

A Voice in the Pines

Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines Newsletter

Volume 69

September 2025



We celebrate Labor Day to recognize the hard work, dedication, and sacrifices made by the American work force and the labor movement. Established as a national holiday in 1894 by President Grover Cleveland, Labor Day occurs on the first Monday in September and marks the unofficial end of Summer.

When We Meet

Sunday Traditional Worship 10 a.m.- Sanctuary Saturday Informal Worship 5 p.m.- Bailey Hall



Don't Miss Your Opportunity: Watch for the Upcoming Time and Talent Request!

A Call to Engage, Inspire, and Make a Difference in Our Kirk Community

As autumn's golden leaves begin to tumble and the new season beckons us to reflect on our shared journey, we're delighted to announce an important opportunity for all members and friends of the Kirk. Over the coming days, you'll want to keep a watchful eye on your mailbox, because the much-anticipated Time and Talent request is on its way.

What Is the Time and Talent Request?

The Time and Talent request is more than just a letter—it is a heartfelt invitation to everyone in our community to consider how their unique gifts, skills, and passions can make a meaningful impact. Whether you are a long-standing member or new to our fold, this annual initiative is our way of gathering together the diverse abilities that make our community vibrant, resilient, and forward-thinking.

Why Is Your Participation So Important?

At the core of every thriving group lies a tapestry woven from the time and talents of its members. When you take a moment to read the Time and Talent request and respond, you are helping to shape the future of our community. Your skills—whether professional, artistic, technical, or practical—are the threads that strengthen our foundation and expand the reach of our mission.

- Community spirit: By volunteering your time or sharing your talents, you foster a culture
 of collaboration and generosity.
- Personal growth: Engaging with new projects and people allows you to discover new interests, develop skills, and build confidence.
- Lasting impact: The events, programs, and outreach activities we accomplish together ripple outward, touching lives and creating memories.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRAYERFUL PLAN TO SHARE YOUR TIME AND TALENT!

Contributed by Ruth Hamilton, Clerk of the Session

Kathy Martin returns to the Kirk

Kathy Martin was raised in Lubbock, Texas, and attended Texas Tech University, studying accounting. She finished her degree sometime later at Texas A&M at Commerce. After many years as a stay-at-home mom, she entered the business world as an accountant with a public accounting firm in Dallas TX. After about six years, she went to work for one of her clients, a cardiology medical practice, which she enjoyed until retirement in 2011.

Having visited friends living in Hot Springs Village, Kathy decided to move here upon retirement. As the wife of a Methodist minister, now deceased, she has moved frequently throughout her life, and has resided in thirteen different towns and cities. She was attracted to the beauty of this part of Arkansas...the trees and mountains especially. In fact, she never even considered any other location! She enjoys her friendship with Woody and Kali White.

During her years as a stay-at-home mom, Kathy raised three sons, one of whom is deceased. David is a software production manager in Dallas and Peter is an architect in Austin. Kathy's four grandchildren are scattered and are currently either working, traveling, or still in college. Joshua works at Central Market in Dallas; Molly is a teacher in Lubbock; Audrey lives in Chicago and is a graphic artist for television; and Coleman is studying for a degree in Business Administration pursuing his interest in fashion marketing and design.



Kathy Martin
Robert Sonnen photo

"I'm here for a reason", Kathy states. Having experienced a lot of tragedy in her life, she stated that her faith in God makes her strong and the Village surrounds her with beauty. Having belonged to Methodist Churches all her life, she joined the Kirk in the Pines recently where she regularly attends worship.

Contributed by Dotty Rector, Communications
Committee member

Cheryl and Madison Pedigo bring many talents to the Kirk

Madison grew up in an Air Force family where he attended general protestant services and developed an ecumenical view that all believers are members of the Body of Christ. Madison attended college at UT Austin, where he earned degrees in Biochemistry and an MBA. After college, Madison worked for Texas Instruments for 29 years. The last half of his career included managing multiple M&A projects, and co-founding and managing Tl's Venture Capital Program.

