KirkWood Kronicle
A Monthly Newsletter of KirkWood Presbyterian Church

KirkWood Presbyterian Church

December 2009

January 2010

Dear Members and Friends of KirkWood,

I wish to thank each one of you for a very faithful and enthusiastic year of discipleship. Together we have laughed and cried, worked hard and played hard, studied and prayed and worshiped the Living Lord. For a congregation our size our ministry output is incredible. The reason is the Holy Spirit and your response to the Spirit's leading.

I do not know of a congregation I would rather serve than you all here at KirkWood. Each day I thank the good Lord for our continuing fellowship.

But we have incredible challenges facing us in 2010. How can we increase the number of families who attend Sunday School each week? How can we aggressively attack our building debt so we can position ourselves for future growth? How do we increase our witness to the larger community so that more and more people check us out and decide to stay with us? How do we continue to instill in our children's hearts a servant attitude, especially with regard to the poor and those most fragile in our community?

I will continue to spend a great deal of time in prayer.

Please join me and have a blessed Christmas and a delightful New Year.

Fondly,

Michael

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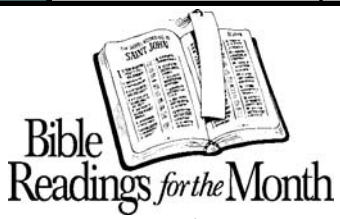
TO KIRKWOOD

FROM

Michael Albertina Rae Lyn



Dec. 6	Luke 3:1-6
Dec. 13	Luke 3:7-18
Dec. 20	Luke 1:45-55
Dec. 27	Luke 2:41-52
Jan. 3	John 1:10-18
Jan. 10	Luke 3:15-17,
Jan. 17	John 2:1-11
Jan. 24	Luke 4:14-21
Jan. 31	Luke 4:21-30

Our Sympathies extend to:

- Family of Mike Tulle
- Family of Greg Murphy
- The Stubblefield Family
- The Linden Family
- Family of Joe Dill
- Family of Johnny Scruggs
- Bonnie Condrey - uncle, Buddy
- The Merrill Family
- Family of Buddy Gaddy
- Kenny Ledford - grandfather, Walt
- Connie Barlow - cousin
- Family of Dick Bachmann
- Family of Bert Smith
- Rob Ball - dad, John
- Ben Scott - great uncle, Bill

Permanent Prayer List for December and January

Please continue to pray for:

- Reggie Strickland
- Art Patteson's co-worker's wife, Marilyn
- Connie Sledd's aunt, Anna Marie
- Don Nelson's niece, Sylvia
- Wanda Birch's niece, Patty
- Sandy Ritter's former co-worker, Mary
- Ken Kingsmore's sister-in-law, Kim
- Carl Maymi's grandma, Pilar
- Helene Watson's friend's son, James
- Allison Hoffman
- Pat Kingsmore's son, Scott
- Roy Pace's sister, Susan
- Jackie Whitaker
- Twyla Boyer's parishner, Deb
- Wanda Birch's aunt, Pat
- Sandy Ritter's sister, Wendy
- Pepper Westbrook's cousin's grandson, Stephen
- Pat Kingsmore's friend, Alise
- Ken Kingsmore's friends, Fran & Jerry
- Norene Lovdahl's friend, Diane
- John Brawley
- Ken Kingsmore's friends, Matt & Allison
- Pepper Westbrook's brothers, Richard & Robert
- Sharon Flint's boss, Virginia & son, Matthew
- Ken Kingsmore's former boss, Ken
- Donna O'Hara's dad, Faust
- April Mershon's Grandpa Duffee
- April Mershon's grandma, Louise
- Nancy Risden's friend, Marilyn's mom, Marion
- Mike Fore's friend, Carter
- Troy Lander's friend & co-worker, Branson
- Jim Ritter's friend, Henry
- Connie Barlow's friend, Louise
- Wanda Birch's nephew, Jeff
- Jim Birch's sister-in-law, Edi
- Bill Cunningham's sister & brother-in-law, Anne & Ed
- Wilma Mitchell's cousin, Jesse
- Lynn Pierce's friend, Jackie
- Nancy Keithley's sons, Art & Michael
- Paul Stough's cousin, Billy
- Dick LaBarre's friends, Dick and Bill
- Linda Mabrey's brother, Bob
- Jim Mershon's aunt's mom, Betty
- Bob Bennett
- Zuma Glass' mom
- Pepper Westbrook's cousin, Kendall
- Norene Lovdahl's friend, Diane
- Catherine Nierescher's brother, Chuck
- Phyllis Madison
- Wanda Birch's sister, Joan
- Faye Shaw's uncle, Jess
- Faye Shaw's sister, Sandy
- Janet Deaton's brother-in-law, Tom
- Peggy Brawley
- Charles Grube
- Ben Kurtz
- Annie Willis
- Nancy Keithley's daughter & son-in-law, Tina & Robert
- Kirk Allen's mom, Dorie
- JoAnn Kilgore's husband, Ray
- JoAnn Kilgore's daughter, Teresa
- Graeme Stockdale
- Ken Kingsmore's co-worker, Steve

