

# KirkWood Kronicle

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

June 2023



KirkWood Family,

As I sit to write this newsletter piece, I do so in the early afternoon of Pentecost Sunday here in my office. With this singular Sunday in the church calendar still in mind, let me offer this poetic reflection on the first Pentecost and how it changed the world, written by Rev. William Maxwell:

## High Wind and Fire

On that first Pentecost  
the wind and the fire were only hints  
of what was about to happen:  
Frightened folk gulped a couple of times  
and spoke about Jesus.

They said, "This Jesus whom you crucified God has named  
Lord and Messiah by raising Him from the dead."

They said, "The old barriers that separate us from each other,  
don't matter now  
they've been torn down, never to be erected again."  
They said, "Now, let's hit the road."

The Spirit, who had fashioned chaos into shape  
at the dawn of creation

## KirkWood Presbyterian Church



1209 Hampton Highway | Yorktown, VA 23693

Phone: 757-766-0343

Email: [office@kirkwoodpcusa.org](mailto:office@kirkwoodpcusa.org) | Website: <http://www.kirkwoodpcusa.org/>

**Worship:** Sundays, 9:30 a.m., in person and broadcast live via KirkWood's home page and our YouTube channel. On-demand replays are available on YouTube.

**Sunday School:** Sundays 8:30 (ADULT) and 11:00 AM. (ALL AGES). Nursery care is available. Please visit our website for information on additional resources for individual, family, and group nurturing.

**Youth:** Youth Group meets 2nd and 4th Sunday evenings for fun, education, development, and service. Sunday School occurs alternating Sundays at 11:00 AM.



bringing order from disorder  
and life from the void  
and who whispered in the ears of prophets and poets,  
now sought to mold lives into the shape of Jesus  
and to speak clearly about forgiveness and love  
and community and freedom and joy.

That first Pentecost  
not everyone understood, of course  
but enough did  
that the world was never the same.

Maybe this Pentecost  
you won't be the same either.

## In This Issue

Pastor's Letter	pg. 1-2
Dates	pg. 2
Session Update	pg. 3
Congregational Care	pg. 4-5
Mission	pg. 6-7
Stewardship	pg. 8-10
Christian Education	pg. 11
Outreach	pg. 12



# J



## JUNE DATES

### June Special Dates/Upcoming Events

- June 4 - Trinity Sunday, Food Pantry Collection
- June 11 – Graduates Recognition Sunday, H.O.P.E. Offering
- June 14 - Flag Day
- June 17 – Peninsula Pilots Baseball Outing at 7:00 p.m.
- June 18 - Father's Day
- June 19 - Juneteenth
- June 21 - First day of summer



# Session Update

## Session

### Qualities of an Effective Ruling Elder on Session

We are often asked, what are the qualities of being a highly effective elder on Session? The most effective elders come in all shapes and sizes. They are female and they are male. They are young and they are less young. They are first time Session members, and they are multi-time Session members.

Without a doubt, the most effective Session members come in with no personal agenda. They work collaboratively with other people. They are open to different ideas and opinions and most demonstrate the ability to listen to others. Their goal is to help KirkWood grow spiritually and to help it be one unified body, sharing the Good News and making a difference in people's lives.

In addition to these qualities, the Nominating Committee looks for folks who have taken an active interest in KirkWood and have served on committees and/or, volunteered for different activities. They might have specific skills or interests like Outreach, Mission Work, Congregational Care, or Christian Ed. When we look for new Session members, we try to match our needs with the interests of the potential candidate.

The work can be challenging at times, but with 12 Session members, we work together and have each other's backs when the challenges get tough. Session is most effective when you have 12 people working together with the pastor and the staff and the congregation members for the greater good of KirkWood, growing together and sharing God's love while making positive impacts on people's lives.





