

A Voice in the Pines



Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines newsletter

Volume XXXVIII, December 2022

Kirk elves bring joy to children across the Midwest and South

By Bob Morrow

Have you ever wanted to play Santa, or Mrs. Claus? Not many of us have been able to play Santa, except to our own kids and grandkids.

Bob Still, who is a regular at the Kirk, played Santa for the Arkansas Midland Railroad for many years. He traveled on Arkansas Midland trains hundreds of miles around Arkansas, making stops throughout the state to distribute gifts to children, largely in rural and needy communities.

When Bob met Suzy, he informed her she would have to support his mission to be Santa and she joined in as Mrs. Claus. "Some children are afraid of Santa but many felt comfortable with Mrs. Claus," Bob said.

For the Stills, at this point empty-nesters, being Santa and Mrs. Claus was a way to celebrate Christmas and give back to the Arkansas community, especially kids in need. Their annual pre-Christmas journey was a regular part of their lives for 10 years until the Arkansas Midland was purchased and the new owners did not continue the program.

In search of a new way to share the joy, the Still's joined up with the Kansas City Southern (KCS) railway line which operated a similar program – the "Holiday Express" – but on a much larger scale.

But the Still's no longer could "play Santa" since the KCS program only used "professional" Santas. Yes, there are professional Santas who've attended "Santa school," have purchased expensive costumes, and meet



Suzy and Bob Still played Santa and Mrs. Claus for many years before becoming Santa's elves.

exacting physical standards (large size, real white beards, etc.).

Not being professionals, Bob and Suzy joined the program as Santa's elves and spend at least a week each year traveling the KCS line to various communities from Dallas to Meridian, Miss.

The Stills are members of the Kansas City Southern Historical Society. In addition to being part of the volunteer Santa party, they assist in other ways.

Please turn to page 2

When we meet

Sunday worship service
begins at 10 a.m.



Saturday informal service
4 p.m. In Hoffius Hall

Wednesday Bible Study
9-10:30 a.m. Hoffius Hall



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

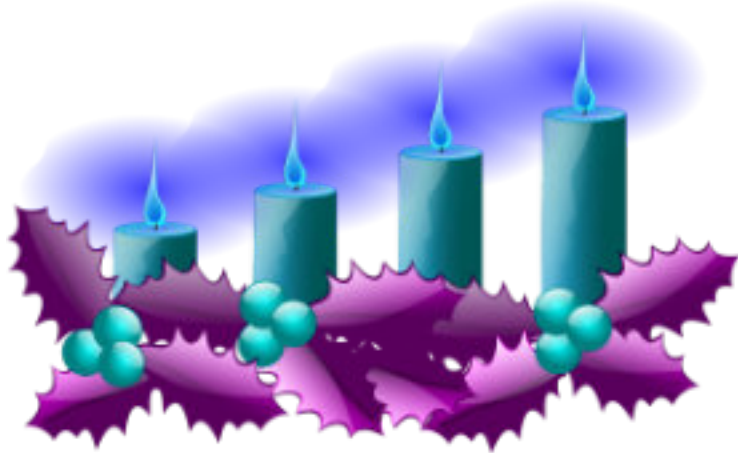


The church sets aside four weeks for Advent

Unlike our secular calendars, which begin the New Year on Jan. 1, the Christian new year begins about a month earlier. This year, Nov. 27 marked the beginning of the season of Advent and the Christian new year.

The word Advent means “coming” and is a reminder that our faith calls us to watch for our Lord’s coming. This happened long ago at Christmas (the first advent). And we look forward to the future promise of our Lord’s return and the coming Kingdom (the second advent).

In between these two advents, Christians all over the world continue to look for our Lord’s coming into our world and our lives, here and now.



The Pastor's Corner Bill Bailey



The church sets aside an entire season — four weeks of Advent — to remind us to be attentive. As always, we will be lighting candles as well as singing some beautiful Advent hymns in our worship service.

This season is a time to “pay attention” and look for all those places where God is at work in our lives and in our world. More than simply celebrating the mystery of our Lord’s birth 2,000 years ago, Advent calls us to remember that an “adult Christ” — a “risen Lord” is alive and present in our world and seeks to be born again in each of our hearts.

Emmanuel is still “God with us” — Christ is still coming into this world. This is a profound mystery indeed.

May the Lord bless each of us this Advent and help us to pay attention to those places where God is at work.

Making children happy is what Christmas elves do

Continued from page 1

While traveling on the President’s Private Train car they put in 12-hour days playing elves. Elves assist Santa by giving out gifts and escorting kids through the other cars on the train including an old-fashioned steam engine car, a car decorated to look like the Polar Express.

Bob also assists children touring a car that has model trains and Suzy tours children through a car with a collection of dolls and other toys.

For the railroad, this is a charitable enterprise. According to their website, the charitable component of the KCS Holiday Express project has raised over \$2.6 million over 21 years. They provide the trains and manage the schedule and the historical society provides the labor.

At each stop, children get to meet Santa, receive a

gift bag, and tour the train. Also, at each town the city receives funds provided through the Salvation Army to meet the specific needs for the children and families in their community. The cities apply to the railroad to have the train include their community as a stop.

Bob has been either portraying Santa or an elf for the last 20 years, excluding 2020-21 during the Covid pandemic. Bob and Suzy have been touched by the children, many of whom are in poverty. Of course, they are not “playing elves” — they are being Santa’s elves and bringing wonderment and smiles to the faces of thousands of children across the South.

