

KIRKWOOD KRONICLE

A Christian Community Knowing, Loving and Serving Christ,
to make Him known to all.

Oct. 2019

A Letter From Our Pastor



Hello KirkWood!

It's October and fall events are in full swing. Here at KirkWood it is, of course, Pumpkin Patch time. Selling pumpkins to support Native Americans in New Mexico as well as KirkWood's ongoing mission work is indeed a great honor and privilege. It is also a wonderful way to meet and get to know folks in our surrounding community. I want to thank everyone who has worked so hard to bring the Pumpkin Patch about again this year. If you haven't participated before, I encourage you to sign up for a slot or two.

We have also entered the last phase of this chapter of KirkWood's life. Back in March of 2018, I came as your interim pastor to help prepare the way for the next called pastor. We have done a lot of wonderful things together. Now that the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) has been elected, you will start to move very intentionally in that direction.

Our work together is not over by any means. So, as KirkWood moves into its next chapter, there are a few things I want to ask of you. Please continue to pray for all the members of the PNC. They have a lot of hard work ahead of them, and your prayers will be more helpful than you can know. Also, pray for your next pastor. You do not know who that is yet, but God does! Your prayer will prepare that way for God's work to continue and flourish. Finally, trust that God has great dreams in mind for KirkWood. Your future in God's hands will be filled with faith, and hope, and love.



KirkWood Presbyterian Church

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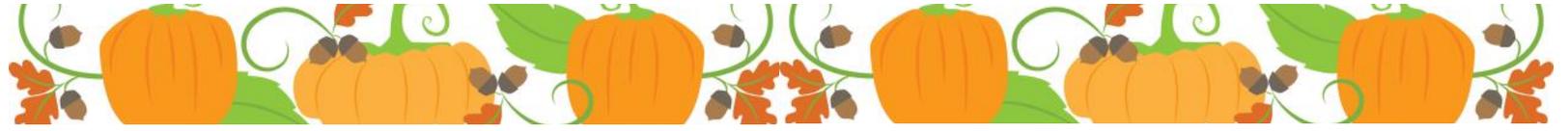
Email: office@kirkwoodpcusa.org

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

In Christ,
Charles

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

Sunday School: 8:30 a.m. (adult), 9:30 a.m. (adult), 11:00 a.m.
(preschool - adult), 3:00 p.m. (adults of all ages)



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WEEKLY READINGS & SERMON TITLES

October 6 - Isaiah 53:4-12 & Matthew 20:20-28
Sermon Title: GREAT ONES

October 13 - Psalm 8 & Matthew 21:12-17
Sermon Title: BABIES' MOUTHS

October 20 - Psalm 118:15-25 & Matthew 21:33-46
Sermon Title: CORNERSTONE

October 27 - Chaplain James Hoy Preaching

SPECIAL DATES

October 6 - World Communion Sunday

October 27 - Reformation Sunday

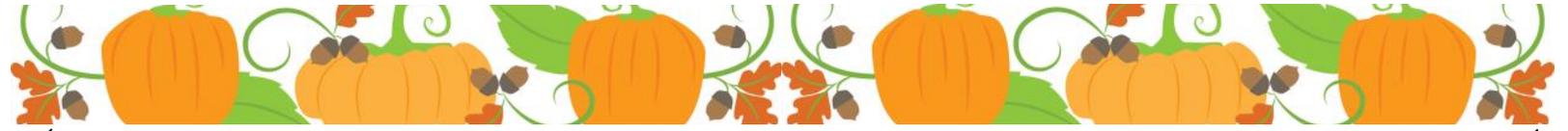
October 31 - Reformation Day

Trex Plastic Bag Recycling Update

Since June, as you enter from the parking lot, an indoor kitchen trash can has been collecting your plastic bags. Julia S. would like to thank you for keeping over 100 pounds of plastic out of the landfill. They will be upcycled through Trex Company. 500 pounds must be collected within six months to have the company donate a bench. Therefore, Julia is working with the local Girl Scout service unit to provide benches at Camp Skimino.



