



with indictment. To forgive is to acknowledge blame. Step up to any stranger, announce, “I forgive you,” and watch the reaction.

Forgiveness does not demand the suppression of anger. Instead, Christian forgiveness taps into the energy anger generates. If by righteous anger we mean the impassioned hostility against those evils that offend, frustrate, threaten, or endanger, then the cross of Jesus - the passion of Christ - is anger’s fullest and finest expression. Without love, anger is but a cataclysmic explosive yielding only destruction.

Lastly, a reboot of Christianity should exude a strong confidence in a future yet to be revealed. Christian hope fosters no illusions. We cannot escape our hardships or raise ourselves from the dead. Suffering, rather than meaningless pain or just desserts, translates through the Cross into meaningful redemption and reinforced character. Death, rather than a terrifying end to be feared, becomes the gateway to life everlasting. Resurrection weaves life’s hardships into its beautiful tapestry of new creation, anticipating that day when all things will be made right. Our hope is in God who has already done this, started and finished, beginning and end. Christian hope is not for a future that may happen but anchored in God for whom the future has happened already. Our sure hope is such a sure thing we can endure whatever troubles come our way in the meantime.”

| <u>In This Issue</u> | |
|-----------------------------|---------|
| Pastor’s Letter | pg. 1-2 |
| Dates | pg. 2 |
| Christian Education | pg. 3-4 |
| Mission | pg. 4 |
| Congregational Care | pg. 5-6 |
| KYG | pg. 6-7 |
| Outreach | pg. 8 |

October Dates

Pastor Appreciation Month

Oct 4 - World Communion Sunday

Oct 25 - Reformation Sunday

Oct 31 - Reformation Day



FALL SUNDAY SCHOOL OPTIONS

Christian Education

**Proposed 9:30 a.m. Sunday in-person adult class:

Charlie and Bruce are working with Session and Pastor Chris to safely start an in-person adult class. Joyce Armstrong has volunteered to teach. We would like to know how many people are interested, so we can work out details. Please let Charlie or Bruce know if you are interested, or for more information, at the emails below.

**11:00 a.m. Sunday adult class, via Zoom:

This will be a 6-week video series by Ray Vander Laan, "With All Your Heart." Maybe we are in a bit of a desert now in this pandemic season. Ray Vander Laan takes us on a journey through Sinai and Israel, a region that is still largely desert but at times filled with lush, bountiful places. We will discover how Jesus called people to live in the Promised Land. What can we learn during times of abundance and in times of desert? God led his people back to the desert often to relearn the lessons they had forgotten. John the Baptist and Jesus had powerful encounters in the desert. We will learn that the desert is where we are closest to God. It is where our relationship with God is at peace.

Please contact Charlie Reece at dna-srf@verizon.net or Bruce Buchanan at r.bruce.buchanan@gmail.com for information or to receive the Zoom link.

**3:00 p.m. Sunday in-person adult class:

God is Supernatural is a class that focuses on the supernatural events (miracles, prophecy, etc.) in the Bible, the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and has a strong emphasis on prayer. Each gathering includes sharing praises and concerns, lifting them up in prayer corporately, and reading scripture for the purposes of discussion. The group also incorporates biblical prophecy and current events along with applying the great commission to our daily walk. Please contact Ashley Wenner at kygyouthleader@gmail.com for information.





**9:30 a.m. Sunday children's class:

This is an in-person Sunday School for ages 3 years through 5th grade in room 2 during the 9:30 a.m. service, using Cokesbury's "Knights of North Castle" VBS curriculum. The class will be the entire length of the service. Parents will drop the children off on their way to worship. Please contact Jeannine Scott at jeannine.scott@gmail.com for information.

Families not ready to attend in person may pick up a bag of materials from outside the parking lot door to use at home. The Cokesbury VBS curriculum is set up with video and supply lists to make this an easy option for those not getting the lesson in person.

Other children's ministry information is sent out weekly by email with the children's bulletin. Email the office at office@kirkwoodpcusa.org if you would like to be added to this list.

