

A Voice in the Pines

Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines newsletter

Volume XXXVII, Issue 3, March 2021

Storm **damage**

Frozen pipes burst, flooding Kirk offices

By Bill Bailey

On Sunday morning, after the roads allowed access to the Kirk, we discovered serious damage occurred to the office building during our recent severe winter weather, presumably the result of a ruptured pipe in the ceiling.

The ceiling had collapsed in both the hallway near the exit to the sanctuary and the copy/mailroom in the office. The floors in the office were flooded. Less severe damage occurred in Randy Toney's office from water leaking through the ceiling. Equipment in the copy/mail room was wet including the internet router and wireless.

There is good news.

The sanctuary, Hoffius Hall, Kirk library, kitchen, choir room, office conference room, and restrooms in the office building were unaffected. Also, our musical instruments, sound system, and music library are unharmed. My office and the library in my office are undamaged.

Water seeped into the Kirk Business

Please turn to page 2



When ceiling water pipes burst, water and debris damage were everywhere in the east end of the Kirk complex.
(Bob Morrow photo)

When we meet

Sunday worship service

Begins at 10 a.m.



Saturday informal service

5 p.m. In Hoffius Hall





Broken water pipes cause widespread damage in offices

Continued from page 1

Administrator's office but otherwise, the office appeared to be undamaged.

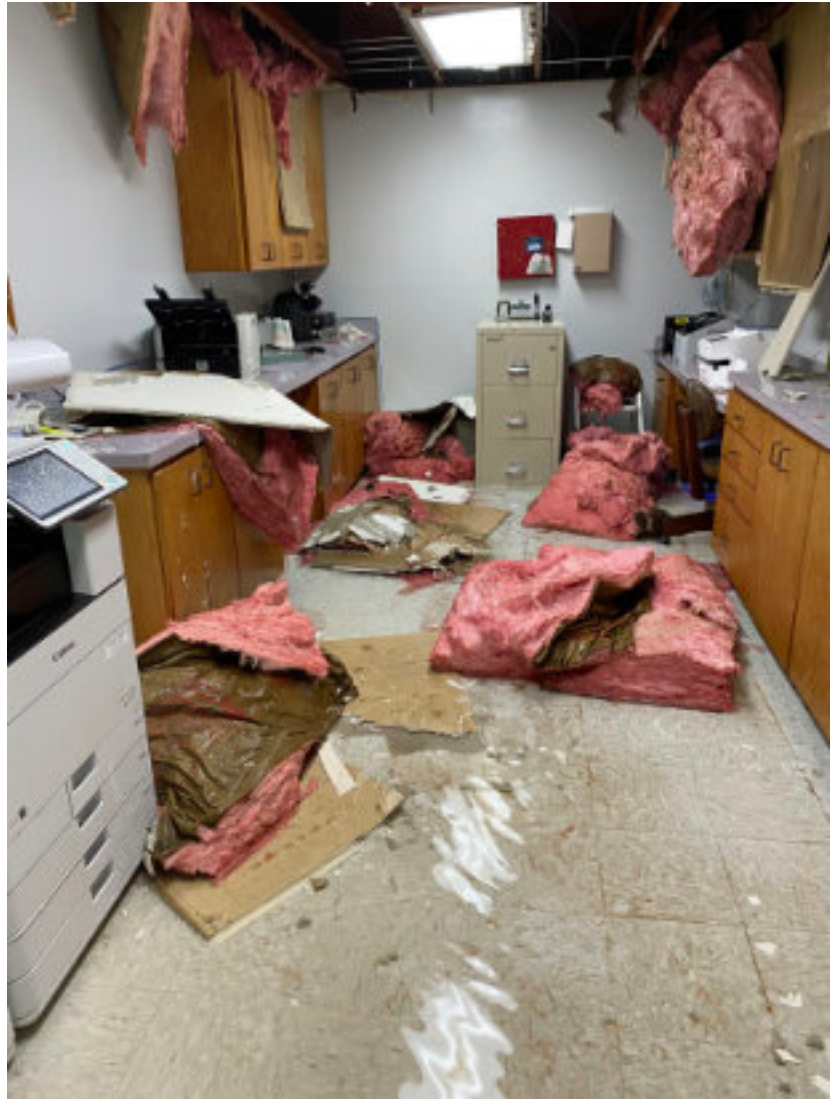
Now the mitigation process begins.

After receiving clearance to proceed from our insurance carrier, a small ad-hoc group began the clean-up process. We have plans to establish a temporary office as soon as possible.

