

A Voice in the Pines

Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines newsletter

Volume XXVIII, Issue 2, February, 2009

The Pastor's Corner

No hair shirts, please!

In the Middle Ages ascetics proved their Christian commitment by donning hair shirts. Garments made of coarse haircloth were worn with the rougher side next to the skin. Somehow the individual's faith was supposed to be in direct proportion to his discomfort! Although few Christians today would be caught dead in such apparel, the "hair shirt legacy" continues in the Church in a variety of ways.

For instance, that old legacy works powerfully in our attitudes toward Lent, the 40-day period (excluding Sundays) between Ash Wednesday and Easter. A season reflecting Jesus' 40-day temptation, it's intended to be a time of inner reflection and spiritual preparation for Easter.

Many Christians put on a modern hair shirt by "giving up" some normal pleasure – say smoking, or desserts, or even drinking. But unless such discipline moves in a context of prayer, Bible reading, reflection on God's will, we might as well put the old shirt back in moth balls.

Commenting on a similar matter, Jesus offered a better way: "... But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by men but by your Father who is in secret ..."

(Mt. 6:18).

Outwardly, the Christian may look no different from the next person; inwardly, his/her whole being is turned toward loving and serving God. So this Lent – beginning on February 25 – is no time for hair shirts, but for obedient lives which, without any pretensions, become channels of God's power and glory in the world!

Make plans to join us as our congregation joins Christians all over the world, in observing Lent. On February 25th, we will gather at 11 a.m. for our traditional Ash Wednesday worship service, followed by a Lenten lunch at 11:30 in Hoffius Hall. Several of our retired pastors will be leading Lenten devotions on each successive Wednesday through April 1 this year with Lenten lunches afterward. There will be no Wednesday service or lunch during Holy Week. A service of worship will be held at 7 p.m. on Maundy Thursday, April 9.

As always, you are encouraged to bring guests and are welcome to attend all or part of the program. I invite you to join me and others for a 40-day adventure in which we seek to deepen our faith in Christ.

Regards,
Bill



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

Lenten Worship Services

11 a.m. February 25
Ash Wednesday

11 a.m. Wednesdays,
March 4— April 1

7 p.m. — Maundy Thursday,
April 9

All are welcome

CLERK'S CORNER

February will be a full month for the Kirk. On Monday, February 9, we will have our annual all-church dinner at the Catholic Church. The meal will be catered by Ramona's.

Friday and Saturday, February 20 and 21, our Presbytery will meet at the University of the Ozarks in Clarksville. During this two-day meeting, Kirk member Claire Rhodes will be installed as Moderator of the Presbytery.

Sheila Stanley and our Banner Committee have made a stole for Claire to wear during her term of office and will present it to her during the meeting. I hope our church will have a nice representation there to honor and support Claire.

There will be a nice reception Friday evening after the worship service hosted by the University.

Pastor Bill will begin the study of John Calvin for us at 9 a.m. on Thursday mornings beginning February 5. This will be an interesting study and acquaint us with the beginnings of our church.

Our Session conducted the following business during our January Session Meeting:

- Bob Corwin, Assistant Moderator of the Planning and Coordinating Committee was a guest of the Session and reported on the Committee's progress on a comprehensive Five-Year Plan for the Kirk.
- We approved the Kirk budget for 2009.
- We structured Bill Bailey's new Terms of Call for 2009 which was presented to, and approved by, the congregation on January 25.
- Approved changes to the Finance, Purchasing Procedure Policy and Audit portions of the Policy Manual.
- Passed a motion to use up to \$500 of Library Memorial Funds for the Education Committee's 2009 Library Program.
- Approved using up to \$2,000 of Choir Designated Funds for the Worship Committee's

2009 Music Ministry.

- Approved the appointment of Charles Reece as Audit Moderator for the audit of 2008 financial records.

Member Deaths:

Philip Johnson, DOD December 15, 2008. Bob Scherwat, DOD January 4, 2009. Alice Smith, DOD January 5, 2009.

Please be in prayer for these families.

Church Statistics: As of January 13, 2009

Members: 526 Family Units: 332

Treasurer's Report:

Month of December:

General Fund expenditures exceeded receipts by \$18,470.

Building Fund expenditures exceeded receipts by \$59,616. This deficit resulted from payment for the new HVAC units.

Year of 2008:

General Fund receipts exceeded expenditures by \$18,691.

However, in December, per Session instructions, \$36,548 was transferred to the Building Fund and \$10,452 to the Columbarium Fund. With this total transfer of \$47,000, the General Fund stands at \$28,309 less than at the beginning of the year.