You can learn more about the KCS Holiday Express by going to <https://www.kcsouthern.com/en-us/about-us/community/holiday-express>.

Bob Morrow is Moderator of the Communication Committee.

Security concerns mean doors locked on Sundays

Loss of Kirk Members:

Jane Garison passed away on Nov. 10, 2022. She had relocated to Mechanicsburg, Pa., in March 2020. Services have not been finalized at this time. Ann Pehle, Jane's daughter asked to keep Jane and her family in our prayers.

Long-time Kirk member **Ellen Weber** died on Tuesday, Nov. 22, 2022. Services are pending at this time. Should you wish to make a memorial gift donation in Ellen's name, please send them to: St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105. Condolence cards should be sent to Lory Weber, 2733 Ashbury Point Lane, Marietta, GA 30066.

Kirk statistics:

As of Nov. 20, 2022: Members – 248; family units – 163.

The Nominating Committee ...

... for the Session is actively searching for members to serve as Elders for the class 2025, and individuals to serve on the 2023 Nomination Committee. Both groups are responsible for selecting individuals to serve the Kirk in leadership roles. If you are asked to serve, consider it carefully.

Committee Reports:

Worship Committee: Gail Salmen raised an important issue – filling the Memorial Services Coordinator position. Lucy Allen has served in the position for several years and has done an excellent job. If you are interested in the position, contact Gail Salmen, Worship Moderator.

Locking Hoffius Hall doors during Sunday worship has been raised as an issue again. Currently the doors to Hoffius Hall are locked at the beginning of the Sunday Service. The back door near the office is also locked at the beginning of the Service.

It has come to the attention of the Session this has created a problem for some individuals arriving after the Service begins. At that time the only doors that are open are those at the back of the sanctuary.

Someone parking near Hoffius Hall or the back doors must go to the front entrance. The Session realizes those using wheelchairs, walkers and canes will have problems getting to the front entrance if they arrive late and try to access the sanctuary through Hoffius Hall.

At the November meeting, Session discussed the problem but felt that in the interest of security it is best to continue locking the doors of Hoffius Hall during church services. We will be open to considering other solutions.

The Clerk's Corner

Jerral Johnson



There will be a candlelight Christmas Eve service at 5 p.m. Saturday Dec. 24. The Saturday evening informal worship on the 24th is canceled. Sunday morning worship on Christmas day will be at 10 a.m. as usual. Also, Session voted not to have coffee hour after the Dec. 25 service.

Education Committee: Martha Nielsen said planning for 2023 is ongoing.

Communication Committee: A question was raised about keeping the covid signs on doors to the sanctuary and Hoffius Hall. The Session felt since covid continues to be in low numbers, and since several members of the congregation have covid, it would be best to continue to have the precautions posted at all entrances.

Also, the issue with the website kirkinthepines.org posting of *Voice in the Pines* newsletters has been resolved.

Building Committee: Bill Worthley said various projects continue to be pursued. The men's restroom in the narthex will be painted. New LED lights have been hung by Chip Johnson and others in the breezeway of the sanctuary to improve lighting as the winter months approach.

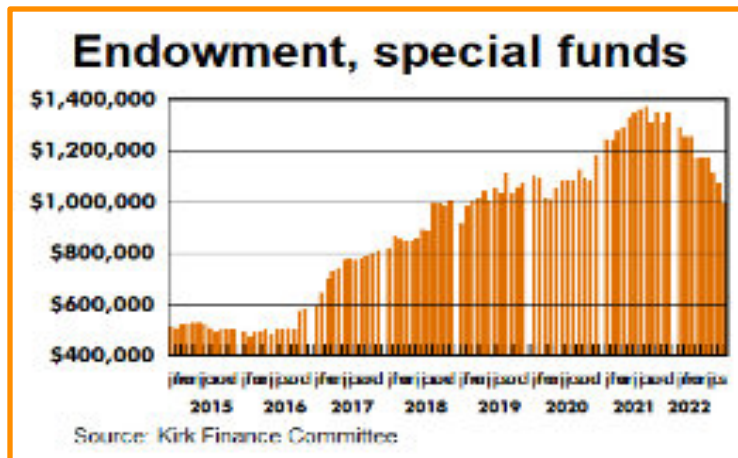
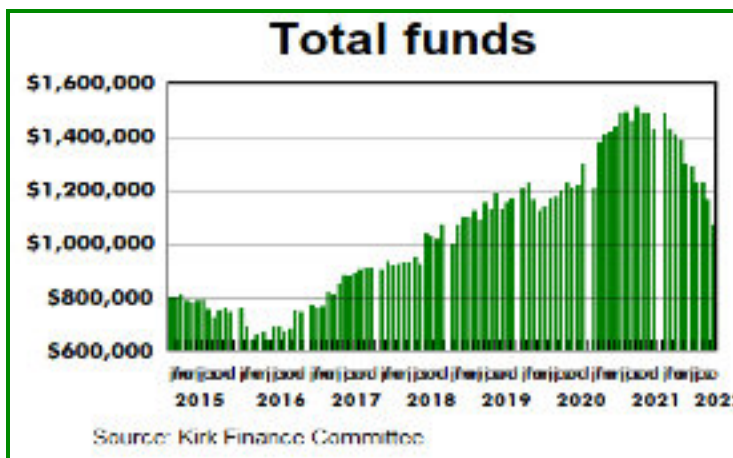
Fellowship Committee: Ruth Richards said the Chili Cook Off was a great success. She also reminded Session there will be a Christmas Pot Luck from noon to 3 p.m. Dec. 14 with a Christmas Carol sing-along and an Ugly Christmas Sweater contest.



