



Kenilworth @ Work!

December 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

Christmas Gifts 4 Grout

We are invited to contribute an assortment of things this year, trying to make the giving less commercialized. Selected parents at Grout will be able to 'shop' for their children and have the pleasure of personally wrapping the gifts. Hopefully the items will include choices of quiet activities that their children can use during hectic times (like dinner-preparation).

Please use this list of items to guide your donations. **Bring items for Grout to the church no later than Sunday, December 8. They will be delivered to the school on Monday, December 9.** Do not wrap the items. Gift wrapping supplies are items on the list. Laura



- Magnatiles
- Legos and Duplos
- Playdough
- Magnifying glasses and interesting things to look at
- Small tool sets
- Paper airplane books
- Board games
- Card games
- Puzzles
- Building blocks
- Books
- Art supplies
- Paper (plain, colored, patterned)
- Markers/crayons/colored pencils
- Watercolor sets
- Scissors
- Glue sticks
- Stickers
- Stamps & stamp pads
- Decorative tape
- Gift-wrapping supplies
- Colorful, non-religious gift wrap/bags
- Butcher paper
- Ribbons
- Scotch tape

KENILWORTH MISSION COMMITTEE

December Collection Drive for Transition Projects



With the cold weather coming on, the new and vital Mission Committee has teamed up with Transition Projects to run a collection drive for winter items needed for warming centers and the homeless they serve. Both Kenilworth Church and the Creston Kenilworth community are invited to donate for this cause. Transition Projects have given us a list of needs and collection bags which you see in front of the pulpit. Transition Projects will pick up the filled bags and deliver them to a community warehouse where items will be distributed to warming stations and shelter for the homeless.

ITEMS NEEDED: blankets, towels, winter jackets, gloves and/or hand warmers, hats. Size large underwear for both men and women are especially needed.

Please do not donate socks as they are provided by companies that make them.

Donations will be collected from now until December 15th. We have donation receipts for any who want them for their taxes. We also have pamphlets with more information. Louise

Transition Projects website: <https://www.tprojects.org/>



Be sure to join us at the church **Saturday, December 7th at 1 pm** to sing our Christmas hymns for those at our neighboring care centers and independent living apartments. We'll even be singing for/with a couple of members. It has been suggested that we have pizza following the caroling. Barb



Kenilworth
Community Preschool

Save the Date
Reading & Crafts with
Teacher Kara

Saturday, December 7th
at Spoke and Word at 10:30am

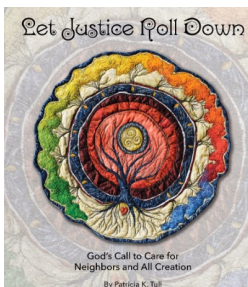
10863 SE Main St. Milwaukie

Join Teacher Kara for a read aloud
and fun crafts on the last day of our
book fair fundraiser!

Calling
Stocking
Stuffers!



Fort Kennedy will be stuffing hundreds of Christmas stockings for veterans this year. They invited us back after we assisted last year. **The date is December 14th from 10 am to 2 pm.** Please let Nancy know if you are interested in attending and if you need a ride. Parking is limited so carpooling is a good idea.



Kenilworth Presbyterian Women - Saturday, December 21st
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 3 dealing with Food Justice. Laura will lead the Bible Study.

Main idea of Lesson 3: The Bible portrays the earth as yielding food in abundance, and today's agricultural scientists say it could provide food for all. We can learn to produce food with justice and peace and feed a starving world.

*You crown the year with a bountiful harvest; even the hard pathways overflow with abundance.
The grasslands of the wilderness become a lush pasture, and the hillsides blossom with joy.
The meadows are clothed with flocks of sheep, and the valleys are carpeted with grain.
They all shout and sing for joy! Psalm 65:11-13*

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/2024/09/26/let-justice-roll-down-lesson-three-new/>



BUSY & BOUNTIFUL NOVEMBER

WOOHOO! We had another month of good weather for our Friday pantries. Thanks to the volunteers who stepped-up to fill-in while Cecily was on vacation; one more week to go without her. And thanks to the Presbyterian Women who helped repackage a lot of food on Halloween Day.

