

A Voice in the Pines



Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines newsletter

Volume XXXV, Issue 6, June 2019



The panel for the Final Gift seminar on July 3 will be (from left) Pat Kuntz, Sharon Gardner, Sally Fink and Janie Smith. (*Jamie Federick photo*)

Speakers set for vital 'Final Gift' seminar

By Arnie Holtberg

The lineup of speakers for the upcoming seminars, "My Gift to My Loved Ones," is taking shape. The format and presenters promise to provide us with intelligent and

thoughtful guidance on how to leave the ultimate responsible legacy.

On June 5, Janie Smith and Christy Etheridge will teach us about aging gracefully while receiving the care we need.

Our speaker for the session on June 12 regarding financial and legal issues will be attorney Sherrill Nicolosi.

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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



The Spirit can come silently and unnoticed

Happy Easter! Although it's now late May, this greeting is still appropriate for the Christian church!

Our Christian calendar and lectionary remind us Easter is more than simply one day in the year. In fact, Easter day marks the beginning of an entire season – the Great Fifty Days, concluding with the Day of Pentecost.

This day happens to be June 9 this year, two weeks after Memorial Day. Pentecost is the last day of the Easter festival, bringing together events of the Resurrection of our Lord and the Holy Spirit's empowerment of the church as told in the Book of Acts.

We recall Pentecost as the amazing way in which the Spirit of God descended on the first disciples of Christ, giving them the confidence and faith to witness in his name and preach the good news.

The Holy Spirit is God's gift to the church. It is a reminder that Christ is a living presence in our lives. As the author Brian Wren says in his 2012 hymn, *Christ Is Risen, Christ Is Alive*:

"Christ is alive! No longer bound to distant years in Palestine,

"But saving, healing, here and now, and touching every place and time."

Though some Presbyterians get nervous when people speak about the Spirit, and especially when they claim to get "the gifts of the Spirit," Pentecost does not

The Pastor's Corner Bill Bailey



always have to be followed by dramatic, supernatural gifts.

Theologian Emil Brunner once observed:

"The Spirit does not always have to be flames of fire and speaking in tongues. Sometimes the Spirit comes silently and unnoticed. Quite softly, the door to God can open, and when it opens, God's light flows in without a sound and yet powerfully.

"Peace with God – that is, the first opening of the door; joy in God – that means that it has opened wide so that, as the poet says, 'your room becomes full of sun.'

"And this opening of the door to God is indeed what alone matters in life."

Again, Happy Easter, and Happy Pentecost! May our Lord richly bless you in this season, filling you with joy and peace and all God's gifts of the Spirit.

Speakers set for Final Gift seminars

Continued from page 1

For the June 19 offering on "Honoring My Bodily Remains," we will feature three presenters: Andrew Gonzalez, Manager and Funeral Director of the Caruth-Hale Funeral Home; Sharon Gardner on the Kirk's Columbarium, and Pat Kuntz on the Genesis Donor Program.

On June 26, Pat is also scheduled to lead us through the process of creating an ethical will.

The interactive wrap-up session on July 3 will be called *The Final Challenge*. It will be led by Sally Fink, Sharon Gardner, Pat Kuntz and Janie Smith.

Mark your calendars for these must-do opportunities. All sessions will be from 9-11 a.m. in Hoffius Hall.

Arnie Holtberg is a member of the Communication Committee.

Use Flower calendar to honor loved ones

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

A sign-up sheet is in Hoffius Hall those wishing to provide for flowers for one or more Sundays in 2019. 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.



Check out garden re-do near office entrance

New members:

John and Marty Davis joined the Kirk on May 11, 2019. They moved here from Huntsville, Texas. Their home is at 27 Lejos Lane. Marty's cell phone is 936 520-6359. John's cell phone is 936 520-7486. I hope you will take time to say hello when you see them. Be sure to welcome them into the Kirk's activities.

Loss of members:

Wendell "Hep" Hepner passed away April 15, 2019. His memorial service will be at a later date.

Dorothy "Dottie" Montgomery passed away April 20, 2019. A memorial service will be June 9 at the Kirk.

Donald "Don" Van Stone passed away April 25, 2019. A memorial service was May 11 at the Kirk.

Bill Naggs passed away March 30, 2019, in Chicago, Ill. A memorial service will be July 20 at the Kirk.

Church Statistics:

Members— 312.

Family Units – 211.

The Clerk's Corner

Jerral Johnson



The garden near the office entrance on Palma Way is being redone. The old plants have been removed and new ones are planned. The old irrigation system has been revised.

All of this is being done by the Grounds Committee under the direction of Tom Hayek. The cost is being covered by money provided anonymously by a Kirk member.

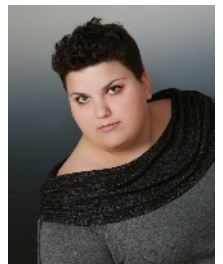
If you have not been by to see the project in progress, I would suggest that you take time to follow its development.

This is a busy time of the year for Kirk members with the many activities planned by the committees. Take time to be a part of them.

Singer to perform

Mezzo-Soprano Megan Ahne, a University of the Ozark graduate now pursuing a vocal performance degree at Bowling Green University in Ohio, will provide special music at the morning worship on June 2 and present a solo recital at 3 p.m. the same afternoon in the sanctuary.

Megan received the first Top of the Rock Peggy Gram Scholarship and has been a contributor in several venues at the Kirk. She will be accompanied by Dr. Sharon Gorman, Professor of Music at the University of the Ozarks.



