Easter were rewarded for their wonderful new “Four Deuces” venue.

Many interesting characters attended this event. You can check out the “mug shots” on the Kirk in the Pines Facebook page.

– *Sharon Gardner*

Ro and Dick Easter hosted a murderously fun dinner party for Shepherd Group 6.



Investigator Incognito (aka Lowell Gardner) apprehends Capo "Toto" Tequila (aka Mel Kuntz) before he can make a run for it. (*Sharon Gardner photos*)



Lenten Series lets us listen to conversations

Did various people who were involved in our Lord's Passion ever have an opportunity to talk with one another about it? If you could have listened to their conversations, what might you have overheard?

This year's Lenten series asks you to imagine overhearing the conversations taking place.

What would Mark have said to Malchus, the man whose ear was cut off and then healed in the Garden?

What would Pilot's wife had said to him regarding her dream?

Join us at 11 a.m.

Wednesdays, March 8 through April 5, as we listen in on these imagined conversations.

– *Nancy Patton*, Moderator
Worship Committee



Thanks for prayers

Duane and I want to thank the members of the Kirk for your prayers, concerns, cards, home visits, phone calls and gifts of food since my knee replacement surgery. We have been blessed with such a caring church. Shalom,

– *Judy Sonnenburg*

Church family helped

We want to say a heartfelt thank you for the loving support we received from our church family when our daughter, Marla, was so very ill.

We are so grateful for your prayers, your calls, and your caring. We are especially thankful for Bill's visits while she was in ICU. May God bless you all.

– *Dean and Lorna Kerr*

Kirk's Meals on Wheels teams hit the road March 1

Remember, the Kirk's deliveries of Meals on Wheels will begin on Wednesday, March 1.

Meals should be picked up at McAuley Center at 9 a.m. In case we have wintry weather, the rule is meals will not be delivered if Jessieville School is closed.

Thank you to all who have volunteered to participate. If you have not signed up and would be willing to serve as an alternate if a scheduled volunteer cannot make his deliveries, please call Vicki Rosenquist at 922-0302.

Serving Meals on Wheels is a rewarding way to serve our neighbors.

Marylyn Rabideau says

I wish to thank all my wonderful friends in the Kirk for all the wonderful things they have done for me in the years I was a part of the Kirk: bringing me food, taking me to the doctor when I couldn't drive, helping me when Dick was sick, helping me take him for his chemo, and all the other nice things you all have done.

God bless you all for your kind help. Love,

– *Marylyn Rabideau*

Please support annual One Great Hour of Sharing

One Great Hour of Sharing offering envelopes will be in your worship bulletins on Palm Sunday, April 9, and Easter Sunday, April 16. Please support this important ministry. The offering will be received on Easter Sunday.

A gift to One Great Hour of Sharing enables the church to share God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief to those affected by natural disasters and food to the hungry, and helping empower the poor and oppressed.

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

\$668 for Mission

Thank you for generously supporting our Mission Dollar campaign by placing your single dollar bills in the offering plate. A total of \$668 was collected in January.

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.

Change taking place in the Kirk library

The Merriam-Webster Dictionary defines library as "a place in which literary, musical, artistic and reference material (such as books, manuscripts, films) are kept for use but not for sale."

The word comes from the Latin "librarium" whose Greek root is "bibliotheca." You may recognize it in our English word "bibliography."

The earliest known evidence of libraries dates from 2600 BCE. Libraries in Sumer in southern Mesopotamia, the current Iraq, consisted of archives of clay tablets in cuneiform script, a geometric form of early writing.

Visits to our own church library will reveal evidence of activity.

Our library subcommittee, under the supervision of our Education Committee, is seeking to improve the library's appearance and effectiveness. We have expanded the available shelf space, removed duplicated and little-used titles, and have reorganized items on the shelves according to the Dewey Decimal System.

A recently purchased computer and scanning system will organize new and existing items under Library of Congress programs. This will replace the physical card catalogs to improve checkout and to better trace library services.

To keep up with what's going on at the Kirk, check out our website and use Facebook

The Kirk's website – kirkinthepines.org – has lots of interesting pages, including access to our newsletters, church news, sermons you can listen to, a calendar of events, and lots of other features.

The Communication Committee and other contributing members keep the site up-to-date and interesting.