Kirk in the Pines Financial Report

Year to date as of October 31, 2022

	Month		Year to date	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
General Fund:				
Receipts	\$ 37,974	\$ 31,734	\$ 379,740	\$ 332,828
Disbursements	\$ 37,974	\$ 44,944	\$ 379,740	\$ 342,350
Building Fund:				
Receipts	\$ 4,848	\$ 3,814	\$ 48,480	\$ 34,506
Disbursements	\$ 4,848	\$ 3,822	\$ 48,480	\$ 51,435
Total all Funds:				
Receipts	\$ 42,822	\$ 35,548	\$ 428,220	\$ 367,334
Disbursements	\$ 42,822	\$ 48,766	\$ 428,220	\$ 393,785
Checking Balance				\$ 76,702
Special Funds:				
Memorial Fund				\$ 61,415
Luke 12:48 Fund				\$ 238,310
Programs Fund				\$ 31,055
Endowment Fund				\$ 616,502
Maack-Ormsbee Fund				<u>\$ 45,741</u>
Total Special Funds (as of Sept. 30,2022)				\$ 993,023



\$280 for Mission

Thank you for generously supporting our Mission Dollar campaign by placing your single dollar bills in the offering plate. A total of \$280 was collected in October.

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.

Thinking of you ...

Each Saturday and Sunday the Congregational Care Committee asks 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.



The Kirk choir, directed by Randy Toney (right) and accompanied by Donna Toney, was hard at work on Nov. 9 preparing for the Christmas Concert on Sunday Dec. 11. (Beverly Schaumburg photo)

Kirk choir is ready for Dec. 11 Christmas concert

You don't want to miss this one! The Kirk Choir Christmas Concert is back.

After a lapse due to Covid, you will be presented with sacred music about the birth of the Christ Child. Our Director of Music Randy Toney has selected some beautiful pieces. The choir has worked diligently to present an inspiring program for you.

Donna Toney will accompany the choir and play a piano duet with Fran Stroud. Another special treat will be the sound of ringing bells by a bell quartet which was organized by Linda Hommema.

As we wait in silence for our Savior's birth, the choir will sing *We'll Welcome Him*. Angel choirs filled the sky



Practicing their hand-bell ringing skills for the Christmas concert are (from left) Susan Morrow, Linda Hommema, Fran Stroud, and Edie Loveday, under the direction of Randy Toney.



Choir Notes

Dotty Rector

over Bethlehem as *When Stars Shone Down* is sung. These new pieces are in addition to two familiar favorites *The First Noel*, a soprano and alto piece, and *Silent Night*, the most popular Christmas hymn.

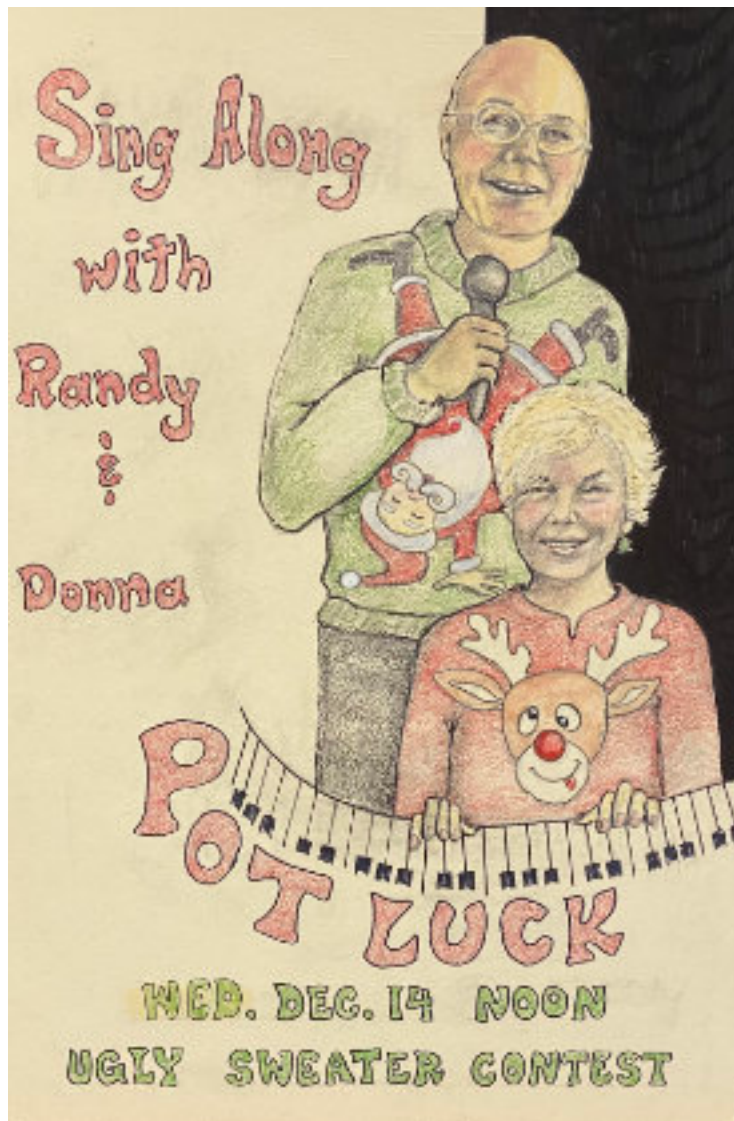
O Shepherds, Aren't You Happy invites us to sing and dance. It is sung as a round.