Happy Birthday to the following during the months of December & January:

Pam Falls 12/2
Ray Whitaker
Claire Guisasola 12/3
Anita Athearn 12/4
Bruce Knight
DeAndre Jones 12/5
Bob Cook 12/6
Donna Weaver
Martha Workman 12/8
Kathy Fore 12/9
Joleen Searles
Jacob Chou 12/10
Aubrie Leslie
April Mershon
Patrick Watson
Dolores Hall 12/12
Carl Lewis
Christopher Eason 12/13
Mike Mitchell, Jr.
Cade Shaw 12/14
Dennis Risden 12/15
Jim Ritter
Jesse Dunlap 12/16
Ryan Lewis
Stephen Mershon
Wendy Edwards 12/18
Raymond Whitam
Charlie Blanton 12/19
Bill Lewis
Tami Maloney
Jim Mershon
Caitlyn O'Hara
Linda Mabrey 12/20
Angela Shaw
Sarah Whitam 12/23
Julie Trumpoldt
Bellina Leslie 12/24
Bill MacArthur 12/25
Michael Condrey 12/26
David Risden 12/28
Virginia Slicer
Joe Harvey 12/29
Phyllis Madison
Bob Maloney
Chris True 12/31
Marsha Coverdale 1/1
Rich Egyud
Mike Maguire 1/2
David Mitchell, Jr.
Bert Cortina 1/3
Cathy Hudgins
Pat Kingsmore
Kenneth Mallory 1/4
Laura Leigh Ritter
Jon O'Hara 1/5
Billy Clifford 1/8
Britt Cortina
Robbie Lloyd 1/9
Annyce True
Eric Chou 1/10
Kerry Chou
Nick Pregler
David Duxbury 1/13
Edith Cook 1/15
Kim Hinson 1/16
Hanna Schenkelberg
William Kim 1/17
John Anderson 1/19
Ross Barnett
Caley Kammermann 1/20
Jillian Ledford
Wanda Birch 1/22
Nancy Brambani 1/23
Johnny Forrest
Jeanne Miller
Catherine Nierescher
Kirk Allen 1/25
Amber Dobson
Jake Lee 1/26
Jude McIntee
Jake Roberts
Cindi Parker 1/27
Margaret Kepley
Gerald Young
Dick LaBarre 1/30

Happy Anniversary to the following during the months of December & January:

12/03
Mike & Wilma Mitchell
12/10
Wayne & Connie Barlow
Murray & June Ritter
12/13
Josh & Claire Guisasola
12/14
Cliff & Robin Williford
12/16
Jim and Cathy Kibler
12/17
Dave & Amy Trumpoldt
12/25
Steve & Faye Shaw
12/28
Bob & Ev Bennett
Rich & Susan Egyud
Ron & Emily Smith
12/29
Tom & Linda Briggs
12/30
Chris and Melanie Kelly
12/31
Ken & Pat Kingsmore
1/1
I.B. & Catherine Gleason
Brian & Jenny Haupt
1/8
Scott & Marsha Coverdale
1/12
Bill & Kelley MacArthur
1/14
Steve & Jen Pottinger
1/24
John & Pat Ruddle