Pledge income for the year finished at \$403,913, or \$15,934 below plan. This was a four percent shortfall. Payments authorized for the sound system and memorial garden path upgrade have not yet been billed.

Building Fund expenditures exceeded receipts by \$40,709.

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

Congratulations, Ted and Janie Smith!



“Nurse Janie” and “Grandpa Ted” aka “N.J.” and “G.P.T” have a special day a-coming!

On Friday, February 6, Kirk members, Janie and Ted Smith, will be honored for their ten years of volunteer service at Arkansas Presbytery’s Ferncliff Camp and Conference Center. We hope many in our Kirk family will be able to join them at the center’s annual dinner in the Christian Activity Building at 6:00 p.m. Reservations may be made at 501-821-3063 or reservations @Ferncliff.org. Cost of the meal is \$15.00.

In 1998, Janie began serving as the camp nurse for a week-long session with Jonesboro’s Westside students following the school shootings that year. Ferncliff provided activities at camp as a way to help students heal from their traumatic experiences, and these camps continued each summer until the students graduated.

In 2001, Janie answered the call to be Ferncliff’s full-time registered nurse for the entire camping sea-

son. She has given loving care to campers, counselors, staff and visitors, taking care of aches, pains, upset stomachs, homesickness, and an occasional serious injury requiring a visit to the emergency room, often late at night.

Janie has also served on the Board of Directors for Ferncliff and has been moderator of the board. “Ferncliff has afforded me an opportunity to use the gifts God has given me,” she says. “My experiences and relationships with campers, counselors, staff and chaplains have been extraordinary.”

Ted began traveling to Ferncliff on Kirk work teams 12-14 years ago. When Janie became a full-time nurse, Ted joined her for the summers. “Grandpa Ted” has been a handyman and van driver—a “jack of all trades.” During the past two summers, he has also been the camp photographer, taking pictures of campers and their activities and posting them on the internet so parents could see what their children were doing.

“When I was painting the new Ferncliff sign,” says Ted, “one of the members of the board drove into the entrance. He stopped to talk, and I told him I didn’t know why I was doing what I was doing. The director said, ‘Because, just like anyone associated with Ferncliff, you love this place.’ That pretty well sums up why I go to Ferncliff. I love the place. I also admire and respect David Gill and all that he has done for Ferncliff. I get much more out of working at Ferncliff than Ferncliff gets from me.”

Janie and Ted, we admire you and thank you for your love and dedication. Your unselfish service has made Ferncliff Camp and Conference Center a safe haven where both young and old can experience God’s love, listen for His call and follow His lead.

Ferncliff’s Annual Dinner

Friday, February 6
6 p.m. — Wine & Cheese
6:30 — Dinner & Program

Christian Activity Building
\$15 each person
Reservations: (501) 821-3063

In the Spotlight . . .

The Education Committee



Sally Fink (left front) is the very capable moderator and brags on her committee's faithful work. Members are (front right) Janie Smith, (back row from left) Jean Fisher, Nell White, Ellen Marshall, Ted Smith and Woodie Barefield. Not pictured are: Jan Clark, Helen Fisher, Edie Love-day, Dick Massey and Jim Thayer.

The very active Education Committee of the Kirk is charged with furthering the Christian education of the congregation in various ways.

Sub-committees are assigned to arrange for Summer Suppers, Sunday discussion groups, Wednesday Bible study, Thursday theology class, Fall Study, Faith and Film discussion, and the Midwinter Lecture Series.

The Education Committee is constantly seeking new and creative ways to further the congregation's education with Christian education opportunities. They stay way ahead of the game by planning far in advance. Arranging for those wonderful speakers and teachers takes time and effort.

Other on-going responsibilities include the Fran Brown Library. They purchase books, keep records, and all else required to keep the extensive inventory up-to-date. Providing someone for the nursery each Sunday is under their umbrella .

If any of the above activities are of interest to you or you have ideas to share, Sally would love to hear from you. Please call her at 922-9622.

The committee meets at 3 p.m. the first Wednesday each month.

People at the Kirk are always busy. Have you ever wondered who takes care of all those behind-the-scene details necessary to keep everything running smoothly?

Beginning with this newsletter, we'd like to feature a different Kirk committee each month. Then we can all learn more about what is being done and who is doing it. Maybe others will be inspired to pitch in, too!

