PRESBYTERIAN Kirk in the Pines

A Voice in the Pines

Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines Newsletter Volume 72 November 2026

A WORD from Rev. Kane

Generosity in Simplicity

My wife Carol and I have had the privilege and utmost joy over the last 12 years in puppy raising 10 male black labrador puppies from age 8 weeks until 15 months of age for Canines for Independence! This organization founded by Charles Schultz (Linus, Lucy and Snoopy creator) seeks to place these amazing animals with folks of different sizes, ages and backgrounds who need the dog's love and companionship to become independent in fulfilling their dreams amidst hardships and handicap situations.

We have learned the gift of sharing these precious animals with others. Yes, they do crawl up into hearts with love and endless energy and joy! They never have a bad day.

This puppy journey has been a next step in delivering the dog to the Orlando training site, where the puppy will undergo a rigorous 6 month assessment and evaluation and intense supervision to determine their potential for service ! It's a bittersweet moment saying goodbye. People ask us constantly how can you give up such a blessing of a lifetime in this 4-legged lab with love written all over them?

We both have come to treasure the sharing of the time and energy and lessons of puppy raising! To be part of their matriculation is an amazing experience in which we learn much more than we ever realized. Being generous becomes a blessing of simplicity for Carol and me. We can receive the gift from God in this puppy and then the fulfillment of watching them graduate and become service animals for others.

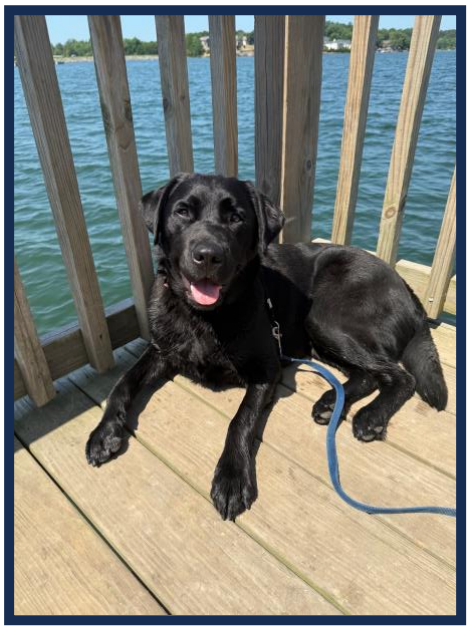
At times, we remember the struggles and sacrifices of being on task for a puppy. These memories instruct us in knowing life is sharing. We are not owners of God's creation and creatures, only stewards !! The simplicity of loving and giving brings an abundance of generous blessings that we made a difference for others to enjoy a 4 legged gift spelled love!

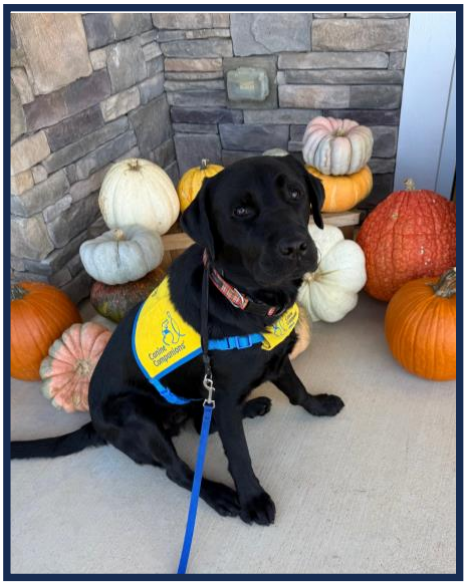
These pictures are of Fettuccine, age 15 months through his growth and maturity We will deliver him on November 2-4 and say goodbye to our 10th puppy. We pray in 6 months he will graduate and be placed with a deserving family.

May you find in your life that the simple gifts of time and energy bring the abundant joy of generosity from God's grace and mercy.