(continued on page 4)



Cheryl and Madison Pedigo

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(continued from page 3)

After retiring from TI in 2009, Madison joined UT Dallas teaching graduate and undergraduate innovation and entrepreneurship (I&E) courses. He went on to become the Director for the I&E Academic Programs at UTD from 2014-2018. As Chairman of the Ranking Initiatives Committee, he led the undergraduate and graduate I&E programs to becoming ranked in the top 25 entrepreneurship schools by the Princeton Review. After retiring from UTD, Madison continues to teach online undergraduate courses part time. Madison has participated in bible studies, mission activities, and in choirs at several churches. Madison is also a Stephen Minister in the United Methodist Church.

A native of Monroe, Louisiana and secondgeneration Louisiana Tech graduate, Cheryl A. Pedigo enjoyed a diverse career with Fortune 500 companies such as Apple Computer, Criterion Investments (private equity), and Proctor & Gamble. Her professional background was management, focused on sales, and administration/administrative support primarily in Lafayette, Louisiana and Houston, Texas, the latter where she was proud to have purchased her own home as a single woman.

Upon marriage to Madison, Cheryl pivoted to Research and Development of Human Capital (stay at home mom) for 27 years, along with Madison raising Elise and Kelse, both of whom are successful tax paying citizens! Mission accomplished!

When life changed at 44 due to severe health issues, Cheryl focused her attention towards being utilized by God in the field, serving as a Children's Choir Director of a small Methodist Church, traveling with the NE District Lay Leader to underserved Methodist Churches outside the Dallas Metroplex and Victoria Gardens-Allen, Texas by leading and providing order of service music, singing favorite hymns to congregants as part of the Communion Team and to the terminally ill, and as a Stephen Minister to sends her those God way to offer encouragement. Musically, she participated in "Pageant!" of First Baptist Church-Houston, a choir/orchestra of over 400 people, a soloist in Grief Services and a Martin Luther King Celebration-Plano, Texas, and various size choirs as a solo/ensemble participant for over 40 years.

Cheryl continues her membership in The Cat Fanciers Association Abyssinian Breed Council, where her LA'Roux Tiramisu was featured as pet centerfold in the 2011 Cat Fancy Magazine; she was selected by the Albuquerque, NM "Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk" as a "2019 Portrait of Hope" representing her ZTA Albuquerque, NM Alumnae Chapter as a spokesperson for breast cancer awareness and as an active alumna of Collin County Zeta Tau Alpha.

Contributed by Cheryl and Madison Pedigo

PW resumes September 8

Presbyterian Women of the Kirk study God's word, pray together, engage in mission and enjoy fellowship with each other. There are two Circles that meet on the second Monday of each month (September – May). The Joy Circle meets at 10am in the Conference Room and the Grace Circle meets at 4pm in Bailey Hall. Contact Becky Wakefield, PW Moderator for more information at becky_wakefield@sbcglobal.net.



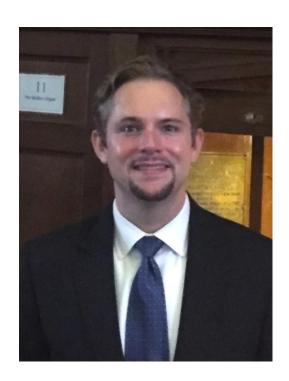


Please extend a warm Kirk welcome to the Cedar Mountain Singers

The Cedar Mountain Singers community chorus is happy to make the Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines their "new home." This long-standing community chorus is now in their 32nd season of offering free concerts to our community twice a year. The Kirk will provide rehearsal space each week along with offering a Winter and Spring Concert in the Kirk Sanctuary.

The Cedar Mountain Singers also announces a new Musical Director – Rev. Dr. Keith Hearnsberger. Father Keith as known by his parishioners at the Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in Hot Springs Village, brings an extensive musical background and training to the musical podium.

