

A Voice in the Pines



Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines Newsletter

Volume XLV, September 2023

Rector lends a hand to fledgling Bluebirds

You might wonder what's going on if, on the front nine of Magellan golf course, you see a person zipping along in a golf cart without any visible clubs. He is driving out of the field of play, so he can't be golfing. What he is doing is monitoring Eastern Bluebird nesting boxes. There are fourteen boxes on Magellan's front nine. They are monitored weekly from late March until the end of August by Gary Rector.

Gary has been volunteering this service for the HSV Audubon Society for about 15 years. He says he has a general interest in birds and in the survival of this species. Eastern Bluebirds were an endangered species in 1974 when the program began in the four-year-old Hot Springs Village. It began with 20 boxes on DeSoto golf course and has expanded, over the years, to 300 boxes. It seems that golf courses are excellent for the birds, providing open grassy areas for food and trees for protection. All it lacked was natural nesting places. There are now twenty regular monitors and twenty alternates for all the nine golf courses. In peak years, as many as 1400 birds are fledged.

Gary is responsible for recording Information on nest building, eggs laid, hatches, and fledglings. (continued on page 2)



Gary Rector is carefully inspecting a Bluebird box as part of monitoring the blue birds and their progeny. *Photo by Dotty Rector*

When we meet

Sunday worship service
begins at 10 a.m.

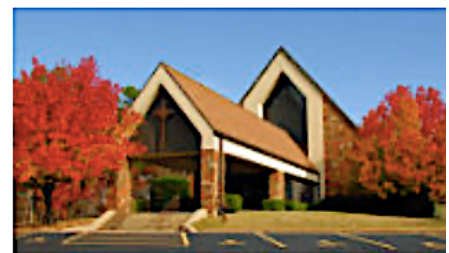


Saturday informal service
5 p.m. In Hoffius Hall

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



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



(continued from page 1)

When he approaches a box, he taps on the side to alert the mother, who may be sitting on the nest. Sometimes she flies out, sometimes she stays put. Most often, she is out searching for food. Gary opens the hinged front of the box to see what's going on, then records his observations. During part of the season he must spray all the holes in each box with pure vanilla in order to defeat buffalo gnats, which killed many babies in the past. Gary cleans out the box after fledging, readying it for the next brood. There may be two or three broods which will consecutively occupy a box in one season. Being outside is one of the perks, as well as participating in this beautiful phenomenon of nature.

Contributed by Dotty Rector, Communications Committee member

Sue New says thank you for love and care

I want to thank the members of the Kirk for their support, prayers, cards, calls and meals that were given during Chuck's illness and passing.

I especially want to thank Pastor Bailey for his visits at the hospital. This meant a great deal to Chuck and me.

Again, my heartfelt thanks to all as your support and concerns has helped me through a very dark time in my life.

Peace
Sue New

John 14:1-3 (NIV)

Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. ² My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.



