

A Voice in the Pines



Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines newsletter

Volume XXXVI, Issue 3, March 2020

Dick Easter found his creative side in wood after retiring to Village

By Jan Holtberg

Dick Easter was born in Oklahoma but grew up in the panhandle of Texas. Following high-school graduation, he enlisted in the Air Force where he worked in base operations in Japan. At Whiteman Air Force Base in Sedalia, Mo., he met Rowena (Ro), his wife of 64 years. They have one son, an architect who resides in Dallas.

After serving his country, Dick matriculated at the University of Central Missouri, earning a degree in Business Administration. After graduation, he accepted a position with a life insurance company and ended his career working with Electronic Data Systems (EDS).

All his positions were in sales and involved extensive travel and relocation. With every move, Dick, Ro, and their son designed and built a house, including their retirement home.

Dick created stained glass swag lamps and tackled little woodworking projects.

He attributes his creativity to his mother's artistic ability.

The woodworking began in earnest when an old fraternity brother asked him to build kitchen cabinets



Dick Easter with some of the many works of wood art he has created since retiring in 1996. (Jan Holtberg photo)



for his mother who lived across the street from Dick and Ro.

Around 1988-89, the Easters responded to a Cooper promotional invitation and bought a piece of property

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When we meet

Sunday worship service
begins at 10 a.m.



Saturday informal service
Begins at 5 p.m. in Hoffius Hall

Lenten services in March
11 a.m. Wednesdays, then lunch



Thursday Discussion Group
9 a.m. in Conference Room

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



Never forget to live every day as if it is your last

Author Anne Lamott tells a moving story in her wonderful book, *Bird By Bird*. One of her closest friends struggled with cancer and it eventually took her friend's life.

Anne was able to spend a lot of time with her friend during the last weeks and days. At one point, she had called her friend's doctor about some of her friend's distressing developments and the doctor said something to Anne that changed her life. The doctor said: "Watch her carefully right now because she's showing you how to live!"

Reflecting on this, Lamott writes:

"I remind myself of this when I cannot get any work done: to live as if I'm dying because the truth is we are all terminal on this bus. To live as if we are dying gives us a chance to experience some real presence.

"Time is so full for people who are dying in a conscious way, full in a way life is for children. They spend big round hours. So, instead of staring miserably at the computer screen trying to will my way into having a breakthrough, I say to myself, 'Okay, hmmm, let's see. Dying tomorrow. What should I do today?'" (*Bird By Bird*, p.179)

It seems to me this is precisely why the church observes the season of Lent. It is to help us pay attention to our mortality in order that we might learn the important lessons of life and faith.

Lent began this past Ash Wednesday, (Feb. 26). Many of us will share, with Christians all over the world, in these 40 days of reflection and repentance.

The Pastor's Corner Bill Bailey



For some Christians, it all begins with a service of the imposition of ashes. A smudge of oil and ashes, the ancient symbols of repentance and mortality, will be placed on our foreheads with the reminder: "Remember that you are dust and to dust, you will return."

This is sobering language, to be sure. And for some, it can sound harsh and morbid. But the intent is not to be harsh and morbid – the intent of Lent is to remind us of our mortality in order that we might pay greater attention to life while it remains. To live with greater passion and devotion in the time we have been given.

Lent reminds us we are all terminal. We do not have forever. Let us all live each day as if it were our last.

There's a wisdom to be learned if we pay attention, as the Psalmist says, "let us number our days that we might gain hearts of wisdom." (*Psalms 90:12*)

We hope you all join us for our services this Lent.

Next Kirk tour will be to England in September

By Joyce Leeming

Plans are being made for Pastor Bill Bailey's next Kirk tour. It will be from the bustling streets of London to the historic pathways of Oxford, seeing England at its best.

You and your friends are invited to join as the group visits London, Cambridge, Bath, Stonehenge, Salisbury, Stratford-upon-Avon, Oxford, and Canterbury. Highlights include:

- A panoramic guided tour of London's sophisticated metropolis. Beautiful gardens line the streets, fascinating museums, celebrated monuments, and numerous famous buildings including the Tower of London, Buckingham Palace, St. Paul's Cathedral, and more. In your leisure time, you may choose to visit the National Gallery, the British Museum, the Borough Market, the London Designer Outlet or use the Tube to see even more.