# Congregational Care Round-up

## Congregational Care

**Peninsula Pilots Baseball:** What's better than watching a quality baseball game on a warm summer night? Here's your opportunity to see the Peninsula Pilots in action at War Memorial Stadium in Hampton, on Saturday, June 17<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are just \$8 for adults and \$5 for Active Duty Military, Seniors 65 and up, and kids 12 and under. There's plenty to eat and drink as well. Sign up in the Narthex or on-line at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0f4aafa62fa13-kirkwood13>

**Chronic Illness Support:** If you've been waiting for an announcement on the next Chronic Illness Small Group meeting, we will be having meeting #2, on Tuesday, June 13, at 7:00 PM, in the library. Any questions, call Steve Hudgins (757-880-1862).

**On Pause:** After their upcoming trip to Williamsburg, KW Silver is breaking for the summer along with the KW Dining Partners. Both will return in September.

**KirkWood Walking Group returns to the Noland Trail:** Back by popular demand, the KirkWood Walking Group will return to the beautiful Noland Trail at the Mariner's Museum Park on Saturday June 10 at 9:00 AM, so we can beat the heat. On our last visit there in January, it was cold with snow flurries. We are highly confident that there will be no snow this time!!

As always, there will be 3 walking options. For gentle walkers, there will be a 1 to 2-mile option. There will also be a 3-mile option and a robust 5-mile option through a challenging wooded trail. We'll meet in the first parking lot on the right, just before the museum. Join us as we enjoy the beauty of nature and the joy of each other's company. For questions contact: Janet Knight 757-303-4253 or Bruce Knight 757-303-4252.

**Other Upcoming Events:** Our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual "Brunch at the Fort" is scheduled for Saturday, August 5<sup>th</sup>, and our annual picnic on Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup>. If there is an event or activity you'd like for us to take on, please let us know!

Unless otherwise noted, the point of contact for these items/events is Lew Goodman.

