

A Voice in the Pines



Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines newsletter

Volume XXXVII, Issue 6, June 2021

Restoration of offices after major water damage may be complete next month

By Bob Morrow

Are we entering the final phase of the Kirk office restoration?

Let's recap. Since our last communication, the office has been transformed. Drywall work was completed, and the texture coating (orange peel) applied. And, in very short order, the walls were painted and the ceilings proceeded to completion in the second week of May.

We are very fortunate to have had great contractors who started to work immediately and saw their work to completion as quickly as possible.

And speaking of being fortunate, we identified, after several interviews and bids, a flooring company that understood our needs and was responsive. I'm not saying it was a deciding factor, of course, but the flooring salesperson we are dealing with, known to us now as JG, is, believe it or not, a Presbyterian who has served on the Session of his church.

At the Kirk Session meeting on May 14, Ruling Elder Barron Gage, chairman of the Kirk Office Restoration Committee, presented a proposal to install what is called LVT flooring (Luxury Vinyl Tile) throughout the office suite, including the choir room. This will be the first make-over in 30 years. The Session voted unanimously in favor of moving forward.

Of course, it is with great gratitude the Kirk is financially able to do this work.

Our insurance provider has made substantial



Painting has been completed in the hallway, offices, and conference room. (Bob Morrow photo)

payments to compensate for flooding damage caused when water pipes in the ceiling froze and burst. We can expect more reimbursement for additional losses we are claiming.

Beyond that, as Arnie Holtberg, Moderator of Finance, has said, "Because of the generosity of this congregation, we are very blessed at the Kirk to have the funds we need to meet this challenge."

There is still much work to do, but let's all look forward to re-opening our office suite, possibly, by the end of June.

Contributed by Bob Morrow for the Kirk Office Restoration Committee

When we meet

Sunday worship service
Begins at 10 a.m.



Saturday informal service
5 p.m. In Hoffius Hall

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



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



It's easy to overlook the most important things

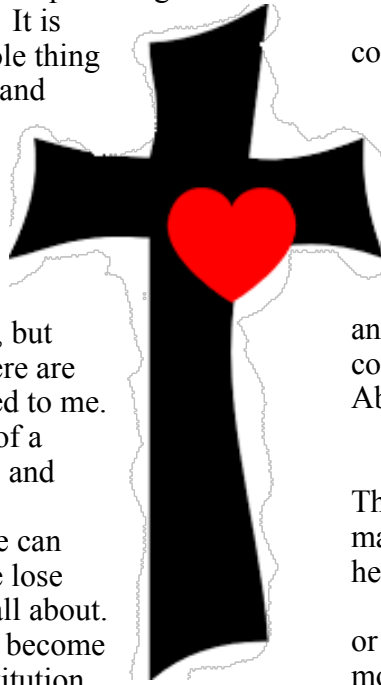
This coming June 20 will be Father's Day. I have been thinking about my own experience as a parent and was reminded of a story I read a few years ago.

Joyce Maynard is an author and mother of three children. In her book, *Domestic Affairs*, she writes about the difficulties facing many parents. She tells about some of her own experiences when her children were young. She is quite frank about how easy it is to get busy and distracted, and to forget what really matters as a parent.

She writes, "So much of the job of parenting is taken up with mundane concerns. It is easy to lose track of what the whole thing is for and forget there is meaning and importance to the sum of those tasks that goes beyond what any one of them appears to possess on their own.

"I seldom feel like an adventurer, standing in the kitchen pouring cereal into bowls, but sometimes the thought occurs: here are three small people – lives entrusted to me. I might as well be at the controls of a moon shot the mission is so grave and vast."

Life is that way sometimes. We can become so busy and distracted we lose sight of what our lives are really all about. Sometimes, in the church, we can become so busy working to sustain an institution, that we forget what it is Christ calls us to be and to do.



The Pastor's Corner Bill Bailey



Our Lord was once asked, "What is the greatest commandment?"

Of course, the questioner knew there are hundreds of commandments in Scripture – 613 in the *Torah* alone! It was a trick – if Jesus picked one it would make him vulnerable to criticisms that he neglected others.

Our Lord surprised the man, saying there are two great commandments – love God with all our hearts and love our neighbors as ourselves. All of the other commandments derive their authority from these two! Above all else, God wants us to love.