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**

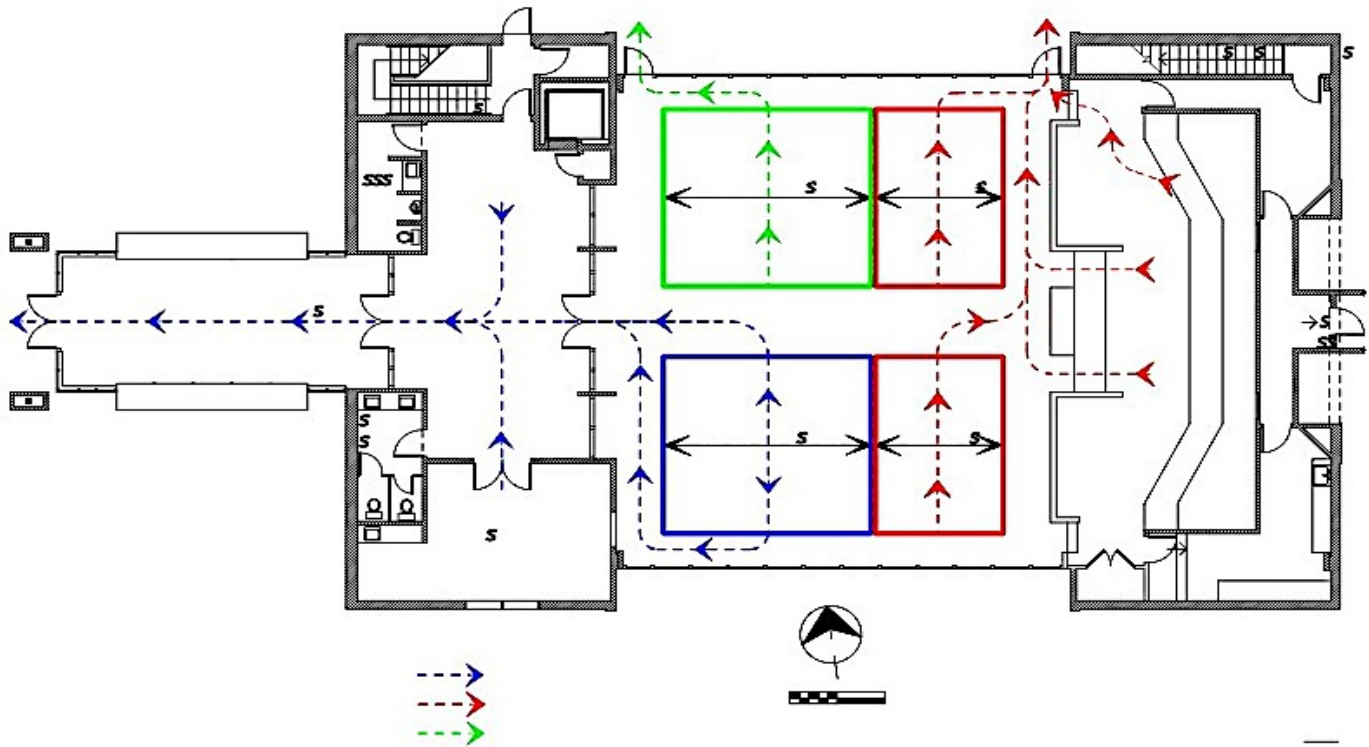
**** TREBLE IN THE VILLAGE**

**** VOICES RISING**

Give flowers to remember loved ones

Provide flowers for Sunday worship to remember a loved one or celebrate a special occasion.

Bouquets are \$40 and rose buds are \$12.50. Sign up on the "flower calendar" in Hoffius Hall or call Sandy Adams at 915-9006.



Evacuation

Be aware of what you should do in emergency

“In event of an emergency, please proceed to the nearest exit and depart the building.”

You may have heard similar words while attending a program at the Woodlands or some other venue. But are you aware the Kirk has a recommended evacuation plan in place?

The plan, which is posted in the narthex near the sound booth, is shown above.

Study it carefully, noting the egress to follow from the different areas. Since most of us regularly sit in the same area, take special note of what route you should follow if there is a fire or some other catastrophic

event.

Remember these key instructions:

- Exits are clearly designated. Two of them are the doors on the north (Asturias) side of the sanctuary.
- Don't panic and start running. Instead walk briskly to your exit.
- Don't use the elevator.
- Be sensitive to those with mobility problems. Help them leave the building.
- Move away from the building by going to the main (west) parking lot.
- Remember: Emergency vehicles may be arriving, so stay

out of their way.

- Don't return to the building until cleared by proper authority.

I'm reminded of these words from the emergency procedures section of an aircrew operating manual: STOP-THINK-COLLECT YOUR WITS. Keep those words in mind if the Kirk has a crisis situation.

In future months, we'll cover such topics as “Tornado Safety.” Don't fail to miss the next exciting episode.

Contributed by Darell Fisher, member of the Finance Committee.

The Pastor's Corner

Watching an advertisement for an upcoming pre-season football game reminded me that it's beginning to look a lot like fall! For many of us, September can be a favorite time of year. It can also become, even in retirement, one of the busiest seasons of the year.

This is especially true at the Kirk as fall activities begin to fill our days. The Wednesday Bible study and Thursday Discussion groups will resume after this coming Labor Day, September 6 and 7. The Choir will resume, as will the Presbyterian Women, Circles and Shepherd Groups, as well as many of the Committees of the church that have taken the summer off. Fall is, indeed, a busy time for us all.

As always, some of us thrive on activity, while others among us dread it. As people of faith, we should always be mindful to concentrate our efforts on those things that are most important. We should always try to focus our time, talent and treasure on the service that Christ has gifted and called us to.

All of this takes discernment, as we seek God's leading and the guidance of the Holy Spirit. We believe that God is at work in the unfolding of history as well as in the ordinary routines of each day. Our



Pastor Bill Bailey

job is to be attentive and faithful.

As you find your daily schedules filling up this fall, do try to remember to try and balance your lives. As you give of yourselves to others, be mindful to also take care of yourself. Seek to cultivate the habit of "practicing the presence of God" and daily prayer as you go through each day—this way we might find renewal amidst the business of life.

Peace,
Bill

Book study to highlight Bonhoeffer

Beginning this September 7, the Kirk will begin a study of "The Life and Witness of Dietrich Bonhoeffer." Those of you familiar with Bonhoeffer know that he was a German theologian, Lutheran pastor, and active in the church struggles under the National Socialists in Germany in the 1930's. During the war he was active in the resistance movement against Hitler and was arrested and eventually murdered in 1945.

We will be studying Bonhoeffer's life as well as reading his small book, *Life Together*, his account of leading the preacher's seminary at Finkenwalde in 1935-37. In addition to the reading, we will watch and discuss together two documentary films about Bonhoeffer's life and the extraordinary times in which he lived.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer continues to be a compelling figure for many inside and outside the church. You are invited to join us as we wrestle with his witness for us today. The class meets for eight weeks, September 7 through October 26, from 9:00 to 10:30 am in the Kirk's Conference Room.

