

KirkWood Kronicle

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

June-July 2022

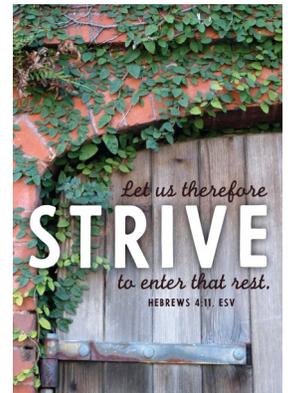


KirkWood Family,

This month, I wanted to pass along some of the insight I gained from my recent trip down to Montreat, NC, and the Next Church 2022 conference. The central theme this year was rest and restoration. We explored this via two keynote presentations/sermons per day, plus small group discussion.

Here's what "stuck" for me about rest...see if it does for you:

- 1) Rest is trust; it's me saying to God that I am not as necessary as He is, and that I can trust Him to do what often I try to do without or for Him. Intentional periods of disengagement and rest from our ministry is essential for this reason, if no other. Rest then is a key way we stay humble, deflating our delusions of indispensability.
- 2) Rest is gratitude, our way of saying "thank you" to God for the gift of who we are. As the speaker put it, to not rest is like taking the farm-raised steak given to you by God, and throwing it away while God watches. To not rest grieves God as much as it exhausts us. To not rest is to devalue your own worth in God's eyes.
- 3) Rest is stewardship of yourself, and of your creative potential. Many of the opportunities we've missed are because we were too tired to see them. A key factor that restricts our development and maturation is not resting.



KirkWood Presbyterian Church

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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. Nursery care is available during worship.

Summer Sunday School: Sundays 8 a.m. (teens and adults) – June 12-July 24. Please visit our website for information on additional resources for individual, family, and group nurturing.



- 4) Rest as resistance to a culture, and sometimes a church culture, that treats people as commodities or according to their productivity. Little in 2022 America is more revolutionary than choosing a life and pace that isn't overwhelmingly stressed and painfully exhausted.
- 5) Rest is a communal commitment. The "sabbath" in the Old Testament was a command made to a people, not just individual persons: Israel was to band together and help one another obey. As the people of God now, our churches ought to do the same: we need to guard each other's time and energy, we need to have appropriate and limited expectations, we ought not ask too much or wear too many hats, and we should commit together to seasons of intentional congregational rest and recuperation.
- 6) Rest can be privilege, meaning many simply can't have meaningful rest due to systemic issues, e.g. poverty, low wages, etc. If you've been able to carve out recreation and rest for yourself and your family, remember that not everyone can. A creative way for a church to express neighborly love is to provide ways for your community to rest, even if on the church's dime. One such congregation has bought a piece of land and created a camping site/park; another provides free babysitting services for parents.

Praying for your rest – and mine,
Pastor Chris



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Special Dates and Upcoming Events

- June 5 – Pentecost, Food Pantry Collection
- June 12 – Trinity Sunday, Graduate Recognition Sunday, H.O.P.E. Offering
- June 14 – Flag Day
- June 19 – Father's Day
- June 21 – First day of summer
- July 3 – Food Pantry Collection
- July 4 – U.S. Independence Day (Church Office Closed)
- July 10 – H.O.P.E. Offering



Congregational Care Roundup

Congregational Care

Thanks to all who helped make our May 22nd “Welcome Back from You Know What” Spring Picnic a great success! Here’s a look ahead:



- ◆ **KirkWood Dining Partners:** The Dining Partners are breaking for summer and will resume in September. The point of contact is Cindy Williamson, cwillic114@gmail.com.
- ◆ **KirkWood Silver:** KirkWood Silver had a great time in May honing their putting skills at Play-A-Round Family Fun Center. On Saturday, June 18, the group will be attending “Aida” in Williamsburg (see expanded article, page 4). There are no events planned for July and August. The point of contact is Wanda Birch, wandjbirch@verizon.net.
- ◆ **Brunch at the Fort:** On a date to be determine in July or August, the CC Committee will host a brunch at the home of Lew and Mary Goodman on Fort Monroe. Stay tuned for details.
- ◆ **Meals Support and Visitation:** As always, if you or a loved one needs temporary help with meals for any reason or would like someone from the church to visit you or a family member, please let the church office know. The CC committee is here to assist you.

Unless otherwise noted, the point of contact for these items/events is Lew Goodman, lewandmary1@gmail.com.

Another Amazing Blood Drive

Mission

Our second 2022 Red Cross Blood Drive was held at the church on Thursday, May 19. We had 30 presenting donors and collected 32 pints of blood. 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. We were still unable to serve a meal, but are hoping to resume that ministry at our August 18 drive.





Cathy Hudgins is looking for someone to coordinate the meal, which involves setting a menu and getting volunteers to donate the food. If you would be interested in helping out, please contact Cathy to discuss it further.



Our remaining 2022 dates are August 18 and November 17. Please mark your calendars. If you would like to make your appointment for the August drive, the drive is open for scheduling at www.redcrossblood.org, sponsor code KIRKWOODPC.

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.

KirkWood Silver Planning for Fall Fun

Congregational Care



What a delightful time KirkWood Silver folks had at Play-A-Round mini-golf on Thursday, May 19! Eighteen of us played on the two fun (but challenging) courses. Cathy Kibler won the prize for the first hole-in-one, and Mike Fore won the prize for the winning score!