- Day trips to Cambridge and Oxford with guided tours of the universities, and sites associated with C.S.

Lewis and J.R.R. Tolkien. After the tours you will have free time to explore before returning to London.

- Some say Bath may be the jewel in the crown of England's beautiful cities. Follow in the footsteps of Jane Austen, Thomas Gainsborough and Charles Dickens on a morning guided walking tour. See the elaborate Roman spas at the Roman Bath Museum.

- From Bath visit one of the world's most iconic sights that date back to the Stone Age – Stonehenge. Then off to explore the medieval market town of Salisbury followed by a guided tour through Britain's finest 13th-century Gothic cathedral that towers above the city.

The group will fly out of and return to Dallas. The cost, including airfare, will be \$3,949 each, double occupancy. Deposits will be due April 15. For more details and full itinerary, email kirktour@gmail.com.

Joyce Leeming is coordinator of Kirk tours.

On-going examples of Kirk being mission oriented

The Session was happy to receive Mary Jo Amundsen as a new member at the February meeting. She was received by reaffirmation of faith. She lives at 7 Torre Del Mar Way in Hot Springs Village. Her cell phone number is 501 915-4652. Chip Johnson is her son.

When you see Mary Jo, I hope you will take the time to visit and tell her that we are happy to have her as a member of our church.

Church Statistics:

As of Feb. 14, 2020: Members – 297; family units – 203.

The Kirk is a mission-oriented church. This is evident in so many ways. A good example was Sunday when over 30 prayers shawls were blessed during the Service.

These will be given to Kirk members who are in the hospital for an extended period of time or to Hospice. Ladies in the Kirk are excellent knitters and prepare a large number of shawls each year.

Another example is the Habitat for Humanity house just getting started in Hot Springs. The Kirk is working with 11 other churches in building this home for a family in need. Each of the 12 churches donated \$5,000 to build the home.

For those who would like to get physically involved, there will be jobs to help with the construction. If you wish to be involved, call Harry Wakefield at 501 204-9398. He can give you the location of the building site.

In addition to construction, there will be a need for flower-bed preparation and planting as the building nears completion. For those who would like to follow the progress on the home, the location will be available.

Recently there have been and will be a number of

New Member Dinner was a culinary success

The New Members Dinner on Feb. 13 in Hoffus Hall proved to be an entertaining and culinary success.

Forty-nine guests were more than adequately satisfied by the variety, quantity and quality of the “Grab and Go Pile-on Salad” and dessert prepared by New Member Outreach Moderator Carol Clark and her committee.

The entertainment was appropriate and insightful. Accolades to the planners and the good spirit of the participants.

Attending the New Members Dinner were (from left) Pat Kuntz (back turned), Mel Kuntz, Wendy Gage, Barron Gage, and Susan Pendergrass. *(Lowell Gardner photo)*



musical concerts in the Kirk sanctuary. Those attending were encouraged to give a ‘Love Offering’. The Symphony Guild and Hot Springs Music Festival requested the use of the Kirk facilities through Donna Toney. All donations given at these concerts are for the benefit of music education. The requests have been approved by the Session.

Another program that has helped a lot of our membership is the Soup Ministry. Members have sometimes taken a meal to a member or a friend who is in need of a good meal.

In March, several Kirk members will deliver approximately 600 meals as part of the Meals on Wheels program in the Village. The meals are taken to those in our community who need at least one good meal a day while they regain their health.

Kirk members don’t prepare the meals but will deliver them throughout the Village.