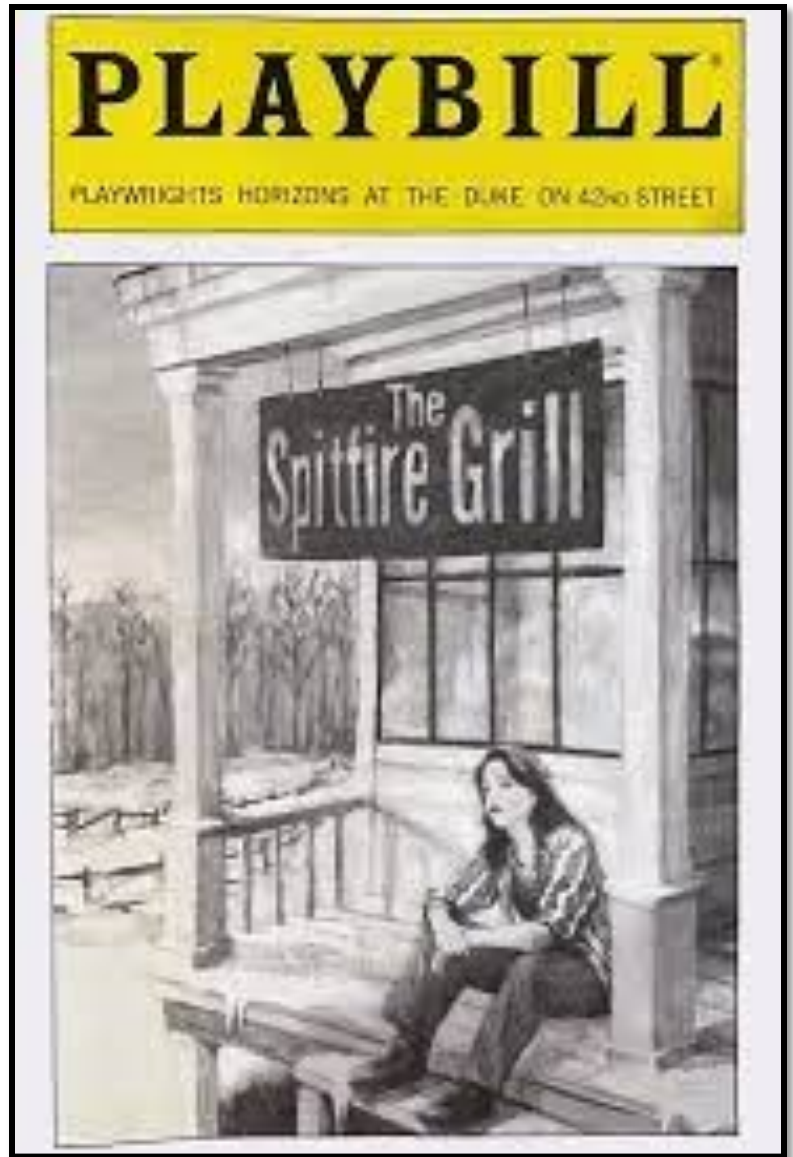


# KirkWood Silver

## Congregational Care

**Upcoming Event:** A reminder for those signed up to attend the play in Williamsburg on Saturday, June 17th, if you have not paid Gloria Griffin for you ticket(s), please do that as soon as possible. All those who signed up to take the van to the play please arrive at the church before 1:00 PM (the departure time). Others plan to arrive at the Playhouses, 200 Hubbard Lane, Williamsburg, at 1:45 PM, in order to check in with Gloria and be seated before the 2:00 PM curtain call.

**Summer Break:** KirkWood Silver will not meet in July and August. Everyone be safe, well, and COOL over the summer. If you have ideas about events at the church or beyond, or places and restaurants to visit, please pass your ideas on to one of the planners: Gloria or Steve Griffin, Carolyn or Bill Gilbert, Elizabeth Nelson, Anne Effler, and Jim or Wanda Birch. We'd love to get some fresh, new inspirations!! Thanks!







# Helping Those Around Us

## Mission

### Little Free Food Pantry

KirkWood's Mission Committee would like to formally introduce you to our Little Free Food Pantry. You will see the new banners and our lovely new structure located proudly on KirkWood's front lawn! We would like to formally thank Tom Heldreth for all his time and talents spent designing, constructing, and installing our beautiful new addition.



What is The Little Free Food Pantry? Think Little Free Library, but with food! Too often, the communities around us face uncertainty when it comes to feeding their families. While many are able to live within a fixed budget, as we can all imagine, it simply takes an unexpected car repair, family/medical emergency, or any other unanticipated expense to cause a family to experience food insecurity.

With KirkWood's central and convenient location near a main roadway, as well as with the addition of sidewalks, we are uniquely situated to help our neighbors facing trying times. The Little Free Food Pantry is available 24/7, providing the opportunity for those community members in need to anonymously stop by and select a few food items to help feed their family until the next paycheck arrives and the financial picture improves.

We are excited to further expand KirkWood's food ministry, bless others, and spread JOY with our Little Free Food Pantry, lovingly and thoughtfully stocked with non-perishable food items and paper products by YOU in our congregation. Thank you all. As you bring your donations, please place your items directly into the Pantry.

### Meeting Our Neighbors' Needs

**Monthly Food Drive:** We collect non-perishable foods and monies to support St. Luke's pantry the first Sunday of every month.

**Monthly Offering—"Helping Other People Eat":** We collect the **H.O.P.E.** offering the second Sunday of every month. Funds are divided between Youth Challenge, Mid-Atlantic Faith Recovery, Menchville House, and our sister church, CPK Mikondo, for their Feeding Program in Congo.