Contributed by Susan Morrow, Member, Communications Committee



Save the Date

Duo Nuovo - Echoes and Dialogues: Music in Conversation Sunday, October 26, 2025, 3:00 PM Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines, Hot Springs Village

The Hot Springs/Hot Springs Village Symphony Guild is delighted to open its 2025–2026 Classic Concert Series with **Duo Nuovo**, a compelling collaboration between Arkansas Symphony Orchestra musicians Dr. Andrew Stadler (trumpet) and Ariya Tai (violin/piano). Their program, *Echoes and Dialogues: Music in Conversation*, will be performed on **Sunday**, **October 26** at **3:00 p.m**. at Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines

General admission is \$10. Tickets can be purchased at <u>symphonyguild.org</u> (your email confirmation serves as your ticket) or at the door. The concert will last approximately one hour and will be followed by a meet-and-greet with the artists.

Contributed by Susan Morrow, Member, Communications Committee

Ferncliff Disaster Assistance Center (DAC) Workday Thursday, September 18th

Join the Kirk work group for an immersive experience to actively contribute to disaster preparedness on-site and learn more about Ferncliff's outreach efforts. DAC work inside the center from 9-12pm will involve a sitting activity inspecting and/or filling disaster kits. No heavy lifting involved.

An optional short tour of Ferncliff will follow. We end our workday with lunch under the Ferncliff Pavillion.

The Ferncliff Disaster Assistance Center is located at 27411 Kanis Road, Paron, AR. Carpooling is available. Spots are still available with limit of 20 attendees.

Contact Susan Morrow (<u>susu2morrow@gmail.com</u>) or <u>kirkinthepinesvoice@gmail.com</u> for more information.



FALL BIBLE STUDY



The Call: The Life & Message of the Apostle Paul

by Adam Hamilton



Tuesdays 10-11 am @ the Kirk Sept. 9 - Oct. 14

> Class Leader: Madison Pedigo

Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines 275 Asturias Dr.

Contact: kirkinthepinesvoice@gmail.com

"The Call" A new Fall Kirk Bible Study

The Kirk Fall Bible Study, offered by the Kirk Christian Education Committee, begins Tuesday, September 9 at the Kirk from 10-11am September 9-October 14, 2025. This fall the class will journey with the Apostle Paul guided by the intriguing book written by popular author Adam Hamilton – "The Call: The Life and Message of the Apostle Paul."

Each class begins with a brief introductory video presentation by the author. Class leader is Madison Pedigo (see bio on page 3 and 4).

For more information contact Susan Morrow (susu2morrow@gmail.com) or kirkinthepinesvoice@gmail.com

Financial Report- Year to Date July 31, 2025

Kirk Checking Balance	<u>Total Cash</u> \$82,130		
Receipts/Disbursements	July-25	Actual YTD	Annual Budget
Receipts	¢26,000	6240.660	¢240.044
General Fund	\$26,809	\$240,669	\$340,811
Other Receipts	\$325	\$15,045	\$98,901
Total Receipts	\$27,134	\$255,714	\$439,712
Dishamananta			
Disbursements	440.000	4046.056	4.00.074
General Fund	\$40,883	\$216,256	\$409,074
Other Disbursements	\$1,525	\$14,890	\$30,638
Total Disbursements	\$42 <i>,</i> 408	\$231,146	\$439,712
Total Net Income (Deficit)	(\$15,274)	\$24,508	\$0
Kirk Endowment (June 30)		\$1,080,919	
Kirk Restricted Funds			
Library Memorial		\$3,267	
Maack-Ormsbee		\$54,940	
Memorials		\$117,928	
Choir		\$12,710	
Luke 12:48		\$336,607	
Garden		\$229	
Missions		\$2,200	
Total Restricted Funds		\$527,881	

It's not too early to start thinking about Shepherd Groups

It's September and time to think about Shepherd Groups. The benefit of these small groups is that they foster frequent fellowship with other members in the church. It is an ideal way to stay in touch and offer, or receive, support when needed.

