

A Voice in the Pines

Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines Newsletter

Volume XLIII, July 2023

EKAU: Every “Kirkster” a “Welcomer”

If you live in Kansas, you are probably loyal to the Kansas University Jayhawks (Boo!) or to the Kansas State University Wildcats (Yay!). If you are part of the more enlightened latter group, you know what EKAU means. It is language from a bygone era, but feminists don't seem to complain. EKAU shouts EVERY MAN A WILDCAT! It occurred to me that maybe we need something similar at church. How about EKAU? EVERY KIRKSTER A WELCOMER!

As I have gradually learned of the traditions of this church, I have been impressed with the team spirit and the welcoming culture at the Kirk. There are things that are obvious ways which make guests feel at home here, but I have heard stories of traditions that are just ‘over the top’.

Any church that wants to add to its membership will do things like:

- Invite friends, neighbors, and strangers to worship.
- Open the church door with a friendly greeting.

At the Kirk greeters are also reminded to:

- Ask for an address when people sign the guest book.
- Stick a nametag on the vest of every guest.
- Give them a brochure, pen, and an information card to fill out.
- Encourage them to join us after the service for coffee.



- Ask if they are okay with being introduced during the Pastor's welcome time.
- Introduce them to a nearby usher or Kirk member.

In addition to sending a card or email the following week, the Kirk used to do ‘over the top’ stuff:

- Alerting ‘neighborhood captains’ of a prospective member nearby.
- Delivering a freshly baked loaf of bread with another word of welcome.

(continued on page 2)

When we meet

Sunday worship service
begins at 10 a.m.

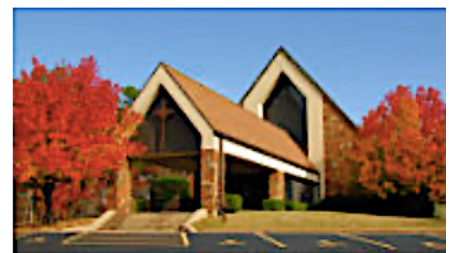


Saturday informal service
5 p.m. In Hoffius Hall

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



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



(continued from page 1)

- I even heard a story of a Kirk family who invited guests to supper – amazing!

If your gift is doing ‘over the top’ hospitality, please contact me, and we will dust off some old traditions. And the rest of you, repeat after me – EKAW!

Contributed by Ben Meek, Member Outreach Moderator

Ferncliff experiences acute disaster assistance need

Ferncliff’s Disaster Assistance Center (DAC) has been extremely busy since the tornadoes came through Arkansas and Tennessee on Friday, March 31st. Because of the proximity of Ferncliff, the center is uniquely positioned to assist quickly with recovery effort and the Church World Service (CWS) is working closely with Ferncliff to expedite requests for “Gift of the Heart” kits and supplies locally. Since the tornadoes hit, Ferncliff received five requests for CWS kits for distribution to our neighbors in North Little Rock, Little Rock, Wynne, and Memphis, far more than usual.

There is much work that goes into preparing kits for distribution. Ferncliff receives kits from churches and others to the DAC, inspects them for completeness and accuracy, packages them into boxes, put boxes on pallets and wrap them, then arrange for a shipping company to deliver them or load them into box trucks to deliver them locally.

Ferncliff is quick to point out that they are overwhelmed by the outpouring of generosity from churches, organizations and individuals who have reached out about volunteering in the DAC. The staff admit that they are heartened by the response they have received from Arkansas communities.

Much of the work is done by Ferncliff staff members, but kit creation or inspection is done almost entirely by volunteers.

Ferncliff has informed the Kirk that they have

rapidly depleting inventories of kits. They tell us they are completely out or low on items in the following kits:

- Hygiene kits, which contain basic health/personal care items such as a towel, washcloth, soap, a toothpaste, and a comb. Hygiene kits cost about \$15/kit to assemble. 60 hygiene kits make up one carton for distribution.
- Emergency clean up buckets, which contain cleaning supplies such as trash bags, dish soap, work gloves, clothesline, sponges, and cleaning cloths.
- Period packs, which provide menstrual hygiene products.

Ferncliff has appealed to churches to provide kits to meet their acute needs. Information on what goes into each of these kits can be found at www.cwskits.org. Kits can be shipped to or dropped off at Ferncliff.

But providing kits is not the only option for stepping up to help Ferncliff with disaster assistance. Another option that would help is monetary donations. If you would like to help, contact Judith Rosenthal, Mission Committee Moderator or visit:

<https://ferncliff.org/outreach/disaster-assistance/>



Ferncliff volunteers assembling disaster assistance kits. *Ferncliff website photo*

Anyone can “reach out a hand”

I suspect each of us have had an experience, no matter how much time passes, we still recall. It was the early spring of 1952. I and a fellow member of our youth group had been chosen to travel, with two pastors, promoting Bible camp among churches in a southeastern area of Iowa. We were on the road for two weeks.

