

KIRKWOOD KRONICLE

A Christian Community Growing Together, Knowing, Loving and Serving Christ, June 2020
to make Him known to all.



A Letter From Our Pastor

Hello KirkWood!

I am somewhat saddened to say that this will be my last letter for KirkWood's Kronicle. We have been through so much together, and there are so many fond memories from KirkWood that I will cherish for years to come.

Now, God has called us in two different directions. The next season of KirkWood's life and ministry is going to be wonderful, and I praise God for the time we've had together reflecting, discerning, and dreaming about the future.

I know that as Chris comes on board, he and Heather and their family will be greeted just as warmly as Melissa and I and our family have been. KirkWood is such a loving family, and I am convinced that God is going to continue to do great and amazing things through you all. May the peace of Christ keep you all now and forever.

In Christ,
Charles



KirkWood Presbyterian Church

1209 Hampton Highway

Yorktown, VA 23693

Phone: 757-766-0343 Fax: 757-766-0962

Email: office@kirkwoodpcusa.org

Website: <http://www.kirkwoodpcusa.org/>

Worship: 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. (nursery available)

Sunday School: 10:00 a.m. via Zoom (contact church office for link)



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WEEKLY READINGS & SERMON TITLES

June 7 - Genesis 1:1-5 & Matthew 28:16-20

Sermon Title: THE MISSION

June 14 - Exodus 19:2-8 & John 14:15-17

Sermon Title: AN ADVOCATE

June 21 - Psalm 98 & Acts 10:44-48

Sermon Title: OPEN THE PACKAGE

June 28 - Pulpit Supply

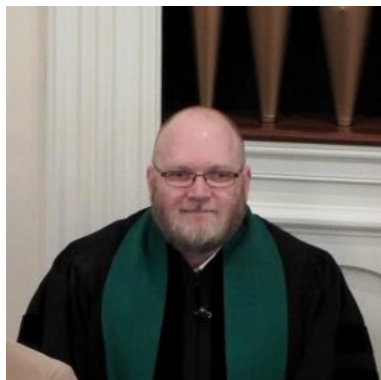
SPECIAL DATES

June 7 - Trinity Sunday

June 14 - Flag Day

June 20 - First day of summer

June 21 - Father's Day/ Pastor Tucker's last Sunday at KirkWood



KWPC family -

Well, now it's official! How exciting! I am both humbled and overjoyed that I'll be moving soon down to "the peninsula" and joining you!

If the early stages of a pastoral search are marked by uncertainty and faith, and the middle stages by patience and wisdom (as the list of candidates gets shorter and shorter), these last stages of a pastoral transition can feel like "hurry up and wait." You're ready, I'm ready, but it's not quite time to start running the race of faith together

(1st Corinthians 9:24,26).



William Bridges, a seminal figure in the field of organizational and church transitions, said, “An unsuccessful transition starts with a bad ending.” Let’s flip that and say it positively – “A successful transition starts with a good ending.” That begs the question – what constitutes a “good ending”? And whatever the answer, it’s probably where you should focus your attention and energy now as Pastor Charles prepares to leave, and I get ready to step into his shoes. (I hope to be guided by the same question as I make ready to exit my interim role at Culpeper Presbyterian, and pass the torch to their next installed minister.)

A good ending includes celebrating your time together, and how you’ve been impacted by each other. It’s a congregational application of that great quote from medieval theologian Meister Eckhart, “If the only prayer you said was, ‘Thank you,’ it would be enough.” So take time to thank Pastor Charles, and be specific in it: why particularly are you grateful that God brought him to you as your interim? Likewise, let him articulate his gratitude to you. These bonds of thanksgiving are imperishable, they’ll last the rest of your life and beyond.

A good ending also involves “remembering to remember.” That phrase is a cliché in neurology and refers to what’s called “prospective memory,” a unique brain function related to memory. In short, in order to remember those experiences, lessons, and conversations that you want to, you have to pause and reflect upon them long enough to encode them in your long-term memory. Otherwise, despite your best intentions, you’ll lose them in the fog of fleeting time. So my counsel is to be purposeful over the next few weeks to share with each other what you want to remember from your interim journey: e.g., what insight did you gain, what will you cherish, how did you change, etc. You can do this as a congregation, in your small groups, at Session, and on your committees. As Nobel Prize winning Columbian writer Gabriel Garcia Marquez puts it, “Life is not what one lived, but what one remembers and how one remembers it in order to recount it.”