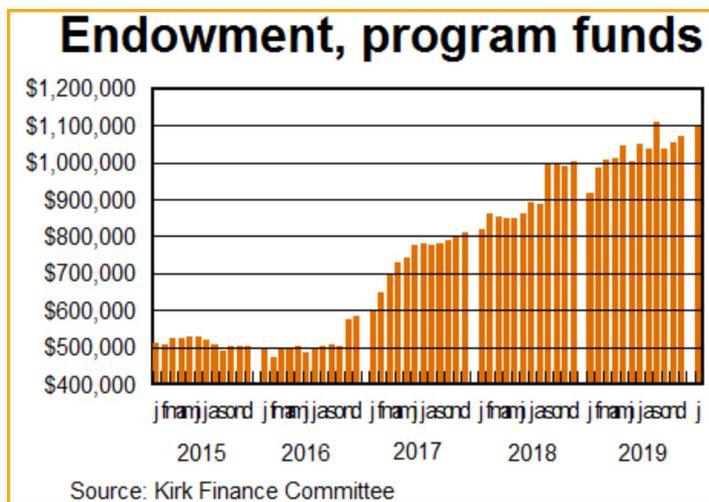
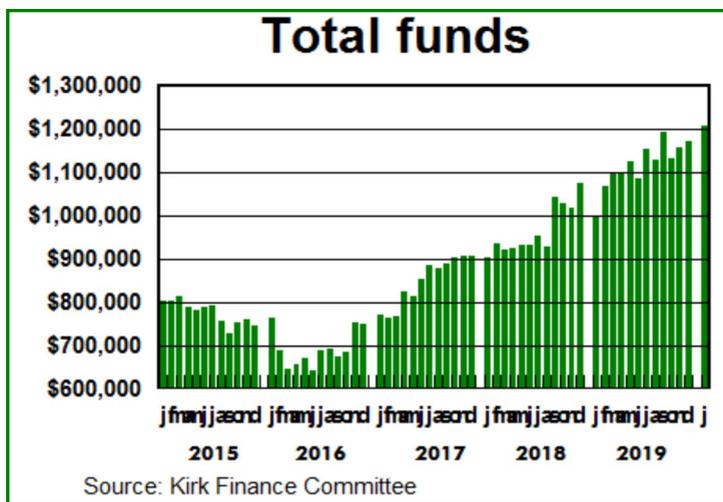
These are only a few of the programs by which Kirk members are involved in the community. We all should be happy that we are able to help others that are in need of some form of assistance during a difficult time in their life.



Kirk in the Pines Financial Report

Year to date as of January 31, 2020

| | Month | | Year to date | |
|---|-----------|-----------|--------------|---------------------|
| | Budget | Actual | Budget | Actual |
| General Fund: | | | | |
| Receipts | \$ 36,370 | \$ 56,042 | \$ 36,370 | \$ 56,042 |
| Disbursements | \$ 37,375 | \$ 27,380 | \$ 37,375 | \$ 27,380 |
| Building Fund: | | | | |
| Receipts | \$ 4,218 | \$ 8,669 | \$ 4,218 | \$ 8,669 |
| Disbursements | \$ 4,660 | \$ 3,036 | \$ 4,660 | \$ 3,036 |
| Total all funds: | | | | |
| Receipts | \$ 40,588 | \$ 64,711 | \$ 40,588 | \$ 64,711 |
| Disbursements | \$ 42,035 | \$ 30,416 | \$ 42,035 | \$ 30,416 |
| Checking and Money Market Funds Balance | | | | \$ 108,329 |
| Special funds: | | | | |
| Memorial fund | | | | \$ 61,890 |
| Luke 12:48 fund | | | | \$ 256,818 |
| Programs fund | | | | \$ 54,466 |
| Endowment fund | | | | \$ 662,321 |
| Maack-Ormsbee Fund | | | | \$ 61,721 |
| Total special funds | | | | \$ 1,097,216 |



\$605 for Mission

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

A total of \$605 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.

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.

Amazing growth for Project HOPE food bank

By Patty Van Cleave

Project HOPE Food Bank is a bustling place!

I was there on a Wednesday afternoon when multiple groups were picking up food for their ministries. Right in the middle of things was volunteer Executive Director Ted Thompson. You will note the word “volunteer” in front of Ted’s name. While he doesn’t get paid to do this job, it has become a full-time one.

This is not Ted’s chosen profession, but it is a passion.

By trade, Ted was a nurse anesthetist in Wichita, Kan., for 25 years. Medical issues forced him to retire and he moved to Hot Springs where he already had a home on Lake Ouachita.

He attends St. Luke’s Episcopal Church and it was there, through their ministry of feeding the less fortunate, that he met Janie Woodall Smith (profiled in our October newsletter) of Jackson House.

Ted asked her what he could do to help at Jackson House and she put him to work running their pantry.

At this same time Janie was on an advisory board of the Project HOPE Health Coalition. It was exploring the possibility of opening a food bank. Ted knew nothing about food banks, but volunteered to go to a meeting.

