

# Kenilworth at Work!

## April 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*

### Palm/Passion Sunday, Holy Week and Easter at Kenilworth Presbyterian Church and Beyond



March 29 marked the Sunday known as Palm Sunday, which recalls the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem with people waving palm branches and greeting Jesus with shouts of joy. At KPC, Palm Sunday worship celebrated that triumphant entrance with a procession of palms and congregational & choir songs of Alleluia, Shout Hosanna!

Palm Sunday is also known as Passion Sunday, and our worship service also began our movement into Holy Week. In this week, events surrounding Jesus are recalled; his cleansing of the temple, his anointing, the Last Supper, his arrest, trial, crucifixion, death, and burial.

At 7:30 pm, Thursday evening April 2, known as Maundy Thursday, KPC will offer a worship service in the pattern of a Tenebrae, a service of shadows and darkness. The sacrament of Communion will be celebrated. Plans are to have this service held in the Fireside room.

On Friday, April 3, known as Good Friday, we are encouraged to avail ourselves of services in our communities that recall Christ's obedience even unto death on the cross. Some may attend a Worship Service at Resurrection Lutheran Church 1700 NE 132nd Ave, Portland, at 7 pm on April 3. Their service features jazz music. All are encouraged to find services or events or other ways to honor this day.

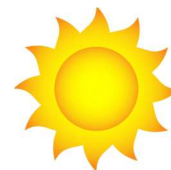


April 5 is Easter Sunday, our joyous celebration of the transforming love of God, revealed in Jesus Christ, made known in the Holy Spirit. We will celebrate with special music and the sacrament of Communion, where all are welcomed to the Table of our Lord. It's also Birthday Sunday for April Birthdays. Our time of refreshments and fellowship follows this and all our Sunday services.

April is a great month in our life in Christ! As the month progresses, we will also enjoy Bright Sunday, Gifts of Women Sunday, and Earth Care Sunday. In person or online, come as you are, and go changed by love.

### Bright Sunday April 12

In keeping with a tradition that began in the middle-ages in Europe and which spans 15 years at KPC, we will celebrate Bright Sunday on the Sunday after Easter. Medieval tradition has it that priests would play practical jokes on parishioners in the week following Easter, to celebrate that God played a joke on the Devil, raising Jesus Christ to life after the Devil thought he had won when Jesus died upon the cross.



KPC celebrates holy humor in honor of Rev. Elmer "Bud" Frimoth, who decades ago sowed seeds of laughter into the DNA of KPC. As in recent years, we will center Bright Sunday worship around the premiere of an original play where a biblical character comes to Portland. This year, it's the Apostle Paul, a self-proclaimed fool for Christ (1 Corinthians 4:10). He doesn't actually come to Portland, but communicates in texts, emails, and letters back and forth with the Church at 34<sup>th</sup> and Gladstone.

Dock (Dad) jokes, new words to old hymns, a kazoo chorus, and an open mic for "jokes fit to be told in church" will frame the fun. Experience church unexpected! Don't miss it if you can!



### Coffee Hour Donations for Easter Sunday April 5

Easter is a busy time for families. And no one wanted the extra stress of being coffee hour host that Sunday. We have decided to make coffee hour on Easter a community event. Everyone is welcome to participate. We already have regular and gluten-free cakes for birthday Sunday, deviled eggs and pickled beets and eggs. Please come and share the bounty. There will be other items



donated that Sunday. Chocolate peanut butter eggs are especially welcome. So are black jelly beans. There is a sign up sheet in the Fireplace Room.

### Have you heard of Repair PDX?

If not check this out! They have volunteers who will fix broken small appliances, repair bicycles, mend clothing and sharpen tools & knives. ALL for FREE!!



The next repair event will be April 11 at Leaven Community Center, 5431 NE 20th, Portland, OR 97211. Hours will be 12 - 3 pm. They do request that if you plan to bring something for repair or sharpening that you register your item on-line at their website: [www.repairpdx.org](http://www.repairpdx.org)

### Fun Food for Bright Sunday, April 12

What would be more fun to do after Holy Humor worship than to find "fun food" at coffee hour. There will not be a Coffee Hour Host for Bright Sunday. Instead, everyone is asked to bring a "fun food" to share. There will be a sign up sheet in the Fireplace Room. Have fun finding a fun food to share.

