



Kenilworth @ Work! February 2024



Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. 1 Peter 4:10

A Message from Pastor Susan McDougall

It has been a month since I started as the Stated Supply Pastor at Kenilworth, but it has been so rich and full a time that it feels to me like I started yesterday. I feel blessed to be here.



As I was trying to write this article, a verse kept tugging at me: *In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. Mark 1:35*

This verse from the Gospel of Mark about Jesus is part of the Lectionary passage for February 4. Sometimes one verse out of many keeps floating to the top of my awareness, gently insisting that it be given its proper due. Perhaps it is because this month we will observe Ash Wednesday and enter into the season of Lent, spending time contemplating Pilgrimage and Prayer. Or perhaps it's because getting up in the dark to go to a deserted place to pray has its own allure, in a time when electronic devices clamor for our attention round the clock.

Barb included this quotation for our weekly prayer circle:

A clergyman once said to me that a railway compartment, if one has it to oneself, is an extremely good place to pray in "because there is just the right amount of distraction." When I asked him to explain, he said that perfect silence and solitude left one more open to the distractions which come from within, and that moderate amount of external distraction was easier to cope with. C.S. Lewis, Letters to Malcolm: Chiefly on Prayer

Whether a deserted place calls to you, or whether moderate distraction is appealing, I hope you will consider the invitation to explore Pilgrimage and Prayer at Lenten suppers. I look forward to hearing your thoughts and to getting to know one another better. Pastor Susan

Pastor Susan has a new church email address and may be reached by email at pastorsusankpc@gmail.com

Lent begins on **Ash Wednesday, February 14**
with a service at 7:30 pm.

Lenten dinners will be held on Thursdays beginning
February 22 and will continue through March 21.

The Lenten dinners will start at 6:15 pm.



A Prayer for Lent: Holy God, by the grace of Jesus Christ you know the tests and trials we face. Walk with us through this wilderness. Come to us with ministers of healing and visit us with messengers of hope, so that we may return to you in faith, believing the good news of the gospel; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen



Annual Congregational Meeting
Sunday, February 18 following worship

Installation of New Elders
Sunday, February 25 during worship



A special security alert has been received from the Presbytery of the Cascades. On January 7, one of our metro area congregations was disrupted during worship.

Local law enforcement advises that all Metro Presbyterian Churches take special precautions to bar a man possibly named Nathanael from admission to their buildings. A photo was provided. “Nathanael” has a long history of disorderly conduct, battery, resisting arrest, making threats, and carrying a concealed weapon.

Session advises that church doors be locked when greeters are not present in the narthex. When doors are unlocked greeters should be aware and watchful for “Nathanael’s” appearance. When worship begins the doors will be barred for admission. A sanctuary door will remain open to monitor the doors for admission of latecomers. Contact the church office if you have questions.

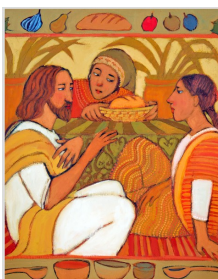
From the January 21, 2024 Session Report



Kenilworth Presbyterian Women
Saturday, February 17 Meeting 9:30 am
in person & via Zoom Bible Study 10:30 am

Kenilworth Presbyterian Women had a busy year for 2023. We had a fundraiser tea for Shepherds Door raising close to three thousand dollars to help women and children reunite through housing and rehab for addiction issues. We continued preparing and delivering meals to the Wy’east Shelter for veterans We organized and put on a Flea Market in the church parking lot. In December we learned about Fort Kennedy, a place that helps women and men who are veterans with clothing and household goods. In December, several women went and helped pack backpacks with things requested by the people Fort Kennedy helps in Clackamas and Multnomah Counties. We collected coats and delivered almost forty pounds of coats. We are looking forward to what we can accomplish this year.

-Moderator Carol Garner



This year’s Bible study *Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts* continues with Lesson Six: A person with a physical disability encounters Jesus. The central theme of the lesson is “God calls us to affirm that each person is a child of God who should be treated with dignity and equity.” Nancy Youngs and Allison Zimmerman will lead the February Bible study lesson.



