



Kenilworth at Work!

October 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

A Message from Pastor Jenni Bales



"The woods are shining this morning. Red, gold and green, the leaves lie on the ground, or fall, or hang full of light in the air still. Perfect in its rise and in its fall, it takes the place it has been coming to forever." — Wendell Berry

The fall equinox happened a few days ago. We are now officially in the fall season. Tomatoes are peaking and I've got a pumpkin I'm waiting on to ripen. Halloween, Thanksgiving, and Christmas are around the corner. For our Jewish friends, fall is their season for the Festival of Booths and to remember their time with God in the wilderness with their temporary shelters.

Does fall provide us with helpful spiritual reflection? I think being in touch with the seasons helps us see changes happening in our own lives. Ecclesiastes reminds us that for everything there is a season.

For now, the abundance of summer is winding down. We're moving towards sweater weather, warm drinks, and shorter cooler days. We find ways to adjust when it's the weather and a particular season. Do we have ways to adjust when changes occur in our lives?

Just as certain habits help us stay grounded in the different seasons, so healthy habits can help us through challenges we may face. Do we have a regular spiritual practice like daily reflection and prayer that gives us quiet time and breathing room? Are we part of a community like KPC that offers social support? Are there soothing self-care routines that bring helpful structure to our day? I'm enjoying a regular morning cup of hot tea from the different blends (Oregon made) Smith Tea offers.

May the changing leaves, changes in our gardens, and shorter days remind us to slow down and care for ourselves in the changing seasons of our lives.

Peace & Global Witness Offering on World Communion Sunday, October 4

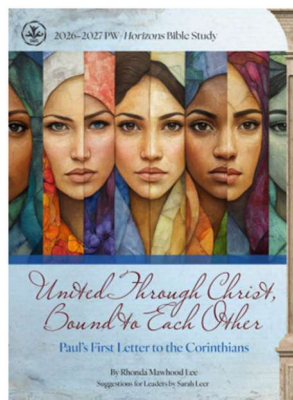
- The Peace & Global Witness offering is received on World Communion Sunday, the first Sunday of October.
- Causes supported by the offering are racial & gender justice, peacemaking, global witness and ecumenical & interfaith relations.
- In 2025 Kenilworth collected \$622.00 for the Peace & Global Witness Offering. Twenty-five percent (\$155.50) remained in our treasury to support peacemaking and reconciliation in our community.



Mighty and merciful God, lover of justice and equity, you call us to support the weak, to help those who suffer, and to honor all people. By the power of your Holy Spirit, make us advocates for your justice and instruments of your peace, so that all may be reconciled in your beloved community; through Jesus Christ Our Savior. Amen.



**KENILWORTH
PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN**



**United Through Christ, Bound to Each Other
Meeting & Bible Study, Saturday, October 17 10:00 am**

The KPC PW had a great opening meeting and Bible study on September 19 with seven in attendance. Five members made food for Rahab's Sisters the following Wednesday.

Our next meeting will be October 17. The Bible study is "Connected in Christ" from 1 Corinthians 3 & 4. Through our baptism in Christ, we have all the gifts we need to live well, grow spiritually, resolve conflicts, and care for each other as members of one family. We hope you can join us!

Barbara Votrobeck - KPC PW Co-Moderator

Link to bonus comments about lesson two from Rev. Dr. Rhonda Mawhood Lee, author of the Bible study:

<https://www.presbyterianwomen.org/2026/06/26/united-through-christ-bound-to-each-other-lesson-two/>

**Recycling Event, Valley Community Presby. Church
Saturday, October 17 9:00 am to 12:00 pm**

Valley Community Presbyterian Church's next Community Recycling Event is Saturday, October 17, in the church's SW Laurelwood parking lot (4248 SW Laurelwood Ave).