December 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 **1:00 PM -** Staff Meeting **7:00 PM -** Youth Committee PORT Orientation Meeting **7:30 PM -** Mission	2 **6:00 PM -** Praise Team **7:00 PM -** A Beautiful Mess-Hudgins **7:30 PM -** Cantata Choir **8:30 PM -** Adult Choir	3 **9:30 AM -** 2 or More - Farrah **6:45 PM -** Selah Group - Deaton **7:00PM -** Martha Cir. Stepping Stones - Knowles **7:15 PM** - 5 Smooth Stones - Williams	4 **7:00 AM -** Prayer Warriors **7:15 PM -** Friday Night Lights - Mershon	5 **8:00 AM** - Bike Ride Eagle Scout Project
6 **Food Pantry** **9:40 AM -** Melody Singers **12:00 PM -** King's Kids **12:30 PM -** HandBells **5:30 PM -** Member Care Committee **6:00 PM -** KYG Christmas Party	7 **6:45 PM -** God's S.T.A.R.S.- Nelson	8 **10:00 AM -** Sarah Circle **5:30 PM -**Cong. Care Committee **7:00 PM -** Christian Education Com.	9 **6:00 PM -** Praise Team **7:00 PM -** A Beautiful Mess-Hudgins **7:30 PM -** Cantata Choir **8:30 PM -** Adult Choir	10 **9:30 AM -** 2 or More - Farrah Clergy Growth Seminar **6:45 PM -** Selah Group - Deaton **7:00 PM -** GPS - Egyud Stepping Stones - Knowles **7:15 PM** 5 Smooth Stones - Williams	11 **7:00 AM -** Prayer Warriors **7:15 PM -** Friday Night Lights - Mershon Iron Men - Maloney	12 **8:00 AM** - Bike Ride Eagle Scout Project **4:00 PM -** PORT - Warwick Memorial United Methodist
13 **Christmas Offering** **12:00 PM -** Fisher Kids Christmas Party **6:30 PM -** Children's Christmas Pageant	14 **6:45 PM -** God's S.T.A.R.S.- Nelson	15 **7:30 PM -** Session Mtg. - New Elder Exam	16 **6:00 PM -** Praise Team **7:00 PM -** A Beautiful Mess-Hudgins **7:30 PM -** Cantata Choir **8:30 PM -** Adult Choir	17 **9:30 AM -** 2 or More - Farrah **11:30 AM -** KirkWood Silver **6:45 PM -** Selah Group - Deaton **7:00PM -** Martha Cir. Stepping Stones - Knowles **7:15 PM** - 5 Smooth Stones - Williams	18 **7:00 AM -** Men's Fellowship Breakfast **7:15 PM -** Friday Night Lights - Mershon	19 **8:00 AM** - Bike Ride **9:00 AM -** Christmas Cantata Choir **9:30 AM -** Fisher Kids - Bag Lunches - St. Paul's
20 **Christmas Cantata Sunday** **9:40 AM -** Melody Singers **12:00 PM** - King's Kids **4:00 PM -** Youth Choir **5:00 PM -** HandBells	21	22 **7:00 PM -** Property and Facility Comm. Mtg.	23 **6:00 PM -** Praise Team **7:00 PM -** A Beautiful Mess-Hudgins **7:30 PM -** Adult Choir	24 **7:00 PM - Family Christmas Eve Service** **11:00 PM -** **Candlelight** **Christmas Eve Service**	25 **Church Office Closed** **Merry Christmas!**	26 **8:00 AM** - Bike Ride
27 **No Sunday School**	28	29 **7:30 PM -** PLD Committee	30 **No Choir Rehearsal**	31	1 **Church Office Closed** **Happy New Year!**	2 **8:00 AM** - Bike Ride

January 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3 **Food Pantry** **9:40 AM -** Melody Singers **12:00 PM -** King's Kids **4:00 PM -** Youth Choir **5:00 PM -** HandBells	**4** **6:45 PM -** God's S.T.A.R.S.- Nelson	**5** **1:00 PM -** Staff Meeting **7:00 PM -** Youth Committee **7:30 PM -** Mission Committee	**6** **6:00 PM -** Praise Team **7:00 PM -** A Beautiful Mess - Hudgins **7:30 PM -** Adult Choir	**7** **9:30 AM -** 2 or More - Farrah **6:45 PM -** Selah Group - Deaton **7:00PM -** Martha Cir. Stepping Stones - Knowles **7:15 PM** - 5 Smooth Stones - Williams	**8** **7:00 AM -** Prayer Warriors **7:15 PM -** Iron Men **7:15 PM -** Friday Night Lights - Mershon	**9** **8:00 AM -** Bike Ride (Weather Permitting) **9:00 AM -** AV Training **9:30 AM -** KYG Soup Kitchen - St. Paul's
10 **H.O.P.E. Offering** **Ordination & Installation Sunday** **12:00 PM -** KYG/Fisher Kid's Soup Luncheon **4:00 PM -** Youth Choir **5:00 PM -** HandBells	**11** **6:45 PM -** God's S.T.A.R.S.- Nelson	**12** **10:00 AM -** Sarah Circle **5:30 PM -** Cong. Care Committee **7:00 PM -** Christian Education Com.	**13** **6:00 PM -** Praise Team **7:00 PM -** A Beautiful Mess - Hudgins **7:30 PM -** Adult Choir	**14** **9:30 AM -** 2 or More - Farrah **10:00 AM -** Clergy Growth **6:45 PM -** Selah Group - Deaton **7:00 PM -** GPS - Egyud Stepping Stones - Knowles **7:15 PM** 5 Smooth Stones - Williams	**15** **7:00 AM -** Prayer Warriors **7:15 PM -** Friday Night Lights - Mershon	**16** **8:00 AM -** Bike Ride (Weather Permitting)
17 **9:40 AM -** Melody Singers **12:00 PM -** Kings Kids **4:00 PM -** Youth Choir **6:00 PM -** Mission Dinner	**18** **6:45 PM -** God's S.T.A.R.S.- Nelson	**19** **7:30 PM -** Session Mtg.	**20** **6:00 PM -** Praise Team **7:00 PM -** A Beautiful Mess - Hudgins **7:30 PM -** Adult Choit	**21** **9:30 AM -** 2 or More - Farrah **10:00 AM -** McKeithen Study Group **11:30 PM -** KirkWood Silver **6:45 PM -** Selah Group - Deaton **7:00PM -** Martha Cir. Stepping Stones - Knowles **7:15 PM** - 5 Smooth Stones - Williams	**22** **7:00 AM -** Prayer Warriors **7:15 PM -** Friday Night Lights - Mershon	**23** **8:00 AM -** Bike Ride (Weather Permitting) **9:00 AM -** Presbytery Meeting - King's Grant Presbyterian **5:00 PM -** KYG Murder Mystery Dinner
24 **Kronicle Deadline** **5:00 PM -** HandBells	**25** **6:45 PM -** God's S.T.A.R.S.- Nelson	**26** **7:00 PM -** Property and Facilities Meeting **7:30 PM -** Planning and Leadership Development Meeting	**27** **6:00 PM -** Praise Team **7:00 PM -** A Beautiful Mess - Hudgins **7:30 PM -** Adult Choir .	**28** **9:30 AM -** 2 or More - Farrah **6:45 PM -** Selah Group - Deaton **7:00 PM -** GPS - Egyud Stepping Stones - Knowles **7:15 PM** 5 Smooth Stones - Williams	**29** **7:00 AM -** Men's Fellowship Breakfast **10:00 AM -** Kronicle Folding/Mailing **7:15 PM -** Friday Night Lights - Mershon	**30** **8:00 AM -** Bike Ride (Weather Permitting) **10:00 AM -** Weekend Ministry - St. Paul's
31 **12:00 PM -** Annual Congregational Meeting **5:00 PM -** HandBells						

