

A Voice in the Pines



Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines newsletter

Volume XXXIX February 2023

Reserve funds play key role in Kirk finances

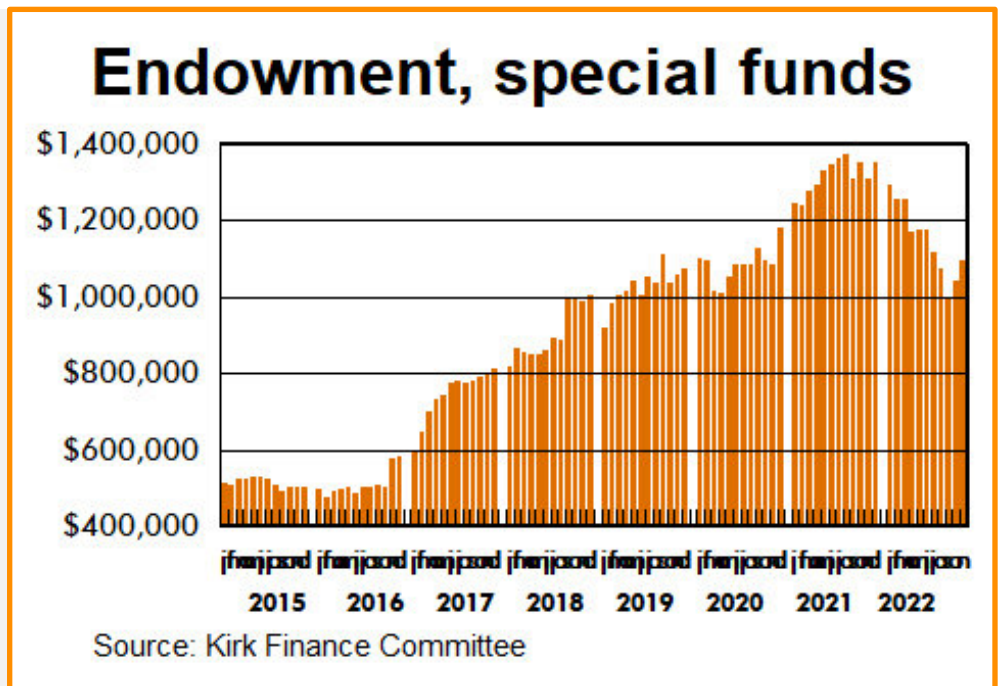
By Sharon Gardner

Most of us are accustomed to thinking about churches relying on annual pledges and non-pledged giving to support our mission.

But, in addition to annual contributions used to support the annual budget and expenses, the Kirk is fortunate to have other funds, “savings accounts” if you will, which are invested through the Texas Presbyterian Foundation (TPF) which manages the funds. These are the Programs fund, the Luke 12:48 fund, the Maack-Ormsbee Scholarship fund, and a general Endowment fund.

These accounts have accumulated over the years and are the result of very generous donations from Kirk members. The balances of the accounts are reported each month in the *Voice in the Pines* and the changes in the total funds are depicted in graphs.

Many of you will have noticed that the balances in the accounts have declined recently. There are several reasons for these declines. First, we have spent some of the funds, specifically the Program fund, which is a “reserve fund” for programs designated by the Session.



Related articles

- A letter from the Session – page 2.
- Monthly financial report – page 4.
- Where the Kirk gifts go – page 5.
- Food pantry donations increased – page 15.

For example, dollars from the Program fund were recently used as a supplement to insurance recovery for repairs to the office building after damage in 2021.

The funds also have declined due to a fall in the market which has directly impacted the value of the funds. For the year 2022, not only have market returns not been in the expected range, returns have in fact been in negative numbers.

For the other funds, the Session

Please turn to page 6

When we meet

Sunday worship service
begins at 10 a.m.



Saturday informal service
4 p.m. In Hoffius Hall

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



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



Important Session letter on 2023 budget

As you know this is the time of year when the Kirk is going through the process of developing a budget and it is a “work in progress.” I would like to share with you the following communication from the Session as they prayerfully go through this important process of discernment.

“One of the many blessings of serving on the Session of the Kirk is knowing we have the support of a spiritually strong and generous congregation. Your generosity over the years has sustained the many ministries of the Kirk including worship, education, and of course, missions.

“We have noted before that these programs have been sustained, even grown, during an era of declining membership in the Kirk.

“The downward trend in membership probably has many causes. By far the gradually decreasing numbers of active Kirk members is the result of our demographics and the demographics of our larger community.

“Yet, as numbers have declined, your incredibly generous giving has increased to offset the losses in membership.

