



Kenilworth at Work!

May 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

Honor Your Mother Scripture Reading: 2 Timothy 1:1-7

Your sincere faith ... first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice... 2 Timothy 1:5

The well-known theologian Karl Barth was asked by a reporter, "Sir, you have written huge volumes about God. Tell me, how do you know it is all true?" According to the story, he answered, "My mother told me."



That's a rather simple answer to a profound question. But this answer says a lot about the influence mothers have on the home and on their children. While both parents have an important role in early childhood nurture, it is usually the mother who makes the home and shapes the minds of little children. The mother is often the first one to tell her children about the Lord.

As a child, the first person I looked for when coming home from school was my mother. After she passed away, our home life changed radically. My father did what he could to keep our home special, but it was never the same without our mother.

If your mother is still living, tell her how much you love her and respect her. In the nine years I knew my mother, I never once told her that. Thank her for who she is, and for how she has shaped your life. And if she is gone, thank God for who she was in your life.

If perhaps your mother is or was not the mother you wished you had, ask God to help you forgive her even now, and to give you the grace to love and accept her as she is or was.

Lord God, we thank you for our mothers. Help us to love and respect them. Help us to be loving children as well as loving parents and spouses, for your sake. Amen.

Rev. Art Schoonveld is a retired minister in the Christian Reformed Church. Before retiring in 2001, he served churches in California, Illinois, and Michigan. Since his retirement he has worked part-time for the denomination and has served as an interim pastor. Art and his wife, Anita, have four children and nine grandchildren.

American Red Cross Blood Drive

**Kenilworth
Presbyterian Church
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 Sponsor Code: Kenilworth



Kenilworth Prayer Circle

Tuesdays 4:00 PM via Zoom

If you have prayer requests and/or would like to join the prayer circle, please contact the Kenilworth church office at Kenilworthpc@gmail.com

Pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests... Be alert and always keep praying for all the Lord's people. Ephesians 6:18



A Joyful Celebration of Women
to raise awareness and supplies
for the work of



Rose Haven services include nutritious meals, showers & restrooms, clothing, laundry, secure mailboxes, medical clinic, counseling and so much more.

Saturday, May 16

12:00 - 2:00 PM

Kenilworth Presbyterian Church
4028 SE 34th Ave, at Gladstone

\$5 ticket & RSVP please

Bring donations of underwear, socks, toiletries or diapers for Rose Haven

Scan and select PW to purchase tickets:



For more details email kenilworthpc@gmail.com

Kenilworth Presbyterian Women Bible Study & Meeting
Saturday, June 20 10:00 am

This year's Bible study, *Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity in Jesus Christ*, concludes with Lesson 9: *When You Are Walking with Jesus: The Road to Emmaus*.



The main idea is "Jesus did not abandon his followers; we are not alone, for the Spirit of God is with us." Nancy and Allison will lead the lesson.

A Prayer: Redeeming Christ, thank you for calling us by name and making us your own. When we forget that we are part of your family, help us to reclaim our identity, found in you. Open our eyes that we may recognize you. Open our hearts that we may serve you with joy. Guide us to participate in your reign in the world, for you pave the way for us to follow you. Amen.



Iran is in the news a lot right now. What do we know about Iran? What is its history?

KPC friend Ginia is giving a presentation to Eastside Village entitled "A Modern Lens on Ancient Iran—Travels with the Oriental Institute" and has graciously agreed to share it with us at the May Hot Topic.

Ginia has a slide program that looks at the archaeological places in Iran and ties it all together.

Come explore Iran with us on Wednesday, May 27. We begin with a light meal, followed by the program. Gather to eat at 6:30 pm. Sign up to attend and to provide food for the Hot Topic gathering during coffee hour.



May Birthdays

Timothy Kayrouz	2	Barbara Votrobeck	11
Alexander Kayrouz	6	Katie Tomic	25
Ivan Tomic	6	Peter Broberg	28
Peggy Morgan	7	Edith Starling	29



We are saddened to share the news that following a serious health crisis, our friend and long time member Phil Back died in early April, at age 70. Conversations with his life partner Jody are on-going to set a date and time for a service at KPC to celebrate Phil's life.

Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die." John 11:25-26

Session Highlights April 19, 2026



- Financial reports showed March income exceeded expenses by \$154. Most expenses were in line with budget expectations. One Great Hour of Sharing offerings totaled \$694.05 in March plus \$20 in February. Staff payroll increases were paid retroactively to January.
- Session reviewed the preschool electricity billing going back to January 2024, one year prior to the new HVAC (Heating, Ventilation and Air conditioning) installation. Due to changes in the church electricity usage and the preschool class meeting schedule, the preschool monthly electricity charge was changed from 30% to a flat \$60 per month for 12 months.
- Mission Committee reported one family's rent was paid.
- Properties committee reported that a new dimmer switch was installed in the fireplace room.
- Session approved the Preschool Teacher's Contract proposal for 2026-2027.
- The Preschool Bylaws amendment proposed by the Preschool Parent Board was also approved by the Session.
- Session approved a properties committee proposal to seek a free appraisal for phase 2 of our HVAC upgrade for the education wing by an Energy Trust of Oregon advisor. Potential cost savings may be available through the Energy Trust.
- Session approved a Land Acknowledge statement to be posted with a plaque recently commissioned by a church member.
- The KPC written policy for Child, Youth, and Vulnerable Adult Abuse Prevention and our Antiracism Statement have been edited and approved.
- The Pastor Search Committee has a meeting scheduled with COM representative, Rev. Robin Garvin to review the KPC Stated Supply job description.
- Session approved an additional KPC-Red Cross Blood Drive to be scheduled July 23, 2026.
- The Elders agreed to share the monthly task of preparing an opening article for the Kenilworth@Work Newsletter
- Rick was asked to attempt to organize another PUN (Presbyterian Urban Network) Roundtable Discussion.
- The May Session meeting is scheduled on Zoom Thursday, May 21, 2026 at 6:00 pm.
- Weekly pulpit supply:

May 3 - 17	Rev. Michaela Drummond
24	Pentecost- Rev. Tim Winslea
31	Dr. Shela Sullivan
June 7	Rev. Tim Winslea



APRIL RECAP: RECORD ATTENDANCE



Yes, G4G has never had the number of clients we did on the last Friday in April (the 24th): 158 clients feeding 617. The month totals also speak to the increasing need for food assistance: number-served is 52% higher than April 2025 and number-fed is 71% higher than last year.

Yeah, if you haven't noticed, I like numbers and statistics. But there is much more to our story. The Friday pantries in April were blessed with dry and, sometimes, sunny weather. We welcomed new volunteers. An expected 600 pounds of strawberries weighed in at 1,800 pounds! We found homes for all. The wristbands work but it still doesn't feel 'fair' to clients and volunteers. We keep doing what we can, where we are, with what we have. Ever grateful, Laura Schaefer

People served

2,258 people from 562 households
 17,251 # total groceries received
 12,082 # Oregon Food Bank
 1,408 # New Seasons - Woodstock
 1,213 # QFC - Westmoreland
 1,904 # City Team Ministries
 45 # Other Donations
 250 # Purchased

Volunteers

326 Hours
 35 People



BARB'S NOTE-ABLE NOTES

The Spiritual Benefits of Church Music

Christianity has always been a singing faith and music plays a big role in the life of the church. But church music is also controversial. Some people leave a church because of music, while others join a church because of music. Some churches split because of music, and others make a lot of money from their music. Jonathan Edwards, a pastor-theologian from 300 years ago, can help us step away from the politics of church music for a bit to consider the theology of church music.

Harmony with God

Edwards reminds us that we're not the ones who invented church music. Rather, it's God who gave us music as a means to worship him. God gave us Psalms and the commandments in Colossians 3:16 and Ephesians 5:19 to sing to him. Music is God's gift to us, to help us harmonize with his goodness. Edwards states it beautifully: "The music of a song of praise is the means of a sense of the excellency of divine things." We can appreciate that God, his love, his grace, his mercy, his justice are excellent and beautiful through singing about them. There's a difference, for example, between saying "It's amazing that Jesus died for me" and singing: *And can it be that I should gain an interest in the Savior's blood?*

Died he for me, who caused his pain, for me, who him to death pursued?

When God shows us his beauty and we respond by singing his praises, it's as if two harmonic notes are struck together—it feels pleasant.

