

KirkWood Kronicle

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

November 2023



KirkWood Family,

I did enough prep work for the sermon on broken trust and how to rebuild it (10/22/23) that there was a lot of great info that I “left on the cutting room floor,” as it were. That is, I couldn’t squeeze it in without preaching 45 minutes – which we all know is a giant no-no...

Instead of letting all that good stuff go to waste, I figured I’d use this newsletter space to share some of the leftover material with you.

First up is from Dr. Andrea Bonior, a clinical psychologist who teaches at Georgetown University. In a piece for “Psychology Today”, she writes about three key components to building or restoring trust in any given relationship – a foundational commitment to respect, suspending doubt, and communicating functionally:

“What’s required is a baseline level of respect as the common denominator in any relationship, whether between a cashier and customer or a mother and son...You must remember that every time you treat someone else in a way that demeans them or violates that basic minimum of dignity and respect, you harm your connection a bit — and make it more difficult for them to trust you over time.”

What goes hand in hand with trust is setting aside your doubts — even if temporarily — and letting the person come through for you... If you ever hope to truly build or rebuild trust, you must be willing to string together some moments of letting the doubt go — or at least suspending it — and seeing if the other person come through for you.”



KirkWood Presbyterian Church

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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



Express your feelings functionally, especially when it's tough...This means that you know the other person will make time to understand your viewpoint, not to shut it down. This entails the maturity of being able to talk...without escalating into shouting, verbally attacking, or shutting down the conversation.”

Second and last, here’s some insight on how to create trust in a group – for us in our church life, this might mean your Sunday School class, small group, Session, or specific ministry team or committee. Consider this list of **trust-demolishing** behaviors, from Nan S. Russell’s book, “Trust Inc. - How to Create a Business Culture That Will Ignite Passion, Engagement, and Innovation,” the opposite of which would be team-building behaviors:

- Focus on your individual "win" without thinking about how it's achieved or its impact on others
- Ignore standards, values, policies, approaches teammates are expected to follow
- Treat your small work issues, needs, or problems as five-alarm fires
- Practice "cordial hypocrisy," that is, pretend to trust and care when you actually don't
- Be unresponsive to requests that aren't of personal interest or importance to you
- Don't follow through on what you say you'll do
- Deflect or explain away input, feedback, or criticism that you don't like
- Speak up when you're against something; remain quiet about what you're for

As I said at the end of the 10/22/23 sermon, of all people, we who are Christians ought to trust more quickly and readily, be trustworthy, and work hard at both building – and rebuilding – trust between ourselves and others. What’s above is yet more guidance on how we can do that together.

With appreciation for you,

Pastor Chris





November 11th - Veterans Day, Memorial Service for Dick LaBarre at 2:00 PM

November 16th - Red Cross Blood Drive 2:00-7:00 PM

November 18th - Quarterly Drive-By Food Drive

November 19th - Pledge Sunday

November 23rd - Thanksgiving Day (Church Office Closed 11/23-24)

November 26th - Christ the King Sunday, Hanging of the Greens at 10:30 AM

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SAVE THE DATE



Spaghetti Dinner
and
Silent Auction

Saturday, January
20th

3:30 PM

KirkWood Fellowship
Hall



What's Going on in November?

Congregational Care

Military Appreciation Sunday! On Sunday, November 12th, we will recognize our active-duty military and veterans during and after our worship service. Please help us in recognizing the contributions they have made and continue to perform in defense of our great nation by wearing red, white, and blue (or uniforms, if desired, by current and former military), and by joining us in celebration of their service in the fellowship hall at 10:30 for cake and ice cream.

KirkWood Silver: The Silver folks will be meeting at Jimmy Da Greek's on Thursday, November 16th at 11:30 AM for lunch. Point of contact is Wanda Birch (757-868-8651).

KirkWood Dining Partners: Feel like some Italian? Join the Dining Partners at Toscana's Ristorante Italiano in Washington Square Shopping Center in Yorktown on Saturday, November 18th at 6:00 PM. Point of contact is Cindy Williamson (757-344-5577).

