

Kenilworth @ Work!

November 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



Dear Friends,

I will begin this month's newsletter offering with the words I preached on September 22nd:

Thank you for the privilege of being your pastor. I am among those fortunate Americans who love what they do. Meeting with people is—according to the current vernacular—kind of my jam. Thinking about God and God's *missio dei* engages my spirit. Writing the sermons is a love-hate thing: I love the encounter with the word that is part of sermon writing. The problem is that I am usually found on Saturday morning running around with my hair on fire as I try to complete a sermon that has changed direction 3 times. It's like the Holy Spirit likes to mess with me. And, of course, YouTube I could happily do without at any time. However, pastoral care—gently or figuratively holding someone's hand, looking at someone through the eyes of Christ and having them share what is on their hearts, and hopefully reflecting back to them how loved they are by Him—that, *that* is any pastor's bliss. I thank you for the privilege of having done this these past ten months. It is a gift, and a blessing, and I am grateful.

Let me share a poem from *To Bless the Space Between Us* by Irish poet and theologian John O'Donohue, and imagine Christ's gaze upon you:

The Eyes of Jesus

I imagine the eyes of Jesus were harvest brown, the light of their gazing suffused with the seasons; the shadow of winter, the mind of spring, the blues of summer, and amber of harvest.

A gaze that is perfect sister to the kindness the dwells in his beautiful hands.
The eyes of Jesus gaze on us, stirring in the heart's clay
the confidence of seasons that never lose their way to harvest.

This gaze knows the signature of our heartbeat,
the first glimmer from the dawn that dreamed our minds,
the crevices where thoughts grow long before the longing in the bone
sends them towards the mind's eye,
The artistry of the emptiness that knows to slow the hunger
of outside things until they weave into the twilight side of the heart,

A gaze full of all that is still future looking out for us to glimpse
the jeweled light in winter stone,
Quickening the eyes that look at us to see through to where words
are blind to say what we would love,
Forever falling softly on our faces, his gaze plies the soul with light,
laying down a luminous layer,
Beneath our brief and brittle days until the appointed dawn comes assured and harvest deft
To unravel the last black knot and we are back home in the house that we have never left.



John O'Donohue



2024 THANK OFFERING

OF PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgivings to God through us; for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God. 2 Corinthians 9:11-12

The eight recipients of the 2024 Thank Offering grants provide a variety of ministries to those in need, from empowering young mothers on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation to mentoring incarcerated youth in Virginia. Please see the display of these eight organizations on the Presbyterian Women's bulletin board.

We are called to share in these restorative ministries by donating to the Presbyterian Women's Thank Offering during the month of November. Since 2019 Kenilworth Presbyterian Church has donated over \$3000 to this worthy cause. Please indicate on your check or online donation that the funds are for the PW Thank Offering. Thank you for your support.

Why Wy'East?

Wy'East Veteran's Shelter Mission Project

Wy'East is Portland's first 24/7 Veteran-priority shelter, and the evolution of Do Good Multnomah's first ever program that began in 2016. It houses 90 male-identifying participants, the majority of whom are Veterans. Participants have access to laundry, showers, secure storage for belongings, and a consistent bed each night. Daily homemade meals foster meaningful connections between participants and staff, who stand as guides throughout the housing process, building relationships and promoting a strong sense of community within the shelter. Wy'East is a low-barrier shelter operating year round for veterans. Do Good Multnomah also supports vets living in motel shelters, transitional housing (tiny house villages) and provides support services for vets who have transitioned to permanent housing.

In 2021, Kenilworth Presbyterian Women began providing food for the Wy'East shelter twice a month in collaboration with Rose City Park Presbyterian Church. Once the menu was decided, we could sign up to provide items to complete the meal. Last year it was decided to only provide a meal once a month. Volunteers from KPC, usually Nancy and Barb, pick up donations from Kenilworth and deliver them to Wy'East by 6:30 on the third Friday of the month.

In November 2022, Barb attended the 7th Annual Do Good Multnomah Benefit on Veterans Day. Rose City Park and Kenilworth were recognized for our food, clothing and linen donations to support their mission to help veterans find permanent housing.

Groceries 4 Grout has contributed many food items to Wy'East. In October, G4G had a 40 pound box of beef short ribs that were frozen into one solid lump. It would be difficult to offer that at the food pantry. Becky volunteered to transform the block of meat into BBQ short ribs for about 70 people. Here is what 40 pounds of short ribs look like before cooking.