Smartphones

Rebecca Bingham presented a creative and informative class May 8 on using smartphones. (Barbara Worthley photo)

Correction

In the May issue of *Voice in the Pines*, the photo of the Grounds Committee on page 3 was taken by Jamie Federick, not Robert Sonnen as shown in the caption.

Kirk in the Pines Financial Report

Year to date as of April 30, 2019

General Fund:

Receipts	\$ 35,496	\$ 30,308	\$ 141,984	\$ 156,622
Disbursements	\$ 36,529	\$ 32,514	\$ 146,116	\$ 112,732

Building Fund:

Receipts	\$ 4,246	\$ 5,021	\$ 16,984	\$ 21,305
Disbursements	\$ 4,246	\$ 7,465	\$ 16,984	\$ 19,159

Total all funds:

Receipts	\$ 39,742	\$ 35,329	\$ 158,968	\$ 177,927
Disbursements	\$ 40,775	\$ 39,979	\$ 163,100	\$ 131,891

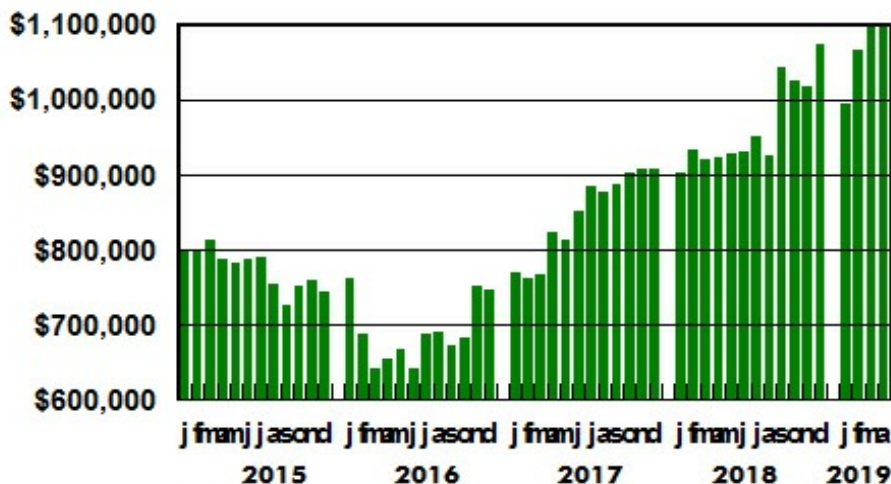
Checking and Money Market Funds Balance \$ 83,694

Special funds:

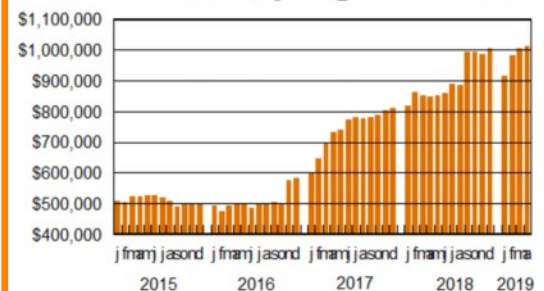
Memorial fund	\$ 56,170
Luke 12:48 fund	\$ 242,062
Programs fund	\$ 49,432
Endowment fund	\$ 607,686
Maack-Ormsbee Fund	\$ 57,227

Total special funds **\$ 1,012,577**

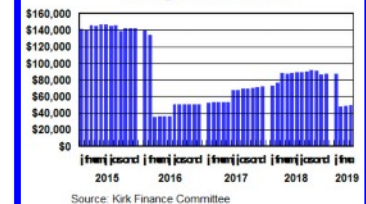
Total funds



Endowment, program funds



Program funds



\$578 for Mission

Thank you for generously supporting our Mission Dollar campaign by placing your single dollar bills in the offering plate. A total of **\$578** 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.

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.

Texas educators are newest Kirk members

By Lowell Gardner

At the encouragement of mutual friends, John and Marty Davis met on a blind date 25 years ago in Kemah, Texas. They had a picnic lunch, then went fishing on the *Judy Beth* fishing boat.

Their lives were never the same after that.

They were married in the Presbyterian church in Webster, Texas, on Jan. 29, 1994.

Marty was born in Niagara Falls, N.Y. She lived there until eighth grade when the family moved to the small town of Pekin, N.Y.

She spent her summers picking cherries, peaches and other wonderful fruits and vegetables. She played trombone in the Pekin Fire Dept. Marching Band.

After graduating from high school, Marty spent four memorable years at the State College of New York at Geneseo where she earned a bachelor's degree in English. She later earned a master's degree in education from the University of Rochester.

Marty married her college boyfriend and they had one son, Timothy. A few years later her husband got a teaching position at the University of Houston-Clear Lake in Texas. Marty taught English at Clear Lake High School and completed her counselor certification.

A few years later there was a divorce. Marty stayed in Clear Lake and continued her school counseling and Lay Ministry at Webster Presbyterian Church.

John was born in Kerrville, Texas. His family moved to Corpus Christi when he started third grade. In high school, John joined the Naval Reserves and, after graduation, served three years active duty in the Navy, including a year in Vietnam.

After being discharged, he attended Delmar Junior College in Corpus Christi and received a bachelor's degree in education from Southwest Texas State University in San Marcos. He earned a master's degree in education from the University of Houston/Clear Lake.

During this time, John re-joined the Naval Reserves and retired with 26 years total service.

John has an adopted son, Mark, from a previous marriage. Mark lives in a group home in Lufkin, Texas. John visits him regularly. John still has family in Corpus Christi.