# Blood Drive Update, Volunteers Needed

## Mission

Our May, 2023 Red Cross Blood Drive was held at the church on Thursday, May 18. This community is so amazing. Thank you to all those that come out to donate or volunteer their time to help make our drives run so smoothly and successfully. Thank you to Donna Craig for coordinating the meals during the drives. We will be looking for volunteers to donate part of the meal, monetary donations to offset the costs of supplies or a home-made dessert for upcoming drives. **The remaining 2023 drive dates are: (all Thursdays and all from 2:00-7:00 in the fellowship hall) August 17 and November 16. Please mark your calendars.** If you would


like to make your appointment for the August drive, it is open for scheduling. Sign up online at [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org), Sponsor code KIRKWOODPC. A reminder will come in the July Kronicle as well. If you have questions, need assistance making your appointment or would like to know how you can help during future drives, please contact Cathy Hudgins, [hudgepudge@aol.com](mailto:hudgepudge@aol.com).

Appointments to donate often drop during the summer months because schools are out (which means no school blood drives) and families are often traveling. The need for blood, however, never takes a holiday



American Red Cross

Thank you!



Kirkwood Presbyterian Church

Sponsor Group

5/19/23

Date of Drive

34

Total Number of Donors

3

First Time Donors

28

Units Collected

84

Potential Number of Lives Saved

When you made the decision to host a blood drive, you helped change lives.

© 2018 The American Red Cross | 181501



# Prayer, Prayer, Prayer!

## Stewardship

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” (I 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:

“<sup>18</sup> “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! <sup>19</sup> Regard your servant’s prayer and his plea, O Lord my God, heeding the cry and the prayer that your servant prays to you. <sup>20</sup> 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 three months, the Stewardship committee invites you to make pleas known to God. On the next pages, you will find calendars for the months June & July. An August calendar will come in the July Kronicle. We are listing prayer 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!





# June 2023

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

*Please pray for....*

**1** The Israel travel group's safe travel as they venture along the Mediterranean.  
**2** The Israel group's faith to multiply as they visit the site of the 5 loves/ 2 fishes.  
**3** The Israel group's visit to the Jordan and commitment to faith for all of KirkWood.

**4** The Israel group's visit to site of the Dead Sea Scrolls and clarity of the Word for all of us.  
**5** The Israel group's safety in Jerusalem.  
**6** Reminder of Jesus' love for us as the travel group follows his last steps.  
**7** Peace for the travel group as they visit Bethlehem.  
**8** Safe travels for the tour group members flying home today.  
**9** Confidence & strong faith for all graduates.  
**10** God to show us his providence as the travel group goes to the Promised Land.

**11** Opportunities to share God's word & not be "lost in translation".  
**12** Safe travels for the remaining Israel group members as they return home.  
**13** Grace & perseverance through trials.  
**14** That new visitors to KirkWood feel welcome.  
**15** Rest and rejuvenation during the beauty of the summer.  
**16** For church leaders to hear God's guidance.  
**17** Missionaries around the world.

**18** Fathers...give thanks and ask God to help them lead their families.  
**19** Patience for families beginning summer vacation.  
**20** A neighbor or friend who does not have a church home.  
**21** For peace for those feeling sad or depressed.  
**22** Those who serve and love our children through KirkWood's ministry.  
**23** Continued blessings in your life.  
**24** Our nation's leaders—elected and not elected.

**25** Church leaders' families as they give up their loved ones to serve us.  
**26** THRIVE and all those served by the ministry.  
**27** A deeper understanding of God's word in your life.  
**28** KirkWood's choir and worship band.  
**29** Safety on the water and in outdoor activities.  
**30** New outreach groups at KirkWood.



# July 2023

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

**1**

Visitors to feel welcome and loved by all.

*Please pray for....*

**2**

Missions committee as they fulfil the Great Commission.

**3**

The dedication of those who are new to KirkWood.

**4**

The safety of American's celebrating all over the world.

**5**

Safety and enjoyment for families who are vacationing.

**6**

Our federal, state, and local governments.

**7**

Thank the Lord for the foods we eat.

**8**

Ask God to suggest someone in the church, to pray for or their needs.

**9**

The physical grounds of KirkWood.

**10**

The people in your life who you love.

**11**

Birthdays of all your friends and relatives.

