

A Voice in the Pines

Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines Newsletter

Volume XLIV, August 2023

Congratulations to Jessica Bunge, '23 -'24 Maack-Ormsbee Scholarship winner!

We are pleased to announce that the Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines Maack-Ormsbee Scholarship for the upcoming academic year 2023 – 2024 is awarded to Jessica Bunge. Jessica will receive a \$2,000 scholarship award to pursue her academic studies in Chemistry at the University of South Carolina in Columbia, South Carolina. Jessica is the granddaughter of Lucille (Lucy) Allen and the late Gerald Allen.

Jessica resides in Fort Mill, South Carolina and attended Catawba Ridge High School. During her high school years, she explored a variety of activities including drama, dance, French Club & Beta Club in addition to after school employment, church choir, boxing class & volunteer community activities in her “spare” time. Jessica also balanced these extracurricular activities with excellence in her academic pursuits. She is a Palmetto Scholar and a National Merit Scholarship Award recipient.

In the words of Jessica’s School Guidance Counselor at Catawba Ridge High School “Jessica is an outstanding young woman. Her industriousness, responsibility, and leadership qualities are unquestionable. She has the insight to know what her goals are and the desire to do all that is necessary to accomplish those goals.”

Jessica’s goals for the upcoming 2023-2024 academic year are to explore her career path options at



Jessica Bunge

the University of South Carolina, where she has been accepted into the Honors College.

Contributed by Susan Morrow, Christian Education Committee member

When we meet

Sunday worship service
begins at 10 a.m.

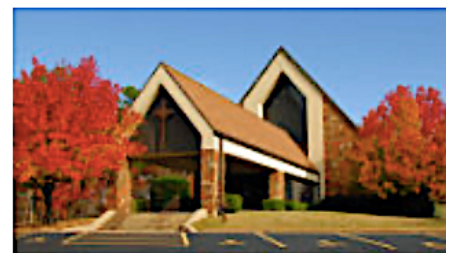


Saturday informal service
5 p.m. In Hoffius Hall

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



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



"A Matter of Balance" class comes to Kirk



Kathy Packard from Oaklawn Center for Aging recently spoke at the Caring for Ourselves and others workshop. *Bob Morrow photo*

Kathy Packard from Oaklawn Center on Aging reminds us that "you are never too young to learn to age well." Kathy is teaching *A Matter of Balance* class at the Kirk to ensure that we all age gracefully. *A Matter of Balance* (AMOB) is an evidence-based class created to address the fear of falling, self-managing, and includes an exercise component to improve strength and balance.

The AMOB class will begin Monday, August 21st and continue for eight sessions. The class is held in Hoffius Hall at the Kirk in the Pines from 1:30-3:30 pm on August 21, 24, 28 and 31, and September 7, 14, 18, and 21. There will be no class on Monday September 4th or 11th.

Don't delay signing up for this special class offered by Kathy Packard from Oaklawn Center on Aging.

For registration information contact the Kirk office, 922-1333, (kirkoffice1@gmail.com) or Martha Nielsen, 922-0672, (mgentrynielsen@gmail.com).

Contributed by Susan Morrow, Christian Education Committee member

Psalms Bible study continues in August

The last two sessions of the seven-part study *Summer of Psalms* Bible study will be on Wednesdays August 2 and 9 at 9:00 in Hoffius Hall. The study, led by Elder Bob Morrow, will continue by studying the royal psalms, the psalms of ascents, and the psalms of trust (including Psalm 23, the Shepherd Psalm).

This study draws from many resources and includes videos, art, music, and, of course, the Psalms. You don't have to have attended previous sessions of this study to benefit from the last two sessions.



HSV PATRIOT WALK

GROVE PARK

9 / 11 / 2023

8:00 AM – 12:00 NOON



REGISTER AT:

<https://dogood.t2t.org/campaign/hot-springs-village-patriot-day-walk/c491580>

WALKERS \$11.00 DOGS \$9:00

**ALL DONATIONS GO TO THE
TUNNEL TO TOWERS**

ENTERTAINMENT AT THE PARK

**** LIVIN' THE DREAM BAND**

**** TREBLE IN THE VILLAGE**

**** VOICES RISING**

Library open house planned for August 26th-27th

Many times over the years, the Kirk Library has undergone face-lifts, reorganizations, revitalizations, and reinvigorations. People like Lowell Gardner have written newsletter articles, led summer book studies, and promoted new books, all with the aim of making our library more visible and more interesting to our congregation. Despite these efforts, many of us have never taken the time to really peruse our library to find out what a wonderful resource it can be.

