

A Voice in the Pines

Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines newsletter

Volume XXVIII, Issue 4, April, 2009

The Pastor's Corner

Christ the Lord is Risen Today! Alleluia!

We sing Wesley's wonderful hymn every Easter, for it reflects the joy and celebration of all we hold dear in our faith – that sin and death do not have the last word and that the power of death cannot keep Christ, or us, in the grave. This is certainly something worth celebrating.

The Gospel of Mark tells us, however, that at the tomb of Jesus on that first Easter morning, the witnesses were “seized with fear and amazement and they said nothing to anyone for they were afraid!” (*Mark 16:8*)

While some versions of Mark continue on for another 12 verses, most scholars believe Mark intended his Gospel to end with fear and silence.

Why would Mark want such a strange ending to his Gospel? No doubt this ending bothered others through the years.

The editors of the NRSV and NIV Bibles add footnotes indicating verses 9-20 were most likely later additions by some scribes who felt Mark's Gospel needed sprucing up a little. The other Gospels have a resurrection appearance by Jesus, Why not Mark?

But suppose Mark 16:8 is the ending Mark wanted to his Gospel – not with a celebration but with mystery?

Fear and silence is an appropriate response as they only encounter an empty tomb and a stranger's promise that Christ will see them in Galilee.

These first disciples must still ask the difficult questions about their own safety. If the cross is God's way in the world, what next will be asked of us? Small wonder these first disciples were silent and afraid. They knew, all too well, that the God who raised Jesus is the same God who calls us to follow. Discipleship is a risky venture.

This Easter, you and I will again celebrate the resurrection of our Lord. We will join Christians all over the world in singing and witnessing to God's mighty works. While we are relatively safe here in the Village, we should remember there are still places where our brothers and sisters pay dearly because of their faith.

We should also remember there may be times when we, too, are called to a costly discipleship. Christ still calls us to follow, obey and risk our lives in this needy world. Christ is risen, indeed, and because he is, you and I do not have to be afraid of risking our lives and reputations.

In Christ's service,
Bill Bailey



Sunday Worship Service
10 a.m.

Sunday Discussion Group
8:45 a.m.

Sunday Focus Group
9 a.m.

Saturday Informal Service
5 p.m. - Hoffius Hall

Holy Week Services

Palm Sunday

April 5
Worship Service
8 a.m. and 10 a.m.

Communion
Special Music

Maundy Thursday

Communion
April 9 — 7 p.m.

Easter Sunday

April 12
Worship Service
8 a.m. and 10 a.m.
Kirk Choir

CLERK'S CORNER

The Session experienced light activity during the March meeting. Most notable were:

- A report by the Memorial Committee on the pending completion of the Columbarium in our Memorial Garden and the early sale of the spaces to our membership.
- A report by the Planning and Coordinating Committee on the status of their work on the Kirk's Long Range Plan.
- The Administration Committee reported the addition of a Yahoo Church Calendar and other changes to the Kirk web site. Check it out; it will contain up to date current scheduling.
- Approval to endorse and participate in a Holocaust Memorial Service to be held by the Ministerial Alliance on Thursday, April 23.
- Don Trent reported to the Session his first quarter activities for the Kirk. Reverend Trent Made 35 home visits, 17 nursing home and rehab visits, 20 hospital visits and delivered 10 sermons. I thought you might like to know all that Don does for our membership.
- A report by the Membership Committee regarding comprehensive work to contact members who have relocated sometime in the past and are still on our rolls. The Kirk received and approved written requests from the following individuals for removal from the membership rolls:

- Raymond E. And Mary L. Johnson
- Elsie M. Lambert
- George and Georgia Park
- Shirley Wilcoxon
- Wesley and Jean Hardin

We also received and approved transfer requests for:

- Ann Hessert to First Presbyterian Church of Wausau, Wisconsin
- Meredith Jones to First United Methodist Church of Waxahachie, Texas
- Patricia E. McCluskey to Grande Ave. Presbyterian Church of Sherman, Texas.

The Kirk also lost Beverly Wallace as a result of a tragic accident on March 4, 2009. Please be in prayer for her family.

These changes in membership provide the following church statistics as of March 10:

Members: 511 **Family Units:** 322

Our pastor will be attending a Calvin Conference April 20-22.

Treasurer's Report Month of February:

General Fund receipts exceeded expenditures by \$4,197.

Building Fund receipts exceeded expenditures by \$2,071.

Year to Date:

General Fund receipts exceeded expenditures by \$16,418.

Building Fund expenditures exceeded receipts by \$8,850.

Pledge income is a little under plan and expenditures are also under plan, a "normal" condition for the first two months of the year.

God Bless each of you,
Bob Rosenthal,
Clerk of Session

Community Holy Week Services

Barcelona Road Baptist Church choir, under the direction of Duane Blakley, Minister of Music, will present "The Shadow of the Cross" at 3:30 and 6:30 p.m. Thursday, April 9.

Christ of the Hills UMC will hold their Holy Thursday Communion Service at 5 p.m. April 9 and a Good Friday "Taize" service at 7 p.m. April 10.

Community of Joy Lutheran Church will have "The Living Last Supper" at 6 p.m. Wednesday, April 8 and Holy Thursday Service at 5 p.m., April 9.

Community-wide Ecumenical Good Friday Service will be at 2 p.m., April 10 at Community of Joy Lutheran Church.