— The Communications Committee

All-Kirk Dinner

February 9



**Sacred Heart of Jesus
Catholic Church**

**Seating - 5:30 p.m.
Dinner by Ramona's - 6 p.m.**

Menu:

***Chicken Cordon Bleu w/Rice Pilaf
or Roast Pork Loin w/Potatoes au Gratin
Baby Spinach Salad
Chocolate Cake w/Caramel Sauce
or Homemade Apple Pie***

**Dance and Dine to the
music of the
Hot Springs Village
Big Band**

**Reservations by Jan. 31 and Feb. 1
\$12.50 each person**

Barbara Greenman to attend PAM conference

Soon our talented organist and hand bell director, Barbara Greenman, will be on her way to Texas — not to stay, thank goodness, but to attend a special conference for church musicians.

In December, the Kirk Session elected Barbara to represent our church at the Presbyterian Association of Musicians (PAM) conference in Austin, Texas.

The association's professional members -- those responsible for a church music program or who direct a choir or instrumental ensemble -- will gather at University Presbyterian Church February 5-8.

Pastors, theologians, composers, and members of worship committees from across our denomination will be among the leaders and participants.

The theme of this year's conference is "Worship as Formation: Forming Faithful Disciples." A variety of seminars and workshops will teach musicians how to plan worship experiences to enrich their congregations' faith and send them out to "bear the name of Jesus in a broken world."

As a dues-paying member of PAM, Barbara receives worship material and information from them. Although she has never been to a PAM conference, she has been to many comparable workshops sponsored by the American Guild of Organists, and she was very active in AGO for many years before she moved to Arkansas.

Classically trained through Oklahoma City University, Barb served as organist in Oklahoma City, Tulsa, and Muskogee, Oklahoma, and most recently as Director/Organist at First Presbyterian Church in



Barb Greenman

Sallisaw, Oklahoma. She moved to Hot Springs in August 2006, and has been organist at the Kirk since February 2007.

"I love all kinds of church music," says Barbara, "and I enjoy serving a church with a comprehensive diverse music program which is supported by both the clergy and congregation."

All of us at the Kirk are thankful for Barbara Greenman's valuable contributions to the life of our church, and we look forward to hearing from her when she returns.

-- Madelyn Young

Bell Choir Rehearsals Begin

Rehearsals for Kirk Bell Choirs will begin in February at 10 a.m. on Thursdays. **New ringers are urgently needed!** If you can read either treble or bass clef music and would enjoy a fun musical activity, please call Larry or Barb at the church office.

Some of the bells are quite heavy so strong men/women are especially urged to help ring those bells!

Love to sing? Come join the Kirk's choir

The Kirk Choir meets every Wednesday at 4 pm. New members are welcome.

Please call Larry Bradley or Barb Greenman at 922-1333 so a music folder can be prepared for you.



Lenten worship services begin Feb. 25

Retired pastors will assist

The highlight of the year for Christians is Easter, the day when our Lord rose from the dead. Lent is a forty-day season of preparation for Easter and always begins on a Wednesday, called Ash Wednesday.

The Kirk is blessed to have several retired pastors in the congregation willing to participate in worship services when called upon. They, and the Reverend Bill Bailey and the Reverend Don Trent, will be officiating at the six Lenten services listed below.

All services will be at 11 a.m.

February 25, Ash Wednesday Service — Rev. Bailey and Rev. Trent

March 4 — Reverend Don Trent

March 11 — Reverend Victor Brown

March 18 — Reverend Dave Nottrott

March 25 — Dr. Heinrich Eiler

April 1 — Reverend Ernie Smith

Maundy Thursday Service will be at 7 p.m.

April 9. The Reverend Bill Bailey will be remembering the passion of Jesus in hymn and scripture.

FOOD BASKET

During the month of February the Kirk is collecting non-perishable food for the Area Outreach Program sponsored by Holy Trinity Episcopal church. 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".

Soup and Bread lunch after Lenten services

All who worship at the 11 a.m. service each Wednesday during Lent are invited to a simple soup and bread lunch at 11:30 in Hoffius Hall.

Services led by Pastor Bill Bailey and retired pastors in the church will be conducted every Wednesday for six weeks beginning February 25.

Watch for sign-up sheets in the bulletins at Saturday and Sunday worship services asking the congregation to provide soup and bread for one or more of the lunches. Return the sheet by placing it in the offering plate or take it to the Kirk office.

Prepare your favorite soup and/or bread, and if you'd care to share your recipe in a Kirk cookbook being planned, place it in the recipe box on top of the message rack in the hall by the office or email it to Peggy Cook at peggy4561@suddenlink.net.

Presbyterian Women Announcements

PW Worship Services

On Saturday, April 25 at 5 p.m., and Sunday, April 26 at 10 a.m., the Presbyterian Women (PW) will conduct the worship services. We will need volunteers for ushers and choir members.

Spring Retreat at Ferncliff

Save this date! The PW Retreat at Ferncliff is scheduled for 9 a.m., April 28. Fern Davis, pastor of Holly Grove Presbyterian Church, will be our leader. Watch for more details later.