(*Life Together* is available online through a number of book sellers.)

From the Kirk Clerk

Fall is coming. The kids are back in school. Although the weather is still hot as I write this, cooler weather is on the way. Traditional church activities that take a hiatus during the summer are about to “heat up.”

The choir will be beginning to prepare beautiful music for worship. Bill’s leadership with sermons and prayers are an inspiration to guide our daily lives throughout the week. Coffee hour provides welcome fellowship opportunities. (Note: We always can use more cookies.)

We are thankful for this Kirk. It means a lot to Barbara and me and pray that it does for you, too.

Session Report:

Clerk of the Session Tony Booth named the nominating committee for the Class of 2026 Session Members to include Bruce Dale, James Knox, Sue New, Martha Nielsen, and Tony Booth (Chair). Elders whose terms are concluding are Bob Morrow, Marcia Bauer, and Priscilla Hayek.

Discussion was held regarding the Session’s Annual Retreat at Ferncliff CCC. The retreat will be held October 3-4 at Ferncliff.

Church Statistics: As of August 11th, Members 233 and 153 family units.

Loss of Kirk Members: We are sad to report the death of four long time Kirk members. Please keep them and their families in your prayers.

Ted K. Sampsel died on July 9th. No service is planned for the Kirk.

Charles (Chuck) E. New passed away on July 17th. Memorial services are pending at this time.

Ken Wolf died on August 4th. A memorial service will be held at the Kirk on September 16 at 10:30am with reception to follow.

Joyce Leeming died on August 13th in Friday Harbor, Wash. No services are planned at this time.

Committee Reports:

Fellowship Committee: Pat Kuntz reported that 86 attended the Fish Fry. The fall Chili Cook-off is scheduled for October 25th.

Finance: Sharon Gardner distributed the monthly statement and noted specifically General Fund receipts for July of \$23,575 and YTD \$267,885 with disbursements YTD \$232,445. We are tracking close

The Clerk's Corner Tony Booth



to the anticipated rate.

Memorial Garden/Grounds: Priscilla Hayek reported a break-in at the parking lot storage shed but apparently nothing was taken. A motion was made and approved to dispose of the contents of the shed and remove the shed from the parking lot.

Outreach: Ben Meek reported that a new Pictorial Directory is being planned with photos to be taken November 1-4. The HSV Community Fair will be held September 13th and he will need volunteers to staff the church’s booth. He cited progress on the golf shirt program.

Missions: Judith Rosenthal stated the committee will not meet in July or August but will resume in September.

Worship: Gail Salmen noted that we are still looking for a memorial coordinator. She also made a plea for cookie makers to step up production.

Building: Bill Worthley reported that remodeling in the Smallman Parlor is ongoing. He is returning the thermostats in the facility to manual mode rather than automatic. Cleaning the storage area under the west-end stairs is underway. He issued a reminder that smoking is not permitted anywhere in the church.

Christian Education: Martha Nielsen reminded us of the library open house after worship services on August 26th and 27th.

Congregational Care: Marcia Bauer reported on members in hospitals and/or in need of care.

Bailey Bible Study to resume in September!

Pastor Bailey will resume the weekly Wednesday Bible Study on selected parables and the Beatitudes this fall beginning September 6 from 9:00-10:30 in Hoffius Hall.

Aging gracefully involves body and mind

Did you know that each Tuesday from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. a group of Kirk members and others participate in the Ageless Grace® and Tai Chi program in the Kirk's Hoffius Hall? The class has been offered at the Kirk since 2009, with a brief two-year hiatus during the Covid pandemic.

Ageless Grace® Brain Health Fitness, is a brain-body program based on stimulation of neuroplasticity to support cognitive health and activate primary functions of the brain. The program uses physical "games" that work the body core and the organs and systems of the body. The program is practiced in a chair, to cause the brain to figure out how to do these activities seated rather than standing. Performing the tools in a chair also affects physical skills, such as balance, stability, range of motion.

Tai Chi is an ancient meditative martial-art activity that is practiced world-wide and has been shown in studies to strengthen both body and mind. It is a "gentle form of exercise which can help maintain strength, flexibility, and balance and could be the perfect activity for the rest of your life" according to *Harvard Health* magazine (May 2022).

These sessions are led by Kathy Packard. Kathy is Education Director at the Oaklawn Center for Aging, part of the UAMS Reynolds Institute on Aging. You will recognize Kathy's name since she recently spoke at the *Caring for Ourselves and Others* workshop and is currently leading the *A Matter of Balance* course at the Kirk. Kathy uses



Ageless Grace/Tai Chi class led by Kathy Packard exercises to the music of "Mack the Knife."
Bob Morrow photo

exercises and other activities that address a wide range of aging related problems including cognitive issues, arthritis, diabetes, back pain, and osteoporosis. She tailors the exercises to the physical limitations of participants. Many of the exercises and activities, as noted, are performed while comfortably seated.

