

Kenilworth @ Work! November 2025



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

Talk Story at KPC



In Hawaii, 'talk story' is pidgin for talking with old friends, passing time by chit-chatting, or rekindling old times. Laura hopes this and future installments will rekindle old times.

This month I'm thinking of the 'old times' when it seemed easy to discern what was most important to do. Recently, it seems very difficult to decide. The following message from The Rev. Andria Skornik, Rector, All Saints Episcopal Church, came to my inbox last week and speaks directly to my question. I hope you find it helpful. Laura

The Most Important Thing You Can Do

The day will come when, after harnessing the ether, the winds, the tides, gravitation, we shall harness for God the energies of love. And, on that day, for the second time in the history of the world, man will have discovered fire. Pierre Teilhard de Chardin

October 24, 2025

This week I have been grieving. Grieving for the woman who showed up at our church in tears because she's not sure how the families in her care are going to have enough to eat. Grieving families being separated, as some of you are witnessing in your workplaces. Grieving things that are being said about our city that are not true.

Experiences like this can take a toll on our mental, physical and spiritual health and render us powerless. And so, I believe the most important thing you can do right now is to love yourself. Because when you are loving yourself in a healthy way, you have the capacity for the love that is needed everywhere else.

What that will look like is going to be different for everyone. For me, making time for things like singing, recreating in nature, spending undistracted time with friends and family where we laugh and tell stories, impromptu dance parties, praying and recalling scriptures that remind me of the truth of things and of the greater Love at work in the universe all help me love myself.

It's easy to lose sight of loving oneself in the name of loving and serving others. But you can't love or serve them well if loving yourself is missing from the equation. Jesus taught us this in the double command, teaching that the most important thing is to love God and love one's neighbor as oneself.

As Christians, we are meant to live in a beautiful Trinity of love where we are finding love from God, love from ourselves and love from and for others. When we are existing in this Love, we are not afraid. We know the truth that nothing can separate us from the love of God and that love never fails.

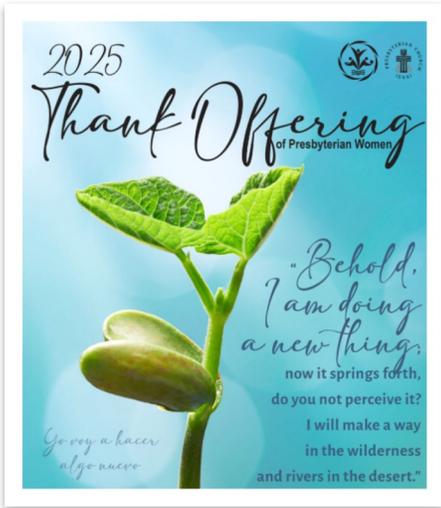
In love and peace, Andria



Kenilworth Prayer Circle. Tuesdays 4:00 PM via Zoom

If you would like to join the prayer group, please contact Rebecca to be included in the invitation to pray each week. If you would like to add someone or something to the prayer list, please contact Rebecca or the church office at KenilworthPC@gmail.com

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep praying for all the Lord's people. Ephesians 6:18



Presbyterian Women Thank Offering

Behold, I am doing a new thing, now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?

Isaiah 43:19

In 1888, in Springfield, Ohio, Eliza Clokey called upon women to give a “thank offering to their Lord” by offering one dollar in addition to their usual mission contribution. Today thousands of people benefit from programs that receive support through Thank Offering grants from Presbyterian Women.

We celebrate Eliza’s vision and her willingness to do “a new thing,” by asking her friends to give more than they had before. And we continue her mission of making a way for others through our generosity today.

In 2024, contributions to the Thank Offering totaled \$557.06. Can we raise that amount this year? It is up to you.

Presbyterian Women will highlight some of the grants that were selected last year during worship. Listen to hear about what a little extra “thank you” dollars can do. Thank you for your support.

SOUPER HOT TOPIC: Burn Out and Self Care, Thursday, November 15 5:30 pm



The October Hot Topic gathering featured Swedish Meatball Soup, Kale Salad, Poached Pears and Pear Bread. Ten people gathered around the fire place to discuss the topic of “hate.” Did you know that God hates seven things. Check out Proverbs 6:16-19. The consensus was that we hate “hate.”