Place orders for Easter lilies by Wednesday, April 8

It is tradition to celebrate Christ's resurrection by decorating the sanctuary with Easter lilies. This year you may also choose azaleas or hydrangeas. The cost is \$12 for Easter lilies, \$18 for azaleas and \$14 for hydrangeas.



Order one of these beautiful plants in memory or honor of a loved one. Plants left after the service will be planted in the Memorial Garden. Look for order forms in your Sunday bulletins.

Kirk Men's Association

“Birds of a feather”

Friday, April 17 the Kirk Men's Association and their guests will be treated to a slide presentation of “Birds of the Village” by Village nature photographer, Lu Otto.

Lu has had a life-long interest in photography and his skills are largely self-taught. His subjects are drawn from nature - golf greens and fairways; birds, blooms and butterflies; lakeshore and country creeks, flowering dogwood and more.

Although most of his images relate to the Village, they may include a shot or two from other scenic locations in the United States.

Lu accompanies the visuals with commentary about the birds, where and how he composed the shot, and sometimes questions what a particular bird may be thinking as he snaps the picture. He uses photo sequences that suggest humorous stories about bird behavior.

Lu is a past officer of the Hot Springs Village Camera Club and is the recipient of numerous photo awards including Best of Show in the Hot Springs Village annual photo competition and Honorable Mention by the Arkansas Press Association.

The Men's Association meets at 7:30 a.m. the third Friday each month. Visitors are welcome.

The Kirk to host second annual Community Hymn Sing

Plans for the “2nd Annual Community Hymn Sing” are underway. The Kirk will host the event at 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 12.

A committee of church music leaders in the Village is organizing this non-denominational event for all who enjoy singing (or listening) to familiar hymns.

Those who attended last year's “Sing” will notice a change in the format of the program.

Five church music leaders will be asked to select three of their favorite hymns that will be familiar and a joy to sing. All of the singing will be done by the congregation and soloists. Other musical groups will also be on the program.

To assist in the singing, an attractive hymn booklet will be used along with other visual aids that may be appropriate.

One Great Hour of Sharing

The One Great Hour of Sharing offering will be received Easter Sunday, April 12. Please use the envelope in this newsletter to support this important ministry.

This offering tradition began more than 57 years ago in response to devastation of World War II. It is distributed in three ways: 32 percent goes to the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, 36 percent to Presbyterian Hunger Program and 32 percent To Self Development of People.

“When was it that we saw you a stranger ... ?” (Matthew 25:38)

Jesus reminds us that his charge to us is to take in the stranger. Our gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing reach out to groups who feel powerless and alone, to make them find their own strength in working together. These gifts continue to make a real difference by helping rebuild homes, communities and lives.

As we give these gifts, let us thank God for this opportunity to reach out with love in the name of Christ.

Briefly ...

The Faith and Film class will not meet in April. It will resume at 6:30 p.m. May 8 with the film "Simon Birch."

Tune in to KVRE 92.9 for "Take Five" at 11 a.m., April 6. Tom Hightower will talk about the Kirk.

The Kirk will participate in a Holocaust Remembrance Service to be held at 6 p.m. April 23 at Woodlands. Contact Nell White, 922-0714 or Ray Jacobsmeyer, 922-5860 for further details.

The Christian Faith class, now listed as the **Calvin Study Group** on the calendar each Thursday at 9 a.m., will *not* meet on Maundy Thursday.

The church office will be closed Monday, April 13.

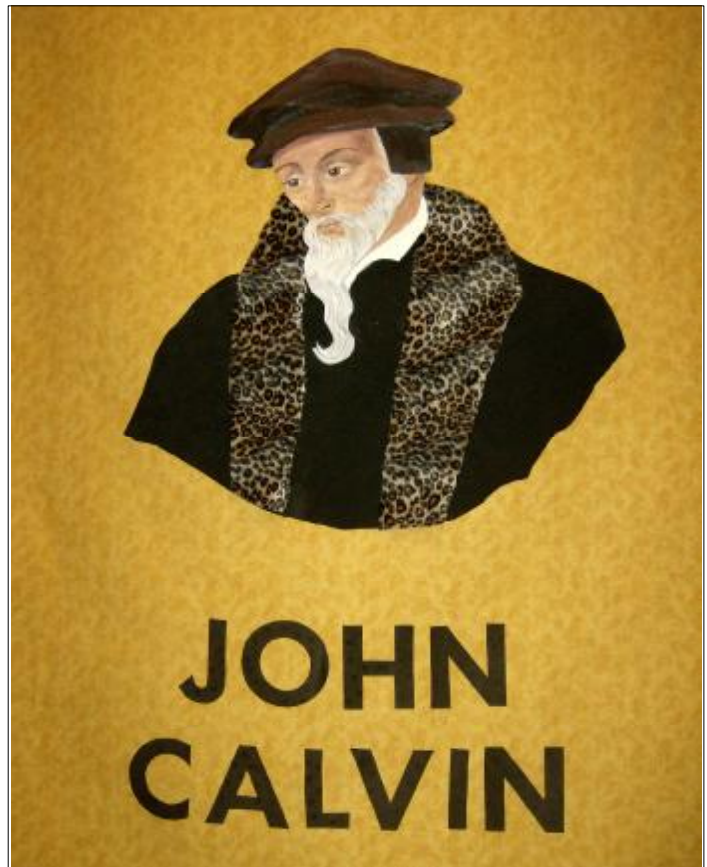
Can you hammer, paint, install windows, hang dry-wall, or just hold a board for the carpenter? The first of May **Habitat for Humanity** will begin building more homes in Shaw Village. Eleven churches and organizations, including Kirk in the Pines, will be helping. If you'd like to join in, watch for information in the Sunday bulletins or call Dottie Isaacson at 922-6419.