From 9:00 am to 12:00 pm,, you will be able to drop off arts/crafts items, books/media and games, kid's clothes for the BSD, electronics, household items, hair trims/jewelry/evening bags, textiles, athletic shoes, pet supplies, luggage/duffels and backpacks for foster kids, toiletries/socks/blankets for the vets, medical equipment, plastic film, cans and bottles, and non-perishable food. Here's a link to a full list of items being collected:

<https://www.valleycommunity.org/events/recyclingevent2026-6n3hx> This list will be posted in the Fireplace Room.



Warm Springs Reservation faces years of recovery after Bench Fire sweeps through.



This was the headline on OPB's August 2nd news story. It continued to say that thousands in the reservation had been without power or clean water for nearly a week. (Their loss of electricity meant no water from wells.) The fire

burned at least six homes and forced hundreds to evacuate as roads closed and the air filled with thick smoke.

The Warm Springs Presbyterian Church, a historic 152-year-old congregation, serves as a community center for the area. Their Helping Hand Food Pantry quickly turned into a relief center. Kenilworth PC responded to Cascade Presbytery's call for assistance. Countless items of food, water, clothing and more were taken to local collection sites for transport. KPC also collected \$420 which was sent to the Presbytery for additional assistance.

September 13,
2026
Dear Kenilworth
Presbyterian Church
Friends,
On behalf of the
Presbytery of the
Cascades and Warm
Springs Presbyterian
Church, thank you
so much for your
generous donation.
Love, Cope Reed



SIZZLING SUMMER FOR FOOD PANTRY



Groceries 4 Grout volunteers did a ton of work distributing tons of groceries this season, averaging over 4,500 pounds per week. Our clients enjoyed the wealth of produce and never tired of

the frequently offered watermelons. The number of people the pantry serves just keeps climbing.

Kudos to the Brooklyn Community Garden which delivered lots of freshly harvested, home-grown vegetables. And applause to the volunteers who stepped up during vacations, weathered really hot Fridays, and adjusted to our ever-changing needs.

JULY

People served

2,107 people from 525 households

15,088 # total groceries received

11,932 # Oregon Food Bank

735 # New Seasons - Woodstock

833 # QFC – Westmoreland

1,139 # City Team Ministries

103 # Garden donations

134 # Other Donations

Volunteers

326 Hours

38 People

AUGUST

People served

2,005 people from 493 households

20,343 # total groceries received

16,749 # Oregon Food Bank

741 # New Seasons - Woodstock

1,317 # QFC – Westmoreland

915 # City Team Ministries

237 # Garden donations

91 # Other Donations

Volunteers

339 Hours

36 People

SEPTEMBER

People served

2,494 people from 518 households

19,461 # total groceries received

15,658 # Oregon Food Bank

1,065 # New Seasons - Woodstock

1,148 # QFC – Westmoreland

1,289 # City Team Ministries

198 # Garden donations

5 # Other Donations

Volunteers

337 Hours

35 People



GREEN TEAM REPORT



The Green Team made another trip to James Recycling with 8 more bags of plastic. Thank you all for doing a better job of sorting and cleaning. Remember: if you cannot find a recycling number, we probably won't be able to find one either. Please do not try to recycle plastics without a number.

We are now recycling wire hangers. If you still have some of these hanging around in your closets, bring them to church and leave in the bin for # 2,4,5, and 6 plastics. We will be taking them to a dry cleaner who will reuse them.



Connor Starling 19

Rick Votrobeck 22

Bob Mandel 30

"We thank our God every time we remember you. In all our prayers for all of you, we always pray with joy. Philippians 1:3-4"



BARB'S NOTE-ABLE NOTES

“Christ is the head of the church, his body
of which He is the Savior. Ephesians 5:23

World Communion Sunday

October 4 we will be celebrating World Communion Sunday. Our closing hymn will be “The Church’s One Foundation.”