The damaged plumbing will need to be repaired to re-establish water service to the Kirk. Phone and internet connection will need to be restored. An assessment of the damage by our insurance carrier will allow planning for repair to the building.

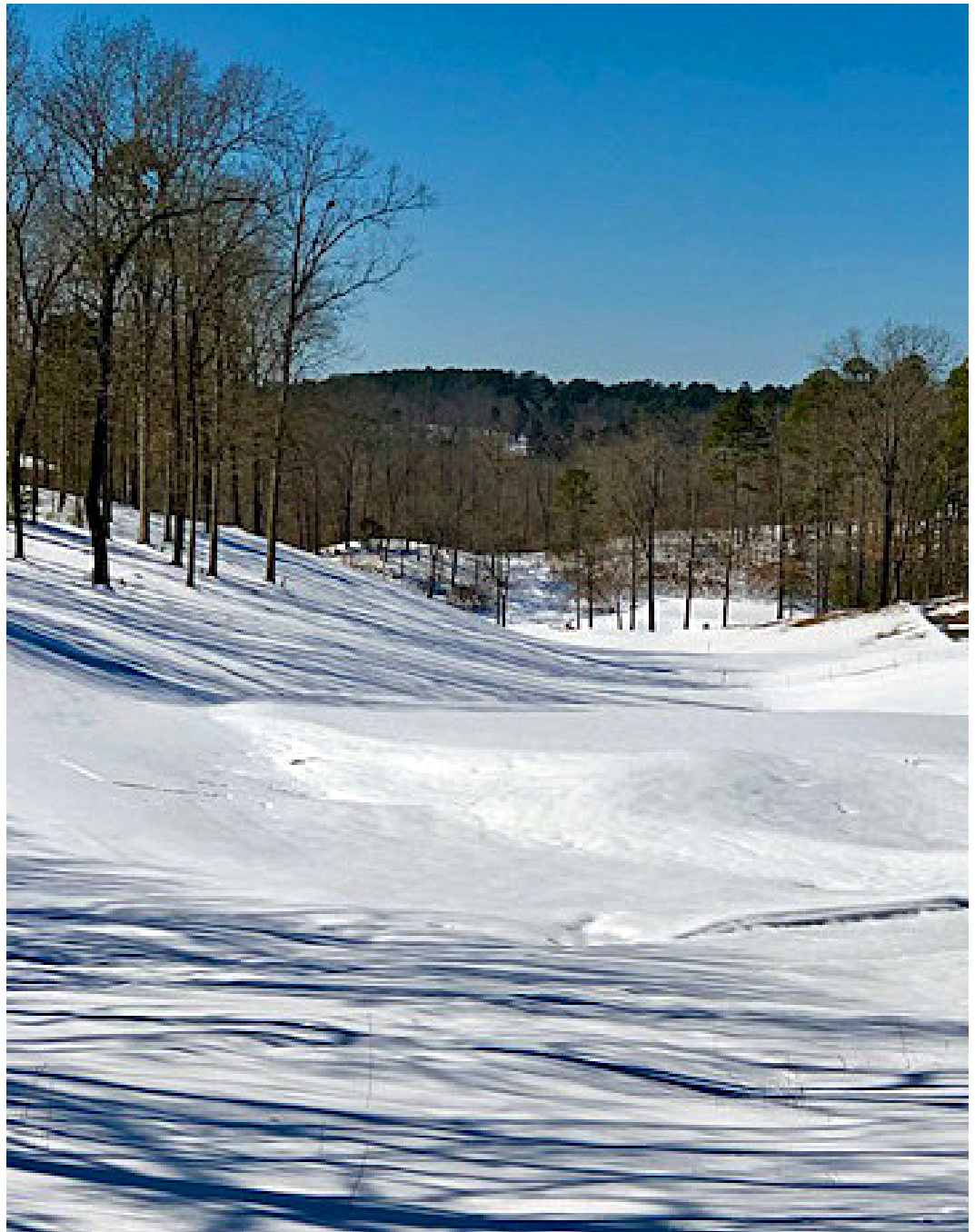
We have much to be thankful for because the damage has been limited. We are also aware of the suffering of so many millions of our neighbors, particularly in Texas, who experienced catastrophic circumstances resulting from the record winter weather.

We know your prayers are with all our brothers and sisters who have suffered and also with our Kirk staff and the Session as we work through the restoration process. We will keep you informed as the situation progresses.



