

KirkWood Kronicle

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

August 2024



In this month's Kronicle, I thought I might share part of a recent article from The Lewis Center for Church Leadership (at Wesley Seminary up in DC).

For those of us who are leaders in any capacity, or who have been over the years, it's an important reminder. It helps us recalibrate and return to center. And as our Nominating Committee begins its work discerning together our next class of elders to begin in 2025, it spells out some of the distinctives of Christian leadership as opposed to plain ol' leadership.

Here are four of the seven traits that Dan Reiland highlights in his piece:

1. A growing sense of self-awareness

If it's true that as culture changes, we grow and learn, fail and succeed, and relationships either improve or decline, then it's also true that self-awareness is not a point-in-time arrival, but a continuing process. Our most foundational self, made in the image of God, created on purpose for a purpose, remains consistent. Yet, the process of personal maturation combined with the changing world around us impacts how we see ourselves in relationships with others. We must keep growing in our sense of self-awareness. There is also the element of faith that makes it possible for our flaws to be redeemed and made useful for the sake of loving people and leading them well.



KirkWood Presbyterian Church

1209 Hampton Highway | Yorktown, VA 23693

Phone: 757-766-0343

Email: office@KirkWoodpcusa.org | Website: <http://www.KirkWoodpcusa.org/>

Worship: Sundays, 9:30 AM, in person and streamed live via KirkWood's home page and our YouTube channel. On-demand replays are available on YouTube and the church website.

Sunday School: 8:30 AM (adults) and 11:00 AM for all ages



- ⇒ How do you see yourself today compared to a year ago?
- ⇒ How do you perceive others see and relate to you compared to a year ago?

2. A healthy desire to learn from mistakes

All leaders make mistakes. When you are out in front and taking new territory, missteps are part of the journey. If you aren't making mistakes, you probably aren't truly leading. No one wants to make mistakes, that would be a strange desire, but it's a healthy desire to learn from your mistakes. What are you learning so far this year?

A healthy culture that embraces leadership development gives permission to make mistakes. Maybe lots of mistakes and even a big one or two. But they don't give permission to make the same mistake twice. Do you know why? Because repeating mistakes indicates you are not learning from your mistakes and that changes the game entirely.

- ⇒ What was the most recent leadership mistake you made?
- ⇒ What did you learn from this mistake?

3. A true willingness to take risks

No church ever thrived without the leader(s) taking risks. And when risk-taking stops, that often signals the potential decline of any church. Taking wise risks includes a combination of prudence and courage. Good judgment and discernment are needed along with stepping into the unknown without all the answers. That's the definition of a good risk, isn't it? You did your homework, talked with God, and sought wise counsel, but in the end, although we can't guarantee the results, we still must take responsibility for them. That is the essence of leadership—repeated again and again.

- ⇒ What is the most recent risk you have taken; how did it go?
- ⇒ What risk are you considering now?

4. A deep trust in and dependence upon God

Yes, I've saved the most important for last. I'm glad you are still reading. As a spiritual leader in the church, nothing is more important than your trust in God and living dependent upon God. There is great beauty and truth in the fact that God's wisdom, power, and favor are available to all spiritual leaders regardless of church size, education,





gifting, or talent. God’s love and kindness is available for all who seek it. That is the one condition, we need to pursue God’s presence and power.

The invitation to an intimate relationship is clear. Prayer is the best avenue, and I’ve learned that some of the best time in prayer is spent in silence, waiting, and listening. Praying through Scripture is deeply meaningful as well. God has promised to be with us—such an incredible gift.

- ⇒ How are you pursuing God today?
- ⇒ In what specific ways do you fully trust God?”

August

SPECIAL DATES

August 4 – Food Pantry Collection

August 11 – H.O.P.E. Offering

August 15 – Blood Drive 1:00PM - 6:00PM

August 17 – Drive By Food Collection
9:00 -11:00AM

UPCOMING DATES...

September 1 – Food Pantry Collection

September 2 – Labor Day (Church
Office Closed)

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Congregational Care Update

Congregational Care

Annual KirkWood Picnic: On Sunday, September 8th, after the worship service, we will kick off the fall with our annual picnic. This year, the picnic will be held at the Bethel Recreation Area in Hampton. Our assigned pavilion has a large, covered picnic area and volleyball court, nearby restrooms and playground. Just bring a side dish or dessert to share. We'll have BBQ and other meats for your enjoyment along with water and soft drinks. More details to follow.