Do we have your correct e-mail address? Notices are often sent from the Kirk office to members by e-mail in groups. One incorrect address will abort mail for the entire group. If your address has changed in recent months, call the office, 922-1333, or e-mail kirk1@sbcglobal.net.

Check out the new church calendar on the Kirk Web site. Now you can view activities by the day, week or month at any time. Go to www.kirkinthepines.org and click on "Calendar" then click on the cross icon.

Still saving Cranford's grocery receipts? Regretfully the store is no longer participating in the refund program. Thank you for your past support.

For more Presbytery news visit these Web sites: The Fresh Outlook at www.pres-Outlook.org; the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) at www.pcusa.org; Presbytery of Arkansas's Banner at www.presbyteryofarkansas.org/frmNewsletter.aspx.



The banner of John Calvin, Father of Presbyterianism, made by the Kirk Banner Committee, is on display in the sanctuary in celebration of Calvin's 500th birthday. Artist Beverly Raskin painted the face.

The Rev. Bill Bailey to attend "Calvin Now!" lecture series

Pastor Bill will be attending a colloquium about John Calvin April 20-22 at Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Ga.

Among the speakers will be preacher and president of the seminary, Laura Mendenhall, and plenary speakers professors Brian Gerrish, George Stroup and Martha Moore-Keith.

Workshops will be conducted on subjects relating to Calvin including "Calvin: A Preacher for His Time and for Now," "Calvin on Being a Pastor," "Calvin in Retrospect" and "Calvin's Unmarked Grave."

More than a celebration of the 500th anniversary of the reformer's birth, "Calvin Now!" offers opportunities to consider Calvin as a resource fresh and vital for our practices of Christian faith today.

Kirk Holy Land tour set for March, 2010

The Rev. Don Trent will lead a tour of Israel next March. The trip will include "Everything I've ever wanted to see and experience," he said. Don has toured the Holy Land seven times, the first time being in 1968. Five of the visits were as a tour guide.

The tour will depart at Houston Intercontinental Airport March 1, 2010. Houston was chosen because there are several flights to Tel Aviv with only one stop in Europe. And, in early March, the rainy season is over, the air is clear, and the beautiful flowers of the field are in full bloom.

Don believes every Christian able to travel should visit the Holy Land to gain a new perspective on the Bible and the life of Jesus. He said that in just over one week, they will see virtually every place the Gospels mention – every place Jesus saw and walked.

The Bible, he said, will come alive in a new way. The sites named boggle the mind: The Mount of Olives, the Garden of Gethsemane, and the Upper Room on Mt. Zion. The group will see the birthplace of Jesus in Bethlehem, visit Nazareth, cross the Sea of Galilee, see Jericho, the Dead Sea and Masada – to name only a few of the destinations.

The Lord's Supper will be celebrated at the Garden tomb, led by the Rev. Bill Bailey and Rev. Trent. "I am often asked," Don said, "Isn't it dangerous to go to Israel, with so much going on over there?' I always reply it is not nearly as dangerous as driving to Little Rock. I've never felt safer anywhere in the world than in Israel. There is no personal crime there, at all."

Included in the tour package are flights, accommodations and two meals each day. "The cost of meals and goods is very inexpensive," he said.

To secure accommodations the group should be organized by July, 2009 so early reservations are required. Kirk in the Pines invites members of all churches to share in this ultimate pilgrimage.

Flights to Israel can be arranged for those who live near other gateways. As in the Scotland tour Don and Bill led in 2008, NAWAS International Travel will make the arrangements. "NAWAS has always been more than accommodating," Don said.

He invites you to call him at 501 915-2097 for more information and a brochure. Brochures are also available on the table outside the Kirk office.

Holocaust Remembrance Service

An inter-denominational service will be at 6 p.m. April 23 at Woodlands in remembrance of those who died in the Holocaust. It's been over 60 years since Nazi concentration camps were liberated, and the Holocaust that claimed six million lives came to an end.

Memories of those who fell must not diminish. Holocaust survivors are dwindling in number. They are passing on and taking our first-person link with history.

Sadly 20 percent of all high school students lack any knowledge of the Holocaust. Yom HaShoah yellow candles will be distributed to insure the messages of freedom and tolerance continues to shine. Proceeds from candle sales will be used for future Holocaust educational projects in our community.

The Kirk is one of many Village churches who will participate in the service. All are welcome to attend. For additional details contact Nell White at 922-0714 or Ray Jacobsmeyer at 922-5860.

Presbyterian Cursillo

April 16 — 19, 2009

at

Ferncliff Presbyterian Center

Take advantage of this opportunity to grow spiritually, experience God's unconditional love and grace, renew your relationship with the living Christ, and have a lot of fun doing it!

A renewal experience highly recommended by lay members and pastors representing 40 Arkansas Presbyterian churches.

Applications are available outside the Kirk office, at www.presbyteryofarkansas.org or from the Registrar at cursilloregistrar@hotmail.com.

Columbarium scheduled to open by May

Inurnment niches offered at a reduced price May 1 to June 15

A columbarium is a permanent place for inurnment of ashes following cremation. Cremation is a biblically, theologically and economically sound alternative to the traditional preparation of the body for burial underground. A columbarium provides a dignified above ground repository for the cremains.