“However, this year, as in the past several years, reduction in pledged dollars and projected non-pledge giving (again, the result of fewer members), has led to a careful reconsideration of how much we can spend in support of our programs.

“As we continue the 2023 budget process, every committee moderator is reviewing their committee’s budget requests to see how we can trim spending with

The Pastor’s Corner Bill Bailey



minimal impact on our mission. The Moderators of the Session committees are very open to your questions and input.

“To balance the budget, we will need to make some reductions while at the same time drawing funds from our reserves. In a separate article beginning on page one, Finance Committee Moderator Sharon Gardner elaborates on the different reserve funds we have and how we spend them.

“Also, in this issue, Judith Rosenthal shares how our mission dollars were spent in 2022 in support of Christ’s work in our community.

“Be assured, as the Session works through the budget process, we will strive to use your gifts to the fullest in fulfilling our call to serve Christ. We appreciate your support and especially ask for your prayers.

“Christ’s blessings,
“Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines Session”

Save these dates for celebrating Lent



Services in observance of the season of Lent will be at 11 a.m. in the Kirk sanctuary beginning with Ash Wednesday, Feb. 22, and following each Wednesday through March 29.

A light lunch of soup and bread will be served in Hoffius Hall immediately following the service.

The following committees are responsible for serving at the lunch following worship:

February 22 – Fellowship.

March 1 – Education and Memorial Garden/Grounds.

March 8 – Administration and Finance.

March 15 – Worship and Building.

March 22 – Communications and Mission.

March 29 – Member Outreach and Congregational Care.

For questions, please call the Kirk office or Pat Kuntz at 501 204-4385.

Session is dealing with 2023 budget issues

Loss of Kirk Members:

We are sad to report the death on Sunday, Jan. 15, of long-time Kirk member Lorraine Berry. Lorraine moved in 2020 to Lincoln, Neb., to be closer to her children. Services for Mrs. Berry will be in Lincoln. Cards of condolence may be sent to: Susan Stevens, 9045 West Burnham Street, Denton, NE 68339.

Memorial and Interment Services:

There will be an interment service for Dr. Dean Kerr on Sunday, Feb. 19, after the worship service. Dr. Kerr passed away last August 1.

A memorial service for long-time Kirk member Mrs. Irene Wright will be at 10 a.m. Friday, Feb. 24. Interment will be followed by a reception in Hoffius Hall. Mrs. Wright passed away last Nov. 27.

Church Statistics:

As of January 2023: 244 members and 160 family units.

Session news:

There was extended discussion at the Jan. 13 Session meeting regarding the 2023 budget and how to make up for the projected shortfall, plus the renewal of the Pastor's Terms of Call.

Each committee moderator was asked to look at their budget for potential revisions.

Pastor Bill Bailey requested he be allowed to forego a cost-of-living raise in 2023 since he had a generous increase in 2022.

The budget will be reconsidered at the February Session meeting.

The pastor's terms of call was presented and approved by the congregation at a congregational meeting after the worship service on Jan. 15.

Committee reports:

Finance Committee: See above budget discussion.

Mission Committee: Judith Rosenthal said the committee has completed distribution of all funds allocated for 2022 to the 29 agencies and programs we support.

Education Committee: Martha Nielsen reported work on the library books is nearly completed. A number of duplicate or rejected books will be offered to the congregation along with unneeded candles and candelabras in conjunction with the Worship Committee sometime in February as part of a joint "Spring Cleaning" project.

The Clerk's Corner Tony Booth



An informational lunch and learn program featuring the Love Lunches project our congregation helps provide at the Hot Springs Salvation Army will be at 11 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 9, in Hoffius Hall, with lunch to follow.

Plans are being made for a six- to eight-week Speaker's series from 9-10:30 a.m. on Thursday mornings beginning the end of April and going through May. It will center on various challenges of aging, caregiving, and information about programs available in our area to assist in those challenges.

Administration Committee: Dave Hamilton reported that we have a wonderful staff and do not anticipate any immediate changes.

Building Committee: Bill Worthley said the cold weather caused a pipe rupture with minimal damage. Chip Johnson will be insulating pipes in the affected area. He also noted the men's bathroom off the narthex will be painted in February.

Congregational Care Committee: Marcia Bauer said 10 persons attended the CPR class and they may repeat the class in six or seven months.

Fellowship Committee: Pat Kuntz said there will be Lenten Lunches on Wednesdays from Feb. 22 through March 29. Also scheduled: A picnic on May 3, Fish Fry on July 19, Chili Cook-off on Oct. 4, Thanksgiving Dinner on Nov. 23, and a Christmas Carol Party at a date TBA.

Grounds/Memorial Committee: Rev. Bailey said leaf blowing was a continuous process in the fall.

