

KirkWood Kronicle

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

SUMMER 2024



Dear KirkWood Family,

As you know, we're putting six weeks into careful consideration of KirkWood's new core values. Our Sunday services center on them, one per week, and we've been discussing them earnestly in our Sunday School classes and small groups.

I thought I might add to that conversation in this month's newsletter by passing along a good resource on "real vs. formal values." Formal values are what we say, or what's written in a brochure, posted on a website, or produced in a report. Real values are what you actually do and say. Formal values are talk...and talk is cheap. Real values are where the rubber meets the road.

Here's how organizational consultant Dr. Russ Davis works through that distinction – what's below are snippets taken from a longer piece:

In the world of organizations, the values that are upheld play a major role in shaping the culture and behavior of its members. However, these stated values may not necessarily reflect the reality of everyday actions and interactions within the organization. This discrepancy between stated values and unwritten rules of conduct is an important issue that requires attention. This contradiction can lead to dissatisfaction and dysfunctional operations.

Too often in well-intentioned organizations there is a mismatch between espoused values and basic assumptions. Espoused values refer to the explicit code



KirkWood Presbyterian Church

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Phone: 757-766-0343

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

Worship: Sundays, 9:30 AM, in person and broadcast 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



of ethics and principles that an organization claims to uphold. They are the declared norms that are said to guide its behavior. They represent the ideals and aspirations of the organization.

On the other hand, basic assumptions are the deeply embedded and often unconscious behaviors and beliefs that govern the actual behavior within the organization. These assumptions are the unspoken rules that shape the organization's culture and dictate how things are done. “Long timers” in the organization often know these unwritten guidelines or directives, but they rarely appear in writing. Conversely, newcomers to the group constantly run afoul of these assumptions.

When espoused values and basic assumptions don't sync, it's called a “values mismatch”. Little good comes from such a mismatch, and many people get angry, wounded, or run off when it occurs.

Addressing the disconnect between espoused values and basic assumptions requires honest introspection and a proactive commitment to alignment. This journey toward narrowing or closing the gap should involve every level of the organization.

Leaders must consistently demonstrate these values through their actions, messages, and decisions. Behavioral integrity, which is the consistency between words and actions, is crucial. When leaders embody the espoused values, it serves as a model for everyone else to follow.

Open and frequent dialogues about the espoused values can also foster understanding and alignment. These conversations can involve sharing examples of how individuals within the organization exemplify these values through their actions, or scenarios experienced that seemed to run counter to the claimed core values.





On an individual level, each person involved in the group should feel empowered to monitor their own behavior in comparison with the espoused values. Rather than leaders checking up on everyone else, in a healthy organization there is an environment in which each individual has a sense of shared ownership and responsibility. Everyone becomes a stakeholder. You know you're on the right track when you're getting concerns and creative suggestions from every corner of your organization.

So, going forward, the question for KirkWood is – do we mean what we say, or, maybe better put, will we put in the work to become what we've said we want to become?

Starting the journey is the easy part. Pausing along the way to reflect and catch our breath is also invigorating. It's the in-between time, the actual walking of the path before us, that proves difficult. It is, after all, the hard road that leads to divine life, not the wide, easy one (Matthew 7.13-14).

God is out ahead of us, calling us into His future for us.

Let's go together, however steep the climb might be at times.

