



A Voice in the Pines



Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines Newsletter

Volume 57

September 2024

Joint Garland County PW gathering a big success!

Cars were loaded and the trek begun. On August 13th eight Kirk women accepted the invitation to join other local Presbyterian Women for a lunch gathering at Westminster Presbyterian in Hot Springs. Ruth Hamilton, Joyce Hayek, Gloria Hepner, Susan Morrow, Mary Ann Reynolds, Vicki Rosenquist, Becky Wakefield and Nell White were the Kirk contingency for the Garland County gathering.

We were graciously welcomed by Westminster Presbyterian women including NiAnn Thompson and Janie Russell the current co-chairs for Presbyterian Women. First Presbyterian of Hot Springs joined the Garland County gathering including Rev. Leslie Roper, minister at First Presbyterian. Westminster's minister, Pastor Chip, welcomed all of us and made us feel at home.

Altogether, there were about 30-40 attendees from the three PW groups filling the Fellowship Hall. After a fun ice breaker activity and a scrumptious lunch Westminster Presbyterian members provided a devotional (Peggy Kipp from Westminster Presbyterian) followed by contributions from all the groups. Ideas on best practices for Bible study and mission projects were shared.

First Presbyterian shared their ongoing efforts to support the Hot Springs community needs with the Bargain Box program, a volunteer run thrift shop located at First Presbyterian. The Kirk contingency shared their Christmas Family project. Yes, we all decided this joint gathering should be a repeat event.

So, we look forward to meeting again next August

2025 at First Presbyterian in Hot Springs with the Kirk to follow in August 2026.

Contributed by Susan Morrow, past PW Moderator



Kirk PW members attending the Joint Gathering are (front from left) Nell White, Mary Ann Reynolds, Vicki Rosenquist, and Joyce Hayek, (rear from left) Ruth Hamilton, Becky Wakefield, and Susan Morrow. Gloria Hepner not pictured.

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When We Meet

Sunday worship service
Begins at 10 a.m.

Saturday informal worship
Begins at 5 p.m.
in Bailey Hall

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



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Attendees at the joint gathering brought donations of goods for Potter's Clay. Pictured here (from left) with a collection of donated goods are Becky Wakefield from the Kirk, Barbara Boyd, Westminster Presbyterian, Hot Springs, and Helen Bumpas, First Presbyterian, Hot Springs.

HS/HSV Symphony Guild harpist in concert at the Kirk

The HS/HSV Symphony Guild is delighted to present Alisa Coffey in concert as part of our new Classic Series. The concert will be on Sunday, September 22, 2024, at 3 pm at Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines and will be followed by a meet and greet reception. General admission tickets are \$10 and can be purchased in advance on the Guild website by registering for the event. Tickets will also be available at the door.

Located in Little Rock, Arkansas, Alisa Coffey is the Principal Harpist for the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra. Appointed in 2011, Alisa performs widely throughout the Mid-South region both as soloist and orchestral performer. She has performed regularly with Iris Orchestra and Symphony of Northwest Arkansas, as well as Shreveport Symphony and Baton Rouge Symphony Orchestra.

Formerly in Philadelphia, Alisa performed with ensembles such as Symphony in C, the National



Alisa Coffey

Philharmonic, Philly Pops and the Philadelphia Orchestra.

Alisa's summers have been spent participating in festivals such as Artosphere Festival, Saratoga Harp Colony, Spoleto Festival U.S.A. and Aspen Music Festival.

An enthusiastic educator, Alisa maintains a large private studio in Little Rock, and also teaches at University of Arkansas and Hendrix College. Alisa also has recently completed training in the Suzuki method.

As a soloist, Alisa received recognition in the 2011 Lyon and Healy Awards as well as the 2011 American Harp Society National Competition. She completed her M.M. at Temple University with Elizabeth Hainen and her Performance Diploma at the Glenn Gould School of the Royal Conservatory of Music with Judy Loman.

Contributed by HS/HSV Symphony Guild



You're Invited!

*Potluck Dinner
Wednesday, September 11
5:30p.m., Bailey Hall*

*To give a warm Kirk welcome to
Randy and Janet Hyde*

*A report from the Session on the
Ministry Architects visit will
follow dinner.*

*Sign up at worship or by
calling the Kirk office*





Mark Hayes is a familiar name at the Kirk

Have you met Mark Hayes? No, Mark is not a new member, but he is a frequent visitor to the Kirk and often plays a significant role in worship. Confused? If you've read your Sunday morning bulletin carefully you will know who Mark is. Mark Hayes is a composer and arranger of sacred music. In fact, he is one of the foremost figures in choral music and solo piano music in the country, even internationally.