Member Outreach Committee: Ben Meek reported on several brainstorming ideas and asked members for additional suggestions. Ben will be seeking to identify members for this important committee.

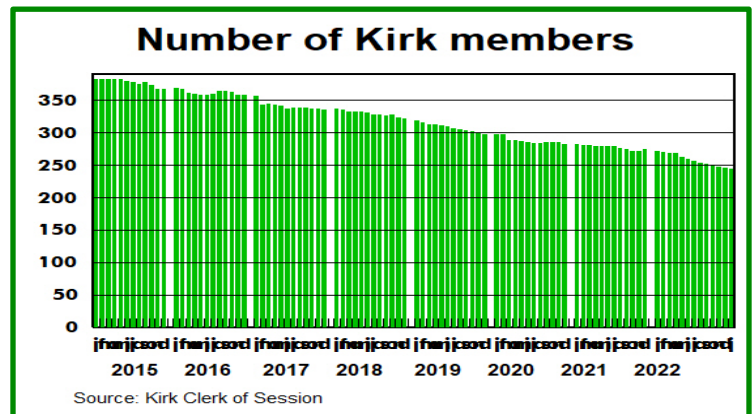
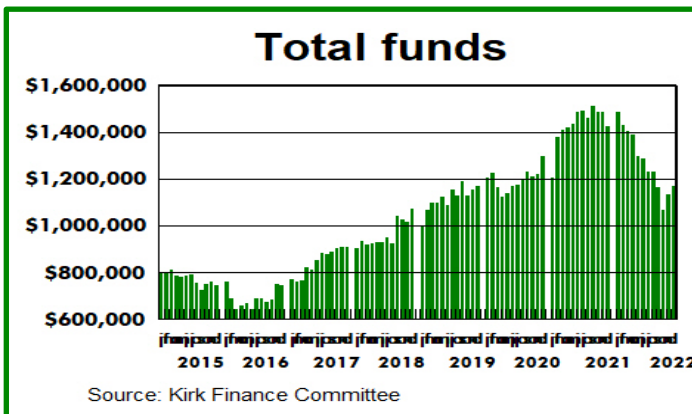
Worship Committee: Gail Salmen said they are still trying to replace Lucy Allen who had been coordinator for the Memorial Committee.

Communication Committee: Bob Morrow offered thanks to the several article contributors each month.

Kirk in the Pines Financial Report

Year to date as of December 31, 2022

	Month		Year to date	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
General Fund:				
Receipts	\$ 37,974	\$ 22,888	\$ 455,688	\$ 395,711
Disbursements	\$ 37,974	\$ 62,348	\$ 455,688	\$ 434,585
Building Fund:				
Receipts	\$ 4,848	\$ 24,135	\$ 58,176	\$ 68,831
Disbursements	\$ 4,848	\$ 8,310	\$ 58,176	\$ 61,879
Total all Funds:				
Receipts	\$ 42,822	\$ 47,023	\$ 513,864	\$ 464,542
Disbursements	\$ 42,822	\$ 70,658	\$ 513,864	\$ 496,464
 Checking Balance				 \$ 73,413
Special Funds:				
Memorial Fund				\$ 67,945
Luke 12:48 Fund				\$ 263,649
Programs Fund				\$ 32,557
Endowment Fund				\$ 682,080
Maack-Ormsbee Fund				<u>\$ 50,604</u>
Total Special Funds (as of Nov 30, 2022)				\$ 1,096,835



\$175 for Mission

Thank you for generously supporting our Mission Dollar campaign by placing your single dollar bills in the offering plate. A total of \$175 was collected in December.

If you wish to give more than a dollar, please use the envelopes in the pew racks. We are always grateful for your generous gifts and prayers.

Thinking of you ...

Each Saturday and Sunday the Congregational Care Committee asks Kirk members to sign a beautiful card to be mailed to a church member who has not been able to attend services due to illness or disability.

Please add your signature to these cards and join the congregation in wishing others well. Thank you.

How the Mission Committee shares your gifts locally and beyond

As we approach the season of Lent, the prophet Isaiah reminds us of the “fast” that is precious in God’s sight. From *Isaiah 58:7* we read: “Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter – when you see the naked, to clothe them, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?”

The Kirk’s congregational community has wholeheartedly embraced this in your generous sharing through our Missions Committee.

The committee takes the responsibility of allocating and distributing the gifts you have donated prayerfully and with a great sense of gratitude.

Led by Moderator Judith Rosenthal, the work is supported by the following committee members: John Davis, Barb and Daryl Henry, Ken Wolf, Bruce Dale, Richard McPheters, Bob Morrow, Carol Clark, Norma Stevens, and Secretary Becky Wakefield.

