

# KirkWood Kronicle

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

June 2021

## A Message from our Pastor Chris Shearer



On this, Pentecost Sunday 2021, I wanted to share with you a wonderful, short article about the Holy Spirit in our lives, entitled “An Infusion of the Holy Spirit” (by James Bryan Smith), posted at [renovare.org](http://renovare.org):



“The Holy Spirit dwells in the children of God ... As physical beings we find it easy to focus on the material — the things we can see and touch. We need food to live and we enjoy eating. Our bodies get cold so we buy clothes. When we hit our thumb with a hammer, it hurts until we take a painkiller.

Because we are sentient beings, everything we know about ourselves, other people, and our world comes through our senses. We are matter ourselves, so we perceive matter easily.

This presents a huge problem when we start exploring the world of the spirit. We cannot smell, taste, touch, see, or hear the spiritual, so we hesitate to believe it is real. We relegate it to a special category, a ‘pigeonhole,’ allowing it out only on special ‘holy’ days or when we have a specific need (such as a need for physical healing).

The Holy Spirit helps us overcome this disunity by promoting the harmony of the physical and the spiritual. At their creation, Adam and Eve’s bodies and spirits were in perfect harmony.

But at the fall, their bodies took charge and started warring with their spirits. The apostle Paul clearly describes this problem when he exclaims, ‘For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate’ (Rom. 7:15b).



### **KirkWood Presbyterian Church**

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**Worship:** Sundays, 9:30 and 11 a.m. Our 9:30 service is available live and on demand via YouTube, accessible through KirkWood’s home page and our YouTube channel.

**Sunday School:** KirkWood offers fresh resources for individual, family, and group nurturing. Please visit our website for details.





In his book *Miracles*, C. S. Lewis describes this condition as ‘estrangement’ and envisions a day ‘when nature and Spirit are fully harmonized — when Spirit rides nature so perfectly that the two together make rather a Centaur than a mounted knight’ (p. 161).

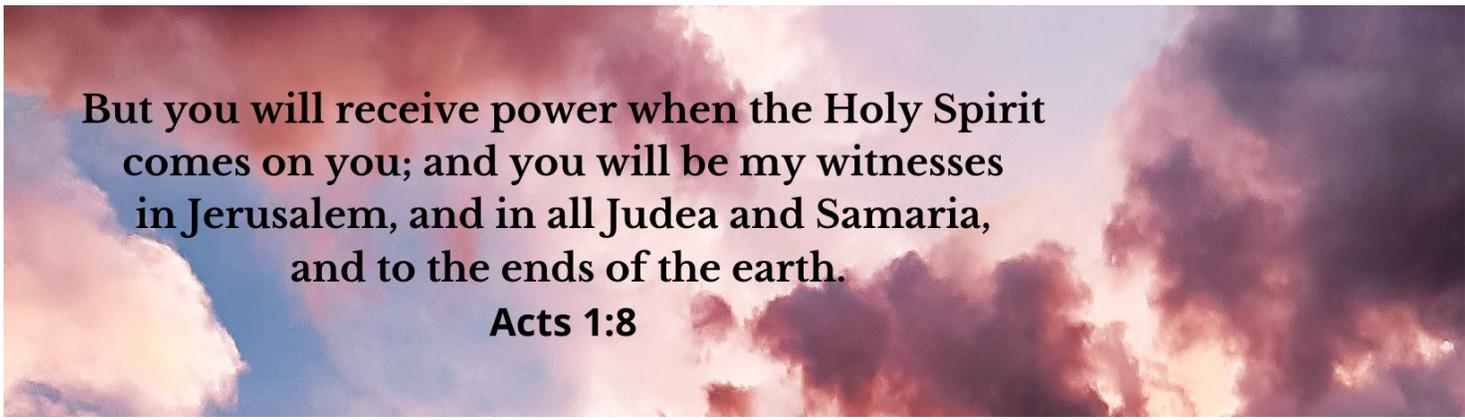
The primary means that the Holy Spirit uses to heal this estrangement is our practice of the spiritual disciplines. When we fast, we are telling our body that matters of the spirit are important. Serving another person puts his or her needs ahead of ours. In simplicity we are freed from the tyranny of always getting our own way. Worship reminds us that we are ‘dust.’ The spiritual disciplines put our bodies in a place where God can work his goodness into us and bring harmony into our lives.

And when our bodies and our spirits start to come back into harmony, we do away with categories. We easily move between religious and everyday activities, treating them as of equal value because God is present in both. And all that we say, all that we do, all that we are becomes a means to make God’s presence real to those around us.

