



A Voice in the Pines

Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines Newsletter

Volume 63

February 2026

Missions Committee shares your gifts locally and beyond

The approach of the Lenten season is a good time to remember the apostle Paul's reminder in Romans 12:13. "Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality". The Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines congregational community has wholeheartedly embraced this in your generous sharing through our Missions Committee. Since in our church the allocation of support to the various agencies requesting our help is left totally up to the Missions Committee, we want you to know that we take the responsibility of distributing the gifts you have donated prayerfully and with a great sense of gratitude.

Led by Moderator Judith Rosenthal, the committee's work in 2025 was supported by the following members: Becky Wakefield (secretary), Vicki Rosenquist, Daryl Henry, Marcia Bauer, Priscilla Hayek, Richard McPheters, Bob Morrow, and Norma Stevens. Traditionally, fifteen percent of the Kirk's total annual budget is earmarked for mission giving. Last year this money funded 26 different mission programs or agencies and the funds were provided from one or more of six Session approved fund accounts. These are the Congregational Mission Fund, \$1.00 Mission Fund, the Endowment Fund, the Luke 12:48 Endowment Fund, the International Mission Fund, and the Special Projects Fund.

We'd like you to know how your generous gifts were distributed. Altogether \$45,200 was allocated to the Missions Committee's budget for 2025. Additional donations raised this figure to \$50,740, and this was the amount distributed to missions and agencies



In 2025 the Missions Committee led the Kirk wide collection of peanut butter and cereal honoring Father's Day. Thanks to your generosity 555 jars of peanut butter and 301 boxes of cereal were collected for local agencies. From the left committee members Bob Morrow, Daryl Henry, Vicki Rosenquist, Norma Stevens, Judith Rosenthal, Becky Wakefield and Priscilla Hayek.

Harry Wakefield photo

supported by the Kirk during the past year. Eleven agencies received approximately 80% of the funds from one or more of the accounts listed above. These included Ferncliff, Ouachita Children's Center, Vera Lloyd Presbyterian Family Services, Samaritan Ministries, Presbyterian Disaster Relief, Meals on Wheels, Jackson House, Project Hope Food Bank, Cooperative Christian Ministries and Clinics, the C.A.L.L., and Potter's Clay.

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When We Meet

Sunday Traditional Worship
10 a.m.- Sanctuary

Saturday Informal Worship
4 p.m. CST, 5 p.m. CDT- Bailey Hall



(continued from page 1)



The Kirk Missions committee and Christian Education committee sponsored a workday at the Ferncliff Disaster Assistance Center. The team checked 480 toiletry bags which will be distributed to areas hit by disasters. From left, Susan Morrow, Jane Moore, Daryl Henry, Richard McPheters, Barbara Henry, Barbie Arant, Carol Clark, Susan Pendergrass, Becky Wakefield, and Bob Morrow. *Emily Hooker photo*

As in 2024, the committee continued its focus on food, shelter, and health with additional emphasis on disaster relief. And what about the mission dollars collected in the offering plate each Sunday? These \$1.00 Mission funds totaled \$2600.00 and went in equal amounts to Lyon College, The University of the Ozarks, Frontier Fellowship, Presbytery of Arkansas, West End Presbyterian Church, Ferncliff, Vera Lloyd, and the Medical Benevolence Foundation. International Fund dollars (totaling \$1700.00) went to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Solar Under the Sun, and Living Waters of the World. The Luke 12:48 endowment funds are directed to both the Missions and Christian Education committees. In 2025, Mission's directed Luke 12:48 endowment funds were equally divided between Vera Lloyd and Ferncliff.

We want you to know that the Missions Committee distributed all of your gifts to those organizations representing our brothers and sisters in need. All of the recipients expressed heart felt gratitude for your loving generosity. Those who serve on the Missions Committee are deeply grateful to be able to faithfully share the love of God expressed through your gifts with the agencies in our community. We want to thank Judith Rosenthal for her years of service as Moderator and look forward to the leadership of Richard McPheters as Moderator for 2026.