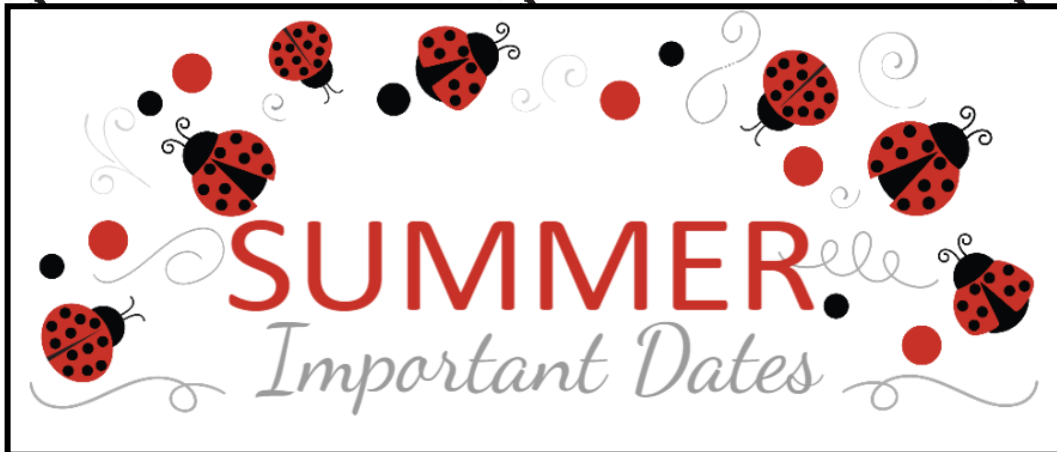
It's worth it.

Jesus is worth it.

In it with you for God's good Kingdom,

Pastor Chris





JUNE

JULY

June 8 – Walking Group at 9:00AM
(Noland Trail)

June 9 – H.O.P.E. Offering

June 13 - Feeding the Homeless at
10:00AM (First Presbyterian Hampton)

June 19 – Juneteenth Holiday (Church
Office Closed)

June 21 – Peninsula Pilots Baseball Game
at 7:00PM

July 4 – Independence Day (Church Office
Closed)

July 7 – Food Pantry Collection

July 14 – H.O.P.E. Offering



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Join In and Join Others

Congregational Care

Peninsula Pilots Game: On Friday, June 21st at 7:00 PM, we will be visiting War Memorial Stadium in Hampton to see the Peninsula Pilots baseball team take on the Tri-City Chili Peppers. It's a great family event with very reasonable tickets & concessions, and parking is free! For those who would prefer to be chauffeured, the KirkWood van will be available and leaving from the KirkWood parking lot at 6:00 PM (Van sign-up in Narthex. First come, first served).

Brunch at the Fort: Join us at the home of Lew and Mary Goodman inside the moat at Ft Monroe at 11:00 AM on Saturday, August 3rd, for the fourth annual "Brunch at the Fort". Come enjoy a relaxing meal on their wrap-around porch overlooking the former parade field. For those looking for some beach time, the house is only a hundred yards give or take from Monroe's Outlook Beach.

KirkWood Dining Partners: On summer break until September.

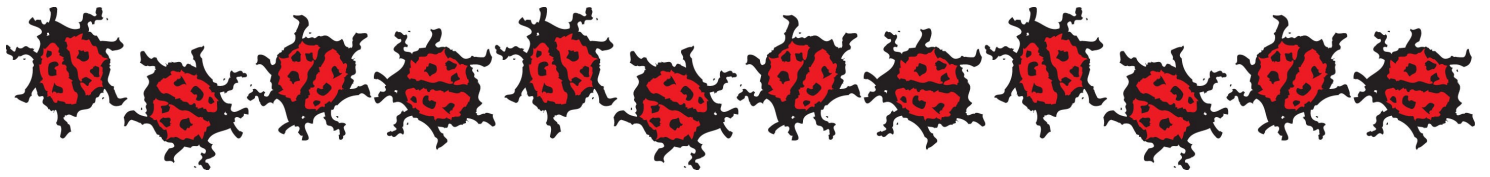
KirkWood Silver: The Silver folks will be meeting in June and July, and then taking a break in August (see separate article).

KirkWood Walking Group: The Walking Group will be tackling the Noland Trail on Saturday, June 8th, at 9:00 AM. The group will be on summer break for July and August.

Other Upcoming Events: SAVE THE DATE: On Sunday, September 8th, after the worship service, Congregational Care will host the annual church picnic/BBQ, location to be announced.