When this happens, we are free to reveal God to the world. Wholly available to God, we become his representative, his emissary, and he does his work through us. Our mind becomes the mind of God helping his children understand his love. Our hands become the hands of Jesus nursing the sick. Our voice becomes the voice of Christ proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God. Our arms become the arms of the Holy Spirit loving the sinner unconditionally. As we let the power and life of God flow through us, we become the person he created us to be and God becomes known to the world through us.”

“...Wholly available to God, we become his representative, his emissary, and he does his work through us. ...”

Warmly, Chris



**But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.**

**Acts 1:8**

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## June Special Dates/Upcoming Events

June 5 — Food Collection Drive-By

June 14 — Flag Day

June 20 — Father's Day, First day of summer



# MAY SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

## Session

1. The most extensive discussion was around how to begin relaxing our COVID safety protocols in a way that's best for the entirety of the KW family, those who are still cautious about the virus and those who feel more free. For the next four weeks, here's what will happen:
  - a) Beginning on May 30, we'll reintroduce congregational singing, to start one song toward the end of the services,
  - b) on June 13, we'll put the pews back in their normal spots, and we'll stop with any social distancing measures, and
  - c) we'd ask all who attend in-person worship to continue wearing masks. Session will reevaluate this plan of action at its June meeting, and throughout the summer.
2. The church van usage policy has been updated to coincide with the state's relaxing of its COVID safety guidelines; Session is updating the building usage policy currently also because of how Virginia is loosening its public health measures.
3. We'll be having three church tailgate dinners and "movies on the lawn" planned for the summer: June 25, July 30, and August 27.



# Congratulations are in order!

Youth Update

## High School



**Haley Auche** is graduating from York High School with honors. She's headed to Liberty University in August where she plans to major in pediatric nursing.



**Lena Cason** is graduating from Poquoson High School and heading to VCU School of Arts to major in photography/film studies and minor in creative writing. Lena is considering a career as an author and/or photographer.



**Emma Kelly** is graduating from Tabb High after completing four years with York County's School of the Arts' literature program. She has enlisted in the Army and leaves for basic training shortly after graduation.



**John Linehan** is graduating from Grafton High School. He will attend Virginia Tech this fall, planning to major in engineering. His dream is to design shoes for running.



**Madelin Pittman** is graduating from Tabb High School. She'll attend VCU, hoping to pursue a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree with a focus in performing arts. She plans to have a career in theater arts.



## Higher Education

### CELEBRATE



**Josh Heldreth** is graduating from Virginia Tech with a Bachelor of Science in mathematics and a minor in computer programming. Josh will begin work for RPC Industries on June 1.

**Brenden Kibler** graduated from CNU on May 15 with a Master's Degree of Arts in teaching. He intends to teach music in the Hampton Roads area.

# Linus Group Celebrates Annual Collection

## Outreach

Recently, KirkWood's Linus Group gathered their year-long knitting, crocheting and quilting projects to donate to Project Linus. This creative group made a total of 84 blankets and afghans, nine quilts, and two baby bonnets. The handmade creations are sent to the area Project Linus Coordinator to distribute to traumatized children from birth to teens.

You don't have to knit, crochet or sew to join the group. They currently meet outdoors on Wednesdays between 11 a.m. and noon and beyond. Bring a chair and join the fun!



# WOW VBS—All We Need is Love

Christian Education



WOW VBS teaches about Mark 12:30-31 from the comfort of your own home at a schedule that works best for you. Join [www.youtube.com/faithkidztv](http://www.youtube.com/faithkidztv) on June 5 for a 40-minute kick-off. It runs at the beginning of each hour.

After that there will be four days of on-demand VBS lessons. Go to <https://wowvbs.live/> for more information.



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	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4
Lesson Title	Love the Lord with all your heart.	Love the Lord with all your soul.	Love the Lord with all your mind.	Love the Lord with all your strength.
From God's Heart to Ours	Paul & Silas Praise God in prison Acts 16:16-40	Zacchaeus Follows Jesus Luke 19:1-10	Jesus as a Boy in the Temple Luke 2:41-52	Healing the Paralyzed Friend Mark 2:1-12
Word from God's Heart	I will be glad and rejoice in your love. Ps 31:7 NIV	We love because he first loved us. 1 John 4:19 NIV	I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go. Ps 32:8 NIV	A friend loves at all times. Proverbs 17:17 NIV
Key Word	Praise	Follow	Learn	Serve
Heart of the Lesson	Love Jesus with my praise.	Love Jesus with my life.	Love Jesus with my mind.	Love Jesus with my hands and feet.
Shout Out!	Love to Praise!	Love to Follow!	Love to Learn!	Love to Serve!