If you would like to donate food items for a Wy'East dinner, please contact Nancy or Barb. A sign-up sheet is available online. A link can be provided.

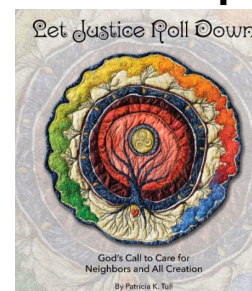
Monetary donations for purchasing food and/or ingredients are also welcome.





Kenilworth Presbyterian Women - Saturday, November 16

Meeting 10:00 am Bible Study 11:00 am



This year's year's Bible study "Let Justice Roll Down: God's Call to Care for Neighbors and All Creation" continues with Lesson 2 dealing with Land Justice. Becky will lead the Bible Study. Contact Carol if you would like a Bible study guide. *The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it; for the LORD founded it on the seas and established it on the waters. Psalm 24:1-2*

Here's a link to bonus comments about lesson three from Rev. Dr. Patricia K. Tull, author of the Bible study: <https://www.presbyterianwomen.org/2024/08/02/let-justice-roll-down-lesson-two/>

BARB'S NOTE-ABLE NOTES



November is the month when we think about being thankful. I'd like to share a few of things for which I'm grateful.

I am thankful for a loving family, more than adequate shelter and food, (I should eat less of the latter), a fun and loving neighborhood, and a chance to watch my grandsons grow, and grow, and grow.. 😊 I am also thankful that I got to spend eleven years getting to know their Nana and my friend Kathy. We will all miss her at our Thanksgiving dinner this year.

I am also thankful for being a part of the Kenilworth PC family. Rick and I looked for a church that could be our spiritual family and we found it. Bonuses include an active choir that loves to sing, singers and instrumentalists who are willing to share through solos and small ensembles, a congregation willing to sing a one verse hymn four times, including one a cappella (aka "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying), an active PW, a welcoming congregation, a pastor willing to plan worship music with the music director, Allison's willingness to play duets with me, and a congregation willing to reach out to those in need in our community. It's also a plus having my various genres of music accepted in the prelude and postlude. 😊

May you all have a long list of things for which you can be grateful and a HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

Musically yours, Barbara Votrobeck

Hot Topic discussion group will resume in January



Nine people gathered at Laura's home for the October Hot Topic discussion on "Rewarding People for Talent and Hard Work." There was a lively discussion of why we work and how we are or are not compensated for that work. Thank

you, Paul, for selecting this topic to discuss and thank you, Laura, for hosting.

There will be no Hot Topic discussions in November and December due to the holidays. We will meet again on Wednesday, January 22 at 7 pm at the home of David and Becky. Carol will start a discussion about restricting ammunition rather than guns. This should be a stimulating topic.



David Jewel	10
Daniel Upchurch	13
Paul Youngs	18
Stefan Youngs	27





Session Highlights October 9, 2024

- Session authorized Laura Schaefer to submit an application for a grant (up to \$30,000) from the Oregon Food Bank. A feasibility study of installing a lift which would allow the G4G pantry to be moved to the basement was also approved.
- Session authorized the properties committee to accept a \$1,650 bid to trim the trees back at least 3 feet from the church roof. This project was dictated by our insurance company, and was also important for the electrical service upgrade.