The amount of money that members of the Kirk donates to missions is amazing for a church of our size. Our hopes and prayers are always that your gifts will find their way to those who are in greatest need.

Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines Missions Committee

Contributed by David Deas, Communications Committee member



The Kirk Missions Committee sponsored its third Socks, Shoes, & Soup campaign in 2025. Caring members of the Kirk donated the items that went to Jackson House in Hot Springs. 210 cans of soup, 187 pairs of socks, and 127 pairs of shoes were collected, some of which are shown on the left. Altogether, over three years 366 pairs of shoes, over 1000, pairs of socks, 557 cans of soup have been donated to support members of our community in need.

Judith Rosenthal photo

Home Plate welcomes Shepherd Group 5



Shepherd group 5 (second Tuesday dinner group) had a big turn out at Home Plate on January 13th. Pictured from left, back row, Darell Fisher, Tom Hayek, Daryl Henry, Susan Pendergrass, Ron Lovett, Gary Rector, Bill Worthley, Paul Hayek, & Joyce Hayek. Middle row, from left, Cindy Morgan, Priscilla Hayek, Barb Henry, Ruth Richards, Linda Hommema, Jean Fisher, Dotty Rector, Barbara Worthley, & Dennis Faulk. Front row, from left, Gloria Hepner, Susan Deas, Rosalyn Halbert, Dick Easter, & Ro Easter.

David Deas photo

Helping Hands monthly meal delivery goes “green”

The monthly homemade meals prepared by the Kirk Helping Hands are now packaged for delivery in recyclable tote bags for home delivery to those in the Kirk who are in need of a nutritious meal and a smiling face.

Not only do the new tote bags help ease environmental waste but also come attached to a friendly Kirk member that hand delivers these homemade meals monthly. *Contributed by Susan Morrow, Communications Committee Member*

Suzy Still has a handful of meals in new reusable “green” bags ready to deliver. *Donna Toney photo*



The HS/HSV Symphony Guild
Classic Concert Series presents
**Dances and Songs for
Strings, Wood and Winds:
Colorful Voices in Concert**



**Sunday
March 8
3:00pm**

**\$10
Entry**

**Location: Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines
275 Asturias Drive, Hot Springs Village**

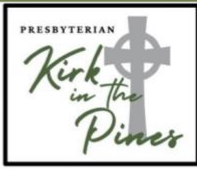
**Tickets available at symphonyguild.org
(or at the door)**

**Improve your brain
and your body
through.....**


Ageless Grace

**A Neuroplasticity
Brain Health Program**

*Learn 21 tools that are easy to practice
and remember and use "organic"
movements that come naturally.*



**FREE
CLASS**



**OAKLAWN
CENTER ON
AGING**

Taught by Kathy Packard
Oaklawn Center on Aging
Executive Director

Bailey Hall, Kirk in the Pines
Tuesdays, 3:15-4:30 pm

275 ASTURIAS DRIVE, HOT SPRINGS VILLAGE AR
 Contact: kirkinthepinesvoice@gmail.com for more information

The class, dubbed "Ageless Grace", has been offered at the Kirk since 2009 (please note time change). There are actually two classes in this timeframe, Ageless Grace followed by Tai Chi after a short break. Ageless Grace is a fun and joy-filled seated brain and body fitness program

based on Neuroplasticity. Tai Chi, an ancient meditative martial-art practice, is a series of movements performed in a slow, focused manner and accompanied by deep breathing. "This gentle form of exercise 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).

Kathy Packard, from Oaklawn Center for Aging, is the class leader. Many of you know Kathy Packard from multiple presentations she has made at the Kirk. She tailors the exercises to the physical limitations of participants. Both classes are 100 percent seated. The classes are free, no advance registration is required, and the classes are ongoing throughout the year. For more information about Ageless Grace email: kirkinthepinesvoice@gmail.com.