“Hot Topic” Discussion Group, Wednesday, February 28 7:00 pm via Zoom only

Kenilworth Presbyterian Women began hosting a “Hot Topic” discussion group in January via the Zoom platform. The group is open to anyone who wants to be a part of the discussion. With the border issues in the news, February’s “Hot Topic” will be about deportation and immigration in the United States. If you would like to be a part of the February discussion and receive the discussion materials and Zoom link, contact Carol Garner or Becky Jewel.



Kenilworth
Community Preschool

January flew by for preschool! Many hands make light work as we came together for our winter all school meeting and work party. Parents did a deep clean of many spaces indoors, tidied up plants and trees around the grounds and even cleaned

some gutters. It's amazing what can be accomplished when a community comes together.

As part of our meeting we had a parent education session with Julia Tomes who guided us in an introduction to Positive Discipline. She will be hosting a three week parenting class at Kenilworth in February. Are you interested in honing your parenting skills? All are welcome. Check out this link: <https://www.positivediscipline.org/> Fliers are also posted in the building.

Our Open house for prospective families for the 24/25 school year is from 10-12 on February 3 and we look forward to growing our community. In the classroom kids have been interested in space and we are taking a deep dive into our solar system. “Where does the sun go when the sun goes down?” was a question posed by a kiddo at the end of last week that we will be continuing to ponder in our space exploration. Allisen Hein, Teacher/Director



BARB'S NOTE-ABLE NOTES

Some of the Reasons We Sing in Church

A couple of my Facebook friends posted this and I thought it worth sharing with you.

We do not sing because we need a “Warm-Up” before the sermon.
We don’t sing so people have time to get to their seats.
We do not sing because we need to be entertained.

We sing because God is good.
We sing because God is worthy.
We sing because it is a communal act of unity in which
we declare the **Glory of God,**
the **Gravity of Sin**
and the **Grandeur of Grace!**



Musically yours, Barb Votrobeck

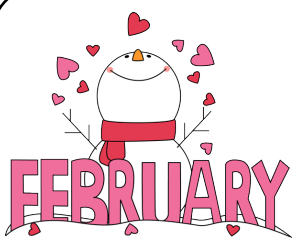


Session Highlights January 21, 2024



- Pastor Susan has a new church email address. She may be reached by email at pastorsusankpc@gmail.com
- The Annual Meeting of the Congregation has been called for February 18, 2024 following Sunday morning Worship at or near 11:30 a.m.
- 2023 Annual reports for church organizations and activities should be completed and delivered to the church office as soon as possible.
- Installation of newly elected Elders will be during Worship, February 25, 2024.
- Rick Votrobeck presented the preliminary Annual Statistical Report. Session assigned Rick and Laura Schaefer to finalize the financial statistics and submit the report to G.A.
- Ash Wednesday service will be February 14, 2024, tentatively at 7:00 p.m.
- Weekly Lenten dinner programs will begin Thursday, February 22, 2024. This year’s program theme is Pilgrimage and Prayer.
- A Maundy Thursday Communion service is scheduled March 28, 2024, tentatively at 7:00 p.m.
- Palm Sunday is March 24, 2024.
- Pastor Susan and Barb Votrobeck will meet to discuss the possibility of a special Good Friday Service March 29, 2024.
- Easter Sunday is March 31, 2024.
- Session authorized the purchase of reproduction rights for a special Lenten Devotions series for free distribution.
- Session authorized up to \$1,000 for the purchase of a laptop computer specifically for use by KPC pastors.
- Pastor Susan plans to begin furnishing her office with a desk and office chair from her home. Other furnishings currently in the church will be assessed before any purchases are considered.
- Rebecca Jewel presented a written narrative of KPC’s 2023 Earth Care initiative. Session approved the narrative for submission to GA for 2024 recertification.
- A special security alert has been received from the Presbytery of the Cascades. On January 7, one of our metro area congregations was disrupted during Worship. Local law enforcement advises that all Metro Presbyterian Churches take special precautions to bar a man possibly named Nathanael from admission to their buildings. A photo was provided. “Nathanael” has a long history of disorderly conduct, battery, resisting arrest, making threats, and carrying a concealed weapon. Session advises that church doors be locked when greeters are not present in the Narthex. When doors are unlocked greeters should be aware and watchful for “Nathanael’s” appearance. When Worship begins the doors will be barred for admission. A Sanctuary door will remain open to monitor the doors for admission of latecomers.
- The regular February Session meeting is scheduled at 1:30 pm February 25, 2024.