Please continue to bring your bags through October.



MUSIC MINISTRY

Worship

Worship Choir

“Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!”
You have set your glory in the heavens.
When I consider your heavens,
The work of your fingers,
The moon and the stars,
Which you have set in place,
What is mankind that you are mindful of them?” Psalm 8:1-4



On October 13, the Worship Choir will present “The Majesty and Glory of Your Name” by Tom Fettke. This stunning anthem is based on Psalm 8.

Here is the text of the opening section (by Linda Lee Johnson)

“When I gaze into the night skies,
And see the work of your fingers;
The moon and stars suspended in space.
Oh, what is man, that You are mindful of him?”

Bell Choir

The Bell Choir will be exploring the different uses of handbells in worship this year. In addition to providing the occasional anthem or prelude, we plan to use the bells in our hymn-singing and in our Advent Candle-lighting liturgy. Our group welcomes back Mary Goodman!





MUSIC MINISTRY

Worship

Cantata Choir

The KirkWood Cantata Choir gathered for our fall 2019 Boot Camp, or as it is called “Come for the doughnuts and while you are there, why not do a little singing”! We began with a devotional, led by Charles Tucker, in which he focused on some of the weird church words that we throw around without understanding what exactly they MEAN! Do YOU know what “narthex” means? And why do we capitalize “Lord”? What is the definition of “Doxology”?



The choir then took a dive into our cantata, “The Silence and the Sound”, and emerged three hours later having worked on four of the eight movements (or songs) in the piece.

It was great to welcome three newcomers to our choir. Kudos to our hardworking group that will rehearse each Wednesday evening from 7:00-7:50 p.m. until the middle of December. We still have spots open, so come join us.



Did you miss a sermon while vacationing this summer? Nearly every sermon audio recording is placed on the KirkWood website with the slides used in the sermon. The most recent messages are on the home page, and older ones can be found by clicking the SERMON tab at the top of the page. You can also download the file for later listening and even copy the address of the sermon to share with friends by email or on social media, and thus help make Christ known to all!



MUSIC MINISTRY

Worship

Children's Choir

Still waiting....

“I will give you hidden treasures,
riches stored in secret places,
so that you may know that I am the Lord,
the God of Israel, **who summons you by name.**” Isaiah
45:3

Our Children's Choir needs a name! “KirkWood Children's Choir” somehow doesn't quite capture the exuberance and enthusiasm of our group! Please give this some thought, and send any name suggestions to Ann Brown.



Thanks to the addition of two four year olds, Arya and Rebecca, our group now has 14 singers, and we will share our songs each month at the worship services. We will join the Cantata Choir in their presentation of “The Silence and the Sound” on December 15th, and then will sing at the early service on Christmas Eve.

Come check out our shining faces on our bulletin board outside the choir room!

On two recent occasions, during abnormally busy services, we have taken prayer requests on sheets of paper instead of through an oral request. This is something we will only do when the services are particularly short on time, and we will continue to have the prayers of the people so we can continue to share with each other as a body. However, since we received written prayer requests from some who would not normally express the requests out loud, we will continue to have prayer request sheets in the pews every Sunday - just place them in the offering plate, and they will be prayed over.



WORSHIP

Worship

This past summer we did a trial of gluten free bread for all, in the hopes of improving the worship experience. Unfortunately, the result did not achieve the expected gains. So, we have returned to normal bread and gluten free wafers.

If you have ideas to enhance the ability of the congregation to worship at KirkWood, we would love to hear of them! Please share them with Jim Mershon at jim_mershon@hotmail.com or drop a note in the worship mailbox in the office.

KIRKWOOD SILVER

Congregational Care

What a great kickoff KirkWood Silver had on September 19th! The Three Scottish Lassies were in grand form in their Scottish tams and bonnets as they entertained the “audience” of 25 with talks on their childhood experiences and Scottish heritage, their colorful displays, flags, recorded Bagpipe music, slideshow, samples of Scottish money, Scottish Tartans, and more. We are extremely grateful to Elizabeth, Christine, and Anne for the time and effort they gave to make this a highly enjoyable event for KWS!