Christians have not always remembered to do this.

It is easy to lose sight of the most important things. This is why our Lord calls us to focus on the things that matter most – to feed the hungry, care for the sick, and help the needy.

Sometimes, when we do this, sharing a cup of water or visiting a lonely soul in the hospital can feel like a moon shot. We have important work and a high calling.

Blessings to you all. Remember who you are and what Christ has called you to do.

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.

– Denise Levertov (1923-1997)

Denise Levertov was a prolific American poet known for her outspoken social activism in her early career, particularly against the Vietnam war. She was raised in a Christian home but only converted to



Christianity and became a Roman Catholic at the age of 60.

This poem, written at approximately that time, bore the dedication "*For Carolyn Kizer and John Woodbridge, Recalling Our Celebration of George Herbert's Birthday, 1983.*" It speaks of trusting effortlessly the unseen but "all-

surrounding" Grace of God which sustains us in all things.

**Contributed by
Bob Morrow,
Moderator,
Communication
Committee.**



Session okays ending masks as COVID eases

At the Session meeting May 14, several important issues were addressed:

Tony Booth was elected to serve in a temporary capacity as Clerk of the Session, beginning immediately, while Jerral Johnson is addressing family health issues.

COVID response

After reviewing data from a variety of sources, the Centers for Disease Control recently updated its guidance for using masks by those who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and those who are not. For fully vaccinated individuals, the risk of acquiring a symptomatic infection or spreading COVID is exceedingly low.

The guidance says: "Fully vaccinated people can resume activities without wearing a mask or physically distancing, except where required" by government, hospitals, employers, or other entities.

Masks and social distancing are still recommended for those individuals who are not vaccinated.

Vaccination is recommended for all adults who do not have a medical contraindication to the vaccines. If you need assistance with scheduling vaccination or with transportation, contact Janie Smith, Visitation Coordinator at (501) 922-7548.

This change in CDC guidance has obvious implications for worship and other activities at the Kirk.

The **Session unanimously approved changing our mask policy for worship** to immediately make masks "optional" for fully vaccinated individuals and "recommended" for those who are not vaccinated.

New signage will be placed at entrances to reflect this change.

Coffee hour will resume following worship beginning June 5 and 6. Servers will be needed to prepare and serve. If you are willing to participate in preparing cookies and serving coffee, please contact Vicki Rosenquist at (706) 371-2877.

Also, hymnals and Bibles will be returned to pews beginning June 6.

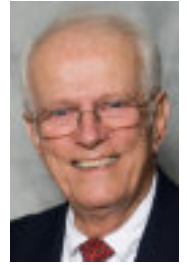
Office restoration project

The Session approved the Kirk Office Restoration Committee's request to proceed with flooring installation for both the damaged areas of the office and the choir room.

Pastor Bill Bailey thanked Barron Gage, chair of the committee, and committee members for their hard work and progress.

Outside groups use of Kirk facilities

The Clerk's Corner Tony Booth



The Session considered requests to open our facility for use by outside groups. Given the improving status of the COVID pandemic and the widespread use of vaccination, the Session approved allowing outside groups to resume using Kirk facilities. Scheduling should be through the Kirk office.

Church statistics

As of May 9, 2021:

- Membership – 280
- Family Units – 190

Death of Kirk members

Verne (Ruth) Fox passed away April 19, 2021, in Florida. Services are pending.

An interment service was May 22, 2021, for **Margery McIntosh** in the Kirk Memorial Garden.

Death of Friends of the Kirk

Services were May 15, 2021, for **Toni Bradley**, wife of former music director, Larry Bradley, at First Baptist Church, Hot Springs.

The Rev. Donald E. Trent died March 22, 2021, in Hot Springs. A memorial service is pending.

Flower calendar

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

Bouquets are \$40 and rose buds are \$12.50.

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 2021. It's a lovely way to remember a loved one or special occasion.