A contemplative song titled *I Wonder as I Wander* asks us how Jesus our Savior did come for to die. We are asked to keep our eyes fixed on Jesus in a piece entitled Advent Processional.

One of the choir's favorites, *We Shall Light a Thousand Candles*, will proclaim our Savior's birth. "Tell it far and tell it near, dispelling the night with a glorious morn. We shall sing a thousand carols proclaiming our wonderful Savior is born."

The concert will be at 3 p.m Sunday, Dec. 11, in the Kirk sanctuary.

It is hoped this music will enhance your experience of Christmas this year. The choir appreciates the support given to us by the congregation. We love to sing, and it is a gift to sing of the glory of our Savior's birth.



Artwork by Beverly Carpenter

Christmas potluck and sing-along begins at noon on Dec. 14

Our Christmas potluck luncheon, sponsored by the Fellowship Committee, will begin at noon on Dec. 14 in Hoffius Hall.

To help us all get in the Christmas spirit, Donna and Randy Toney will lead a Christmas Carol sing-along. There will also be an ugly Christmas sweater contest for those who choose to compete.

Remember to bring your friends and family, too!

Sign up for the potluck at worship services or contact the Ruth Richards (rmrichards@suddenlink.net, 501 922-5421) if you plan to attend.

Get out your calendar and write in all these Christmas activities scheduled at the Kirk

This Christmas season will be a busy one for the Kirk. To help you remember all that is part of our celebration of Christ's coming, dates and times of events are summarized below.

Please note the cancellation of the Saturday informal worship service due to the Christmas Eve candlelight service.

Donna Toney will present a short piano concert of new and old arrangements of Christmas music before the Christmas Eve service. The concert begins at 4:30 p.m. Other details can be found elsewhere in this issue of the Voice in the Pines.

Dec. 11 — Choir Christmas Concert, 3 pm, Kirk sanctuary, followed by reception.

Dec. 12 — PW Christmas Gathering, 11 a.m, choir room with lunch following in Hoffius Hall.

Dec. 14 — Christmas Potluck, Sing Along, and ugly Christmas sweater contest, noon-3 p.m., Hoffius Hall

Dec. 17 — Treble in the Village/ Changed 4 Good Quartet, annual Christmas Concert, 2 p.m. and 6 p.m., Kirk sanctuary.

Dec. 24 — Donna Toney Christmas Eve Piano Concert, 4:30 p.m. Kirk sanctuary (prior to Christmas Eve service).

Dec. 24 — Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 5 p.m., Kirk sanctuary (Saturday informal worship is canceled).

Dec. 25 — Sunday morning worship, 10 a.m., Kirk sanctuary.

Merry Christmas



Members of Treble in the Village and Changed 4 Good are (from left) Patty Nance, Kathy Allison, Sue Englebort, Sharon Gardner, Angela Villamarete, Patty Barnes, Tina Kneisler, and Kristi Ponder. (Kate Sutton photo.)

Treble in the Village and Changed 4 Good will join up for two Christmas programs on Dec. 17

Treble in the Village quartet is excited to welcome Changed 4 Good quartet to Hot Springs Village and the Kirk in the Pines for two “Have Yourselves a Merry Little Christmas” programs at 2 and 6 p.m. Dec. 17.

Changed 4 Good is a quartet from Louisiana with one exception. Tina Kneisler is the baritone and

now lives in Benton and sings in the Kirk Choir.

Ron Kneisler will be our emcee for the day.

The concert is free and open to the public so spread the word to friends and neighbors! A love offering may be made in support of Top of the Rock Peggy Gram Scholarship Fund.

We are looking forward to getting our audience into the spirit of Christmas!

Contributed by Sharon Gardner

Here are some sources for devotional studies

By **Susan Morrow**

While searching for Bible study and devotional materials for PW, I recently became aware of a wealth of devotional and study materials available through the Presbytery of Arkansas.

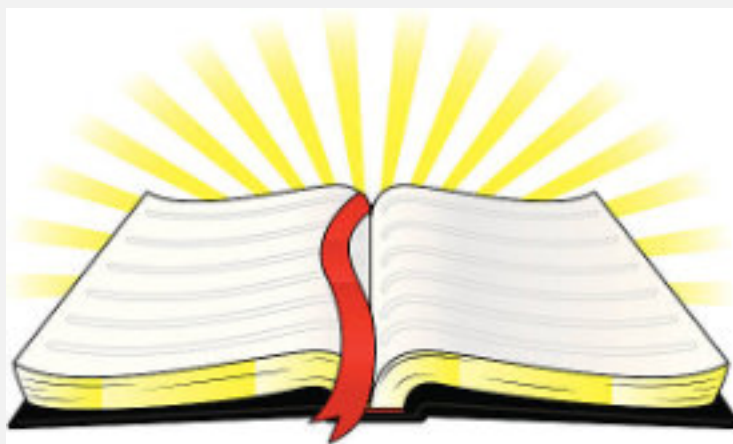
Many of us think of the Presbytery of Arkansas as a bricks and mortar presence in Little Rock, but few know there is an extensive lending library available in addition to a wealth of study materials available online at their updated website — presbyark.org.

The free service provided by the Presbytery gives access to Bible study materials, daily devotionals, podcasts and much more. The Presbytery of Arkansas physical library has books available for library loan which can be accessed by using the online search catalog.