Marty has an adopted daughter, Susan. She is divorced and has been suffering with multiple sclerosis for many years. She lives in Tomball, Texas. Susan has one son, Joshua, who has been attending the University of Memphis for "many years" with considerable assistance from Grandma, she said. His goal in life is to become a college football coach.



Pastor Bill Bailey with new members Marty and John Davis. (Jamie Federick photo)

New members

Marty also has one son, Timothy. He is married to a wonderful woman named Carrie. They have two children: Brady, a sophomore in the Honors Program at the University of Texas, and Ally, a high-school junior.

Brady plays tuba in the UT Longhorn band and Ally was just named Woodwind Captain for her high-school marching band.

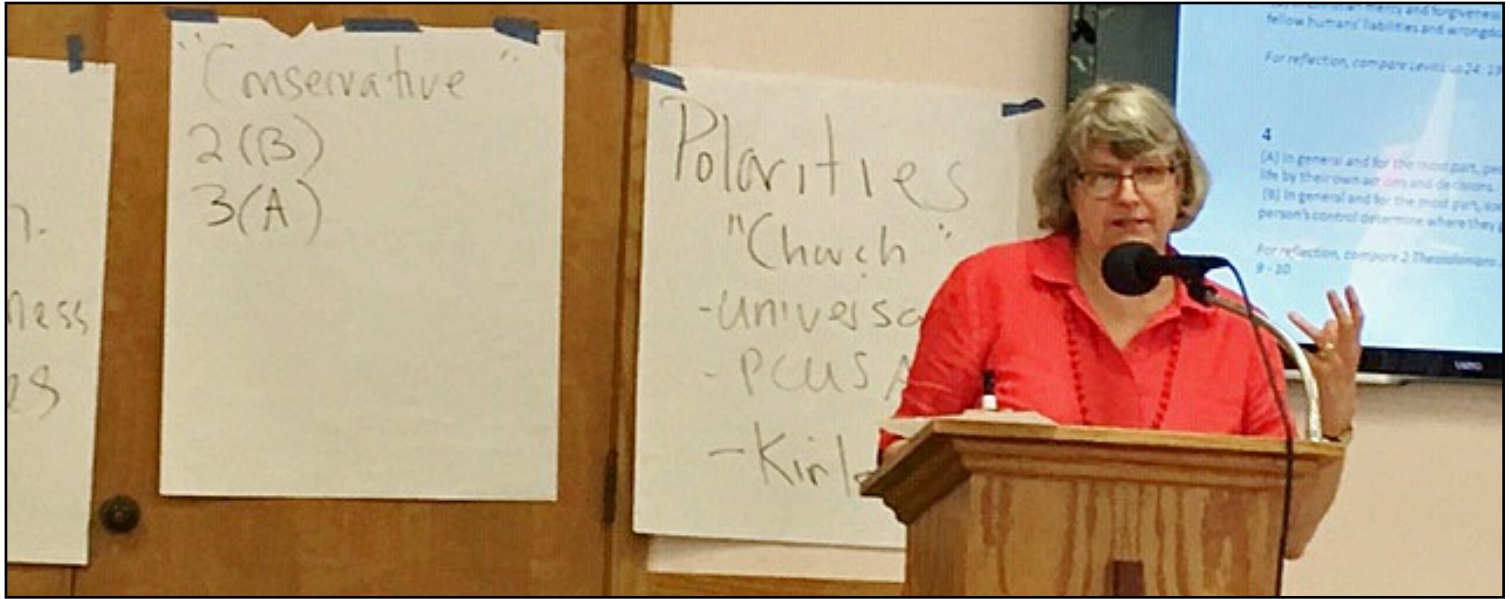
John has either owned or worked in several different businesses. He is a gifted photographer. Look for his exhibit this month at the Woodlands. There's a reception from 4-6 p.m. June 8. He is very interested in Missions at the Kirk.

Marty feels very welcome in the Village and in the Kirk. She has been invited to attend many events which she has enjoyed.

She loves to play golf and is looking forward to playing with The Kirk golfers. She plans to become more involved in church activities after they sell their house in Texas. She and John greatly appreciate Pastor Bill Bailey's messages.

John and Marty live at 27 Leno Lane. John's phone number is (936) 520-7486, and Marty's is (936) 520-6359.

Lowell Gardner is Moderator of the Communication Committee.



Professor Peg Falls-Corbitt leading a workshop on how a church can thrive in a period of extreme partisanship. (Lowell Gardner photo)

We can be divided and still get along just fine

By Lowell Gardner

POLARITY was the key word in Professor Peg Falls-Corbitt's *Being a Church in a Partisan Culture* workshop May 15 in Hoffius Hall.

For her purposes she defined the key as "two values that appear to be opposite of, and in tension with each other, but in reality are interdependent [because] both are needed for the long-term health of an organization."

She led workshop attendees in practicing thoughtful and interactive

ways to discuss politically charged issues in an atmosphere which encourages empathy and develops an understanding for those who disagree with us.

In the course of the discussion, one participant stated "life is messy." In that context Falls-Corbitt acknowledges a life of faith is filled with polarities, both ethical and theological.

But, in His love, both have something God is calling you toward and, in presuming the value of both

and of those who are drawn to each, we can find a way of building empathy (emotional care) and understanding (intellectual respect).

For any who missed the workshop, seek out someone who attended and discuss their experience with them. They may share with you a copy of the handouts they received.

Lowell Gardner is Moderator of the Communication Committee.