How about Bugs on a Log? Is that fun?



### Kenilworth Presbyterian Women



### Bible Study & Meeting Saturday, April 18 10:00 am

This year's Bible study, *Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity in Jesus Christ*, continues with Lesson 8: Remembering Jesus' Baptism. The main idea is "In baptism we are identified as God's children charged to serve faithfully, justly and lovingly." Laura will lead Lesson 8.



### Souper Hot Topic Returns Wednesday, April 22 5:30 pm

The topic this month revolves around the question of what young people/parents want from religion. The resource material is three articles from a variety of sources that explore this issue. A packet containing copies of the three articles will be available in the Fireplace Room.



Join the discussion after a tasty meal of soup, salad and dessert. A sign up sheet can be found in the Fireplace Room, or send a message to [kenilworthpc@gmail.com](mailto:kenilworthpc@gmail.com).



- Carol Garner 6
- Alan Zimmerman 10
- Nancy Youngs 14

- ◇ O Lord, grant us the grace to grow deeper in our respect of and care for your creation.
- ◇ O Lord, help us to recognize the sacredness of all of your creatures as signs of your wondrous love.
- ◇ O Lord, help us turn from the selfish consumption of resources meant for all and to see the impacts of our choices on the poor and vulnerable. *-author unknown*





### Community Garden Plots



The calendar says Spring is here and there is a garden plot available for rent in the church community garden. The plot is approximately 8 x 10' in size and there will be a water timer available that you can connect to soaker hoses for watering the spot.

Please see Nancy if you are interested. The rental cost for this year is \$60 per spot. This is a reminder for returning gardeners: please submit your payment and sign the release form.

### Stockpot for Socks



In January we provided 66 pairs of socks for homeless folks. The need is still there for warm dry socks for the homeless community. We've heard back from our contact that hats and gloves would be appreciated as well for those sleeping outside even during warmer months. The Stockpot for Socks is available in the narthex if you would like to donate.



### MARCH MADNESS AT G4G

No basketball involved; only bread. March was very busy with repairing equipment, assembling new equipment, building a website and feeding

the same number of people with less food. Federal cuts and inflation are having an impact. Then there's the occasional rain forecast that calls for canopies, with no rain but winds strong enough to lift a canopy and blow it over the fence into the community garden. The canopy didn't survive.

Please check out the website: <https://www.groceries4grout.info/>

#### People served

2,003 people from 514 households

#### 14,186 # total groceries received

10,373 # Oregon Food Bank

1,088 # New Seasons - Woodstock

1,200 # QFC – Westmoreland

1,813 # City Team Ministries

79 # Other Donations

120 # Purchased

#### Volunteers

333 Hours

35 People



### Lenten Dinner Wrap-Up

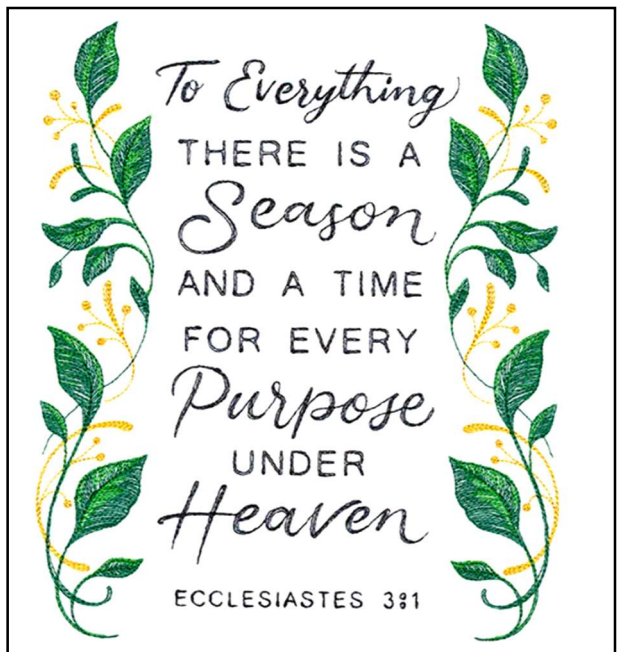


A big thank you to all the folks who helped make our Lenten midweek program a success this year.