The new columbarium in the Kirk's memorial garden will be a beautiful addition. The area provides a peaceful gathering place for families and friends to bid farewell as well as a place to visit, to contemplate, and to remember loved ones.

Fifty-four companion niches will be in the columbarium sitting on the stone wall. Each niche can contain the cremains of two people in two separate urns. The wall was constructed so at least two more sections of 54 units can be added in the future.

Beginning May 1 through June 15 the Memorial Committee will offer a reduced price of \$1,200 for each niche. After June 15 the cost will be \$1,500 each.

You are invited to view a display in the nursery of the artist rendering, the granite and plaque face plates, an urn included in the cost, and to review the agreement.

The list of the most commonly asked questions below will also be available.

Commonly asked questions:

Q. May I exchange my reservation in the garden for a niche in the columbarium?

A. Yes. You must pay the difference in price in full. Any already paid monies will be credited to the cost of the niche.

Q. May I have my spouse's cremains moved from the existing garden to the columbarium?

A. Yes. However, this request must be brought to the Memorial Committee. The urns are not interchangeable and money has already been expended for the urn, plaque and burial costs. The family would be responsible for the transfer of the ashes from the existing urn to the new urn. The difference in cost must be paid in full. Any expenses incurred (cost of old urn and plaque, burial costs, and dirt fill) will be deducted from

the amount paid and the remaining amount will be applied to the columbarium price.

Example: Garden cost paid, \$1,000. Less cost of original urn and plaque of \$250 equals \$750 to be credited to the columbarium purchase. (This example does not include any other expenses that may arise.)

Q. May I put flowers on the columbarium?

A. Only at the time of the inurnment service.

Q. Can my spouse and my ashes be co-mingled?

A. Yes. However, neither the church nor the Memorial Committee will be able to store any ashes. The family is responsible for co-mingling the ashes, putting them in the urns, and bringing them to the church for inurnment.

Q. May I have additional information put on the plaque?

A. No, all plaques are to be uniform.

Q. May I select my spot in the columbarium?

A. No. Locations will be assigned at the time of inurnment.

Q. Is this purchase tax deductible?

A. Please contact your tax advisor for information.

Q. May one person be inurned before the second person prior to the passing of the spouse?

A. Yes. The niche can be opened for the first inurnment and then again for the second inurnment.

— Submitted by Ray Beal,
Memorial Committee moderator

Note:

Gail Salmen will attend the May 4 PW meeting and the May 15 Men's Fellowship meeting to offer information about the columbarium.

All are welcome.

In the Spotlight . . .

Family, Food and Fellowship Go Together

Have you ever thought about why so many of our Kirk Fellowship activities involve eating?

It's because being together in a family means intimate living — and intimacy comes as we break bread together.

Think of growing up in your family. Thanksgiving Day was probably turkey time around the table. And then there was the ham dinner at Easter. Even macaroni and cheese nights meant family time. Today mental health specialists explain how family identity is nurtured and grows in the sharing of meals.

We see in the Bible how the ancient Hebrews gathered as family to celebrate the Passover meal and commemorate their escape from Egypt. We see also how Jesus gathered his disciples in an upper room and said, "Eat this bread and drink this wine in remembrance of me." For almost two thousand years the Christian Church has gathered around a special meal — the Lord's Table — and celebrated Christ's death and resurrection until he comes again.

During the early years of the Kirk, hospitality to newcomers was key to the fast growth of our congregation. Food was often involved! Every Sunday, coffee and homemade cookies were served during a time of fellowship following the worship service. The warmth and friendliness of our Kirk family drew more and more people into the church.

Today the Kirk Fellowship Committee, under the leadership of moderator Ruth Hamilton, continues to provide for special times when all of our Kirk family and guests can share and enjoy being together. The following activities are sponsored by this committee:

- All Kirk Dinner
- Dinners for Six and Eight
- Couples Bridge
- Single Ladies 4X4 Group
- Lenten Soup and Bread Luncheons
- Summer Picnic at Balboa Pavilion
- Kirk Golf Mixer
- Thanksgiving Dinner



Fellowship Committee members are (seated, from left) Gerald Quick, Diana Milligan, moderator Ruth Hamilton, Bob Smith. Back row (from left) are Don Loveday, Edie Loveday, Jane Harless, Judy Stewart, Sharon Gardner, Larry Stewart, and Gary Clark. Not pictured are Carol Clark, Jim and Debbie Cordell, Lowell Gardner, Paul and Joyce Hayek, Jerral Johnson, Evva Russell, Carolyn Starr and Rhonie Zymboly.

The Kirk Shepherd Program also falls under the umbrella of the Fellowship Committee. Through our Shepherd Groups, we enjoy a variety of social activities, but we also get to know and care about one another so we can meet the needs of individuals during times of illness, hospitalization, and grief.

And so we, as the Kirk, gather in worship, in study, in service, and also in fellowship around the table.

Our many food occasions are delicious and fun, but they also contain an element of the holy. We are united as brothers and sisters in Christ, sharing intimacy as a family. Some day we will share together the love feast in the kingdom of God.


If you would like to join those serving on the Fellowship Committee, call Ruth Hamilton at 915-9015 or e-mail her at rah42@suddenlink.net.

