



A Voice in the Pines

Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines Newsletter

Volume 70

September 2026

A WORD from Rev. Kane

Kirkin' o' the Tartans

"Our God our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, our shelter from the stormy blast and our eternal home." Hymn from Psalm 90

I am looking forward to my first Kirkin' celebration with everyone else on September 20. Since my college days as an Alma College Scotsman, I have claimed and celebrated the Scottish tradition of bag pipes, fife and drums and all the tartans. This tradition reminds us of our spiritual roots and foundations in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. While we make our way through life, with various forms of identity e.g. student. spouse. career. parent. grandparents and retired, the foundation of God's faithfulness remains our rock upon which to guide our lives!

Like many of you, I need reminders of who I am and whose I am in Christ Jesus. Hearing the pipes and singing the hymns of old is a wonderful experience of remembering and giving thanks for God's grace. I belong to God and God's people and have a role and place in the Kirk. These foundations are lighthouses of wisdom and support for me amidst rocky seas of transition and moments of doubt and uncertainty!! Let us share the Kirkin' together on September 20 and bring our friends and neighbors to share in this joyful experience of memory and assurance!!

Blessings

Rev. Jeff Kane



Reverend Jeff Kane

September Sermons and Scriptures

September 5 & 6- Philippians 4:1-9

Rejoicing

Communion

September 12 & 13- Philippians 4:10-23

Same Mind that was in Christ.

New sermon series on the Book of Exodus begins. God of the Suffering. "Indeed I know their sufferings." (Exodus 3:7)

September 19 & 20- Exodus 1:8- 2:10

The Audacious Midwives

September 26 & 27- Exodus 3:1-15

Holy Ground

UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE KIRK

- **Saturday Worship – 5:00 p.m., Bailey Hall, Rev. Jeff Kane leading worship.**
- **Sunday Worship – 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary, Rev. Jeff Kane leading worship.**
- **“Opening Our Family Album”- Bible Study in Genesis led by Rev. Kane. Sept. 4th**
- **Fridays with Jeff- 10:00 am, Bailey Hall resuming September 11th.**
- **Lunch and Learn- Nathan Chenault, Vera Lloyd Presbyterian Family Services, September 17th, 12:00 pm.**
- **“Signs and Wonders: Miracles in the Bible and Beyond”- Led by Dr. Bob Morrow. Wednesdays at 10:00 am, Sept. 9th through October 7th.**
- **Kirkin’ o’ the Tartans- September 20th. 10:00 am, Kirk Sanctuary- Reception to Follow**

Find more events by clicking on the CALENDAR tab on the Kirk website kirkinthepines.com

Kirk Mission Funds in Action

Cooperative Christian Ministries and Clinic

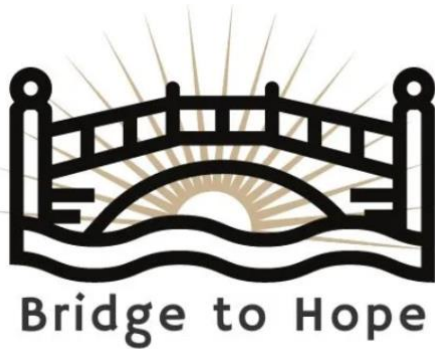
(The following is the latest in a series of articles about local organizations supported by the Kirk in the Pines Mission Budget.)

Founded in 1997 by local physician John Wayne Smith, CCMC began as an association of church congregations, community leaders, and medical professionals seeking to provide health care to the underserved. Over the next 17 years, through the efforts of hundreds of volunteers, basic treatment has expanded to include medical, dental, vision, and pharmacy clinics. Included in that care is tending to the spiritual wounds that poverty inflicts.

In 2014, the vision expanded beyond physical healthcare to battling the underlying poverty that seemed to be at the core of every patient’s condition. The board and management team felt strongly that if the impact and reasons for poverty weren’t addressed in the care provided, the cycles of crisis, chronic disease, and suffering would not be disrupted.