I sent Julie Price, the Presbytery of Arkansas connector, an email inquiring about borrowing a book and she mailed the book to me. I was able to conveniently return the book by mail. There was no fee, but donations are always accepted to offset costs for this service and to provide for purchases of new resource materials.

Julie explained some of the online resources which are available.

“The Resource Center can be found on the updated version of our website, presbyark.org by going to



the [Ministry Resource pages](#), Julie said.

“There is so much here that people will have to just spend time looking into what they are interested in, but here are a few examples.

Under [General Resources/Bible Study](#) you will not only find Bible studies, there is also a heading for free online devotionals. There is

also a page of podcasts of every variety. Under the [Ministry Areas](#) there are pages for [Older Adults](#) and [Women](#).”

As I navigated the online resource center, I discovered the Groundwork podcasts series, an informative short podcast series featuring a variety of topics. Groundwork is a half-hour radio program and podcast produced by ReFrame Ministry.

The daily devotional Today, also from ReFrame Ministry is available online on the Arkansas Presbytery resources page. Today offers daily devotionals in both print and audio versions. Study groups also now have access to DVD format Bible studies by well-known authors such as Philip Yancey and Walter Brueggemann.

The Resource Center at the Presbytery of Arkansas is waiting for you to check it out. If you have any questions, contact Julie Price, the Presbytery of Arkansas Connector at julietannerprice@gmail.com or 501 626-6477.

Susan Morrow is a member of the Communication Committee.

PW's Christmas Gathering will be at 11 a.m. Dec. 12

Kirk women will gather at 11 a.m. Dec. 12 in the choir room for PW's special Christmas celebration.

What better time than the Advent Season to join together in joyful festivities as we await the coming of the Savior. Rev. Bailey will be our featured speaker during the worship service, followed by a delicious luncheon prepared with loving hands by our Greenhorns and hosted by the ladies of Circle 2. The cost of lunch

is \$12, and reservations may be made through the Circles or by calling Ruth Hamilton.

After lunch there will be a musical presentation by Treble in the Village and a Christmas sing-along.

The outreach project for this Gathering is “Stuff the Stockings” for the Vera Lloyd Presbyterian Children's Home. If you are able, please bring a stocking stuffer (personal hygiene items but no soap

on a rope, card games, small puzzler games, candy, etc.) for the Vera Lloyd residents both boys and girls ages 12-18.

All women of the Kirk are invited. So come let us rejoice together as we celebrate the meaning of the season.

Call Ruth Hamilton for more information – 501 915-9015.

Contributed by Ruth Hamilton, PW Moderator.

Where to find resources to bolster your Advent

Here are some ways to “reboot” Christmas during Advent

It is said familiarity breeds contempt. In the case of Christmas, contempt may not be the right word. But we are certainly familiar with the obligations and pressures associated with the season.

The observance of Advent, which began Nov. 27, gives all the chance to pause and focus on the surprising significance of the incarnation, Emmanuel, God with us.

One way to, so to speak, reboot Christmas is to practice daily Advent devotional reading, reflection, and prayer. Here are some resources you can use to refresh your observance of the Christ child’s coming through the practice of daily devotions.

<https://d365.org/> d365, offered by PCUSA are daily devotionals with Advent oriented devotionals beginning Nov. 27.

<https://www.luthersem.edu/godpause/advent-devotional/> You can download devotionals from Luther Seminary website. PDFs can be read online or printed. These are also available in large print.

https://www.pts.edu/devotional_1 Daily Advent devotionals from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary may be read online, by listening to audio recordings, or by downloading PDFs to read on your computer or to print.

The Presbytery of Arkansas cites other online devotional resources geared to the Advent season (see an article on Presbytery of Arkansas, this issue).

The Advent Conspiracy <https://adventconspiracy.org/devotionals/>

Celtic Advent “Kindling the Flame of Love” <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/resource/presbyterians-today-celtic-advent-devotional/>

The Season of Waiting by author Kate Bowler. <https://katebowler.com/advent2022/>

If you prefer print resources, try the Advent for Everyone series by N. T. Wright. There are three book options: Advent devotionals from *Matthew*, *Luke*, and the *Apostles*. The books and the daily devotionals are scripture based and concise. You can order any of these inexpensive books through Amazon.com or other book sellers.

Also, in the Kirk library (first come, first serve) you will find Watch for the Light: Readings for Advent and Christmas.

Consider using any or all of these to take a few minutes each day of Advent to refresh your experience of Christmas.

Contributed by Bob Morrow, Communication Committee Moderator.



Giving Tree

November 27, 2022 - December 11, 2022

Our Giving Tree is loaded with tags for children from Mountain Pine Head Start, Vera Lloyd Children’s Home and Ouachita Children’s Center.

Gifts for Mountain Pine children should be returned wrapped or in gift bags with the tag attached to the outside of the package. This year, siblings of the Head Start class will be included.

Vera Lloyd and Ouachita Children’s Center asks for gift cards again this season which can be used by youth or staff to purchase gifts. A basket will be placed in the narthex for placement of the gift cards. The tag and gift card should be taped together if possible to ensure that it goes to Ouachita or Vera Lloyd.

Tags on the tree list specific information to assist in shopping for the perfect gift for the lucky recipient.

The deadline for returning gifts will be December 11th.

Elves from the Mission Committee will deliver the gifts in time for Christmas.

Please contact Becky Wakefield (1-214-455-2921) for more information.

Thank you for sharing your love with children in need in our community.