— Ruth Hamilton and Madelyn Young

April

<p>The new Kirk calendar is now available on our Web site: www.kirkinthepines.org</p> <p>Click "Calendar," then on the cross, and then weekly or monthly as desired.</p> <p>If you want additional information about a meeting, click on the meeting box.</p>		
<p>5</p> <p><i>Communion Service</i> 8:00 a.m. Worship Service 10:00 a.m. Worship Service</p>	<p>6</p> <p>9:30 PW CT Meeting 1:00 Staff Meeting 6:00 Village Chorale 7:00 AA</p>	<p>7</p> <p>8:00 TOPS 10:00 Men's Cooking Club 10:15 Special Meeting 1:30 Big Band 2:00 Memorial Com. 6:00 Cub Scouts</p>
<p>12</p> <p>8:00 a.m. Worship Service 10:00 a.m. Worship Service</p>	<p>13</p> <p>OFFICE CLOSED 9:30 & 1:30 Circle Meetings 6:00 Village Chorale 7:00 AA</p>	<p>14</p> <p>8:00 TOPS 10:15 Special Meeting 1:00 Session Meeting 1:30 Big Band 6:00 Cub Scouts</p>
<p>19</p> <p><i>10:00 a.m. Worship Service</i> 8:45 Discussion Group 9:00 Adult Focus Class</p>	<p>20</p> <p>10:00 Congregational Care Com. 3:00 Worship Committee 6:00 Village Chorale 7:00 AA</p>	<p>21</p> <p>8:00 TOPS 9:30 Stewardship Committee 10:15 Special Meeting 1:30 Big Band 6:00 Cub Scouts</p>
<p>26</p> <p><i>10:00 a.m. Worship Service</i> 8:45 Discussion Group 9:00 Adult Focus Class</p>	<p>27</p> <p>9:30 Administration Com. 9:30 PW CT 6:00 Village Chorale 7:00 AA 7:00 Kirk Konnection</p>	<p>28</p> <p>8:00 TOPS 10:15 Special Meeting 1:30 Big Band 6:00 Cub Scouts</p>

2009

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10:00 Embroidery 11:00 Lenten Service 11:45 Soup & Bread 1:00 Symphony Guild #1 3:00 Education Com. 4:00 Kirk Choir	2 9:00 Calvin Study Group 9:00 Fellowship Com. 10:00 Bell choir 1:00 Evangelism Com. 7:00 Chanticleers	3	4 5:00 Informal Worship 1:00 p.m. Shepherd Group #10
8 10:00 Symphony #2 10:30 Greenhorns 2:00 Bob Scherwat Memorial Service 3:30 Kirk choir 6:30 Faith & Film	9 <i>(No Calvin Study Group)</i> 10:00 Bell choir 3:00 Mission Committee 7:00 Chanticleers <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> 7:00 p.m. MAUNDY THURSDAY COMMUNION SERVICE </div>	10 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; text-align: center;">  2:00 p.m. Community of Joy Lutheran HSV </div>	11 5:00 Informal Worship
15 9:00 Bible Study 10:30 Greenhorns 2:30 Heifer Project 4:00 Kirk Choir 7:00 Caring & Sharing	16 9:00 Calvin Study Group 10:00 Bell Choir 2:00 Planning & Coordinating Com. 7:00 Chanticleers	17 7:30 a.m. Men's Association	18 5:00 Informal Worship
22 9:00 Bible Study 4:00 Kirk Choir	23 9:00 Calvin Study Group 10:00 Bell Choir 2:00 Gardening Wkshp 7:00 Chanticleers	24	25 12:00 Symphony Guild auditions 5:00 Informal Worship
29 9:00 Bible Study 4:00 Kirk Choir	30 9:00 Calvin Study 10:00 Bell Choir 7:00 Chanticleers		



Claire Rhodes (left) is congratulated by Kirk Worship Committee moderator, Sylvia Tate. (Pastor Bill Bailey photo)

Kirk member selected as moderator of Presbytery

A special stole was presented

Claire Rhodes, a member of the Kirk, was installed as moderator of the Presbytery of Arkansas at its February meeting in Clarksville. To mark this important occasion Sylvia Tate, Worship Committee moderator, presented her with a beautiful stole on behalf of the Kirk Banner Committee, a sub-committee of the Worship Committee.

Its talented members who make our beautiful banners and pastors' stoles are Sheila Stanley, Ruth Carpenter, Jane Harless, Christine Hoagland, Ellen Marshall, June Moore, and Gloria Reid.

Claire is serving as Lay Pastor of West End Presbyterian Church in Arkadelphia and lives in Hot Springs with her husband, Kenneth. Raised Presbyterian, church has always been an important part in her life.

For her year as moderator, Claire's mission statement is "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him and He will direct your paths." (*Proverbs 3:5-6*)

Sunday School: The Focus Group

A not-so-traditional Sunday School class? Perhaps it is if you're remembering using study books and being lectured by a teacher as we did once upon a time.

Leader Gary Rector said this class is using the "Faith and Reason" series of videos as a basis for study.

This television series from the late 90's features subjects and excerpts from the preaching of D. L. Dykes, a Methodist pastor in Shreveport for 30 years. It covers both theological and social questions.

The topics are discussed by Dykes' son and a varying panel of pastors, authors, and educators of several denominations. The videos are about 25 minutes long and are followed by lively discussion and commentary by the group.

The more participants, the more interesting are the discussions. You are welcome to attend.

The Focus Group meets at 9 a.m. every Sunday in the Kirk library.