Rick Votrobeck, Clerk of Session



Birthdays

Alyssa Rivers	18
David McDougall	20
Pearl Broberg	22

We always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers. We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Thessalonians 1:1-3



GREEN TEAM REPORT

How to Celebrate Valentine’s Day Sustainably



Valentine’s Day is the second largest card-giving holiday after Christmas, with over one billion cards given on the holiday. These cards are often laminated in plastic, covered in glitter, or otherwise decorated in a way that makes them unable to be recycled. Giving chocolate is normalized on the holiday, but most of that chocolate is unethically sourced. Add the other throwaway gifts, like balloons, stuffed animals, and decorations, and Valentine’s Day can be quite difficult on the environment. But it doesn’t have to be!

Valentine’s Day is about celebrating love, and, whether that’s love for a partner, friend, or family member, Valentine’s Day is a wonderful time to let people know you care about them. There are many ways to do this sustainably, ethically, and with love for the Earth. Here are some sustainable ideas for Valentine’s Day gifts:

- Buy Fair Trade Chocolate: Look for chocolate with the Fair Trade logo to buy ethically sourced chocolate. Learn where your favorite chocolate companies fall on the spectrum of sourcing through the Food Empowerment Project.
- Buy a long-lasting, durable present that the receiver will keep for a long time, such as a mug, piece of art, or much needed item, by using your listening and observation skills to identify something that the recipient actually needs.
- Buy jewelry responsibly and sustainably. If you are going to give fine jewelry as a gift this Valentine’s Day, consider buying secondhand!
- Make your own Valentine’s card.
- Gift a living plant. You can even choose a plant that will help to clear out pollutants in the home.
- Bake your loved one’s favorite dessert or buy something for them from a locally owned bakery.
- Give an intangible gift. Plan some quality time with your loved one—cook their favorite meal, watch their favorite movie with them, take a class together, set aside time to paint or follow a Bob Ross tutorial together. You could also write a poem for your valentine, sing a song for them, make a video about all of your favorite memories together, ask their friends for their favorite memories with them and compile a list, or write down all of their best qualities and/or all of the things you love about them.

Thanks to Yale University’s Sustainable posting for these ideas <https://sustainability.yale.edu/sustainable-valentines-day-ideas> and thanks to Becky Jewel for sharing them.



COMING SOON

New Member Classes



Dates and times
to be determined

Kenilworth Prayer Circle

Mondays 4:00 PM via Zoom



If you have prayer requests, please email, text or call Barbara Votrobeck. I will share the request with all who want to be part of the Prayer Circle via email. Barb

COOKING WITH CAROL

Saltine Toffee Bark

As requested by popular demand



- This is so quick and easy and can be made gluten and dairy free.
 - What you need is a cookie sheet with sides, aluminum foil, crackers (any kind can be used or even a shortbread cookie) brown sugar, butter (or plant butter), chocolate chips.
 - Before you start, wrap your baking sheet in aluminum foil. Make sure to use cooking spray or coconut oil and grease well.
 - Set temp on oven to 400.
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- In a saucepan add one cup of softened butter and one cup of packed brown sugar. Heat on medium heat until bubbly (about 3 to 4 minutes).
 - Pour and spread toffee over the crackers and place in the oven for 10 minutes.
 - Remove from the oven and spread a bag of chocolate chips over the top and cover with foil.
 - Wait for about 10 minutes for them to melt. Spread out over the crackers and toffee. Add whatever topping you like, nuts, candy, etc.
 - Let cool until set and enjoy.

Carol Garner

Kenilworth Presbyterian Church
4028 SE 34th Ave
Portland, Oregon 97202
503-235-3977

kenilworthpc@gmail.com

kenilworthpc.com