**6:00 p.m. Sunday youth class:

This is an in-person combined youth group (KYG) and Sunday School, normally from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Sundays in the youth room. Please contact Ashley Wenner at kygyouthleader@gmail.com for information on youth programs, or to be added to the youth ministry text message list.

MEALS FOR VETS

Mission

Please consider signing up to take a meal for the Vet Meal Mission. KirkWood members provide meals for two veteran homes (five men in each home) every Monday and Thursday. These homes support veterans transitioning from homelessness. Please consider assisting in this mission by fixing a casserole for five men. You can sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090849a5a62ea0f58-meals>, or call Gloria or Zora and they can sign you up, answer your questions, and arrange for pickup.

Gloria Griffin (757) 223-4104 or (757) 719-0995

Zora Parker (757) 833-6406 or (757) 869-3784



CONGREGATIONAL CARE UPDATES

Congregational Care



Blood Drive

The final 2020 KirkWood Blood Drive is scheduled for **THURSDAY, November 19th, from 2:00-7:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall.** We will again be able to host the drive at the church, practicing all proper distancing requirements. As of the Kronicle deadline we are still not able to provide a meal at this drive, due to the restrictions. The Red Cross requires everyone to wear a mask during the drive and temperature checks prior to entering the drive area. 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**. RAPID PASS lets you do the prescreen process from your mobile device or 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. If you have questions or would like to inquire as to how you can help at upcoming drives, please contact Cathy Hudgins at (757) 869-2645 or hudgepudge@aol.com. There is an urgent need for all types of blood now and always. Please prayerfully consider coming out and donating this lifesaving need.

Game Night

The Congregational Care Committee plans to host a game night using Zoom several evenings a month. For one hour we will start with 15 minutes of socializing, followed by 30 minutes of game time, concluded by 15 minutes of socializing. The plans for each night will be announced in the KirkWood Bulletin on Sunday for that evening. We are searching for ways to stay connected during the difficult Covid-19 virus. Fun and simple games such as Bingo, Scavenger Hunt, or story telling via Zoom could be a relaxing way for KirkWoodians to come together for safe fellowship. Contact Bill Gilbert at (757) 871-1086 or at poqbill@verizon.net to share your interest and ideas. We need your support to make this happen!



KIRKWOOD SILVER

Congregational Care

A warm “hello” to all of you young-at-heart senior KirkWoodians! As you have probably guessed, there are still no plans for us to get together safely.

If ANYONE has an idea about how we can gather safely, please let me (Wanda Birch) know or get in touch with any of the KWS planners (see the September KWS article.) Until we can get back together, let me encourage you to stay in touch with one another. Make a phone call (I, for one, would sure welcome hearing from you!), or send an email or note to someone you’re thinking of and miss seeing. Also, the Congregational Care Committee is planning some Zoom Game Nights for connecting us with some fun fellowship for the whole congregation! Check out the article and plan to participate. It really helps to see the faces and hear the voices of members of the church family!

Finally, continue to pray for our church family and all the world that this pandemic will be over sooner rather than later and that we’ll come out better, more caring people, by the Grace of God.

His Blessings for each one of you.

KYG CORNER

Christian Education

This month we successfully wired a total of \$1680.80 to our Sister Church in the Congo! Thank you KirkWood for your generous hearts during this time! We are in connection with them and look forward to responses on how these funds helped them during this time.

New additions to our youth group have brought our numbers to 17 registered youth, and with two adult volunteers, our weekly Sunday meetings now average 14 to 15 people. KYG leaders are actively working on creative ways to manage our bursting seams, including a renovation to include the middle school room in our square footage. We are so grateful for the fearless renovating Renos for so quickly acting upon our need for space, and thankful for our