In advance of my arrival there are a few ways you can start to get to know me, if you’d like:

- 1) You can friend me on Facebook – look for “Christian Shearer,” interim pastor at Culpeper Presbyterian.
- 2) My new KirkWood email is pastorchriskwpc@gmail.com.
- 3) You can see our virtual services at Culpeper Presbyterian on our YouTube channel (warning – the tech is spotty on occasions): https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCeBZcEA6_bjyMFCdsKOBbQ/videos

To borrow from St. Paul in Romans 15:32, I look forward to coming to you in great joy, as God wills, and being refreshed by you...

Warmly,

Pastor Chris



GRADUATE RECOGNITION

Congratulations Class of 2020!
KirkWood extends congratulations to all graduates.
Well done, one and all!

High School

Katerina (Katy) Buchanan graduated from Summit Christian Academy on May 16th. She plans on attending West Virginia Wesleyan College in Buckhannon, WV in the fall to study art therapy.

Kalia Haupt (The LaBarre's great-granddaughter) graduated from Poquoson High School. She will be attending James Madison University in the fall and hopes to study Architecture.

Olivia Hollowell graduated from Poquoson High School. She will be attending James Madison University in the fall as a Vocal Music Education major with a minor in Theatre. She plans to become a high school choir and theatre teacher after earning her Master's degree.

Higher Education

Caitlyn Cason graduated from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University with a Major in Biological Sciences and a Minor in Integrative Health and Wellness. She is heading to Virginia Commonwealth University School of Pharmacy in Richmond.

Mike Hudgins graduated from Tarleton University with a degree in Applied Sciences with a concentration in Business. On May 7th, he was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the U.S. Army.

Brenden Kibler graduated from Christopher Newport University with a Bachelor's degree in Instrumental Music Education and Trombone Performance. He plans on going into the Master's Program for Teaching at CNU.

Brooke King (El Strickland's granddaughter) graduated from the University of Lynchburg with a Bachelor of Arts in Criminology. She is currently in the Hampton Police Academy.

Helen Landers graduated from George Mason University in the fall with a degree in Music Education. She has been working as an Elementary Director since January and recently accepted a position as the Assistant Director at Lanier Middle School for the 2020-2021 school year.

Sam Shoun has completed his Associates degree in Business from TNCC. He plans to continue his education at ODU for a Bachelor's in Business in the fall. He also finished his time in the Apprentice School, and has received a promotion to supervisor in the apprentice gallery since his completion and plans to continue in this capacity while he finishes his Bachelor's degree. Sam has combined what he has learned and started his own mobile welding business, Bull Island Steelworks.



WORSHIP

Worship

In John Chapter 4, the Samaritan woman at the well asks Jesus about Worship. “²⁰ Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.” ²¹ Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem.”

The hour has been when we worship the Father not in a building on Hampton Highway, but in our homes. We *will* be able to resume in-person worship at KirkWood. *When* is not yet known. Some churches have chosen to open with state specified restrictions on capacity and social distancing. There is a lot of additional information that indicates that this still presents a fair amount of risk, and the social distancing requirements would greatly hinder the open and welcoming family feel that makes KirkWood what it is.

When we do determine the risk of an outbreak is low enough to warrant opening, there will be some changes. At the time of writing this, the CDC is expected to release guidelines for worship services. Some possible changes include shorter services, no passing of items, directed traffic flow, and no printed bulletins. One of things that is apparent is that singing will need to be reduced or temporarily eliminated, as singing expels a large amount of virus particles that can travel through most masks. With this, we will be exploring other means of worshipping God. Know that with each change, we are considering not just the health risk, but the risk to what makes KirkWood the body that it is.

As you eagerly await worshipping in-person, we ask several things as members of KirkWood. Please continue to make use of online resources including KirkWood’s online worship. If you have ideas and are willing to enable worship beyond singing, we would love to hear them. Lastly, please pray: for wisdom and guidance, for the health of our congregation, and for those who are missing the face-to-face and physical contact that are such a part of our in-person worship experience.



GOODBYE TO THE TUCKERS

Congregational Care

As many KirkWood folks heard in last week's (5/24/20) worship service online, we will be saying goodbye to Pastor Tucker over the next few weeks since his last Sunday will be June 21st. We regret not being able to say goodbye with a nice, personal reception and hugs but coronavirus restrictions prevent that. However, we are planning some very special farewell events to show Charles and Melissa how much we have enjoyed them in our fellowship and will miss them very much as Charles moves to his next interim pastorate in July.

First, we are developing a memory book to give to the Tuckers. In this album we will collect pictures, notes of farewell, and farewell videos to summarize the many experiences we enjoyed and shared with Charles and Melissa over the past two years. You are encouraged to send your pictures and notes of farewell. Laura Sanders and Lynn Pierce are leading the effort and you can send them your pictures and notes; Jim Mershon has agreed to receive the video farewells and assemble these. Emails are - Laura: lafs2bch@gmail.com, Lynn : lmyoungpierce2@gmail.com, and Jim: jim_mershon@hotmail.com. If you need to mail items, mailing addresses are in the KW directory.