Water from broken pipes in the ceiling cover the floor in the Kirk's main offices (above left) and caused heavy damage in the copy room (above). Below Barron Gage surveys the damage. *Bob Morrow photos*





More than a foot of snow covers the 14th fairway at the Magellan Golf Course, creating an other-worldly vista in the recent record-setting cold and snow. *(Jamie Federick photo)*

Three online devotional resources for observing Lent

- Lenten Devotionals from Pittsburgh Theological [Seminary](https://www.pts.edu/devotional)

<https://www.pts.edu/devotional> 1

- 365 Devotionals from the Presbyterian Church

[d365.org](https://www.d365.org)

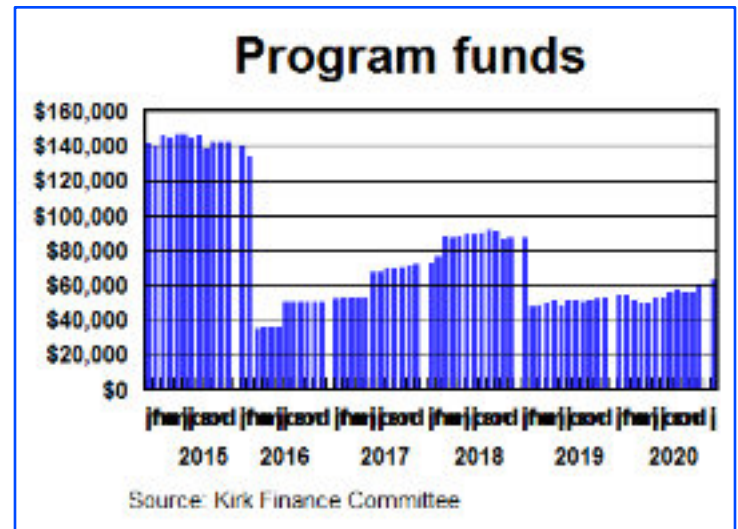
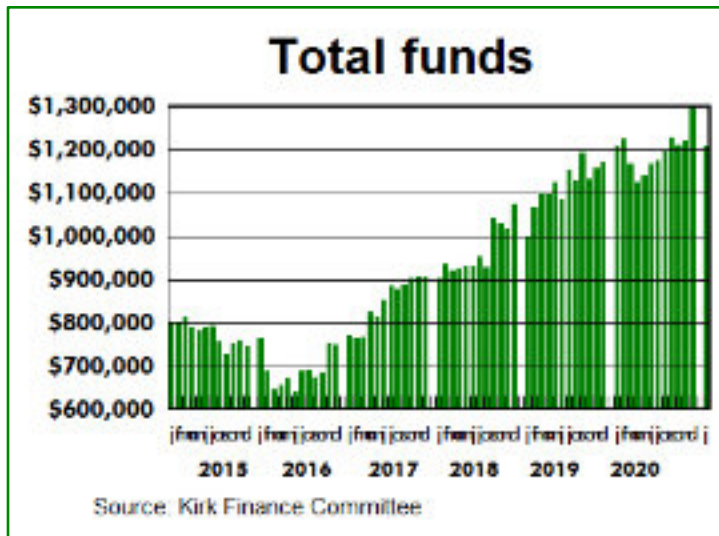
- God's Gift of Shalom Makes Us One

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/today/lent2021/>

Kirk in the Pines Financial Report

Year to date as of January 31, 2021

	Month		Year to date	
	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>
General Fund:				
Receipts	\$ 36,670	\$ 63,820	\$ 36,670	\$ 63,820
Disbursements	\$ 36,670	\$ 41,814	\$ 36,670	\$ 41,814
Building Fund:				
Receipts	\$ 4,412	\$ 8,326	\$ 4,412	\$ 8,326
Disbursements	\$ 4,412	\$ 1,950	\$ 4,412	\$ 1,950
Total all funds:				
Receipts	\$ 41,082	\$ 72,146	\$ 41,082	\$ 72,146
Disbursements	\$ 41,082	\$ 43,764	\$ 41,082	\$ 43,764
Checking balance				\$ 130,748
Special funds:				
Memorial fund				\$ 71,451
Luke 12:48 fund				\$ 290,595
Programs fund				\$ 62,880
Endowment fund				\$ 748,278
Maack-Ormsbee Fund				<u>\$ 68,430</u>
Total special funds (as of Dec. 31, 2020)				\$ 1,241,634



\$295 for Mission

Thank you for generously supporting our Mission Dollar campaign by placing your single dollar bills in the offering plate.

A total of \$295 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.

Check us out on Facebook

New pictures of church events are posted regularly by Jamie Federick on the Kirk's Facebook page. Be sure to "like us" when you visit.

If you'd like to join Facebook, go to www.facebook.com and choose a username and password.

Then look for Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines.