FOOD BASKET

During the month of April the Kirk is collecting non-perishable food for the Potter's Clay. Their needs are canned chicken, meat and fish, canned chili, soups and stews, boxed dinner helpers for hamburger, tuna and chicken, macaroni and cheese, pasta and pasta sauces, canned fruit and juices, dry and canned beans, dry and canned milk, hot and cold cereals. For those who wish to make a monetary gift there are pew envelopes marked "Food Basket."

Newsletter and Bulletin deadlines

The next newsletter deadline is April 15. E-mail Joyce Leeming at JBL37@sbcglobal.net.

The Sunday bulletin deadline is on Wednesday each week. E-mail kirk1@sbcglobal.net.

Send calendar changes to Barbara Myers at kirksec1@sbcglobal.net

PW learned more about the Strong Woman program

The Presbyterian Women held their spring gathering March 9 with Pastor Bill Bailey leading the Bible lesson, followed by a delicious lunch in Hoffius Hall prepared and served by the Greenhorns.



Lisa Gilmore

Guest speaker was Lisa Gilmore from the Garland County Extension Agency who talked about the “Strong Woman Program” which she brought to Arkansas. Lisa shared interesting information about staying fit in older life, utilizing a quote from Hannah Green: “Health is not simply the absence of sickness.”

She went on to explain that health is having energy and strength to do everything you need and want to do in daily life. She encouraged all women to become involved with the “Strong Woman Program” to help metabolic rates, strength, glucose control, bone density, muscle mass, balance, lipid profile, and arthritis symptoms.

Shirley Siska and Ruth Naggs rose to fame at the close of the PW Gathering when Shirley announced that after one day at the “Strong Woman Program” she was able to remove her own gas cap from her car—something she had not been able to do for a long time.

After participating in the “Strong Woman Program,” Ruth Naggs can now go up and down three



Ruth Naggs (left) and Shirley Siska are regular attendees in the Strong Woman program. (Madelyn Young photo)

flights of stairs without pain when she takes care of and chases her grandchild.

A “Strong Woman Program” is available at the McCauley Center on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m.-10 a.m. and at Mountainside Methodist Church on Mondays at 9:30 a.m. and Wednesdays and Fridays at 8:30 a.m.

Participants are encouraged to bring dumb bells, ankle weights, a towel, a bottle of water, and to wear closed toe shoes if they wish to participate. Visitors are welcome to watch also.

— Diane Roberts and Judy Pogemiller

Presbyterian Women Announcements

PW Weekend

Worship Services

The Presbyterian Women will conduct worship services at 5 p.m. Saturday, April 25 and at 10 a.m. Sunday, April 26. Volunteers are needed for the choir.

PW Spring Retreat

The retreat at Ferncliff begins at 9 a.m. Tuesday, April 28. We will carpool from the Kirk at 8 a.m. or the East Gate parking lot at 8:15 a.m.

Fern Davis, pastor of Holly

Grove, will be our leader. Janie Smith will give a tour of the camp. Cost is \$12.50 including lunch. Make paid reservations with Carol Sue Williams by April 15.

PW Gathering and Luncheon 11 a.m. - Monday, May 4

The Birthday Offering will be dedicated and the Woman of Faith Award and Honorary Life Memberships will be presented.

Reservations for the luncheon should be given to Carol Sue Williams by Sunday, April 26.

Calendar Dates

- Monday, April 6 - 9:30 a.m.: PW CT Meeting. Library.
- Wednesday, April 8 - 11 a.m.: PW Bible Study Moderators. Conference room.
- Monday, April 13 - 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. PW Circle meetings.
- Monday, April 27 - 9:30 a.m. PW CT Meeting. Library.
- Monday, May 4 - 11 a.m. PW Gathering and Luncheon.

Ecclesiastes as described by coach Marv Braden

“Remember also your Creator in the days of your youth, before the evil days come, and the years draw nigh, when you will say, ‘I have no pleasure in them.’” This is the verse, *Ecclesiastes 12:1*, Coach Marv Braden has carried with him since a young boy.

Braden, speaker at the Presbyterian Men’s Association meeting in February, spent many years as a coach in the NFL with the Denver Broncos and the St. Louis Cardinals — now the Phoenix Cardinals. Both teams competed in Super Bowls.

The Olympic theme is “Higher, Swifter, Stronger.” Illustrating how this works in our day, Coach Braden told of the time when Johnny Weismueller held 43 world records in water events. Today, he holds none. Twelve and 13-year-old girls are now breaking his records.

The verse in Ecclesiastes is not to mean you are good in your youth, but turn bad in your later years. It is to remember the good you did in your youth, when old age takes a toll on your body, mind and spirit. The positive influence upon young men and women today is their activity in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

Greatness is not being a great player, but a player who makes his team great. In lamenting the absence of ethics in sports today, Coach Braden cited the belief of some that the use of drugs and steroids are acceptable if you don’t get caught.

To achieve greatness, a person must be willing to be totally alone; meaning not influenced by the be-



Retired coach, Marv Braden, shows Super Bowl rings at Men’s Association meeting. (Tom Hightower photo)

havior of others. You must welcome your competition and learn to have a plan when under pressure. He cited Jesse Owens, a champion Olympian, as one forced to live with discrimination and hate at the Olympics in Berlin during the time of Hitler.

Coach Braden closed by inviting attendees to examine the beautiful Super Bowl rings he received.

-- Tom Hightower

March Meals on Wheels

Volunteers from the Kirk delivered about 20 meals each day, Monday through Friday, during March for Meals on Wheels reports Vianne Huff, chairman.

Each morning two volunteers arrived at McAuley Center at 9:30 a.m. to pick up meals for delivery to people on their assigned route.