Traditionally, 22 to 25 percent of the Kirk’s annual budget is earmarked for mission work.

Last year this money funded 29 different mission programs or agencies. The funds were provided from one or more of six Session-approved fund accounts. These are the Congregational Mission Fund, \$1 Mission Fund, Endowment Fund, Luke 12:48 Endowment Fund, International Mission Fund, and Special Projects Fund.

We thought you might like to know how your generous gifts were distributed last year.

Altogether, \$72,926 was distributed to missions and agencies which have been traditionally



supported by the Kirk. Eleven received approximately 80 percent of the funds from one or more of the accounts listed above.

These included Ferncliff, Vera Lloyd Presbyterian Family Services, Samaritan Ministries, Presbyterian Disaster Relief, Meals on Wheels, Jackson House, Arkansas Food Bank, Project Hope Food Bank, Cooperative Christian Ministries and Clinics, and Potter’s Clay.

The committee continued its focus on food, shelter, and health with additional emphasis on disaster relief.

And what about the dollars for missions collected in the offering plate each Sunday? These added up to \$3,240 and went in equal amounts to Lyon College, The University of the Ozarks, Frontier Fellowship, the Presbyterian Church USA, West End Presbyterian Church, Ferncliff, Vera Lloyd, and Medical Benevolence Foundation.

International Fund dollars (totaling \$4,000) went to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

(Kentucky flood and Ukraine), Haiti Educational Foundation, Heifer International, Solar Under the Sun, and Living Waters of the World.

Two thirds of Luke 12:48 endowment funds go to the Missions Committee with one third going to the Christian Education committee. Luke 12:48 endowment funds that went to Missions were equally divided between Vera Lloyd and Ferncliff.

Remaining budgeted funds went to a variety of missions and agencies including Small Group Therapy, SOZO, the Webb Center, Adult Teen Challenge, Village Churches Mission.

First, you should know the Missions Committee distributed all of your gifts to those organizations representing our brothers and sisters in need. And also all of the recipients of your gifts expressed heartfelt gratitude for your loving generosity.

And especially, all of us who serve on the Mission Committee are deeply grateful to be able to faithfully share the love of God expressed through your gifts with the agencies in our community.

Isaiah continues in *58:10*: “... and if you spend yourselves on behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like the noonday!”

Although we may be challenged by fewer dollars to spend this year, our hope and prayer is your gifts will find their way to those who are in greatest need.

Submitted by the Kirk Mission Committee.

Session praises Jerral Johnson for service

At the December Kirk Session meeting, Jerral Johnson indicated that he will not seek election for another term as Clerk of the Session.

Jerral has served the Kirk as Clerk for the last 13 years, from 2009 through 2022. He also briefly served as Clerk from 2002-2003. Jerral made this difficult decision to spend more time with his family.

Regarding Jerral's service as Clerk, Pastor Bill Bailey said:

"Jerral Johnson was always a joy and pleasure to work with. He has always been a committed and faithful Elder in all the time I've worked with him.

"His willingness as Clerk to come into the office to meet, to poll Elders by telephone, and to respond to emergencies has been exemplary. He embraced the work of coordinating



Jerral Johnson

Session meetings, working through the meeting agenda with me and others, and was especially supportive when more difficult issues were to be discussed.

"Regardless of the request, never once has Jerral said, "No, I can't do that."

For all of us on the Session, as the ultimate servant leader, Jerral has been a consistent, calm, voice of wisdom and good advice, even in the most trying situations. His leadership through the covid pandemic was particularly helpful. He will be greatly missed.

We wish him many more years of happy and valuable service. When you have the opportunity, please be sure to thank Jerral for his leadership and

contributions to the Kirk!

– *Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines Session*

Reserve funds pressured by market trends

Continued from page 1

decides each year how much of the funds to distribute to the operating accounts, typically between 3 and 5 percent of the total fund value based on a rolling 12-month average.

You may ask: Why is the distribution of funds 3 to 5 percent?

The intent of endowments is to provide revenue while preserving and growing the funds for future needs. By convention, fund managers estimate annual interest and dividend returns in the 6- to 10-percent range.

Typically, half of this growth in fund value is reinvested to grow the fund for future needs and half, some 3 to 5 percent, is available to meet current needs. This way the Endowment funds can continue to grow and support Kirk programs over the years.

However, if necessary, we can use more than 5 percent of the fund.

For the Luke 12:48 fund, Maack-Ormsbee fund, and General Endowment funds are allocated to the purpose for which the funds are set aside.