Poverty disruption at CCMC involves forging a path for those who are stranded in poverty, whether generational or situational. CCMC provides clients the opportunity to facilitate a way forward to build a more sustainable future that includes hope. To that end, CCMC sponsored

(continued from page 2)



Getting Ahead classes and community awareness Bridge to Hope workshops have not only built bridges for those ready to end the cycle of poverty but have ultimately benefitted the entire Hot Springs community.

Advocacy is at the very heart of the CCMC mission. Their Charitable Clinic volunteer healthcare professionals advocate for patients who would otherwise suffer with untreated disease and pain. Poverty Disruption programs advocate for those who are ready to cross the bridge from poverty to sustainability. Finally, CCMC Advocacy services step in to help manage urgent and immediate crises: a sudden health catastrophe, or a life changing event like eviction, loss of utilities, loss of a job, or lack of shelter. A big part of this is

helping clients secure documents like birth certificates and Social Security cards to help them access public services. CCMC advocates' collaborative relationships with community organizations allow them to know the right questions to ask and the proper referrals to make.

Non-medical volunteers are needed at Cooperative Christian Ministries and Clinic as administrative assistants, trainers in weekly workshops, building and ground maintainers, and to assist in special events. For more information about CCMC contact info@ccmchs.org.

Contributed by David Deas, Communications Committee member

Unique daily Bible study book added to Kirk library

A new book has been added to the Kirk library thanks to the Lowell Gardner Library Fund, a fund created in memory of Kirk member Lowell Gardner (1935 – 2023) and his passion for the written word.

The new acquisition is:

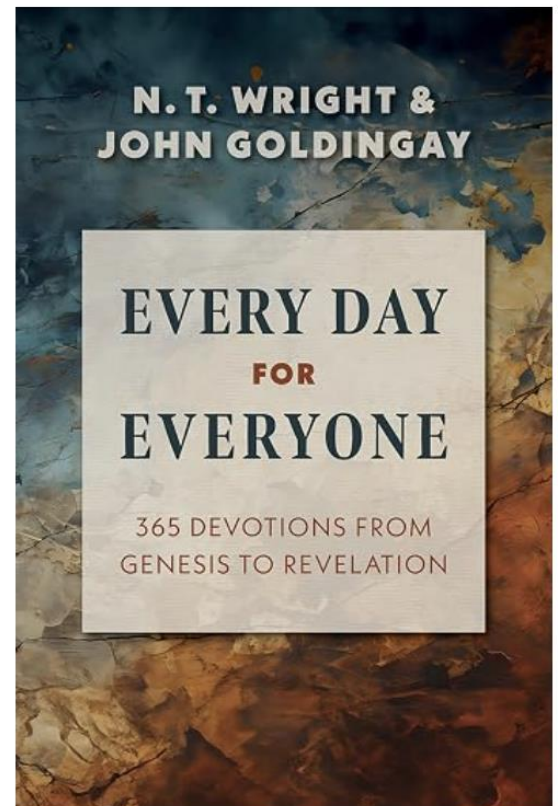
"Every day for Everyone: 365 Devotions From Genesis To Revelation" by N.T. Wright & John Goldingay- This book is for those of you who have resolved to read the Bible from cover to cover. This book will guide you through day by day for a year with a one-page devotional reading and prayer for each day.

Lowell Gardner was the Voice in the Pines editor for many years and convened an annual summer book study for many years. He also wrote poetry which was compiled in "Winter Has A Way" also available in the Kirk library. In the book's introduction Lowell explains "My conveyance is poetry."

Kirk library books are checked out by signing the Check Out notebook on the library desk. The process is self-serve, and we ask that the book/s are returned in a reasonable period of time (2-4 weeks).

Come check it out!

Contributed by Susan Morrow, Education Committee Member



Signs and Wonders

Miracles in the Bible and Beyond

Robert Morrow, MD
Class Leader



*Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines
275 Asturias, Bailey Hall*

Wednesdays, 10:00-11:30
September 9th - October 7th



The gospels portray Jesus as a healer as much or more than anything else. Did you know that healings of Jesus account for 20% of the gospel text ?

This course will explore what, how, and why did Jesus heal, other signs and wonders, and the continuation of mighty works in the early church.

*For more information:
kirkinthepinesvoice@gmail.com*

Kirk Fish Fry hosted “First Responders” and many other guests with record turnout!