Blessings
Rev. Jeff Kane







Fettucine

November Sermons and Scriptures

October 31 & November 1. Rev. Kane. All Saints Day. All Saints Celebration and Communion. Matthew 5:1-12, *"Saintly Blessings"*
November 7. Jerry Hemund. Revelation 22:13, *"Journey Through the Garden"*
November 8. Carl McCormack. Matthew 25:1-30. *"Parable of the Talents"*
November 14 & 15. Rev. Kane. Luke 12:13-21. *"Rich Toward God"*
November 21 & 22. Rev. Kane. Christ the King Sunday. Matthew 25:31-46. *"Lord, when did we see you hungry and homeless?"*
November 28 & 29. Rev. Kane. First Sunday of Advent. Luke 1:26-38. *"The Saying of Advent... Here I am Lord. Let it be with me according to your word."*

UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE KIRK- November 2026

- **Fridays with Jeff- 10:00 am, Bailey Hall. Nov. 13, 20, 27- Cancelled Nov. 6**
- **"Heretics"- Led by Rev. Bill Bailey, Thursdays, 10:00 am, Office Conference Room, Through November 19th**
- **"Jubilation Jazz"- Saturday, November 7th, 2:00 p.m. Kirk Sanctuary, Hot Springs/Hot Springs Village Symphony Guild.**
- **Worship emphasis on "Hunger and Homelessness", Nov. 14th and 15th**
- **Gratitude Lunch following worship, Sunday, Nov. 22nd**
- **Thanksgiving Meal. November 26th, 12:00 to 1:30 pm. Bailey Hall**
- **"Hanging of the Greens," November 29th, 1st Sunday of Advent, 3:00pm, Kirk Sanctuary**

Find more information by clicking on the CALENDAR tab at kirkinthepines.com



Kirk to emphasize hunger and homelessness

Many ministries of the Kirk are focused on providing food and clothing to various local programs such as Project Hope, Jackson House, and Potter's Clay, to name just a few. We are joining with churches all across the country to place a special emphasis on Hunger and Homelessness during the weekend of November 14 and 15.

The Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week is an annual program (held the week before Thanksgiving in November) where people come together across the country to draw attention to the problems of hunger and homelessness. For more information, please visit nationalhomeless.org.

We will join this year in this ecumenical program by requesting clothing donations for the Love Lunches program. Even though the name says "lunches", it does so much more. See more about Love Lunches in the adjacent article.

As the weather turns cooler with longer evenings, nights can be very difficult for the homeless. We are requesting any clothing donations you can provide; particularly warm, water resistant outerwear. Please scour your closets for items that you no longer need, or you can do without. The need is great, and any donation will be appreciated.

You may drop them off during the week of November 8-13 or bring them to Saturday evening or Sunday worship. Drop-off boxes will be readily available and denoted by signs.

Contributed by Randy Toney

What is "Love Lunches" and why do they need our help?

The program Love Lunches was established in 2007 when a gentleman named Ken Anderson realized that homeless & disadvantaged had nowhere to go for a hot meal on Sundays. Taking money from his own pocket, he began Love Lunches.

In 2016, Salvation Army allowed Love Lunches to serve lunches out of their facility. But the need for more than just food was felt. Clothing, blankets, towels, and household goods were also needs. Some of the churches serving love lunches began asking for donations to give out to the needy.

Today, when Kirk of the Pines volunteers go to Salvation Army every other month on a Sunday, not only do they make lunches to hand out, but bring donations of goods to hand out directly to the homeless & disadvantaged. They are put out where they can rummage through and take what they need at no cost to them. It does not go through Salvation Army or their Restore, but directly to anyone who comes to get a lunch or has a need for clothing.

This is a mission where Jesus asked, "Did you feed or cloth me?" Our volunteers are doing just that. Please support our mission of helping these folks. We do not ask for money, only donations of goods.

Contributed by Ruth Richards & Ron Lovett

Get Ready for Jubilation Jazz at the Kirk

Saturday, November 7, 2:00 p.m.