The Maack-Ormsbee fund and Luke 12:48 are restricted by the donors and are required to be used only for their designated purposes. The General endowment is unrestricted meaning the proceeds can be used for a variety of needs.

The Maack-Ormsbee fund is exclusively used to fund college scholarships for Kirk family members, provided there is an adequate balance in the fund (stipulated by the Maack-Ormsbee gift).

The Luke 12:48 fund is divided one-third to education and two-thirds to missions. Funds from the general Endowment fund can be used for a variety of purposes but are currently used to support missions and Kirk programs.

It's important to also know your Session is not in the business of playing the market. The Session and Kirk staff do not have any direct influence on the investment activity of the TPF, which has over 90 years of experience managing funds for Presbyterian churches and other non-profit organizations.

The TPF manages funds conservatively in a balanced fund to reduce the risk to the Kirk's savings. So, you can see an endowment is structured to preserve the original gifts while providing market value increase to support efforts of the organization. For the Kirk, this approach to savings permits funds to provide program and mission support over a longer period of time than if the gift was used all at once.

For questions or comments please call me at 612 803-4421 or at puffchop35@yahoo.com.

Sharon Gardner is Moderator of the Finance Committee.



Priscilla Hayek looks on as Tom Hayek and Bill Worthley perform CPR on a mannequin under the watchful eye of CPR instructor Matt Harper. Matt is the solo Hot Springs Village fireman at the DeSoto station. Nine Kirk members and Kirk sexton Chip Johnson participated in the training sponsored by the Congregational Care committee on Jan. 9. And yes, there was a test and everyone passed with flying colors! Participating were Tom Hayek, Priscilla Hayek, Bill Worthley, Karen Meek, Becky Wakefield, Chip Johnson, Martha Nielsen, Bob Morrow, Susan Morrow, and Marcia Bauer. (Bob Morrow photo)

A quartet drawn from the Kirk choir provided the special music at Sunday worship on New Years day. The group, accompanied by Donna Toney, performed the tender *Jesus, Jesus, Rest Your Head* by Paul Lohman. From left are Sarah Owen, Jean Mowry, Fran Stroud, and Jamie Federick. (Rick Federick photo)



Pianist Neil Rutman concert is Feb. 5 at Kirk



Pianist Neil Rutman

The HS/HSV Symphony Guild is delighted to present "Neil Rutman in Concert" as part of our new Classic Series, at 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb.5, at the Kirk. Rutman is artist in residence at the University of Central Arkansas and is a nationally recognized piano virtuoso.

He has performed in many countries and appeared in outstanding venues here in the USA, including Carnegie Hall. He has distinguished himself as a top prize winner in several international competitions and has received awards from the National Endowment for the Arts.

The program will include J.S. Bach's challenging *Goldberg Variations*, Francis Poulenc's programmatic piece on *The Story of Babar the Little Elephant*, as well as Chopin's *Ballade no. 1 in g minor, Op. 23*.

You don't want to miss what promises to be an amazing performance. The concert will begin at 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 5, at Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines. The concert will be followed by a meet-and-greet reception.

Please register on the Guild website www.symphonymusic.org if you plan to attend. General admission tickets are \$10 and will be available to purchase at the concert and can also be purchased in advance on the Guild website, www.symphonymusic.org.



Dear God,

Please untie the knots that are in my mind, my heart, and my life.

REMOVE the have nots, can not, and the do nots.

ERASE the will nots, may nots, might nots that may find a home in my heart.

RELEASE me from the could nots, would nots, and should nots that obstruct my life.

And, most of all, dear God, I ask that you remove from my mind, my heart, and my life all of the AM NOTS that I have allowed to hold me back.

Author Unknown

Submitted by Dotty Rector

Harmony on the Rocks



Random Mix

Some familiar faces are among the Top of the Rock performers for the Feb. 12 concert at the Kirk. Random Mix vocalists are (front from left) Dorothy Garner, Rhonda Coleson, Bettye Francis and Linda Lair. Harmony on the Rocks singers are (rear from left) Ellen Withers, Tina Kneisler, Kristi Ponder, Rhonda Coleson, Tamara Boggs, Patty Barnes, Kathy Allison and Sharon Gardner.

Top of the Rock Chorus to hold Peggy Gram Scholarship Benefit concert on Feb. 12

Treble in the Village Quartet and Top of the Rock Chorus will be joined by Harmony on the Rocks and Random Mix Quartet at the Top of the Rock Peggy Gram Scholarship Benefit on Feb. 12 at the Kirk.

The event will begin at 2 p.m. and be topped off with ice cream sundaes after the program. The event is free of charge but donations will be accepted. All donations go directly to the scholarship fund.