Edwards helps us to think of music as one of God's appointed means for us to worship and enjoy him. Music is not just an ornament in public worship. When we sing praises to God, he doesn't cringe. He delights in our singing because he delights in being delighted when we harmonize with him through worship music.

Harmony in the Soul

The faculties of our soul—our mind, our feelings, and our will—are often out of sync with spiritual things. Sometimes we know God is good, but we don't feel it. Music, Edwards says, can help harmonize our souls. This isn't simply a matter of "fake it until you make it." As he wrote in a letter, "Music, especially sacred music, has a powerful efficacy to soften the heart into tenderness, *to harmonize the affections.*" Edwards insists this is a good thing because the Bible requires us to "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind" (Matt 22:37). Music helps us to feel in our hearts what we know is true in our minds. There's a difference between knowing about Jesus' work on the cross and singing about it:

My sin—oh, the bliss of this glorious thought—my sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more; praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!



Through this poetry, with the help of the chord progression (and the Holy Spirit!), we can feel the weight of the gospel truth. Through singing that hymn, we get to talk to our own souls.

Harmony with Each Other

For Edwards, music is pleasant because there's a harmony of sounds that creates harmony with our ears. Edwards sees this harmony in music as "a shadow of love". In the harmony of music Christians can see the harmony that's supposed to exist among themselves. Edwards famously notes, "The best, most beautiful, and most perfect way that we have of expressing a sweet concord of mind to each other, is by music." In heaven, every saint will be "as a note in a concert of music which sweetly harmonizes with every other note."

We ought to strive towards the same ideal in this life. This is one of the most important purposes of music for Edwards. Christians who greatly value the ministry of teaching should know that we are also called to participate in the teaching of others every Sunday while we sing. There is something very unifying in hearing a bunch of Christians with a loud voice encouraging each other:

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice;
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice;
Oh come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
And give him the glory, great things he has done.*

Edwards reminds us that music in public worship is not just something nice we can do without. It is God's gifts for us to harmonize our own souls, with God, and with each other.

Musically yours, Barbara Votrobeck, KPC Director of Music

GREEN TEAM REPORT

The first Earth Day was celebrated on April 22, 1970 – 56 years ago – and, goodness, how the world has changed since then. We've come a long way since the days of burning our trash and pumping our gas guzzlers with leaded gasoline. In honor of those 56 years, here are some important changes and milestones since the first Earth Day.

Legislation: the U.S. government has led much of the environmental charge,

- Formation of the Environmental Protection Agency, 1970
- Clean Air Act, 1970
- Clean Water Act, 1972
- Endangered Species Act, 1973
- Safe Water Drinking Act, 1974
- Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, 1976
- Toxic Substances Control Act, 1976
- National Energy Act, 1978
- Medical Waste Tracking Act, 1988

Oregon led the way for states by passing the first bottle bill in 1971. Minnesota passed the Clean Indoor Air Act in 1975, the first law to restrict smoking in public places and Massachusetts required low-flush toilets for construction and remodeling in 1988.

Some other notable happenings in the Earth Care movement include:

- The "Crying Indian" PSA debuts in 1971
- Dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane (DDT) gets banned in 1972
- The energy-efficient compact fluorescent light bulb launches in 1973
- Chlorofluorocarbons are banned from aerosol cans starting in 1978
- The first curbside recycling program begins in New Jersey in 1980
- McDonald's switches from foam to paper food containers, 1986
- Mercury is removed from latex paint in 1990

(continued)



It is easy to get discouraged by some of the backsliding witnessed in the current political situation, but it is important to look at the progress we have made. We should take pride in the tremendous steps we have taken since that first Earth Day.

You can discover all 56 eco-friendly innovations that have happened since 1970 at

<https://earth911.com/eco-tech/eco-friendly-innovations/>

More innovations will be shared next month.

Happy 56th Birthday, Earth Day.

Abstracted from ByEarth911, April 17, 2026



Eastside Village is looking for Volunteer Drivers

for our older adult members. If the following list applies to you - Call us!

- I have a car.
- I enjoy spending time with older adults
- I have a valid drivers license and car insurance.
- I am available during the work week to help older adults get to appointments. (I can fit in rides here and there.)

Eastside Village has more than 220 members in East Portland, over the age of 55, who are helping each other stay active, independent, and connected. info@eastsidevillage.org or 503-866-0571 www.eastsidevillage.org

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