Virus makes PW planning much harder this year

By Vicki Rosenquist

Presbyterian Women’s Coordinating Team met Feb. 1 to plan the final four months of PW’s calendar year.

We discussed where we should have our March Gathering. Would it be better to have it in the sanctuary or use Hoffius Hall, since the turnout for December’s gathering was small? No decision was made, because we wanted input from Circle members. As soon as a decision is made, you will be notified.

We hope to have final plans for March’s Gathering location by our next Coordinating Team meeting and let everyone know what to expect.



Whether to have a luncheon after the May Gathering was discussed. The team felt it was too early to make a decision.

If we have the luncheon, we should have it prepared by the Greenhorns instead of the traditional salad meal prepared by individual members. We will wait until April to see what pandemic guidelines are in place for social distancing and other restrictions.

Please be patient with us. We are dealing with uncertain times and are proceeding with caution.

If you have any questions, please contact your Circle leader or me.

Vicki Rosenquist is PW Moderator.

Student candidates may apply for \$2,600 Maack-Ormsbee scholarship through June 30

By Pat Kuntz

Applications for the \$2,600 Maack-Ormsbee Scholarship for this year will be accepted through June 30.

Applicants must be members, employees, or families of members or employees of Presbyterian Kirk in The Pines for at least three years. The applicant must have proof of registration at an accredited state university or college, Presbyterian Church USA University, or an accredited trade school before the fall academic semester.

The Maack-Ormsbee Scholarship Fund was initially established with a \$30,000 contribution by Kirk member Pat Ormsbee in honor of her late first husband, Kenneth Maack. The fund is maintained at the Texas Presbyterian Foundation. It is administered by a subcommittee of the Kirk’s Education Committee.

Applications and more information are available from the church office or call me at 501 204-4385.

Pat Kuntz is the Moderator of the Education Committee.

After the cold and snow, everyone wants Spring

A poem to voice our hope for spring. Will it never come?

March 20 is the date prescribed for spring’s first day. Let’s hope so.

Song of Solomon 2: 11-12



“For now the winter is past,
the rain is over and gone;
The flowers appear on the earth;
The time of the singing is come,
and the voice of the turtledove
is heard in our land.”

Contributed by Dotty Rector, a member of the Communication Committee.

Correction

Marianna Helena Adams, one of the Kirk’s original Greenhorns, passed away Nov. 29, 2020. It was incorrectly reported last month that Marianna Helena Lund died on Nov. 29. We apologize for the error.



On March 14



Get out and help beautify our Kirk grounds

In this article, Priscilla Hayek, who is beginning the first year of her three-year term as Moderator of the Grounds/ Memorial Garden Committee, shares her plans, needs, and wishes for the committee in 2021.

Priscilla's fellow committee members are Edie and Don Loveday, Cheryl Boehmke, Becky Wakefield, Dennis Faulk, Dotty and Gary Rector, Jim Adams, Mel Kuntz, Rosalyn Halbert, Dick Massey, Vicki Rosenquist, Bob Morrow, Jerral Johnson, Tom Hayek, Barb and Daryl Henry, and Bill Worthley.

This group of garden workers meets from 10 a.m. to noon on the last Friday of each month. Priscilla's calendar of jobs to be completed is:

January

- Apply Preen for weed control
- Leaf and debris removal
- Prune ornamental grasses

February

- Leaf removal around shrubs

March

- Fertilize camellias after blooming
- Spray deer-loving shrubs with repellent
- Empty, clean out and refill pond in Memorial Garden

April

- Prune spring flowering shrubs after blooming, fertilize
- Prune ivy
- Prune dead limbs from trees and shrubs

May

- Check and turn on irrigation system
- Fertilize roses
- Dig up weeds and prune ivy along walkways

June

- Clean up and remove dead remains of daffodils
- Remove unwanted volunteer plants
- Trim ivy along walkways

July

- Deadhead roses
- Weed, prune ivy along walkways

August

- Check shrubs for insects, spray insecticide as needed

November – December

- Leaf removal
- Shut down and drain irrigation system and pond

Maintenance as needed

- Power wash sidewalks
- Blow debris off parking lot and pick up debris
- Prune hedges
- Lawn service five times each year
- Spray deer repellent March-September
- Mow and trim grass April-November

Thus far, the committee's wish list for 2021 is to remove the very old juniper shrubs along the sanctuary windows facing Asturias, possibly replacing them with large boulders found around the church grounds and adding new river rock stone to the area.

Our Kirk sits atop several acres of wooded areas and lovely gardens which require periodic attention. Even though the Grounds Committee is possibly the largest committee serving the church, they would gratefully accept volunteer help from church congregants.

