

KIRKWOOD KRONICLE

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

Dec. 2019/Jan. 2020

A Letter From Our Pastor



Hello KirkWood!

As 2019 draws to a close and with the promise and hope of 2020 just around the corner, I want to let you know how grateful I am for such a wonderful year with you. It has been one filled with so much excitement and enthusiasm that it's hard to find a way to express my appreciation for this part of the Body of Christ.

2019 started off with the Mission Study Team hard at work trying to assess KirkWood's Mission and Vision. The Team spent countless hours working to discern Jesus' will for his Church in this place. We conducted an online survey and held town hall meetings to gain insight into your hopes and dreams for KirkWood's future. We spent lots of time thinking, praying about, and discussing what that future can look like.

Way back in June, your Session and the Presbytery's Commission on Ministry approved the Mission Study Report. You elected the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) at the end of September, and they have been hard at work moving toward the calling of your next installed pastor. It has been amazing and inspirational to see how the Holy Spirit has been active throughout this whole process.

As we move into 2020, the one big event that you can all look forward to in great anticipation is the arrival of your new pastor. A lot of work will need to be done between now and then, and I encourage you to be as active in the process as you can be. Remain in prayer as the

PNC continues its great work and look forward to the great things that Jesus has in mind for you!

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



In This Issue

Pastor's Letter	pg. 1
Weekly Readings	pg. 2
Worship	pg. 2-3
Outreach	pg. 4
Congregational Care	pg. 4, 6-7
Special Dates	pg. 5
Christian Education	pg. 5
Mission	pg. 8-9
Children's Ministry	pg. 9

WEEKLY READINGS & SERMON TITLES

December 1 - Daniel 12:1-3 & Matthew 24:1-8
Sermon Title: WHEN?

December 8 - Isaiah 11:1-10 & Matthew 3:1-6
Sermon Title: THE VOICE

December 15 - Isaiah 35:1-10 & Matthew 11:1-15
Sermon Title: THE ONE

December 22 - Isaiah 7:10-16 & Matthew 1:18-25
Sermon Title: IT'S A DREAM

December 29 - Pastor Tucker on Vacation

January 5 - Jeremiah 31:7-14 & John 1:1-18
Sermon Title: LIGHT FOR THE NEW YEAR

January 12 - Isaiah 42:1-9 & Acts 10:34-43
Sermon Title: GOD SHOWS NO PARTIALITY

January 19 - Isaiah 49:1-7 & John 1:29-42
Sermon Title: COME AND SEE

January 26 - Isaiah 9:1-4 & 1 Corinthians 1:10-18
Sermon Title: UNITY IN CHRIST

Church-wide Christmas Caroling

We need YOU to come caroling on December 21st from 4:30-6:30 p.m. All ages are welcome including children. We will meet at the church and then go out with the church van (and extra cars, hopefully) to bring some Christmas joy to area nursing and retirement facilities. We will go back to the church for some hot cocoa and cookies.

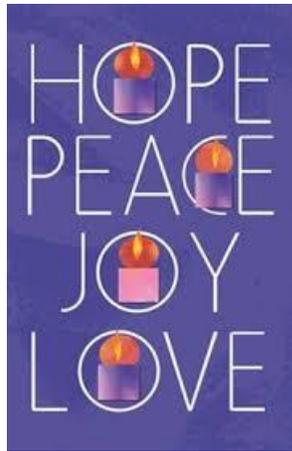


CHRISTMAS CAROLS



MUSIC MINISTRY

Worship



Advent Candle Lighting

The season of Advent begins on Sunday, Dec. 1st. KirkWood will continue the tradition of lighting the candles of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love. This year we will incorporate “Light of Light,” a Candle Lighting Ceremony composed by Joel Raney. Various KirkWood families and friends will lead the responsive readings and light the candles each week. What a lovely way to prepare our hearts for the birth of Christ!



The Silence and the Sound: A Cantata for Christmas by Heather Sorenson

This year’s Cantata features both traditional Christmas carols and original music, using adult and child narrators, soloists, adult choir, children’s choir, keyboard, bass, drums, and piano to tell the Christmas story. It concludes with a congregational carol sing-along. Please join us on an Advent journey from the awe of silence through the humility of Redemption to the shouts of joy at Christ’s birth on Sunday, December 15th during both worship services.

Children’s Choir



The KirkWood Children’s Choir once again will be participating in the Christmas cantata! They will have a featured part in “Angels Sing” (which is appropriate!)

In addition to this, Norah and Sam will narrate the Christmas story from Luke 2, and Tshiek will sing the opening solo for the piece “Come To Us.” It is such a joy to have all generations represented in our praise to God!



ENCHANTED FOREST UPDATE

Outreach

Thank you to everyone who helped with advertising, parking, the s'more station, games, photos, in the craft room, dressed up as a character, ran to supply more candy, helped decorate and/or take down and put away our decorations. It took so many people to do all these things!

We had many comments of thanks and appreciation for putting on the Enchanted Forest each year. Thank you to Mary and Lew Goodman for their creation and vision of the whole night.

It's hard to believe but 2019 is coming to an end and the Outreach Committee could really use your help. There are currently only three of us! We work on ideas to reach out to the community and to advertise our church – so publicity, publicity, publicity. Please contact Toni Fisher at fishermd1@gmail.com or (719) 237-1156 if you're interested in being on the committee or have questions or concerns about the Outreach Committee.