The Kirk family experienced another successful Fish Fry dinner on August 12th in Bailey Hall. Riverside Catering provided all the catfish, chicken fingers, and sides with the Fellowship Committee serving ice cream for dessert.



Bob Morrow photo

This year's fish fry was a little different from previous years. The Hot Springs Village First Responders and their families were invited to join the Kirk festivities in order to thank them for their service to the Village.



Robert Sonnen photo



Robert Sonnen photo

We had approximately 35 visitors respond to our invitation, including their children and teenagers! Chief Kristi Bennett from the Police Department and Chief Jeremy Simmons from the Fire Department were also in attendance. In total there were about 130 folks who attended the dinner.



From left Fire Department Chief Jeremy Simmons, Rev. Kane, and Police Chief Kristi Bennett.

Robert Sonnen photo



Fire trucks in the parking lot, in this case, a happy site.

Susan Pendergrass photo

A free will offering was available with contributions going to Project Hope Food Bank. \$225 was raised! The Fellowship Committee would like to thank everyone who came and enjoyed an evening of fun, fellowship, and good food. A good time was had by all, as the saying goes!

Contributed by Vicki Rosenquist, Fellowship Moderator

Kirkin' o' the Tartans

*Sunday, September 20th
10:00 a.m.*

*Reception to Follow
in Bailey Hall*

The Kirkin' is a time-honored celebration originating in Presbyterian churches where we remember in worship our Scottish heritage with blessing of the tartans, honoring of our ancestors, and rededicating ourselves to God and our church.

Join us as we celebrate the Kirkin' O' the Tartans ceremony on September 20th at 10:00 am.

Kirk Presbyterian Women's year begins September 14th



Presbyterian Women will resume meetings on Monday, September 14. The Joy Circle, led by Rosalyn Halbert (501-915-0860), will continue their study in "Horizon's-God's Promise," Lesson # 7 and will meet in the Conference Room at 10:00 a.m. The Grace Circle, led by Becky Wakefield (214-455-2921) will continue their study of the book "Tending The Wild Garden " by Eugenia Anne Gamble, and will meet in the Library at 3:30 p.m. This year our PW treasurer is Vicki Rosenquist, and our secretary is Dotty Rector.

Also, the next "Gathering" will be December 14, 2026, in Fellowship Hall. Program details will be announced later.

Any ladies who are not PW members currently, are cordially invited to visit one of these Circle meetings and consider joining a Circle.

It will be great seeing everyone on September 14th. to continue PW after the summer break. We are looking forward to our activities, bible study, and mission projects this year.

Contributed by Rosalyn Halbert, PW Moderator

Vera Lloyd CEO, Nathan Chennault will be featured speaker at Lunch & Learn

Please join us for a Lunch & Learn program on September 17th at 12:00 pm in Bailey Hall. Nathan Chennault (right), Vera Lloyd CEO, will be our featured speaker. Vera Lloyd provides residential care and counseling in a Christian environment for youth in crisis due to abuse, neglect or substance abuse environments.

Sandwich lunches from Artfully Baked and Brewed are available for \$13 or you can bring your own lunch.

Please email Donna Toney, dhtoney@gmail.com, to reserve either a ham or turkey lunch. You can pay at the event. The deadline for reserving a lunch is Sept. 14th.

Contributed by Donna Toney, Christian Education Moderator



Vera Lloyd Presbyterian Family Services

To Share Christ's healing love with children, youth, and families.

In Memoriam

Robert Clyde Corwin received his wings on August 17, 2026, when he peacefully passed away at home. These weren't the wings he wanted to earn while serving in the USAF. He learned he was color blind and couldn't be a pilot. These new wings flew him to be with his Lord.