Sadly, over time our library became a sort of dumping ground. Books stacked willy-nilly on the shelves and donations placed on temporary shelving units under the stairwells made locating and checking books out nearly impossible. Then, during the dark days of Covid-induced isolation, something wonderful happened! Lowell and Sharon Gardner used that time to do away with the old card system that didn't work and painstakingly enter all of our books into a computer program. After excluding duplicate books and those unlikely to be used, with help from Lucy Allen, Millie Croson, Edie and Don Loveday, Patty Barnes, and Martha Nielsen, remaining titles were then marked with their Dewey Decimal System (DDS) numbers and shelved in numerical order. The computer system also allowed Sharon to create printed lists of our holdings to allow users to determine whether a book is available by title or author, then locate it on the shelves organized and marked with DDS numbers.



The best news of all is you don't have to touch a computer or reshelve the book when you are finished. The library "elves" do all of that. So, if you are one of those people who hasn't yet discovered what a treasure our library has become, we invite you to come to our "Back to the Books" event to be held after each of our services on August 26th and 27th. One of the elves will be there to show you how simple it is to find what you're looking for, write down when you took it home, and see where to drop it off when you are finished with it. No hassles, no late fees, no computer skills – just reading enjoyment!

Contributed by Martha Nielsen, Christian Education Committee Moderator

Chip Johnson is grateful for the love and support.

With sincere gratitude to all of you,

There are not enough words to fully express our heartfelt thanks for all the expressions of sympathy, cards, love and support you have extended to our family at the loss of our beloved mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother Mary Jo Amundsen.

Chip Johnson

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 Pastor's Corner

How can we grow deeper in our faith? Are there practices which help us grow closer to God?

One of my professors at Princeton, Dr. Craig Dykstra, thinks there are. He wrote a book entitled *Growing in the Life of Faith* in which he listed 14 “practices” that consistently appear throughout Christian history and that are particularly significant for Christians today. I am certain you will recognize most of these:

1. Worshipping God together—praising God, giving thanks, offering prayers, hearing the Word preached and receiving the sacraments.
2. Telling the story of faith to one another—reading and hearing the Scriptures.
3. Interpreting together the Bible and applying it to our lives.
4. Praying together and for each other in worship and by ourselves.
5. Confessing our sin to one another—forgiving and being reconciled.
6. Tolerating one another’s failures and encouraging each other.
7. Carrying out specific faithful acts of service and witness together.
8. Giving generously of one’s means and receiving gratefully the gifts of others.
9. Suffering with and for one another.
10. Providing hospitality and care for one another as well as strangers and even enemies.
11. Listening and talking attentively to one another about our experiences in life and with God.
12. Struggling together to understand the world in which we live.
13. Criticizing and resisting all those powers (in the church and in the world) that destroy human beings and injure God’s creation.
14. Working together for peace and justice—trying to maintain and create social structures and institutions that will sustain life in ways that accord with God’s will.



Pastor Bill Bailey

Craig Dykstra believes that these practices can be taught and learned. In fact, he argues that this is how the Church has passed on its traditions for most of its history.

Beginning in September 6th and 7th, I will be leading Bible study on Wednesday mornings at 9:00 a.m. and a discussion about the life of Dietrich Bonhoeffer on Thursday mornings, also 9:00 a.m. We will probably talk about almost all of these ancient practices. If you would like to put your Christian faith into practice, please make plans to join us this fall.

Peace,
Bill

Lucy Allen is thankful for care and concern

I am so grateful for all the cards, notes and especially the prayers offered following Gerald’s death and my extended stay in rehab after our accident. The care and concern from so many touched my heart and served to strengthen me during those difficult times. My deepest appreciation to the staff as well as the congregation.

Blessings,
Lucy Allen

From the Kirk Clerk

The Church Fish Fry was a tremendous success (as are all Church Fellowship events). With weather as hot as ever in July we were all happy to be indoors. We are looking forward to the next event which will be our annual "Chili Cookoff" in October.

Session Report:

The Kirk Session met on July 7.

Loss of Kirk Members:

We are sad to report the deaths of a number of Kirk members.