In August alone two of Mark's arrangements were performed and throughout the year Director Randy Toney chooses his work for anthems and Donna Toney often performs his solo piano arrangements of familiar hymns.

Mark Hayes has a B.M. degree in piano performance, graduating Magna Cum Laude from Baylor University. He is a stunning pianist in his own right. During his college career, Mark's dream to become a composer and arranger of contemporary Christian music was nurtured.

His work is widely acclaimed and, yes, performed internationally. He is well known for his unique choral settings which draw from diverse styles such as gospel, jazz, pop, folk and especially classical to achieve a truly "American sound." He's even won the sacred music equivalent of a Grammy, the Dove award. He's made several trips to our area and led the Village Chorale on one occasion. He also directed our choir among others in a concert at Lincoln center.



Melissa Sonnen and Sarah Owen sang "On Eagles Wings" arranged by Mark Hayes at informal worship. *Robert Sonnen photo*



Singing "In the Garden", arranged by Mark Hayes is a favorite for Susan Morrow. *Jamie Federick photo*

So, the next time you see Mark Hayes, no, hear him in worship, remember to thank God for his talent and thank our musicians and music leaders for bringing him to the Kirk.

Contributed by Bob Morrow, Communications Committee



A quartet provided the anthem on Sunday, Aug. 4th singing "Down to the River to Pray" arranged by Curry. (From left) Randy Toney, Abe Stroud, Fran Stroud, and Donna Toney. *Bob Morrow photo*



Melissa Sonnen and Sarah Owen also sang "On Eagles Wings" on Sunday, Aug. 25th. *Jamie Federick photo*

Bill Morrow has found a new home in Hot Springs Village and at the Kirk

Bill Morrow's life story includes faraway places and famous people, as well as old-fashioned working your way up the corporate ladder and being a family man. Almost his whole career was with International Paper Co. where he started as an engineer and by the time he reached retirement age, he was an executive in the Forest Products Division. He traveled quite extensively for the company, including both nationally and internationally, to such places as New York City, Colombia, Japan and Finland. After retirement he continued working in the forest products industry with Manville Corporation in Monroe, Louisiana.

Although he was born in Camden, Arkansas, Bill grew up in Bastrop, Louisiana. After high school, he went to Texas A & M University, where he graduated with a degree in mechanical engineering. After two years in the U.S Army, Bill began his career.

Bill married the love of his life, Mary, while attending college. An aunt was instrumental in their meeting the first and the second time. Bill met Mary first when he was ten years old and later married her when he was 19. Sadly, Mary passed away in 2022. They had three children – Judith, Bob, and Tom. Bob observed, "Dad worked, traveled, and was a great dad!" He also has 6 grandchildren that literally live all over the country.

The Morrow family moved a lot! Bill's employer relocated him to various towns throughout the southeastern states...wherever there was a paper mill. They lived in Mississippi, Alabama, and Louisiana. One time, after living in a town for over a year, Bob asked "when are we moving Dad"?

A condo in Perdido Key, Florida, was enjoyed by the family for over thirty years as a "second home." Walking the dog on the beach was a pleasant experience, unless it was wintertime! Then it wasn't very pleasant.

Many years ago, Bill enjoyed outdoor sports such as hunting and fishing. Then he discovered that golf



Bill Morrow

Robert Sonnen photo

was really his thing! He has played golf all over the world, including Scotland and Ireland (where he played in the rain), Pebble Beach, CA, and the Augusta National Golf Club in Augusta, Georgia. It was in Augusta that he met with George H. W. Bush. He also played golf with Ken Venturi and Gary Player and met Arnold Palmer. One of Bill's prized possessions is a golf score card from the Augusta National Golf Club from 1993, which shows he played two rounds of golf and posted a great score both days!

Bill has been a Christian and member of a Presbyterian church most of his life, serving the church in various capacities including as an Elder and a Sunday School teacher. Before moving to Hot Springs Village in April this year, Bill was living in Monroe, Louisiana, where he was a member of Covenant Presbyterian Church. He hoped he would be able to find another church he loved as much in his new home. At the Kirk, Bill stated, he has found friendly people and beautiful music "just like my home church and I look forward to Sunday each week."