That was in early 2007. By the summer of 2007 they had some donated warehouse space and began collecting other donations before the board decided against the project and pulled the plug. However, it’s hard to tell people who have donated to a project that it’s not going to happen.

So Ted told members of the board he would try it on his own, but made no promises. It took almost a year to get all the information needed to start a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, and get the warehouse space set up. In 2009 he had enough food accumulated to begin distributing it.

Now it is “consuming my life,” says Ted.

Project HOPE Food Bank operates as a distributor to local agencies who then pass the food on through their ministries.

The food bank has grown tremendously over the last 10 years. Under Ted’s guidance, and with help from a volunteer inventory specialist, a part-time



Executive Director Ted Thompson in the Project HOPE Food Bank warehouse. (Patty Van Cleave photo)



A look at our Missions

administrative employee, and many, many other volunteers, the food bank has gone from distributing 10,000 pounds of food a month to 15 agencies, to 135,000 pounds of food to 45 agencies last December.

Another aspect of the food bank is their Emergency Food Box program.

These boxes (both regular and senior versions) are put together at the food bank and distributed via schools and social agencies to families and individuals in crisis, as identified by counselors and caseworkers. Each box contains in-date shelf-stable products.

When I asked Ted if he had plans and goals for Project HOPE Food Bank, he said “No, I’m just trying to hang on!”

And he does it because he enjoys helping people and getting food to those who need it. The food bank is always looking for other volunteers, but keep in mind you need a strong back and to be willing to lift 25- to 40-pound boxes of food!

Patty Van Cleave is a member of the Kirk Communication Committee.

Please wear your name tag

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

Dick Easter turns wood into award-winning art

Continued from page 1

on Lake Balboa to be developed when they retired. Their requirement for retirement was an environment which sustained trees, lakes, hills, and golf. Hot Springs Village fits the bill.

Dick retired from EDS in 1995. The Easters lived in a rental house for a year while their new home was being built. Their lovely dwelling is filled with Dick's handy work: extremely well-done Mission Style furniture, bookcases, dining room cabinets, a curio cabinet, and an outstanding staircase.

Having been Presbyterians since their marriage, they joined Kirk in the Pines when Mike Seitz was pastor. Dick and Ro volunteered for a church mission trip to Honduras to utilize Dick's building skills.

This led to their supporting David Gill's vision to rebuild Ferncliff after a highway had been routed through that property. Dick, along with Gary Rector, Ted Smith, and other Kirk members, built a common room. They teamed up with AmeriCorps volunteers to tear down two barns, build five cabins, a deck, and 80 bunk beds to fill the cabins.

Dick served two terms as Moderator of the Kirk's Building and Grounds Committee and has left his imprint on the Kirk by participating in 25 years of repairs and renovations.

In 1996, he and some other men formed the Village Woodworking Club.

The club has grown to approximately 60 members and Dick has served as president. They began a toy project that continues today -- designing and making different toys for orphaned and foster children. The items not given away are sold each year at the Coronado Craft Show to raise funds for building materials for the next year's projects.

One of the Woodworking Club's programs involved creating turned pots made on a lathe. This is primarily what Dick is working on these



Dick Easter stands next to a piece of furniture he made. *(Jan Holtberg photos)*

days. The pots are intricate, beautifully designed and created pieces of artwork, many of which adorn the Easters' home.

One beautiful pot won Best of Show in a gallery in Hot Springs.

Dick describes his work career as satisfying but always felt he should be building things. Retirement has given him an opportunity to do that.

Today Dick is working less on big projects and engaging in more artistic works on the lathe. He is a member of the Central Arkansas Wood Turners and has shared his interests and talents by teaching intermediate woodturning at the National Park College, mentoring students and friends.

Dick continues to create, learn, and give to others.

Jan Holtberg is a member of the Kirk Communication Committee.



This beautiful pot earned Dick Easter a blue ribbon at an art show in Hot Springs.



Four Kirk members at the groundbreaking were (beginning fourth from left) Harry Wakefield, Helen Van Stone. Becky Wakefield and Judy Rosenthal. Nancy Patton, who took the photo, also attended.

Kirk members on hand for start of Habitat home

The groundbreaking for a new home being built by Habitat for Humanity in Hot Springs took place on Feb. 13 and included five Kirk members: Harry Wakefield, Helen Van Stone, Becky Wakefield, Judy Rosenthal, and Nancy Patton.