During an especially heated period of theological controversy in England in 1866 when liberalism threatened to destroy the great cardinal doctrines of the Anglican church, this hymn was written by Pastor Samuel J. Stone. He was a strong supporter of the conservative faith and refused to compromise in any way the critical attacks on doctrinal orthodoxy.

It was Stone’s desire to write a hymn that would reaffirm the lordship of Christ as the foundation of the church. To combat the skeptical liberal scholarship, Samuel Stone wrote twelve hymn texts based on the Apostles’ Creed. This particular text refers to the ninth article: “The Holy Catholic (Universal) Church, the communion of saints: He is the Head of this body.”

Described as the poor man’s pastor, Samuel Stone demonstrated his firm belief in the church as the instrument of Christ for meeting the needs of people. He spent much time ministering to the poor and said that “he created a beautiful place of worship for the humble folk and made it a center of light in dark places.”

This is what the local church was meant to be - a spiritual hospital for hurting humanity, never an exclusive private club for self-righteous Christians. Called out from the world by God for Himself, the church consists of people who meet regularly for worship, inspiration, instruction, and fellowship. After that, Christ our Head sends His own back into the world to represent Him and to model His love for all mankind.

The Church’s one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord; she is His new creation by water and the Word, from heav’n He came and sought her to be His holy bride; with His own blood He bought her, and for her life He died.

Elect from ev’ry nation, yet one o’er all the earth, her charter of salvation one Lord, one faith, one birth; one holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food, and to one hope she presses, with ev’ry grace endued.

Yet she on earth hath union with God the Three in One, and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won; O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we, like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with Thee.

From *Amazing Grace: 366 Inspiring Hymn Stories for Daily Devotions* by Kenneth W. Osbeck
and *101 Hymn Stories* by Kenneth W. Osbeck. Musically yours, Barbara Votrobeck

Session Highlights September 20, 2026

- The application for an OnPoint Business Credit Card for church use has been approved.
- Preschool fall enrollment is currently 11.
- One new security camera has been installed and the combination for the yard gate locks has been changed.
- Properties committee’s next scheduled work day at the church is Monday, October 5.
- The policy proposal for systematically moving YouTube recordings from the public domain to our private archive was amended and approved. Most worship service recordings will be archived after 3 months with special consideration for recordings of special events.
- Session received the Presbytery’s Minimum Pastor Compensation guidelines and recommended COLA (Cost of Living Adjustment) for 2027 which was approved at the special Presbytery meeting August 25. Recommended minimum compensation for a full time pastor increased 3.5% to \$61,728 plus a pension and insurance benefit package. The recommended COLA is also 3.5%.



- Pastor Jenni and Rick reported on the Capacity Discernment Cohort introductory Zoom meeting they attended. Session decided not to participate in the 9-month guided study dealing with planning for the Christian church's future in our communities.
 - Session voted to add a lower hasp and carabiner to the double yard gate accessible only from inside the yard. Carabiners will need to be removed on days when fuel oil deliveries are expected.
 - Bright Sunday 2027 has been rescheduled to April 10, 2027 due to a scheduling conflict for the production team.
 - Session agreed to have the apple tree in the community garden removed. Alan Bales volunteered to remove the tree and stump. One of the gardeners plans to harvest the apples for cider. Nancy offered the use of a chain saw, and Jonathan will remove the firewood.
 - The Creston Kenilworth Neighborhood Association will sponsor a Dumpster Day in the Kenilworth PC parking lot October 17, 2026.
 - Session voted to add Rick Votrobeck and Nancy Youngs as signatories on the KPC checking accounts at OnPoint. Rick and Nancy were previously signatories on the Wells Fargo accounts.
 - A free Christmas Extravaganza concert will be presented in conjunction with the Portland Mu Phi Epsilon Alumni at 2:00 pm, December 12, 2026. Concert will feature performers from both KPC and the Mu Phi Alumni plus Congregational singing.
 - World Communion Sunday will be celebrated October 4, 2026. World Communion Sunday traditionally features collection of the Peace and Global Witness special offering.
 - The KPC Men's retreat will be at JODA, near Manzanita. Volunteer drivers will depart from the church after choir practice Sunday, October 11. Return transportation will be available both, October 12 and October 13.
- Rick Votrobeck, Clerk of Session