**Contributed by Barbara Worthley,
Communications Committee Member**



Abigail Allingham expresses gratitude for scholarship

Dear All,

My name is Abigail Allingham and I am currently a junior at the University of Maryland in College Park. I am writing to thank the Education Committee at Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines for selecting me for the Maack-Ormsbee Scholarship. This scholarship allows me to continue furthering my education and for that I am very thankful.

I am deeply honored and incredibly grateful to be the recipient of the Maack-Ormsbee scholarship for the academic year 2024-2025.

Thank you again for this opportunity.

Sincerely

Abigail Allingham

AARP Safe Driving Course returns to the Kirk

The Kirk will have an AARP Drivers Safety Class from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the conference room on Thursday, September 5th. The cost for the course is \$20 for members and \$25 for non-members and you should bring your AARP card (if you are a member) and your driver's license.

The class is limited to 20. You can call the church office at 501-922-1333 to register.



Oh! I have slipped the surly bonds of earth
And danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings;
Sunward I've climbed, and joined the tumbling mirth
Of sun-split clouds---and done a hundred things
You have not dreamed of ----wheeled and soared and swung
High in the sunlit silence. Hov'ring there,
I've chased the shouting wind along, and flung
My eager craft through footless halls of air.

Up, up the long, delirious, burning blue
I've topped the wind-swept heights with easy grace
Where never lark, or even eagle flew---
And while with silent lifting mind I've trod
The high untrespassed sanctity of space,
Put out my hand and touched the face of God.

John Gillespie Magee, Jr., 1922-1941

This popular poem was composed by Flight Lieutenant John Gillespie Magee, Jr., son of American missionaries to China, while flying at an altitude of thirty thousand feet above England. Shortly afterwards the author, at the age of nineteen, was killed serving with the R.C.A.F.

Pastor's Corner

Dear Friends,

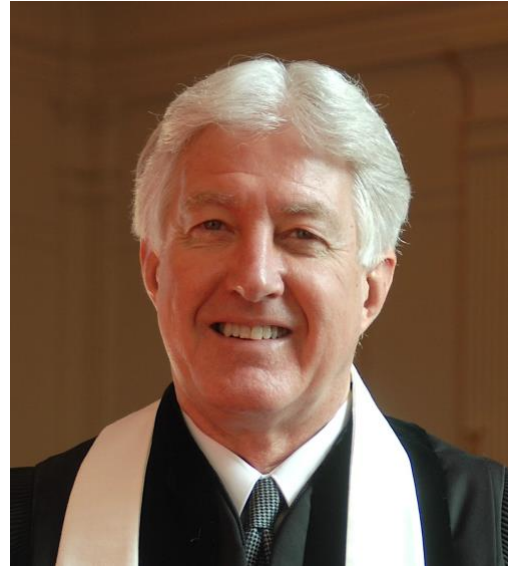
Recently, representatives from Ministry Architects spent three days with us in what I like to refer to as a "time of listening." Sara Bailey and Krista Mulhollen sat with 68 of our church folk and discussed the nature of our congregational ministry... where we have been, where we are, and where we hope to go as we move inexorably into the future. They then met with a leadership team and the session as they brought their report based on what they had heard and experienced from many of *you*. Allow me to share, from my perspective, a synopsis of their findings...

First of all, they were pleased that so many of our parishioners participated in this exercise. According to Sara and Krista, 68 was a high percentage based on our membership numbers. So, fellow Kirk participants, well done!

They shared the three most common ways that churches judge their ministries: 1) numbers, 2) programs, and 3) enthusiasm. Again, they were impressed with the Kirk in regard to all three designations. It is true that our numbers have declined, yet, based on the numbers we do have, a high percentage are serving and participating in our various ministries. We were encouraged to provide and do effectively a few programs that will keep interest among our folks. They commented on the enthusiasm and positive attitude of the staff and volunteers, essential they said, to building trust with the church community.

We talked about the impact of the budget, how our staff is comprised, and the payroll is determined. From a philosophical standpoint, we were told of how to have a "sustainable staff" that is not built around the giftedness of a single person. They spoke positively about our facilities and noted that there are 173 parking places that on average will accommodate 288 worship attendees (room for growth). Discussion was given to the retention of visitors, the number and percentage of our volunteers, and our group involvement.

The church's assets are strengths worth protecting. What are they? You are probably not surprised that the first item has to do with our music ministry. "The professionalism and excellence of the music ministry come through loud and clear to everyone in the pews.



Pastor Randy Hyde

Amen. The word they used to describe our resources – building and grounds – is "stunning." And it is obvious to them that our folks love the Kirk, that there is a real sense of belonging here, along with committed and faithful members; hence the large number of folks who participated in these discussions. Add to this that we take care of one another's needs, primarily through the congregational care team.