Sadly, this week was the last donation from Imperfect Foods as they prepare to close down their Portland operations. Their contributions will be sorely missed. Thankfully, G4G received two grants made to help with purchasing some of the groceries that are needed: \$1,500 from a Bisbee Grant (Cascades Presbytery), and \$1,000 from Grout's PTA. And Brooklyn Action Committee collected 296# of groceries at their Nov 10 th food drive.

I'm looking forward to working with all of you in December!
Laura Schaefer, director

People served

- 1,444 people from 424 households
 - 43 Wednesday deliveries
 - 15,661 # total groceries received
 - 10,357 # Oregon Food Bank
 - 1,862 # Imperfect Foods - **last contribution**
 - 1,302 # New Seasons - Woodstock
 - 1,038 # QFC - Westmoreland
 - 780 # Other Donations
 - 324 # Purchased
- Volunteers
368 Hours
37 People

Thank You

Dear Kenilworth peeps,
Thank you my dear friends at Kenilworth PC for sending me a lovely Thanksgiving card. That was very sweet to think of me. It made my day!
Grateful for you all as well.
Warm regards, Cherie

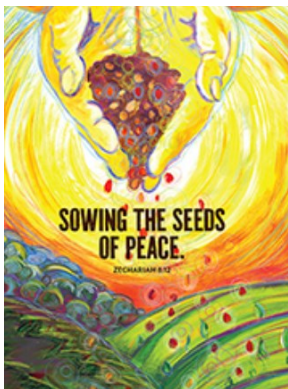
December Birthdays

- Jonathan Jewel 8
- Annette Mandel 8
- Louise Langley 27
- Caroline Broberg 30

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



*We always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers.
1 Thessalonians 1:1*



Special offerings received:
Peacemaking offering - \$695
Presbyterian Women
Thank offering - \$557



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



Session Highlights November 17, 2024



- The Mission Committee reported only one rent and two utility bills were subsidized in November.
- A blanket and coat drive will be conducted during Advent for The Transition Center.
- Portland State University will be conducting English as a Second Language (ESL) classes in the fireplace room in January.
- The Properties Committee will purchase four Carbon Monoxide detectors for placement in rooms were people gather.
- Tri Phase Electrical was able to complete most of the lighting conversion project. Two fluorescent ceiling fixtures need to be replaced. The electricians were not equipped to access the cove lights in the Sanctuary or the exterior security light. Energy Trust of Oregon will be contacted to determine if the conversion kits are still available for those lights.
- Paint has been purchased to improve the appearance of the East (Preschool) entrance. Preschool parents have volunteered to complete the painting project.
- A Bisbee Grant in the amount of \$1,500 was awarded by the Presbytery to purchase produce for G4G. Imperfect Foods will close their Tigard facility bringing an end to their generous weekly produce donations.
- Our Commissioners to Presbytery reported Capital Improvement loans are available from the Synod of the Pacific for projects that reduce the congregation's carbon footprint.
- Per Capita assessment will be \$50 per member in 2025.
- Session nominated Jonathan Jewel and Karl Berger to serve on the nominating committee. Jon and Karl are completing their terms on Session, and both expressed intentions to stand for reelection.
- The Welsh Society of Oregon has been authorized to use the Sanctuary for their choir performance during their regular meeting Saturday, December 7, 2024.
- Session authorized an application for an Oregon Department of Energy Nonprofit Security Grant for the purpose of updating all 7 exterior doors to keyless entry with exterior management.
- Twenty copies of an Advent Devotional were purchased and distributed. Pastor Susan will host a one hour discussion of the week's devotions Wednesday nights at 7 p.m. during Advent: December 4, December 11, and December 18.
- Bonhoeffer (the movie) was released in theaters November 22. Pastor Susan has emailed parishioners suggesting a watch-party after Thanksgiving. Those interested should respond to Pastor Susan so a date/time can be coordinated.
- The Pastor's Office Library /Reading Room will be open Thursdays from 2-4 p.m.
- Red Cross Blood Drive will be at KPC from 12:30 to 5:30 p.m. Thursday, December 5, 2024.
- The next Session meeting is scheduled for 1:30 p.m. Sunday, December 15, 2024 in the fireplace room.