Due to schedule conflicts the November gathering will be held on Thursday November 13, gathering to eat about 5:30 before adjourning for conversation. The “Hot Topic” will consider “burn out” and “self-care,” based on an article from the September-October 2025 issue of Horizons Magazine, “The Theology and Practice of Self-Care” by Rev. Dr. Anita Wright. A copy of the article is available near the sign up sheet in the Fireplace Room. Sign up to join the discussion and to provide soup, bread, salad or dessert.

Support Kenilworth Community Preschool



KCP Wreath Sale

Orders due Thursday
November 13

See page 6 for details.

KCP Dine-Out Benefit

Hopworks Brewery

2944 SE Powell Blvd

Monday, Nov 17 4 - 9 pm

20% of your total donated to KCP!




American Red Cross Blood Drive

Kenilworth Presbyterian Church

Thursday, December 4

Kenilworth hosted a successful blood drive on September 18. Eighteen appointments were made and 18 units of blood collected (2 more than the goal).



To schedule your appointment or for more information, please call 1-800-RED-CROSS or visit www.redcrossblood.org
Sponsor Code: Kenilworth



Kenilworth Presbyterian Women - Saturday, November 15

Meeting 9:30 am Bible Study 10:00 am



This year's Bible study, *Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity in Jesus Christ*, continues with Lesson 3: "Christ's wilderness experience shows us that when our lives are dangerous and frightening, we are not alone." Louise will lead Lesson 3.

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us. Romans 5:1-5

Session Highlights October 19, 2025



- Financial reports showed September expenses exceeded income by \$210. Expenses were in line with budget projections, however income from regular giving was down in September. September mission expense was \$987.
- Session voted to pay \$20/week to have the Sanctuary dusted and vacuumed.
- A key to the North door has been lost. Session voted to hire a locksmith to install a new fire exit lock that will always automatically lock when the door is closed.
- Properties Committee installed a LED security bulb outside that reduces electricity consumption from 175 watts to 54 watts.
- Jonathan shared the Emergency Freeze Plan, a written document outlining procedures to prevent damages in the event of a power failure when temperatures are sub-freezing.
- One preschool family is moving away which will reduce enrollment to 10.
- Creston/Kenilworth Neighborhood Association hosted another open forum in the church sanctuary Monday evening, October 27 featuring the city council Vice President Tiffany Koyama Lane.
- All six of the Ruling Elders and the Clerk of Session completed one of the Boundary Training Sessions led by Paul Belz-Templeman October 9 and October 16.
- Session authorized use of the church parking lot for a Community Dumpster Day sponsored by the Creston-Kenilworth Neighborhood Association with a required proof of insurance.
- Session gave tentative approval for the East Multnomah Community Music Association to store their baby grand piano in our Sanctuary.
- An Advent Music Concert in lieu of craft night has been tentatively approved with a date still to be determined.
- Weekly pulpit supply:

November 2	Rev. David Jewel
9	Rev. Tim Winslea, RN
16	Pastor Shela Sullivan
23	Rev. Michaela Drummond

November 30 to December 21 An Advent Series by Rev. Michaela Drummond



BARB'S NOTE-ABLE NOTES

It is a good thing to give thanks to the LORD and to sing praises to Your name, O Most High. Psalm 92:1 NKJV

COME, YE THANKFUL PEOPLE, COME



Our early American leaders wisely realized the importance of having a special day each year in which people could recount their blessings and express gratitude to God for all of His goodness.

The first thanksgiving was decreed by Governor Bradford in 1621 to commemorate the Pilgrims' harvest. Later George Washington proclaimed November 26, 1789 as a national day of thanksgiving, but the holiday was not repeated on a national basis until Abraham Lincoln named it a national Harvest Festival on November 26, 1861. After that time, the holiday was proclaimed annually by the president and the governors of each state. Finally in 1941, Congress passed a bill naming the fourth Thursday of each November as Thanksgiving Day.

The first stanza of this harvest hymn by **Henry Alford** is an invitation and an exhortation to give thanks to God in His earthly temple - our local church - for the heavenly care and provision of our earthly need. The following two stanzas are an interesting commentary on the parable of the wheat and the tares as recorded in Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43. The final stanza is a prayer for the Lord's return - "The final harvest home."

You can listen to it hear: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R_i4GVzXBu8

ADVENT: Just a peek at Advent, coming soon.

We will be opening each Advent worship service with the lighting of the Advent candles. If you have a burning  desire to lead the reading of the litany, let me know and I will get you scheduled.