We moved the time back an

hour so you can make it home to watch the Super Bowl! We are so glad to be doing this benefit again. Thank you for your past support!

Contributed by Sharon Gardner.



Making the holidays happier

Members of the Congregational Care Committee are ready to share Christmas cheer with 17 individuals who are homebound, ill, or recovering from surgery. The Christmas bags were packed with snacks and hot cocoa mixes that were well received with many notes of appreciation. Shown from left Becky Wakefield, Carol Clark, Mary Ann Reynolds, Marcia Bauer, Emily Faulk, Judith Rosenthal, Ellen Marshall, Martha Neilsen, and Della Reimers. Not pictured: Karen Meek, Ruth Richards and Susan Pendergrass. *(Beverly Schaumburg photo)*

The Kirk's own 'burning bush'

This Japanese maple in the Kirk's Memorial Garden exploded into a blaze of fiery orange over just a few days last fall and was a vivid reminder of the burning bush that attracted the attention of Moses and out of which he was called by Yahweh to lead the Israelites out of slavery in Egypt. *(Exodus 3:1-6)* (Bob Morrow photo)



Many hands work behind the scenes to make the Kirk's worship happen

By Gail Salmen

Have you ever wondered what goes on behind the scenes at a Sunday Worship service?

Many heads, hearts, and hands go into preparing and conducting the Sunday service.

First Pastor Bill Bailey collects his thoughts for the sermon, Bible reading and call to worship.

Then a lot of people get to work to pull everything together. Randy Toney works on the selections of hymns and anthems. While the anthems, call to worship, and benediction response are usually planned in advance, the hymn selections occur during the week before worship.

Donna Toney begins rehearsing the accompaniment for hymns and choir pieces and prepares the organ introit and the music for meditation.

Chris Taylor-Wilmoth, our Kirk secretary, begins working on the order of worship. And choir librarian Millie Croson gathers and distributes the music for the choir.

The choir rehearses Wednesday afternoon and again Sunday morning to prepare the music which will become a mainstay of our time together.

While this is happening, Chip Johnson, our sexton, will be cleaning and preparing the sanctuary and setting up Hoffius Hall for the Saturday night service.

Wendy Gage will be making her monthly calls to gather the ushers and door openers. Pat McPheters will man her phone to collect Liturgists for the month. Gail Salmen will begin calling people to work the greeter podium in the breezeway to welcome newcomers to the Kirk.

Chris Taylor-Wilmoth will finally be given all of the information so she can type and compile the bulletin.

Remember, Pastor Bill reserves the right to make changes on Sunday morning to see if we are all awake.

Now all of this is complete and we are ready to go. Right? No. Now we will have people from other committees give the worship committee a hand. We need someone to come in early to open the church, turn on the lights, and make the coffee for the much appreciated coffee hour after the service. This same person will remain until all are gone to then turn off lights and lock up.

Another very important and unsung worship hero is our soundboard person. Where would we be without our audio system working?

This wraps it up for another Sunday. Not necessarily. What if it is communion Sunday? The current and past

elders will sign up to serve communion. Sandy Adams and Gail Salmen will assemble the wafer and wine

trays and set up the communion table. Jane Moore will lovingly keep us stocked with wafers she makes for the Kirk. After the service Jim and Nancy Patton will clean the trays and

reset the communion table.

As you can see, many people are needed to bring us the Sunday service. These people are taken from those who signed up during Stewardship time on the Time and Talent form. If you missed signing up to help with worship, give me a call at 501 922-1109 to have your name added.

You can join the Worship committee and all you have to do is wait for a phone call or email to be active. Best of all, there are no meetings to attend!

Gail Salmen is Moderator of the Worship Committee.

BEHIND THE SCENES



Coffee Hour needs Sunday volunteers

Coffee Hour has been a Kirk tradition for many years. It takes several volunteers each Sunday to make it a reality.

Coffee and cookie fellowship begins immediately following Sunday worship service in Hoffius Hall. Why not plan to attend this weekly social event and spend time with your fellow brothers and sisters in Christ?

The new 2023 Coffee Chart is hanging in Hoffius Hall next to the kitchen door. It is ready to be filled with volunteers. If you've never helped, we encourage you to give it a try! There is always someone available to show you how it's done.

Three or four helpers are needed each Sunday. Currently there is a need for help on Jan. 29 and the rest of the year. Please consider being a part of this vital fellowship opportunity.

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

Love Lunch program set for Feb. 9 at Kirk

Love Lunch Ministry Program.
Thursday, Feb. 9, Kirk in the Pines, Hoffius Hall.

Program at 11 a.m. Free lunch at noon.

Sponsored by the Kirk in the Pines Christian Education Committee.