Groups stay together for 2 years then reorganize for the next two years. This is the year we reorganize all the groups and start fresh in January. Everyone has the opportunity to make changes or stay in the same group. We will offer groups that meet for breakfast, lunch, and dinner and the "Traditional" group. The traditional group plans a wide variety of fun activities throughout the year. With 52 state parks, unlimited festivals, sports, museums and art galleries it is easy find exciting outings. Think about this group if eating out is not for you.

Participating in a shepherd group is a great way to get to know new members and people who attend a different service. All members of the Kirk are automatically members of a group, but we also include visitors, friends, and neighbors.

In the October newsletter we will have more information on the Shepherd groups. For the next two months you will be given a chance to select your group but start thinking about your choices now.

Submitted by Jean Fisher, Head Shepherd Ouestions? Jean Fisher at jeanf39@att.net

Pastor's Corner

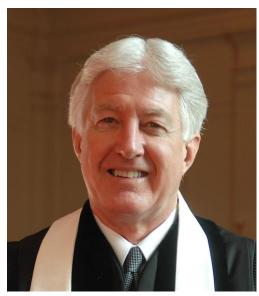
A few years ago I read an opening editorial in *Christian Century* by John Buchanan. Buchanan, a retired Presbyterian pastor, entitled his piece, "Born again and again." In it, he tells of his boyhood experiences. His remembrances should strike a familiar chord with most of you. It certainly did with me, a self-described "Bapterian."

"I was exposed to revivalism," he says, "including the tent variety, by next-door neighbors. We Buchanans were steady Presbyterians but didn't get overheated about it; our neighbors were red-hot Baptists who went to church twice on Sunday and also on Wednesday evenings... When evangelists came through town, they helped arrange revival meetings in their church or a large circus tent.

I also attended the Baptist Young People's Union. They featured great songs, Bible memorization contests that I excelled at, plentiful snacks, and cute girls. I tagged along to the revivals. The evangelist illustrated his sermon with a large flannel board and colorful characters and coordinated his appeal with the organist, who began playing softly and compellingly as the sermon came to its climax."

He tells of accepting Christ in a tent meeting, and his parents' reaction. His mother told him that for some "conversion is not a onetime, emotionally laced event but a process and that maybe I had taken one small step in a larger journey."

He then adds... "Conversion is both decision and process, and a 'decision for Christ' is made every day for the rest of our lives. We decide in the context of the lives we live - lives of amazing complexity with economic, political, and relational with challenges, moments of deep disappointment but also moments of great beauty and ecstasy.



Pastor Randy Hyde

We decide daily to be Christ's man or woman and to stumble along behind him that day as best we can.

But not for a moment do I regret or resent what happened in that tent when a preacher placed his hands on my head and asked Jesus to save me. It was one step in a journey that I've been on throughout my life and that has taken me places where I never expected to be. In some way, at some time, each of us has to get up out of our chair and decide to take a first step."

I'm proud to be a part of a church filled with good folk who have taken that "first step" and beyond. Let's continue to walk together, shall we?

Appreciatively, Pastor Randy

September Sermons

September 7 – Clearing the Room

Luke 14:25-33

September 14 – On Not Being Careful

Luke 15:1-10

September 21 – Irregular Verbs and Dangling

Participles

Luke 16:1-13

September 28 – *Mercy Too Late*

Luke 16:19-31

The Clerk's
Corner
Ruth
Hamilton



Session took a summer break in August. Instead of meeting in person on the second Friday of the month, the Session conferred by email, sharing committee reports. Of course, the Elders still carried out their monthly committee duties and the daily running of the church—those responsibilities don't stop for breaks.

At the same time the Elders had a vacation from the August Session Meeting, our pastor, Randy Hyde, took some time off too. He and Janet went to Georgia to be with their daughter as she recovered from surgery for a couple of weeks. While there, he got word that his bother in Fayetteville was dying, so leaving Janet in Atlanta with their daughter, he went to be with his brother. His brother's memorial service was Friday, August 29th. Our condolences to Rev. Hyde and the whole family. We're grateful for the visiting ministers that helped lead our Sunday worship services when Rev. Hyde was gone, but we're so glad he's back. Can you believe he has been with us for more than a year now?