Yet, there are challenges and need for change. "Everyone agrees that Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines cannot continue to do the same things they have been doing if they want to stop declining and start growing." Change how? That's an answer(s) yet to be determined, but consider the following: we cannot go back to bygone days, we have too many committees, our volunteers, as dedicated as they are, are being overused, our attrition rate (loss of members) is high, we do not have a "cohesive vision," we need to build what they refer to as a "systems check" (more on that later), there needs to be a more intentional integration of the Saturday night worship group with those who come on Sunday, our technology is antiquated, and we need to make our welcoming environment stronger.

Based on this report, Krista and Sara have shared recommendations for us. Rather than delineate those here, largely due to space constraints, just know that right away you will

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be hearing ideas from the Session and other leaders that take us through January. It is called "The Now List." Once we work through that, we will go to the "Next List." What does that mean? It means we have a lot of work to do!

Please, bathe all this with as much prayer as you can muster. I don't want to sound overly dramatic, but it is true: the future life of the Kirk is here and it is now based on how we respond. Let's do so with courage and faith that our best days are ahead of us. You are a vital part of seeing that the Kirk in the Pines continues to be the redeeming presence of Christ in the Village. So, using biblical language, let's "gird up our loins" and work together to see our ministry thrive in Jesus' name.

Appreciatively,
Randy H.

September Sermons

September 1 – *Who's Honoring Whom*
Mark 7:1-23

September 8 – *Do You Hear What I Hear?*
Mark 7:31-37

September 15 – *Turning Point*
Mark 8:27-38

September 22 – *The Fifth*
Mark 9:30-37

September 29 – Stewardship Sunday:
Because I Have Been Given Much
Matthew 19:23-30

Join a lively group of women for time together with conversation and gathering together with God to study scripture. Each second Monday of the month beginning Sept. 9th there is a morning meeting in the Conference Room (10:00 am circle) and a late afternoon meeting in Bailey Hall (4:00 pm circle).

The morning circle will study "Sacred Encounters: The Power of Jesus Christ in Luke & Acts." Bible study leaders include Barb Henry and Dotty Rector. Barb and Dotty team teach in alternating months for the morning circle. The late afternoon circle continues studying the book "Noah Built His Ark in the Sunshine" by James W. Moore. Bible study leaders for the late afternoon circle are currently rotating monthly. Susan Morrow will lead the September study with Ruth Hamilton to follow in October. Join one of these groups beginning in September.

For Information contact Rosalyn Halbert (rhhalbert@suddenlink.net) for further details on the 10:00 am morning circle or Barbara Fuquay (pegobarb@att.net) for further information on the 4:00 pm afternoon circle. *Contributed by Susan Morrow, Past PW Moderator*

Second Mondays Presbyterian Women Circles 10:00 am & 4:00 pm



We're now on the other side of Ministry Architects' small group listening sessions and they proved well worth the effort. A big thank you to those of you who could participate. We've learned a lot! Our two consultants, Sara Bailey and Krista Mulhollen, compiled members' joys, frustrations and dreams as they identify the Kirk's strengths and challenges. They took copious notes of all that was shared and came away with a good picture of the Kirk. Their 20-page report began with a comprehensive listing of our current strengths, and we have many. They then moved to our current challenges, and yes, we have those too.

And finally, they gave a number of recommendations in the form of a customized plan to help the Kirk move forward with a focus on our future. But that report is not the end of their work. They will continue working with us over the next year as we implement a number of their recommendations. Together, we will be able to develop a compelling strategy and direction leading us forward as we prepare to search for a full-time ordained Presbyterian minister.

In addition to the energy and effort we will need to work through this process, we will also need God's presence and help. The Kirk Prayer Team is already actively praying for this very thing. Please join them in prayer asking for God's guidance as we seek His will for our future.

Highlights from the August Session Meeting:

Communion was held at the worship services on August 6/7, 2024

Communion at Mt. Carmel Assisted Living Home: Rev. Hyde brought communion to our members at Mt.

The Clerk's Corner

**Ruth
Hamilton**



Carmel on Wednesday, July 17, 2024

Deaths since July 12, 2024: none

Transfer of membership of Steve and Gloria Klomsten to Makasan Presbyterian Church, Oglala, S.D. in July 2023, not previously reflected in membership numbers.

Church Statistics as of August 9:

Members: 211; Family Units: 144

Interment in the Kirk Columbarium:

Saturday, July 20, 2024: Suzanne New.