Ten crock pots were called into service for the Chili Cookoff. Kirk members (from left) Carol Clark, Marcia Bauer, Ruth Richards, Jean Fisher, Norma Stevens, and Bill Stanley helped serve chili to hungry Kirk parishioners.

Luczkowski, Hayek win honors at Chili Cookoff

By Barbara Worthley

On the evening of Wednesday, Oct. 26, approximately 60 Kirk members and guests gathered in Hoffius Hall for the 3rd annual Chili Cookoff. The first two cookoffs were prior to the pandemic.

There were 10 entries this year, including three-alarm (hot) chili, chicken chili, Kielbasa chili and several variations of traditional chili. Each attendee received two ballots to use in voting for their favorite chili.

There were two categories: traditional and non-traditional.

Stan Luczkowski won the non-traditional category with his entry of Kielbasa chili. Stan said: "I like to

cook and to make (and eat) chili. I had planned to make traditional chili, but I happened to have some kielbasa sausages so I cut them up and precooked them with green peppers and onions to add to my chili."

Paul Hayek's "Blue Ribbon Chili" received the most votes in the traditional category.

He tried a new method of browning the meat which he saw on a YouTube video from America Test Kitchen: Mix water, salt and baking soda into the meat and let it sit for 20 minutes before browning. Before cooking on low for six hours in a slow cooker, Paul added traditional chili seasonings and beans to the

meat mixture.

His secret ingredients were Pace salsa and Blue Runner beans. "I knew my chili was okay when Joyce tasted it and said it was too hot!" Paul said.

When serving his chili, Paul wore an apron which said "It isn't rocket science."

Randy Toney, the Kirk's choir director, knowing that both winners retired from careers in the space industry relating to rockets, stated the obvious: "Cooking chili really is rocket science."

Barbara Worthley is a member of the Communication Committee.

Bob Morrow thanks all for their kindness

I am so very grateful to all of you for your expressions of love, sympathy, and understanding after the recent death of my mother, Mary Morrow. She was a woman of strong Christian faith and had a full and blessed life.

Thank you also for your prayers and concerns for my father as he adjusts to life without the love of his life for the first time in 75 years. Bless be the tie that binds.

Bob Morrow

Rick Federick upright again after surgery and thanks all for support

Happy days, I'm vertical again.

My sincere thanks go out to all who provided meals, get-well cards and especially prayers for my operation and those long days in recovery.

I have taken it "one step at a time" and that's no pun. Being back in the choir and seeing all of you on Sunday morning makes my heart sing.

Members of the Kirk are the greatest.

Rick Federick

For Tom Martick, the hard part was waiting

I really wish to thank all those people who helped me through this cancer scare. I have lost quite a bit of weight since the first of the year, and my doctor ordered a CT scan. This showed spots on my liver and lungs.

I met with an oncologist at Genesis Cancer Center and he told me (without knowing anything further) that it could be stage-4 cancer. I had the biopsy on the liver – after a three-week wait and two cancellations, and it was negative.

I then went to CARTI and talked to a doctor there, and she ordered a biopsy of my lung. That was negative also. So far, so good.

I want to thank those people who drove me to the procedures, and who prayed for me. I realize there are many people who are much worse off than me, but it took about two months to find this out, and not knowing was the hard part. I have never felt part of a church family as much as I have the Kirk.

Tom Martick



The Mail Corner

Thanksgiving dinner was a great success

Thanks to everyone who helped make our Thanksgiving meal at the Kirk such a great success. We served 65 at dinner and had 13 take-outs. The food from Clampits was so good and everyone had a wonderful time.

Thank you also to Don Webb who said the blessing. The Fellowship Committee worked so hard serving food and staying to clean up tons of dishes. Vicki Rosenquist also did a great job with beautiful table decorations.

I can't say enough about how much Ron and my committee helped make this day special for the Kirk.

Ruth Richards,

Fellowship Committee Moderator

Get your 2022 pledges in no later than Dec. 31

We are so grateful for your generous gifts given to support the work of the Kirk.

Your 2022 pledge contribution must be received in the office by Dec. 31 to be credited on your 2022 contribution statement. This is necessary so we can process the year-end financial and contribution reports and close out the year.

Any money received after this date will be reflected on your 2023 statement.

Also, 2023 contribution envelopes will be available for pickup in the church narthex after Dec 12.

Thank you

Beverly Schaumburg

Business Administrator



Happy dates



Birthdays

Dec. 1	Ruth Hamilton Gary Rector	Dec. 11	Christine Hoagland	Dec. 22	Peggy Sowers
Dec. 2	Martha Copeland	Dec. 12	Pat Mershon	Dec. 28	Robert Sonnen Becky Wakefield
Dec. 3	Cheryl Boehmke	Dec. 14	Jack Bullard	Dec. 29	Susan Morrow
Dec. 7	Daryl Henry	Dec. 15	Pat Rea Della Reimers	Dec. 30	Ellen Marshall
Dec. 8	Wendy Gage	Dec. 18	Arnie Holtberg Mary Wright		
Dec. 9	Carolyn Kane				

Anniversaries

Dec. 1	Sissy and David Wilson	38 years	Dec. 23	Susan and Bob Morrow	47 years
Dec. 5	Gail and David Salmen	52 years	Dec. 28	Edie and Don Loveday	54 years
Dec. 17	Debbie and Jim Cordell	39 years	Dec. 29	Becky and Harry Wakefield	50 years
Dec. 19	Jan and Arnie Holtberg	52 years	Dec. 31	Barbara and Jerry McAnarney	11 years
Dec. 21	Barbara and Dan Chambliss	5 years			



On a pilgrimage

Members of the Arkansas Presbyterian Pilgrimage and Ferncliff staff gathered for a photo after a weekend packed with fellowship, prayer, singing, and more. Kirk members Karen Meek, Ben Meek, Patty Barnes and Martha Nielsen participated and are pictured in the group. (Ron David photo)

Jane Garison, librarian and friend to many, was active in many churches

Jane Pehle (Jackson) Garison, a long-time librarian and member of Kirk in the Pines, died Nov. 10, 2022, in Mechanicsburg, Ill., where she lived. She was 92 years old.