Celebrating America at 250 years.

Tickets $10

May be purchased online at:

HS/HSV Symphony Guild-Jazz Concert

or at the door



Millie Croson's family shares their appreciation

To the Beneficent Attendees & Contributors of the Celebration of Life for Millie Croson in September:

We, The Croson Family, wish to Thank You for sharing this special day with us, celebrating Millie Croson.

All of us were somewhat "preoccupied" and neglected to reach out and acknowledge our thankfulness for the special talents of Rev. Jeffrey Kane, Donna Toney & Patty Barnes ; the disciplined and kind help of Bev & Mike Carpenter, and Blair Stroud; the sincere and professional orchestration of all events by Chris Taylor Wilmoth, as well as, the special gifts of time and talent of the Memorial Coordinator, Judith Rosenthal and crew Jane Moore, Gail Salmen, Jerral Johnson, Linda Hommema, Barbara Albright & E.J. Pangle who prepared and served the delightful spread, graciously. Our Family gathering after the Service was so much easier and tastier due to the food tray beautifully organized by Darell & Jean Fisher.

In addition to growing as a Christian through long-time Kirk fellowship, our Mom especially enjoyed singing with her Choir friends, Shepherd Group activities, and the Greenhorns' meals.

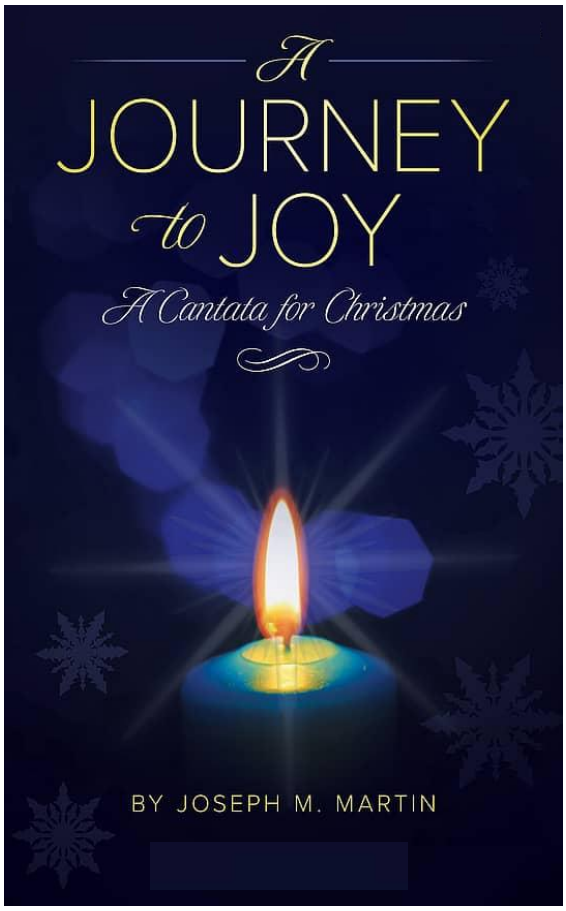
Our Warmest Appreciation,
The Croson Family
(Andrew, Richelle, Ron, Karen & Jerry)

Mark your calendars for December 13, 3:00 pm. Kirk Choir Presents:

A Journey to Joy
A Cantata for Christmas

If you are or know an interested singer, we are rehearsing this beautiful piece of music on Wednesdays 3:30-4:30

Tina Kneisler
Director of Music
Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines
803-629-4929





The final collection of socks, shoes, and soup ready for delivery.
Bob Morrow photo



Donations of socks, shoes, and soup filled a van. Robert Sonnen, not pictured, helped pack the items with Judith Rosenthal (from left) and Priscilla Hayek.
Robert Sonnen photo

Socks, Shoes, Soup scores again!

