

May 2026

# THE KIRK of Bonnie Brae

## From Your Pastor

Dear Kirk,

There are two different ways the Bible talks about time. There is Chronos time, which is measured by clocks and calendars. Chronos time moves forward, and as days and years pass there is a sense of loss in the urgency of moving forward. But there is another kind of time, Kairos time (both Greek words are translated as “time” in English). Kairos time is God’s time, moments that are so full and rich with God that they interrupt Chronos time or make it irrelevant. Kairos is what we know in Ecclesiastes 3:1-8, where we read of the fullness of time... “a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to harvest...” Kairos invites us to let go of the moving clock and to recognize that encounters of God live with us in the present always.

This month, Chronos time tells us that our time with Riss as our Pastoral Resident is coming to an end. Chronos time says that confirmation is concluding for our youth who have participated. And personally, I am feeling Chronos time as my oldest graduates from high school. Yes, there are endings, but Kairos time reminds us of the fullness of God that is without end.

The conversations and the learning and growing with our Confirmands do not end with their Confirmation service—it is the beginning of their faith journeys. All the learning and questioning they have engaged in this year will serve as seeds of faith that will grow throughout their lives.

As a mom, I don’t really have words to express my gratitude for the impact the Kirk has made on my children (and all of our Kirk children), offering them space and support to sing and question and lead and play and grow. My daughter wouldn’t be who she is without you, and I am confident she will take the spirit of the Kirk with her and our pursuit of depth in relationship with God, earth and community will go with her in her next chapter.

And as Riss ends their time at the Kirk, we celebrate the way their ministry changed us, as we supported them and they supported us. We encountered God through one another, the impacts of which will bloom in our ministries beyond what Chronos time can imagine.

In Chronos time, May is a season of endings, but in God’s Kairos time, it is a season of fullness. May we rejoice and celebrate the presence of God with us in all times.

*Selena*



# Worship in May



**May 3: A Day of Celebration!**

We will be dedicating Everett Snow in worship, and Riss Kostelnick our Pastoral Resident, will offer their final message with us as a part of their residency.

**May 10: John 14:15-21, The Rule of Love**

**May 17: Youth Sunday!** Our youth will lead worship, with Graduating Senior Elliana Wright preaching on Ephesians 4:1-46.

**May 24: Pentecost, Acts 2:1-21.**

Be a part of this high holy day as we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the church! Remember to **Wear Red** to signify the spirit that gathers us in and sends us out!

**May 31: Confirmation and Baptism Sunday!**

Those being baptized and confirmed have each memorized a scripture as part of their journey. Our service will include their scriptures and statements of faith, and a message from Rev. Selena and Rev. Corbin celebrating this day and inviting all of us to confirm our faith in big and small ways.

## ♥ Tentatively Scheduled Loving Servants

DATE	HOSTS <small>For changes, contact Ellen Campos</small>	COFFEE <small>For changes, contact Erica Thompson</small>	LAY READER <small>For changes, contact the office</small>
May 3	Jeannie Mitchell & Sharon Snyder	Lisa Kipp	Lisa Kipp
May 10	Greg & Beth Sherry	Lisa Kipp	Ellen Campos
May 17	Lee Trujillo-Lopez & Ashley Lopez	Erica Thompson	Youth Sunday
May 24	Don Zimmerman & Patty Hummert	Patty Hummert	Vicki Wright
May 31	Ann Karlberg & Robert Bowles	Beth Sherry	Mark Dutell & Sharon Snyder

# Children’s Ministry in May

We are so blessed by the time and attention our StoryRoom Volunteers give. Please be in prayer for our volunteers and children as we continue with our Volunteer Model for the StoryRoom.

Here is our Volunteer Schedule this month:

- **May 3:** Patty Hummert #28, The Sower
- **May 10:** Lisa Kipp, #29, The Good Samaritan
- **May 17:** Youth Sunday, Children are invited to stay in worship
- **May 24:** Lisa Kipp, #43 Pentecost
- **May 31:** Lisa Kipp, #25 The Mustard Seed



## Supporting our Children’s Ministry, Summer Volunteers Needed

We are seeking volunteers to lead our Children’s Church during worship (starting after the Children’s Moment through the end of worship) during the summer months. Curriculum will be provided to you for your day well in advance. You can sign up [HERE!](#)



## Confirmation

We have six youth currently on the journey of confirmation: Lyle, Nathan, Emerson, Ila, Tate, and Jojo. We are so excited to officially confirm those who choose to take that next step on Sunday, May 31 which will also include 2 baptisms!