Robert (Bob) Whaley Smith died May 25 at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Little Rock, AR. A memorial service was held at 1:00 p.m. on June 17 at Griffin Leggett Funeral Home with burial following at Roselawn Cemetery in Little Rock, AR.

Emma Earline Higgins passed away May 26 at Belvedere Rehab in Hot Springs, AR. Arrangements have not been completed as of June 28, 2023.

Mary Jo Amundsen died June 27 at home in Hot Springs Village, AR. A memorial will be held on August 19th at 10 a.m.

Stanley Dean, Jr. passed away July 1 at home in Hot Springs Village, AR. Arrangements are pending.

Mary Ann Bakeman died May 2 in Lubbock, Texas. A memorial will be held on August 25th at 10 a.m. She will be interred in the Kirk Memorial Garden alongside her husband Ronald Bakeman.

Request for transfer of membership:

The church office is in receipt of an email request from Steve and Gloria Klomsten to have their membership transferred to Makasan Presbyterian Church in Oglala, S.D.

Church statistics (as of July 7, 2023): Members: 234, Family Units: 155

Committee reports:

Ben Meek, Member Outreach Committee Moderator, reported that a new pictorial directory is planned and new golf shirts with the Kirk logo are now available. These can be purchased online (see article in this issue).

A new "someone" (volunteer) to take over the

The Clerk's Corner Tony Booth



coordination of Kirk memorial receptions is being sought according to Gail Salmen, Moderator of the Worship Committee.

Martha Nielsen, Moderator of the Christian Education Committee, announced that the Fran Brown Library refresh project is nearly complete, and a special "reopening event" is planned following worship on Saturday, August 26 and Sunday, August 27, during coffee hour.

The Maack-Ormsbee Scholarship committee voted to award a \$2,000 scholarship to Jessica Bunge. Jessica is the granddaughter of Lucy Allen and the late Gerald Allen.

Martha Nielsen also reported that we will not have the nursery open on Sunday mornings but parents with small children will be directed to the parlor.

Rev. Carol Clark will be leading a three-week study on the book "One Thousand Gifts" in November. (more on this as the time draws nearer)

Priscilla Hayek reported that during the month of May a landscape company cleaned up the grounds along Asturias. We also removed the very old cedar shrubs outside the sanctuary on the Asturias side, replacing them with boulders.

Save the Date! Bailey Bible and Book Studies to resume in September!

Pastor Bailey will resume the weekly Wednesday Bible Study this fall beginning September 6 from 9:00-10:30 a.m. In addition, Pastor Bailey's Thursday morning book study will resume on Thursday, September 7, from 9:00-10:30 a.m. The book study will be on the life and times of Dietrich Bonhoeffer.

Wear Kirk logo close to your heart

The Member Outreach Committee has been looking for ways to increase the Kirk's visibility in the community. And we learned from our survey that about 50% of our members were first invited here by an existing member. We know that you have the Kirk in your heart, and we thought it might be appropriate if you had the opportunity to wear the Kirk on your sleeve, pun intended. So, we're introducing an array of clothing which provides that opportunity.

Using this web link below you have the opportunity to purchase some snazzy Kirk gear at very reasonable prices. We are not making money on this activity, just working with a local supplier, to give you the opportunity to make the Kirk more visible to your friends and acquaintances.

The supplier has created an array of gear that we can choose from and modify in the future depending upon your interests and desires. The initial website gear is primarily summer clothing.

You can order and have your selections delivered to your home or you can save the delivery charge through direct pickup at AR Logo Logic, 104A Trooper Dr., Hot Springs.



From left Ben Meek, Bruce Dale, and Bob Morrow model new "polo" shirts with the new Kirk in the Pines logo. *Photo by Mary Ann Dale.*

If you choose the 'pick up' option **and you order by August 6**, they will fulfill the order and Bruce Dale will pick up the items ordered and deliver to the church, so they'll be available before Labor Day.

Contributed by Ben Meek, Member Outreach Committee Moderator

Click below to order

<https://presbyteriankirkinthepines.itemorder.com/shop/home/>



90 attend Kirk summer fish fry

Photos by Jamie Federick



Fish fry enthusiast included (from left) Susan Pendergrass, Carol Clark, Dotty Rector, Gary Rector, Ruth Hamilton and Barbie Arrant.



Bob Morrow (left) and Bruce Dale modeled and pitched new Kirk logo products with a little bit of humor thrown in for good measure.