Jane graduated in 1948 from Hyde Park High School, in Chicago. Her lifelong passion for reading and learning led her to pursue a degree in Liberal Arts/English from Monmouth College, Monmouth, Ill., graduating in 1952.

She devoted time to raising her daughters and with the support of her family, returned to graduate school at the University of Chicago to complete a Masters in Library Science.

She worked as a media specialist in public education. She lived in Indonesia for two years while Charles consulted with a local steel mill in Cilegon. They enjoyed travelling together during this period of distance from family and friends.

After returning to the United States, Jane served as Children's Librarian Director and retired from the Hammond Public Library in Hammond, Ind. Retirement led her to Hot Springs Village where she

continued to enjoy playing bridge and golf, and was both a member with later leadership roles in local chapters of AAUW, PEO and Kappa Delta Sorority.

Jane was an active member of churches throughout her life, serving on the Session of the United Presbyterian Church of South Holland, Ind., in the 1970s. In the Village, she was a founding member of Woodlands Presbyterian Church and later a member of Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines.

Jane enjoyed wonderful times with her friends, was a loyal friend to many, and always encouraged her daughters to "be a friend maker." Her example of academic excellence, leadership, creativity, effortless organization, and independence were qualities valued by her family, friends, colleagues and community. Her spirit of encouragement and Christian faith were noticeable constants throughout her life.

Jane was born Sept. 21, 1930, in Chicago to the



Jane Pehle (Jackson) Garison

late George Lowell Jackson and Marie Lydia (Ganzer) Jackson. Jane was the widow of Charles William Pehle Jr., whom she married on Oct. 16, 1954, and who died on Jan. 25, 1992; and of John "Jack" Proctor Garison Jr., whom she married on Nov. 14, 1996, and who died on Aug. 24, 2012.

Jane's survivors include her three daughters: Ann Pehle of Mechanicsburg; Beth Mines and her husband, Richard, of Macon, Ga.; Kris Grasse and her husband, Mark, of Bristow, Va; her four grandchildren: Richard Andrew "Andy" Mines of Brooklyn, N.Y.; Erin Grasse of Riverside, Calif.; Daniel Mines of Decatur, Ga.; and Kate Grasse of Lawrence, Kan.; her sister, Julia Palmer of Atlanta, a niece and nephew; and close family friend, Sharon Dick.

Jane added to her longevity by twice surviving breast cancer, before facing dementia in her later years.

Interment will be at Oakland Memorial Lanes in Dolton, Ill., alongside her husband of 37 years, Charles.

Those wishing to celebrate her life can make a memorial contribution to AAUW, 1310 L Street NW, Suite 1000, Washington, DC 20005, Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines, or Monmouth College (Illinois), 700 E Broadway, Monmouth, IL 61462,



Gloria Pickett had a life-long love of music

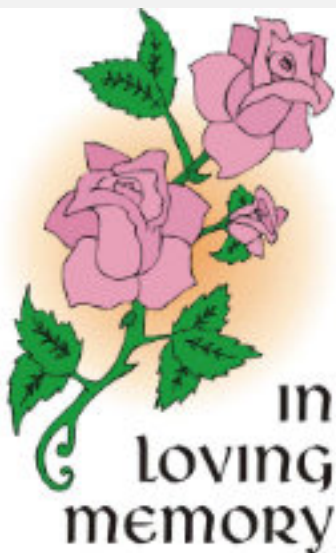
Gloria Anne Price Pickett, a lover of music, education and religion, passed away Oct. 4, 2022, in Hot Springs.

Born in Canton, Ga., Gloria was the only daughter of Thomas Weyman and Bannie Rebecca Kimbell Price. Early on, the Prices moved to Dalton, Ga., where Gloria and her brother, Kimbell, grew up.

During high school, Gloria's beloved teachers sparked her love of music. They were organist William Tabor and piano virtuoso Harold Cadek at the Cadek Conservatory of Music in Chattanooga. She continued her education at Agnes Scott College, the University of Tennessee and The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

In 1959, Gloria and her family moved to Monroe, La., where they joined First Presbyterian Church. Over the years, Gloria served as an elder, deacon, adult choir member and director of children's choirs.

She energized building campaigns like Faith for the Future to include the purchase of a pipe organ and dedicatory stained-glass window. She encouraged young families to join the congregation by organizing a nursery department when the church moved into its new sanctuary.



And she created programs like Prayer Partners with Purpose to give structure to spiritual support.

When Messiah Lutheran Church needed a guest organist, Gloria graciously filled in. She also taught piano lessons because she and her mother, a first-grade teacher, believed music jump-starts academic learning.

Gloria expressed her love of people through community service with

Junior League, National Association of Training Directors, Monroe Rotary Club and Monroe Garden Club. She served as president of The Music Guild, University of Louisiana Faculty Wives Club, Monroe Concerts Association and Chapter AE of P.E.O.