Second, we are planning a farewell drive-by event at the church for the afternoon of June 21st. The parade assembly will start at the Tabb Library with traffic guides directing cars into the KirkWood parking lot at 2:00 p.m. This event will give us a chance to drive by to see Charles and Melissa in person and say farewell with our voices, our posters, or however you want to recognize the farewell. Wendy Linehan, Wanda Birch, and Nate Nickerson are planning this event. As corona virus restrictions change, plans may change accordingly. More communication will follow regarding parade alphabetical groupings to reduce traffic jams.

Finally, we are also planning to have an in-person reception later in the fall when most of these coronavirus restrictions are relaxed. Then we can have our face-to-face goodbyes and time for sharing and remembering.



BLOOD DRIVE

Congregational Care

The Power is in the Blood

The May 21st Red Cross Blood Drive was held at the Victory YMCA due to the current distancing requirements. A huge thank you goes out to them. We did not see many of our regular donors, but the community came out to support the drive. We collected 41 lifesaving pints of blood. We had 42 donors signed in, several deferrals, but were lucky to have several donors who could give two units (Tony Swears and Don Nelson from Kirkwood), and we were able to make up for the ones who could not. Thanks to our KirkWood volunteers for coming out to help with registration. We were unable to offer food at this drive, but hopefully in August, we will be back at the church and back to our “regular” routine. **PLEASE WATCH FOR UPDATES ON THE AUGUST DRIVE, AND IF WE WILL BE ABLE TO MOVE IT BACK TO THE CHURCH BUILDING.** The dates for the rest of 2020 are August 20th and November 19th. You can go to www.redcrossblood.org, Sponsor Code: “KirkwoodPC” to schedule your appointment for the August drive. Walk-ins are always welcome, but appointments are preferred.

HELP WANTED: If you are willing to help out serving food or in the registration process **DURING** the drive, please let either Elizabeth Nelson or Cathy Hudgins know. We are looking for a few more volunteers to be available to be called to work.





HYMNSPIRATION

Worship

“Where Shall I Turn” is a new hymn written in response to the sheltering at home and the postponing of live church services around the world. The text is inspired by Luke 17:21. Full of anguish and frustration, the first three verses of the hymn are reflective of the isolation and distance we have felt as we are unable to worship together. The final verse is one of assurance that God and His church are not to be found just in the brick and mortar buildings, nor in only the familiar structure of our lives. God is with each of us, God is within each of us, and God will carry us through these uncertain times.

Where Shall I Turn?
a new hymn by Terre Johnson

***“Neither shall they say ‘Lo, it is here!’ or ‘Lo, it is there!’
For behold, the Kingdom of God is within you.” - Luke 17:21***

1. Where shall I turn when I need consolation?
Where can I find those who offer God’s peace?
Where can I come, when we no longer gather
Sharing our journeys and living in grace?

No one can say simply hear the great organ,
Nor can I join in the choir’s mighty sound.
Living without these familiar surroundings,
Only within can God’s kingdom be found.

2. What can I do when the place of God’s welcome
Must remain closed, lest that welcome infect?
Forced to imagine the Lord’s empty table,
Feeling my hunger and thirst go unchecked?

No one can offer the Lord’s invitation,
“Come to the table remembering me.”
Living without this familiar reminder,
Only within is God’s kingdom to be.



3. How can I offer God's loving assurance,
Left on my own, congregation apart?
How can I serve with no structure or guidance?
How can I share all the love in my heart?

No one can say "Someone else does the serving."
Nor can my neighbor look elsewhere for grace.
Living alone, but with God's same commission,
Here deep within me is God's dwelling place.

4. Glory to God, who gives unfailing presence
Even though life is secluded and cold;
And to Christ Jesus, alone in the garden,
Seeking God's kingdom instead of his own;

And to the Spirit who never abandons,
Leaving me comfortless, lost and alone.
Here, as with all who have journeyed before me,
Deep in my heart is the place for God's throne.



GUESS WHO? - WORSHIP CHOIR EDITION

Worship

The Worship Choir continues to meet on Zoom each week to share our joys and struggles and to lift up family and friends in prayer.

We have also been using this opportunity to get to know one another outside of the regular constraints of a rehearsal, and we have shared amazing little known facts about ourselves. We actually made it into a guessing game. We had loads of fun and thought it would be interesting to share some of it with you.

Can you guess who? (answers on the next page)

1. I was in a bank when it was robbed!
2. I worked on NASA GANTRY!
3. I am a product of longevity! My great-great grandfather lived to be 108 years old, my great aunt to 103. My mom is currently 99 ½!