It was suggested that the Advent Craft Night be a Night of Song. Session approved this suggestion, so if you have some Christmas music you've wanted to perform, again contact me and I will get you on the program. There will also be the singing of Christmas carols by all.



I WISH YOU ALL A HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

Musically yours,
Barbara Votrobeck



GREEN TEAM NEWS

I recently read a posting on the internet that suggested using bar soap instead of liquid soap was an environmentally sound practice. I had not heard this before and decided to explore this topic for our newsletter article. Here are some of the things I found. Rebecca

- Bar soap is generally more eco-friendly and cost-effective
- It requires less packaging, think cardboard box or plastic wrap versus plastic bottle and pump
- It can be gentler on the skin
- It is lighter to transport, hence less carbon emissions
- It can last longer than a bottle of liquid soap, thus more economical
- Bar soap is often less expensive
- Some studies have shown that bar soap is more effective at killing germs than anti-bacterial liquid soaps
- It is more portable for travel
- Bar soap requires fewer preservatives



Statistics for October are yet to be compiled, but the month was very busy. In recent weeks the Friday pantry experienced a huge spike in the number of clients. Everyone is concerned with the greater need because of the government shutdown and changes to SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) benefits. The wider community has responded with food & monetary donations and offers of volunteering.

On Tuesday, October 28, G4G delivered the first bags of easily-prepared meals and snacks for distribution to select students prior to the 4-day weekend Oct 30-Nov3. Kate, the school social worker, wrote:

Thank you for the drop off today! The backpack bags for the students are so wonderful. I sent a few home today and some more of the snacks. This is going to be so well received by families and incredibly helpful to us at the school. Thank you thank you!! I've also had some families reach out because they are low on groceries this week. I have shared pantry info with about four families that might not have accessed it in the past. Thank you for your help and work!

SUMPTUOUS SEPTEMBER



Produce	Sep #
Watermelon	3,472
Strawberries	2,199
Carrots	964
Galia melon	869
Onion	820
Cantaloupe	688
Cabbage	504
Celery	491
Zucchini	422
Peaches	406
Pears	401
Cucumbers	365
Potatoes	362
Apples	361
Lettuce	329
	12,653

The wealth of fresh produce received from Oregon Food Bank in September made it difficult to answer questions about the impact of government cuts. In the four Fridays of the month we received and distributed over **6 Tons** of produce. This was augmented by contributions from community and family gardens. Nonetheless, there is a notable **downturn in the other offerings** from the Oregon Food Bank. And a notable **upturn in the number of clients** on Fridays.

We've discontinued the Wednesday deliveries to *fragile families* with the return of students to Grout. The Social Worker and I are working on alternative ways to support the *many* Grout families needing help with groceries. Thanks to **Ally, Alan, Edith and Cecily** who made the deliveries happen for so many months!

I also announced that the pantry hours will stay at 12-noon to 1:00 on Fridays for the remainder of the year. We will close on the Fridays following Thanksgiving and Christmas.
 Laura Schaefer, director

People served in September

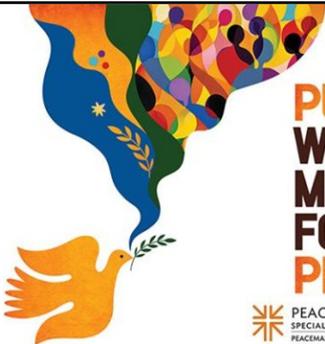
1,345 people from 387 households
1 delivery

19,631 # total groceries received

16,887 # Oregon Food Bank
1,117 # New Seasons - Woodstock
676 # QFC – Westmoreland
130 # Garden donations
49 # Other Donations

Volunteers

338 Hours
33 People



PURSUE WHAT MAKES FOR PEACE.

PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
PEACEMAKING AND RECONCILIATION

Kenilworth collected \$622 for the 2025 Peace & Global Witness Offering. Twenty-five percent (\$155.50) remains in our treasury to support peacemaking and reconciliation in our community.



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

David Jewel	10
Daniel Upchurch	13
Paul Youngs	18



KCP 2025

WREATH SALE

Order By: 11/13



28" Mixed Traditional \$25



28" El Dorado \$35



15' Cedar Garland \$30



Traditional Door Swag \$25

Questions?
Contact Kenilworth
Community
Preschool



Cash or Checks

Distribution:
Dec. 2nd.
12pm-1pm