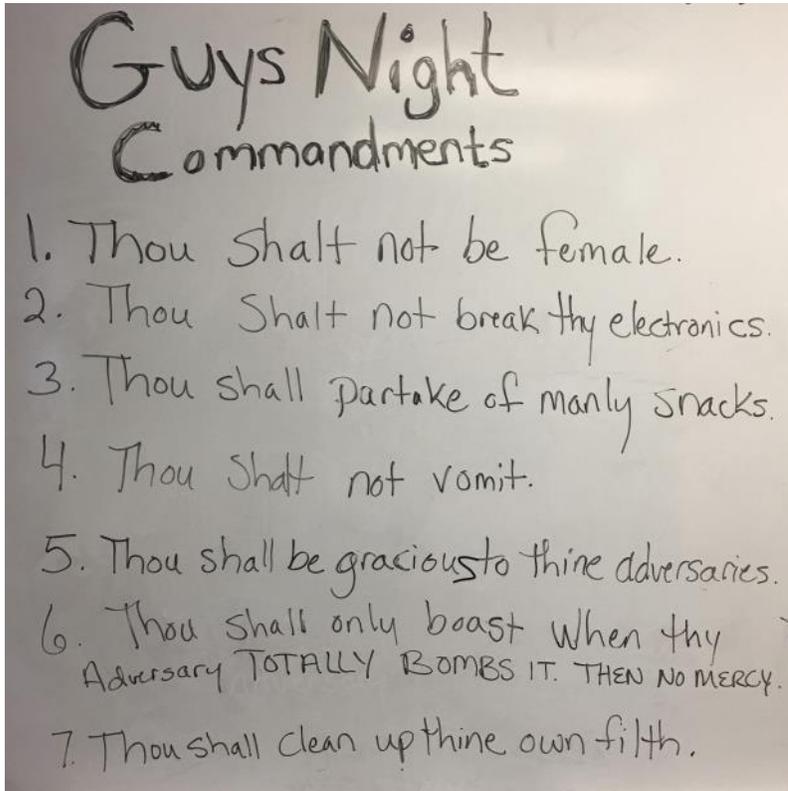


church leaders and parents in allowing us to gather and continue to learn and fellowship together. We have an exceptional group of middle and high school students.

On September 12th we had a very successful Guys' Night where the KYG menfolk had manly snacks, duct tape, and video games to facilitate all the male bonding, which is essentially male domination in video games. A big thanks to Cory Williford (and a congratulations on becoming a dad!) for leading the charge and to Jim Mershon for being the man who probably kept the other young men from climbing the walls and hanging from the ceiling tiles. We are indebted to you for dedicating your time to our KYG teens!

We may have an upcoming need for certain household/ furniture items once our KYG remodel is complete. Keep an eye out for a coming list of needs, and if you'd like to check with Ashley Wenner before you donate something that may be of use, please call (804) 413-2113 or email KYGYouthLeader@gmail.com anytime!

We will see you at the pumpkin patch!





DRIVE BY TRICK OR TREATING

Outreach

To continue reaching out to our community, we are going to have a modified Trick or Treating event this year on Oct. 31st, 5:30-8:00 p.m. We're going to have a **Drive By Trick or Treating**. This will be similar to the Farewell Event we did for Charles and Melissa.

We'll use the outside perimeter of the parking lot and around the circle. Characters (just like we lined the Wee KirkWood Path) will stand around the parking lot as cars drive by, and we'll pass out candy. Candy is prewrapped so its safe for us to hand out. We'll be gloved and masked. You're welcome to stand at your car like Trunk or Treat or have chairs etc. Please feel free to decorate your area or car, but car decorating is not required!

We will have a bonfire for ambiance and a special treat at the circle. We will not be using the inside of the church. This year we'll count cars instead of people.

We will need everyone's help to pull this off and make it a safe and fun way for the community to trick or treat. We will also need candy donations! There will be a bin at the church you can drop the candy in or drop off at Toni's house at 200 Brentmeade Dr. I have an Oberweis dairy box on the porch that I'll check every day.

To sign up or if you have any questions please email Toni Fisher at fishertl594@gmail.com or let June, Rachel, or myself know in church. I'll be at 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services most days.

Last but certainly not least, we would love to have you on our committee. Do you have ideas on how we can reach out to our community and let them know about KirkWood? Join us! WE NEED YOU.

Blessings and Hugs,

Toni, June, and Rachel