**12**

Katie's love of babies and their growth.

**13**

Jeannine's leadership of the children to the Lord.

**14**

Fighting in the world, America, and our towns.

**15**

Chris' sermons: that they are God inspired and timely.

**16**

The financial prosperity of KirkWood.

**17**

Ann's choir directing for clarity and harmony.

**18**

A welcome hand to greet new visitors.

**19**

The safety of our youth and their leaders.

**20**

Kirkwood's volunteers for all the events we do.

**21**

The choir's dedication and praise to God.

**22**

The stability of marriages of everyone you know.

**23**

Tim's humbleness in cleaning up our messes.

**24**

A smile to someone who needs encouragement.

**25**

Session members as they guide the church.

**26**

The people you know in a small group or Bible study.

**27**

Growth in the committees at KirkWood for the glory of God.

**28**

Babies who have been baptized at KirkWood.

**29**

God to help you make a new friend at KirkWood.

**30**

Equal rights for everyone.

**31**

The family members of our staff.



# Summer Wrap Up

## Christian Education



Summer is a great time for reading. Check out one of these books (and many others) in the children's library to build you up, help you cope, make good choices, or spend some time with God.



**VOLUNTEERS  
are key!**

Unlock the potential of the KirkWood kid's faith today! We are especially looking for volunteers who are excited to get to know the strengths of our children and youth and model Jesus' love to them. There are opportunities behind the scenes too. Speak with Rachel Fisher and Jeannine Scott to see how you can help. If you have helped in the past, be on the lookout for an email to update your safety training.

Spiritual disciplines are usually thought of as those things that help us draw near to God and might include different forms of prayer, meditation, study, and service. Join in a Sunday School class to learn ways to make space in your life to be with Jesus and to allow Jesus to transform you.

Extra ways to participate on your own will be available on the bulletin board.



Is your regular small group going on break? Are you looking for flexible, short-term study? Do you want to stretch your knowledge of the Bible beyond what is in the picture story Bible? Join Jeannine Scott in a summer small group. Ideas include using Peter Enns podcast or books or the newly released "Bible Stories for Adults" lessons. The timing can be whatever is best for the group. Let Jeannine know or sign up in the Narthex.



# Successful Group Effort!!!

## Outreach

This month, we want to celebrate how God works in wonderful and often amazing ways. Several months ago, a crazy idea was hatched by several Session committees to have a Craft Fair on the front lawn of KirkWood. There were only a few people in the room who had ever sponsored or organized a craft fair. Most of us had nary a clue except for a feeling that KirkWood could use such an event to meet and greet our neighbors in an everyday way. Along the way, there were numerous times that we second guessed ourselves, but each time the Holy Spirit provided us with what we needed.

As reported earlier, the Craft Fair was a huge success. Our goal was to have at least 10 craft booths, but 30 crafters joined us on Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup>. An estimated 500-600 visitors attended the fair. All of the crafters were appreciative of how KirkWood helped them set up and pack up, most reported good sales, our no “fee” was a plus, and the weather was perfect. B’More’s Kitchen food truck and Sweet Frog’s treats provided wonderful eats.

Volunteer support for the fair was tremendous. The fair was truly a KirkWood event and quite an adventure. Thanks to all the volunteers for making the crafters and visitors welcome at KirkWood.

As always, we hope that some of the visitors will join our wonderful KirkWood community, but we can be sure that with God’s help we touched lives and hearts at the fair.





**KirkWood Presbyterian Church**  
A Christian Community Growing Together,  
Knowing, Loving, and Serving Christ,  
to make Him known to all



(757) 766-0343  
[www.kirkwoodpcusa.org](http://www.kirkwoodpcusa.org)  
[office@kirkwoodpcusa.org](mailto:office@kirkwoodpcusa.org)

Adults: 11:00 a.m. via Zoom . Contact church office for details.

KirkWood Presbyterian Church  
1209 Hampton Hwy.  
Yorktown, VA 23693