As director of major gifts and planned giving for United Way of Northeast Louisiana, Gloria established the Alexis de Tocqueville Legacy Foundation for ongoing philanthropy.

Gloria's enthusiasm for life-long learning shaped



Gloria Anne Price Pickett

her business career as a regional manager, corporate trainer and international motivational speaker for Tanner Companies of N.C., Remington Corporation of Chicago, and Hanson Corporation of N.Y.

As an early Neuro Linguistic Programming consultant, Gloria introduced brain dominance theory and practice to executives at State Farm, AT&T, the U.S. Postal Service and Moeller Pipe Organ Company, among others.

Gloria was preceded in death by her husband, Daniel M. Moore Jr. in 1992.

In 2006, she married Lawrence Wilford Pickett Sr. They retired to Hot Springs Village where the couple became active members of Barcelona Road Baptist Church.

A teacher at heart, Gloria poured her experience into developing a strong Sunday School department to augment corporate worship services. Together with a small group of devoted friends, the Picketts met for prayer on Tuesday afternoons for more than a decade.

Continued on the next page



New LED lights were hung recently in the breezeway to improve visibility. Sexton Chip Johnson inspects the new lights (right). On the left, Chip is assisted by Gary Reece with installation. (Bob Morrow photos)

Gloria Pickett loved music, friends and traveling

Continued from the previous page

Several of these friends became the Picketts' international traveling companions.

Following Wilford's death in 2011, Gloria continued exploring the world as a professional travel writer, publishing accounts of her adventures in regional magazines and newspapers. She also shared her energy with Chapter CH of P.E.O., a philanthropic organization supporting higher education for women, which honored her as a lifetime member in 2017 for 50 years' service.

In 2018, Gloria joined Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines, where she helped meet the needs of church members through committee work on budgets, personnel, congregational care, Sunday School and music ministry.

Gloria Anne Price Pickett was preceded in death by her parents Thomas Weyman (T.W.) and Bannie Rebecca Kimbell Price, brother Weyman Kimbell Price and niece Cynthia Kimbell Price Gabor.

She is survived by her children, Teresa Kay

Bingham Maddox (James) of Marietta, Ga.; Davis Blair Bingham Jr. (Leslie) of Millbrook, Ala.; Rebecca Anne Bingham of Hot Springs; Judge Daniel Milton Moore III (Janet) of Monroe, La.; sister-in-law Laura Bess Price of Richmond, Va., niece Andrea Price Goodman (Donald) of Winter Park, Fla.; grandchildren Sarah Grace Maddox, Donald Wayne West Jr. (Lauren), Kimbell Leclare Bingham Waters, Blair Marie Bingham Taff (Ryder), William Jarrell Moore, Douglas Milton Moore, six great-grandchildren, stepson Lawrence Wilford Pickett Jr. (Pam) and stepdaughter Marilyn Pickett Worsley (Wayne).

A worship service in celebration of Gloria's life was Nov. 13 at the Kirk. Interment at a later date will be at West Hill Cemetery in Dalton, Ga.

The family requests memorials be designated to the music ministry at Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines Memorial Fund, 275 Asturias Drive, Hot Springs Village, AR 71909, or P.E.O. Foundation, Chapter CH Scholarship Fund, 3700 Grand Ave., Des Moines, IA 50312.

We all have a strong desire to be remembered

There resides in the heart of every human being the longing to be remembered.

A Sacrament is commonly defined as “an outward sign of an inward grace.” So said Augustine of Hippo, a fourth-century theologian and philosopher in North Africa. It demonstrates a Christian’s action that illustrates God at work within the believer.

The universal Christian church identifies seven formal acts or rites: Baptism, Penance [Reconciliation], Eucharist [Communion], Confirmation, Marriage, Holy Orders [Ordination], and Extreme Unction [Anointing the Sick].

Reformed Protestant denominations, of which the Kirk is one, acknowledge two of these (Baptism, Eucharist) and includes a third (Reconciliation) in Confessional Worship. Baptism is initiative and important. The Eucharist emanates as intimate and preeminent.

The three synoptic gospels and *1 Corinthians 11: 23-26* describe Jesus instituting Holy Communion.

The Apostle Paul, though not a believer during Jesus’ earthly ministry, acknowledges in his letter a

personal knowledge of these instructions. What is of interest is the wording in *Luke 22:19* and the Corinthian letter, the similarity in the phrasing “do this in remembrance of me.” Laying on us one more command or a profound revelation?

Genesis to Revelation is a story of a Father/God who seeks a restored relationship with all He brought into being. Do we, capstone of what the Heavenly Father engendered, share with our creator a longing to be remembered?

The Father sent forth the Son to give of Himself to reconcile The Creator and His created. With symbols of His reconciling action in hand, He encouraged the apostles and, through them, we all, to remember. By this we may more fully understand.

Prayer for courage as the world slumbers – Remember
When former ally warms at the enemy fire – Remember
A trial for caring as a crowd cry for blood – Remember
Father shows mercy and forgets iniquities – Remember

Contributed by Lowell Gardner, former Moderator of the Communication Committee.

Kirk staff

William B. Bailey – Senior Pastor

Randy Toney – Director of Music

Donna Toney – Organist/Pianist

Congregational Care Coordinator – Carol Clark

Chris Taylor-Wilmoth – Secretary

Beverly Schaumburg – Business Administrator

Arthur “Chip” Johnson – Sexton

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