Worship News

Holiday Services Schedule

December 20,

Christmas Cantata "Journey of Hope"

8:30 A.M. and 11:00 A.M.

December 24, Christmas Eve

7:00 P.M. - Family Service

11:00 P.M. Candlelight/Communion Service

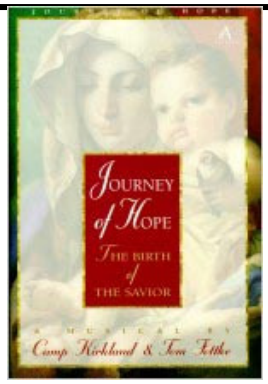
December 27

8:30 A.M. Contemporary Service

11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

No Sunday School

Morgan Gabriel George was baptized October 18, 2009 at 8:30 A.M. service. He is the son of Ryann and Kevin George. Andrew has assumed the role of big brother to Morgan. Lew and Mary Goodman are Morgan's grandparents.



Christmas Cantata Journey of Hope

The Music Department will present Journey of Hope: The Birth of the Savior on December 20, 2009 at the 8:30 and 11:00 A.M. Services. The Christmas Cantata Choir is comprised of 52 voices this year along with accompaniment by piano, trumpets, guitars, and rhythm instruments. The arrangement of traditional songs and carols capture the awe and wonder inherent in the coming of a holy Savior into a sinful world to redeem mankind and provide hope for the future.

King's Kids (1 - 5 gr.)

New Time

1st and 3rd Sundays at 12:00 - 12:30 P.M.

Audio Visual Desk Training

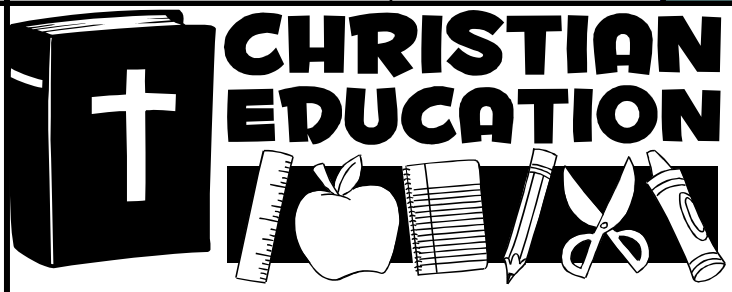
Do you have a desire to be a "behind the scenes" person, but want to be a part of the worship service? Do you have a basic knowledge of the computer and/or a good ear for music?

We are looking for some people to help out with the AV desk for both services as well as special events. It is an easy way to help out and participate at the same time.

There will be a training session at 9 A.M. on Saturday, January 9th. It should be about an hour; 90 minutes tops. With this training you will be able to run the AV desk for either service, VBS, the talent show, or other special events with confidence.

