



Kenilworth @ Work!

February 2026



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

KPC Five Week Lenten Study: Wednesdays in Lent, Feb 25-March 25 6:15pm-8pm

Walking the Way of the Cross with Paul

We will gather at 6:15pm for a light meal. Beginning around 7pm, Rev. David Jewel, KPC Pastor Emeritus, will lead our study and conversation about the Apostle Paul's understanding of the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. We will make use of "Walking the Way of the Cross with Paul," by Brian Rensberger, published The Thoughtful Christian, Copyright © 2012. The series offers something for those who attend only once or several times during the season.



Week One: February 25

Part One: Who was Paul? Historical context from Acts 7-9.

Part Two: What happened on the Cross?

Part Three: Paul's Understanding of the Crucifixion from Galatians 6 and 2 Corinthians 5.

Week Two: March 3

Part One: The context of the Cross in first century Palestine

Part Two: A Crucified Messiah, 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

Week Three: March 10

Part One: Was God on the Cross?

Part Two: The Cross as Pivot Point, Philippians 2

Week Four: March 17

Part One: Being Crucified with Christ, Galatians 2: 11-21 and Galatians 5

Part Two: Dying to the World and Being Born In Christ

Week Five March 25

Part One: Power Perfected in Weakness: Romans 12, 13, and 14

Part Two: Can The Cross be understood as a Creative Act

Studying Paul's letters to the early Christian Church may help us understand what the Cross meant to Paul. But more importantly, it can help us reflect on what the Cross means to us.



**Annual Meeting of the
Kenilworth congregation
Sunday, February 15 following worship**





Kenilworth Presbyterian Women

Bible Study & Meeting, Saturday, February 10:00 am



This year's Bible study, *Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity in Jesus Christ*, continues with Lesson 6: Finding Our Joy in Christ: "I Will Say it Again, Rejoice." The main idea is "Christian joy emerges from a deep belief that God is good, and God reigns forever." Louise will lead Lesson 6.



⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! ⁵ Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:4-7

**American Red Cross
Blood Drive
Kenilworth PC
Thursday, February 26
12:30 Noon to 5:30 pm**



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

IMPORTANT: Prep Before You Donate!



Sleep

Get a good night's sleep.



Eat

Eat a healthy meal with iron-rich foods like eggs, meat and spinach.



Hydrate

Drink an extra 16 oz. of water.

Coffee Hour Spectacular

Usually coffee hour includes some miscellaneous treats to go with the coffee and tea.

Coffee hour on Sundays when Session is going to meet are usually more generous so that Session members who are also in the choir can attend the meeting without worrying about stomach growls.

Jon and Sharese sent Coffee Hour to the next level on January 18, with this stupendous 6-foot-long sandwich. Can't wait to see what February brings.





Session Highlights January 18, 2026



- Session welcomed our new Temporary Moderator, Rev. Suzan Ireland.
- Financial reports showed December income exceeded expenses by \$13,528. A personal thank-you was sent to one friend of the congregation for their unexpected \$10,000 donation. Most expenses were in line with budget expectations, however office supplies and our Workers' Compensation Insurance premium were both more than double budget projections. Savings on heating oil expense more than offset those deficiencies.
- Mission Committee reported one family's rent was paid, and one family received a three-month extension of their preschool tuition assistance agreement. A second family requested and Session approved a 2-month extension of their preschool tuition assistance agreement.
- Properties committee plans to reject a locksmith's bid, and install a new panic bar lock on the North entry door themselves. They also plan to repair the sagging door hinge so that door closes completely. Session approved a plan to install a new motion activated flood light above the North entry door, and new combination bolt latches to replace the padlocks on the two yard gates. The timer for the front entry porch light has been replaced with a new one. Session requested properties committee investigate the cost of striping parking places in the church parking lot.
- Session voted to approve new church checking, savings and credit card accounts at OnPoint Credit Union.
- Session voted to affirm the decision to schedule three one-week Summer Art Camps with utilities reimbursed at the rate of \$10/hour. The half-day camps will be June 22-26, August 3-7, and either July 13-17 or July 20-24 (TBA).
- The Stated Supply Commission will meet at 1:30 pm, February 1 to discuss revisions to the Stated Supply Position description.
- The Nominating Committee has identified two candidates for election to the office of Elder at the Annual Meeting of the Congregation February 15, 2026. **Reminder: Written annual reports are currently due in the church office.** Newly elected Elders will be installed during Worship, Sunday, February 22, 2026.
- The Session voted to affirm their email support to purchase \$25 Barnes & Noble Christmas gift certificates for our three 2025 Moderators: Rev. Susan McDougall, Rev. Sue Van Stelle, and Rev. David Dornack.
- Session voted in favor of adding a \$100 expense budget for the Green Team to recycle disposable items at James Recycling Locations.
- Session voted to approve the demographic statistics for the annual Statistics Report to the Denomination, and established an Administrative Commission including Laura Schaefer and Rick Votrobeck to finalize the financial statistics for 2025.
- Session voted to approve an invitation to Rev. David Jewel to serve as pulpit supply from Ash Wednesday, February 18 throughout the season of Lent, including Maundy Thursday, April 2, and Easter Sunday, April 5, 2026.
- Session voted to approve The Green Team's application letter for recertification of KPC as an Earthcare Congregation.
- Session voted in favor of hosting a series of Lenten dinners on five consecutive Wednesday evenings beginning 6:00 pm, February 25 with programs discussing the Journeys of St. Paul the Apostle.