The Kirk Presbyterian Women sponsor this program one month each year and express their appreciation and thanks to the following dedicated helpers:

David Nottrott, Bob Huff, Bill and Ruth Naggs, Gerald and Judy Pogemiller, Jerral Johnson, Bruce McIntosh, Jim and Sally Hess, Terry and Carol Gardner, Wayne Walters, Bob Wessel, Gail Salmen, Marilyn Olson, Don and Edith Loveday, Ken and Mona Kimbell, Mac Throckmorton, Madelyn Young, Jim and Sue Thayer, and Paul and Joyce Hayek.

10th FOCUS class for vision impaired completed series

The 10th FOCUS class recently completed its sessions at the Kirk in the Pines. FOCUS is a hands-on program for Villagers with visual problems. It meets twice a week for four hours.

The class covers such basic issues for the visually impaired as locating available resources, folding money for shopping, dialing telephones, and ways to organize medicine and clothing.

Ten class members completed the spring class. They were Mary Blakely, Bettye Gish, Joan Maxwell, Barbara and Garry Paskan, Beverly Schlott, Berniece Snyder, Janie Smith, Connie Sprissler, and Sis Werner.

Former class members Ernie Smith, Dave Dietz, Jodie Burt and Kathy Fleig spoke to the class about valuable information they received in the FOCUS program and how they are now applying it in their lives.

In an earlier class, Al Barras, Orientation and Mobility instructor, from Lions World Service for the Blind, explained different methods of walking with long canes and how to be guided by a sighted person. The class was impressed by the former class members and the presentation by Mr. Barras.

The FOCUS class members and teachers thank the Kirk in the Pines for allowing us to use Hoffius Hall for another year.

A "Big Thank You" to Theresa and Cole who always had the tables set up. We appreciate your help.

— Submitted by Nancy Otto

MISSION DOLLARS

Thank you for generously supporting our Mission Dollars campaign. \$1,629 was collected for the month of February, 2009.

Gardening ... From Alpha to Omega



Gardening experts, the M & M Girls, Marilyn Wilms (left) and Marilyn Parks kept members and guests entertained at the February meeting with their humor and advice on starting seeds, building living topiaries and the best gardening tools to use.

It's a busy time of the year!

It's certainly a beautiful time of the year with bulbs, shrubs and trees blooming! Gardeners are finding much to be done.

Julie Tharp, biologist with Lake Catherine State Park, had much to say at our March meeting about living with snakes in the garden. Even though there are "good" snakes and "bad" snakes in our area, Julie had good advice on how to identify and co-exist with them.

Bugs and diseases

April 23 two assistant professors from the Cooperative Extension Service, University of Arkansas, will have valuable information to share.

Dr. Steve Vann, a plant pathologist will discuss diseases of landscape plants and how to prevent losses.

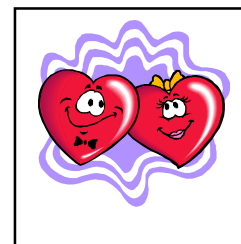
Dr. John Hopkins will discuss insects encountered in the landscape and how to control these pests.

Join us for this workshop from 2-3:30 p.m. in Hoffius Hall. The group meets the fourth Thursday every month. Visitors are welcome.

For more information call Jerral Johnson at 922-6641.

BIRTHDAYS and ANNIVERSARIES

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Apr 1 Lois Dykstra | Apr 17 Luther Otto |
| Apr 2 Jeanne Kleinschmidt | Apr 18 Rich Croson |
| Apr 3 Teresa Goodman | Apr 19 Howard Zuidema |
| Evelyn Plueckhahn | Apr 20 Linda Smith |
| Apr 4 Eileen Kuhn | Robert Smith |
| Apr 5 Iva Dee Warren | Apr 21 Cal Sloma |
| Apr 7 Neil Broscha | Apr 22 Georgia Hill |
| Apr 8 Tom Martick | Apr 23 Jean Fisher |
| Betty Brown | Claire Rhodes |
| Apr 9 Sally Hess | Doris Simmons |
| Sallie Huss | Apr 24 Ray Beal |
| Judy Sonnenburg | Cheryle Dean |
| Apr 10 Joe Hardman | Apr 25 Bill Bailey |
| Donald Robinson | Apr 26 Sheri Swan |
| Ardys Walter | Apr 28 Kenneth Poole |
| Apr 11 Virgil Hanson | Apr 29 Pat Hightower |
| Herb Perrin | Bill Lockridge |
| Jo Strong | Louise Nunn |
| Apr 12 Max Simmons | Apr 30 Peg Anderson |
| Apr 14 Dot Beardsley | Ruth Fox |
| Apr 16 Darlene Spiller | |
| Marty Volkema | |



- | |
|---------------------------------|
| Apr 2 Horace/Jane Shankwiler |
| Apr 3 Bill/Jean Pritchett |
| Apr 4 Ralph/Joy Reynolds |
| Frank/Cindy Morgan |
| Apr 5 Ray/Eloise Record |
| Apr 10 Bob/Judy Burt |
| Apr 15 Charles/Beverly |
| McFadden |
| Apr 17 Robert/Beverly Kirchhoff |
| Apr 19 Dennis/Rhonie Zymboly |
| Apr 21 Ernie/Betty Jean Smith |
| Apr 22 Bob/Gretchen Mayfield |

News from the Flocks



New Shepherd Group 8 meets for breakfast on the third Monday of each month. Gerald and Judy Pogemiller are the Shepherd Leaders. Pictured at Debra's Restaurant on March 16 are (left to right) Charles Bradley, and Lew and Bev Olmstead. Twenty-three attended the group's first breakfast together.