Please let Jim Mershon (896-1907 or jim_mershon@hotmail.com) know in advance if you plan to attend, so there will be enough copies of the training material.

WOW Volunteers needed for January, February, and March please contact Faye Shaw 868-4290 or e-mail afshaw921@aol.com. if you can give of your time to share the love of God with



6:30 P.M.

Dessert Social to follow

The rehearsals will be held during Sunday School November 22, December 6, and December 13. Please make sure your child is present for all rehearsals. Children should be at the church by 6:00 P.M. on December 13th. The 1st - 5th grade students will also be practicing on Sunday, December 6th at 12:00 P.M. right after the 11:00 A.M. service.

Everyone is invited to a dessert social after the performance. Please bring a dessert item to share. Drinks will be provided.

Youth Group News

Fisher Kids

Thanks to all of the Fisher Kids who helped out during the month of November– either at our Soup Luncheon or putting together shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. We prepared 20 shoeboxes to be shipped to needy children around the world! Next up, our annual Fisher Kids Christmas party will be on Dec. 13th at 12pm at KirkWood. We will have pizza and the usual fun and games! Please bring an unwrapped toy for "Toys for Tots" and a dozen of your favorite Christmas cookies for an exchange. Watch your email for more details! On Dec 19th we will be going to St. Paul's in Newport News to make bag lunches for the homeless. We will need parent volunteers to drive and chaperone that day. Please let us know if you can help out. We have lots of fun activities coming up in 2010 so mark your calendars and plan on joining us!

Upcoming Events:

December 13th - 12:00: Fisher Kids Christmas Party at KirkWood

December 19th - 9:00: Bag Lunches at St. Paul's

January 10th - Soup Luncheon

January 24th- Ice Skating at IcePlex

February 16 - Pancake Supper

February 26-28 - Makemie Woods Middle School Retreat

K.I.C.K.

KYG

Hello KYG Friends, A BIG thank you to all of you who provided food and your time for our Soup Luncheon. As always our church family was very generous and we added a nice sum to our Mission Trip account. We had a great time at lunch and putting together our Shoebox gifts. We donated 12 boxes this year.

We know that everyone is busy during the holidays, so for December, we have just one meeting for our Christmas party. It will be December 6th from 6:00-8:00pm at the Renos. Please bring a snack to share and a wrapped gift (about $5.00) for the exchange. We hope to plan for next year, so bring some event ideas as well.

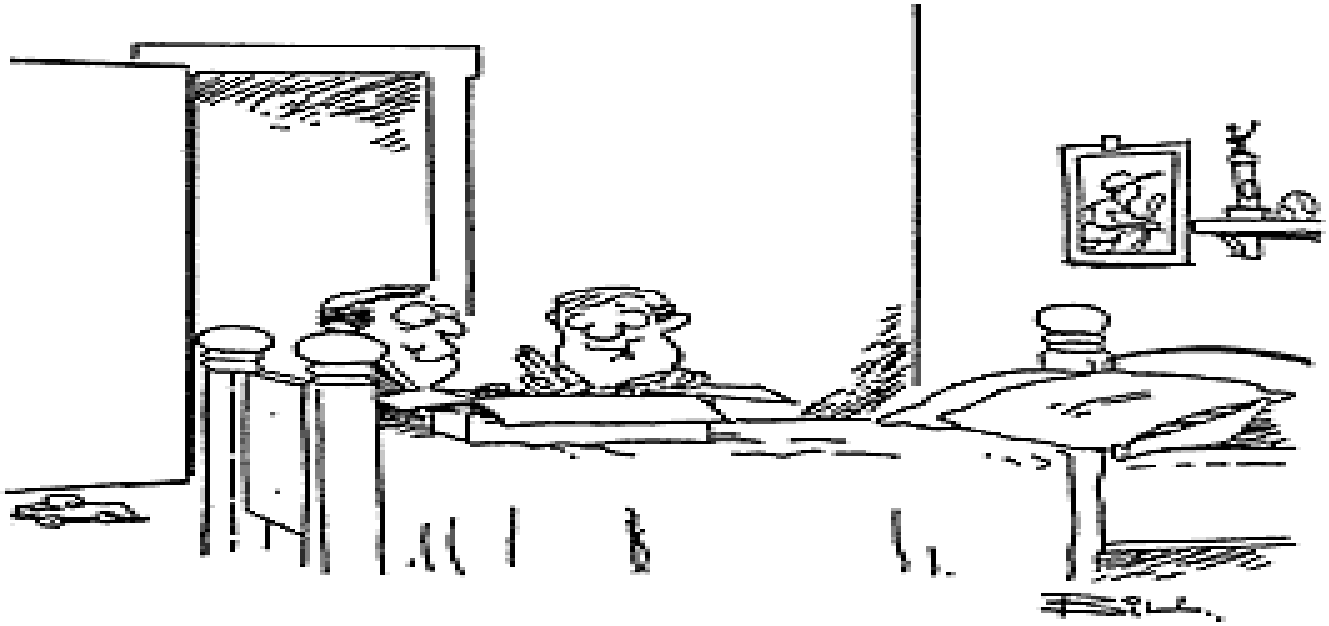
We are looking at taking a weekend mission trip to Washington DC on January 29-31. Most of us have that Friday off and with it being the end of the semester, there should not be any homework or projects!! We will be working in a downtown soup kitchen on Friday and Saturday, and will do some sightseeing on Sunday before returning home. In order to make a reservation for our group, we need to know if you can join us by the Christmas party on December 6th. If you are not going to come to the party, email us and let us know if you are planning to attend.