Calendar dates:

Monday, Feb. 2 — PW CT Meeting: 9:30 a.m. in the library

Wednesday, Feb. 4 — PW Bible Study Moderators: 11:30 a.m. in conference room

Monday, Feb. 9 — PW Circle meetings: 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

Briefly ...

Good news! Four new units to cool and heat most of the Kirk are installed, tested and are saving us money. As Rich Croson, Moderator of Building and Grounds, explained, the units have two compressors and both run only on an as-needed basis — therefore reducing our power consumption. Life expectancy of these units is about 25 years.

The speakers were recently upgraded in the sanctuary. Good job, Rich and B&G committee!

Ouachita Children’s Center’s executive director, Debbie Bryant, will be guest speaker at the Kirk Mission Committee’s 3 p.m. meeting February 12 in the conference room.

Drivers needed for medical transportation. Call Larry Bradley at the Kirk office, 922-1333, or Martha Fast at 922-0848 if you can help. Call them if you require transportation to medical appointments.

Meals on Wheels: It’s the Kirk’s turn in March. Two volunteers are needed each weekday next month and substitutes are needed on an as-needed basis. Ready-to-Serve meals and delivery directions are picked up at McAuley Center at 9:30 a.m. All deliveries are in the Village. If you can help, call Vianne Huff at 922-4614.

Do you like to write? The Communications Committee would like you to write about or take notes on one or two Kirk functions you attend each month for the newsletter. Experience is not necessary. Pick your favorites. To join this committee call Joyce Leeming at 922-0810.

Flower Calendar: Sign up on the calendar on the bulletin board in Hoffius Hall to provide flowers for the sanctuary. Arrangements are \$37.50. A rose vase is \$5. This is a nice way to provide a memorial or to celebrate a special occasion. Call Christine Hoagland at 922-4236 if you have questions.

Visit the Kirk website at www.kirkinthepines.org. to look up members in the “Pictorial Directory.” The password is kirk1.

Urgent: Kirk hosts needed for CLP students

As a gesture of Christian hospitality, Kirk members are asked to provide over-night accommodations and two breakfasts for students attending the CLP Academy’s Module 1 seminar February 13-15 being hosted by Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines.

Approximately 25 students are expected. While most will stay in hotels, a few will need a place to stay on Friday and Saturday nights.

Please call the church office, 922-1333, and offer your home and hospitality.

FAITH

and

FILM

“To Kill a Mockingbird”

Pastor Bailey has announced the film for the Faith and Film class on February 18 will be “To Kill a Mockingbird.” The discussion will take place at 6:30 p.m. in Hoffius Hall.

The movie, a critically acclaimed, classic trial film, is based on the Pulitzer Prize-winning novel by Harper Lee. It is set in a small Alabama town, with Atticus Finch (a small-town lawyer) portrayed by Gregory Peck who earned an Academy Award for his performance.

Atticus Finch risks his career by defending a black man who has been wrongly accused of rape. Themes of racism, intolerance, and social injustice also permeate the film which was the movie debut of Robert Duvall, who plays Boo Radley, a reclusive neighbor.

Those who plan to participate in the discussion should view the movie before attending the class. A copy is available in our Kirk Library and may be checked out, but members are urged to return it quickly so others may borrow it, too.

We hope you will join us.



A wide and gently sloping handicapped-accessible walkway was recently completed at the columbarium site.

Work progressing on Kirk Columbarium

The columbarium under construction in the Kirk's memorial garden will be a "dignified repository for cremains," said Ray Beal, moderator of the Memorial Committee.

This above-ground facility, an alternative to the in-ground burial spaces now available in the garden, will be on top of the wall now being built and will match the existing stone walls. The handicapped accessible walkway will extend to the structure.

The niches will be "companion niches" where two urns may be placed. Each niche will have an engraved plaque with the name, birth and death dates of each person. Only members and immediate family may be buried in the columbarium.

The niches will cost \$1,500 each and will be available for purchase "possibly in late spring," according to Ray.

Fifty-four niches will be available at first. Space is approved for 108 niches so more can be added as needed.

Take a walk to the Memorial Garden to see where the columbarium will be placed.

Interested in playing Ladies Bridge Marathon?

The fourth Monday, September through April 12, Kirk ladies meet for rubber bridge. An interest in playing has been expressed by several others and we would like to expand to make this possible. To do so we need a total of 16 players.

We meet in homes with the hostess supplying dessert for two tables of bridge.