By the way, you should know about the HSV Parkinson's Support Group. More information is available by contacting:

mparrish@hotmail.com

If you know someone who has Parkinson's Disease, encourage them to contact this vital group.

Contributions by Bob Newlin and Bob Morrow.

Presbyterian Women's Joy Circle's 12 members generously raised enough money for our Christmas family to fill an SUV! The family of 3 children ages 10, 8 and 3 are being raised by their grandmother. We were able to purchase gifts for each child along with a variety of fresh and frozen food. The family expressed heartfelt gratitude when the delivery was made. Please consider joining one of our P. W. Circles for Bible study and fellowship. From left, Joyce Hayek, Alice Cox, Barb Henry, Rosalyn Halbert (leader), Vicki Rosenquist, Mary Ann Reynolds, Gloria Hepner.

Contributed by Barb Henry.

Martha Nielsen photo

PW Joy Circle brought joy with gifts and food at Christmas



Pastor's Corner

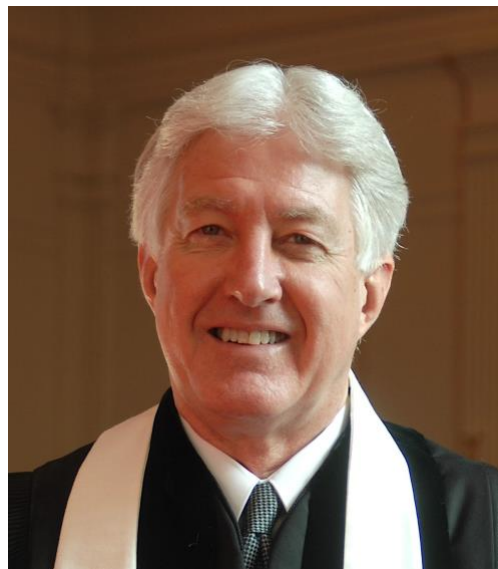
Each year, the PCUSA produces a work calendar designed to aid clergy, as well as other staff and lay leaders, with their planning. I've used this calendar for several years since my introduction to Presbyterian life and have found it to be quite useful.

The calendar includes a theme for the year. I confess that in the past I have paid little attention to that portion of the calendar, but my eye was drawn to this year's offering. The theme is **Wholeness**. "This concept," the editors explain, "deeply rooted in Scripture and the Reformed tradition, invites us to live as disciples of Jesus in ways that foster completeness and connection."

"In the Bible," the calendar continues, "wholeness often appears as *shalom* in Hebrew and *eirene* (eye-ray-nay) in Greek, both typically translated as 'peace.' Yet this peace is far more than the absence of conflict. It is about right relationships – with one another, with God, within our communities and with ourselves. It's the healing and restoration of relationships, systems, and societies that reflect God's justice and love. Jesus, often referred to as the Prince of Peace – Prince of shalom – embodies what wholeness looks like in action."

The calendar editors ask, "Where do you already see glimpses of shalom around you? How might God be inviting you to extend and deepen shalom? As you plan, pray, and dream, may your work and play reflect and refract God's kingdom come, on earth as it is in heaven."

We seek to do just that as we anticipate the season of Lent, which begins Ash Wednesday, February 18 with our traditional midweek service at 11:00. Once again, layfolk from our church will be the speakers for the weekly services that follow, using the theme *Lent in Plain Sight*, based on a book by Jill J. Duffield.



Pastor Randy Hyde

We hope you will want to practice your wholeness with your faithful attendance in this season.

Appreciatively,

Pastor Randy

P.S. Since Lent begins later this month, I will be sending you an email with more information concerning the midweek service speakers, as well as the Lenten and Holy Week sermons. Please be looking for it soon.

February Sermons

February 1 What Does God Want
Micah 6:1-8

February 8 Fear and Trembling
1 Corinthians 2:1-12

February 15 Transfiguration Sunday
A Face Like the Sun
Matthew 17:1-9

What a busy December and January it's been for the Kirk Session—not just because of Advent and Christmas activities, but also because we just ended the fiscal year, 2025. It was time to wrap things up so we can move on to 2026.