PW Coffee Closet will open Sunday, June 9

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

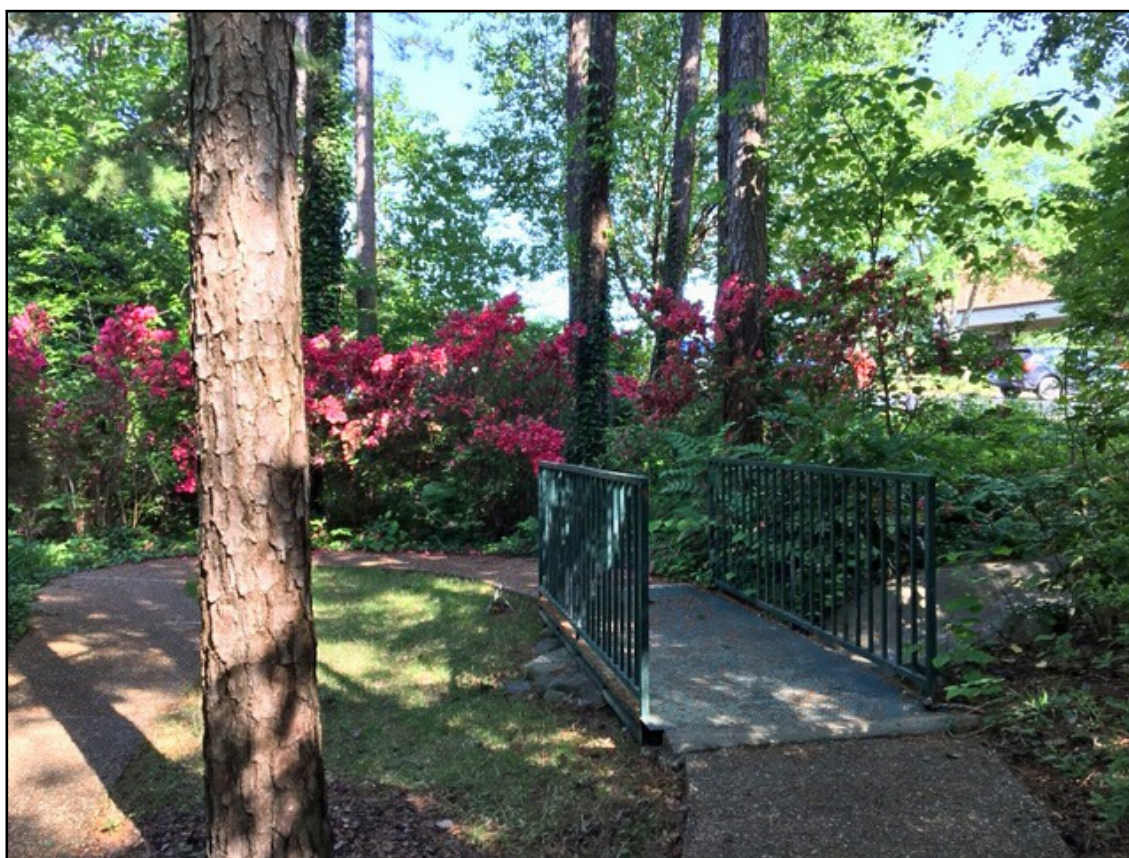
Fair Trade products are natural and delicious, but the best part is each purchase helps a family farm across the world and helps support a community's economy.

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.



A walk in the garden

Last month's *Voice in the Pines* featured the work of the Grounds Committee under the leadership of Moderator Tom Hayek.

In this month of June, which marks the beginning of summer, let us feast our eyes on the fruits of their labors in the Memorial Garden and around the Kirk building.

Photos by Robert Sonnen and Lowell Gardner.

Two books selected for Summer Book Club

By Lowell Gardner

Two books have been selected for this summer's Book Club: *The Dance of the Dissident Daughter* by Sue Monk Kidd and *Disappointment with God* by Philip Yancey.

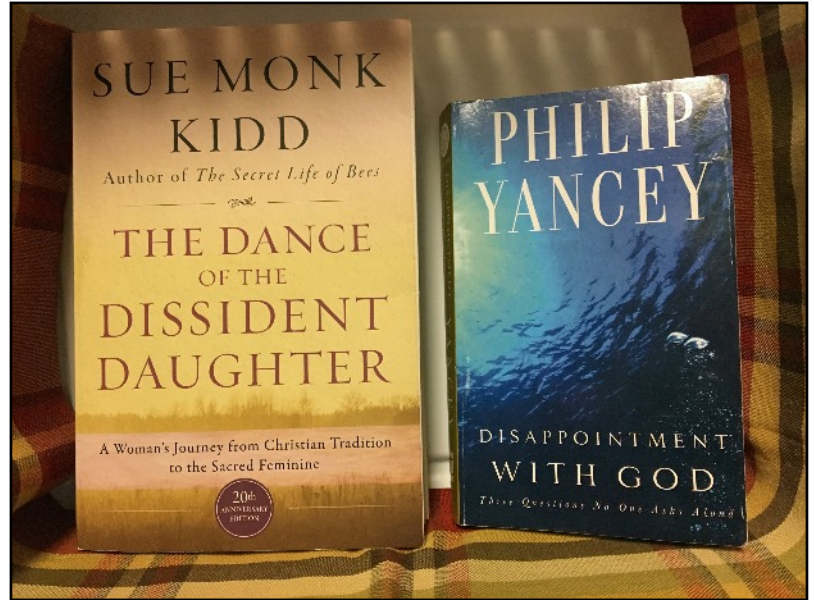
The Book Club will meet from 9-10:30 a.m. on Wednesday from July 10 through Sept. 4 in the Kirk library to dissect and evaluate the concepts and conclusions of these two well-known writers.