Meals Support: If due to illness, hospitalization, or other circumstances you require assistance in providing meals for yourself or family, Congregational Care is here to help. We can arrange for volunteers to provide up to three meals at 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).

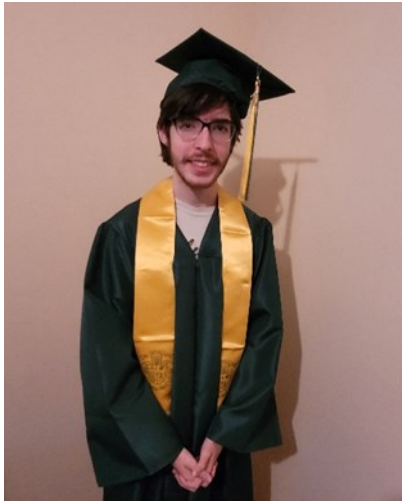
Unless otherwise noted, the point of contact for these items/events is Lew Goodman (757-375-7520).



Our High School Graduates

Isabel Lewis

Isabel graduates from Grafton High School. She will attend James Madison University with a double major in Journalism in the School of Media Arts and Design (SMAD) and Communications.



David Mitchell

David Mitchell Jr. graduates from Bethel High School. He hopes to start Virginia Peninsula Community College in the fall.

Julia Scott

Julia graduates from Grafton High School and New Horizons Technical Center. In the fall, she will attend Shippensburg University in Pennsylvania and major in Software Engineering.





Our College Graduates



Caitlyn Cason

Caitlyn graduated May 10th with her PharmD from Virginia Commonwealth University School of Pharmacy and will go through her hooding ceremony.

Next: Residency at Mission Hospital in Asheville, NC.

Allyson Clark

Allyson (granddaughter of Steve & Gloria Griffin) graduated summa cum laude from James Madison University with a B.S. in Kinesiology.

Next: She'll attend VCU to get her Doctorate in Physical Therapy.

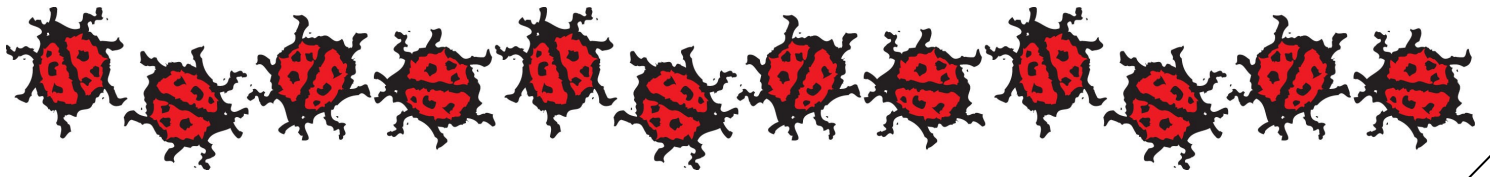


Jordan Leigh Woodman

Jordan graduated Magna Cum Laude December 16th, 2023 from Old Dominion University with a Bachelor of Science in Biology.

She currently teaches 7th grade Science at Yorktown Middle School.





Out and About

Stewardship & Congregational Care

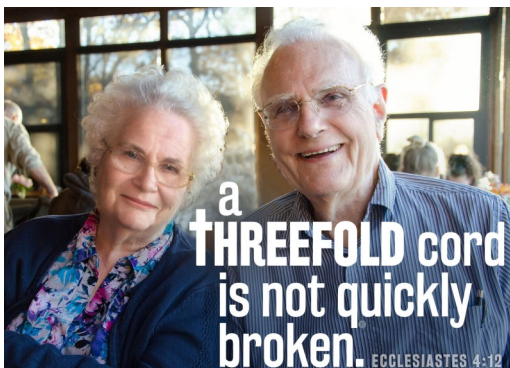
THEY'RE HERE!