With just a short drive from KirkWood on October 17th, KirkWood Silver will gather for lunch at The Vineyards, 1405 Kiln Creek Parkway, at 11:30 a.m. Carpooling will be available by cars or the KW van. Please sign up in the narthex and indicate your ride preference. Sign-up will close on October 15th. Contact Bill or Carolyn Gilbert at (757) 868-8953 or poqbill@verizon.net.

In November, KirkWood Silver will have an encore visit to The Charles Taylor Visual Arts Center in Hampton followed by lunch at Venture Kitchen. Put Thursday, November 21st, 10:00 a.m. (gallery time) on your calendar. There will be carpooling from KirkWood at 9:30 a.m.



UNITE & BLOOD DRIVE

Congregational Care



UNITE

UNITE is a group for parents with little ones at KirkWood and is currently under going a renovation on how the group is structured. We want UNITE to be a place where we can learn, share, grow, fellowship, and pray together as parents of young Christians. We will continue to meet the second Sunday of each month in room 4 from 12:15-1:00 p.m. for a study. Our next meeting is October 13th, and childcare and lunch is provided. We will also be incorporating more opportunities to meet outside the church as families, moms, dads, and parents. Look for updates in the bulletin for an upcoming family-friendly outing. Also, find our Facebook group and request to join - KirkWood Presbyterian Church UNITE Parents Group.

Blood Drive

The final 2019 Blood Drive is scheduled for **THURSDAY, November 21st** from 2:00-7:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. The fabulous cooks and bakers will be out to feed all donors. No menu as of this date, but the food is always great. Donors can schedule their appointments by going online to www.redcrossblood.org; sponsor code "KirkwoodPC". If you would like to save yourself some time on drive day, you can access the **RAPIDPASS**. RAPIDPASS lets you do the prescreen process from your laptop or desktop computer and can save you as much as 15-20 minutes when you get to the drive. The Red Cross will send a link to your email the day of the drive. There will be someone in the fellowship hall on Sunday, November 10th and 17th between the worship services to make appointments in person. If you would like to help with the preparation of the food prior to the drive, there will be a signup sheet in the narthex two weeks prior to the drive or contact Gloria Griffin at (757) 223-4104. If you have questions or would like to inquire as to how you can help at upcoming drives, please contact Cathy Hudgins at hudgepudge@aol.com or (757) 869-2645. Please prayerfully consider coming out and donating this lifesaving need. The **2020 dates are as follows: February 20th** (this drive will be dedicated to Megan Nickerson, who is in remission from Leukemia and received multiple units of blood during her treatment), **May 21st, August 20th, and November 19th**. Please mark your calendars.



STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship

Stewardship: Three Important Things to Consider

- Are you caught up on your pledge? Within the next couple of weeks, Kathy Fore will place statements in the narthex for every member who **pledged** this year. Please review your statement closely, and if you think there's an error on it, contact Kathy immediately at (757) 867-6805. If you're behind on your pledge, please catch up. (If you did not pledge, you will not receive a statement until the end of the year. However, if you ever want to know how much you have contributed, let Kathy know and she will run a statement for you.)
- Please check your contribution number on your statement and write that number on the memo line of **every** check you write to KirkWood. Also, use that number when giving cash.
- Pledge Sunday is scheduled for November 10th. That is only six weeks away! Please begin to think and pray about how much you are going to pledge to KirkWood for the Lord's work in 2020. You will receive a letter and pledge card prior to November 1st.

MISSION UPDATES

Mission

Support to York County Housing and Neighborhood Revitalization

The KirkWood Mission team continues to partner with York County to assist our neighbors to maintain their homes. This is a wonderful opportunity for members of KirkWood to serve our local neighbors. Watch for announcements and put your name on the sign-up sheet in the narthex. Contact Kirk or Jamie Reno, Arba Williamson, or Jen Carter for more information.