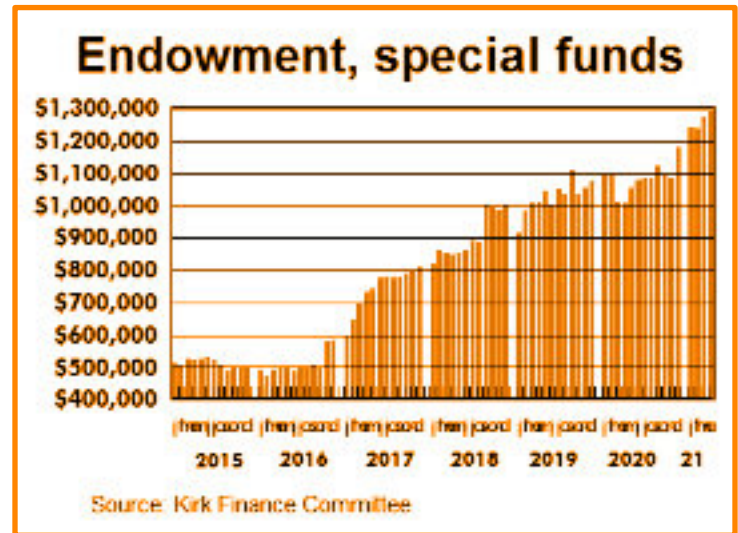
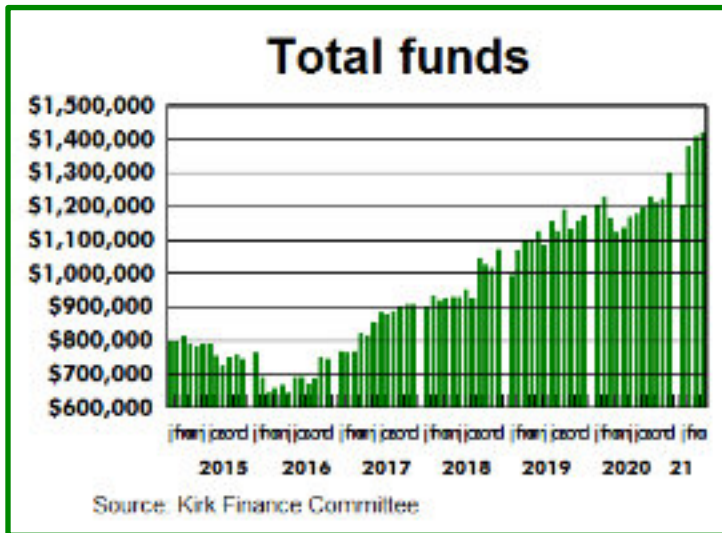
Once you've chosen the date, call Sandy Adams, flower coordinator, at 915-9006, with your dedication.



Kirk in the Pines Financial Report

Year to date as of April 30, 2021

	Month		Year to date	
	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>
General Fund:				
Receipts	\$ 36,670	\$ 27,742	\$ 146,682	\$ 168,289
Disbursements	\$ 36,670	\$ 25,660	\$ 146,682	\$ 128,501
Building Fund:				
Receipts	\$ 4,412	\$ 2,987	\$ 17,647	\$ 19,443
Disbursements	\$ 4,412	\$ 10,789	\$ 17,647	\$ 34,674
Total all funds:				
Receipts	\$ 41,082	\$ 30,729	\$ 164,329	\$ 187,732
Disbursements	\$ 41,082	\$ 36,449	\$ 164,329	\$ 163,175
Checking balance				\$ 128,007
Special funds:				
Memorial fund				\$ 74,278
Luke 12:48 fund				\$ 302,090
Programs fund				\$ 65,367
Endowment fund				\$ 777,875
Maack-Ormsbee Fund				\$ 71,136
Total special funds (as of March 31, 2021)				\$ 1,290,746



\$259 for Mission

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

A total of \$259 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 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.



Members of the Congregational Care Committee include (from left) Mary Ann Reynolds, Marcia Bauer, Martha Nielsen, Judy Rosenthal, Emily Faulk, and Susan Unger. Members not pictured are Ruth Richards and Della Reimers. *(Susan Morrow photo)*

Congregational Care always offering a hand

Even during these recent times of isolation and social distancing, the Congregational Care committee continues to offer a helping hand.

Meeting the needs of the Kirk congregation through prayer, personal visits, meal delivery, personal notes, help with errands and medical visits along with the prayer shawl ministry are some of the ways the Congregational Care committee cares for the Kirk flock.