Would all ladies, even those presently playing, who are interested in playing in the Bridge Marathon beginning in September, 2009, please call Wilma Reed, 922-3498, or Vianne Huff at 922-4624?

Shepherd Groups begin meeting in March

By now most of you will have been to an organizational meeting of your 2009-2010 Shepherd Groups. Some people may need to change groups because of the meeting day, time or type of group.

We will be happy to make these changes, but we ask you to notify us as soon as possible. You can tell your new leader, put a note in the head Shepherd box in the hall near the choir room or call Jean Fisher at 922-9344 or the Lovedays at 922-1894.

During the month of February the office staff will be busy making these changes, printing rosters of all the groups, printing calling lists, and making Shepherd leader books.

You will start meeting regularly with your new group in March.

Shepherd Group 2 to meet Feb. 3

Shepherd Group 2, aka The Games Group, will have a brief organizational meeting at 7 p.m. Feb. 3 in Hoffius Hall.

Refreshments will be served and games will begin after the meeting. Leaders are Vianne and Bob Huff, 922-4614, and Theresa and Dave Nottrot, 915-9963.

Interest in flags turned into a large collection

Gathering the history of flags is a hobby that has been an active and enjoyable pursuit since 1971 for Dennis and Rhonie Zymboly. Their collection began with a 13-star Betsy Ross flag and now numbers 46 representative flags that have become a part of American history since the beginning of our colonial existence.

The Zymboly's presentation of their collection of flags and the telling of the flags' history was interesting and well attended by Kirk men and women at the Men's Association meeting January 16.

Dennis related interesting myths surrounding the flag's creation. Our country's reverent treatment of the flag did not exist prior to the late 1800's following the War Between the States. The most widely believed myth is that of Betsy Ross hand-sewing the first flag at the request of George Washington.



Dennis and Rhonie Zymboly display "The Whipple," circa 1912, from their extensive flag collection. The Zymbolys are active members at the Kirk. Their flag presentation has been popular at various functions in the Village. (Tom Hightower photo)

Puzzle: Find the 30 books of the Bible in this story

There are 30 books of the Bible in this article. It is a remarkable puzzle found by a gentleman in an airplane seat pocket on a flight from Los Angeles to Honolulu and it kept him occupied for hours.

He enjoyed it so much he passed it on to his friends. One from Illinois worked on it while fishing from his john boat. Another friend studied it while playing the banjo.

Elaine Taylor, a columnist friend, was so intrigued by it she mentioned it in her weekly newspaper column. Another friend judges the job of solving the puzzle so involving, she brews a cup of tea to help her nerves.

Some names are very easy to spot. That's a fact. Some people, however, will soon find themselves in a jam, especially since the book names are not necessarily capitalized.

Truthfully, from answers we get, we are forced to admit it usually takes a minister or scholar to see some of them at the worst. Research has shown something in our genes is responsible for the difficulty we have in seeing the books in the paragraph.

During a recent fund-raising event which featured this puzzle, the Alpha Delta Phi lemonade booth set a news sales record. The local paper, *The Chronicle*, surveyed over 200 patrons who reported this puzzle to be one of the most difficult they had ever seen.

As Daniel Humana humbly puts it, the books are right there in plain view hidden from sight. Those able to find them all will hear great lamentations from those who have to be shown.

One revelation that may help is that books like Timothy and Samuel may occur without their numbers. Also keep in mind, punctuation and spaces in the middle are normal. A chipper attitude will help compete really well against those who claim to know all the answers.

Remember, there is no need for a mad exodus. There really are 30 books of the Bible lurking somewhere in this article, waiting to be found.*

— Submitted by Sylvia Tate

*Answers will be in the March edition of this newsletter.

February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
<p>1</p> <p>Communion Service 10:00 a.m. Worship Service</p> <p>8:45 Discussion Group 9:00 Adult Focus Group</p>	<p>2</p> <p>9:30 a.m. PW CT 9:30 FOCUS 1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting 2:00 Communication 6:15 Village Chorale 7:00 AA</p>	<p>3</p> <p>8:00 a.m. TOPS 10:00 Men's Cooking 1:30 p.m. Big Band 2:00 Memorial Committee 6:00 Cub Scouts 7:00 Shepherd Group #2</p>
<p>8</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Worship Service</p> <p>8:45 Discussion Group 9:00 Adult Focus Group</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Circle Meetings 9:30 a.m. FOCUS 5:30 p.m. All Kirk Dinner at Sacred Heart 6:15 p.m. Village Chorale 7:00 AA</p>	<p>10</p> <p>8:00 a.m. TOPS 1:00 p.m. Session 1:00 Big Band 6:00 Cub Scouts</p>
<p>15</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Worship Service</p> <p>8:00 CLP Class 9:00 Adult Focus Group</p>	<p>16</p> <p>9:30 a.m. FOCUS 10:00 Congregational Care 3:00 p.m. Worship Committee 6:15 Village Chorale 7:00 AA</p>	<p>17</p> <p>8:00 a.m. TOPS 9:30 Stewardship Committee 1:30 Big Band 6:00 Cub Scouts</p>
<p>22</p> <p>10:00 Worship Service</p> <p>8:45 Discussion Group 9:00 Adult Focus Group</p>	<p>23</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Administration 9:30 FOCUS 6:15 p.m. Village Chorale 7:00 Kirk Konnection 7:00 AA</p>	<p>24</p> <p>8:00 a.m. TOPS 10:00 Shepherd Group #3 1:30 Big Band 6:00 Cub Scouts</p>