Support to York County Poquoson Social Services (YCPSS)

The KirkWood Mission team continues to partner with YCPSS on furniture moves and other projects. We did a furniture move in August and another in September and assisted families with lawn care in York County and Poquoson in September. These volunteer efforts usually take a couple of hours and provide needed furniture to those who have very little. Contact Arba Williamson to add your name to the email list of volunteers.



PROPERTY & FACILITIES

P&F

The Fall Clean Up and Pumpkin Patch Removal day is November 2nd from 8:00-11:00 a.m. (but usually completed by 10:00 a.m.) If you are able to come out and help, we will be trimming trees, raking leaves, general grounds maintenance, and removing the entire pumpkin patch. We would love to have you for whatever time you can afford, either the entire time or even one hour. Bring a rake, gloves, wheelbarrow, etc.

A big heartfelt thank you goes out to all of our summer lawn mowing teams for spending some of your summer keeping the grounds looking great. We will be looking for help again next year.

Upcoming events: There will be a leaf blowing and clean up day later in November and again in December once the leaves really start falling. Watch the Sunday bulletins for more information in the coming months.

If you are interested in joining the P&F committee to help keep the church in good working order, we meet the first Tuesday of the month in the kitchen at 7:00 p.m. We can use all levels of talent; please contact Kirk Reno & Murray Ritter.

SMALL GROUP COORDINATOR OPPORTUNITY

Congregational Care

KirkWood has a rich history with our Small Group program. For the last several years, we have been working without a Small Group coordinator. We are looking to re-energize and revitalize this program so that more KirkWood members can share in the wonderful experience of being in a Small Group. If you think you might have an interest in taking on this role of Small Group Coordinator, please contact Bruce Knight (757) 303-4252.



MISSION UPDATES

Mission

Meals for Vets

On behalf of the Vets, we would like to thank everyone for the meals that have been provided. They appreciate them very much, and the food is readily consumed.

Life has been extremely difficult for these Vets as they are being transitioned from homelessness. The program that we have been ministering to with the meals is three months long in a residential setting. During this time, they must follow rules, attend meetings, counseling, and work on giving up their addictions. This is very difficult and some just go back to homelessness. However, additional problems have arisen as they rid themselves of their addictions and start getting medical help. They are being diagnosed with cancer, diabetes, etc. which is requiring one of the houses to be turned into a Respite House.

The goal is to get the men into an apartment and become as independent as they are capable of being. Our meals show them that KirkWood cares. Please continue to volunteer and pray for this ministry. Sign up in the KirkWood narthex or on Sign Up Genius at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090849A5A62EA0F58-meals>.

Pumpkin Patch

The pumpkins are here! By the time you read this, our first load of pumpkins will have arrived on September 28th! The next delivery will be October 12th at 8:00 a.m. Lots of hands are needed to unload the semi-trailer full of pumpkins.

The Pumpkin Patch is in full swing and there are plenty of opportunities to work in the patch. Sign up using the link at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090B49A9A92EA7FD0-kirkwood> or sign up manually on Sundays in the fellowship hall. Contact Arba Williamson (757) 344-5588 or Jen Carter (757) 589-2207 if you have questions.





MISSION UPDATES CONTINUED

Mission

Capital Campaign to Pay Van Loan

The Capital Campaign to pay off the van loan is going very well. Thanks to all who have contributed so far. As of September 20th, KirkWood has contributed over \$4,500 toward our goal of \$20,000. The Capital Campaign will continue until November 30th. Please prayerfully consider supporting this effort.

Samaritans Purse - Operation Christmas Child

It seems way too early to think about the Christmas Season, but it is time to start planning for Operation Christmas Child. At the time of writing this article, it is less than 60 days until the Christmas boxes must be collected and readied for shipment to reach children in over 100 countries by Christmas. The final collection date and dedication of the Christmas boxes at KirkWood will be Nov 24th (before Thanksgiving!) Small groups, Sunday school classes, and individuals can begin planning. The Mission Committee has ordered the decorated Christmas Child shoe boxes and materials on what to purchase and how to pack the box. Look for information in the bulletin and materials in the narthex later in October. Contact Arba Williamson or Jen Carter if you have questions.