On January 9th, we will be going to the St. Paul's soup kitchen to make lunch and pack lunches for the next day. Meet at KWPC at 9:30 am.

We will then be having our last soup luncheon the next day on January 10. This is your next to last chance to add funds to your mission trip account. Sign up to bring soup or a dessert.

On January 23rd, we are having a Murder Mystery Dinner party. We will be assigning "parts/characters" to everyone and we will provide dinner and dessert. It should be a lot of fun so put it on your calendar now.

We hope all of you have a great holiday season.



"Sling shot, squirt pistol, tacks, rubber bands, spit wads, frog....YEP! I'd say we're well-equipped for Sunday school!"

"See? The church is full now, but after you shake it and make it snow, the church is empty."

Congregational Care

Sarah Circle

SARAH CIRCLE will meet on Tuesday, December 8th, at 10:00A.M., in the Fellowship Hall. Our pastor, Michael, will lead us in our continuing study of ***Joshua: A Journey of Faith*** (Lesson 4). Remember to bring your **Hygiene Kits for Church World Service** to the meeting. Following the meeting we will share Christmas Fellowship over lunch at **The Vineyards** in Kiln Creek. Contact Wanda Birch at 868-8651 or wpfbirch@juno.com, if you plan to go to lunch so that we can reserve a room. Newcomers are more than welcome to join us this month or any month!

The January SARAH CIRCLE meeting will be Tuesday, January 12th, at 10:00 A.M., in the Fellowship Hall. All ladies are welcome. Call Wanda Birch if you have questions.

The Martha Circle

In this season of God's Greatest Gift to us, how better to show our gratitude to Him than by taking the time to discern what He wants us to be? Ladies, pursue this with the women of the Martha Circle as we read *Discovering God's Will for Your Life*. It's an easy text to come into mid-stream, so don't hesitate to join our fellowship on December 3rd, and January 7th and 21st, at 7 P.M. at KirkWood. We'll be sharing a meal together on December 17th. Call Linda Briggs (867-6932) for additional information.

Eating Out Group

The Eating Out Group will not meet in December; but please join us on January 23, 2010 at 6:00 P.M. at the Freemason Abbey in Norfolk located on 209 W. Freemason St. The Restaurant is housed in a century old former church; Freemason Abbey has all the trappings of an upscale contemporary tavern. There's something for almost everyone, from burgers to lobsters, sandwiches to prime rib. Come join us for fun, food, and fellowship. Please RSVP to Faye Shaw by January 20, at 868-4290 or e-mail afshaw921@aol.com.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

2009-2010

Some Folks Feel the Rain… Others Just Get Wet

December 18

Ch. 3 - Can You Feel the Power of Commitment?

1 Kings 18:20-22

Food: Roger Crone

January 29

Ch. 4 - Can You Feel the Joy of Freedom?

Matthew 25:14-18

Food: Nate Nickerson

February 26

Ch. 5 - Can You Feel the Power of Love?

Acts 3:1-10

Food: Ken Peterson

March 26

Ch. 6 - Can You Feel the Strength to Persevere?

John 21:15-19

Food: Phil Rouin

Replace Winter Dread with Thankfulness

Many people dread winter because of the colder temperatures, shorter days and increased isolation from others; loneliness and depression are common side effects. The common cold and other more severe seasonal illnesses are other evils to contend with during this season. At such a time as this, we have Christmas! God is amazing; His timing is perfect. When we need Him the most, we have a chance to warm our hearts, revel in the glory of Christ's birth, as we count down to Christmas. I just love the holiday decorations, socials, caroling, classic movies, live nativity scenes and worship experiences of the Christmas season. I'll stay away from the mall and give to the poor, but I will not dread the cold months – I'll bear them. Why, I find myself being more thankful in these colder and sometimes brutal months of winter. Every time I step out of the cold and into a warm foyer, I feel such a sense of relief that I wouldn't appreciate had I not been in need of warmth. How can I complain, when so many others have a need that isn't met that easily? You might know, I'm writing this a few weeks prior to Thanksgiving, with great anticipation of Christmas, celebrating our risen Lord's birth!