That meant that there were a lot of business details that had to be tended to. The Finance area had to close out the books for 2025, Elders had to write their Annual Report about the work of their committees, the Arkansas Presbytery statistical report had to be prepared, and a myriad of other 2025 things that had to be finished. The Session Elders have been working hard in December and January to complete everything needed.

It was at the end of our January meeting that Rev. Hyde took time to recap for us all of the things that had been accomplished in 2025. He acknowledged that it's been a very full and challenging year—one of hard work, faithful service, and prayerful decision making. Then, as the meeting ended, he offered a prayer of gratefulness to God for his guidance throughout 2025 and asked for God's continued guiding presence to be with the Kirk and its Session as we all move forward into 2026. Emphatic AMENS were heard from around the room.

And speaking of moving forward—did you know that Ash Wednesday is soon upon us? Plans for Lent and Easter are underway.

The Clerk's Corner

Ruth
Hamilton



A look back at the year behind us is good thing, but now we're looking forward to 2026 and to where God will be leading us.

Highlights of the Stated Session Reports—January 9, 2026

- Motion to approve the proposed 2026 budget. Motion passed.
- Deaths since December 12, 2025: Jim Cordell, December 22, 2025
- Correspondence: Notification from Walter and Barbara Fuquay requesting that they be removed from the rolls. They have joined another church.
- Church Statistics as of January 9, 2026:
Members-159 Households-114

Wild, Wild

This is what love is:
the dry rose bush the gardener, in his pruning, missed
suddenly bursts into bloom.

A madness of delight; an obsession.

A holy gift, certainly.

But often, alas, improbable.

Why couldn't Romeo have settled for someone else?

Why couldn't Tristan and Isolde have refused
the shining cup

which would have left peaceful the whole kingdom?

Wild sings the bird of the heart in the forests
of our lives.

Over and over Faust, standing in the garden, doesn't know
anything that's going to happen, he only sees
the face of Marguerite, which is irresistible.

And wild, wild sings the bird.

Mary Oliver



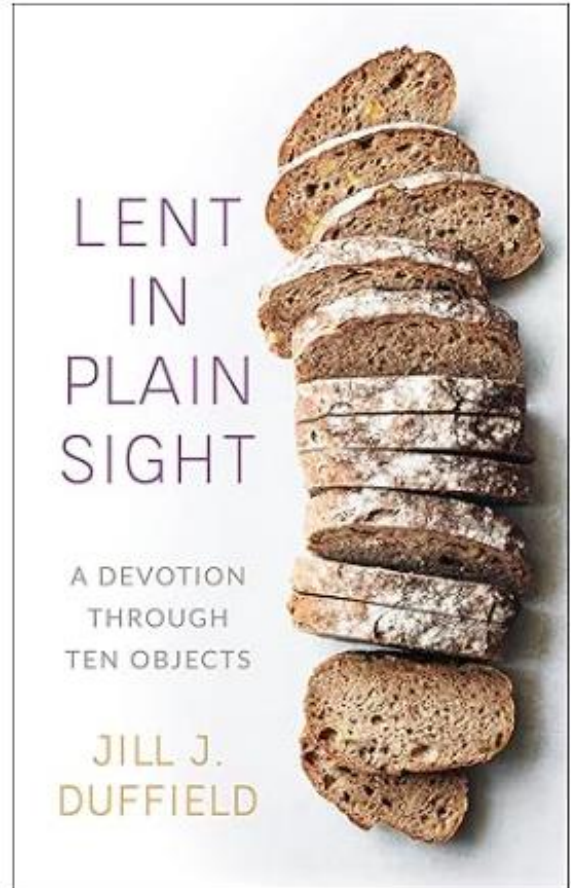
Weekly Lenten services and lunches to begin Ash Wednesday, February 18th

Weekly Lenten services, a longstanding tradition at the Kirk, start on Ash Wednesday, February 18th, at 11:00 a.m. The Ash Wednesday service includes a moving ceremony of imposition of ashes. The Wednesday services, ending on March 25th, will be held in the sanctuary and following the service, as in previous years, there will be our traditional soup and bread luncheon in Bailey Hall.