- PW has scheduled the annual Spring Tea Fundraiser Saturday, May 16th focusing on Rose Haven Day Shelter and Community Center in Portland.
- The February Session meeting will be scheduled for February 22, 2026 at 1:30 pm.
- Weekly pulpit supply:

February	1	Pastor Shela Sullivan
	8	Pastor Susan Dingle
	15	Rev. Michaela Drummond
	18	Ash Wednesday, 7:30 pm - Rev. David Jewel
Feb 22 - Mar 29		Sundays of Lent - Rev. David Jewel
April	2	Maundy Thursday, 7:30 pm - Rev. David Jewel
	5	Easter Sunday - Rev. David Jewel
	12	Bright Sunday - St. Paul the Apostle Comes to Portland
	19	Gifts of Women Sunday - Presbyterian Women
	26	Earth Care Sunday - The Green Team



**GREEN
TEAM
NEWS**

Wishful Recycling Thank you for all the items left in the recycling bins at the church. The Green Team has been busy sorting through the items, getting them ready for a trip to James Recycling. Here are some of the things we found:



- Lots of little pieces of plastic. We cannot recycle these. Please look for a number on any plastic you want to recycle. If you can not find a number, neither can the Green Team. Please dispose of these in your trash.
- Food and pills. Please wash all containers, especially if they contain powder. We found a plastic container with desiccated blueberries and bottles with powder residue. Obviously, they had not been washed. We also found a pill bottle, with the pills still in it.
- Labels on pill bottles. A lot of bottles look like someone had tried to wash the label off. Most pill bottle labels will pull off easily. Do not wet the label. The Green Team does not know if James Recycling will take those bottles with partially removed labels.
- Colored number 1 plastic. We do not have a place to recycle black or dyed number 1's. Please place these items in your trash.
- Pull tabs, mailers, and meat trays. We are not collecting these at this time. If you know of a place where we can take them, please let the Green Team know.





BARB'S NOTE-ABLE NOTES



Mary Louise Bringle

Sign Us with Ashes by Mary Louise Bringle

Refrain:

*Sign us with ashes, merciful God,
children of dust, as to dust we return.
Sign us with ashes, merciful God.
Mark us and make us your own.*

Stanza 1:

*Surely, you alone can save us.
You pay our price with precious blood.
Reaching through your great compassion,
you lift up your people with love.*

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Sign Us with Ashes was first published in *In Wind and Wonder* (2007), an anthology of Mary Louise Bringle's poems paired with a musical setting for each text. Bringle (b. 1953) is a professor of philosophy and religious studies at Brevard College in Brevard, North Carolina, a past president of The Hymn Society in the United States and Canada (2008-2010), the chair of the committee responsible for *Glory to God* (2013), the most recent denominational hymnal for the Presbyterian Church (USA), and a prolific award-winning hymn writer. She wrote the refrain text in 2003 after composer William P. Rowan (b. 1951) suggested to her a need "for a hymn with a stanza/refrain structure that could be sung alternately by a choir (or cantor) and congregation during an Ash Wednesday service as people moved forward to receive the imposition of ashes" (Bringle, 2007, p. 120).