The committee thought it would be fun to learn how our website is being used. Here is what we learned from Google for a typical month:

- There were 450 visits.
- The average visitor looks at three pages. The most popular pages are the Home page, then the newsletters page (and the most recent newsletter), the About Us, calendar, and sermons pages.
- Most of the visitors come from the United States, next from Canada.



Audio-visual programs are being updated for more effective and, hopefully, more extensive use.

We all seek to be good and faithful disciples. Our library is being enhanced to support that calling. Consider your own goals and the role your library can play in meeting those goals.

Thinking of you...

Each Saturday and Sunday the Congregational Care Committee will be asking Kirk members to sign a beautiful card to be mailed to a church member who has not been able to attend services due to illness or disability.

Please add your signature to these cards and join the congregation in wishing others well.

Thank you.



- About 60 percent of visitors use a desktop computer, about 20 percent a tablet, and the remainder use a smart phone.

Isn't this interesting?

Next month we'll share some other interesting data.

Share our website with your friends.

When you see a blue Facebook share button on a Kirk website page, click it.



When the Facebook window pops up, simply add your comment where it says "Say something about this."

Post to Facebook

Click the blue Post to Facebook button. That's all there is to it!

Thank you for letting your Facebook friends know about our church and helping the Kirk grow!

– *Ralph Greene*



Happy dates



Birthdays:

March 1	June Simmer	March 13	Cindi Erickson	March 19	Hep Hepner
March 2	Eric Van Cleave	March 14	Connie Green		Jim Kincheloe
March 6	Ray Bates		Bill Worthley		Nancy Patton
	Marjorie Easley	March 15	Vicki Rosenquist	March 20	Sally Lester
March 8	Stanley Dean	March 16	Ann Hill	March 23	David Salmen
	Joyce Hayek		Rita Martick	March 25	Paul Hayek
March 9	Duane Sonnenburg		Pat Poole	March 28	Vianne Huff
March 11	Pam Cave	March 17	Mike Hoagland		Bob Webster
	Dave Hamilton	March 17	Kelle Wolf	March 30	Bud Strautman
March 13	Jim Adams	March 18	Mel Kuntz	March 31	Norma Stevens

Anniversaries:

March 6	Bev and Jack Bullard	46 years	March 16	Nita and Cal Sloma	63 years
March 12	Melissa and Robert Sonnen	25 years	March 20	Della and Jim Reimers	59 years
March 14	Claire and Kenneth Rhodes	27 years	March 28	Vianne and Bob Huff	57 years
March 16	Jamie and Rick Federick	26 years			

University of the Ozarks Singers coming to the Kirk in April and will need your help

We are happy to announce that the Chamber Singers Choir from University of the Ozarks will, once again, include the Kirk in its tour on April 1 and 2.

The 24-voice choir is led by a new director, Dr. Jonathan Ledger, a graduate of Emery and Henry College in Virginia, Bowling Green State University and the University of Alabama. Dr. Ledger is bringing back a long-popular tradition and expanding this year's tour to include performances throughout northwest Arkansas, northeast Texas and southeast Oklahoma.

To accommodate the choir members, we will provide housing for them. In the past, Kirk members have enjoyed the youth and vigor of the two to four choristers they have hosted in their homes overnight in their visit. Won't you consider hosting some young persons this year?



Choir Notes

Dotty Rector

On Saturday, April 1, Kirk hosts will pick up the students at 6:45 p.m. following a pizza dinner in Hoffius Hall, and provide a bed, breakfast on Sunday, and deliver them to the Kirk by 9:15 a.m. Sunday morning.

Please volunteer your home or ask your questions of Randy Toney at 1-225-573-6493 or email: randy.toney@gmail.com.

Enjoy the young people. Their liveliness will freshen your life!

Kirk golfers meeting for dinner on March 12 to plan for new season; newcomers welcome

We will begin our 2017 golf season on Sunday, April 9, playing our Magellan course. Additional information and sign-up will be provided closer to play date. Save the day on your calendar.



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On Sunday, March 12, we'll meet at the Desoto Club for cocktails at 5:30 p.m. and dinner at 6 p.m. The Banquet Room is reserved for our group.

All Kirk golfers are invited to attend, those who play with our group every month and anyone who would like to join our group. Please respond by March 9. You may email me at jimobhess@suddenlink.net or call 915-0134. If I am unavailable to take your call, please leave a message.

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 of various abilities, playing 9 or 18 holes – your choice.

We play our Village courses the second Sunday of each month, April through October, and we enjoy dinner after golf. If you would like additional information, please contact me.

– Jim Hess

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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