Would you like a flock of flamingos to appear in a loved one's yard for 2 nights? Would you like insurance so that a loved one doesn't get you? Well then please head to the fellowship hall after Sunday service and see April Mershon. She can help you with either or both options! Details on the bulletin board near the side entrance or ask April in the fellowship hall. Cash, checks, and credit cards accepted.



KirkWood Silver has had some really delightful lunches out recently! In April, we enjoyed delicious food and delightful conversation at The Vineyards. In May, we had another scrumptious meal and superb fellowship at Park Lane. We were quite pleased to have some of our new friends from LaCrosse Presbyterian join us for both lunches (and for BINGO in March)!

Let's see if we can go "three for three" when we meet at P. F. Chang's in Tech Center on June 20th, at 11:30 AM. If there is interest, the van can transport those who prefer not to drive. Sign up beginning June 2nd. Contact Bill or Carolyn Gilbert at 757-868-8953 or poqbill@verizon.net.



It's becoming a summertime tradition for KirkWood Silver to rally at one of the coolest places around, Bean's Ice Cream in Poquoson! This summer, July 18th is the date, and 1:00 PM is the time to arrive! If the weather is mild enough, we can enjoy outdoor "lickin'" and a couple rounds of cornhole! NO SIGN UP NEEDED! Just come and enjoy!



KirkWood Garden Tending

Property & Facilities

To add both beauty and faithful witness to the joy and stewardship responsibility that we have for God's creation, we continue to develop the native plantings on the KirkWood property.

The KirkWood Native Tree Trail is now in place, (over 240 individual trees mapped and about 80 trees tagged with arboretum tags with QR codes for species-specific information) with additional representative native species ready to be planted in June. Do take a pleasant walk or two on the trail and get to know these neighbors, also share it with your human neighbors.



Plants for two new beds arrived for installation beginning over Memorial Day. Both consist of at least 100 native perennial plants that provide multi-season color, support local pollinators, and once established will fare quite well long-term in normal Tidewater climate. The first bed consists of sun-loving plants arrayed around the new KirkWood sign on Hampton Hwy. The second bed consists of shade-loving plants in a bed adjoining Wee KirkWood, on the Tree Trail.

Once planted, both beds and the newly planted trees, will need to be watered twice weekly through mid-October this year. This will assure that they get well established. Subsequently, they should only need watering in real draught conditions.

Charlie Reece is setting up a Sat/Sun and Wed/Thurs watering schedule each week. This requires pulling the long hose to each bed and then rewinding it when done. Help is needed. If you want to help, contact Charlie (dna-srf@verizon.net) to sign up for dates when you are game. We'll skip watering days if an inch or more of rain has fallen in the previous two days.

Share the joy of garden-tending, perhaps get to know some new friends that were here long before us, and share what you learn along the way with friends & neighbors as simple acts of responsible stewardship.



48 for Our Friend!

Mission

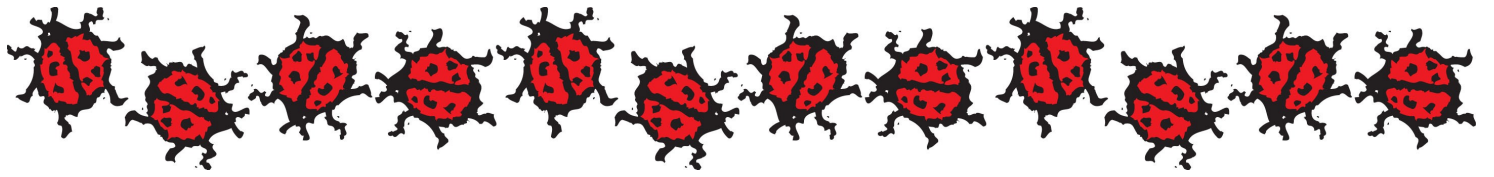
Our May Blood Drive was held in memory of Steve Hudgins and highlighted the ongoing need for all blood types and the all too often shortage of much needed blood for medical needs.