The Kirk is one of 12 area

churches sponsoring the “Apostles’ Build Project” constructing a home for a low-income Hot Springs family.

Footings were poured and construction will begin in early March.

Kirk members will be posting

photos of the progress on the Electronic Message Board (EMB) in Hoffius Hall. By all means, check out the photos during the coffee hour but also look for opportunities to participate in this exciting building project.

PW Coffee Closet will open Sunday, March 8

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.



Flower calendar

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

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

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

A sign-up sheet is in Hoffius Hall for those wishing to provide flowers for one or more Sundays in 2020. 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.





Kirkin' tradition is looking for new leadership

By Helen Fisher

We've been celebrating the *Kirkin' of the Tartans* at Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines every three years since 2003.

From the beginning, Nell White and I have organized this special worship service. You, the congregation, have been the pulse and enthusiasm of its continuing success.

Nell and I are retiring from this responsibility. We are both of Scottish ancestry. I was actually born in Springburn, Scotland, and came to America when I was 8 years old.

It took us a little while to realize we are at the age when someone younger and more energetic should take over the *Kirkin'* project. It is time for new leadership.

We are not saying you have to be Scottish to become involved in this project. Neither do you have to have been born in Scotland.

You do have to love the *Kirkin'* and want the tradition to continue at the Kirk. The Presbyterian Church USA (PCUSA) is a connectional denomination. Many Presbyterian churches were willing to help. They may be

willing to share their personal knowledge to guide you and give helpful suggestions.

The Worship Committee has provided funding for *Kirkin'* through its budget. Nancy Patton is taking names of those interested in helping organize the next *Kirkin'*. Other names are welcome – those willing to serve on a committee, those who are willing to carry a tartan banner or carry one for someone who can no longer physically do so.

There need to be folks to help with food. A big responsibility is a capable person to handle advertising. There are many tasks that require willing hands.

If you are interested in heading up the *Kirkin'* or serving on a committee, please contact Nancy Patton by email at pattonn@aol.com or by phone, 1 708 508-9754.

Thank you for your consideration, and thank you for your past support. It has been a wonderful and fulfilling life experience for both Nell and me.

Helen Fisher, Clans MacDougal and Sutherland, and Nell White, Clans MacLeod of Harris and Stewart Royal.

Help make sanctuary beautiful with Easter lilies

With March come hints of spring: warming breezes, budding plants and the promise of new life.

For us at the Kirk, it is once again the celebration of everlasting life in the Easter promise – the music, the message, the joy, and all its adornments. One of the loveliest of these is the Easter Lily (Trumpet Lily).



Be a part of this tradition. Easter this year is April 12. Add to the celebration by helping adorn the Kirk sanctuary with Easter Lilies, azaleas or hydrangeas. Order forms will appear

soon in your Sunday bulletin. Complete them, attach a check or put money in an envelope duly noted and put it in the offering plate or drop it off at the Kirk office.

Priscilla Hayek,
Worship Committee

Meals on Wheels begins on March 2

Don't forget! If you signed up to deliver Meals on Wheels -- deliveries by Kirk members begin Monday, March 2.

If you would like to help with this worthwhile project and have not yet signed up, there is still an opportunity to get an assignment following church on Sunday morning or by calling Vicki Rosenquist at 706 371-2877.



Shepherd Group 2 begins year with good conversation

Shepherd Group #2 enjoyed a January lunch in Hoffius Hall.

The group dined on a delicious Italian meal and shared great start-of-the-year conversations without the distraction of restaurant servers. They didn't have to leave a tip! Fun for all.

Leaders Judy and Bob Corwin invite new members to join any time. Shepherd Group #2 meets the third Friday of the month. Judy Corwin is Shepherd Group #2 Leader.



Kirk office wants to hear from you!!!

I sent an email Jan. 16 requesting confirmation from Kirk email recipients that they are receiving notices from the Kirk office.

Of the 191 emails sent, only 73 responded saying the message was received. Please notify me if you are or are not receiving such notices.

If you see this in the newsletter or bulletin or by another means, please confirm your information (email address) with the Kirk office.

Chris Taylor-Wilmoth,
Kirk secretary

Potter's Clay getting help from Food Basket

The Kirk is collecting non-perishable food for Potter's Clay in March.