The classes are free and are ongoing throughout the year. If you have ever wanted to do something to slow the effects of aging of your mind and body, this class may be for you. For more information contact the Kirk Office at 501-922-1333. **Contributed by Bob Morrow, Communications Committee Moderator, excerpts from 2017 article by Judy Carroll.**

Thinking of You

Each week you have the opportunity to share your love and concern for Kirk members who are hospitalized or in recovery from illness or surgery. You can do this by adding your signature to cards that will be sent to the Kirk member. The cards are located in Hoffius Hall on Saturday evening and Sunday Coffee Hour and in the Narthex on Sunday morning.

Save the Date

for

The Annual Kirk

Chili Cook-off

October 25, 5:30, Hoffius Hall

More Details to Follow



“Ladies Day Out” to feature speaker, lunch, and missions fun

Don't miss the *Ladies Day Out* event presented by the Kirk Presbyterian Women on Monday, September 11, 2023, in Hoffius Hall. It will be an enjoyable and informative afternoon starting with lunch at 12:00 p.m. followed by a program featuring Susan Clark, Cedar Mountain Boys & Girls Club Director. Lunch will be catered by Artfully Baked & Brewed in Hot Spring Village. The Boys & Girls club is one of the 2023-2024 PW mission partners, and we are proud to support the young people in our community. All attendees are also encouraged to bring a school supply item from the school kit list below to donate.



Lunch is \$15 and lunch reservations can be made by signing up either in Hoffius Hall or in the Narthex of the sanctuary. Please let us know you are coming for lunch by reserving your spot by September 5th.

In addition, an optional pre-program work project begins at 11:00 a.m. in Hoffius Hall. We will be assembling School Kit cloth bags for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Gifts of the Heart program. Sewing machines and pre-cut cloth bag fabric kits will be available.

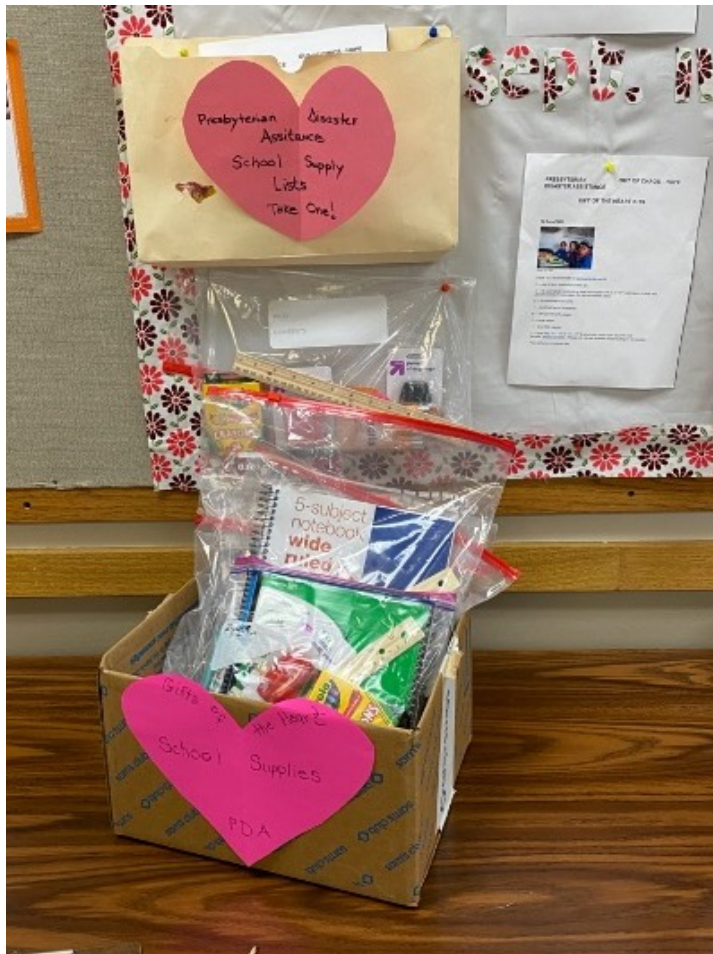
These school kits will be delivered to Ferncliff Disaster Relief Center and sent on to the areas with the greatest needs. Thank you for doing your part in answering the needs of children around the globe.

For questions contact Susan Morrow, PW Moderator, at susu2morrow@gmail.com.

Gifts from the Heart School Kit

Please bring one of these items to donate:

- 1 — pair of blunt scissors (round tip)
- 3 — 70-count spiral notebooks or tape-bound pads of 8" x 10 1/2" ruled paper or pads with 200-210 sheets of ruled paper. Do not include loose notebook paper.
- 1 — 12 inch ruler (30-centimeter)
- 1 — hand-held pencil sharpener
- 6 — new pencils with erasers
- 1 — large eraser
- 1 — box of 24 crayons





The Kirk Choir will start singing in worship on September 3. We welcome anyone who loves to sing to join us. Come check us out on any Wednesday afternoon, beginning August 30, from 3:00 to 4:15 for rehearsal.