The turnout was great. We had a goal of 47 units and collected 48! Our Red Cross team was fantastic. We only had a few open appointments, but still had several walk-ins and the team was able to get them worked in. There were 4 double units collected, which is a few more than our usual. Even with 7 deferred for low iron levels and two high Blood Pressures or other reasons, we still exceeded our goal. I cannot thank the community and my Kirkwood Family enough for coming out to honor and remember Steve. We had a bulletin board filled with friends and family that at some point in their lives, received a blood transfusion. Without the generosity of blood donors, many of these individuals may not have survived.

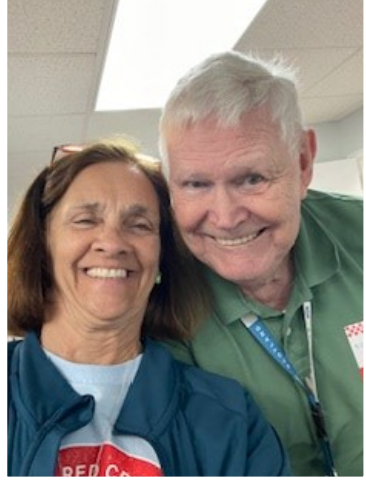
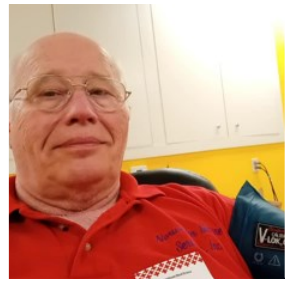
Our fabulous Kirkwood cooks and bakers fed us from a taco bar and some really yummy desserts. Thank you to Donna Craig for coordinating and getting the food set up at every drive.

TIME CHANGE: All future drive on will be scheduled from 1:00 to 6:00 PM.

Our remaining 2024 dates are August 15th and November 21st, both Thursdays from 1:00-6:00 PM, in the fellowship hall. The schedules for the August drive is open and you can go online to schedule your appointments or contact Cathy Hudgins (hudgepudge@aol.com) to make your appointment for you. You can go to www.redcrossblood.org and in the upper right corner you can enter the sponsor code: KirkwoodPC to take you to the Kirkwood page. If you would like to inquire about helping at the drives or with donating food or funds to defray the cost of the food during the drives, please contact Cathy at the email above.



Memories At & From the May Blood Drive





From a KirkWood Kitchen...

Congregational Care

Following the success of our International Dinner, some attendees requested a copy of one of the delicious recipes. It is included below, but also sparked the idea of sharing a requested or favorite recipe of a KirkWoodian each month.

The inaugural recipe comes from Kathy Fore. It is the Mexican Casserole she brought to the dinner.

Mexican Casserole

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| 1 ½ lbs. ground beef | 8 oz. grated cheddar cheese |
| 1 medium onion, chopped | ½ tsp oregano |
| 1 can cream of chicken soup | ½ tsp cumin |
| 1 10 oz. can tomatoes with green chilies | 1 tsp garlic powder |
| 1 10 oz. can enchilada sauce | ½ tsp chili powder |
| 1 3.8 oz. can sliced (or diced) black olives (drained) | 6 large flour tortillas |
| 1 4.5 oz. can chopped green chilies | |
| 1 cup grated Jack cheese | |

Brown ground beef. Drain off fat. Combine beef with onion, soup, tomatoes w/ green chilies, enchilada sauce, black olives, green chilies, cheddar cheese, and spices.

Tear 3 tortillas into pieces and place in the bottom of an 11x7x2 inch baking dish (or lasagna pan). Spread half of the meat mixture over tortillas. Tear remaining tortillas and place over meat mixture. Top with the remaining meat mixture. Sprinkle with Jack cheese. Bake at 325 degrees for about 30 minutes.



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