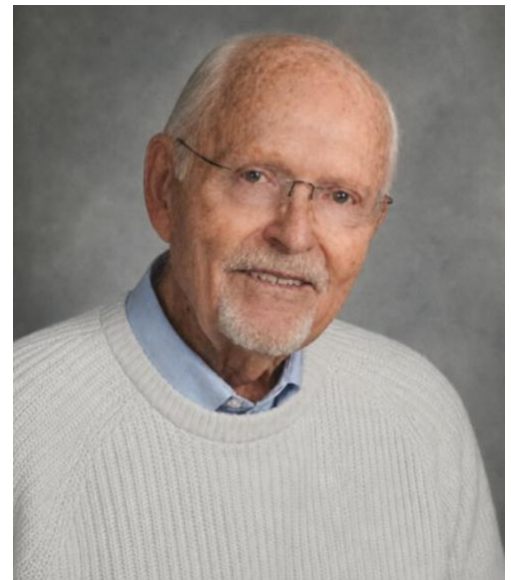
Bob was born in Bellefontaine, Ohio on November 19, 1932. He graduated from high school with honors where he also was Class President. Ohio Wesleyan University introduced him to his love of the radio. He was the voice of "Candlelight Concerts" transmitted every evening on WSLN. At OWU Bob was a member of Phi Delta Theta and played on the college golf team. He joined ROTC, leading him eventually to the Strategic Air Command during the "Cold War" and was stationed in England.

Upon return to the U.S. Bob zeroed in on a 20 yr. career with Phelps Dodge Corporation (the copper business). He ventured into the "wireless revolution" with Sinclair Technologies and Decibel Products. This extended his career in sales manufacturing of radio communication equipment throughout the United States and Canada. He was elected to the grade of Fellow in the Radio Club of America.

He was a proud veteran. Having chosen HSV to live for the past 30 years, Bob was active playing golf, a past President of Kiwanis, the Men's Cooking Club, and a board member of the HSV Concerts Association. Bob was an avid reader and never knew a stranger. He loved talking about his assorted collection of stones, shells, and crystals which always resulted in a longer story!

His wife of 67 years, Judy, and son, Gregory, were with him as he departed on his next journey.

He will be missed by family relatives, as well as new and long-time friends. A Celebration of Life was held at 11:00 am., Monday, August 31, 2026, at Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines. Pastor Jeff Kane officiated at the service. The Corwin family encourages you to honor Bob by donating to your favorite charity or to Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines Memorial Fund.



Robert C. Corwin

ATTENTION ALL SINGERS!



It's choir time again! After a much needed break for the month of August, the Kirk choir will resume rehearsals on **Wednesday, September 9th, at 3:00 pm** in the choir room . All singers who may be interested in joining the choir are welcome to attend. We will return to the choir loft to sing on **Sunday, September 13th**. We will meet at 9:30 am in the choir room.

As you may know, I had a much needed hip replacement in August. I'm really looking forward to returning to the choir and worship.

Thanks to the choir for your prayers, support, and all you do. And Kirk in the Pines, I appreciate your love and prayers during my hip replacement. We are an awesome church! Although this process has been challenging, I feel the healing prayers and love. Thank you.

In Christ,

Tina Kneisler, Director of Music

803-629-4929, Kirkpinesmusic@gmail.com

August was a relatively quiet month for the Session other than a hugely successful Fish Fry. Wasn't it fun to have all those first responders as our guests? We're now looking forward to the fall season and the holidays. How the time flies.

Coming up in September is the Kirkin' under the leadership of Jane Moore, and a Wednesday Bible Study called "Signs and Wonders" led by Bob Morrow. Later in the year you can look forward to the Chili Cookoff, another Bible Study and a Holiday Craft Fair, not to mention Thanksgiving dinner and Christmas services. Lots of programming going on.

Under new business it was suggested that we consider convening a Session retreat to work on long-range plans and goals as well as to review policies and procedures. Time was taken for Session members to reflect on the state of the Kirk under our new pastoral leadership. The many positive remarks centered mainly on the congregation's new spirit of energy and enthusiasm.

Session Highlights:

- **Church Statistics:** Members—147
Households—109
- **Membership:** Ruth Mattingly is transferring her membership from the Kirk to Central Presbyterian Church, Fort Smith, AR, where she lives.
- **Deaths:** Bob Corwin, August 17, 2026, memorial service August 31, 11:00 am; Edie Loveday, March, 19, 2026. Edie resided in Tacoma, Washington. No information on a service.