Church BBQ Follow Up

On Sunday, September 20, just as Barb finished the postlude, the sun broke through the clouds and shone on the labyrinth. Church members grabbed tables, chairs and linens, Jon and David started grilling hamburgers and hotdogs, and dishes filled with sumptuous salads and desserts filled the serving tables. Several passersby were tempted to stop and join us at the tables. Thank you to all who helped make this picnic a huge success.

To see more pictures of the picnic, please visit KPC's website gallery.
<https://kenilworthpc.com/gallery/>

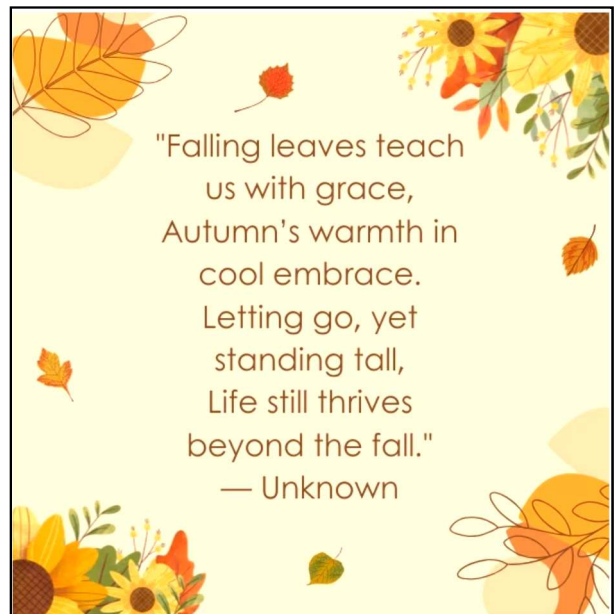


Kenilworth Prayer Circle

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



Email from Tim Winslea



Laura shares messages she received from Tim Winslea in August and September.

August 17: I hope all is well with you and the church! Barb has kept me up to date on the exciting news and both the church and Jennifer have been in my nightly prayers. I am so happy for you all and yet, also sad that I will not get a chance to meet her in person.

PUN Wednesday prayer is going well. Summer, like for many church programs, means spotty attendance. We are now doing a series on lesser known women of the bible and I am having a blast crawling around in Judges, 1 and 2 Samuel, Chronicles and Kings to unearth forgotten saints which, I must admit, I never learned about even in seminary!