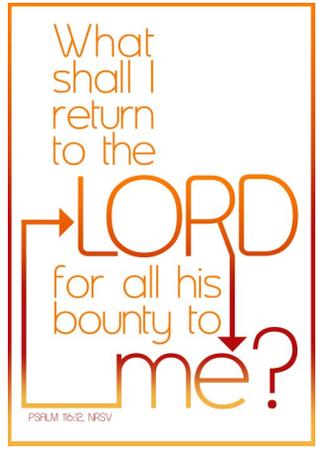
# Many Ways to Support Kirkwood

## Stewardship

Every month the Stewardship Committee reminds you to support KirkWood with your time, talent, and treasure because we are taking care of each other, our church, and the world. Last month we wrote about taking care of our environment. In January and February, we wrote about ways to donate monetarily to the church. But what about that word TIME?

Everyone has 168 hours every week to spend. If you spend one hour a week, on Sunday morning in a worship service, you are giving less than 1 percent (0.56%) of your weekly time to the church and the Lord. How do you donate time to the church?

Some ideas on how to increase your percentage: Everyday praying and reading scripture is a wonderful way to begin. You could also donate time to any of the many church activities. Kirk Reno wrote to everyone about the 15 people who donated time to assist with the renovation of the inside of the church, Jeannine Scott reported about the time donated to the children’s ministry. Each year 50 or more adults are involved with Vacation Bible School to be certain that all children in attendance see the love of Jesus. Consider the numbers of people needed, with the hundreds of hours required, in the Pumpkin Patch operation. Whenever the church holds a blood drive, more than the donors of the over 30 pints of blood are needed to assist in the smooth function of that event. Every time the Congregational Care Committee has an event there are many people behind the scenes helping with projects. Collection of food and money for the Food Bank are needed once a month. Every week the Meals for Veterans program needs four people to deliver the meals and at least four others to prepare the food. Each week during the summer the grass cutting teams make certain the outside of our church is well maintained. During the fall, winter, and spring, our Sunday School teachers are teaching GOD’s word to children and teenagers. Small groups and adult Sunday School meet weekly to study. This list goes on and on and on.



But why are there so many who donate their time to the church? The easiest explanation is that they believe that they are spreading the love of Christ to all who come in contact with the various programs within the church. Some believe that GOD requires us to give of our time to further His kingdom on earth by showing His love to all. Some are remembering the promise





they made to Kirkwood when they became a member of the church. In the Book of Order 2019-2021 on page 21 in the section titled *The Ministry of Members (G-1.03040)*, 12 areas for involvement of the life of the church are listed. One of the areas is to support the ministry of the church through the giving of money, time, and talents. Your time is so important. Please remember to donate your time to GOD and your church.

Membership in the Church of Jesus Christ is a joy and a privilege. It is a commitment to participate in Christ's mission. A faithful member bears witness to God's love and grace and promises to be involved responsibly in the ministry of Christ's Church. Such involvement includes proclaiming the good news in word and deed, taking part in the common life and worship of a congregation, lifting one another up in prayer, mutual concern, and active support, and studying Scripture and the issues of Christian faith and life.

Stewardship is more than managing your money. Stewardship is your time, your talent, and your treasure.

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## BLOOD DRIVE

### Outreach

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The second Red Cross Blood Drive of 2021 was held at the church on Thursday, May 20. All COVID protocols were followed during the event. We had 43 presenting donors and were able to collect 38 pints of blood. Four donors gave "Power Red" donations, which is two units of blood. We had seven deferrals — donors unable to give for reasons such as low iron or blood pressures above an acceptable level, and one donor unable to finish in the required time. The Red Cross had a goal for us of 37 pints, which we exceeded by one!

Thank you to all who came out to donate or volunteer their time to help make our drives run so smoothly and successfully. We were still unable to serve a meal, but are hoping to resume that ministry later in 2021.

**Effective, May 21, 2021, the Red Cross no longer requires vaccinated donors and staff to wear face masks.** Unvaccinated individuals will still be asked to wear a face covering. The decision for our August drive as far as face masks will be left up to our Session when the drive is closer. **Our remaining 2021 dates (all Thursdays) are: August 19 and November 18. Please mark your calendars.** If you have questions or would like to know how you can help during future drives, please contact Cathy Hudgins.



**American  
Red Cross**

*Thank you!*



## Kirkwood

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Sponsor Group

5/20/2021

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Date of Drive

43

Total Number of Donors

1

First Time Donors

38

Units Collected

114

Potential Number of Lives Saved

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

*KirkWood Presbyterian Church*  
*A place to Discover and Worship Jesus Christ*



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