Lenten reflections will be shared by Pastor Hyde and by members of our congregation. This marks the third year of this tradition, started in 2024 when we didn't have a pastor to lead our Lenten worship. Pastor Hyde writes, "Our theme for these services is "Lent in Plain Sight," based on the book of the same name by Jill J. Duffield, former editor of Presbyterian Outlook. She uses "plain" objects or subjects for each week of Lent, and we will do the same, though not in her order." A list of worship leaders for each week will be forthcoming.

If you would like to enhance your Lent meditations by reading *Lent in Plain Sight*, you can order the book through Amazon or other book vendors. An audio version of the book is available on Audible.

Also, if you plan to attend the lunch following our Lenten service, please fill out the form found in the worship bulletin and place it in the collection plate so we will know how many tables to set up. Also, indicate on the form if you can bring soup or bread.



We encourage you to come and enjoy a hot bowl of soup as we reflect on the meaning of this season of Lent.

If you have any questions about the soup and bread lunch, please call Vicki Rosenquist at 706-371-2877. *Contributed by Bob Morrow, Communications Committee Moderator and Vicki Rosenquist, Lenten Lunch Coordinator*

In many cultures there is an ancient custom of giving a tenth of each year's income to some holy use. For Christians, to observe the forty days of Lent is to do the same thing with roughly a tenth of each year's days.

After being baptized by John in the river Jordan, Jesus went off alone into the wilderness, where he spent forty days asking himself the question what it meant to be Jesus. During Lent, Christians are supposed to ask one way or another what it means to be themselves.

Frederick Buechner, from "Whistling in the Dark"

Financial Report- Year to Date Dec. 31, 2025

	<u>Dec-25</u>	<u>Actual YTD</u>	<u>Budget YTD</u>
<u>General Fund</u>			
Revenues	63,739	407,521	312,410
Expenses	42,263	356,059	374,985
Change in Net Assets	21,476	51,462	-62,575
Funds Transfer *	-15,000	-15,000	
Change in Net Assets After Funds Transfer	6,476	36,462	- 62,575
 \$1 Mission Giving	 247	 2,653	 3,208
<u>Texas Presbyterian Foundation</u>			
Investment Fund	1,159,729		
Choir Fund	9,750		
Maack-Ormsbee Fund	58,932		
Luke 12:48 Fund	356,235		
Memorial Fund	<u>120,144</u>		
Total (Dec. 31, 2025)	1,704,790		
*Funds transferred to Texas Presbyterian Foundation Investment Fund			

Legacy gifts have major impact on the Kirk

The Kirk has been blessed with the receipt of two bequests in 2025 from former longtime Kirk members. This has made a substantial difference in the Kirk's mission to strive to be the people of God for our community.

Pat Maack-Ormsbee, a former Kirk member and founder of the Maack-Ormsbee Scholarship fund, was intent on seeking opportunities to help others through generous gifts in her lifetime and beyond. Both the ongoing Scholarship fund and the recent bequest donation to the Kirk are testaments to Pat's ongoing philanthropic focus which continues to live on in the life of the Kirk and through the lives of many college students that have been aided in their studies through the scholarship fund.

Sue and Chuck New, also chose to remember the Kirk with a generous bequest that will live on for the benefit of future generations.

Both these bequest donations to the Kirk have been graciously received and will be thoughtfully used to spread Christ's light and love.

Kirk Finance Committee



The Poetry of Lent: A Lenten Companion to Mary Oliver's "Devotions"

Let Mary Oliver, renowned poet, be your personal guide through the 40 days of Lent. There are free booklets available in the Narthex and Bailey Hall for your personal use. Included are daily scriptures, poetry, everyday practices and a Lenten daily devotion. Let Mary Oliver's poetic gift of intertwining the life of faith with the natural world guide and inspire you this Lenten season.