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, dry hot and cold cereals and canned milk and juices.

We thank Potter's Clay 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 ministry.



All you ever want to know about spiritual literacy

“Spiritual literacy is the ability to read the signs written in the texts of our own experience,” according to Frederick and Mary Ann Brussat, authors of *Spiritual Literacy: Reading the Sacred in Everyday Life*.

They go on to point out spirituality is practiced by all faiths and traditions, and even the medieval Catholic monks called practicing spirituality “reading the book of the world.”

“It’s odd that after thousands of years of great spiritual example and literature we have to remind ourselves that spirituality is to be found in everyday life,” as Thomas Moore points out in the foreword to this collection of spiritual prose and poetry.

The book is organized around two schemes. First, an “Alphabet of Spiritual Literacy” and the other a hodgepodge of 10 aspects of daily living such as things, places, nature, body, relationships and more.

The last chapter walks the reader through “A Day in the Spiritual Life.”

The Brussats draw from years of collecting writings on spirituality and include writings from too many to count essayists, poets, and storytellers.

Christianity is very well represented but there are also “best hits” from myriad traditions. You will find familiar voices including Henri Nouwen, David Wolpe, Thomas Merton, Frederick Buechner, Kathleen Norris, Maya Angelou, John Wesley, William Blake, Loa Tsu, and others.

Then there are those who at were new to me, such as Brother David Steindl-Rast, Jalaluddin Rumi, Jane Kenyon, Denise Levertov, and one Arkansan, Macrina Wiederkehr.



Carnegie Corner By Bob Morrow

One of my personal favorites (there are so many) is the poem by Levertov; *The Avowal*:

“As swimmers dare to lie face to the sky
and water bears them,
as hawks rest upon air
and air sustains them,
so would I learn to attain
freefall, and float into Creator Spirit’s deep embrace,
knowing no effort earns
that all-surrounding grace.”

Despite the encyclopedic size of this book, the offerings in each chapter are brief and a reader can easily pick and choose. The alphabet pages, which include topics such as grace, faith, love, hope, silence, vision are short, beautiful reflections by multiple voices on each of these essentials of spiritual life. The book can be read straight through or selectively “as the spirit moves”.

And, trust me, the Spirit does move in these pages. But more importantly *Spiritual Literacy: Reading the Sacred in Everyday Life* will open for you a new world of appreciation of the Spirit’s working in ordinary life.

In retrospect, I guess I really was spiritually illiterate! Find this book on the shelf outside our library and check it out.

Clip & Save

Phone numbers:

For help:

Kirk office – 922-1333

Prayer needs (Della Reimers) – 915-8235

Communion at home – 922-1333

To be assigned a Christian friend

Janie Smith – 922-7548

For meals, transportation, minor house repairs,
have someone sit with a spouse:

Sally Fink – 922-9622

Janie Smith – 922-7548

To be assigned a phone buddy:

Sally Fink – 922-9622

For other congregational-care needs:

Sally Fink – 922-9622

Kirk office – 922-1333

For staff (home numbers):

Pastor Bill Bailey – 984-0445

Visitation Coordinator Janie Smith – 922-7548

Email addresses:

Pastor Bill Bailey – kirkpastor@sbcglobal.net

Kirk secretary:

Chris Taylor-Wilmoth – kirkoffice1@sbcglobal.net

Kirk business administrator:

Beverly Schaumburg – kirkfin@sbcglobal.net

Website:

Kirkinthepines.org



Happy dates



Birthdays

| | | | | | |
|----------|------------------|----------|------------------|----------|---------------|
| March 2 | Eric Van Cleave | March 13 | Cindi Erickson | March 19 | Nancy Patton |
| March 6 | Ray Bates | March 14 | Bill Worthley | March 20 | Sally Lester |
| | Marjorie Easley | March 15 | Vicki Rosenquist | March 23 | David Salmen |
| March 8 | Dean Stanley | March 16 | Ann Hill | March 25 | Paul Hayek |
| | Joyce Hayek | | Rita Martick | | Mary Amundsen |
| | Samuel Arant | | Patricia Poole | March 28 | Vianne Huff |
| March 9 | Duane Sonnenburg | March 17 | Mike Hoagland | | Bob Webster |
| March 11 | Dave Hamilton | | Kelle Wolf | March 30 | Bud Strautman |
| March 13 | Jim Adams | March 18 | Mel Kuntz | March 31 | Norma Stevens |