Kidd wrote the bestselling novel *The Secret Life of Bees*. In *The Dance of the Dissident Daughter*, the author turns autobiographical as she describes her own often heart-rending struggle to find fulfillment as a contemporary Christian woman.

She referred to it as "her religion spirituality colliding into feminism." She arrived at what she came to refer to as "the sacred feminine." It can be enlightening to both male and female readers to evaluate how she does.

The Jesus I Never Knew or *What's So Amazing About Grace*, in our Kirk Library, are two of the many books from the mind and pen of Philip Yancey, a Christian editor and author.

Yancey writes three nagging questions plagued him



and he acknowledged at the outset "had no easy answer."

The questions are: Is God Unfair? Is God silent? Is God hidden? The opening five chapters outline the challenge.

Join us as we and he seek an answer.

Lowell Gardner is Moderator of the Communication Committee.

Solar power is topic for Kirk potluck on July 24

By Barbara Worthley

Mark your calendars for a potluck supper at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 24, in Hoffius Hall. The Missions, Education and Fellowship committees will be sponsoring a presentation by Chris McRae from Solar Under the Sun.

McRae is a leader and active board member of SUS, which is an ecumenical ministry of Synod of the Sun, PCUSA.

For 10 years Solar has envisioned a reality where every person on the planet has access to clean, reliable and affordable energy. Roughly one-quarter of the people on the

globe still lack adequate electricity.

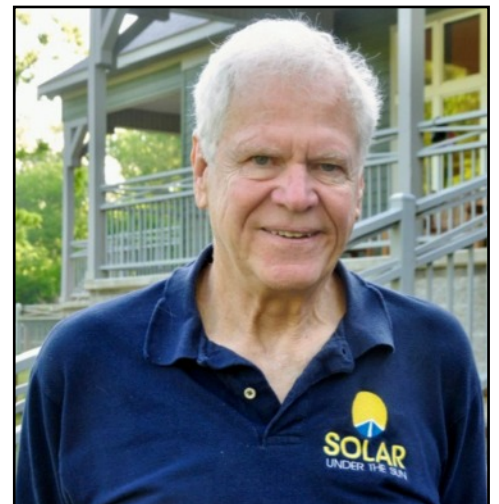
Solar's vision is to illumine our fellow human beings with hope and life through solar energy. SUS trains volunteers to design and install solar power in communities lacking reliable electric power.

Becky Wakefield, of the Missions Committee, went to Puerto Rico last February to help install a system in an individual home. A

basic system will provide enough electricity to operate a refrigerator, a couple of fans and two or three lights.

For more information, go to solarunderthesun.org.

Barbara Worthley is a member of the Communication Committee.



Chris McRae of Fort Smith will speak at a Kirk potluck on July 24.

Great food, cool breezes at Kirk's annual picnic

Grillers Jerral Johnson and Jim Reimers, among others, began cooking hamburgers, hot dogs and bratwursts in the hot sun beside the Kirk at 3 p.m. Thursday, May 16, in preparation for the 5:30 start of the annual picnic in the shade and cool breeze of Lake Balboa Pavilion.

The Greenhorns began a day or two earlier to prepare all "fixin's" like cole slaw, potato salad, baked beans, tomatoes, buns and cookies for the 125 who attended.

Attendees included Tom and Priscilla Hayek, who just returned from visiting their two daughters and their families on the east coast.

Or you may have seen or met Steve Stevens' brother and his wife, Garry and Eileen Stevens, visiting from Snowflake, Ariz. Or you could have filled your plate alongside Chuck and Sue New or across the serving table from Barbara Mulley.

You drank wonderful beverages served up by Ron Lovett and Ruth Richards. You sat "at table" to eat and enjoy a visit with just plain folks.

That means you experienced the Old Fashioned Summer Picnic planned by Vicki Rosenquist and her Fellowship Committee with our gifted Greenhorn Ladies and host David Rosenquist with his marvelous "radio" voice.

Story and photos by Lowell Gardner.



Barbara Mulley (left) and Chuck and Sue New at the food table at the Kirk picnic.



Tom and Priscilla Hayek join others in the food line.



Grillers Jerral Johnson and Jim Reimers.



Garry and Eileen Stevens.



Vicki and David Rosenquist.

Managing a boat factory prepared Burton for leadership role at Vera Lloyd Family Services

By Bob Morrow

You might never have predicted Nathaniel Burton would ultimately become Site Director for Vera Lloyd Presbyterian Family Services.

He was well on his way in industry as Quality Assurance Director at a boat manufacturing facility, having served in other supervisory roles as well.

Nathaniel himself would likely be the last to predict he would ultimately be serving children and families at Vera Lloyd. One wonders if Nathaniel knew his name (Nathanael in Hebrew) means "God has given."

Working with several church youth groups might have sown the seeds. But what really made the difference was his wife's intervention when she convinced him they should become house parents at Vera Lloyd.

This set him on the course to serving God in this way. Yet Nathaniel was, to say the least, unsure.

After several years of being a virtual parent to abused, neglected and drug-addicted youth, Nathaniel acknowledged God was speaking clearly to him.

About our Missions

By Lowell Gardner

You faithful readers of *Voice in the Pines* know several articles have appeared in recent issues relative to Missions, the groups to which our Kirk lends prayerful and monetary support.

