

A Voice in the Pines

Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines newsletter

Volume XXXVII, Issue 11, November 2021

Kirk family urged to pledge support for 2022

By Jan Holtberg

The annual Stewardship Campaign for 2022 kicked off Sunday, Oct. 3.

Cheryl Boehmke, who is heading up the Stewardship sub-committee for the Finance Committee, began her address to the congregation by thanking Dennis Zymboly, the past Stewardship sub-committee chairman, for passing on his wisdom, kindness, and knowledge.

Cheryl challenged the congregation to think about all facets of the Kirk and how they impact our daily lives, and encouraged us to give accordingly in support of the missions of the church at home, nationally, and abroad.

She also encouraged us to consider sharing our gifts of time and talent with others. “The children of God are like a band. We all have different parts to play to accomplish our goal,” she said.

Pastor Bill Bailey led a moving Stewardship Sunday service with a sermon by quoting *Luke 12:48*: “to whom much is given, much will be required.”

He used the example from the 1950’s television show *I Remember Mama*, where the family met weekly to discuss their needs, wants, and resources, and how they

would meet these needs and wants.

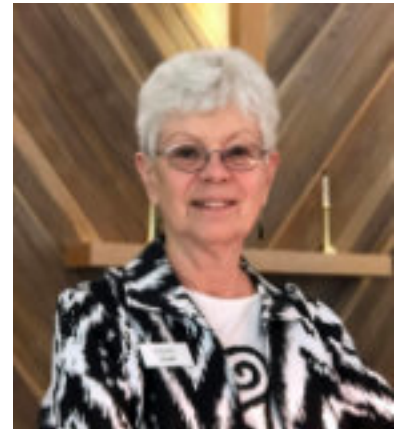
The Kirk is a family and by pledging we are planning together to meet the needs of the church. Pledging helps us prepare the Kirk’s budget and plan for our day-to-day costs, including staff salaries, worship, programs, mission, maintenance, utilities, and operations.

You have received a mailing from the Kirk including pledge and time- and talent-commitment cards. These cards will have been received by the Kirk by mail or were placed in the collection plate on Commitment Sunday, October 17th. If you have yet to pledge, please prayerfully consider helping the Kirk realize its vision for ministry in the coming year.

Pastor Bailey concluded his sermon reminding us “that life is a gift and that we are here because other people supported us.”

Finance Committee Moderator Arnie Holtberg has once again underscored the faithful generosity of our members by remembering the passage from *II Corinthians 9:7*: “Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”

Jan Holtberg is a member of the Communication Committee.



Cheryl Boehmke. (Jan Holtberg photo)



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. in Hoffius Hall



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



Let's not forget all we have to be thankful for

The Gospel of Luke records the well-known story of the 10 lepers who were healed by Jesus. Jesus told them to go and show themselves to the priests and as they did, they all were healed. But Luke tells us, only one returned to thank Jesus.

The Gospel writer Luke does not tell us why. It must have shocked Jesus because he asked, "Were there not ten?"

Was it because they were simply too caught up in the moment? Were they too excited and in their celebration simply forgot? Maybe they intended to come to say, "thank you" later. Luke does not tell us.

We all know life is like that sometimes. Most of us are grateful for the blessings we receive. And most of us usually intend to express our gratitude for all we have received.

It is just that we get busy and often forget to return thanks. Our good intentions sometimes get lost in all the busyness of life.

This is part of the reason why, historically, our country has set aside a special day of national thanksgiving. Since the time of the Civil War when President Lincoln called for a day of national thanksgiving, we have set aside the fourth Thursday of November as a day to say thank you.

In these difficult days of the pandemic, it is especially fitting that we return thanks to



God. As people of faith, we believe that, despite hardships, we are the recipients of God's good gifts. And so, we are grateful for God's providential care in all of life.

November is also the season of stewardship for the Kirk. If you have not done so already, please return your "estimate of giving" card to the Kirk office so our Session can complete its plans for the coming year.

Your generous giving enables the Kirk to reach out in Christ's name and to support many important missions locally and internationally.

We have much to be thankful for. Let us make certain that we make time to give thanks.



Would you like to lead a shepherd group?

By now every Kirk member should have received a Shepherd Group letter describing our seven groups and when they meet. Please take the time to fill out the gold form and return it to the church office.

Everyone is placed in a Shepherd Group, so we can stay in touch and offer support in times of need. Even if you don't plan to attend the activities, you will be placed in a Shepherd Group for communication only.

It is very important to the success of each group that there be a Shepherd Leader or Leaders to guide the group. Please consider this leadership role as you fill out the form. There is a box to check, if you would be willing to help.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Vicki Rosenquist. Her phone number is: 706-371-2877, and her email address is: Vtrose1@att.net



Session retreat to discuss what's right and wrong

The congregation is saddened to lose two of its long-time members.