A special thanks to the Dinner Captains: Becky, Tammy, Sharese, Eleanore, Barbara and Nancy. And to all who brought

salads, desserts, and other items to make each meal a feast. Thanks also to Carol and Edith for setting up a lovely dining room each week, and for all the helping hands who helped clean up the mess before going home.

And a great big THANK YOU to Pastor David for providing an informative and challenging look at Paul's view of the cross.





## Session Highlights February 15, 2026



- Financial reports showed February expenses exceeded income by \$1,447. Most expenses were in line with budget expectations. Our annual Per Capita of \$1,200 was paid plus a \$400 quarterly deposit on our Presbytery Mission pledge. Per Capita is billed as \$50 per member by the Presbytery, so if members could designate part of your pledge as a Per Capita contribution that will help us cover that cost.
- The Treasurer affirmed the budget amendments proposed by the Session, and identified one additional agreement for use of meeting space to increase proposed income another \$720.
- Mission Committee reported one family's rent was paid.
- Properties committee reported that new anti-slip protection was added to the stairs inside the North entry. The North rain gutter clog has finally been successfully cleared, and the South bank of cove lights in the sanctuary has been converted from fluorescent to LED fixtures.
- Session voted to accept the \$500 bid proposal from Rose City Paving to add striping for the parking lot spaces, plus a request to modify their plan with two additional spaces.
- A half-day Preschool Summer Camp has been scheduled from June 29 - July 2, 2026.
- Thank-you to the fifteen responders to the survey of the congregation. Elders plan to meet with Rev. Clark Scalera, Presbytery Advocate for Congregations and Clergy, to use your information to refine our position description to attract our next Stated Supply candidate.
- The committee of Elders met for an all-day retreat at the Votrobeck's home on March 14. The agenda included the annual review of the four required written policies of Kenilworth Presbyterian Church, a breakout planning session for the Mission Committee and the Properties Committee to identify plans and goals for 2026, and a discussion of a proposed Land Acknowledgement for KPC.
- Session voted to reaffirm the current Policy and Procedure on Sexual Misconduct and the current Kenilworth Presbyterian Church Harassment and Complaint Procedure as written.
- Session identified a typing error that needs to be corrected in the Antiracism Policy, and several changes that are needed in the Child, Youth, and Vulnerable Adult Abuse Prevention Policy before approval can be given.
- On March 11 a round-table discussion of the future of the Presbytery Urban Network (PUN) met at the Calvary PC Recovery Café. Parish Nurse, Rev. Tim Winslea and Rev. Josh Dunham met in a Hybrid Zoom meeting with representatives from several of the PUN churches. Laura Schaefer, Rick and Barb Votrobeck attended representing KPC.
- Consensus of those attending proposed that Rev. Winslea would continue to lead a weekly prayer circle from his new residence for a monthly fee of \$400. Rev. Winslea stated that the original intentions of the Parish Nurse Program were mostly met when the Affordable Care Act was enacted. Discussion focused on options to replace the program with a different grant proposal or to dissolve the Presbyterian Urban Network.
- Session voted to have the KPC Clerk draft a new proposal to replace the Parish Nurse Grant with a Parish Social Worker Grant and deliver the proposal to the PUN Church Sessions for their consideration.
- A KPC member has offered to commission a Land Acknowledgement Plaque for display within Kenilworth Presbyterian Church. Session voted to have the Clerk prepare the Acknowledgement statement for review at the regular April Session meeting.
- Session voted to approve a G4G application for an Oregon Food Bank Network, Capacity Building Grant (CBG), and authorized any additional requests for donations in support of retrofitting our building with a lift allowing the Food Pantry to be moved downstairs.
- The April Session meeting is scheduled for April 19, 2026 at 1:30 pm.