The Clerk's Corner

Ruth
Hamilton



OUR VISION

A Presence of Christ in the Village

OUR MISSION

We are a caring Christian community, striving to welcome, nurture, and inspire those who seek the Word of God and desire to grow in faith, fellowship, and service to others.

Thank you from Dick Massey

On behalf of the family of Charlotte and Richard Massey, we wish to thank Reverend Kane, the office staff and many others for the wonderful and inspiring funeral service for Charlotte on July 31st. With very short notice, Rev. Kane, the office staff and musicians prepared a service that blessed and comforted both families. A delicious lunch prepared by the "Green Horns" and others was enjoyed by a large family group afterward.

We will always be grateful.
Dick Massey

Kirk in the Pines celebrates Rev. Jeff Kane's B'day and other August birthdays.



Ruth Hamilton (right) serves cake to Rosalyn Halbert at this special Coffee Hour.

On August 11th Rev. Kane celebrated his birthday while on duty leading the flock. In honor of the event a special cake (celebrating all August birthdays) was served at Coffee Hour. And even a few sang happy birthday to our forever young minister. He also celebrated an early birthday at Saturday worship.

Robert Sonnen photos



The Altar
By George Herbert
1733

This poem is a "shaped poem", one that takes the form of the object on the page.

A broken ALTAR, Lord, thy servant rears,
Made of a heart and cemented with tears:
Whose parts are as thy hand did frame;
No workman's tool hath touch'd the same.

A HEART alone
Is such a stone,
As nothing but
Thy pow'r doth cut.
Wherefore each part
Of my hard heart
Meets in this frame,
To praise thy name:

That if I chance to hold my peace,
These stones to praise thee may not cease.
Oh, let thy blessed SACRIFICE be mine,
And sanctify this ALTAR to be thine.

Financial Report- Year to Date July 31, 2026

	<u>July-26</u>	<u>Actual YTD</u>	<u>Budget YTD</u>
<u>General Fund</u>			
Revenues	44,587	256,426	238,241
Expenses	<u>(36,192)</u>	<u>(223,803)</u>	<u>(238,241)</u>
Change in Net Assets	8,395	32,623	(0)
Extraordinary expense (parking lot)	<u>(22,500)</u>	<u>(22,500)</u>	
Total Change Net Assets	(14,105)	10,123	
 \$1 Mission Giving	 201	 1,720	 1,517
 Cash Balances		 63,360	

Here's how your contributions are allocated.

You may be interested in knowing how your 2026 contributions to the Kirk have been allocated by the Session. Each contribution, both pledged and unpledged, to the Kirk General Fund is divided into separate categories based on function. Keep in mind this article only addresses allocation of contributions and does not include allocation of our Texas Presbyterian Foundation funds.

The current year budget allocation is as follows:

Worship & Music – 30%

Facilities Maintenance – 30%

Discipleship, Fellowship, & Pastoral Care -19%

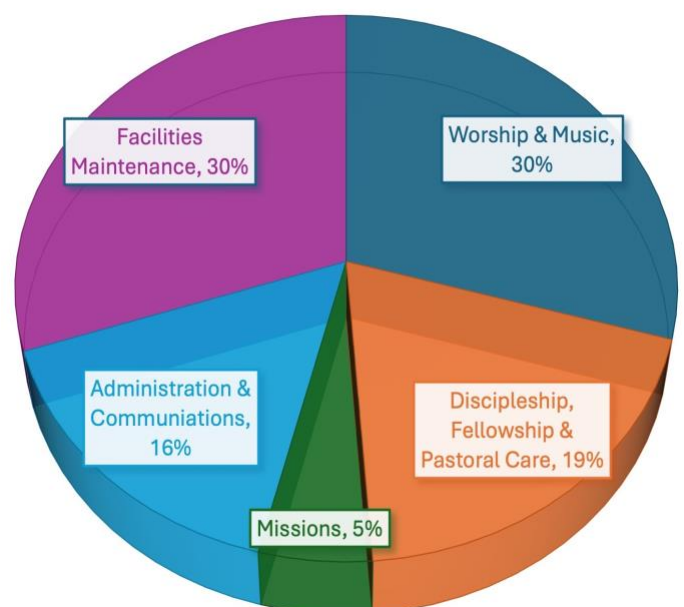
Administration & Communications – 16%

Missions – 5%

Additional mission donations come from funds held in the Texas Presbyterian Foundation accounts and from designated donations for Missions bringing us closer to 15% of our contributions for Missions outreach.