Christian Education Committee



Congregational Care Committee members Blair Stroud, Marian Thiel, and Susan Pendergrass (not pictured) dropped in to visit with Kirk Member Denny Zymboly at Cedar Lodge. The group took in a "band" concert by a group of amateur musicians who shared their musical gifts with the gathering. From left, Blair Stroud, Marian Thiel, Denny Zymboly and an unknown resident at the Lodge.

Susan Pendergrass photo



February Birthdays

4 Jay Wilborn	15 David Rosenquist	20 Ellen Wilborn
9 Becky Baldwin	16 Fred Raskin	22 Ruth Mattingly
10 Judy Corwin	17 Richard McPheters	Barbara Mulley
11 Rosalyn Halbert	18 Beverly Bullard	24 Sylvia Gruben
12 Jamie Federick	19 Mike Seitz	28 Jane Moore
13 Marilyn Seitz	20 Tony Booth	

DON'T FORGET TO ATTEND YOUR SHEPHERD GROUP EVENTS !

Group 1- Friday, Feb. 27- Breakfast- 8:30 at Debra's Southern Restaurant

Group 2- Friday, Feb. 20- Lunch- Time and location TBD

Group 3- Tuesday, Feb. 17- Dinner- Time and location TBD

Group 5- Tuesday, Feb. 10- Dinner- Time and location TBD

*For information contact Jean Fisher, Head Shepherd, 501-984-2116
Dfisher57@att.net*

Remember loved ones with flowers!

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 Bailey Hall or call Sandy Adams at 501-915-9006.





(Changes may occur – check with Kirk office)

Ash Wednesday Service, 11:00- Feb. 18th

Lenten Devotional/Lunches, 11:00, Feb. 18, 25

Ageless Grace/Tai Chi-Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24 - 3:15 Bailey Hall

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

Helping Hands-Feb. 10-9:00

Choir Rehearsal- Wed. 3:00, Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25

Committee Meetings

Session- Feb. 13, 10:00

Administration- Feb. 10, 10:00

Communications- Feb. 4, 1:45

Congregational Care- Feb. 26, 10:00

Finance- Feb. 12, 10:00

Member Outreach- Feb. 4, 12:45

Mission Committee- Feb. 12. 3:00

Kirk Staff

Randy Hyde- Pastor

Tina Kneisler- Music Director

Ruth Manweiler- Pianist (Informal Worship)

Chris Taylor-Wilmoth- Secretary

Arthur “Chip” Johnson- Sexton

Session

Clerk of the Session: Ruth Hamilton

Dave Hamilton- Administration

Robert Sonnen- Building

Donna Toney- Christian Education

Bob Morrow- Communications (Trustee)

Susan Pendergrass- Congregational Care

Susan Morrow- Finance

Priscilla Hayek- Grounds/Memorial Garden

Wendy Gage- Member Outreach

Richard McPheters- Missions

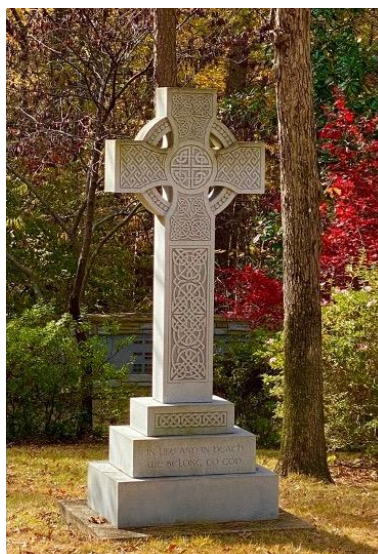
Jane Moore- Worship (Trustee)

PW Moderator- Becky Wakefield

A Voice in the Pines is a monthly publication of Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines. It is produced and edited by the Kirk's Communication Committee, Bob Morrow, Moderator.

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