# Kenilworth Presbyterian Church is Certified as a PC(USA) Earth Care Congregation



KPC was certified as an Earth Care Congregation by the Presbyterian Church U.S.A.'s Presbyterian Hunger Program through February 2027. The Earth Care Congregation certification is designed to recognize churches that take seriously God's charge to "till and keep" the garden, that is our shared common home.



Since 2010, this PC-USA program certifies and celebrates environmental ministry across 4 major areas of a congregation's life: worship, education, facilities, and outreach in the community. This program currently has 4.5% of all PC-USA congregations and continues to grow each year.

Earth Care Congregations exist as important examples for congregations across the country. One of the goals of this program is to inspire churches to care for God's earth in a holistic way, through integrating earth care into all aspects of their church life. By the time a church has recertified for several years, the earth care ethic becomes ingrained in a congregation's culture, spreads to the surrounding community, and impacts the personal lives of individual church members.

Obtaining this status speaks to the serious commitment that we have made to care for God's earth.

KPC is just one of the 373 congregations in 42 states that chose to dedicate themselves to intentional care of God's earth this year. This denominational program for churches has lasted longer and been more successful than some other models we've seen. The individual churches deserve all the credit for the success of the program. Our Earth Care Congregations are vital parts of their communities and inspirational witnesses to caring for God's creation and we are so grateful for their presence in the world," says Jessica Maudlin, Associate for Sustainable Living and Earth Care Concerns for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

For more information on the Earth Care Congregations program, visit [www.pcusa.org/earthcarecongregations](http://www.pcusa.org/earthcarecongregations).



**PRESBYTERIAN HUNGER PROGRAM**  
*certifies*

***Kenilworth Presbyterian Church***

*as an*

**EARTH CARE CONGREGATION**

*on this*

***10th+ year of certification***

*for its outstanding environmental stewardship achievements in worship, education, facilities and outreach in the life of the church.*

Through February, 2027

Signature     *Jessica Maudlin*     Date     3/13/2026    

Associate for Sustainable Living and Earth Care Concerns



**EARTH CARE**  
CONGREGATIONS

"The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it." Psalm 24:1



**Compassion, Peace & Justice**



## BARB'S NOTE-ABLE NOTES

### “When God is Silent”



*The following is a blog from composer/arranger Heather Sorenson. I'm guessing at least one comment will speak to you...if you are listening.*



Heather Sorenson

“The silence of God is something with which I’m well acquainted. From a human standpoint, I can tell you: I’m not a fan.

I’m in the process of selling my house right now, and my realtor rightly called me Whirlwind Heather today in our phone chat. And she was right. I tend to decide quickly and act even faster. I’m self-employed, and it’s the only way to get things done!

I’m also a huge fan of prayer and generally insert my praying into the beginning of the whirlwind process. There are times when my get-it-done approach completely stalls out because of God’s silence in a matter that requires His direction. These are times that require and grow patience (insert wry smile). While I definitely prefer

God’s voice to His silence, I tend to recognize these times as “for my good,” even in the midst of my stalled-out whirlwind.

But there’s another level of divine silence—the kind that goes deeper than my whirlwind to-do list. A silence that stretches your faith so thin that you can almost see through it. A silence that shakes your identity as God’s child. What kind of Father is silent when His child is crying out to Him? You wait. You search the Scriptures. And instead of clarity, you find silence. When we are crying out for direction, healing, provision, or relief, silence can feel like absence. It can even feel like abandonment.

But Scripture teaches us that God’s silence is not the same thing as God’s absence. In fact, some of the most profound movements of God in Scripture emerge from seasons that felt very quiet at the time.

One of my favorite lines I’ve written is in the song *Not One Falls*: “Heaven is not careless with our grief.” Here are a few things to remember when heaven seems silent:

- Silence is not empty. It’s often where God speaks most clearly.
- The problem with silence is not that nothing is happening. The problem is that we are accustomed to noise.
- Our world trains us to expect constant stimulation, constant answers, constant reassurance. But God often speaks in ways that require stillness to hear. When Elijah encountered the Lord on the mountain, God was not in the wind, the earthquake, or the fire. He was in the *still, small voice* (1 Kings 19:12).
- Silence creates the space where that voice can finally be heard. God’s quiet is not indifference. Sometimes it is an invitation.