Presbyterian Women circles also contribute their designated giving to Missions in the amount of \$2,500 in 2026.

2026 KIRK BUDGETED SPENDING



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In addition to contributions, the Texas Presbyterian Foundation funds supplement and expand the Kirk's mission reach as needs arise. A current need is within the Facilities area with an air conditioning unit that is nearing the end of its life span according to our service company. Unfortunately, they are unable to tell us how long the unit will continue to perform adequately. The Finance Committee has recommended transferring funds from our Investment account (TPF) to have funds on hand so that the unit can be replaced without delay as needed. Those funds have now been put aside for that use.

The investment funds (TPF), allow the Kirk to respond to needs immediately without having to use donations and contributions for large capital expenditures that may arise.

Contributed by Susan Morrow, Finance Committee Moderator

GET YOUR CRAFTS READY !

Kirk in the Pines Craft Fair

Friday, November 13

Bailey Hall

CALLING ALL CRAFTING PEOPLE

for donations of your wonderful handmade crafts !

Donate any kind of craft, woodworking, potholders, ornaments, sewing projects, cards, jewelry, pillows, teddy bears??? Paintings?

We need your craft donations now or as soon as possible!

There will also be tables for vendors for \$40.00. If you know of anyone that would like to participate, signup information sheets will be forthcoming.

So finish your projects now and plan to be part of the Kirk craft fair!

For further information call Wendy Gage at 559-970-9834.

The behind the scenes of “live streaming”



Robert Sonnen at the computer managing the video stream.

Bob Morrow photo

You may have noticed the setup in the narthex. Off in the corner by the soundboard you will see Robert Sonnen sitting at the computer and also Blair Stroud manning the camera. This is all part of the live streaming apparatus that produces the video that you can see on our website either live or as a recorded video on YouTube. The journey to live streaming began over two years ago with encouragement by members of the congregation that saw live streaming as an important offering to the community and to Kirk members.

Actually the journey started during COVID when, with Sharon Gardner's able assistance, we began recording worship services that just consisted of musicians performing and pastor Bailey reading scriptures, leading prayer and delivering a message. These were posted on the Kirk website for viewing after the fact, meaning, not live. Fast forward to the post COVID era where many churches transitioned to offering their services online as well as in person. The Kirk leadership decided to embark on creating a live streaming experience for both current members who couldn't attend worship and those in the community who might have an interest in our worship services.

So what does it take to live stream? Well you need a really good camera with a good zoom lense, a computer, a reliable internet high speed connection, a video platform on the Internet, and people with know-how. We decided to engage a consultant who guided us through the purchase of an appropriate camera and a computer with the fast processing needed for video. Our consultant, Chanin Latham from Balboa Baptist, provided specs on the bare bones equipment we needed, directed us to readily available free software to make the connection between the camera video recording and our audio sound box output, and offered advice on getting started. This sounds very straightforward but there were many potholes on the road to effective live streaming that we did not expect.

First, we discovered that our Internet connection through AT&T was too slow to support live streaming. In fact our Internet connection was already deemed inadequate and needed to be replaced. We went with Starlink, the only available option in our location, which took some time to implement but has proven to be adequate to meet live streaming needs. Thanks go to Dave Hamilton and others for making that happen. The connection between the computer and the soundboard also turned out to be tricky. Ultimately our multi-talented technical support person, AKA Robert Sonnen, helped troubleshoot the issues and achieve a reliable connection between our soundboard, the computer and the internet. And then of course we needed someone, in addition to Robert, to man the setup of the computer soundboard and camera during worship. Optimally this involves two skilled operators. Thankfully Blair Stroud stepped up to be part of the team. We also needed to work through finding a reliable platform to “host” our videos. Thanks to Patty Barnes for helping us set up a YouTube channel. We now have our own YouTube channel, “Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines YouTube.” The end result after many months of effort is what you see when you go to “Watch Video” on our kirkinthepines.com website. If you tune in at 10:00am Sunday through our website by going to “Watch Worship”, you can watch our worship service live. Or, if you miss it, or you just want to watch again you can go to “Watch Worship” to watch archived services.