KirkWood Dining Partners: The early church is described in the Book of Acts 2:42-47 as devoted to the apostles' teachings and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. KirkWood Dining Partners is about spending an evening together talking, laughing, and enjoying a shared experience with your church family. Please consider joining us for any or all of the upcoming Kirkwood Dining Partners activities and reach out to others to join us. There will be sign-up sheets for the eating out events in the narthex and reminders in the bulletin beginning in late August. If you have any questions, please contact Arba Williamson (awillia114@aol.com) or Cindy Williamson (cwillic114@gmail.com) or ask anyone who participated last year – we had a lot of fun and meaningful conversations. Dates and locations below are tentative – please watch the bulletin and your e-mail for final plans. And feel free to drop either Arba or Cindy a note with any suggestions.

Dates for KirkWood Dining Partners:

September 14, 2024, Mama Rosa's, Phoebus, 6:00PM

October 12, 2024, Sate, City Center, NN, 6:00PM

November 23, 2024, KirkWood Thanksgiving, 6:00PM

December 8, 2024, Steak & Tonic Brunch, City Center, NN, 12:00PM

January 11, 2025, Thai Tara, Williamsburg, 6:00PM

February 8, 2025, Los Compadres, Hampton, 6:00PM

March 15, 2025, Kephil Kitchen, Williamsburg, 6:00PM

April 12, 2025, Tuscany, NN 6:00 PM

May 10, 2025, TBD, 6:00 PM



From a KirkWood Kitchen...

Congregational Care

In the last issue of the Kronicle, we started a recurring feature where we share a recipe from someone in the congregation. This month, you have a chance to get to know your Kronicle editor (Kathryn Kelchner) by trying one of her family's favorites. Kathryn reports this recipe came from her own childhood and is named after a dear family friend who not only made these cookies but also introduced Kathryn to Christ. She says it's easy to think "Oh, those are just dressed up Rice Crispy treats, but don't be fooled! The butterscotch chips make all the difference and take this bar cookie to the next level!!" The winning combination convinced Kathryn, an avid Reese's hater, that chocolate and peanut butter do *sometimes* have a place together.

Aunt Subie (pronounced Sue-Bee) Cookies

1 cup light corn syrup	6 cups Special K cereal
1 cup sugar	1 cup butterscotch chips
1 cup crunchy peanut butter	1 cup chocolate chips

Mix corn syrup and sugar over medium heat to boiling.

Remove from heat, add peanut butter, and stir until smooth.

Pour mixture over cereal. Stir to mix.

Spread into foil lined and greased 9"x13" pan. Push into to even thickness and into corners by spraying a folded piece of aluminum foil with Pam and pressing on top of cookies.

Place in refrigerator.

Over a double boiler - with hot, but not boiling water - melt chips together until smooth.

Spread over cookies.

Cut when set, BUT NOT FIRM! (Approximately 1 hr.)

If you would like to be featured in a future edition of From a KirkWook Kitchen or know a KirkWoodian who makes something we should all try on our own, please share with us by dropping a message to the Kronicle email at kroniclesubmission@gmail.com.



KirkWood Silver: KirkWood Silver will be taking a break in August to begin work on their fall calendar. Look for details in the September Kronicle.

KirkWood Walking Group: The Walking Group is on break until September.

Other Upcoming Events: Yum! Another “Biscuit Sunday” is coming your way after the worship service on October 13th. Bring on the butter, jam, and sausage gravy!

Meals Support: If due to illness, hospitalization, or other circumstances you require assistance in providing meals for yourself or family, CC is here to help. We can arrange for volunteers to provide up to three meals to your home during these times. Under exceptional conditions, we will work with you or your family to provide additional support. POC is Wendy Linehan (757) 509-8233.

Men’s Social Group: Kirkwood men, did you know that “Social isolation and loneliness put a person at risk of developing serious mental and physical health conditions”? <https://bit.ly/3YgGhB0> “...an analysis of nearly 150 studies found that people with weak social relationships had about a 50 percent higher mortality risk than people with stronger ties ... having weak social relationships poses a greater mortality risk than physical inactivity or obesity.” <https://n.pr/3A0c0MR> .

Would you like to make some new friends and socialize with other men in a casual setting? A few of us have been doing that on Saturday afternoons once or twice a month. We usually go to a local brew pub but are open to new ideas. No agenda or preparation, just come and relax with friends. Bring a friend, or someone you know who may be isolated. Don’t drink? Come and hang out anyway! All are welcome.

“Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.” Romans 12:10 (ESV).

Contact Bruce Buchanan at 757-725-6001 or r.bruce.buchanan@gmail.com if you are interested.

Unless otherwise noted, the point of contact for these items/events is Lew Goodman (757) 375-7520.