#### **Silence allows our spiritual roots to grow deep.**

Anyone who gardens knows that the most important growth of a plant happens underground. Roots form quietly. Slowly. Invisibly. In the same way, seasons when God feels silent can become the places where our faith deepens the most. When immediate answers are removed, we begin to trust God Himself rather than the quick resolution of our circumstances.

Faith that has passed through silence becomes sturdier. Less fragile. Less dependent on visible outcomes. The roots go down deeper. These deep roots provide strength against adversity.

**Some of God’s greatest works began in long seasons of silence.**



Scripture is full of long pauses:

- Abraham waited decades for the promised son
- Joseph spent years in prison before his calling unfolded
- Israel waited four hundred years between the Old and New Testaments before Christ appeared
- Even Jesus spent thirty quiet years in obscurity before beginning His public ministry

God does not seem to be in a hurry the way we are. Yet when His purposes unfold, they arrive with perfect precision (“in the fullness of time...”). Silence in the story does not mean the story has stopped.

**The space between prayer and answer is often where transformation happens.**

We tend to think the most important moment is when the answer finally comes. But often, the most important work happens in the space between the prayer and the answer.

- That is where perseverance is formed.
- Where hope wrestles with doubt.
- Where trust grows muscles.

In those in-between places, God is shaping something in us that we may not yet fully understand. And usually the work He is doing within us becomes just as important as the answer we are asking for.”

**Be sure to join us for Maundy Thursday service, April 2 at 7:30 pm  
and Easter/Resurrection Sunday service April 5 at 10:30 am.!!**

Musically yours,  
Barbara Votrobeck

---

**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.*

**A Score  
of PUN(s)**

PUN (Presbyterian Urban Network) was initiated more than a score (20) of years ago. With the announced retirement of Rev. Tim Winslea, RN, later this year, PUN finds itself at a crossroad, needing to determine its future, if any.



At the outset in 2006, Presbyterian Urban Network consisted of seven ‘small’ urban congregations of the Presbyterian Church (USA) in the east-Portland metro area. Each had under 130 members, with the smallest at 22. Together they were 503 members strong with 709 years of ministry.

• Calvary • Colonial Heights • Eastminster • Grace • Kenilworth • Northminster • Laurelhurst  
Piedmont soon joined this consortium. The churches covenanted together for mutual strengthening and transformation. The cooperative group hoped to provide:

- Program renewal
- Pastoral peer support
- Development of programs and service
- New ministries

Initially the pastors met twice a month for a meal, worship, study and program planning. The first summer some met weekly to mentor, support and supervise a Seminary Student Intern. Congregations shared picnics, mission projects, homeless ministries, day camps, prayer groups and worship.

With a \$5,000 grant [1] they sought funds from Lake Grove PC to support a shared Parish Nurse position. Judy Hubbard, RN was hired and implemented a wide variety of ministries with clinics, classes and workshops. Upon Judy’s retirement in 2020, PUN engaged Rev Tim Winslea, RN as the nurse. Lake Grove’s financial support continues today.

Since its origin, four of the original congregations have been or soon will be closed: Calvary, Colonial Heights, Northminster and Laurelhurst. Tim has expanded conversations to include pastors at Rose City Park , Savage Memorial and Mt. Tabor Presbyterian Churches. The questions remain and need prayerful answers:

- What is the future of PUN, after all these years?
- What should happen with the financial assets of PUN, if it is dissolved?

1 From the Synod of the Pacific Hilda Thompson Fund for Health Ministry



The need is constant.  
The gratification is instant.  
Give blood.



### Next Blood Drive

@ Kenilworth Presbyterian Church  
4028 SE 34th Avenue, Portland  
Thursday, May 28 12:30 to 5:30 pm

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

You make a difference! The American Red Cross is grateful for our partnership. Here are the results of Kenilworth's Blood Drive on February 26.

- 22 Total Presenting Donors
- 1 First-Time Donor!
- 15 Total Life-Saving Units Collected
- 94% of Goal Achieved!