Our Confirmands will meet:

- Sunday, May 3, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. with Mentors
- Saturday, May 30, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. with Mentors
- Sunday, May 31, 10:00 a.m. Confirmation Sunday!

## Youth Group!

All teenagers (and friends) in grades 6-12 are invited to join us on Sunday nights from 6-7:30 p.m. We share a meal together, play games, check in about our weeks and engage in discussion on issues of life and faith! We use the GroupMe app to communicate. You can join that group [HERE](#).

- **May 3:** Youth Sunday Prep
- **May 10:** No Gathering, Mother's Day
- **May 17:** 10:00 a.m. Youth-led Worship Service!
- **May 24:** End of School Year BBQ and Blessing of a Senior at the Wright's house.



## Summer Church Camps at La Foret



Church Camp is a life-changing experience of nature and beloved community. The Kirk is committed to contributing \$325 per child/youth to help with the camp fees from our Kirk's Got Talent fundraiser, as well as from the generous donations of those who have gone before us. If you need additional financial assistance, contact Selena. We are committed to ensure every child who wants to attend, is able.

Registration is open, please click [HERE](#).

- **Explorer Camp** is July 5-11 for those entering grades 3-6.
- **Voyager Faith and Science Camp** is July 12-18 for those entering grades 6-8.
- **MADD (Music Arts Dance Drama) Camp** is July 12-18 for those entering grades 9-12.

## “Be the Kirk!” A Youth Service-Learning Experience!

This summer, Corbin and Laura Tobey-Davis will lead a local youth service-learning experience focused on our own community! Youth who have completed grades 6-12 are invited to arrive at the Kirk at 3 p.m. on Sunday, July 26, and stay through Tuesday, July 28, at 4 p.m., playing games, serving our community, sharing meals, and even sleeping! The cost is \$50, please register **no later than May 15** by clicking [HERE](#).



## Saturday, May 9

Every Spring and Fall, we gather Kirk folks to do some much-needed cleaning, organizing and maintenance on our building. We will gather on Saturday, May 9, from 9-12 p.m. to prepare our building for the Spring Season!

There are several jobs that need to be attended to, including organizing closets, deep cleaning both kitchens, weeding, and more. If you can't attend on May 9, the list is in the Narthex so you can sign-up to complete a job at a different time. Our building needs all of us to keep it in good shape for ourselves and the community.



## UCC Special Offering, May 24



This offering furthers the work of our conferences and the national UCC as we work together to strengthen and renew existing congregations, fund leadership development, and provide exciting

new programs for youth and young adults. The offering is divided with 50% staying regionally within our conference and 50% supporting the National Ministries. We will receive gifts for this during our offering on Pentecost Sunday, May 24. You can give by check (please write Strengthen the Church in the memo line) or on our website [HERE](#).

## Celebrating Riss With a *Cursive Card Shower!*

We have learned so much with and from Riss Kostelnick, our pastoral resident this year. While they will remain connected to the Kirk through their ordination process, they will conclude their formal residency at the end of May, so we want to celebrate! After worship on **May 24**, we will have Ice Cream Sundays and shower Riss with cards. But there is a special request: Riss wants to learn to read cursive, so as you write a note in your card for Riss, write in cursive! Our words of gratitude will be one more part of their continued learning!



## Have You Considered... Foster Parenting?

Hope & Home is always looking for Foster Parents. If this is something God might be calling you to, feel free to check out their website [HERE](#) for more information.

# DIG Deeper

Faith Formation Hour



Each Sunday at 9:00 a.m., we have an opportunity to dig deeper into our understanding of scripture and our relationships with one another. We are currently reading Howard Thurman's "[Jesus and the Disinherited](#)," a book that inspired Dr. King's work in the Civil Rights Movement. All are welcome to join the conversation!