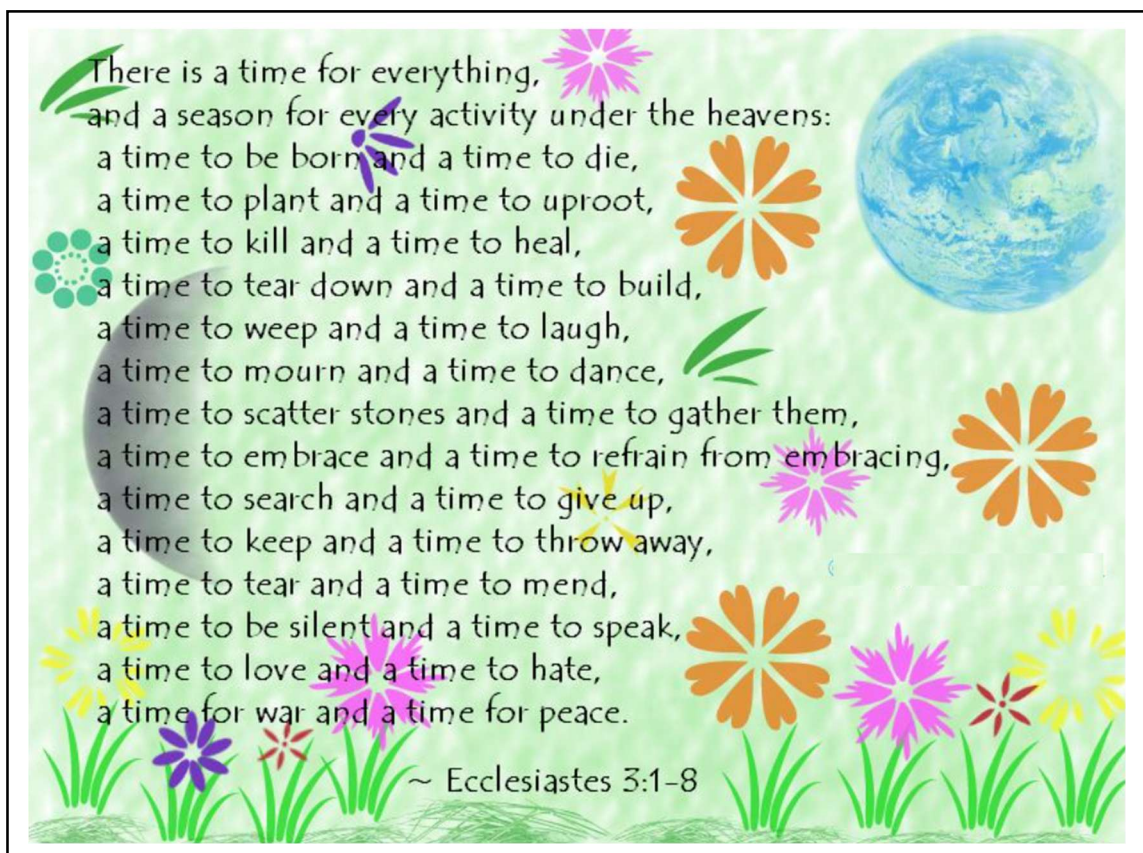
(Hint, hint, you are always welcome). In the fall I am going to send out a bunch of new invitations to see if we can create more interest but thought there was no point until people get back from summer vacations.

Reach out if you have any questions. We fly for Greece on the 23rd of September so are around a little bit longer than we had originally expected. I miss you all and please share my greetings to others as seems fit. Blessings and peace.

September 28: We are five days into the adventure and after tearing around, up and down, the eastern coast have decided that we actually would prefer to live in Athens. We went to the only mainline English speaking church in the city on Sunday (St Paul's Anglican Church) and met some wonderful people. We had always planned on being close enough to make Sunday services but decided we wanted to be close enough to be more involved.

Beaches and little villages are lovely and all but a faith community in which to "live and breathe and find meaning" (to quote St Paul) is actually much more important. Speaking of which... send my regards to all the saints at Kenilworth. I miss you all.

P.S. Texts over seas are very pricy and our US numbers will be turned off soon. Email, as well as Messenger or WhatsApp will be the best way to communicate. timothywinslea@gmail.com



Greek Zucchini Salad



The KPC Community Garden has been the source of many lovely zucchinis this summer. Some quite large. I found a recipe for a Greek Zucchini Salad online that got many positive marks at KPC food events. If you are faced with too many zucchinis and your taste buds have tired of zucchini bread, try this salad. It is yummy.

Becky



- 4-5 cups diced zucchini (from 1.5 pounds whole zucchini)
- 4 oz crumbled feta cheese
- 15 ounce can chickpeas, drained and rinsed
- 1/3 cup chopped kalamata olives
- 1/4 cup chopped shallot or red onion
- 1/2 cup chopped parsley
- 2 Tbsp fresh lemon juice (one lemon)
- 1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1/4 tsp pepper

Instructions: Mix all ingredients together. Adjust seasonings as desired. Enjoy!

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

kenilworthpc@gmail.com