Serving Kids in the New School Year

Missions

Happy August from your KirkWood Mission Committee! We have had a busy summer but, believe it or not, by the time many of you read this letter, the back-to-school sales and preparations will be in full swing! Your Mission Committee contributes yearly to the YMCA Bright Beginnings program. This program assists children by helping them obtain necessities they need to succeed, so they can focus on learning rather than worrying about having shoes to wear on the playground and crayons to color their assignments. Each child who enters the program gets partnered with a trusted “shopping buddy” volunteer to help pick their most significant needs for the upcoming school year without worrying about the cost.

The Bright Beginnings program equips kids with readiness and confidence on the first day of school. Since 2003, Bright Beginnings has helped nearly 10,000 children prepare to start the new school year, ready to learn, with more than 25 back-to-school shopping trips every August to ensure they have the clothes, shoes, and school supplies to start their school year on the right foot.

Are you looking for an opportunity to help the children in our community? You can sign up on-line to be shoppers with Bright Beginnings children this August 12th through August 15th. The YMCA is still in need of at least 40 volunteers, and they are encouraging others to sign up on their website at: <https://ymcavp.volunteermatters.org/project-catalog/673>. There are additional opportunities through the Y to help the children at the start of the school year. The flier on page 9 gives information on how you can “fill a backpack” and drop it off at the Victory YMCA across the street from the church.





Preparing for the Pumpkin Patch (and more!)

Missions

Speaking of the end of summer, we are looking at August as our preparation time for one of the Mission Committee's busiest seasons: the Pumpkin Patch! Be on the lookout in the bulletin and on social media for opportunities (for all ages) to help set up the patch, offload pumpkins, and volunteer time to help sell the pumpkins!

Mark your calendars for Saturday September 28th for our first pumpkin delivery and offload. We will know the time as we get closer to that date. Our second delivery will be October 12th.

As we also look at the beginning of August, please mark your calendars for August 4th, and every first Sunday, as Food Pantry Sunday. Food items and monetary donations support our own Kupboard, St. Luke's Food Pantry, and the Peninsula Food Bank. Thank you for your continued support in all these food missions. Our point of contact for all things food pantry-related is Catherine Gough at cgough1965@gmail.com as well as your mission chairs Lisa Nickerson lanickers62@gmail.com and Toni Fisher fish-ermd1@gmail.com. We continue to find that donations of canned and boxed meals, cereals, peanut butter and jelly, canned meats such as tuna and chicken, as well as all ranges of cereals are most popular. If you prefer to donate monetarily, you can click on the link to the Kupboard giving site (<https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z213/home>) and/or you can designate your funds to either the Kupboard or to St. Luke's Food Pantry individually.

Additional calendar dates include our monthly meeting on August 6th @ 6:30PM, second Thursday lunch distribution at First Presbyterian Church, Hampton on August 8th @10:00AM, and our HOPE (Helping Other People Eat) collection on August 11th.

We would love to have you join our committee!



HELP KIDS SUCCEED



Be a Bright Beginnings Backpack Buddy

By filling a sturdy backpack with the supplies listed below, you help a child be prepared, confident, and successful at school.

Once you have filled a backpack, bring it back to your YMCA and place it in the collection box.

Supplies Needed:

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Backpack | 2 spiral notebooks (wide-ruled) |
| Colored pencils | Ruler (12") |
| Crayons (24 count) | 2 large erasers |
| 4 glue sticks | 3 highlighters |
| Magic markers | 1 pack of each: |
| 2 marble composition books (wide-ruled) | No. 2 pencils |
| Pencil pouch | White index cards |
| Scissors (5" blunt tip) | |



ymcavp.org/brightbeginnings



You can be a Super Hero!!!

Mission

BE SOMEBODY'S HERO. Our next Red Cross Blood Drive will be held on Thursday, August 15th, from 1:00PM-6:00PM in the fellowship hall. Summer is a particularly difficult time for the Red Cross to get donors out, so they have increased the incentive to a \$20 gift card that will be sent to the email on record after you attend the drive. All donors are eligible. Please, if you are able, come out and donate. All blood types are needed. As always, the fabulous KirkWood cooks and bakers will be provide a meal to all presenting donors.

Go to

www.redcrossblood.org

Sponsor Code: KirkwoodPC (upper right corner of the site) to make your appointment. If you would like help or would like Cathy to make your appointment, reach out to her at hudgepudge@aol.com and she will be happy to answer

any question or make the appointment for you. If you would like to donate food or monies to offset the cost of food reach out to Donna Craig, who is our food coordinator for the drives.