As a committee of eight (Marcia Bauer, Moderator, Emily Faulk, Martha Nielsen, Della Reimers, Mary Ann Reynolds, Ruth Richards, Judy Rosenthal, and Susan Unger) the committee teams up with Janie Smith, the Kirk's Visitation Coordinator, and other members of the congregation to meet the day-to-day needs of the Kirk community.

Five different programs have been set in place as subcommittees to meet needs as they arise:

- Helping Hands subcommittee (Martha) – Each month approximately 20 meals are delivered with the help of four sets of volunteer drivers. Nourishing home-made meals are delivered along with words of encouragement.

- Prayer Shawl Ministry subcommittee (Judy) – Many volunteer hands lovingly create the warm, snugly prayer

shawls delivered to four hospice organizations in our area.

- Prayer Tree subcommittee (Della) – Working with staff member Janie Smith, the Congregational Care committee meets the needs of the Kirk congregation members through addressing prayer needs.

- Personal Notes & Cards subcommittee (Ruth & Marcia) – A personal word is provided to members at times of need through a note or card relaying thoughts of care and concern.

- Errand & Medical Visit Assistance subcommittee (Marcia) – Volunteer drivers provide aid with transportation on an as-needed basis. Currently there are 10 volunteer drivers who provide needed transportation.

For the Congregational Care committee, the work is ongoing and could not be accomplished without the volunteer help provided by Kirk members who are cooking meals, knitting prayer shawls, and providing transportation.

Marcia wants to remind Kirk members that volunteer drivers are always needed. If interested in volunteering, please contact Marcia Bauer by phone (501 733-6810) or email (marcia.bauer03@gmail.com).

Contributed by Susan Morrow.



A Great response!

The Kirk's Missions Committee met to pack 322 jars of peanut butter and 363 jars of jelly donated in an overwhelming response by the Kirk congregation to the *PB and J for Mother's Day* drive. The peanut butter and jelly will be distributed to the local food bank agencies supported by the Kirk. The committee is so grateful for the generosity of our congregation and their commitment to feed the hungry. From left: Daryl Henry, Judy Rosenthal, Becky Wakefield, Gloria Pickett, Harry Wakefield, Bruce Dale, Richard McPheters, and Helen Van Stone. *(Bob Morrow photo)*





The bulk of our peanut butter and jelly donation was delivered to Jackson House by Bruce Dale (left) and John and Marty Davis (right) shown here with Tammy Jones (center), the non-profit's chief operating officer.



A smiling Potter's Clay staff member (right) shown here with Bruce Dale (left) and John Davis gratefully accepted your gift of PB & J.



Members of PW singing at their Gathering May 10 in Hoffius Hall. (Photos by Bob Morrow)

Kirk's PW gathers for worship and lunch

The Presbyterian Women's Gathering and lunch on May 10th in Hoffius Hall resumed a tradition of worship and lunch for the first time since 2019 after a hiatus due to the pandemic.

Approximately 30 worshipers gathered for nourishment by words of encouragement and hope given by the Rev. Bill Bailey and through the scrumptious box lunch prepared by the Greenhorns.

The Least Coin offering consisting of baggies filled with coins was given in support of world-



wide missions with the prayer that the least will be multiplied into much for the world's needs.

This Presbyterian Women's community gratefully gathered again sharing stories and life events with a common purpose to reaffirm the words of Bill Bailey:

"Our lives do matter. We can make a difference in the lives of our community, our neighbors, and our world thanks to a loving God who cares for us, even as He can count each hair on our head."

Contributed by Susan Morrow



Vicki Rosenquist (above) with the Christ Candle, and Sharon Collar (left) providing piano accompaniment at the PW Gathering.



The Greenhorns Sue New (left) and Judy Rosenthal with colorful lunch baskets for the PW Gathering.



Vicki Rosenquist was honored May 10 as PW's Woman of Faith for 2021. *(Bob Morrow photo)*

Vicki Rosenquist honored as PW's Woman of Faith for 2021

Vicki Rosenquist is PW's 2021 Woman of Faith.

The honor is given annually to a member of the Kirk's Presbyterian Women who is not only active in the life of PW, but also active in the life of the church.

Vicki is Moderator of the Presbyterian Women and is an avid gardener and retired educator. She moved to Hot Springs Village about 10 years ago from the Atlanta, Ga., area.

At the PW Gathering on May 10, Vicki expressed her gratitude for this recognition and gave thanks for the friendly and welcoming people in the Kirk community who continue to nourish her in her journey of faith.