In fact, traditionally we give between 22 and 25 percent of our total annual budget to this vital work. We are taught we are our brothers and sisters keeper.

It is often demonstrated the effectiveness of any labor is in direct proportion to the motivation, training and experience of the ones engaged in that labor.

So, in close cooperation with Kirk Missions Committee, the newsletter staff is beginning a series of articles on the individuals heading up and laboring in the missions to which we offer support.

We believe knowing, understanding and appreciating someone incites more generous and gratifying backing. This is true of our entire Kirk, its ministry and its budget.

Donna Mahurin, CEO of Vera Lloyd, was featured last month. This month we profile Nathaniel Burton, site director of the Vera Lloyd Monticello Anne B. Wells campus.

Watch for similar articles in the upcoming months.

Lowell Gardner is Moderator of the Communication Committee.



A look at our Missions

"The children needed him more than anyone," he realized.

Two children stand out in his mind. One was girl who overcame her addiction and is now a case manager for children in Kansas City. They stay in touch since they feel Nathaniel and his wife are "like parents" to them.

From these beginnings, and perhaps with his leadership experience in industry, Nathaniel progressed from House Supervisor to Program Coordinator to Program Director to now serving as Site Director of the Monticello facility.

His leadership roles in the factory gave him the tools to deal with adults but it was the love of God that equipped him to be a counselor and parent to children in the house he shared with his wife.



In his time at Vera Lloyd, Nathaniel Burton. he has seen more than 1,000

children come through the doors and in his own words, their stories "make me heartsick."

As if all this service wasn't enough, Nathaniel has also used his gifts as a pastor of rural churches since before joining Vera Lloyd.

Nathaniel thanks God for an agency like Vera Lloyd which exists only to help children and families, unlike some who are "in the business" of providing social services.

It is interesting to reflect on Nathaniel's story. He may never have predicted he was to become God's gift to the children of Vera Lloyd, but he was uniquely prepared by God just for that.

Remember: It is our gifts to Vera Lloyd that support the work Nathaniel and others do to save and transform the lives of children and families in need.

Bob Morrow is a member of the Kirk Communication Committee.

Yvonne Jones earns PW's top honor for 2019

By Carol Sue Williams

Yvonne Jones was named our Presbyterian Women (PW) Woman of Faith for 2019.

She is very deserving of this distinction, demonstrating a true Christian belief in her everyday life. Yvonne was honored at our meeting on May 13.

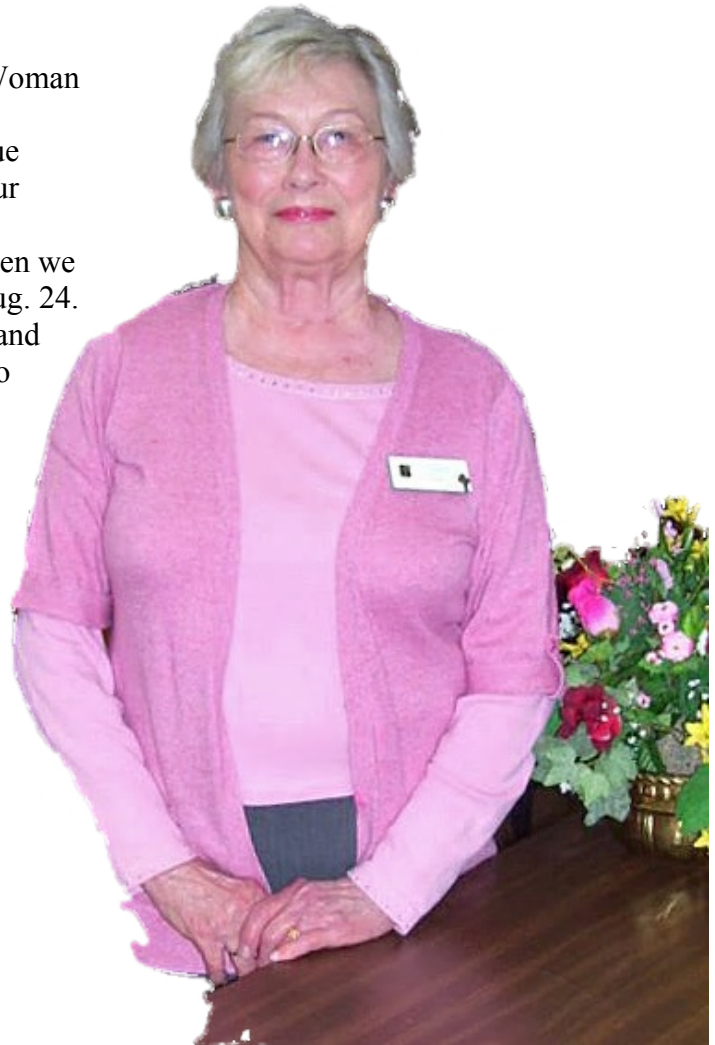
PW will not be meeting in June, July and August except when we hostess the Fall PW Gathering for our Cluster at our Kirk on Aug. 24.

We will be seeking volunteers for different responsibilities and hope you will give serious consideration to helping. We need to put our best foot forward for a good showing.

I want to thank the Co-ordinating Team for their faithful service this past year. We managed to work through the year without a Vice Moderator. I will serve as Moderator until January 2020, when Vicki Rosenquist will take over.

We are looking forward to a fun and fulfilling year.

Carol Sue Williams is PW Moderator.