It was a full house for the Annual Fish Fry with 90 congregants enjoying food from “Riverside.”



Katy Hill and Stan Luczkowski lead the self-serve line choosing from a selection of fried fish, chicken, coleslaw, baked beans and hush puppies.



Dick Turner (left), Don Webb, and Eve Webb assisted signing folks in at the Fish Fry.



We are grateful for all the musicians who provided worship music during the summer months. The Kirk has a long tradition of quality music, and this summer kept that trend going. Selecting and preparing music for worship takes more time than one would think. We try to mesh the music choices with the pastor's message or seasonal topics whenever we can, as we do when selecting hymn titles.

Our Kirk Choir will begin rehearsals on Wednesday, August 30, at our regular 3:00 time. We welcome anyone who loves to sing or even those who have never sung in a choir. Choir members are given recordings of their parts to assist with learning new music. Visit our rehearsals any time to see for yourself!

Although the choir takes a summer break, our organist/pianist prepares new music every week. Donna Toney loves arrangements of well-known hymns, particularly those by favorite arrangers Mark Hayes, Dan Forrest, and Marilyn Ham. She regularly plays through her collection of music to find appropriate pieces.

When we stopped passing the offering plates each week during COVID, the old Offertory was renamed Music for Reflection. Without the distraction of passing plates, it's reserved for time to consider how Bill's message touches our lives. Donna selects music from a wide range of styles and musical periods, often playing hymn arrangements and classical pieces from the piano repertoire.

Our church is fortunate to have quality musicians that regularly provide worshipful music to enhance the worship services on Saturday evening and Sunday morning. We give thanks for their talents every day.

Contributed by Randy Toney, Kirk Music Director



Clark Mowry sang "Beloved, Let Us Love One Another" on July 9th.
Photo by Jamie Federick



Karen Meek sang the upbeat anthem, "Special Delivery" on July 16th. ***Photo by Ben Meek***



"Journey" (Patty Barnes, left, Sharon Gardner, and Fran Stroud) sang "My Tribute" by Andre Crouch on July 2nd.

Bob Morrow photo



A special women's ensemble sang "Children of the Heavenly Father", July 23. From left, Patty Barnes, Susan Morrow, Kathy Allison, Jean Mowry, Sarah Owen, and Barb Henry. *Photo by Robert Sonnen*



On July 30, Sharon Gardner (left) and Sarah Owen sang "The Lord's Prayer" in Sunday worship. *Bob Morrow Photo*

New PW Planning Team hits the ground running



Presbyterian Women's new planning team is beginning work on a year filled with program events and small group Bible study opportunities for all Kirk women and friends. The PW year begins with a "Ladies Day Out" event on September 11th which will be held in Hoffius Hall. There will be time to assemble hands-on projects that will benefit our mission partners. Lunch will also be provided with a feature program by Susan Clark, Executive Director of Boys & Girls Club in Hot Springs Village. From left to right: Susan Morrow, moderator; Rosalyn Halbert, circle leader; Barbara Fuquay, circle leader; Ruth Hamilton, past moderator; and Dotty Rector, secretary. *Photo by Robert Sonnen*



Lord, Lord, if I have you alone,
I do not care for heaven and earth.
Even, if life and limb shall pass away.

Still, you will always be, O Lord,
comforting my heart.

Still, you will always be, O Lord,
comforting my heart and my soul.

Dieterich Buxtehude
Cantata 38

In Memoriam

Stanley Dean, Jr.

Stanley Dean, Jr. passed away on July 1, 2023, in his sleep. He was born March 8, 1940, at his grandparents' home, the Presbyterian manse, in Yazoo City, MS to Stanley and Margaret Caldwell Dean. He grew up in Leland, MS, playing on Deer Creek and attending Dean Academy with a small group that have remained friends through the years. A blind date in 1962 led to marriage to Cheryle Grant in Greenville, MS, on October 10, 1964.

He graduated with a BS in Forestry from Miss. State University in 1964. He began working with MS Forestry Commission and moved in 1967 to Vicksburg to start his 35 years with civil service with the USDA Soil Conservation Service. Five years later, he went to work for US Army Corps of Engineers as a Realty Specialist and that gave him opportunities to live in Europe. Over 17 years, he worked and lived in Frankfurt, Munich, and Heidelberg, Germany and Naples, Italy. He and Cheryle had many adventures while camping with family and friends and made many dear friends. He retired twice from the US Navy, in 1998 and 2005.