Contributed by Susan Morrow.

Human-trafficking forum at Kirk will be June 9

You may have thought slavery was a thing of the past. Did you know there are 27-30 million people in slavery today? This is more than at any time in history. In fact, it is estimated 2 million children are trafficking victims of sex trade each year.

A report on human trafficking in Arkansas will be presented at 10 a.m. June 9 in Hoffius Hall. Hailey Baca, an educational trainer from Partners Against Trafficking Humans (PATH) from Little Rock, will talk about their program. Their mission is:

"To provide a program of restoration and community reintegration for rescued victims of human trafficking and sexual abuse, through a variety of Christ-centered programs and services, all delivering hope for healing, personal growth, and future success."

On their website (pathsaves.org) it is stated "With Christ in the lead, and you at our side, PATH is able to carry out our mission."

The program is being presented by the Kirk's Education Committee. Please call the Kirk office (501)



Education committee members include (from left) Terry Arant, Rosalyn Halbert, Millie Croson, Pat Kuntz, and Don Loveday. Members not pictured are Bev Carpenter, Pat Ormsbee, Lowell Gardner, Carol Sue Williams, and Dick Massey. *(Jamie Federick photo)*

922-1333 or Pat Kuntz (501) 204-4385 if you plan to attend so appropriate seating can be arranged.

Contributed by Pat Kuntz, Moderator of the Education Committee.

Shepherd groups resume their meeting schedules

According to Vicki and David Rosenquist, our head shepherds, the Kirk Sheep are on the move again. After a long year of pandemic restrictions, our six Shepherd Groups are coming back to life.

Kirk Group #1, the Games Group, gathered in May and will continue to meet monthly, say their leaders, Barbara and Bill Worthley.

The #2 Lunch Group, meeting the third Friday of each month and lead by Judy and Bob Corwin, resumed meeting in May.

Group #3, meeting each third Tuesday as a dinner group, is led by Rita and Tom Martick. It also resumed meeting last month.

The Breakfast Group #4 planned its first breakfast for May 24 at Home Plate, says leader Nancy Patton.

Our second Dinner Group, Group #5, meets for



dinner on the second Tuesday of each month, and plans to meet this month, according to leaders Helen Van Stone, Ruth Richards and Ron Lovett.

Shepherd Group # 6, a Traditional Group, hopes to get together soon.

As the Kirk returns to full life together, we are so happy to greet one another in worship and meet together in the supportive environment of Shepherd Groups.

Vicki and David Rosenquist hope all Kirk members will take advantage of this intimate and long-standing program of the Kirk. All groups are open to new members. Please contact the Shepherd Group leader or Vicki Rosenquist (706 371-2877) if you are interested in participating.

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

Kirk golf group resuming play (yay!) on June 13

After a long pandemic imposed suspension of play, it's time to resume our regular second Sunday afternoon golf outings. With news from the CDC that fully vaccinated individuals can gather safely without masks or social distancing, it is reasonable and responsible for us to resume playing and enjoy dining together.

Round one will be Sunday, June 13, at Balboa golf course, followed by dinner at Xplore Lakeside Restaurant. Play is



open to players of all levels. You can play nine or 18 holes. More information on signing up for this event will be sent by email.

Remember to save the date each second Sunday for the Kirk golf outing, at least through October.

If you are new to our Kirk and looking for a friendly golf game, we welcome you. We are The Kirk Golf Group, a gang of single and couple golfers of all skill levels who play nine or 18 holes. It is always your choice. For more information, please call the Kirk's golf coordinator, Jim Hess, at 501-922-2326, or email jimobhess@suddenlink.net.