- **May 3:** Chapter 4: Hate
- **May 10:** Chapter 5: Love
- **May 17:** Reflections and Summer Discussion

## BIBLE STUDY EVERY TUESDAY @ 1.00 PM

IN THE KIRK'S OFFICE & ON ZOOM

### Conversations with Scripture

- Casual atmosphere
- Join in or just listen
- Share insights and questions!



## Would You Like to Be a Lay Reader?

If you enjoy scripture, we invite you to become a Sunday Lay Reader. Don't let any fear of public speaking hold you back; the warm smiles from the congregation at the Kirk make it an incredibly rewarding experience! You will receive the scripture in advance, along with a guide for preparing a brief Stewardship Moment. To sign up, please add your name to the sheet in the Narthex or contact the office to secure your spot.



# Metro Caring Update

Did you notice the new poster in the Narthex highlighting the Mission committee's "Take a Sack, Bring it Back" campaign? Last year, we collected nearly 100 pounds of food per month for Metro Caring's Open Market, where eligible people can shop for nutritious, culturally appropriate food. The first four months of this year, we bagged 1,000 pounds of rice and lentils, donated dollars and canned goods from the Souperbowl of Caring, and took in 63 pounds of shelf-stable and canned food for Metro Caring. While the Kirk's outpouring of love and generosity is amazing, it's important to remember that grocery prices have gone up for everyone and food stamps have also been cut, making it more difficult for some of our neighbors to feed their families. There is a QR code on the poster so that you can donate any amount to the Kirk's monthly contribution to Metro Caring. Together, the Kirk can continue to support food security for our wider community. Thank you!



## Take a Sack, Bring it Back!

On the **third Sunday of every month**, the Kirk Mission Team puts out grocery bags with a list of what Metro Caring needs. We ask that you live the rhyme, "take a sack (on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday) and bring it back" (full of groceries on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday) each month. This is one of the ways our church builds it into our individual and communal practices to care for our neighbors who are food insecure.

## An Easy & Free Way to Give!

Remember for every King Soopers reward purchase you make, if you have selected the Kirk as your option, a portion comes to the church. Setting this up is easy!

**Step 1** Log in to your online King Soopers account

**Step 2** Search "Community Rewards"

**Step 3** If you are not currently enrolled, search for Kirk of Bonnie Brae, and when you see it click enroll. Then log in to your account as much as you want to see how much of your grocery bill is coming to the Kirk. For more detailed King Soopers instructions, click [HERE](#).



# Sabbatical Team Update



From June 8 to August 31, 2026, Selena will be on Sabbatical. Rooted in the word Sabbath, this is a covenantal time of rest and connection with God that is offered to our clergy every five years. Selena is approaching her 12<sup>th</sup> year at the Kirk, and this will be her second sabbatical during that time. Over these 12 weeks, both Selena and the Kirk will engage in “Walking toward Wisdom” as we move toward God and community, both literally and figuratively.

The Sabbatical Planning Team has been working diligently over the past year. We have secured wonderful preachers for each Sunday, and recruited strong spiritual leaders from within our congregation to serve as Care Team leads—keeping folks connected to the church and offering support and prayer as needed during this time. Each Kirk household will be contacted by their Care Team leader before the Sabbatical begins.

On Sunday, **June 7**, we will offer a blessing of release for Selena as she enters this time away, and we will celebrate together with a reception after worship. We hope all of you will be there as we prayerfully enter into this season of sabbatical.

The Sabbatical Planning Team

Donna Furman, Lisa Kipp, Cam Short-Camilli, Emily Snow, Sharon Snyder, Rev. Selena Wright

# Food Preparation Volunteers Needed!

Greetings from Corbin Tobey-Davis and The ROCK Center! As we prepare for another season of Peace Warriors Summer Camp, we invite members of the Kirk community to help make camp possible. Volunteering to prepare or provide lunch for our youth is a meaningful way to give back and to be part of something powerful happening in our community. Your support helps sustain a camp experience rooted in creativity, connection, and healing. We are seeking volunteers from the Kirk community to help during two weeks of camp: June 1–5 and June 8–12. If you would like to support our young people in this tangible and caring way, please complete this [Summer 2025 Volunteer Form](#).



Peace Warriors Summer Camp takes place at Parkview Church, 12444 E. Parkview Drive, Aurora, CO 80011. To get a glimpse of camp life, and to learn more about The ROCK Center and our work check our website [HERE](#).