Blair Stroud often is the man behind the camera.

Bob Morrow photo

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There is more coming. We hope to be able to add the words of hymns on the video feed. We may want to add cameras to improve the quality of our video and to be able to spotlight our organist and pianist. We also would like to start live streaming other services and programs like the Saturday night worship service, and maybe even special events and Bible studies. As they say in TV land, stay tuned.

If you're interested in volunteering to help with our live streaming efforts, please email kirkinthepinesvoice@gmail.com.

Contributed by Bob Morrow, Communications Committee Moderator

Taste of Pilgrimage comes to Kirk Saturday worship service



Pilgrims that gathered were (front row from left) Rev. Bill Seitz, Patty Barnes, Denny Zymboly, Rev. Mike Seitz, (second row) Vicky Head, Della Reimers, Jami Hemund, Martha Nielsen, Linda Truitt (third row) Kathryn Gallistel, Jerry Hemund with Serena Gallistel, Belinda Wilson, Vicki Jones (back row) Ruth Hamilton, Lee Bennett, Dave Hamilton, and Linda Murphy.

On August 29th the Saturday night congregation was treated to a Taste of Pilgrimage. It brought together Pilgrims from all over the state of Arkansas, and even Texas and Missouri! There was sharing of testimonials of what Pilgrimage meant to different people, lots of great music, prayer, scripture, and more cookies and fudge than could be eaten!. *Contributed by Patty Barnes, Communications Committee member.*



All the seats were filled for the Taste of Pilgrimage at the Saturday night service.



Patty Barnes at the piano, Marcey Berry, Linda Murphy (seated) , Rev. Bill Seitz & Lee Bennett on guitar.

Robert Sonnen photos



September Birthdays

1 Beverly Bongard	10 Gail Salmen	23 Beverly Raskin
3 Mary Ann Reynolds	12 Tyler Hamilton	25 Susan Deas
4 Gene Heath	14 Jim Chaffin	29 Beverly McFadden
5 Tina Kneisler	18 Baron Gage	30 Marjorie Carlisle
8 Gloria Hepner	20 Donn Allison	
10 Don Webb	22 Peggy Trent	

September Anniversaries

1 Marcia & Bill Drews	37yrs	19 Barbara & Bill Worthley	27yrs
2 Fran & Abe Stroud	58yrs	30 Eve & Don Webb	10yrs
5 Pat & Mel Kuntz	62yrs		

Dear Kirk in the Pines

Thank you very much for awarding me the Maack-Ormsbee Scholarship. I am incredibly grateful for your generosity and support. This scholarship will be a great help as I continue my education, and I am honored that you chose to invest in my future. Thank you again for your kindness and encouragement.

Sincerely,
Grant Gibson



Special music for Sunday worship, August 30th, was provided by the Treble in the Village Quartet. They sang two pieces; "When Lift Up My Head" and "I'll Fly Away." Both musical offerings were very warmly received by the Kirk congregation. From the left are baritone Mary Devine, lead Patty Barnes, bass Karen Wesson, and tenor Kathy Allison. Both Patty Barnes and Kathy Allison are members of the Kirk Choir.



Worshiping God, Serving Christ, Loving Others

Kirk Staff

Reverend Jeffrey L. Kane- Minister

Tina Kneisler- Music Director

Chris Taylor-Wilmoth- Secretary

Arthur “Chip” Johnson- Sexton

Fran Stroud, Donna Toney-Organists/Pianists

Patty Barnes- Saturday Worship Pianist

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

Donna Toney- Christian Education

Bob Morrow- Communications (Trustee)

Susan Pendergrass- Congregational Care

Vicki Rosenquist- Fellowship (Trustee)

Susan Morrow- Finance

Priscilla Hayek- Grounds/Memorial Garden

Judith Rosenthal- Missions

Wendy Gage- Member Outreach

Jane Moore- Worship (Trustee)

PW Moderator: Rosalyn Halbert

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