2009

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>4</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Bible Study 10:00 Embroidery Guild 11:30 Bible Moderators 1:00 Symphony Guild 3:00 Education Com. 4:00 Kirk Choir</p>	<p>5</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Fellowship Committee 9:00 Christian Faith 10:00 Bell Choir 1:00 p.m. Evangelism 5:30 Shepherd Gr. #6 7:00 p.m. Chanticleers</p>	<p>6</p> <p>8:30 a.m. AARP Drivers Safety 9:30 FOCUS</p>	<p>7</p> <p>5:00 p.m. Informal Worship Service</p>
<p>11</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Bible Study 10:30 Greenhorns 4:00 p.m. Kirk Choir</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Christian Faith 10:00 Bell Choir 3:00 p.m. Mission 7:00 p.m. Chanticleers</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9:30 a.m. FOCUS 6:00 p.m. CLP Class</p>	<p>14</p> <p>5:00 p.m. Informal Worship Service</p>
<p>18</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Bible Study 2:30 p.m. Heifer Project 4:00 p.m. Kirk Choir 6:30 Faith and Film</p>	<p>19</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Christian Faith 10:00 Bell Choir 7:00 p.m. Chanticleers</p>	<p>20</p> <p>7:30 a.m. Men's Association 9:30 FOCUS</p>	<p>21</p> <p>5:00 p.m. Informal Worship Service</p>
<p>25</p> <p>ASH WEDNESDAY</p> <p>11:00 a.m. Lenten Worship Service & Soup Lunch 4:00 p.m. Kirk Choir</p>	<p>26</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Christian Faith 10:00 Bell Choir 2:00 Gardening W/S 3:00 Planning & Coordinating 7:00 Chanticleers</p>	<p>27</p> <p>9:30 a.m. FOCUS</p>	<p>28</p> <p>5:00 p.m. Informal Worship Service</p>

Guest soloist



Connie Green, Metropolitan Opera Chorister and voice teacher at Mannes School of Music, Manhattan, N.Y., sang a beautiful rendition of *How Lovely are Thy Dwellings* at the Jan. 18 worship service.

Connie is the daughter of Kirk members, George and Connie Green.

Ferncliff plans tour of Ireland

Ferncliff is sponsoring an 11-day, Peace and Reconciliation Tour of Ireland departing Little Rock May 3 and returning May 14.

Traveling from Dublin to Belfast to Londerry to Galway the trip will include visits to historical sites, and an opportunity to talk with people involved in the reconciliation between Protestants and Catholics.

Cost will be about \$3,600 per person. Reservations are required by February 23.

For more information call (501) 821-3063.

PHONE NUMBERS TO REQUEST HELP

- To request pastoral visit, contact church office922-1333
- For prayer needs, contact Adair Atkinson922-4053
- To have communion served at home, contact church office ... 922-1333
- To be assigned a Christian Friend, contact Martha Fast 922-0848
- For meals, transportation to church or doctor, minor house repairs or to have someone to sit with a spouse, contact Martha Fast, 922-0848
- For transportation for medical needs contact Larry Bradley, 922-1333 or 501-321-1002
- For help with medical insurance, bills and check writing contact Chris Randles922-3539
- To be assigned a phone buddy if you live alone contact Judy Corwin922-6750
- For needs not covered above, contact Martha Fast, Congregational Care Moderator, at 922-0848 or the Kirk office, 922-1333

Arkansas Presbyterian Cursillo A special gift just for you

We are challenged daily by Christ's example as we face our daily activities, relationships with other people, and response to life's circumstances. But, how well do we know Christ? What role does He play in our daily lives? As we face the adventures along our personal spiritual "journeys", where do we stand in our relationship with Him?