Thank you for the many ways you support this work. We would be grateful to have Kirk folks alongside us again this summer!

Warmly,

Rev. Corbin Tobey-Davis

Executive Director, The ROCK Center

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## Moderator's Report, by Lisa Kipp

The April Council meeting was a concentration on and a celebration of the Kirk's core values. We all read an article on Intentional Living and Discernment, in which we learned a lesson from our Amish and Mennonite neighbors: only introducing new ideas or technologies into our community if they align with our core values. And we cannot do that unless we know our core values. Selena reminded us that they are described in our mission statement: we are "a progressive church rooted in Christianity and welcoming to spiritual seekers from all backgrounds who are pursuing depth in relationship with God, Earth, and a community through engaged faith and social justice."



In keeping with those values, these are some of the ways we are engaging with our community (near and far). The Council reaffirmed our commitment to sponsor Riss through their ordination process. We celebrate all they have accomplished and will continue to do. Bill Harrigan has agreed to be our delegate to the UCC Rocky Mountain Conference. We heard reports on the Faith Formation Team and the Sabbatical Team. We celebrated that we hadn't really heard much anxiety preceding Selena's sabbatical (but if you have any concerns, please, feel free to reach out to me or anyone on Council). Our last discussion was about collaboration with the larger Metro Denver UCC churches. Selena and Corbin will attend a retreat with thirteen representatives from nine different churches. The retreat will follow the Bethany method of silence and intentional discernment. We all look forward to hearing the results.

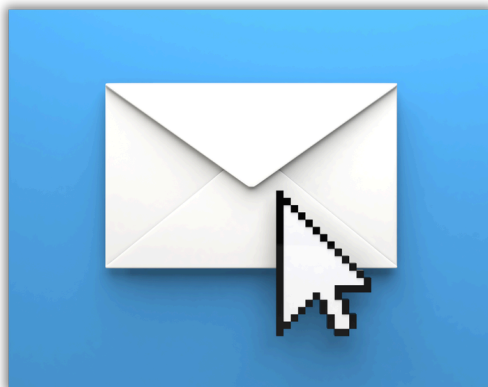
As we name our core values, remember there is a place for all who want to engage. We always need help with our Children's Ministry, Green Justice, Social Justice, and Hospitality committees.  
*(ps - You don't have to be in charge to be involved!!)*

Yours in Service,

Lisa Kipp

**KIRK** of  
**BONNIE BRAE**

## Sign Up for Action Alerts



As part of our commitment to Social Justice, we offer Action Alerts to notify you when you can act on Colorado legislation or other events that need the community's support to advance Social Justice. These notifications will be forwarded from our Justice Partners: Together Colorado, Interfaith Alliance of Colorado and Colorado Faith Communities Against Gun Violence. Please see the sign-up sheet in the Narthex or notify the office if you would like to be added to these lists. Actions range from sending emails to legislators, to invitations to testify at rallies, or participate in other events.

# Connect Online

- Click [HERE](#) for Worship livestreams.
- Click [HERE](#) for DIG, Conversations with Scripture and other ZOOM meetings.



Did you know you can connect to the Kirk anytime through our social media presence? Follow the Kirk on Facebook, Instagram and YouTube and share what inspires you with your friends and followers!



# Coffee & Community

Thanks to a generous gift, we have a new, simple to use Coffee Maker! Each Sunday, a volunteer comes early to make coffee (following a set of instructions in the lower level kitchen) and also brings a treat for after church, and then cleans up. Thank you SO much to all who volunteer to create this space for us to visit and build community. We are looking for sign-ups for the summer! You can sign up [HERE](#).



- Youth Sunday, May 17
- Confirmation Sunday, May 31
- Pride Sunday: June 28
- All UCC Combined Worship at First Plymouth UCC: July 26
- Animal Blessing: 10:00 a.m. Saturday, September 19
- Women's Retreat at La Foret: October 2-4

# Kirk Birthdays



- 10th Wendy Cameron
- 15th Christine Dunning
- 18th Beth Sherry
- 18th Maliiah Williams
- 28th Calvin Davidson

If we have missed your birthday, please let us know by emailing [kobb@kirkofbonniebrae.org](mailto:kobb@kirkofbonniebrae.org).