Highlights of the August Stated Session Reports August 8, 2025:

New member: Kathy Martin joined the church on August 3, 2025 by reinstatement of membership and was recognized at the Sunday morning church service.

Church Statistics as of July 11, 2025: Members—197 Households—133

Deaths since July 11, 2025: Howard Baldwin on July 14, 2025

Nominating Committee: The Nominating Committee will begin its work in August to

prepare a slate of nominees for the four positions of Elder and Trustee, Class of The positions to be filled are 2028. Administration, Fellowship, Finance. Mission. Nominating Committee members include Martha Nielsen, Gary Rector, David Rosenquist, Blair Stroud and Ruth Hamilton. If you have a person you would like to recommend to fill an outgoing Elder position, please give the name(s) to Ruth Hamilton. The slate is to come from the Nominating Committee. Others may be nominated from the floor at the December Congregational meeting.

Reaffirmation of the Baptismal Covenant: Rev. Bill Seitz, on behalf of Rev. Hyde and the Kirk, officiated at a service of reaffirmation of baptismal vows for Phillip and Janetta Cunningham, Saturday, August 2, 2025. Present were Ruth and Dave Hamilton, Susan Pendergrass, Mike and Merilyn Seitz, the Cunninghams and members of their family.

PW Sunday was on August 24 2025.



Special thanks go to Vicki Rosenquist for her gardening talent and loving care of this welcoming garden outside Bailey Hall.

In Memoriam

Nancy Emily Daugherty Faulk

Nancy Emily Daugherty Faulk (Em) was born January 31, 1941 in Centralia, IL to James Earl Daugherty and Faye Williams Daugherty and passed away very peacefully in hospice care August 25. She resided in nearby Sandoval during her early years and had close ties with her father, enjoying helping him with his outdoor duties as an employee of Magnolia Oil Company. She attended school near Salem, IL, until the age of 13, when she lost her father and moved to Kensett, AR, with her mother. It was there that she became a member of the Kensett United Methodist Church and met her future husband. She was married to Dennis Faulk of Kensett and they were blessed to have what would have been 67 years of marriage on August 30.

Emily is survived by her husband Dennis, sons James Loy and John Allen, two granddaughters, Ashley Faulk Fedorchenko, Erica Faulk Courtney, three great-granddaughters, Kaylee, Ava and Aria, and one great-grandson, Hunter.

Emily was a stay-at-home mother and dedicated her time and energy raising two wonderful sons in a nurturing home environment and providing essential assistance and encouragement for her husband's time in graduate school in chemistry. In middle life she became a hairdresser and cosmetologist, and owner of a beauty salon. To fulfill an early dream she then completed a BS degree in nursing at the University of Central Missouri in Warrensburg. She was a practicing nurse at Western Missouri Medical Center in Warrensburg and served a short time at National Park Hospital in Hot Springs, AR.



Emily was a member of the middle school band at Salem and played the clarinet. In addition to a 26 year membership at the Kirk in the Pines, she and her husband were members of Presbyterian Churches in Fayetteville, AR, Port Arthur, TX, Houston, TX and Warrensburg, MO. She was the first female Clerk of the Session of a Presbyterian Church in the state of Missouri.

Emily's ebullient personality made her a joy to be with. She enjoyed bridge, mahjong, golf, visiting all 50 states and numerous countries on cruises with her husband.

A memorial service will be held at 10 AM, Saturday, September 13 at Kirk in the Pines in Hot Springs Village.

Halene Lee Strautman

Halene Lee Strautman (99) was born in Columbia, Missouri January 25, 1926 and slipped her earthly bonds on August 14, 2025. She spent many years being an amazing mother and also years in retail sales. Married to Bud Strautman for 72 years and together they raised 3 children.

Halene was preceded in death by her and daughter, Carol husband Strautman. She is survived by daughter and son in law Lee Ann and Jasper Ausec and their daughter Jessica and Jessica's son Jeff Strautman.