We will begin our preparations for special music for the Kirkin' on September 24, *The Summons*, "*Will You Come and Follow Me*". This wonderful Scottish anthem of John Bell is an insightful arrangement by Tom Trenney of Lincoln, Nebraska. John Bell recently retired from the Iona Community in Scotland, where he had served for over 40 years as a resource worker, minister, and music leader. His approach [was] composing songs within the identifiable traditions of hymnody that began to address concerns missing from the current Scottish hymnal: "I discovered that seldom did our hymns represent the plight of poor people to God. There was nothing that dealt with unemployment, nothing that dealt with living in a multicultural society and feeling disenfranchised. There was nothing about child abuse..., that reflected concern for the



Members of this men's quartet (plus one) sang "How Great Thou Art" on August 20th. From left are Bill Wiard, Jim Lehnerd, Cal Doody, Jim Moore and George Vierling.

Jamie Federick photo

developing world, There was nothing about child abuse..., that reflected concern for the developing world, poverty or persecution." [from an interview in *Reformed Worship* (March 1993)].

We also say "thanks" one more time for the volunteer singers and musicians who contributed to our summer worship services.

Contributed by Randy Toney, Kirk Music Director



On August 27 members of the Kirk Choir sang motets, an early form of music including *Cantate Domino* (*Sing to the Lord a New Song*) From left, front, Susan Morrow, Fran Stroud, Jamie Federick, Sarah Owen, Jean Mowry, Tina Kneisler, Melissa Sonnen and Patty Barnes. From left, rear, Abe Stroud, Bob Morrow, Clark Mowry, Ron Kneisler, and Darell Fisher. Randy Toney, Director

Robert Sonnen photo. 8



A "select" men's choir sang "Joshua Fit the Battle of Jericho" on August 13 accompanied by Donna Toney and Susan Morrow in a four hands arrangement for piano. From left, Randy Toney (Director), Abe Stroud, Clark Mowry, Bob Morrow, Darell Fisher, Dave Hamilton, Mike Terry, Ben Meek, and Bob Newlin. *Jamie Federick photo*

Feed my sheep!

Imagine having to live on what is donated as your only source of food for yourself or your family. We 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 Davis will be delivering food to the pantries we support.

One sure fire way to donate is to bring a can of food or other food donation every time you attend any activity at the Kirk! This can be your service to the Lord. Remember Christ's command to Peter. "Feed my sheep!" (John 21:15-17)



Cookie and Gonger and Steffen



Ooh, I smell a cookie baking
Tell me, what kind are we making?
Looky, looky, what a cookie
Cookie, cookie, cookie!

Calling all Cookie Bakers

Please help us fill up the
Refrigerator for Sunday Service Cookies



Effortlessly,
Love flows from God into man,
Like a bird
Who rivers the air
Without moving her wings,
Thus we move in His world
One in body and soul,
Though outwardly separate in form.
As the Source strikes the note,
Humanity sings—
The Holy Spirit is our harpist,
And all strings
Which are touched in Love
Must sound.

Mechthild of Magdeburg
1207-1282

Kirk's Fran Brown Library open and ready for business

To enter the Fran Brown Library (right) at the grand re-opening on the weekend of August 26-27th you would have never guessed how much effort went into refreshing and reorganizing this unique space. Many hours went into creating a database of contents, relabeling books and videos, eliminating duplicates and dated books, and more. Led by Martha Nielsen, Moderator of the Christian Education Committee and with the indispensable help of members of the committee and other volunteers, the library is now in tip top shape. Thanks are due to all those who were part of this effort!

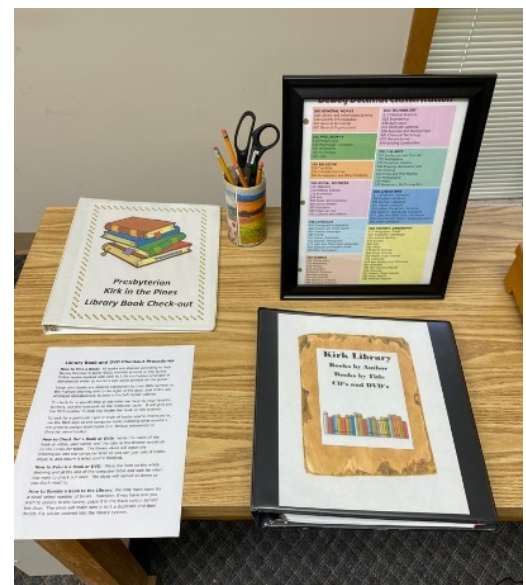


Library “elf” Martha Nielsen (left, center), notice the ears, demonstrates the simple process of checking out a book to Bruce Dale (left), Mary Ann Dale, and Nell White (right).

Jamie Federick photo



Gary Rector (left) and David Rosenquist inspect the stacks in the newly reorganized Fran Brown Library. ***Jamie Federick photo***



Simply locate your book or video in the binder marked “Books by author, title, subject” (above, bottom right), choose your book from the shelves, then enter the books name, the date, and your name in the check-out binder (top left).