I thank God for a warm, cozy home and plenty of warm clothes. Winter reminds me of the many people in our community that don't have their basic needs met: food and shelter. I'm thankful for a home that can accommodate a small group meeting each Thursday night. God's peace lingers long after they have gone each night and the friendships that are growing are priceless.

Discipleship Groups provide mutual support.

I thank God for all the small circles here at Kirkwood; they nurture us and lift us up when we're down. Thank God we have each other to share our burdens. While we try not to share the viruses, we do share the burden of illness by expressing sorrow, praying for healing and providing meals. It's easier to care for those you see on a regular basis in a smaller intimate setting than those whom you see less frequently. The mutual support experienced in a discipleship group is mentioned the most among group members, when asked what they love about the group. I think that's because people are hurting and the fast pace lifestyle we lead doesn't allow for much healing or resting time. The healing that takes place in a group strengthens each group member, resulting in a stronger community of faith at KirkWood.

Cherish your faith like it were a newborn baby.

And most of all, I thank God for sending Jesus Christ, the Light of the World. What a perfect way to illuminate the darkness, create newness that represents love, peace, hope and joy! God came down to Earth as a tiny baby. I ponder, what do we do when we hold a new baby? We hold him carefully and feel his warmth; we marvel at his tiny fingers and toes; we kiss his head, and maybe let our lips linger so we can take in his fragrance. *If only we cherished our faith as much.* I believe that our faith is a gift that has to be nurtured.

Let your group members know how much you appreciate what they do for you and your faith in Christ. We need each other for mutual support. Even Jesus was dependent on a human being for life sustaining nourishment and love, while he grew as a young child and he depended on a small circle of close friends for mutual support during his ministry.

Enjoy Advent! I hope all your days are full of wonder and excitement, like that of a child!

Many Blessings, Gina Williams (Discipleship Group Ministry Coordinator, 249-9327)

If December is a time of year when you feel worn down spiritually, emotionally and physically, allow your church family to lift you up. If you have a group, lean on each other and keep pressing on in faith. January is a time for new beginnings. Discipleship groups usually begin a new study after the holidays -- a great time to join a group. Contact Gina at 249-9327 if interested in hearing more about KirkWood's Discipleship Group Ministry.

Winter can be harsh, but those who put their trust in Jesus have the warmth needed to get them through it all.

Congregational Care

Thank you to all who came out for our Spirit Night and Tailgate fellowship dinner. We certainly have some devoted fans in our midst! It was a lot of fun to see everyone dressed in their favorite team's colors and then all sit down together to enjoy good food. Call the night a homerun, touchdown or field goal - anyway you look at it, it was fun!!. Thanks also go to the folks who stayed for the Yorktown Chorale concert and were so generous in giving to the love offering.

On December 13th at 6:30 P.M., the children of KirkWood will present a Christmas program. We know everyone will want to come out to see our youngest KirkWoodians put on a great show. After the program we will go to the fellowship hall for refreshments. Please bring a dessert to share and drop it off in the fellowship hall before the program. What better way to prepare for the Christmas season than to enjoy a night with your KirkWood family?

Stay tuned and be on the look out for notices in the bulletin, Narthex and on the Congregational Care and Mission bulletin boards about upcoming activities including our Fellowship dinner for January, "Soup and Sweaters". There is a lot to do at KirkWood and you don't want to miss a thing!

Finally, we want to remind you that fellowship nights, eating dinners together, and celebrating Christmas are all fantastic ways to gather and connect with other KirkWood members. However, there is also a need for volunteers to connect with our members in other ways: to visit, to send cards, make phone calls, and help prepare meals. If you would like to reach out to others in our church, or help Congregational Care with any activity, please contact Susan Egyud or Bill Gilbert. We would love to have your help!

Outreach Committee

Attention KirkWood Visitors:

Have you been thinking about making KirkWood your church home? We will be starting New Member Classes on February 7th with an orientation class after the 11:00 service. If you are interested in becoming an active member, an affiliate member of the KirkWood congregation, or if you just have questions as to what being a member of the KirkWood Presbyterian Church is all about, please contact Dr. Condrey or the church office soon. You may also mark the Friendship Pad indicating that you wish to join our next class. The classes will be held for 4 weeks, immediately following the 11:00 A.M. service. Lunch will be provided. Nursery service will be available, if

Attention KirkWood Ladies:

We are making plans for a Women's Retreat this Spring! Please be praying we can find some fantastic rates on housing for the weekend. Also pray that you may have an open heart and mind in regards to a retreat and please contact April if you can help in any way. April Mershon (325-7189) or april_n_daboys@hotmail.com. God Bless.