The Salvation Army Love Lunch ministry provides a meal on Sundays to the Hot Springs needy and homeless community thanks to community volunteers.

The Salvation Army offers a meal every other day of the week but is unable to feed those needing a meal on Sundays.

To fill in this void, volunteers



arrive at the Hot Springs Salvation Army between 11 and 11:15 a.m. on Sundays to prepare the lunches.

Learn more about this Love Lunch Ministry on Thursday, Feb. 9, at Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines in Hoffius Hall. Captain Tracy Brinlee from the Salvation Army will speak about this volunteer program at 11 a.m. A free lunch follows at noon in Hoffius Hall.

Registration is requested. Contact Susan Morrow at susu2morrow@gmail.com so we will have a love lunch ready for you!

Come learn more about this loving ministry to feed the hungry.



Happy dates



Birthdays

Feb. 1	Pat Bellamy	Feb. 11	Rosalyn Halbert	Feb. 20	Tony Booth
Feb. 3	Pat Ormsbee		Marilyn Johnson		Ellen Wilborn
Feb. 4	Teresa Arant	Feb. 12	Jamie Federick	Feb. 22	Ruth Mattingly
	Karen Mallonee Greene		Beth Sampsel		Barbara Mulley
	Jay Wilborn	Feb. 13	Merilyn Seitz		Carol Sue Williams
Feb. 5	Earlene Higgins	Feb. 15	Elijah Bailey	Feb. 24	Judy Carroll
Feb. 8	Burle Mattingly		David Rosenquist		Sylvia Gruben
Feb. 9	Becky Baldwin	Feb. 16	Fred Raskin		Joanne Hasper
	Darlene Slater	Feb. 17	Richard McPheters	Feb. 27	Heinrich Eiler
Feb. 10	Judy Corwin	Feb. 18	Bev Bullard	Feb. 28	Jane Moore
	Marty Davis	Feb. 19	Mike Seitz	Feb. 29	Jim Cordell

Anniversaries

Feb. 9	Christine and Michael Hoagland	49 years	Feb. 24	Pat and Richard McPheters	33 years
Feb. 9	Lynn and John Burks	38 years			

Where are the words to say Thank You for all of the Kirk's help

Everyone knows how blessed they are to be a member of the Kirk. You really know and appreciate this blessing if you have a long-term health issue keeping you from worship services and commitments.

The caring attention from Congregational Care, led by Marcia Bauer, starts as soon as they learn you are not well.

Next, caring members like Jean and Clark Mowry and Sissy Wilson and my Circle 2 ladies call frequently with concerns and prayers and "just to check on you."

Numerous "thinking of you" and "get well" cards



arrive every day. Then, there are the Greenhorns and their wonderful lunches.

Where are the words to express grateful appreciation for so much caring?

Thank you Kirk!

Rosalyn Halbert

Mary Wright was blessed with a long and very happy life

Mary Irene Holen Wright, who moved to Hot Spring Village in the mid-1980s, passed away Nov. 27, 2022. She was 99 years old.

Mary was blessed with a happy life, always looking on the bright side and sharing her sunny disposition with us all. While her mother Irene had chided her youngster, "Don't be so vehement, Mary," it was Mary's quick wit and vivacity that made her so much fun to be around.

Mary had many lifelong friendships she held very dear to her heart. She was fond of saying "my cup runneth over," and she made sure her outlook always reflected positive thoughts.