In 1996 they bought their home in Hot Springs Village, AR for their retirement years. For 25 years, he was a member of Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines. Stanley will be remembered as a good friend, a good and kind man, a funny man with a quick wit, and for leaving our world a better place. He is survived by his wife Cheryle, daughter Beth (Felicia), brother Robert of Madison, MS,



sister Betty Reece (Charles) of Tupelo, MS, three nephews, and a niece. Per his wishes, he was cremated, and his remains will be interred in the columbarium in the Memorial Garden at his church at a later time.

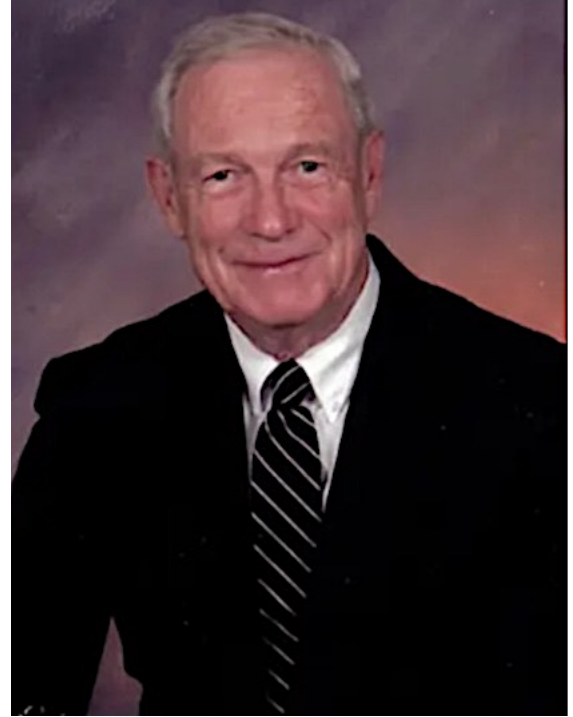
In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to French Camp Academy, One Fine Place, French Camp Academy, MS 39745, Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines, or a favorite charity. To plant a beautiful memorial tree in memory of Stanley, please visit our Tree Store or plant a tree.

Ted K. Sampsel

Ted K. Sampsel, 92, of Hot Springs Village, passed away July 9, 2023. Ted was born in Lakewood, Ohio and moved to Houston, Texas with his family when he was in junior high school. He attended Rice University, receiving a BA and BS in Electrical Engineering. After three years in the Navy, Ted returned to Houston to work with several engineering firms before joining NASA's Johnson Space Center. He retired from NASA after 20 years of service and joined BDMI Engineering as Vice President before permanently retiring to Hot Springs Village in 1993.

Ted has been active in numerous community activities including AARP Income Tax Preparation, Village Roadrunners, Village Players, Men's Cooking Club, and a volunteer driver for the Village SCAT Transportation Service.

Ted is survived by his wife, Beth of 67 years and their four sons: Todd and his wife Patricia of Wimberly, Texas; Kirby and his wife Laura of Destin, Florida; Jay of Boise, Idaho; Erik and his wife Jill of McKinney, Texas; grandchildren



Craig (Julia), Lauren, Claire, Tyler, Hailey, and Kara Sampsel; and great-grandchildren Mason and Naomi Sampsel.

A Memorial Service will be announced at a later date. Memorial donations may be made Garland County Habitat for Humanity, P.O. Box 171, Hot Springs, AR 71902.

Mary Ann Bakeman

Mary Ann Bakeman died peacefully on May 2, 2023, and has been reunited with her husband, Donald VanNess Bakeman, who died on October 27, 1999. Mary Ann was 99 years young resided in Lubbock, Texas at the time of her death. She was born on December 10, 1923, in Bloomington, Illinois. Mary Ann and Donald were married on May 8, 1944, prior to his shipping out with the U.S. Navy to the Pacific theater and ultimately Okinawa during World War II. Donald and Mary Ann Bakeman were long time members of the Kirk in the Pines Presbyterian Church, in Hot Springs Village. Mary Ann was chosen "Woman of the Year" while a member of the Kirk in the Pines. Donald was a

member of the Kirk in the Pines choir and an active member of the music ministry of the church. Donald was interred in the Memorial Gardens and Mary Ann will shortly be interred next to Donald.