KirkWood Silver

KIRKWOOD SILVER, welcomes all seniors to a special Christmas program and luncheon at the church on Thursday, December 17th, at 11:30 A.M. **Two gifted storytellers from our Presbytery's Tidewater Tellers will be with us to share Christmas stories from scripture and culture before we sit down to a delicious lunch prepared by The Olive Garden chefs**. The cost of the lunch will be $10.00, which must be paid by December 13th, to Wanda or Jim Birch. The menu includes Olive Garden's salad and bread sticks, and choice of lasagna or chicken carbonara. **Sign-up for this event is essential** and will be found in the Narthex beginning Sunday, November 29th. Please be sure to give your phone number and choice of entree. **If you've never tried KirkWood Silver,** this would be a great opportunity. (We define "senior" loosely!) **KIRKWOOD SILVER's January get-together** will be on the third Thursday of the month, January 21st. We will gather for lunch and fellowship at a local restaurant. Check the Bulletin for details. Won't you come along with us? Rides from the church to the restaurant can be arranged. If you have questions or need more information, please contact Wanda Birch at 868-8651 or at wpfbirch@juno.com.

Mission News

LINK: If you have new or gently used sweaters, sweats, thermals or winter shirts in large to extra large sizes, please donate them to PORT. PORT (People Offering Resources Together) is a Newport News program, affiliated with LINK, which shelters the homeless during the winter months at area churches. A blue donation tub is near the parking lot door.

PORT: Our first PORT night is December 12 at Warwick Memorial United Methodist Church in Denbigh. We need KirkWood members to sign in guests, cook dinner & breakfast, give out bedding and sign guests out in the morning. Sign up for a shift on the Mission bulletin board in the main hallway.

Orientation for Port volunteers will be at KirkWood on Tuesday, December 1st at 7:00pm-7:30pm. There are a few changes, like shift times, so please plan to attend.

Zuni Peanuts: If you wish to order peanuts to support Zuni Homes, see Jim Birch to place your order. He will have some available each week until Christmas.

Lunch at St. Paul's:

January 30th is our next Saturday to serve lunch. The sign up sheet will be on the Mission bulletin board.

Upcoming Mission Dates:

December 1: PORT Training
December 6: Food Pantry
December 12: PORT
December 13: Christmas Offering
January 3: Food Pantry
January 10: HOPE offering
January 17: Fellowship Dinner
January 30: St. Paul's

KirkWood in Pictures

Mission of the Month for December: Christmas Offering

Christmas Offering

Our December Mission of the Month is a special Christmas Offering. It will be collected on December 13th but donations are welcome any other time in December. The offering will be split between the KirkWood Pastor's Fund and York/Poquoson Social Services.

Christmas Cards from the Congo:

P.E.V.A. is selling Christmas cards benefiting Congo mission work. The front of the cards are created by Joseph Mukendi Kabasele Ishaku from Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo. There are 12 cards, four different designs, in each box. The cost is $15.00 per box. Checks may be made out to PEVA with Congo Christmas Cards on the memo line. The cards are located in the office for purchase.

Happy New Year Happy New Year Happy New Year

Our Mission for the month of January:

Soup and Sweaters: Enjoy mid-winter comfort food at the Fellowship Dinner on January 17th and if possible, bring a donation of warm clothing for the men served by PORT. PORT needs men's large and X large sweaters, sweats, thermals and shirts. Watch for the sign up sheet for bringing soup, side or dessert. See you there.

KirkWood Presbyterian Church

A Christian Community Knowing, Loving, and Serving Christ, to make Him known to all.

1209 Hampton Hwy
Yorktown, VA 23693

Phone: 757-766-0343
Fax: 757-766-0962
E-mail: kirkwood@kirkwood.hrcoxmail.com

Worship: 8:30 AM (Contemporary)
11:00 AM (Traditional)
Sunday School: 9:40 AM (infant - adult)

Dr. Michael Condrey, Pastor
(E-mail: mcondrey@cox.net)

We're on the Web!
http://kirkwoodpcusa.org/

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Looking for the Perfect New Years Resolution: Why not keep you and your family "fit" with some "Cross Training" for a healthy 2010!

Special dates in December/January

- November 29 - December 24 - Advent
- December 21 - First day of Winter
- December 24 - Christmas Eve
- December 25 - Christmas Day - Church Office Closed
- December 31 - New Year's Eve
- January 1 - New Year's Day - Church Office Closed
- January 6 - Epiphany of the Lord
- January 10 - Baptism of the Lord
- January 18 - Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday observed