Anniversaries

| | | | | | |
|----------|---------------------------|----------|----------|-------------------------|----------|
| March 6 | Bev and Jack Bullard | 49 years | March 16 | Jamie and Rick Federick | 29 years |
| March 12 | Melissa and Robert Sonnen | 28 years | March 20 | Della and Jim Reimers | 62 years |
| March 14 | Claire and Kenneth Rhodes | 30 years | March 28 | Vianne and Bob Huff | 60 years |

All invited to preseason golf dinner on March 8

By Jim Hess

Our annual Preseason Golf Dinner will be at 5:30 p.m. Sunday, March 8, at Raffaella's Restaurant on Cortez Golf Course. All Kirk Sunday Golfers are invited to attend. This includes those regular monthly players and anyone who would like to join our group.

If you are new to our Kirk or a

current Kirk member who does not traditionally join our Sunday Golf Group and would like to, we welcome you to join us for dinner and be a part of our monthly Sunday Golf Group.

We are couples and single golfers of various abilities who play 9 or 18 holes -- your choice. We play one of our Village courses

on the second Sunday of each month from April through October. Dinner follows at one of our fine Village restaurants. If you would like additional information call me at 922-2326.

Jim Hess is the Kirk Golf Coordinator.

Kirk choir ready to enhance celebration of Easter

The initiation of Lent on March 1 begins a period of reflection.

During this time we prepare ourselves for the celebration of Easter.

The choir will sing anthems in the Sunday morning worship services to enhance our experience of this Holy Lenten season.

We will be singing *My Hope Is In the Lord, We are Trav'lers on a Journey, and Go Not Far From Me, O God.*

There will be a special treat in the March 22 morning worship. Michael Clardy, playing the English



Choir Notes

Dotty Rector

Horn, will join the choir in a special arrangement of the anthem *Create in Me a Clean Heart.*

Michael will then play the oboe as he joins with pianist Donna Toney in an offertory duet.

Spain-Portugal trip remembered at potluck dinner

Spanish teacher Tom Hayek presented a very informative and always entertaining PowerPoint report on the recent tour of Portugal and Spain hosted by Pastor Bill Bailey.

At a potluck dinner on Feb. 5 sponsored by the Kirk's Education Committee, 39 tour participants and 71 other diners relived or vicariously experienced the 11-day, nine-city presentation.

From the moment they touched down at Humberto Delano Airport in Lisbon, Portugal, until they winged their way home from the Spanish Barcelona International Airport, Pastor Bill encouraged all to observe, absorb and engage with the places, people, diet, music, history, and culture of the two countries toured.

They stood at the 16th-century limestone Torre de Belle (St. Vincent Tower) between the Archangel Michael and St. Vincent, the patron saint of Lisbon. They prayed with the monks at Jeronimos Monastery

for the seafarers perhaps in Prince Henry the Navigator's trips to West Africa.

They ate fruit from the many olives and orange trees in Sevilla, or studied the Renaissance, Baroque and Moorish revival architecture and mosaic candy cane arches reflected off the ever-nearby pools of water or streams. They gazed introspectively at the tomb of Christopher Columbus.

In Cordoba they saw the Alhambra Moorish Fortress and Palace, the final stronghold of the Moors. It was

once described as "a pearl set in emeralds" in an illusion of color. American writer Washington Irving's Tales of Alhambra contributed much to spark the preservation of this historic site.

There were the Toledo windmills of La Mancha, the 1090 walled City of Avila encompassing 77 acres with its Festival of Santa Teresa, Madrid's flashing feet and tale revealing waving arms and hands of flamenco dances. Finally, it was Barcelona with its markets and Antoni Gaudi's La Sagrada Familia.



Dining in Spain (from left around table) Stanley Luczkowski, Katy Hill, Sharon Collar, Bob Morrow, Susan Morrow, Shirley Siska, Jill Kelly, and John Kelly.

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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A Voice in the Pines is a monthly publication of Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines. It is produced and edited by the Kirk's Communication Committee – Lowell Gardner, Moderator. Its email address is: kirkvoice@sbcglobal.net