Be Someone's Hero
Give Blood

Blood Drive

Kirkwood Presbyterian Church

Fellowship Hall
1209 Hampton Highway
Tabb, VA 23693

Thursday, August 15, 2024
1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.





Seeking God's Guidance

Stewardship

Prayer, Prayer, Prayer!

A long time ago there was a king named David. He was a great man. Along with a wife, he had a son named Solomon. King Solomon is still known as the wisest of all kings, ever. Ever. He had asked God for wisdom, and God was more than happy to grant it to Solomon. Before David died, he gathered the materials in great quantity for a "house for God" (1 Chronicles 22). It took approximately 7 years to build this magnificent building, the Temple of the Lord.

Once the Temple was finished, King Solomon dedicated it to the Lord. The dedication can be found in 2 Chronicles 6. As a part of the dedication, this prayer is stated:

¹⁸ "But will God indeed dwell with mortals on earth? Even heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you, much less this house that I have built! ¹⁹ Regard your servant's prayer and his plea, O Lord my God, heeding the cry and the prayer that your servant prays to you. ²⁰ May your eyes be open day and night toward this house, the place where you promised to set your name, and may you heed the prayer that your servant prays toward this place."

God cannot be contained. God listens to our prayers. God's eyes are open continually towards us. God has set His name on us.

Why do we not get the answers we seek? We don't ask God for them. Our pleas to God do not fall on empty ears.

For the next two months, the Stewardship committee invites you to make pleas known to God. On the next page, you will find the months August & September. We are listing pray-



Seeking God's Guidance, cont.

Administration

er suggestions for you. A plea from your heart to God. A plea from the hearts of the people of KirkWood to God. We can all pray for different things that go on around the church. Please feel free to add your own, and/or expand on what you have as a plea for yourself, your loved ones, and KirkWood. We are looking for God to hear our stewardship of prayer as a congregation.

God bless! ~Stewardship Committee

KirkWoodians Praying Together





AUG 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					01	02
					Welcome God into your thoughts and feelings.	Thank the Lord for the foods we eat.
						A welcome hand to greet new visitors.
	04	05	06	07	08	09
Session members as they guide the church.	God to help you make a new friend at KirkWood.	Babies who have been baptized at KirkWood.	The people in your life who you love.	The family members of our staff.	Birthdays of all your friends and relatives.	The stability of marriages of everyone you know.
	11	12	13	14	15	16
Jeannine's leadership of the children to the Lord.	The KirkWood garden to grow.	The financial prosperity of KirkWood.	Visitors to feel welcome and loved by all.	Teachers as they prepare to go back to school.	Ask God to suggest someone in the church, to pray for their needs.	The choir's dedication and praise to God.
	18	19	20	21	22	23
Katie's love of babies and their growth in our nursery..	The people in your life who you have problems loving.	Students to be ready to return to school.	Ann's choir directing for clarity and harmony.	The safety of our youth and their leaders.	Tim's humbleness in cleaning up our messes.	Chris' sermons: they are God inspired and timely.
	25	26	27	28	29	30
God's grace, mercy, and love to grow in our lives.	Power to forgive someone today.	Kirkwood's volunteers for all the events we do.	The people you know in a small group or Bible study.	Missions committee as they fulfil the Great Commission.	The physical grounds of KirkWood.	Safety and enjoyment for families who are vacationing.
						31



SEPT 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
01 Birthdays of all your friends and relatives.	02 Visitors to feel welcome and loved by all.	03 Kirkwood's volunteers for all the events we do.	04 Tim's humbleness in cleaning up our messes.	05 Peace and stability as homes adjust to children back in school.	06 The safety of America's celebrating all over the world.	07 Power to forgive someone today.
08 Equal rights for everyone.	09 The financial prosperity of KirkWood.	10 Ask God to suggest someone in the church, to pray for their needs.	11 Ann's choir directing for clarity and harmony.	12 The choir's dedication and praise to God.	13 God to help you make a new friend at KirkWood.	14 Chris' sermons: they are God inspired and timely.
15 Katie's love of babies and their growth in our nursery..	16 Thank the Lord for the foods we eat.	17 Session members as they guide the church.	18 Missions committee as they fulfil the Great Commission.	19 The KirkWood garden to grow.	20 Fighting in the world, America, and our towns.	21 The health and safety of all who come to KirkWood.
22 Jeannine's leadership of the children to the Lord.	23 The stability of marriages of everyone you know.	24 The physical grounds of KirkWood.	25 Guidance to text to someone who needs encourage-	26 Trust in God with my life.	27 The people in your life who you love.	28 A welcome hand to greet new visitors
29 The safety of our youth and their leaders.	30 God grow our faith through our core values					