From the union of Donald and Mary Ann, four children were born, Ronald Bruce, (Joyce), Thomas Brian (Julia), Jonathan Paul (Wende), and Robin Lee Hettler (Ron). All four children and wives survived the death of Mary Ann. Also surviving Mary Ann are twelve grandchildren and twenty-five great grandchildren. Mary Ann had a younger brother, David (Barbara), who predeceased Mary Ann. (continued on page 12)

(Continued from page 11)

Mary Ann was born a PK (preacher's kid) to Dr. Rev. Eugene Charles Beach and Mary Beach. She graduated from High School in Youngstown, Ohio, and Syracuse University, in Syracuse, New York. Donald and Mary Ann raised their children in Ohio and New York. After marrying, Mary Ann remained active in a local church both as a Sunday School teacher and the Woman's Society. She was a retired elementary school teacher. Following Donald's retirement, Mary Ann and Donald settled in Hot Springs Village. Both became passionate golfers. In addition to golf, they played bridge and were members of a gourmet cooking group in Hot Springs Village.

There were not many weeks in Hot Springs Village that Mary Ann and Donald did not have friends over with Mary Ann cooking up a special meal and then settling down at the bridge table. Following Donald's death, she moved to Lubbock, Texas, to be close to her daughter, Robin.

One interesting facet of their lives together, Donald and Mary Ann, in 1951, were selected to be on a live television game show, "Strike It Rich". They won and striking it rich with \$420, which was used as the down payment for their first home.

Mary Ann was a good and faithful servant.

Mary Jo Amundsen

Mary Jo Amundsen passed away peacefully on May 28, 2023, at her home in Hot Springs Village. She was born on March 25, 1936, to Joe and Catherine (Jackson) Furr in Long Beach, CA. Mary grew up and was educated in California and was living in Sacramento at the time that she and her son Chip Johnson moved to Hot Springs Village in 2018.

Mary raised four children—three sons and a daughter. She has ten grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren. In addition to raising a family, Mary has had several different occupations. First, she was a metallurgical lab tech for a small company. Next, she worked for Farmers Insurance Company, writing property and auto insurance for 14 years. Later, she worked as an administrative assistant for her husband, a structural engineer.

Mary Jo was an avid fan of the Oakland Raiders and would often attend the home games with her son Chip when they lived in California. She enjoyed hiking, her pets, but what she loved most was spending time with her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Mary Jo was a member of the Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines. She enjoyed her church, her dinner group, and her many friends.



She is survived by sons Chip Johnson, Glen Johnson and Jim Rock and daughter Angie Johnson Haley (Dave), as well as sister Kathy Heppner (Dave). A memorial service will be held at 10:00 a.m. at the Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines on August 19, 2023. Interment will be in the Kirk Memorial Garden columbarium. A reception will follow in Hoffius Hall.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines, or the Hot Springs Village Animal Welfare League.

Kirk in the Pines Financial Report

Year to Date: June 30, 2023

	<u>Month</u>		<u>Year</u>	
	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>
General Fund:				
Receipts	\$ 34,748	\$ 70,659	\$ 208,488	\$ 244,310
Disbursements	\$ 34,748	\$ 41,432	\$ 208,488	\$ 188,522
Building Fund:				
Receipts	\$ 4,400	\$ 1,640	\$ 26,400	\$ 19,850
Disbursements	\$ 4,400	\$ 7,490	\$ 26,400	\$ 25,889
Total all Funds:				
Receipts	\$ 39,148	\$ 72,299	\$ 234,888	\$ 264,160
Disbursements	\$ 39,148	\$ 48,922	\$ 234,888	\$ 214,411
Checking Balance				\$ 91,642
Special Funds:				
Memorial Fund				\$ 91,374
Choir Fund				\$ 10,183
Luke 12:48 Fund				\$ 272,157
Programs Fund				\$ 16,381
Endowment Fund				\$ 704,089
Maack-Ormsbee Fund				\$ 52,237
Total Special Funds (May 31, 2023)				\$ 1,146,421
Total all Funds:				\$ 1,238,063

\$513 for Mission!

Thank you for generously supporting our Mission Dollar campaign by placing your single dollar bills in the offering plate. \$513 were collected in June.

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.