Shirley Siska passed away on Sept. 15, 2021, in Hot Springs. Interment was in the Kirk in the Pines Memorial Garden. Shirley had been a very active member of the church, serving on the Session as Mission Moderator and several other committees.

Patricia Ruth Mull passed away on Sept. 20, 2021, in Waco, Texas. She was interred next to her husband in the Kirk of the Pines Memorial Garden. Like Shirley Siska, Pat had been active in many of the church's activities. They both will be missed by family and friends.

Harry Marshall was interred in the columbarium in the Kirk in the Pines Memorial Garden. A short service was held in the Garden with many of Harry and Ellen's friends and family present. Harry served on several church committees and as Moderator of the Mission Committee. He was also an avid University of Arkansas fan and will be missed by everyone.

Cynthia Chaffin's husband, the Rev. Jim Chaffin, and her daughter met with the Rev. Bill Bailey on Sept. 15 in the Memorial Garden for prayer and placement of Mrs. Chaffin's name plaque on the Memorial Wall. She will be interred in Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Va.

The Clerk's Corner Jerral Johnson



Church Statistics

As of October 8, 2021:

Members – 272; Family units – 184

Session Retreat

The Session will be attending a retreat Nov. 2-3 at Ferncliff. This is an annual Session activity, although it was canceled last year because of the pandemic.

This has always been a time spent by the Session reviewing the last year's activities and making plans for the future. Two things we will consider are "What are we doing wrong" and "What are we doing right."

If you know something that might be done to improve our church, let me or a Session member know.

The Kirk goes to the Fair

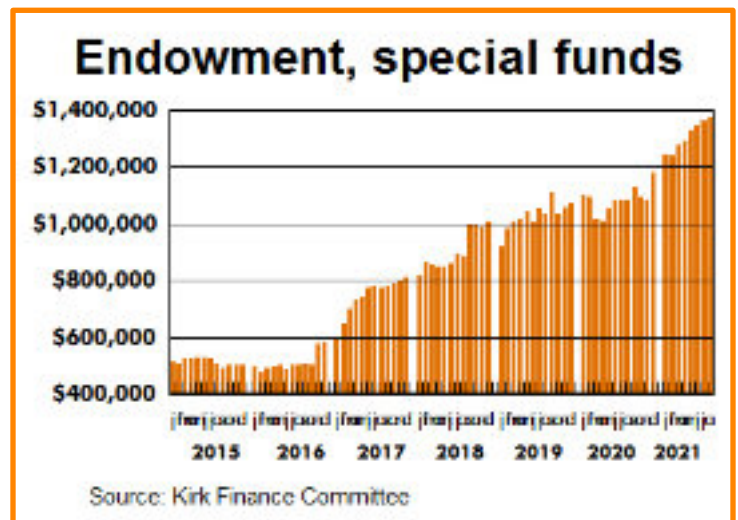
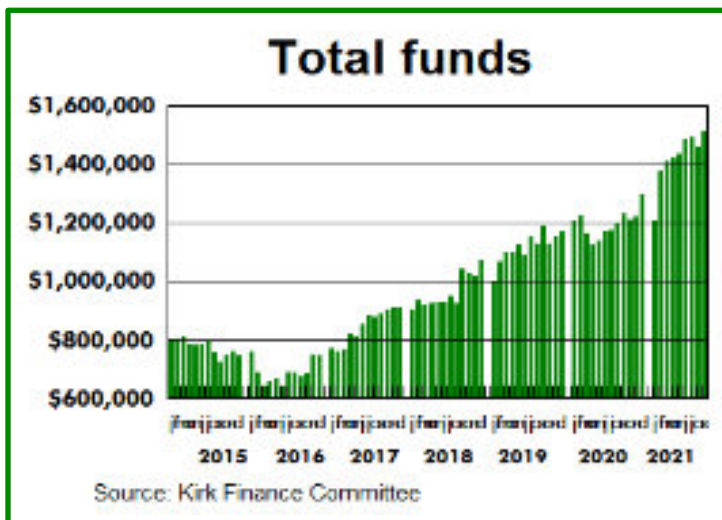
The Kirk in the Pines booth at the fall Hot Springs Village Community Fair was a "huge success" according to Carol Clark, Moderator of the Outreach Committee. "We had lots of visitors, passed out lots of brochures, and met some new villagers who we invited to the Kirk." From the left: Judith Rosenthal, Martha Nielsen, Marcia Bauer, and Carol Clark.