Rick Votrobeck, Clerk of Session



BARB'S
NOTE-ABLE
NOTES



WHY HYMNS? Injected into every worship service are two or three hymns.

Why? When did they originate? What do they do? Here are answers to those questions as written by Simon Lole, a songs of praise conductor, composer, arranger and organist.

For almost two thousand year, Christians have used music as a way to worship. In the Bible the Apostle Paul writes: “Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs.”

The word ‘hymn’ comes from the Greek word “hymnos” which means “a song of praise.” Originally these would have been written in honor of the gods. Hymnody (the singing or composition of hymns) has evolved and changed over the centuries and been affected by new thinking and developing religious beliefs: throughout the history of the church, whenever there has been renewal, revival or restoration, new songs of worship have appeared.

During the Middle Ages hymnody developed in the form of Gregorian chant or ‘plainsong.’ It was sung in Latin and most often by monastic choirs. Listen to this example:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6WvGkCag-Ms> But in the 16th century, churchgoers were given much greater access to hymns as a result of the invention of the printing press and the influential German theologian, Martin Luther, who began encouraging people to sing together in congregations.

In England the non-conformist minister Isaac Watts (1674-1748) began a transformation of congregational singing. Watts believed strongly that hymns should express the religious feelings of the people and he became a prolific writer, creating hundreds of new hymns. Watts has been described as “the liberator of English hymnody” as his hymns moved people away from simply singing Old Testament psalms, inspiring people to sing from the heart, with great faith and understanding.

In the same period, another significant movement affected the hymns of the church: the Methodist movement, led by John Wesley. Wesley and especially his brother Charles used simple rhythms and singable melodies to help congregational singing. They wrote many of our most well-known hymns that are still very popular today.

In the late 19th Century a new style of hymnody known as “gospel” emerged. These songs were usually characterized by a strong lead vocal and exciting harmonies, and were a great influence on later contemporary worship worldwide.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4PAsnfuHIU&list=PLIbP91CQtIvsj8-vjCIENFl705998yeYB&index=2>

The twentieth and twenty first centuries have seen an explosion of new hymn writers and approaches. Old texts have been refreshed by new tunes and lots more contemporary hymns have sprung up. In the non-traditional church movement, there has been a move away from the previous style of congregational singing to worship led by one singer or a worship band. Instrumentation has become more popular and musical styles have become much freer.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DfW2mkkMTAg&list=RDATgofuchJhaXNlIGFuZCB3b3JzaG1w&index=15>

The church today is richer than ever in musical resources and continues to bring congregations together through song.

Be sure to join us at the church Saturday, December 7 at 1 pm to sing our Christmas hymns for those at our neighboring care centers and independent living apartments. We’ll even be singing for/with a couple of members. It has been suggested that we have pizza following the caroling.

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy 2025. May we find Peace on Earth.

Musically yours, Barbara Votrobeck



Green Team Report: This marks the end of our eighth year as an Earthcare Congregation. The Green Team thanks all of you for your continued support for a sustainable church and world. Many of the things we do are small and seemingly insignificant. However, the impact of all those little things we do, does make a difference.

The Green Team's wish for 2025 is for

- Continued and expanded recycling at the church
- The installation of a more sustainable source of heating (and cooling) in the church
- A one-day community recycling event in KPC's parking lot
- And any other sustainability effort you can suggest for us.



Merry Christmas and a Most Sustainable New Year

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

kenilworthpc@gmail.com

7 PM – Advent Conversation, Zoom meeting 895 7157 543

Dec 11 7 PM – Advent Conversation, Zoom meeting 895 7157 543

Dec 14 10-2:00 Fort Kennedy XMAS packing

Final collection of clothing, blankets & towels

for warming centers (no socks, please)