Thursday, August 8, 2024, Alice Roberta Bowser Hickey. Mrs. Hickey was not a member of the Kirk. Her parents, Dr. John Bowser and Mrs. Wendela L. Bowser, were members and are interred in the Memorial Garden.

Motion: move to allocate 10% of the money recently bequeathed to the Kirk to the Mission Committee to supplement their budgeted funds for Mission giving for 2024. Motion passed.

Financial Reports

Quarterly Financial Reports appear in our May (January-March), August (April-June), October (July-September), and February (October-December) newsletters. If questions occur in the interim direct them to Sharon Gardner, Finance Committee Moderator.



Happy dates



September Birthdays

1	Beverly Bongard	12	Rosemary Claveau	22	Barbara Fuquay
3	Mary Ann Reynolds	14	Jim Chaffin		Peggy Trent
4	Gene Heath	18	Barron Gage	23	Beverly Raskin
	Jane Vance		Ed Russell		Karen Meek
8	Gloria Hepner	20	Donn Allison	29	Beverly McFadden
10	Gail Salmen		John Davis	30	Marjorie Carlisle
	Donald Webb				

September Anniversaries

1	Marci & Bill Drews	35yrs	15	Rita & Tom Martick	62yrs
5	Barbara & Walter Fuquay	59yrs	19	Barbara & Bill Worthley	25yrs
	Pat & Mel Kuntz	60yrs	27	Bruce & Mary Ann Dale	21yrs
11	Judy & Bob Corwin	65yrs	30	Eve & Donald Webb	8yrs

**Cancelled
until a later date**

**"Religion and the
Law"**

**presentation by
Reverend Mark Clark**

Save the Date!

Four Seasons in David's Life

Presented by

Pastor Randy Hyde

Weekly, Oct. 23- Nov. 13

9:30 a.m., Bailey Hall



(Changes may occur – check with Kirk office)

Office Closed Monday, Sept. 2, Labor Day

Potluck Dinner, Sept. 11, 5:30, Bailey Hall. Ministry Architects report presentation.

HUG Share (Grief Support)
Sept. 19, 2:00, Smallman Parlor

Ageless Grace/Tai Chi- Sept. 3, 10, 17, 24- 3:30 Bailey Hall

Pilgrimage Renewal-Sept. 7, 10:00, Smallman Parlor

Helping Hands-Sept. 10 - 9:00

Choir Rehearsal- Wed. 3:00, Sept. 11, 18, 25

Committee Meetings

Session- Sept.13, 10:00

Administration- Sept. 10, 10:00

Christian Ed. – Sept. 19, 9:00

Communications- Sept. 25, 1:45

Congregational Care- Sept. 26, 10:00

Fellowship- Sept. 10, 10:00

Mission Committee- Sept. 12, 3:00

Kirk Staff

Randy Hyde- Pastor

Randy Toney- Music Director

Donna Toney- Organist/Pianist

Ruth Manweiler- Pianist (informal worship)

Carol Clark- Pastoral Care Coordinator

Chris Taylor-Wilmoth- Secretary

Beverly Schaumburg- Business Administrator

Arthur “Chip” Johnson- Sexton

Session

Clerk of the Session: Ruth Hamilton

Dave Hamilton- Administration

Bill Worthley- Building

Martha Nielsen- Christian Education

Bob Morrow- Communications (Trustee)

Susan Pendergrass- Congregational Care

Pat Kuntz- Fellowship (Trustee)

Sharon Gardner- Finance

Priscilla Hayek- Grounds/Memorial Garden

Judith Rosenthal- Missions

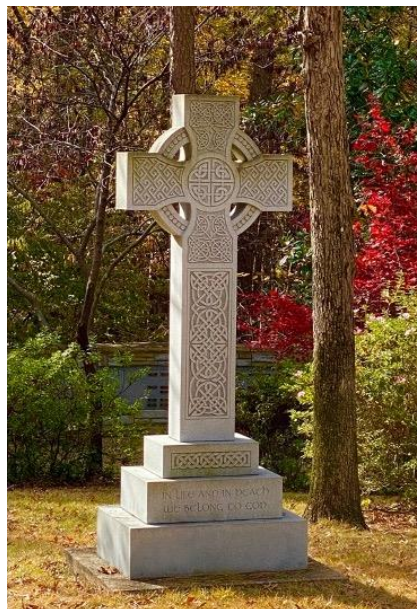
Gail Salmen- Worship (Trustee)

PW Moderator- Becky Wakefield

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.

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