CHILI COOK-OFF AND WINTER LUAU

Congregational Care



Calling all chili cooks and consumers. We will be conducting our totally awesome chili cook-off after the annual meeting on January 26th. To counter the dreariness of winter, we've decided to adopt a Hawaiian luau theme for the event. In addition to our awards for best chili (Best Four-Legged, Best Two-Legged, Best No/Mo'-Legged, and Best Overall), we'll be having contests for Best Spam Side Dish and Best Polynesian Git-Up. So break out your tacky Hawaiian shirts and skirts, your recipes for Kauai Kahlua pork chili, Molokai Mac & Cheese, and Hoi Palloi Poi, and come on down for some island fun! Contact Lew Goodman for more information. See you there!



SPECIAL DATES

- December 1 - First Sunday of Advent
December 8 - Second Sunday of Advent
December 15 - Third Sunday of Advent
December 21 - First day of winter
December 24 - Christmas Eve (Church Office Closed)
December 25 - Christmas Day (Church Office Closed)
December 31 - New Year's Eve (Church Office Closed)
January 1 - New Year's Day (Church Office Closed)
January 6 - Epiphany
January 12 - Baptism of the Lord
January 18-25 - Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
January 20 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Christmas Eve Services

5:00 p.m. - Family Service/ Candlelight & Communion

11:00 p.m. - Candlelight & Communion



The season of advent is often filled with varying emotions and busy schedules. Take some time this year to focus your heart on Jesus. Share that joy with others.

By the end of November, devotions will be available. Please take two! This will allow you to enjoy one and give another to someone searching for the hope, peace, joy, and love of the season.



“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in your faith, so that in the power of the Holy Spirit you may be rich in hope.”

– **Romans 15:13**



KIRKWOOD SILVER & BLOOD DRIVE

Congregational Care

KirkWood Silver

KirkWood Silver’s Christmas celebration will be on Thursday, December 12th (note that this is a week early), from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall, which will be transformed into a movie theater! The featured film will be the heart-warming Christmas classic “The Best Christmas Pageant Ever,” starring Loretta Switt. A unique and free snack bar will offer candies, a variety of popcorns, Christmas goodies, and beverages! Admission is free but you may wish to make a donation to the Virginia Peninsula Food Bank. Previews (i. e., devotions, carols, and snack bar) will begin at 2:00 p.m. Running time for the movie is about one hour. Bring a friend or someone new to our fellowship! Sign up beginning November 24th in the narthex.

The KWS plan for January 16th is to welcome 2020 at a local Poquoson restaurant, Surf Rider, if it has opened by then; or, if not, R and R Seafood Restaurant. Watch the bulletin in late December.

Blood Drive

The power is in the Blood! KirkWood held the final 2019 Red Cross Blood Drive on Thursday, November 21st. As of the newsletter deadline, we had not had the drive, so there are no numbers to report. But I can give a HUGE thanks to all those who volunteered their time to work a shift, prepare food, or came out and donated. We could not do this valuable ministry without the help of all of the volunteers. **The dates for the 2020 dates are, February 20th (Please see the flyer for more details of this special drive), May 21st, August 20th, and November 19th.** Cards are in the narthex with these dates. 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.



Donate Blood In Honor of Megan Cate Nickerson



In January of 2013, Megan was just beginning the last semester of her senior year of college. She had the elevator speech memorized, she was working as a marketing intern, and was ready to start working in the real world in just a few short months. But on January 21, 2013, her path was forever changed. Megan was diagnosed with Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML). When she received her diagnosis, she led the charge, tackled her treatments with tenacity and positivity, never wavered, only telling her team of physicians, LET'S GO! During her six months of treatment, she received six one-week cycles of chemo, 18 units of platelets, and 26 units of lifesaving A negative blood! Since that day she has triumphed and THRIVED! Thank you to all of you who have donated in the past and for donating in Megan's honor. These lifesaving donations are appreciated and valued deep within our family's heart!



There will be only **one** service at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, December 29th.



**Sunday
after
Christmas**



MISSION UPDATES

Mission

Meals for Vets

Thank you to everyone who has supported this ministry. Your meals help the residents of the two houses continue their path to independence and a home of their own. 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>.

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 November assisting a family who was providing a foster home for three children. The family needed some extra beds and dressers. 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.

Capital Campaign to Pay the 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 November 3rd, KirkWood has contributed over \$13,042 toward our goal of \$20,000. The Capital Campaign is almost over, so don't miss an opportunity to donate. Please prayerfully consider supporting this effort.

People Offering Resources Together (PORT)

KirkWood will actively support the PORT program in Newport News this winter. We have increased our support from two to three nights. KirkWood will partner with Hilton Presbyterian Church on December 21st, First Baptist Church, Newport News the week of January 1-8, and AllGenerations Church the week of Feb 5-12 to provide shelter for those without homes. There are plenty of opportunities to help with this ministry. KirkWood will cook dinner, check-in guests, and cook breakfast for the guests. About 15 volunteers are needed each night for part of the time. Look for more information in the coming months.



MISSION UPDATES CONTINUED

Mission

Pumpkin Patch Update

The Pumpkin Patch had another banner year. Donations to the Patch totaled \$48,473.91. Over \$29,000 was sent to Pumpkin Patch Inc. for the Navajo Community. Over 75 KirkWood members volunteered to work a shift in the Patch. There were numerous others who volunteered for set up, unloading pumpkins on two occasions, and take down of the Patch. Thanks to all who helped continue the success of this remarkable ministry.

Christmas Offering

The annual Christmas Offering, one of four annual offerings at KirkWood, will be accepted during the Advent Season, December 1st, 8th, and 15th, 2019. The offering is split between York County Poquoson Social Services (YCPSS) and the Pastor's Fund. Look for announcements in the bulletin and use the envelopes in the pew holders to donate.

Children's Library

Borrow these new books from the children's library in room 2 to help discuss symbols of the season.