Congo Update

Wonderful news! KirkWood received word that our funds (\$4,000) have been received by CPK-Mikondo, our sister church in the Congo. These funds will enable the Mikondo Church to continue their ministries to feed their neighbors, provide occupational training, and improve their facilities to better serve their community.

On Wednesday, October 23rd, KirkWood will have a special visit from Rev Isaac Kalonji Mukendi from the Congo Presbyterian Church. Rev Kalonji is the senior pastor of CPK, like our Presbytery of Eastern Virginia (PEVA). Our sister church, CPK-Mikondo is a member of this presbytery. The Mission Committee has planned a semi-catered dinner at 6:00 p.m. (bring a salad or vegetable dish) and a time of celebration and praise with singing and prayers. It will be a time to celebrate our shared faith and love with our neighbors from the Congo. Please join us for this unique event. Sign up in the narthex so we know how much food to order. Contact Arba Williamson if questions.



MISSION UPDATES CONTINUED

Mission

Clothing for LINK

Many from KirkWood have volunteered time and resources helping the needy at homeless shelters and at PORT, an emergency winter shelter. At these locations, in addition to shelter and meals, clean and gently used clothing is sometimes available. There is always a need for all types of clothing and replenishing is ongoing. The needs include everything: shoes, socks, boots, undergarments (yes, bras and underwear too), pants, shirts, sweaters and sweatshirts, jackets, gloves, hats, scarves, backpacks, and old eyeglasses. Dressier clothing is needed as many work toward getting back on their feet and getting jobs. The list goes on, and the needs are for men and women.

Your donations can be brought to KirkWood or contact Wendy Barrick at (757) 868-3393 if you need help in getting donations delivered. Monetary donations and clothing can also be taken to LINK at 10403 Warwick Blvd, Newport News, (757) 595-1953.

KIRKWOOD YOUTH GROUP

Christian Education

Help Feed Our Youth

Our youth group is full of ravenous teenagers, and our youth pantry in the kitchen needs stocking! Please consider donating non-perishable or prepackaged items for our Sunday school and meeting snack/lunch times. Items like rice crispy treats, Chex-Mix, chips, popcorn bags, crackers, oatmeal, Poptarts, and even drink mixes or canned goods welcome!



Items can be left in the kitchen labeled “KYG” and will be added to our pantry!

***Please no peanut donations due to allergy concerns. ***



THE ENCHANTED FOREST

Outreach

Time for The Enchanted Forest

We would like to continue to provide our community a safe, fun way to trick or treat on Halloween night. We'll run pretty much the same as last year which was fantastic thanks to all of your help.

We will have photos inside along with one room with Outreach info, picture pick-up and a craft. We'll decorate the narthex, hallway, and front restrooms. There will be three games outside, a s'mores pit, apple cider, and bonfire. The prayer walk will be our "Enchanted Forest" again. We can have as many stops as we like. It'll be fun to decorate your stop if you can. We'll also have a Teal Pumpkin as one of our "Forest Stops" for those who have allergies. This will be a non-food treat.

So...what we need from you:

- Candy donations - They have already started coming in! Thank you so much.
- Decorate the church Oct. 27th, starting after church 12:15 p.m., through the 31st if needed
- 3 people for photos: 1 for taking pictures, 1 for printing, and 1 runner
- 3 people for Outreach station, picture pick-up, and craft
- 6 people for games (2 each) – Run games and give out prizes
- 4 people to help make and serve s'mores and apple cider
- Bonfire workers - Build, start, and control the bonfire
- Characters for the Enchanted Forest (would like at least 2 people per prayer pole or each stop) - Come in Costume, decorate your area to match your costume theme, and pass out candy
- 3 Runners - refill the Enchanted Forest Character's Bowls