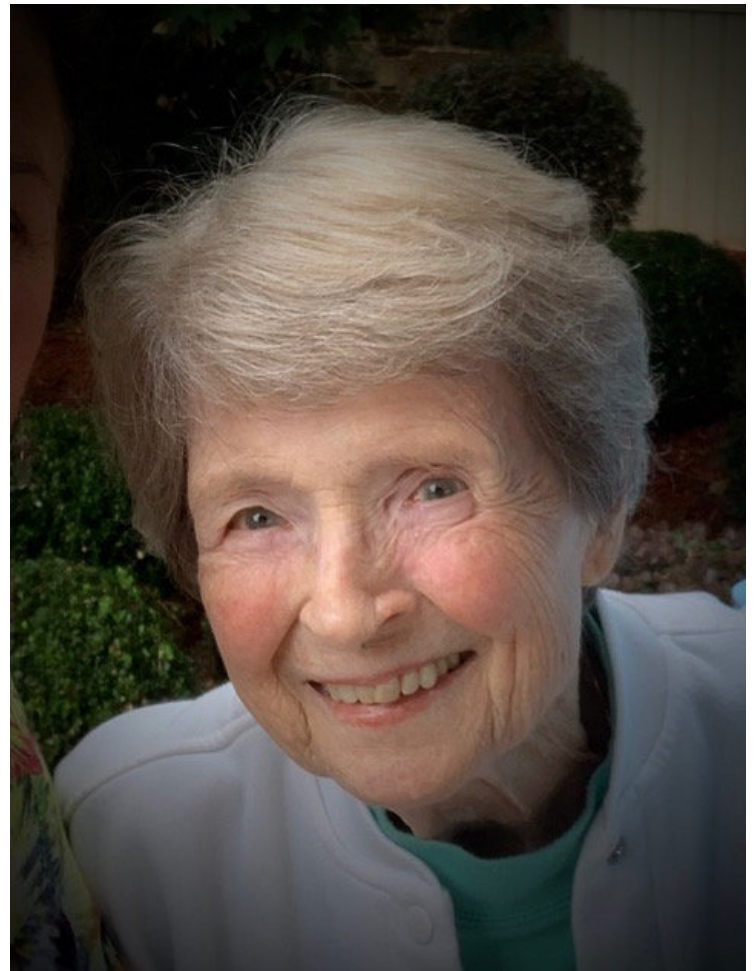
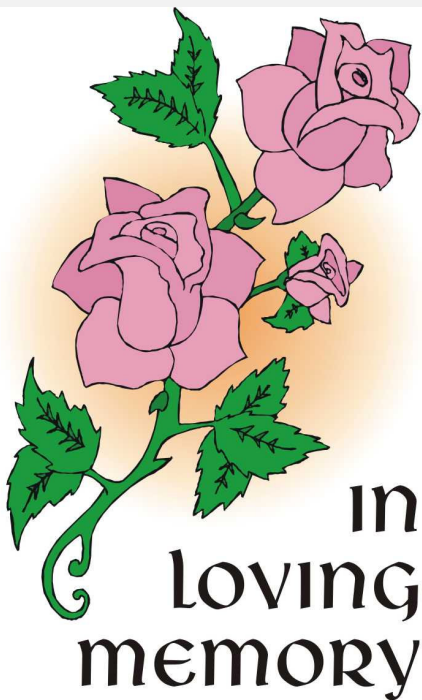
After raising her family in Edina, Minn., Mary worked amongst a lively group of women serving school lunches in the Edina elementary schools.

During her Minnesota years, Mary was active in the Hennepin Avenue Methodist Church and enjoyed playing bridge with their couples church group, comprised of their lifelong friends.

Mary and Jack retired to Hot Springs Village in the mid 1980s where they enjoyed golf, a full social calendar, and

volunteering.

Jack and Mary joined the Kirk in the Pines Presbyterian Church on their arrival in the Village and remained active throughout their lives. Mary also enjoyed volunteering with Heifer International, Arkansas.



Mary Irene Holen Wright

Born Dec. 18, 1923, in Warren, Minn., to Lawrence Iver Holen and Irene Brecke Holen. Mary was preceded in death by her beloved husband of 65 years, John H. 'Jack' Wright.

She is survived by their two children, son John H. Wright, Jr of Verona, Wisc. (and spouse Sarah) and daughter Terri Kelly of Murfreesboro, Tenn. (and spouse, Michael).

Mary is also survived by her two grandchildren Angie Kane of Redding, Conn., and John H. Spann of Murfreesboro, Tenn., and by many great grandchildren.

A memorial service for Mary will be at 10 a.m. Friday, Feb. 24, at the Kirk. Gifts can be made to Heifer International in memory of Mary Wright: <https://www.heifer.org/give/giving-in-honor.html>

Kirk's 2022 food pantry donations increased

By John Davis

Food pantry donations for 2022 were quite generous despite the increase in food prices.

The ability to give to those less fortunate than

ourselves is always a blessing for the recipients and donors alike.

While a few months in 2022 saw lower-than-usual contributions to Jackson House and Potter's Clay, the cumulative effort was very rewarding. In total, 1,387 food items, 417 hygiene items, and 66 miscellaneous items were donated to the two agencies.

These totals were in addition to the very successful Socks, Shoes, and Soups campaign we ran from the first of August through mid-September.

As we look forward to 2023, the Missions Committee will continue supporting Jackson House, Potter's Clay, and other agencies Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines helps thanks to the generosity of our members.

Thank you for your continued support and wishing you all a blessed 2023.

John Davis is a member of the Missions Committee.



Kirk

William B. Bailey – Senior Pastor

Randy Toney – Director of Music

Donna Toney – Organist/Pianist

Congregational Care Coordinator – Carol Clark

Chris Taylor-Wilmoth – Secretary

Beverly Schaumburg – Business Administrator

Arthur "Chip" Johnson – Sexton

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