Bob Morrow photo

In Memoriam

Kenneth Don Wolf, Sr.

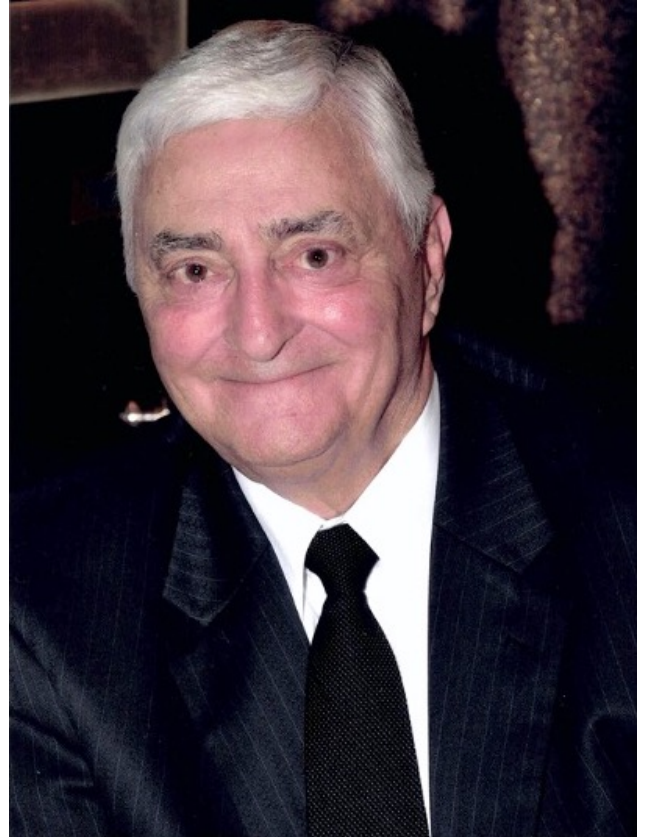
Kenneth Don Wolf, Sr. went to his Heavenly home on Friday, August 4, 2023, while surrounded by his family. Ken was born in Tulsa, Oklahoma on November 19, 1934, to Royal Howard “Bud” Wolf and Mary Leta (Cleveland) Wolf. He was preceded in death by his parents and brother, Fred Wolf.

After graduating from Tulsa’s Will Rogers High School in 1952, Ken joined the U.S. Marine Corps. Upon completion of combat training at Camp Pendleton, California, he requested sea school and was subsequently assigned to the USS Curtiss as the Admiral’s Orderly aka “bodyguard” during the hydrogen bomb testing in the Marshall Islands. Ken’s active and reserves service ended in 1959, but he continued serving as a civilian with the U.S. Air Force in Contract Technical Services.

Ken then went to work for Kerr-McGee Oil Industries where he met a beautiful young secretary named Kelle. After a whirlwind three-month courtship, they eloped to Miami, Oklahoma where they were married in the First Christian Church.

During their 65 years of marriage Ken and Kelle lived in Oklahoma, California, Illinois, and Texas while he worked in the field of sales for the manufacturing of electrical equipment for power utility and telephone companies.

During retirement Ken kept busy by working for the HSV Property Owners’ Association in the Golf Department, serving on the Board of Directors for Vera Lloyd Presbyterian Family Services, being an active member of Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines, volunteering for the HSV Jr. Golf program and multiple other organizations, and traveling, playing golf, dominoes, cribbage



and various other card games.

Ken leaves a strong and loving legacy to his survivors: Kelle, his wife of 65 years, wonderful children Shelle Boger (Clint), Kenneth Don “Bud” Wolf, Jr. (Tania), Teresa Jones (Lee), seven grandchildren Lindsey, Matthew, Adam, Alexandra, Kenneth Don III (Trace), Brandon, Ryan, and seven great grandchildren.

“Stand tall and hum the Marine Corps Hymn.”

A memorial service with Marine Veteran Honors will be held Saturday, September 16, 2023, at 10:30 am at the Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines. Remembrance gifts in lieu of flowers can be made to Vera Lloyd Presbyterian Family Services or the Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines Choir Fund.

Interesting American twist to story of Scottish Kirkin'

On September 16, 2018, Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines held a *Kirkin' o' the Tartans* in celebration of the church's Scottish traditions. Before the Covid pandemic the celebration service was held every three years. This was the first service I ever attended at this church. My husband, Dan and I had only lived in Hot Springs Village for about a year.

On that September day at that service, the modern Clan Lamont (our family clan) tartan was among the tartan banners carried down the center aisle by church members in procession following the pipers to begin the service. Despite my Scottish heritage, I had never seen such a celebration before. It took a while, but two years later, on September 11, 2020, I joined the Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines. Actually, when I saw the Clan Lamont tartan at that first visit, they had me! I thought "One of these years I hope to have the privilege of carrying the Clan Lamont Tartan in procession behind the Pipers leading the way into the *Kirkin' o' the Tartans* service." On September 24th, 2023, that dream will come true.