"The refrain incorporates the traditional words used during the imposition ("Remember, O mortal, that you are dust, and to dust you will return") and employs both repetition and alliteration ("mark us and make us") as mnemonic devices, enabling people to remember the text readily enough to sing it while processing, without having to carry a hymnal," wrote Bringle. The text is reminiscent of Genesis 3:19, Isaiah 40:7 (Bringle, 2007, p. 120), and the Latin trope *Memento mori*. What followed thereafter was a synergistic collaboration. Upon receiving the refrain text, Rowan wrote the tune for both the refrain and stanza. Bringle then wrote the stanza lyrics. She often writes with a specific tune in mind, collaborating with tune writers and drawing inspiration from their music, which in turn gives life to her hymn texts (Stern, *Canterbury Dictionary*).

As expressed in the refrain, the recognition of the frailty and uncertainty of human life is contrasted with the certitude of the goodness and power of God in the stanzas. With Rowan's tune for the stanza, Bringle adroitly paired the combination of a half note and a quarter note downward interval of a third at the start of the stanza with the word, "Surely," accentuating the singers' confidence that God will indeed "save" (st. 1), "uphold" (st. 2), "heal" (st. 3), "free" (st. 4), "refine" (st. 5), and "redeem" (st. 6).

God "alone" *saves* us, paying our penalty with his "precious blood." (st. 1)

God "alone" *upholds* us, giving us "strength for all our needs." (st. 2)

God "alone" *heals* us, making us "whole." (st. 3)

God "alone" *frees* us, breaking the "bonds of guilt and sin." (st. 4)

God "alone" *refines* us, giving us "grace for lives made new" (st. 5)

God "alone" *redeems* us, filling our dust-made vessels with His "holy breath." (st. 6)

When this musical motif of a downward interval of a third appears again in the second half of the stanza, Bringle paired it with a list of present active participles—"reaching" (st. 1), "shielding" (st. 2), "soothing" (st. 3), "bracing" (st. 4), "forging" (st. 5), and "bursting" (st. 6), attesting to God's continual active protection and work in our lives. The pairing of the verb with the half note in each participle allows singers to linger and recall God's operative power. The downward interval portrays an assuring sense of God stretching down to reach us.

Finally, the gentle rise consisting of seven quarter notes in the last phrase conveys a gentle strengthening of the weakened heart, mind, and soul, with each stanza ending with a transformed state of wholeness—being lifted up (st. 1), pardoned and at peace (st. 2), consoled (st. 3), hopeful (st. 4), a “worthy” living “sacrifice” (st. 5), and finally, victory from “death” (st. 6), before returning to the refrain, recognizing that we, as “children of dust,” are nothing apart from God. So, “Mark us and make us your own, O merciful God!”

I pray you will join us for our Ash Wednesday service February 18 at 7:30 pm. It is a very meaningful beginning to Lent. (It is not required that you receive the ashes.) Musically yours, Barbara Votrobeck



February Birthdays

Pearl Broberg
February 22

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

Generous Kenilworthians



It is our tradition to bring a donation of socks, mittens, and hats on Christmas eve and place them in a small manger as a gift for the newborn Christ child. These items are given to Grout Elementary School for those children who need them. This year we donated 16 hats, 14 pairs of gloves, and 60 socks. Thank you.



Support Kenilworth Community Preschool



**HENRY HIGGINS
BOILED BAGELS**

**Monday,
February 9
7 am - 3 pm**

6420 SE Foster Rd
15% of sales donated to KCP.
Thank you for your support.



**PRESCHOOL
OPEN HOUSE
FEB. 7, 10AM - 2PM**

www.kenilworthcps.org

Visit the classroom.
Meet the teacher and
current families.
Learn about the benefits
of a co-op preschool!



**Ash Wednesday,
February 18**



*“Create in Me a clean heart, O God and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.”
Psalm 51:10-12*

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 18. As we enter this sacred season, the theme that resonates through our hearts and echoes in our prayers is “Restore Us.” Lent is a journey of reflection, repentance, and renewal, a pilgrimage of the soul where we honestly seek God’s transformative touch.



In these forty days, we embark on a profound exploration of restoration, both individually and as a community. The Psalmist’s cry, “Restore to me the joy of your salvation” (Psalm 51:12) and, “Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved!” (Psalm 80:3), becomes our collective plea, uniting us in the pursuit of spiritual rejuvenation.

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church Seattle, WA <https://ourredeemers.net/>

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