Finance Corner June 30, 2023 Status

Budget	Giving	Percent of Budget
\$469,771.00	\$264,160.00	56%

Loss of innocence but not responsibility

The opening four chapters of the Old Testament Book of Genesis portrays a whole of creation including the rise and ultimate fall of the first family. Man and woman found themselves in a lush garden surrounded by all divinely instituted foliage and fauna. In the midst of all was the tree of life and the tree of knowledge of good and evil. All was their responsibility and for their benefit save the latter, the tree of knowledge of good and evil, to partake of which meant death.

The rest of the story is well known. The serpent is beguiling. The woman is seduced. The man proves too trusting, careless or greedy. Theologians refer to it as *Original Sin*. Where lay the fault: the reptile's deception or the woman and the man eating the forbidden fruit. What was the author of Genesis seeking to convey to us?

The answer is found in the participant's reaction. Man blamed the woman along with a veiled hint of guilt on God's part too. Woman blamed the serpent and the serpent simply kept a typically low profile.

No one owned up! No one accepted responsibility.

The real consequence was the loss of innocence leaving everyone altered, naked, embarrassed and full of excuses.

The purpose of the Genesis author is to make clear mankind's status. Born in innocence we must all eventually take personal responsibility. We will make mistakes, some catastrophic requiring recompense. God, as a loving Heavenly Father, is available if we believe. As man and woman reproduce the family grows with relational responsibilities required. Cain's question - "Am I my brother's keeper?" - necessitates a resounding YES!

The Gospel of Matthew 22:36-40 records Jesus being questioned regarding the greatest commandment. The Lord identifies two on which all others adhere.

"Love the Lord, your God, with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind" (Deut. 6:5) and "Love your neighbor (Brother/Sister) as yourselves." (Levi. 19:18). Wherein is covered all of Genesis 1-4.

Contributed by Lowell Gardner, former Communications Committee Moderator

Detail of a stained-glass window from 1887 in the Church of Saint Aignan, Chartres, France. The windows in the church, by Charles Lorin (1874-1940), show scenes of the Old Testament. In this part of the windows are Adam and Eve banished from the Garden of Eden by an angel.





Happy dates



August Birthdays

1	Earl Mulley	11	Barb Henry	23	Pat Koller
2	Janna Lyndon	12	Edie Loveday	27	Cynthia Morgan
	Suzanne New	13	LuDean Walston	28	Jim Hess
	Barbara McAnarney	14	Beverly Carpenter		Pat McPheters
8	Judy Stewart	23	Carol Clark	29	Bill Reynolds
	Sharon Hogue			30	Barbara Harris-Chambliss

August Anniversaries

1	Donna and Randy Toney	42yrs	23	Marilyn and Jerral Johnson	66yrs
4	Teresa and Sam Arant	44yrs		Judy and Duane Sonnenberg	64yrs
6	Eleanor and Donald Elsenheimer	63yrs	26	Mary Ann and Bill Reynolds	61yrs
10	Joyce and Paul Hayek	65yrs	30	Emily and Dennis Faulk	65yrs
19	Jim and Nancy Patton	45yrs		Barbara and Earl Mulley	36yrs

Kirk receives Covid related funds

Early 2023 the Kirk received notice that we could be eligible for Employee Retention Credit Program (ERC) funds from the government for keeping our employees working through Covid. In questioning ERC GO, the accounting firm that handled these refunds, we learned that churches were eligible. We moved forward with a claim. The total claimed was \$68,451.66. The firm required 15% for their fee. They walked us through the process. To date we have received \$59,256.99. This includes the interest on the refund less the fee to ERC GO. There may be a small amount still to come.

Contributed by Sharon Gardner, Finance Committee Moderator



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



Kirk Calendar



(Changes may occur – check with Kirk office)

“A Summer of Psalms”
August 2, 9 - 9:00-10:30

“A Matter of Balance”- August 21, 24, 28, 31- 1:30-3:30

AARP Driver Safety- August 24, 11:00- 4:00

Library Open House- August 26, 27 following worship

Pilgrimage Renewal-August 5

Helping Hands-August 8 - 9:00

PW Circles- Summer Break

Shepherd Group 5- Dinner August 8

Choir Rehearsal- August 30, 3:00

Committee Meetings

Session- August 11, 10:00

Administration- August 3
Member Outreach- August 1, 9:00

Fellowship- August 8, 10:00 a.m.

Christian Education- August 17, 9:00

Congregational Care- August 21, 10 :00

Communications- August 31, 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

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