4. I have a full sister, a half sister, step-sister, an ex-step sister, two ex-step brothers, and a foster brother!
5. I once played the Space Invaders game on a Casio watch for 6 ½ hours straight to get to the maximum score—stopped at 999,950 to prove it. No pausing or stopping was possible, or the score would have reset to zero!
6. My mother is named after my dad’s sister, but my mom and dad didn’t meet until they were 18 and 19 years old!
7. I was once a long-distance telephone operator!
8. I was a square dancer for many years!
9. My left foot’s big toe is double-jointed!
10. In elementary school, I performed a tap-dance in bib overalls at the USO to the tune “How you Gonna Keep them Down on the Farm after They’ve Seen Pariee”!
11. My childhood nickname was “Motormouth”!
12. I had my own local TV show for kids!
13. As a child I put applesauce on my spaghetti!
14. I tutored GED (High School Equivalency Exam) at a public housing center during college!
15. I once had a weekend gig to dress up as Big Bird and perform at a children’s festival!
16. I once bowled a game scoring over 200!
17. I worked at an archaeological dig at Caesarea Maritima!
18. My senior year in high school I won my conference’s Track and Field championship in High Hurdles!

Answers (cover here with a piece of paper)

- | | | | | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| 1. Leah Price | 2. Don Nelson | 3. Linda Briggs | 4. Ruth Marie Cason | 5. Tony Sweers | 6. Kim Reece | 7. Kathy Fore |
| 8. Elaine Covington | 9. Albertina Dowe | 10. Jerry Deaton | 11. Ann Brown | 12. Winette Jeffery | 13. Arba Williamson | |
| 14. Charlie Reece | 15. Christine Pregler | 16. Nancy Ridsen | 17. Cindy Williamson | 18. Mike Fore | | |



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY & YOUTH SUNDAY

Children's Ministry

KirkWood families,

What do you imagine? As we survive (some days better than others) in the trenches of home schooling, sibling rivalry, and changing life celebrations we might spend time thinking about what we want to do when this is "all over."

Even though I am not collecting a paycheck as the Children's Ministry Coordinator, your family is in my prayers and I want to help. As the church remains virtual only, how can I support you? Do you want different links of learning options or another grab bag with activities? Do you want to do a toy swap so there are new things to play with that don't break the bank? When it does open up, how do you envision us keeping your family safe and healthy?

Send me an email or a text and keep the communication open for what you want, expect, need, imagine, and pray for.

Blessings and health,

Jeannine

Youth Sunday Recap

On May 10th, Mother's Day, KYG celebrated with their virtual Youth Sunday Event! The service (if you haven't seen it yet) is filled with some incredible submissions from our very talented youth, including musical selections from Julia and Olivia, an original poem by Ava, and scripture readings by Katy and Olivia. Don't forget that should you like to tell our teens how incredible they are, you can send your comments to kygyouthleader@gmail.com and I will forward them on to the recipients!

Although we have been limited to Zoom meetings, there was a Donut Drive Thru event for the youth group last Sunday in which kids were able to set eyes on each other for the first time in two months. Several of them are much taller than they used to be. We look forward to having our first Sunday School outside under the approved parameters from session shortly.



MISSION

Mission

Food Collection

Our 3rd food collection (drop-off) event at KirkWood is happening again on Saturday, June 6th from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Please drive-by with non-perishable items or monetary donations for St. Luke’s Food Pantry and the Virginia Peninsula Foodbank. This crisis is hurting those most vulnerable in our neighborhoods; your donations make a huge difference!

Thank You, KirkWood! On Saturday, May 2nd, we collected 191 bags of groceries and a total of \$3,620 in monetary donations. Broken down: \$1,040 went to the Virginia Peninsula Foodbank and \$2,580 for St. Luke’s Food Pantry. The Foodbank said the donated food was 1,402 pounds and will provide 5,328 meals for the community!

Meals for Vets

KirkWood has been graciously providing meals for vets who are in transition from homelessness. A big thank you to everyone who has helped sustain this ministry, and we are asking for your continued help.

We provide meals for two houses with five men each on Mondays and Thursdays. We are asking anyone who can help with this ministry to call Gloria Griffin at (757) 719-0995 or (757) 223-4104 or Zora Parker at (757)833-6406 or (757) 869-3784, or to sign-up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090849a5a62ea0f58-meals>. Please call Gloria for Monday delivery or Zora for Thursday delivery, and they will arrange pickup.

Monthly Financial Report - April

	YTD	YTD	YTD
	Actual	Budget	Over/Under
Total Income	\$149,693.63	\$ 147,364.00	\$ 2,326.63
Total Expenses	\$118,169.08	\$ 157,499.00	\$ 39,819.27