During a break in the trip, we two youths were dropped off at an area lake to swim. I do not remember why but we were alone. We noticed a platform a distance from shore and decided to race to it. I reached the platform first and found myself quite spent. I gratefully crawled onto the flat surface and looked back. My companion was about fifteen yards out. He immediately cried “I can’t make it” and began to flounder.

I panicked along with him. I questioned the energy I had to swim to him or get us both back to safety. I simply reached my hand out toward him shouting encouragement: “Come on. You can do it! Keep coming!” He would swim a stroke or two and yell, “I can’t make it!” I continued to reach out, repeatedly shouting “keep coming!” Eventually I could grab him, dragging him on to the floating plank. We rested and returned uneventfully to shore.

When first joining the Kirk I became a member of what was then called The Committee on Evangelism. It has later changed to Member Outreach. Evangelism is referred to biblically as a Gift of the Spirit (Ephesians 4:11).



In moments of emergency or occasions of opportunity nearly all of us can “reach out a hand.” This can be extended to a lonely or unchurched person, an inactive Kirk member, a Scot looking to celebrate their heritage, someone who enjoys good music, stimulating teaching or a cup of joe or tea and crumpets. Why not just reach out a hand?

Contributed by Lowell Gardner, Past Communications Committee Moderator



Prayer of St. Benedict

O Gracious and holy Father,
Give us wisdom to perceive you,
Diligence to seek you,
Patience to wait for you,
Eyes to behold you,
And a life to proclaim you,
Through the power of the
Spirit of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Contributed by Jan Holtberg

Study of Book of Psalms continues in July and August

The first week of the Summer of Psalms Bible study got off to a great start with 29 Kirk members and friends in attendance. The seven-part study continues in Hoffius Hall from 9:00 to 10:30 each Wednesday in July and the first two of August (see study outline below).

Our primary study material will be the Psalms, but we will also be using music, poetry, art, and video. The study leader, Elder Bob Morrow, will draw from many other resources including work by Dietrich Bonhoeffer, C.S. Lewis, Walter Brueggemann, Bernhard Anderson, John Stott, Timothy Keller, Sandra Richter, and others. We will go beyond studying the Psalms from a historical and technical point of view to go deep into what the Psalms tell us about ourselves, our faith, and our Lord.

Study guides and handouts will be provided. It is not necessary to attend every week to benefit from this study.

Contributed by the Christian Education Committee

Fun, Fish,
.....and Fellowship

5:30 pm, July 19th
Hoffius Hall
Catered by..
Riverside

\$15 per person
Sign up at worship
Thru July 15 & 16



A Summer of Psalms Study Outline

Week 1	June 28	A Book of Praises
Week 2	July 5	Singing the Story of Israel
Week 3	July 12	Cries from the Depths
Week 4	July 19	From the Bottom of the Heart
Week 5	July 26	Singing the New Song
Week 6	August 2	Marching to Zion
Week 7	August 9	My Cup Overflows



The Pastor's Corner

Theologian Neal Plantinga has pointed out that the practice of hospitality has always been a Jewish and Christian virtue. More than simply entertaining guests or making a bedroom available to someone from out of town, hospitality is the practice of welcoming others into our lives.

Hospitality can be seen in a myriad of little kindnesses that show thoughtfulness and consideration for others. Little things like speaking slowly when you leave your phone number on someone's voicemail, so they don't have to replay the message multiple times to keep up with writing down your phone number. Or when you text someone, you say who you are so that the receiver of the text does not have to guess who this is based on a phone number that is unfamiliar to them or not already stored in their phone. Hospitable people extend themselves to others in all kinds of ways that show you are being considerate of them.

The following are several small "habits" Plantinga suggests might guide our lives:

- When someone shares good news with you, don't try to top it with a bigger news story of your own.
- In the supermarket shopping aisle, hospitable people keep their cart to the right and don't abandon their cart in the middle of an aisle while they go check on something somewhere else in the store.
- Hospitable car drivers do not punish pokey drivers by tailgating them. Make room for them to be slow.
- When hospitable people drain the coffee in the breakroom's coffee maker, they put on a new pot. They also replace the TP when necessary!
- Hospitable people listen well when others talk, and they do not interrupt or send the signal "Could you please get on with it and spit out what you want to say!"