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:

Marcia Bauer – 501 733-6810

Janie Smith – 922-7548

To be assigned a phone buddy:

Marcia Bauer – 501 733-6810

For other congregational-care needs:

Marcia Bauer – 501 733-6810

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

Bob Morrow (newsletter) –

KirkinthePinesVoice@gmail.com

Website:

Kirkinthepines.org



Happy dates



Birthdays

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

Anniversaries

June 2	Nancy and Lu Otto	60 years	June 17	Janette and Bill Wiard	21 years
June 5	Ro and Dick Easter	66 years	June 19	Charlotte and Dick Massey	39 years
June 6	Ruth and David Hamilton	57 years	June 20	Martha and Wayne Copeland	34 years
June 8	Jean and Heinrich Eiler	70 years	June 22	Norma and Steve Stevens	36 years
June 10	Merilyn and Mike Seitz	59 years	June 24	Wendy and Barron Gage	38 years
June 12	Becky and Ed Baldwin	54 years	June 27	Marjorie and Gene Carlisle	68 years
June 14	Barb and Daryl Henry	49 years	June 28	Patricia and Kenneth Poole	63 years
June 17	Beverly and Fred Raskin	44 years			

Two students audition at Kirk for scholarships

The Kirk in the Pines has a long history of supporting the arts in our community. In keeping with this tradition, our sanctuary was the site of auditions for the Hot Springs/Hot Springs Village Symphony Guild annual scholarship.

On May 1, the Guild’s Education Committee met at the Kirk to hear two Mountain Pine High School seniors audition for the guild's annual scholarship – flutist Victoria Gallegos and saxophonist Clarke Elmore.

Following the auditions, the committee discussed the student’s musical backgrounds and future hopes as college music majors.

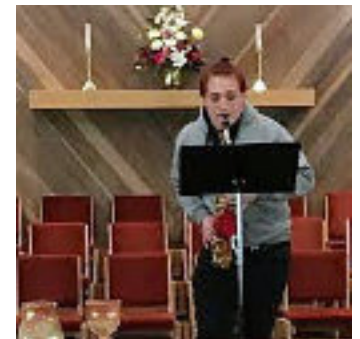
Victoria will attend Henderson State University and Clarke will attend the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville. Both hope to continue music studies in solo and ensemble opportunities.

The guild scholarships are open to any area high school senior planning to major in music or music education. Each applicant must submit their transcripts, two letters of recommendation, an essay and test scores, then they are informed of the audition schedule.

Donna Toney is the guild’s vice president for education. Other members of the committee are Jim



Flutist Victoria Gallegos



Saxophonist Clarke Elmore

Kelly, Jim Piersol, Hal Thompson, Martha Smither, and Terry Lee.

The guild also awards mini grants for area school music programs, summer camp scholarships, ASO symphony quartet programs in area schools and the children's concert at Bank of the Ozarks arena each fall. The guild greatly appreciates the use of the Kirk for these auditions.

Contributed by Donna Toney, Kirk organist and pianist.

Powerful message in *Saving Private Ryan* film

By Lowell Gardner

I once again viewed *Saving Private Ryan*, the 1998 Steven Spielberg-directed movie about the allied invasion at Normandy, France, on June 6, 1944. The explicit and moving depiction of the beachhead landing cannot be witnessed callously.

As the title indicates, the story line focuses several days later. Captain John Miller, 2nd Ranger Division (Tom Hanks), is to lead a squad in search of Private James Francis Ryan (Matt Damon), 101st Airborne (Screaming Eagles).

High command has been made aware that Private Ryan's mother in Iowa is soon to be notified that three of her four sons have been killed in military action. Ryan is ordered home from wherever he parachuted behind enemy lines.

News of the assignment is met with varied reactions by members of the squad – mostly negative – and comprises much of the remaining movie.

My focus was drawn to the opening and closing scenes.

Image of an aged man shuffling along a road adjacent to a field of marble white crosses introduces the movie.

At one point he turns right only to collapse in apparent grief. A small trailing group seeks to comfort him until he rises and proceeds among the cross rows.

The final scene finds Captain Miller mortally wounded in a small French village. A major portion of the squad lay dead or dying. The recently found Private Ryan kneeling before him, leaning in to hear Captain Miller's final whisper.

"Make it worth it! Earn it!"

Before a particular marble cross the aged Ryan turns to his wife, who has separated herself from the trailing family group, and says: "Tell me I've led a good life. Tell me I am a good man."

This speaks to me, and perhaps to you. My cousin, James F. Anderson, parachuted into Normandy as part of the 101st Airborne. His two brothers (Jack and Howard) were also in World War II military. How have I earned my citizenship?

God graciously gave of His son. What's my role? (2 *Corinthians 5:17-18*).

Lowell Gardner is former Moderator of the Communication Committee.

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 – Bob Morrow, Moderator. Send comments or questions to: KirkinthePinesVoice@gmail.com