Other Events: In addition to our monthly Silver and Dining Partner events, we will be celebrating the Christmas season with *Cookies, Carols, and 'A Christmas Carol'* on Sunday, December 10th, at 6:30 PM.

Meals Support: If due to illness, hospitalization, or other circumstances you require assistance in providing meals for yourself or family, we are 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. Point of contact is Wendy Linehan (757-509-8233).

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



Come Along With a KirkWood Group

Congregational Care

KirkWood Silver: Hello to all our KirkWood Silver friends! Sure hope you're all enjoying the cooler weather. Personally, I LOVE Autumn! :)

What's coming? Well, on November 16th, we will be going to lunch at Jimmy da Greek's Deli on US 17 South (in York Co.) I hear the food is great! We will meet at the restaurant at 11:30 AM. Please sign up in the Narthex October 29th through November 12th Bring someone new to KirkWood with you, or invite someone who's never been to our wonderful fellowship events!

Looking ahead to December, we have reservations at Al Fresco Italian Restaurant on Jefferson Avenue on Thursday, December 14th, at noon. This will be a lovely site for celebrating Christmas! Excellent food and Christmassy decor! Look for further announcements in the December Kronicle and in the bulletin. -- Wanda Birch



Walking Group: We will not meet in November. We'll resume on Saturday, December 9th and walk the streets of Colonial Williamsburg to enjoy the Christmas decorations.





An Invitation to Follow “The Giving Path”

Stewardship

Some of you may remember that the back of your Commitment (a.k.a. Pledge) card this year included descriptions of the steps along the Giving Path. You may ask what is the Giving Path? And why does it matter?

The Giving Path is an opportunity to discover the joy of growing in your relationship with God as you experience living generously. It is important for each of us to consider that it is God’s intention that we grow more generous and take bigger steps in our giving as we become more aware of how richly God has blessed us.

In our spiritual journey, as we move closer to Christ, each step draws us closer to a life of generosity and gratitude. Regardless of where you are on the Giving Path, please prayerfully consider where God wants you to be in your giving.

Generosity is an invitation into a deeper relationship with God based on faith and trust.

First Time Giver

Begin to give, any amount and any frequency. As we begin the Giving Path journey, we begin to give to God out of a love and understanding of who God is in our life.

Intentional Giver

Plan to give a percentage of your income for the year. With growth in our discipleship, we begin to plan for the year what percentage of our income we want to give out of the blessings we have received.





Your annual commitment to KirkWood enables us to worship God each Sunday morning, visit members and friends in the hospital and nursing homes, reach out with food and support to the most vulnerable on the Peninsula and around the world, and teach children from our congregation. KirkWood also partners with several agencies such as PORT, York-Poquoson Social Services, LINK, Thrive Peninsula and others to build wheelchair ramps, provide food and reach out to at risk youth and families.

Our [online giving portal](#) is one way to enable people to give their offering intentionally, proportionally, and faithfully all year long. You can set up a direct debit program that allows you to support your church through an automatic monthly withdrawal from your bank account or create a recurring (monthly, weekly, etc.) credit card charge. Using the online portal helps KirkWood by increasing the regularity of offerings, reducing the seasonal low giving periods, and is convenient for those worshipping virtually.

How we use our resources is primarily a spiritual issue, not a financial one. God does not need our money; rather, we need to give it as an act of gratitude and trust. Prayerfully consider how you will support KirkWood and its ministries in the coming year.

Growing Giver

Increase your percentage of income moving toward a tithe. As we grow in our learning and giving our time and talents, we may be moved to increase the percentage.

Tither

Give the Biblical tithe (10% of your gross income). The word “tithe” simply means 10 percent. Tithing is the principle of putting God first in our lives and giving the first 10 percent of our income.

Extravagant Giver

Go beyond the tithes. We soon discover a new joy, and our lives are transformed because of our love for God and our relationship with Jesus Christ. This giving becomes an offering out of a deeper gratitude and generosity.