Pastor Bill Bailey

- On airplanes, hospitable people leave room in the overhead bins for others to put their stuff there and they don't recline their seat as far back as it will go so as—quite literally in this case—to give the person behind them room to sit comfortably.
- In conversations hospitable people do not say things that paint other people into corners. "You're probably getting bored with me, aren't you?"
- In church, hospitable people make room for seekers and stragglers.
- Hospitable people make room for the mistakes of others and don't always try to fix everything or correct other people's grammatical errors. "Oh, for heaven's sake it's not 'Between you and I' but it's 'Between you and me'!!"
- Hospitable people help you remember their name. "Hi, I'm Joe. We met a couple years ago . . ."

Peace,
Bill

Choir takes much needed break

Photos by Jamie and Rick Federick



From left, Bob and Susan Morrow, Sarah Owen, Jamie Federick, Donna Toney and Eve Webb



Darell and Jean Fisher
(seated) with Jamie Federick



Barbara and Tony Booth



Table from left, Karen Meek, Kathy Allison, Sharon Gardner, Fran Stroud, Millie Croson. Seated, Merilyn and Mike Seitz, Joyce Hayek



Music Director Randy Toney
and pianist Donna Toney



Clark and Jean Mowry



Mike Terry



Special guests Merilyn and
Mike Seitz

Arkansan Robert W. Smith lived a full life

On May 25th, Robert W. Smith, loving father of five, passed away at the Veteran's Administration Hospital in Little Rock, Arkansas after a full life of 90 years. He is survived by his children: Bobba Rhine of Mesa, Arizona; Valerie Smith, Angela Yarbrough, and Andy Smith of Little Rock; and Paul Smith of Mason, Ohio, as well as nine grandchildren. He was married to Vanna Smith and subsequently Linda Smith until their deaths in 1985 and 2018, respectively. Robert was born in El Dorado, Arkansas in 1933, and is a graduate of Little Rock Central High and Hendrix College. He served in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War and enjoyed a four-decades long career as a purchasing manager, including leadership roles at Virco Manufacturing in Conway and Olin Corporation in Little Rock. Robert was a member of the Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines Church in Hot Springs Village. He was a lifelong golfer and enjoyed fishing and woodworking, and was a man ultimately satisfied with the simple pleasures in life: a short walk, a long bath, and a good book.



Robert Whaley Smith

A memorial service was held at Griffin Leggett Funeral Home at 5800 W 12th Street in Little Rock on June 17 at 1:00pm. Burial followed at Roselawn Cemetery on Asher.

Fond memories and expressions of sympathy for the Smith family may be shared at:

www.griffinleggetthealeyroth.com

Coffee hour needs volunteers and cookies!

Coffee Hour has been a Kirk tradition for many years and takes several volunteers each Sunday to make it a reality. Coffee and cookie fellowship begins immediately following Sunday worship service in Hoffius Hall. Why not plan to attend this weekly social event and spend time with your fellow brothers and sisters in Christ?

The 2023 Coffee Chart is hanging in Hoffius Hall next to the kitchen door and ready to be filled with volunteers. If you've never helped, we encourage you to give it a try! There is always someone available to show you how it's done. **Three or four helpers are needed each Sunday.** Currently there opportunities to volunteer throughout the rest of the year. Please consider being a part of this vital fellowship ministry.

And we desperately need cookie bakers to come through and help us replenish our stock of cookies for coffee hour. Imagine, coffee and no cookies! Bring your cookies to the Kirk during normal business hours.

If you have any questions, call Vicki Rosenquist at 1-706-317-2877.

Kirk in the Pines Financial Report

Year to Date: May 31, 2023

	<u>Month</u>		<u>Year</u>	
	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>
General Fund:				
Receipts	\$ 34,748	\$ 21,907	\$ 173,738	\$ 173,651
Disbursements	\$ 34,748	\$ 30,604	\$ 173,738	\$ 147,090
Building Fund:				
Receipts	\$ 4,400	\$ 1,566	\$ 22,000	\$ 18,210
Disbursements	\$ 4,400	\$ 3,286	\$ 22,000	\$ 18,399
Total all Funds:				
Receipts	\$ 39,148	\$ 23,473	\$ 195,738	\$ 191,861
Disbursements	\$ 39,148	\$ 33,890	\$ 195,738	\$ 165,489
Checking Balance				\$ 67,935
Special Funds:				
Memorial Fund				\$ 91,492
Choir Fund				\$ 10,143
Luke 12:48 Fund				\$ 273,850
Programs Fund				\$ 16,316
Endowment Fund				\$ 708,469
Maack-Ormsbee Fund				<u>\$ 52,562</u>
Total Special Funds (April 30, 2023)				\$ 1,153,282
Total all Funds:				\$ 1,221,217

\$230 for Mission!