For those of you who aren't familiar with the history of *Kirkin' o' the Tartans* here is all you need to know. On July 25, 1745, the young Prince Charles Edward Stewart, "Bonnie Prince Charlie" returned from exile in France and landed in Scotland. There he began to enlist the Highland Clans for an unsuccessful attempt to dethrone George II of England and to restore the Scottish throne to the Royal House of Stewart.

Following Prince Charlie's defeat at the April 16, 1746 Battle of Culloden, the Act of Proscription, to subdue the vanquished Highlanders, banned the wearing of any sign of the Tartan, forbade any speaking in Gaelic, outlawed Scottish music, dancing, or the playing of the pipes.

During the 36 years following the Disarming Act of 1746, the Hanoverian English government

starting with George I strictly enforced this ban. Legend says that during their Sunday services Scottish Highlanders would touch the hidden piece of tartan cloth under their clothes when the minister gave the benediction or *Kirkin'*, thus rededicating themselves to God and their Scottish heritage.

The Act of Proscription was eventually repealed on August 1, 1782, thanks to the efforts of the Highland Society of London, (given royal assent by George III on 1st July 1782) with a printed declaration issued in both Gaelic and English afterwards. Reality of course, is less romantic, but has a pleasing ironic twist. The real history of the *Kirkin'* service is "All American," with a Scottish "twist." The very traditions that supposedly began as an act of rebellion against the British now supported their efforts two centuries later. The Rev. Peter Marshall, originally from Coatbridge, Scotland, was the pastor of the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church in Washington DC, and served as Chaplain of the United States Senate before his untimely death in 1949. In 1955, Richard Todd played Dr. Marshall in the movie, *A Man Called Peter*.

(continued page 13)



Members of the Lyon College Pipes and Drums at the September 16, 2018, *Kirkin' O' the Tartans*'. **Jamie Federick photo** 12

(continued from page 12)

Rev. Marshall is believed to be the originator of the *Kirkin' o' the Tartans* service. During the Second World War, Rev. Marshall held prayer services at New York Avenue to raise funds for British war relief. At one of the services in the early 1940s Rev. Marshall gave a sermon entitled "the Kirkin' o' the Tartans". The funds raised went toward a mobile kitchen in Britain.

Rev. Marshall was very proud of his Scottish home and was a member of the St. Andrew's Society of Washington DC, who assisted him with his first Kirkin' services.

After Marshall's untimely death in 1949 and starting in 1954, the Washington Kirkin service has been held at the National Cathedral. Since the mid-1950s the tradition has spread to many other churches of different denominations all across the country.

Make plans to attend the reprisal of Kirkin' O' the Tartans' at 10 a.m., Sunday morning, September 24th. Hopefully with this post-Covid revival, the *Kirkin' o' the Tartans* tradition will continue at the Kirk for many years to come.

Contributed by Cheryl Boehmke, Kirkin' committee member.



Donna Toney leads as the 29 Tartans on display at the 2018 Kirkin' leave the sanctuary following the service of worship. From the front: Donna Toney (McIntosh), Karen Sorensen (Sutherland), Judy Rosenthal (Scott), and Carol Sue Williams (Thompson). *Jamie Federick photo*



Kirkin' needs help with not so "High Tea"

The Kirkin' is right around the corner on September 24th! We need help with our not quite High Tea but Upscale Reception. If you can bring fruit trays, veggie trays, cookies and tiny desserts or any canapés, please let Sharon Gardner know at 612-803-4421 or puffchop38@yahoo.com. It will be much appreciated.

Sharon Gardner and the Kirkin' Committee

Kirk in the Pines Financial Report Year to Date: July 31, 2023

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Funds</u>	
General Fund:			Checking Balance	\$124,383
Receipts	\$243,236	\$267,885	Special Funds	
Disbursements	\$243,236	\$232,445	Memorial Fund	\$95,199
Building Fund:			Choir Fund	\$10,217
Receipts	\$30,800	\$22,934	Luke 12:48 Fund	\$272,564
Disbursements	\$30,800	\$34,264	Programs Fund	\$16,438
Total all Funds:			Endowment Fund	\$698,036
Receipts	\$274,036	\$290,819	Maack-Ormsbee Fund	\$54,424
Disbursements	\$274,036	\$266,709	Total Special Funds (as of June 30)	\$1,146,878
			Total All Funds	\$1,271,261

\$300 for Missions!

Thank you for generously supporting our Mission Dollar campaign by placing your single dollar bills in the offering plate. \$300 were collected in July.