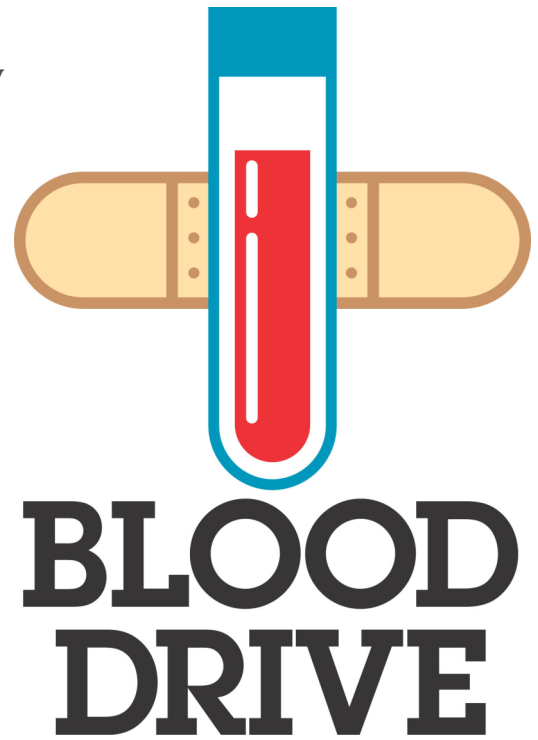
Last 2023 Blood Drive: November 16

Mission

BLOOD DRIVE-Our next and final 2023 Kirkwood Blood Drive is scheduled for **THURSDAY, November 16th, from 2-7 in the fellowship hall.** Donors can schedule their appointments by going on line to www.redcrossblood.org; sponsor code KirkwoodPC. All donors are encouraged to complete the RAPIDPASS on the day of the drive. RAPID PASS lets you do the prescreen process from your laptop, desk top computer or cell phone and can save you as much as 15-20 minutes when you get to the drive. The Red Cross will send a link to your email the day of the drive. If you have questions or would like to inquire as to how you can help at upcoming drives, please contact Cathy Hudgins, 757-869-2645 or hudgepudge@aol.com. **We are looking for a couple of volunteers to help with registration and in the canteen during the drive.** If you need assistance making your appointment, contact Cathy. There is an urgent need for all types of blood now and always. Please prayerfully consider coming out and donating to this lifesaving need.

The Red Cross has lifted the ban for those that served overseas during the 80's. This is no longer a permanent deferral, so please, if you can, donate.

Donna Craig will be coordinating the food for our drives. If you would like to donate any food items or desserts, or help with a monetary donation to defray the cost, contact Donna (donnacraig029@gmail.com)



We hope to have the 2024 drive dates by the next Kronicle publishing.



Options to Help Others

Missions

Thank You to all KirkWood for your continued support of our Little Free Food Pantry. It is nestled nicely into its new location in the circle under the trees and is being used regularly. It is a joy to see it in use and wonderful to see all the items being dropped in the bin in the Narthex. Susan Seay, susanseay@hotmail.com, is our main point of contact for all questions related to needs for the pantry. Please reach out to her with any questions!

If you are interested in helping us monitor and organize the Pantry, the Mission Committee would welcome your help. We have a SignUp Genius or you can additionally contact Lisa Woodman or Lisa Nickerson (lanickers62@gmail.com) and we will help you sign up for some time to help! Monitoring just requires a little bit of time to swing by a few times a week and check on the status and refill with your donations or from supplies from the bin inside the Narthex.

The Mission Committee is sponsoring our next quarterly drive-by food collection on Saturday, November 18th, from 9:00 -11:00 AM in the circle in front of the church. All donated items will be split between our Little Free Food Pantry, St. Luke's Food Closet, and the Peninsula Food Bank. As the weather cools, the need for food, shelter, and clothing increases and this is one way we hope to care for the communities around us.

Please join us on November 8th at 12:30 PM in Room 4 to roll bags for THRIVE. We will show you how (anyone can do it!) and it is also a great time to get to visit with other KirkWoodians you may not know.



Ongoing Care for Others

Missions

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.



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