A few seats left on Spain trip

Visiting Lisbon, Portugal and highpoints of Spain is on so many people's bucket list that reservations for Pastor Bailey's tour came in quickly. Only a few seats remain.

Reservations are first-come. If you, or someone you know, would like to join the group on this exciting trip, email kirktour@gmail.com before these last openings are filled.



A street mime is one of many sights in Barcelona. (Joyce Leeming photo)

Norma and Steve sensed your support

THANK YOU!

We could like to express our gratitude and deep appreciation to all those who visited, sent cards and notes, offered prayer and in so many ways lent support during Steve's recent hospitalization, therapy and recovery.

We sensed your concern and it truly helped.

Norma and Steve Stevens

Van Stones say thanks

To all our Kirk family:

It is very difficult to express the love, prayers, cares, concerns and hugs provided the entire Van Stone family.

We recently lost our mainstay and it was and is difficult. Your cards, food and expressions are greatly appreciated. Know we all feel truly blessed by you and by the loving Father of all. Thank you so very much.

Helen Van Stone and the Van Stone family



Fellowship Committee members include (from left) Gloria Klomsten, Carol Clark, Barbara Worthley, Moderator Vicki Rosenquist, Marcia Bauer, Della Reimers, and Jim Reimers. Not pictured: Sharon Hogue, Jerral Johnson, Ron Lovett, Bill Reynolds, Mary Ann Reynolds and Ruth Richards. (Jamie Federick photo)

Fellowship Committee is busy on many fronts

By Jan Holtberg

Our June Session at Work Feature highlights the Fellowship Committee. Its purpose is to oversee and assist all fellowship activities and develop new opportunities for fellowship at the Kirk.

The committee, led by Moderator Vicki Rosenquist, are Marcia Bauer, Carol Clark, Joyce Hayek, Sharon Hogue, Jerral Johnson, Steve and Gloria Klomsten, Ron Lovett, Jim and Della Reimers, Mary Ann and Bill Reynolds, Ruth Richards and Barbara Worthley.

In conjunction with the Mission and Education Committees, Fellowship began its year on Feb. 13 by sponsoring a pot-luck dinner. Donna Mahurin, chief executive officer of Vera Lloyd Presbyterian Family Services Center, was featured speaker.



Session at work

A look at what the Kirk's committees do for you

Fellowship provided refreshments and decorations for the Mardi Gras Party on March 4 featuring the Spa City Stompers. The evening raised \$600 dollars for Vera Lloyd Children's Home and Family Center.

Continued on page 13

Rebuilding east-end garden is under way

Jamie Federick's photo on the right is an artist's palette or, if you wish, a canvas. Some may call it a dark patch of bare ground. Look more closely.

There are several randomly appearing stakes among several large rocks. The large rocks were positioned before as was the rocky border. Note the white circles surrounding the stakes in the foreground and the upper far left area.

You are witnessing the artistic, visionary, hardworking and dedicated minds, hearts and hands of the Kirk Grounds Committee refurbishing the east-end garden. As you pass by, please do not trample, but make note of their progress and, perhaps, say thanks.

You may also whisper a prayer of thanks for the anonymous donor who is helping to underwrite the project. To God Be the Glory.



Fellowship touches much of life at the Kirk

Continued from page 12

Lenten soup and bread luncheons began on Ash Wednesday and continued through April 10.

The Annual Kirk Picnic was May 16 at the Balboa Pavilion. Hamburgers, hot dogs and brats were cooked by the skilled Kirk grillers with the Greenhorns providing delicious side dishes.

These activities are in the works:

- On July 24, the Education, Mission, and Fellowship committees will sponsor a pot-luck dinner. Chris McRae will speak on Solar Under the Sun.
- A Fish Fry in August or September catered by Riverside Catering is being considered.
- The second annual Chili Cook Off will probably be repeated in October.
- Other church-related receptions and suppers are also being planned.

The Fellowship Committee has three subcommittees:

The Shepherd Program promotes fellowship, provides community and instills caring relationships among Kirk members in smaller group settings.

The Head Shepherd divides the congregation into shepherd groups for two-year periods. The six groups usually plan monthly events to encourage camaraderie and friendship. Shepherd leaders arrange transportation and food in times of emergency.

In the event of a member's death, the group leader will arrange for the shepherd group to provide a meal for the family usually at the time of the funeral or

memorial service. Presently, this flock is without a Head Shepherd.

The Memorial Reception subcommittee is led by Judy Rosenthal. It organizes receptions after memorial services or funerals at the Kirk. The leader co-ordinates with the bereaved family on the day of service to identify any special needs such as a screen on which to project a video and flowers.

The Kitchen subcommittee maintains the Kirk's kitchen, lining up servers for special receptions, recommending purchase of special equipment, acquiring kitchen supplies as needed, and monitoring the use of the kitchen.

Other fellowship activities include:

- Two Bridge groups (a day group led by Margery McIntosh and Joanne Rich and an evening group led by Bob Wessel).
- Dinners for Six led by Tony and Barbara Booth.
- Kirk Golf Mixer led by Jim Hess.
- Singles Sunday Brunch led by Carol Clark.

The Fellowship Committee has a lot on its plate and it plays well with other committees and individuals in the Kirk, providing an association for Kirk members with common interests.

The committee meets on the first Tuesday each month in the Kirk library. To quote Vicki Rosenquist: "The success of each event is due to all the wonderful members of the committee who give of their time and talents to serve the Kirk."

Jan Holtberg is a member of the Communication Committee.