REMINDERS for those who have purchased tickets to “Aida” in Williamsburg on June 18: MASKS ARE REQUIRED IN THE BUILDING.

The play begins at 2 p.m. Gloria and Steve Griffin will meet you there to tell you where our group will be seated. We don’t have actual tickets but do have 25 reserved seats. If you want to ride in the van, you need to let Gloria Griffin know and meet at the church at 12:45 to load up.

KirkWood Silver will take a break in July and August. Our next event will be in September. Ideas are always welcomed! The planning team will meet on Thursday, July 14, 11 a.m., at the church. You are welcome to come and help us put together more great events!

Have a cool, relaxing, safe summer!



Meet our New Members

Outreach

Recently, KirkWood welcomed Carla Reuhl, Marge Kleeman and Kerry and Catherine Gough into our church family. Please read a bit about them, introduce yourself and get to know them, if you haven't yet.



Carla Reuhl has five children and 11 grandkids. Carla taught high school language for 40 years and now tutors elementary mathematics. She came to this area with her daughter and son-in-law who are both in the Air Force. Her 10-year-old granddaughter loves to have sleepovers with her grandmother. Carla will be taking a trip to Maine in June for her grandson's high school graduation.

Marge Kleeman moved to the Tabb area from Connecticut about two years ago to be near family after the death of her husband. She has close ties to her stepson and daughter-in-law who encouraged the move and found her a place to live nearby to their two children and six grandchildren. They enjoy lots of family time, including lunch together every Sunday.

Marge is active at KirkWood and in the community, participating in our Linus group and dining out group, volunteering at the York County Bargain Box, and going to classes at the YMCA. She watched us online during the shutdown, but is happy to be finally attending in person, enjoying KirkWood's warm friendliness and our pastor's inspiring sermons.

Kerry Gough is an Air Force brat who moved to Poquoson when he was 10. He is a NASA engineer, loves to golf, and sings with the Praise Team. **Catherine Gough** came to the Tidewater area from Kentucky and has taught reading in Newport News for 34 years. Surprisingly, Catherine's main hobby is reading, and she also plays in the Bell Choir. The Goughs are Disney fans and have visited Disney at least 10 times. They have been married 31 years and have two grown children: Jerry and Emily. The Goughs found KirkWood from our website and our contemporary music.



Remember our Neighbors in Need

Mission

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 Teen Challenge, Menchville House, and our sister church, CPK Mikondo, for their Feeding Program in Congo.

Love Big Learning & More

Children’s Ministry



The children had a **lovely** time following along with the **Love Big** sermon series. The big red heart was in our classroom all month. It was plain red on one side and filled with examples of love on the other side. Each week, the children added who they loved or how they expressed their love. We made cards, painted hearts, talked about helping others – near and far – as well as looked into future goals.

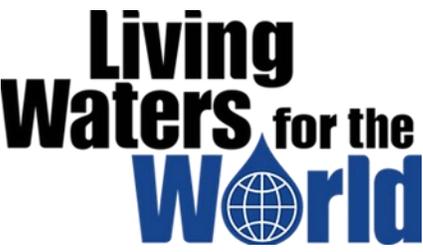




Fun during Summer Months

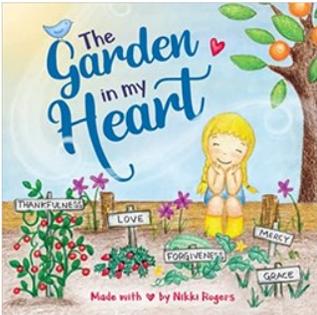
Although KirkWood will not host a weeklong VBS, there is still so much to do!

- ◇ GLORY time (during worship) will continue all summer. It is a time for children to hear a message geared to their level with activities to engage their curiosity and provide an outlet for their praise. Children older than 2nd grade tend to find the activities too preschool and use the worship bags in the sanctuary. A huge thank you to Lacie Harmon and Gloria Crone who have been volunteering their time each week to assist in the nursery and Glory room this year.
- ◇ JUNIOR church (during worship) is looking for teachers. It could be a time during worship for those who are 3-5th grade(ish) and curious about what is going on around them. They would be in a different room during the sermon to learn more about worship elements. Jeannine would provide the lesson plans and materials. It would last about 6-8 weeks and be approximately 20 minutes long.
- ◇ PENTECOST intergenerational activity will be on June 5 after worship. This is not just for children. Every age will be able to experience how the Holy Spirit can transform their lives. A different themed event will be hosted on August 7.

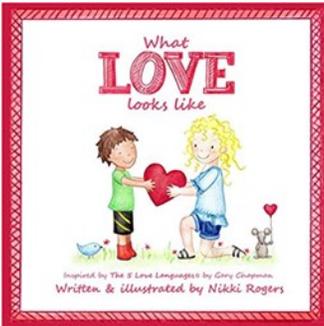


This water-themed VBS for families includes five lessons with a Bible story, mission, craft, snack idea, game, and more. It is free and downloadable for you to do at home as your time allows. Just sign up at: <https://www.livingwatersfortheworld.org/vbs-at-home>

In July, a bag will be available for pick up centered around the theme: CREATE! It will have ideas and supplies to jumpstart your imagination and creativity in music, storytelling, art, and design.



The Garden In My Heart: A book about sowing and reaping and *What LOVE looks like*, both by Nikki Rogers, have been added to the children's library. They were both useful in teaching the kids about LOVE BIG.



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