The 15 life-saving units collected at this drive could save up to 45 lives. Thanks to you, we're better prepared to respond to emergencies like house fires , natural disasters, armed conflicts, and urgent medical needs. *Chloë and Collin, American Red Cross Blood Services*



March 9: The fluorescent cove lights at the rear of the Sanctuary were converted to LED lights.

### Kenilworth at Work March 2026



March 21, 40 chairs were donated to KPC by Orenco Presbyterian Church in Hillsboro.

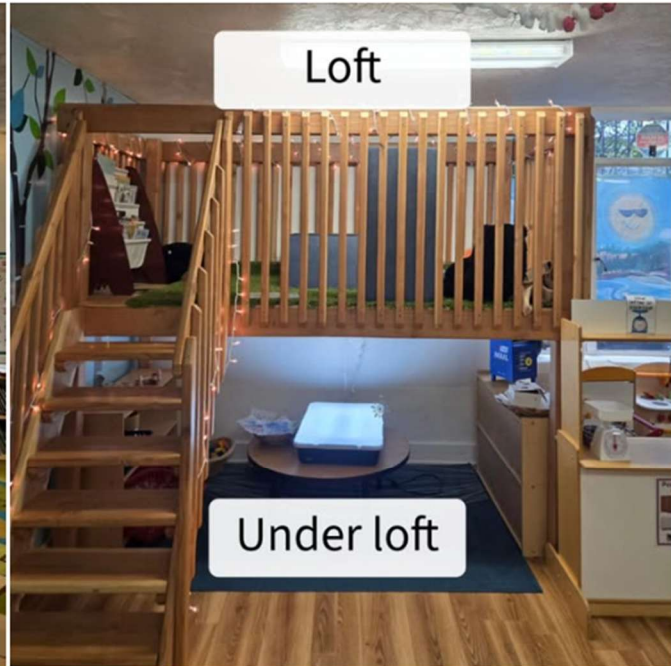


Kenilworth Community Preschool

March 27 at 9:17AM · 🌐

Facebook

Every child needs a place to pause, reset, and just be. 🧡



### Refried Bean Dip

There were several requests for this recipe after the Sunday Coffee Hour on March 8. Enjoy! Becky



- 1 Tablespoon Olive Oil
- 1 4-ounce can diced green chilies
- 4 teaspoons taco seasoning
- (I used McCormick)
- 2 15-ounce cans refried beans
- ¼ cup broth or bouillon (beef, chicken, vegetable)
- 1 teaspoon lime juice

#### Directions:

- Heat a skillet to medium high. Add olive oil, garlic, chiles and taco seasoning. Sauté until fragrant, 1 to 2 minutes.
- Add refried beans, broth and lime juice. Gently whisk until smooth.
- Simmer until ready to serve. If needed, add more broth to thin the dip.
- Serve with tortilla chips or quesadillas.

# PROTECTING OUR PLANET STARTS WITH YOU



**BIKE MORE  
DRIVE LESS**



**reduce  
REUSE  
recycle**

Cut down on what you throw away. Follow the three "R's" to conserve natural resources and landfill space.

**choose sustainable**



Learn how to make smart seafood choices at [www.FishWatch.gov](http://www.FishWatch.gov).

Trees provide food and oxygen. They help save energy, clean the air, and help combat climate change.



**PLANT  
A TREE**



**EDUCATE**

When you further your own education, you can help others understand the importance and value of our natural resources.

**CONSERVE WATER**



The less water you use, the less runoff and wastewater that eventually end up in the ocean.



Buy less plastic and bring a reusable shopping bag.



**Don't send chemicals into our waterways.**

Choose nontoxic chemicals in the home and office.



**Volunteer!**

Volunteer for cleanups in your community. You can get involved in protecting your watershed too!



**Long-lasting light bulbs  
- ARE A -  
BRIGHT IDEA**

Energy efficient light bulbs reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Also flip the light switch off when you leave the room!



[oceanservice.noaa.gov](http://oceanservice.noaa.gov)

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

[kenilworthpc@gmail.com](mailto:kenilworthpc@gmail.com)