Kirk in the Pines Financial Report

Year to date as of September 30, 2021

	Month		Year to date	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
General Fund:				
Receipts	\$ 36,670	\$ 20,387	\$ 330,030	\$ 335,640
Disbursements	\$ 36,670	\$ 46,679	\$ 330,030	\$ 298,879
Building Fund:				
Receipts	\$ 4,412	\$ 31,796	\$ 39,708	\$ 112,003
Disbursements	\$ 4,412	\$ 1,904	\$ 39,708	\$ 117,495
Total all funds:				
Receipts	\$ 41,082	\$ 52,183	\$ 369,738	\$ 447,643
Disbursements	\$ 41,082	\$ 48,583	\$ 369,738	\$ 416,374
Checking balance				\$ 135,459
Special funds:				
Memorial fund				\$ 80,132
Luke 12:48 fund				\$ 314,644
Programs fund				\$ 70,520
Endowment fund				\$ 839,980
Maack-Ormsbee Fund				\$ 68,805
Total special funds (as of Aug. 31, 2021)				\$ 1,374,081



\$230 for Mission

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

A total of \$230 was collected in September.

If you wish to give more than a dollar, please use the envelopes in the pew racks.

We are always grateful for your generous gifts and prayers.

Thinking of you ...

Each Saturday and Sunday the Congregational Care Committee asks Kirk members to sign a beautiful card to be mailed to a church member who has not been able to attend services due to illness or disability.

Please add your signature to these cards and join the congregation in wishing others well.

Thank you.



The Annunciation, an oil painting by Henry Ossawa Tanner, depicts the annunciation and the beginning of Mary's waiting for the coming of the infant Christ. "But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart." – *Luke 2:19*.

Reflections on Advent

The coming season of waiting and questions

"I wait for the Lord, my whole being waits, and in his Word I put my hope."

– *Psalms 130:5*

By Susan Morrow

The season of Advent begins Sunday, Nov. 28, and continues until the celebration of the Christ child's birth. This season is for preparation as we wait for the coming of the infant Christ.

Each of the four Sundays during Advent worship will guide us to Bethlehem through the scriptures, the pastoral word, music, prayer, and ceremony of the lighting of the Advent candles as we prepare and wait together as a community of faith.

How else shall we prepare for the birth of the God-child?

Advent is the season of waiting. We prepare by waiting.

- We wait for COVID to be a thing of the past.
- We wait for our worries to end.

- We wait for our prayers to be answered.
- We wait for good news.
- We wait for Christ's birth and the revelation of His presence in our lives.

Advent is the season for questions. We prepare by asking questions:

- Where are you in our troubled lives?
- Why this silence Lord?
- What gifts am I wishing to receive, to give this year?
- What Lord do you want of us?
- What newness will the Christ child bring to us this season?

May we have the courage to allow ourselves to wait and to open ourselves to the questions you, Lord, speak to each of us during this Advent season.

Susan Morrow is a member of the Communication Committee.

Just in time: A brief history of Thanksgiving

By Lowell Gardner

Those establishing colonies in the New World are often grouped under the category “pilgrims.” Not all were of a spiritual persuasion.

The Dutch East India Company of the Netherlands set up New Amsterdam to trade for animal furs with the Lenape [Delaware] Tribes. The initial misadventure of Jamestown in 1607 was begun by the Virginia Company of London for land and resources.



The Puritans, under the influence of separatist preacher Robert Browne and others, supposedly stepped onto Plymouth Rock at the mouth of the Hudson River in 1620. In October 1621 (400 years ago) they held a three-day harvest feast with the Wampanoag Tribe which had introduced them to and taught them to grow a grain known as maize (corn).

In 1789, President George Washington proclaimed Dec. 18 as a National Day of Thanksgiving. By 1800, President Thomas Jefferson chose not to observe it. Such celebration was sporadic until 1863 and then Sarah Josepha Hale came along.

Sarah Josepha (Buell) Hale was a home and self-taught poet, novelist, editor, and activist who verdantly believed Thanksgiving Day should be a fixed national holiday. In 1846 she set out to make it so.

She wrote letters to Presidents Taylor, Fillmore, Pierce, Buchanan, and Abraham Lincoln until Lincoln – in 1863 – sponsored legislation making the last Thursday in November a national holiday of Thanksgiving.

On June 28, 1870, President Ulysses S. Grant signed the bill into law. Sarah Hale died in 1879, age 90, having written *Mary Had a Little Lamb* in 1830.

Lowell Gardner is former Moderator of the Communication Committee.



Check your contribution report carefully

Contribution reports for January through September 2021 have been sent out. Please contact me you did not receive yours and we will get one to you.

Review the report closely and let me know of any discrepancies so they can be corrected before the end of the year.

– Beverly Schaumburg
Business Administrator

Thanks for all the cards and phone calls

Joyce and I really appreciate the kind thoughts, cards and prayers since we learned my cancer has returned. They mean a lot.