The Shoes, Socks and Soups Mission Project finished at the end of October. The Kirk once again responded with enthusiasm and brought 144 pairs of Shoes, 215 Soups and countless socks to be given to Jackson House in Hot Springs. Priscilla Hayek, Judy Rosenthal and Robert Sonnen boxed and bagged up all the collected items. The Soup was taken to the Jackson House Food Pantry. Volunteers unloaded it all with many thanks for the Kirk generosity.

The Shoes and Socks were delivered next door to Jackson House Thrift Store for sharing with the many homeless they serve. Jackson House Thrift Store was needing tennis shoes, and our collection of shoes included many pairs in all sizes. They were delighted to receive them.

The Mission Committee thanks each and every one in the Kirk for being so willing to give to those in need.

Contributed by Judith Rosenthal, Missions Committee Moderator



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.

Chili Cookoff draws crowd of 72 members and friends



Half the crowd of chili samplers.
Robert Sonnen photo



The other half.
Bob Morrow photo



There was plenty of bread and "fixins" to go with the Chili. From left, Carol Clark and Dotty Rector. Carol won the prize for best chili, again.
Robert Sonnen photo



Susan Morrow made these "chili" stockings for holding the $1 bills used to cast votes for best chili. The new voting method raised $400 dollars for Jackson House!
Bob Morrow photo



Jean Fisher managed to find one last bowl of chili.
Robert Sonnen photo.

Joy Circle delivers hygiene supplies to Mountain Pine School



On October 23, 2026, Joy Circle delivered two boxes to Mountain Pine School's Hygiene Closet. The boxes contained $200 worth of shampoo, deodorant, tampons, shaving cream, razors, etc. They were gratefully accepted by the High School Counselor, Lillian Alderman (left). Also pictured (from left) are Jackie Sohl, Mary Ann Reynolds, Rosalyn Halbert, Elaine Luman and Alice Cox. P.W. Joy Circle would like to thank Susan Morrow for obtaining a $200 Grant for the Circle to purchase hygiene items for Mt. Pine High School. Joy Circle will complete a 2 year mission for providing these items for the high school in May 2027. *Photo by Barb Henry*



Potter's Clay gratefully accepts food pantry donations

From left, Priscilla Hayek and Judith Rosenthal delivered your food pantry donations to a grateful Potter's Clay volunteer.

Annual "Angel Tree" tradition continues at the Kirk



From left, Mary Ann Reynolds and Vicki Rosenquist and the 2025 Angel Tree
Photo unattributed

Our annual Angel Tree is returning this year keeping an almost 30 year tradition alive. There will be a tree set up in the Narthex, as well as a smaller one located in Bailey Hall.

Once again this year, we will be contacting Vera Lloyd, Ouachita Children's Center, and Mt. Pine Head Start for names of deserving children.

Beginning Saturday, November 21 and Sunday, November 22, tags will be available for you to choose from. After selecting a tag, please sign the participation book. Someone will be by the tree to answer any questions you might have. Tags and gifts should be returned to the church by Sunday, **December 13**, so we can deliver the gifts in time for Christmas.

Thank you for sharing your love for children in our community by making their Christmas a little brighter.

For questions contact Mary Ann Reynolds 870-842-0004 or Vicki Rosenquist 706-371-2877

We Need Coffee Servers for November!

Coffee hour is not Coffee hour without Coffee !

Sign up to serve on the signup sheet in Bailey Hall !



The Clerk's Corner
Ruth Hamilton



I have a few bits of information to share from the Session meetings in October. The good news first. We have welcomed 3 new members to the Kirk. Hoorah! Please join your Session in welcoming Jackie Sohl and David and Nancy Wood. We are so pleased to have them as a part of our Kirk family.

Now the less than good news. Chris Taylor Wilmoth, our Kirk Secretary, has decided that it is time to begin enjoying retirement. She submitted her resignation as of the end of October. Chris has been a diligent and trusted member of our staff for 9 years and will be greatly missed.