Presbyterian Cursillo offers an opportunity for each Christian to look at these questions and grow in their application to our daily lives. A Cursillo Weekend is about you and your personal relationship with Christ and it is an opportunity to explore your spiritual journey within a supportive fellowship of other Presbyterians who are asking many of the same questions.

The next Cursillo Weekend will be held at Ferncliff, April 16 – 19, 2009. **Consider participating in a weekend that will truly enrich your faith and your life!**

Applications are available outside the church office and in the Narthex. More information and an application is available on the Presbytery website at www.presbyteryofarkansas.org or at www.presbyteriancursillo.org.

An update from your Finance Committee

We Have a Budget!

This was my fifth Kirk budget as moderator, and it was the most difficult to build.

In spite of a marginal economy the committee presented a 2009 balanced budget to Session who approved it January 13.

Several factors contributed to this accomplishment and include Session moderators modifying their requirements and generous pledging by the congregation.

The following are a few of the budget highlights:

- Funding for Mission increased and is 22 percent of the General Fund as compared to 21 percent in 2008.
- Provides a modest raise for staff and the increase in Pastor Bailey's terms of call.
- Provides funds for the Kirkin'.

I appreciate the work of my committee and Session and the congregation's financial support of the Kirk.

Special thanks are due Beverly Schaumburg, our financial secretary, and Gary Rector, our treasurer.

The 2009 budget is posted on the Finance bulletin board in Hoffius Hall. If you would like your own copy, please contact Beverly or me.

— Darell Fisher
Finance Committee Moderator

MISSION DOLLARS

Thank you for generously supporting our Mission Dollars campaign. \$1,195 was collected for the month of December, 2008.

Coach Braden to speak to Men's Association

Marv Braden, a coach for several professional football teams, ended his career on a high note when his team, the Denver Broncos, won the Super Bowl.

Coach Braden will be guest speaker February 20 at the Kirk Men's Association meeting. He will have his collection of division title and Super Bowl rings on display and stories about his coaching career.

Familiar with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Coach Braden will have comments about the organization.

Join us for coffee, tea, donuts and orange juice at 7:30 a.m. in Hoffius Hall. The program will begin at 8 a.m..



Gardening ...

Alpha to Omega

The M & M Girls, Marilyn Parks and Marilyn Wilms, will be guest speakers Feb. 26 at the Kirk's garden workshop. The Village master gardeners' program, "*Getting a Jump Start on Spring*," will emphasize how to get an early start on your own garden.

Marilyn Parks will have plant material and will share seed that do well in this area but are not available at most garden centers. Bring five envelopes to take your seed home.

She will describe where to plant and care of the plants. Pictures will show participants what to look forward to as a result of their labor.

Join us for this workshop from 2-3:30 p.m. in Hoffius Hall. Visitors are welcome.



Feb. 1	Dom Picco Mel Roberts Carl Simmons Donald Urquhart	Feb. 16	Bob Hastings Mary Kay Fred Raskin	Feb. 1	Cora Jane & Sam Pope
Feb. 2	Harriet Jones Dale Stollsteimer	Feb. 18	Beverly Bullard Anne Johnson Helen Lipke Margery McIntosh Karen Patty	Feb. 3	Ruth & Jim Carpenter
Feb. 3	Pat Ormsbee Jean Pritchett Beverly Wallace	Feb. 19	Beverly Kirchhoff Mike Seitz Bill Temple	Feb. 9	Christine & Michael Hoagland
Feb. 4	Don VanStone	Feb. 21	Bernice Miller	Feb. 10	Jeanne & Roger Kleinschmidt
Feb. 10	Judy Corwin	Feb. 22	Doris Margedant Barbara Mulley Carol Sue Williams	Feb. 14	Jean & Wes Hardin
Feb. 11	Rosalyn Halbert Marilyn Johnson Bob Mayfield	Feb. 23	Elizabeth Devon	Feb. 18	Karen & Robert Ammann
Feb. 12	John Maxwell	Feb. 24	Sylvia Gruben Joanne Hasper Larry Smith	Feb. 19	Dorothy & Walter Schulte
Feb. 13	Marilyn Seitz Sue Thayer	Feb. 27	Jim Carpenter Heinrich Eiler	Feb. 22	Anne & Edward Holt
Feb. 14	Betty Jean Smith Edmee Tempel			Feb. 29	Patricia & Tom Cave
Feb. 15	Elijah Bailey Ruth Carpenter				

More Birthdays

Feb. 27	Les Malottki Larry Stewart
Feb. 29	James Cordell

Valentine's Day has Christian and Roman roots

The history of Valentine's Day – and its patron saint – remains a mystery. It contains vestiges of both Christian and ancient Roman tradition and is named after two among the numerous Early Christian martyrs named Valentine.