Revelation 14:13- "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on." "Yes," says the Spirit, "they will rest from their labor."

LEARN TO QUILT!!!

Tuesday NOVEMBER 4, 2025

Come and have fun making a quilted 9-patch wall hanging for the Christmas Holidays with us. Kits with all necessary materials are furnished. You will learn how to piece the squares, quilt it, add sashing, borders, bind your quilt and give it holiday jewels to make it sparkle.

Class size is **limited**, so contact us early. There are several color choices. If you have a small sewing machine, please bring it so you are comfortable sewing. If you do not, a few machines will be available. Kit Cost is only \$39 complete and all proceeds will be given to the Church. The all-day class (9-4) will be at the Kirk in the Pines

Please email: SonnenArtStudio@aol.com NOW so we can prepare your PERSONAL quilt kit.



Sponsored by Member Outreach 11



September Birthdays

- 1 Beverly Bongard
- 3 Mary Ann Reynolds
- 4 Gene Heath
- 8 Gloria Hepner
- 10 Gail Salmen Donald Webb

12Rosemary Claveau22Barbara Fuquay14Jim ChaffinPeggy Trent18Barron Gage23Beverly RaskinEd Russell29Beverly McFadden

30

Marjorie Carlisle

- **September Anniversaries**
- 1 Marcia & Bill Drews 36yrs 11 Judy & Bob Corwin 66yrs Barbara & Walter Fuguay 60yrs 19 Barbara & Bill Worthley 26yrs Eve & Donald Webb 9yrs Pat & Mel Kuntz 61yrs 30

20 Donn Allison

Special Announcement:

We have recently transitioned to a new membership database. If you notice inaccuracies in the spelling of your name or the date of your birthday or anniversary, please email kirkinthepinesvoice@gmail.com.



The Donkey by G.K.Chesterton

Contributed by Bob Morrow, Moderator, Communications Committee

When fishes flew and forests walked And figs grew upon thorn, Some moment when the moon was blood Then surely I was born.

With monstrous head and sickening cry And ears like errant wings, The devil's walking parody On all four-footed things.

The tattered outlaw of the earth, Of ancient crooked will; Starve, scourge, deride me: I am dumb, I keep my secret still.

Fools! For I also had my hour; One far fierce hour and sweet: There was a shout about my ears, And palms before my feet.



(Changes may occur – check with Kirk office)

Office Closed September 1

Bible Study, "The Call"- 10:00 September 9, 16, 23, 30

Ferncliff Work Day- September 18

AARP Safe Drivers Course-September 4, 12:00-4:00

Regularly Scheduled Events

Ageless Grace/Tai Chi-September 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 -3:30 Bailey Hall

Helping Hands- September 9 - 9:00

Kirk Choir Practice – 3:00, September 3, 10, 17, 24 Choir Room

Committee Meetings

Session-September 12, 10:00

Administration- September 9, 10:00

Communications- September 3, 1:45

Cong. Care- September 25, 10:00

Finance-September 11, 10:00

Member Outreach- September 3, 12:45

Missions- September 11, 3:00

Kirk Staff

Randy Hyde- Pastor
Tina Kneisler- Music Director
Kathleen Kinney- Organist/Pianist
Ruth Manweiler- Pianist (informal worship)
Chris Taylor-Wilmoth- Secretary
Arthur "Chip" Johnson- Sexton

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



Session

Clerk of the Session: Ruth Hamilton

Dave Hamilton- Administration

Robert Sonnen-Building

Susan Morrow- Christian Education

Bob Morrow- Communications (Trustee)

Susan Pendergrass- Congregational Care

Pat Kuntz- Fellowship (Trustee)

Sharon Gardner- Finance

Priscilla Hayek- Grounds/Memorial Garden

Wendy Gage- Member Outreach

Judith Rosenthal- Missions

Jane Moore- Worship (Trustee)

PW Moderator- Becky Wakefield

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