Behind Closed Doors are some great DVDs

Recently I had the opportunity to sit in on personal interviews with well-known figures in the world of religious thought such as Kathleen Norris, author and poet, and the Rev. John R. Claypool, minister and writer.

Well, I must admit I was sitting comfortably in my own home and the interviews were DVDs entitled *Faces on Faith*.

Behind the closed doors of a tall cabinet in our Kirk library are audiovisual materials on biblical topics for self-study and small group use. The *Faces on Faith* DVDs caught my attention because the short personal interviews were by recognized speakers like Martin E. Marty, scholar and writer; Walter Wangerin Jr., author and pastor, as well as Kathleen Norris and Reverend John R. Claypool, among others.

After hearing the thought-provoking interviews, I was moved to reacquaint myself with some of their writings.



**Carnegie
Corner**
By Susan Morrow

In Kathleen Norris's book, *Amazing Grace – A Vocabulary of Faith* (also in our library), she shares her thoughts on words of faith with a uniquely poetic voice. For Norris, "faith is best thought of as a verb, not a 'thing' that you either have or you don't."

For me that translates into belief in action.

Behind closed doors in the church library are audiovisual materials that may open doors to many faith perspectives. Come and check it out.

Check out the Grab & Go shelf at the library

By Lowell Gardner

Just left of the entrance to the Kirk Library off Hoffius Hall is a 5x10-inch shelf mounted to the wall. You may have noticed a varying selection of books on the shelf. Wonder why they're there?

Susan Morrow, author of the monthly Carnegie Corner above, had an idea. She

reasoned and soon discovered the Library offered books and other material supplemental to and supportive of topics taught and seasons celebrated at our Kirk.

These can be featured in the Carnegie column, but what other ways could the congregation be made more aware of all this?

Thus, was born the "Grab and Go" program.



Susan commandeered the top shelf on one of the mobile carts and displayed books appropriate to the Lenten season.

More recently she selected and presented books on *The Psalms*, on which Pastor Bill Bailey was focusing. These were featured in Susan's column as well.

Dick Easter, a gifted craftsman generous with his time and talent, was engaged in constructing, finishing and mounting the shelf in question to bring outside attention to what is available in the library.

Readers, now it's up to you.

In Pastor Bailey, we have a marvelous preacher and an extraordinary teacher. He leads us skillfully through the liturgical and seasonal year.

The library is available to encourage and enhance the growth experience. Writers, books, craftsmen and shelf led the way. Now it's time for you to "Grab" the opportunity and "Go" with it.

Lowell Gardner is Moderator of the Communication Committee.



Happy dates



Birthdays

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

Anniversaries

June 2	Nancy and Lu Otto	57 years	June 17	Beverly and Fred Raskin	42 years
June 4	Ruth and Dave Hamilton	55 years		Janette and Bill Wiard	19 years
June 5	Ro and Dick Easter	64 years	June 19	Charlotte and Dick Massey	37 years
June 8	Jean and Eiler Heinrich	68 years	June 20	Martha and Wayne Copeland	32 years
June 10	Merilyn and Mike Seitz	57 years	June 22	Norma and Steve Stevens	34 years
June 11	Lorna and Dean Kerr	69 years	June 24	Wendy and Barron Gage	36 years
June 12	Becky and Ed Baldwin	52 years	June 27	Marjorie and Gene Carlisle	66 years
June 14	Barb and Daryl Henry	47 years			



Choir Notes

Randy Toney

Summer is a great time to try out your choir voice

The Kirk Choir is taking its annual summer break but the beat goes on. We plan to fill summer worship with a potpourri of musical offerings.

Ensembles of different voices and sizes will be singing frequently. We will also welcome several guest musicians.

If you have considered joining the choir, summer is a good time to check it out by singing in one of these groups. Please let Donna Toney or me know if you are interested. We would love to have you!

Kirk giving \$1,000 to help summer camp

Ferncliff Camp and Conference Center and Vera Lloyd Family Services have long partnered in providing a camp experience for children in their care.

This summer the two facilities have set a goal of raising \$5,000 to provide a camping experience for eight children from Vera Lloyd.

The funding would pay all their costs, including funds for summer clothing and swim apparel. It also would support the house parents sharing the camping experience.

The Kirk Missions Committee has given \$1,000 to help meet this particular need. Any of you wishing to contribute additionally toward this special need can make your contribution to the Kirk in the Pines clearly designated for Ferncliff/Vera Lloyd Camp Fund.

Four Kirk mudders slog around Magellan

By Jim Hess

The Kirk Sunday golf outing May 12 at the Magellan course was a wet, cart-path-only day played by four hardy golfers.

Our brave group was composed of Jan and Arnie Holtberg, Becky Wakefield and yours truly. We are now referred to as "The Mudders."

Dinner was attended by 16 members of our group at The Saint Restaurant at Isabella. The Saint re-opened especially for our group this Sunday evening in order to serve a Mother's Day special meal. We offer a heartfelt Thank You to The Saint staff for their kindness.

Planning for our June 9 event is underway. Sign-up information will be emailed to all members. Save the Day on your calendar!

If you are new to our Kirk, or just looking for a friendly golf game, you are welcome to join our Kirk Sunday Golf Group. We are a group of single and couple golfers of all skill levels who play either 9 or 18 holes. It is your choice.

We play our Village courses the second Sunday of each month. Dinner follows golf April through October at one of our

Village restaurants. If you would like additional information, please call me at 922-2326, or email jimobhess@suddenlink.net

Jim Hess co-ordinates the Kirk's golf program.

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

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