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 Notes:

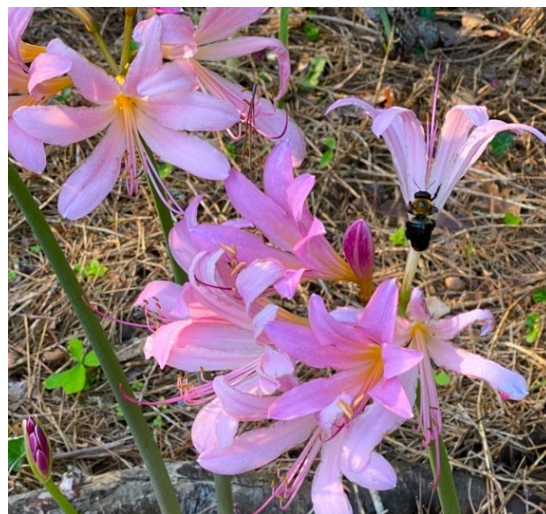
Where we stand on the budget: As of July 31st, our total offerings are in excess of our budget. This does not include funds from the IRS (see below).

Money received from IRS: We received a total of \$68,431 from the IRS as part of the Covid era Employee Retention Credit program. After paying the accounting firm that assisted us with our application, we have received a net \$59,253.

LuDean Walston says thank you for care and encouragement

My Life is so blessed with some of the most amazing people. Thank you for trying to make things easier for me. Each of you have encouraged me, sent cards, called and visited and have assured me that my church family will always be there.

Please know that I am forever grateful.
LuDean Walston



Amaryllis belladonna (and bee),
Memorial Garden. **Bob Morrow photo** 14

When God weeps, and why

The Apostle Paul in his Epistle to the Philippians pointed out in Chapter 2, though Christ shared the nature of God, He emptied Himself for the purpose at hand – to minister to and redeem the world. No theology beyond faith adequately explains the incarnation but “God was in Christ reconciling the world unto Himself!” (2 Corinthians 5:19)

The Genesis account records the creator God shaping man “in the image of God.” (Genesis 1:27) This would indicate Jesus was what the creator had in mind. Our study of Jesus Christ in the Gospels is a template of what was envisioned. Jesus being brought to tears would reflect the Father in grievous distress.

There are pictured two occasions when Jesus wept and one record of him in tears (John 11:35, Luke 19:41, Hebrews 5:7-9). One was at the death of Lazarus, a family friend, another, the occasion of Jesus’ triumphal entry and destined final visit to Jerusalem, and the third, the extensive experiences of his earthly ministry. We are naturally prompted to address the overarching reason. Why did Jesus Christ weep?

Jesus understood the sadness of loss and the pain felt by the two sisters at the death of their brother. The tension surrounding these events had been building for nearly a week - illness and death of Lazarus, the initial delay and eventual trip to Judea under duress of danger, the confusing reports of illness, sleep, death, potential hint of martyrdom bundled with promise of glory and trust. What Jesus understood was he offered the solution if only they would wait on him. The Luke passage laid out that reality for the entire nation of Israel only if they would be willing to listen and understand. The writer of Hebrews describes the ministry of Jesus in terms of seeking to make clear the Father had the answer if only the nations would respond in faith.

God weeps as His heart is broken by a creation made for the better if only they would listen and respond to Him in faith. May the Kirk constantly be so!

Contributed by Lowell Gardner, former Communications Committee Moderator

“Then He Wept” by Enrique Simonet (1866-1927). Jesus on the Mount of Olives wept over Jerusalem. The look on the disciples and others faces register their surprise at his weeping. On the far left a man holding a palm branch anticipates the triumphal entry of Christ into Jerusalem.





Happy dates



September Birthdays

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

September Anniversaries

1	Marci and Bill Drews	34yrs	15	Rita and Tom Martick	61yrs
	Kathy Hill and Stan Luczkowski	5yrs	19	Barbara and Bill Worthley	24yrs
5	Barbara and Walter Fuquay	58yrs	27	Mary Ann and Bruce Dale	20yrs
	Pat and Mel Kuntz	59yrs	30	Eve and Don Webb	7yrs
11	Judy and Bob Corwin	64yrs			

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Kirk Calendar



(Changes may occur – check with Kirk office)

Bible Study – Wednesday, Weekly- Begins Sept. 6, 9:00-10:30

“A Matter of Balance”-Sept. 7, 14, 18, 21- 1:30-3:30

“The Life and Times of Dietrich Bonhoeffer”, Thursday, Weekly- Begins Sept. 7, 9:00-10:30

Kirkin’ o’ the Tartans, Sept. 24, 10:00 am

Ageless Grace/Tai Chi- Tuesdays, 3:30, Hoffius Hall
Pilgrimage Renewal-Sept. 2, 10am

PW “Ladies Day Out”- Sept. 11, 12:00 p.m.

Helping Hands-Sept. 12 - 9:00

Shepherd Group 2- Fish Fry, Sept. 15, 11am-2pm

Choir Rehearsal- Wed. 3:00, Sept. 6, 13, 20, 27

Committee Meetings

Session- Sept. 8, 10:00

Administration- Sept. 7, 1:00

Christian Education- Sept. 25, 9:00

Communications- Sept. 26, 10:00

Congregational Care- Sept. 18, 10 :00

Fellowship- Sept 12, 10:00

Member Outreach- Sept. 5, 9:00

Missions- Sept. 14, 3:00

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.

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