Legend says Valentine was a priest in the third century in Rome. Defying a decree by Emperor Claudius II outlawing young men to marry because he believed they made better soldiers, Valentine secretly continued to perform marriages for young lovers. Claudius found out and ordered him put to death.

Another version said Claudius was impressed by Valentine and tried to convert him to Roman paganism. Valentine refused and tried to convert Claudius to Christianity. For this, he was executed.

Valentine may have sent the first "valentine" greeting. While in prison, it is believed he fell in love with a young girl who may have been his jailor's daughter. Before his death he wrote her a letter he signed "From your Valentine."

Valentine greetings were popular even in the Middle Ages.

The oldest valentine in existence is a poem Charles, Duke of Orleans, wrote to his wife in 1415 while imprisoned in the Tower of London.

In Great Britain, Valentine's Day became popular in the 17th century. By the middle of the 18th century, it was common for friends and lovers in all social classes to exchange small tokens of affection or handwritten notes.

Americans began exchanging handmade valentines in the early 1700s. The first commercial Valen-

tine's Day greeting cards were produced in the U.S. in the 1840s.

Exchanging gifts, particularly roses, chocolate and jewelry, between men and women became popular in the U.S. after World War II.

In some countries Valentine's Day is known as the Day of Love and Friendship. While similar to the U.S. version, it often involves "acts of appreciation" among friends.

Enjoy February 14, 2009, making it your personal Day of Love and Friendship while remembering these words:

"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you." — John 15:12

Dear Kirk Friends:

Thank you

Thank you Kirk Mission Committee for including Small Group Therapy as one of your missions in 2008. Thanks to your gift, and those of many generous Kirk members, nearly 90 residents at SGT with mental illness received nice presents on Christmas Day.

They recognize the gifts were given with love and are very appreciative. For many this was the only one they received. Thank you all for being a Friend of Small Group Therapy.

May God's Blessings be with you each day.

The SGT Christmas Elves

*Karis Alderson, Cathy Bertrand,
Jane Garrison, Linda Green,
Sally Jelinek, Joyce Leeming,
and Carolyn Starr*

A "forever" gift

Just before Christmas, Vera Lloyd Presbyterian Home & Family Services received an extraordinary, surprise gift in the form of a beautiful, black lacquered grand piano.

The piano was a gift from a former member of Kirk in the Pines, Charles Hardtke. Charles explained in a phone call that his apartment in Dallas would not accommodate the piano, and he asked if we would like it for the Home.

Needless to say, the answer was "Yes!"

The piano now resides in Williamson Hall, in a room that opens to the Prayer and Meditation Room, which serves as our chapel. Chuck's gracious gift is a "forever gift" that will provide many years of pleasure for the youth and staff of Vera Lloyd Presbyterian Home.

What a Christmas present!

*Lyn Whaley,
CEO*

Kirk Mission Committee thanks you

Your \$1 bills in the offering plate each Saturday and Sunday provided \$12,819 in 2008. Because of your generosity we were able to give \$1,281.90 to 10 different agencies or individuals.

New grants included Living Waters, Webb Community Center and the Greenhorns mission project of providing shut-ins with lunches. We also helped a family who lost their home and belongings in a fire and a single mother who needed tires for her car to enable her to work.

Thank you for making this possible.

*The Kirk Mission Committee
Dottie Isaacson, Moderator*

Thank you for your support

Ned and I want to send our many thanks to the Congregational Care Committee and the Greenhorns for the delicious lunches and to Gary Clark for bringing them to our home.

We want so say a special thank you to Nell White for the "soup, bread, and pears" and especially for the words of encouragement when they were most needed.

The calls, cards and prayers have been such a help. Ned is still undergoing tests at UAMS to find the cause of his severe pain. The continued support and prayers from our Kirk family are truly appreciated.

Martha Wilson

NEWSLETTER and BULLETIN

DEADLINES

For *A Voice in the Pines* newsletter submit news by the 15th each month to Joyce Leeming at JBL37@sbcglobal.net (all lower case).

For the Sunday Bulletin submit by Wednesday to the church office or at kirk1@sbcglobal.net.

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

Nonprofit Organization
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Hot Springs, AR
Permit No. 79

Return service requested



**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



Kirk Staff

Bill Bailey — Senior Pastor	Sallie Huss — Secretary
Don Trent — Pastoral Associate	Barbara Myers — Secretary
Larry Bradley — Minister of Music	Beverly Schaumburg — Financial Secretary
Janie Smith — Visitation Coordinator	Cole Goodman — Sexton
Barbara Greenman — Organist/Secretary	Teresa Goodman — Assistant Sexton