So, cut out the calendar above, post it on your refrigerator, and choose a work session or two appealing to you. You will be working with a most friendly, dedicated group of people while communing with nature.

Contributed by Priscilla Hayek and Jan Holtberg.

How getting hit by the coronavirus can turn your life upside down

All of us have been affected by the COVID pandemic in different ways, some more dramatically than others. *The Voice in the Pines* has featured articles on how Kirk members have found their way while in forced relative isolation.

Jan and Arnie Holtberg share their experience with us here.

“When Bob Morrow, as Moderator, asked Communication Committee members to jot down a few activities that occupied their time during the COVID pandemic (in addition to writing *Voice* articles), I came to the realization my time, until recently, has been spent in pursuing relaxing, stress-relieving, creative, and productive endeavors,” Jan Holtberg said.

“The yard and garage have never been tidier. The carpets, cupboards, closets, and drawers have never been cleaner. The number of meals prepared has never been greater, necessitating going back decades for recipes of comfort food that I cooked in my youth (poor Arnie).

“I became hooked on Jeopardy, David Muir, and Wheel of Fortune. While watching these programs, among others, I completed four 20x 22-inch needlepoint pillows, countless prayer shawls (yarn provide by Gail Salmen), two 1,000-piece puzzles, one photo album, and two photo books.

“To bridge the void of not seeing friends as often as I would like, I’ve connected with many ‘old’ friends from years ago by phone.

“I realized at one point that the COVID seclusion hadn’t been all bad.”

But on New Year’s Day, everything changed for the Holtbergs.

“This winter,” Arnie said, “after nearly two months of feeling ‘under the weather,’ I experienced perhaps the most challenging health issue of my life.

“My eyes opened on New Year’s Day. I tried to get out of bed but could not move. I weakly called out to Jan, who immediately came to the bedroom from the kitchen where she had been making coffee.

“Observing my struggle, she dialed 911.

“I was transported by ambulance to the hospital where I was diagnosed with coronavirus, pneumonia, and hyponatremia.

“Two days later, I was released to a new way of living. Jan lived on the upper level of our home while I resided on the lower floor.



Arnie and Jan Holtberg as they prepared to tour a John Deere factory in Missouri managed by their daughter, Jena Holtberg-Benge.

“Wearing masks and using separate bathrooms, we ate in the kitchen together, but some 20 or 30 feet apart. After each meal, I lay down on the sofa and slept, emerging only to eat once again.

“This went on for nearly three weeks after which I began to gain in energy while experiencing what I term ‘COVID Brain’ (forgetfulness and confusion) and shortness of breath.”

Life is gradually getting back to normal for the Holtbergs. Jan is back to her many varied activities even as she supports Arnie on his road to full recovery.

Arnie adds: “Maybe, what is most remarkable about our story is that, gratefully, Jan did not contract COVID and has been able to be fully vaccinated.”

Contributed by Jan Holtberg, a member of the Communication Committee; Arnie Holtberg, Moderator of the Finance Committee, and Bob Morrow, Moderator of the Communication Committee.



Happy dates



Birthdays

March 6	Ray Bates	March 13	Cindi Erickson	March 18	Mel Kuntz
	Marjorie Easley	March 14	Bill Worthley	March 19	Nancy Patton
March 8	Stanley Dean	March 15	Vicki Rosenquist	March 23	David Salmen
	Joyce Hayek	March 16	Lee Ann Hill	March 25	Paul Hayek
	Samuel Arant		Rita Martick		Mary Amundsen
March 9	Duane Sonnenburg		Patricia Poole	March 28	Vianne Huff
March 11	Dave Hamilton	March 17	Mike Hoagland	March 30	Bud Strautman
March 13	Jim Adams		Kelle Wolf	March 31	Norma Stevens

Anniversaries

March 6	Bev and Jack Bullard	50 years	March 16	Jamie and Rick Federick	30 years
	Leslie and Jim Pfeiffer	29 years	March 20	Della and Jim Reimers	63 years
March 12	Melissa and Robert Sonnen	29 years	March 28	Vianne and Bob Huff	61 years
March 14	Claire and Kenneth Rhodes	31 years			

Kirk staff

William B. Bailey – Senior Pastor
Randy Toney – Director of Music
Donna Toney – Organist/Pianist
Janie Smith – Visitation Coordinator
Chris Taylor-Wilmoth – Secretary
Beverly Schaumburg – Business Administrator
Arthur “Chip” Johnson – Sexton

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 Committee – Bob
 Morrow, Moderator.
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 questions to:
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