As you can imagine, this sent the Administration Committee scrambling. They immediately began a search for a replacement for Chris and are happy to report that one has been found. So, as you say goodbye to Chris when you see her, also say hello to Amber-Lynn Beard, the new face in the office.

In other news: The repair of the leak in the hot water heater in Bailey Hall (including mold abatement) is being finished up. The Kirk Craft Fair has been postponed until spring. And the Fellowship Committee, after hosting a successful and tasty Chili Cook-off in October, is now inviting everyone to a Kirk Thanksgiving dinner on November 26th with turkey and all the trimmings.

Session Highlights:

- **Deaths**: Pat Koller, October 10, 2026, services pending
- **Membership Changes:**
  Addition of 3 new members—Jackie Sohl, Nancy and David Wood.
  Loss by transfer of membership—Richard McPheters to North Lake Presbyterian Church, Lady Lake, Florida
- **Church Statistics:** Members—145

Plan to spend Thanksgiving with your Kirk family!
November 26th at 12:00 p.m., Bailey Hall



Our traditional Thanksgiving Dinner will be on Thursday, November 26 in Bailey Hall. The time is 12:00 noon. Clampits will cater the dinner which will consist of:

Turkey or ham, dressing and gravy, mashed potatoes, green bean casserole, sweet potato casserole, rolls, cranberry relish, pies, beverage (coffee, tea, water)
Reservation deadline is Friday, November 20.



Only $20.00 per person
(take-out for home bound only)

Sign-up October 31 through November 20

Questions: Call Vicki Rosenquist, 706-371-2877

Financial Report- Year to Date September 30, 2026

	Sept-26		Actual YTD	Budget YTD
General Fund				
Revenues	29,214		315,922	261,683
Investment Draw	54,400		54,400	44,627
Recurring Expenses	(33,531)		(287,207)	(306,310)
Change in Net Assets	50,083		83,115	0
Extraordinary expense (parking lot)	0		(22,500)	
Total Change Net Assets	50,083		60,615	
$1 Mission Giving	236		2,220	1,733
Cash Balances			124,466	
Texas Presbyterian Funds				
Total (as of Sept. 30)			1,785,239	
Investment Fund		1,212,213		
Restricted Funds				
Maack-Ormsbee Scholarship		58,996		
Memorial Garden		130,944		
Choir		11,671		
Luke 12:48		371,415		
Total Restricted		573,026		

SAVE THE DATE

Gratitude Lunch- November 22nd

11:00 am after Sunday Worship

Join us for a special gratitude lunch in Bailey Hall in recognition of your generous support for the Kirk and Christ's mission in Hot Springs Village.

Sponsored by the Kirk Stewardship Team

Happy dates

November Birthdays

1	Rick Federick	20	Janie Smith	22	E.J. Pangle
5	Tom Hayek	21	Bobbie Brooks	23	Mary Ann Krieger
13	Judith Rosenthal	21	David Deas	29	Dennis Faulk
17	Linda Heitz	22	Carol Kane	30	Sarah Owen
17	Mariah Slack				

November Anniversaries

16	Ellen & Jay Wilborn	48yrs	18	Priscilla & Tom Hayek	49yrs



For Those Who Walked With Us
by Jan Richardson

For those
who walked with us,
this is a prayer.

For those
who have gone ahead,
this is a blessing.

For those
who touched and tended us,
who lingered with us
while they lived,
this is a thanksgiving.

For those
who journey still with us
in the shadows of awareness,
in the crevices of memory,
in the landscape of our dreams,
this is a benediction.

This poem speaks to me of the "saints" who have led each of us through our lives to this place and this time, a Christian fellowship at the Kirk.
Contributed by Bob Morrow

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

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

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



Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines
275 Asturias Drive
Hot Springs Village, AR 71909

Phone: 501-922-1333

Email: kirkoffice1@gmail.com

Website:
www.kirkinthepines.com

Find more information at kirkinthepines.com