Jean Fisher, Head Shepherd, reports all Shepherd groups are up and running! Good job, everyone!

The two dinner groups were so large a third group was formed. **Groups 4 and 6** meet and eat on Thursday night while the new one, **Group 11**, meets on Tuesday night.

Group 10 will meet at 1 p.m. April 4 in the parlor for snacks before going to Garvan Gardens. The car pool will leave at 1:30 from the Kirk front parking lot.

This is a great time to see the gardens as the spring flowers should be glorious.

Anyone who would like to join them and spend the afternoon with some of our newest members are welcome.

Please r.s.v.p. to Carol and Gary Clark at 915-8497 or e-mail them at gcinhsv@att.net.

Dear Kirk Friends:

A note of thanks

Many, many thanks for all the cards, calls, prayers and visits during and as I recovered from my hospital stay and surgery. January 18 was an interesting day at the Kirk.

Please know that it is a blessing to be part of such a caring fellowship of friends.

— *Helen Van Stone*

A Community of Faith

Pastor Bill often refers to the Kirk as a community. Before, during, and after my surgery this caring community has showered us with prayers, visits, meals, get-well cards, and phone calls. This outpouring means a great deal to both of us and certainly has helped the mending process.

Thanks to all for your love and support.

— *Darell Fisher*

To all our Kirk friends,

During my recuperation from my surgery, the visitors I had — Don, Janie, Duane and others from the church — while at Good Sam in rehab, and the cards I received with their very caring messages, all helped and encouraged me tremendously.

Then, the day I returned home, a fantastic meal from the Greenhorns arrived — a wonderful gift to receive.

I especially thank Ted and Janie Smith, my mentors, both before and after my surgery.

My family and I thank all of you so much.

In Christ's love,
— *Char Martin*

A special thank you

To Marilyn Johnson and Sissy Wilson who faithfully, every week, fold, staple and distribute the Sunday bulletins!

Dear Kirk family,

I am so honored and humbled by the Kirk members who went to the Clarksville Presbytery meeting on Feb. 20 to support me at my installation as moderator of the Presbytery of Arkansas.

I want to thank the Banner Committee for the beautiful stole they created for me and the Presbyterian Women of the Kirk for the gift of the devotional book.

Many other members said prayers on my behalf and were with me in spirit. I am truly grateful for so many expressions of love and feel very blessed to be a member of the wonderful Kirk family.

Please continue to pray for me as I lead the Presbytery of Arkansas in 2009.

In Christ,
— *Claire Rhodes*

Thank you

Bev and I would like to thank members of the Kirk for your prayers, cards and caring while I was at St. Joseph's Hospital.

We are especially grateful to Bill Bailey, Don Trent, Larry Bradley and Duane Sonnenburg for their kind visits.

We are indeed blessed with a caring congregation. Thanks again.

— *Lew Olmstead*

Dear Kirk members,

Thank you for the prayers, the get-well wishes and cards. A special thanks to the Congregational Care Committee for the delicious lunch. The Greenhorns are great. Looks like it will take awhile but I am improving each day.

To a caring congregation,
— *Bill and Sheila Stanley*

Dear Kirk family,

Thank you so much for your care and concern after Dick's surgery. We are grateful for the visits from Bill and Larry, and for the Greenhorn meal. Your visits and phone calls were appreciated. We are truly blessed to be in such a caring church.

— *Dick and Ellen Harkey*

Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines
275 Asturias Drive
Hot Springs Village, AR 71909
Phone: 501-922-1333
Fax: 922-6005
Email: kirkoffice1@sbcglobal.net
www.kirkinthepines.org

Nonprofit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Hot Springs, AR
Permit No. 79

Return service requested



**Palm Sunday
and
Easter Sunday
Worship Service
8 and 10 a.m.**

**Informal Worship
Saturday — 5 p.m.**

**Sunday Worship
10 a.m.**

A VOICE IN THE PINES is a monthly publication of Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines

Please pray for these people we know who are in Harm's Way

Paul Glenn Head, nephew of Alice Smith, Ft. Hood, TX, U.S. Army

Gabriel Hodgson, friend of Jene Waite, Afghanistan, U.S. Air Force

PFC Adam Sandifer, grandson-in-law of Tom & Ethelee Beverly, Kuwait

Christopher Kotz, nephew of Bob & Judy Corwin, Iraq, 14th Marine Regiment

Col. David Paschal, nephew of Lou Dowling, U. S. Army

Jeff Alt, great-nephew of Lou Dowling, U. S. Air Force

Sgt. Russell James Cowart, son of Doneice Cragg, Camp Taji, Bagdad

Spc. Christopher Blake Cowart, son of Doneice Cragg, Camp Slayer, Bagdad, Army National Guard

Spc. Timothy Rabideau, son of Marylyn Rabideau, U.S. Air Force, Iraq



Kirk Staff

Bill Bailey — Senior Pastor

Don Trent — Pastoral Associate

Larry Bradley — Minister of Music

Janie Smith — Visitation Coordinator

Barbara Greenman — Organist/Secretary

Sallie Huss — Secretary

Barbara Myers — Secretary

Beverly Schaumburg — Financial Secretary

Cole Goodman — Sexton

Teresa Goodman — Assistant Sexton