We'll get through all this, and thank you for your support.

Frank Leeming

Open the Coffee Closet and honorably select a favorite brew or tea

The Coffee Closet is open in Hoffius Hall!

You will find a variety of products including organic ground and whole bean regular and decaffeinated coffee and tea.

Prices are posted on the back of the closet door. We are using the honor system for your purchase, so please place your payment in the mug on the shelf in the closet.

Enjoy good coffee!
Read good books!





Happy dates



Birthdays

Nov. 1	Rick Federick	Nov. 13	Judith Rosenthal	Nov. 23	Mary Ann Krieger
Nov. 4	Yvonne Jones Bruce Dale	Nov. 16	Lucy Allen	Nov. 27	Linda Bates Helen Fisher
Nov. 5	Walter Fuquay Tom Hayek	Nov. 19	Bob Corwin Pat Franklin Ken Wolf	Nov. 29	Dennis Faulk
Nov. 7	Lon Hardin Steve Stevens	Nov. 20	Bob Huff Janie Smith	Nov. 30	Katy Hill Mark Smith
Nov. 9	June Moore	Nov. 21	Bobbie Brooks		
Nov. 11	Ethelee Beverly	Nov. 22	E.J. Pangle		

Anniversaries

Nov. 9	Judy and Jerry Carroll	53 years	Nov. 17	Sharon and Lowell Gardner	31 years
Nov. 14	Sue and Chuck New	57 years	Nov. 18	Priscilla and Tom Hayek	44 years
Nov. 16	Ellen and Jay Wilborn	43 years	Nov. 25	Ruth and Burle Mattingly	57 years

Talented sisters lend musical talents to Kirk choir

On two Sundays in October, Kirk worshipers were treated to two fine instrumentalists who accompanied the choir and pianist Donna Toney. The two musicians are sisters: Kathy Hendricks and Cheri Theil. Kathy played her flute and Cheri played her Djembe, an African drum.

The sisters live side by side in new homes in the far eastern part of the Village. They have been best friends since childhood. Both are avid golfers and campers, as well as musicians. One calls herself the serious one (Kathy), and Cheri has been called the wild one since her youth. Both are fun-loving persons.

As is often the case, the sisters come from a musical family.

Their father was the band director at the University of Memphis and Mom taught elementary music. Both parents reside at Mt. Carmel in the Village.

Kathy's favorite instrument is the clarinet, though she also plays the flute and saxophone, too.

Cheri's dad wanted her to play the violin. She played it for a while but gave it up for her much-preferred drums. Both sang in their church choir as children. Their mother, who directed the choir, threatened them with no supper if they misbehaved.



Choir Notes

Dotty Rector

Cheri plays a drum set at Christ of the Hills Methodist Church. Kathy plays there, too, and occasionally plays for other local churches. Both play in the Hot Springs Concert Band and Kathy serves as the band president. Their plans for the future include a possible recital at the Kirk with several Kirk musicians. We look forward to that!

Both women complimented the Kirk choir as being of good quality, well-rehearsed and personally nice. Kathy has played her clarinet at the Kirk in the past. It is hoped they both will return again to share their talents as we worship God at the Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines. (See page 11 of the August issue of *A Voice in the Pines* for more on Kathy Hendricks.)

Thanksgiving

By Ella Wheeler Wilcox

We walk on starry fields of white
And do not see the daisies;
For blessings common in our sight
We rarely offer praises.
We sigh for some supreme delight
To crown our lives with splendor,
And quite ignore our daily store
Of pleasures sweet and tender.
Our cares are bold and push their way
Upon our thought and feeling.
They hand about us all the day,
Our time from pleasure stealing.
So unobtrusive many a joy
We pass by and forget it,
But worry strives to own our lives,
And conquers if we let it.
There's not a day in all the year
But holds some hidden pleasure,
And looking back, joys oft appear
To brim the past's wide measure.
But blessings are like friends, I hold,
Who love and labor near us.



We ought to raise our notes of praise
While living hearts can hear us.
Full many a blessing wears the guise
Of worry or of trouble;
Far-seeing is the soul, and wise,
Who knows the mask is double.
But he who has the faith and strength
To thank his God for sorrow
Has found a joy without alloy
To gladden every morrow.

We ought to make the moments notes
Of happy, glad Thanksgiving;
The hours and days a silent phrase
Of music we are living.
And so the theme should swell and grow
As weeks and months pass o'er us,
And rise sublime at this good time,
A grand Thanksgiving chorus.

Ellen Wheeler Wilcox (1850-1919) was a popular American poet at the turn of the century. She is best known by the opening lines of her poem Solitude, "Laugh and the world laughs with you, weep and you weep alone." Her poetry was noted for its optimism and spirituality.

Contributed by Dotty Rector, a member 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