Session Highlights October 20, 2024



- The Mission Committee reported only one rent subsidy payment is expected in November.
- The Properties Committee recommended approval of a bid from Red's Electric in the amount of \$26,052 to upgrade the church electric system capacity and install a new heat/AC pump in place of the oil furnace currently heating the Sanctuary and basement fellowship hall. Session voted to approve.
- The Properties Committee recommended approval of a bid from Advanced Heating and Cooling in the amount of \$33,549 to remove and replace the oil furnace with an XV19 heat pump system. Session voted to approve.
- The Energy Trust of Oregon Lighting Assessment identified 123 fluorescent tubes and one exterior security light that they could convert to LED lights at no charge. Cost to repair or replace a faulty fixture(s) would not be included in the offer. Session voted to accept the proposal. Tri Phase Electrical has been assigned the project. Moving large furniture for safe access will be the responsibility of the church.
- The initial estimate of installing a lift that would only move G4G produce to the basement fellowship hall is \$60,600. The Oregon Food Bank Grant awards will be announced in January 2025.
- The Finance Committee reported reactivation of the Session's previous action to invest church savings at D.A. Davidson in three CD's rotating with one CD maturing every year plus a balance invested in an accessible (liquid) interest bearing account.
- The Finance Committee recommended \$80,000 of the Church Savings account at Wells Fargo be withdrawn and reinvested at D.A. Davidson in the US Treasuries Money Market.
- Session approved the applications for membership of Kate and Alex Kayrouz.
- Carol reported that Kenilworth PC application for certification as a Matthew 25 Church has been accepted and approved.
- The \$3,000 Bisbee Grant application has been completed and received at the Presbytery Office.
- **Clarification:** The 22% premium increase for Church Mutual Insurance would become effective in November 2025, not as immediate as previously understood.
- Session recommended the Mission Committee participate in the October 30 Collaborative Conversation on Winter Hospitality.
- Session approved the Oregon Food Bank 2025 Partner Agency Agreement.
- Rebecca Jewel and Edith Starling were elected KPC's Presbytery Commissioners.
- Barb Votrobeck volunteered to participate in the November 13 Community Circle Webinar: Small Church Faith Formation Leaders.
- Session approved the purchase of 20 copies of an Advent Devotional.
- The next Session meeting is scheduled for 1:30 p.m., November 17, 2024 in the fireplace room.

Rick Votrobeck



GREEN TEAM REPORT

Thanksgiving is many Americans' favorite holiday. It's a time to come together with family and friends for a delicious meal, and to express gratitude. Unfortunately, this time of thankfulness tends to also become a time of wastefulness. Studies show that Americans produce 25% more waste during the holiday season, between Thanksgiving and New Year's. A big part of that is food waste, which ends up in landfills, releasing methane gas and contributing to climate change

Here are seven ideas to help you keep your Thanksgiving sustainable and eco-friendly!

Consider making these ideas part of your family's Thanksgiving traditions – the earth will be thankful for it.

1. Cut down on food waste by planning ahead.

While everyone loves Thanksgiving leftovers, having too much extra food usually results in some of it being tossed in the trash. You can reduce food waste by spending some time planning out the right amount of food. Coordinate with your guests ahead of time so you know what everyone will bring (and don't forget to ask them to come with reusable containers to bring home leftovers!).

2. Shop local!

Shopping locally is eco-friendly because the less distance your food has to travel to reach you, the less of an environmental impact it has. An added bonus: Local produce usually tastes better because it doesn't have to travel far.

3. Make food from scratch.

rather than buying packaged items – is a great way to reduce your carbon footprint.

4. Remind your cleanup crew to recycle and compost.

Your Thanksgiving feast doesn't have to produce a lot of waste. Aside from using reusable containers for leftovers, you can give your guests festive cloth napkins rather than paper ones, and skip the paper towels when cleaning up.

5. Consider trying more plant-based meals.

Include a vegetarian or vegan dish. You might start a new Thanksgiving tradition.

6. Set a festive mood with natural decorations!

Use natural items to create a cozy, autumn look for your table centerpiece – try colorful leaves, pumpkins, gourds, dried corn husks, apples, acorns, pinecones and pine branches.

7. Remember what you're grateful for, and pay it forward.

Helping others and giving back to your community is a great way to honor the spirit of Thanksgiving. You can donate to a local food bank or homeless shelter, or volunteer to help serve meals. Look around your neighborhood – maybe you could offer to grocery shop for elderly community members who aren't physically able to (or just invite them over to join your feast!).

Thanks to Keep America Green: <https://kab.org/7-ideas-to-keep-your-thanksgiving-eco-friendly/>



*Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.
Worship the Lord with gladness;
come before the Lord with joyful songs.
Know that the Lord is God.
It is God who made us, and we are his:
we are God's people, the sheep of his pasture.
Enter God's gates with thanksgiving
and his courts with praise;
give thanks to God and praise God's name.
For the Lord is good and his love endures forever;
God's faithfulness continues through all generations.*
Psalm 100

KENILWORTH COMMUNITY PRESCHOOL

WREATH SALE

ORDERS DUE BY 11/15
PICK UP AT KCP 12/5-12/6

Wreaths provided from
Willamette Evergreen in Mollala, OR

TRADITIONAL MIXED WREATH \$25 CEDAR GARLAND \$30



LEMON CYPRESS WREATH \$35



MIXED SWAG \$25



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