Thank you for generously supporting our Mission Dollar campaign by placing your single dollar bills in the offering plate. 230 dollars were collected in May.

If you wish to give more than one dollar, please use the envelopes provided 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.

Remember the Hungry in our Community



John Davis, Missions Committee member and Food Pantry coordinator asks that we remember those who are suffering from food insecurity. We appreciate the generosity of the Kirk in our recent PB&J drive. But we still need your help to fill our food pantry boxes located throughout the Kirk.

The best donations are canned foods with pull top tabs and dry goods, such as boxed dressing and there is no limit on how much you can donate. Be sure your donations are unopened and not past their sell by date. John will be delivering food to the pantries we support.

The Missions Committee suggests a simple rule of thumb. Bring a can of food or other food donation every time you attend any activity at the Kirk.

Bob Morrow photo

Members of Shepherd Group 6 enjoyed an afternoon out at the ballpark watching the Arkansas Travelers. From left, front, Anne Bailey, Kelle and Ken Wolf, Ro and Dick Easter, and Priscilla and Tom Hayek. Rear, from left, Rick Federick, Jane Moore, Emily Faulk, Becky Wakefield, Martha and Jay Nielsen, Dennis Faulk, and Tony Booth.

Jamie Federick photo



Mark Your Calendar!
Kirkin' O' the Tartans
September 24, 2023—10:00 a.m.
Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines
275 Asturias Dr.
Hot Springs Village



If you have Scottish heritage, call the Kirk office to let us know that you would like to participate.

Also, call if you don't have a Tartan and need help locating one. We can help but you **MUST ACT QUICKLY!** by calling the Kirk office.

You will never forget the experience!





July Birthdays

4	Ted Smith	9	James Knox	23	Lynn Burks
5	Margaret Boschetti		Jean Mowry	25	Sharon Gardner
	Lowell Gardner	15	Bob Morrow	27	Jay Nielsen
	Susan Pendergrass		Patty Barnes	28	Bill Drews
6	Hannah Bailey	17	Dottie Isaacson		Dick Massey
8	Ralph Greene	18	Helen Van Stone	29	Carolyn Starr
		19	Harry Wakefield	30	Nell Moss-White

July Anniversaries

1	Helene and Bud Strautman	73yrs	22	Jean and Clark Mowry	56yrs
6	Anne and Bill Bailey	50yrs	27	Cheryl and Daniel Boehmke	39yrs
20	Barbara and Tony Booth	60yrs	29	Vicki and David Rosenquist	45yrs

Finance Moment



Did you know that if you donate money from your IRA or Stock Portfolio directly to the church you don't have to pay tax on the DONATION!

Kirk Calendar



(Changes may occur – check with Kirk office)

Bible Study

“A Summer of Psalms”

July 5, 12, 19, 26 - 9:00-10:30

July 4- Office Closed

Choir rehearsal- Cancelled

Pilgrimage Renewal-July 1

Helping Hands- July 11- 9:00

PW Circles- Summer Break

Shepherd Group 1- July 13-
1:00-3:00

Shepherd Group 5- Dinner
July 11

Annual Fish Fry- July 19
5:30, Hoffius Hall

Committee Meetings

Session- July 7

Administration- July 6

Member Outreach- July 11, 9:00

Fellowship- June 13, 10:00
(Conference)

Mission- July 13, 3:00

Christian Education- July 20,
9:00

Congregational Care- July 17,
10 :00

Communications- July 27, 10:00

Kirk Staff

William B. Bailey- Senior Pastor

Randy Toney- Music Director

Donna Toney- Organist/Pianist

Carol Clark- Congregational Care Coordinator

Chris Taylor-Wilmoth- Secretary

Beverly Schaumburg- Business Administrator

Arthur “Chip” Johnson- Sexton

Session

Dave Hamilton- Administration

Bill Worthley- Building

Martha Nielsen- Christian Education

Bob Morrow- Communications (Trustee)

Marcia Bauer- Congregational Care

Pat Kuntz- Fellowship (Trustee)

Sharon Gardner- Finance

Priscilla Hayek- Grounds/Memorial Garden

Ben Meek- Member Outreach

Judith Rosenthal- Missions

Gail Salmen- Worship

PW Moderator- Susan Morrow

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.

Its email address is:

kirkinthepinesvoice@gmail.com



Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines
275 Asturias Drive
Hot Springs Village, AR 71909

Phone: 501-922-1333 Fax: 501-
922-6005

Email: kirkoffice1@gmail.com

Website: www.kirkinthepines.org