

This Week at Kirkwood

Sunday, December 21, 2014

Christmas Joy Offering
S.O.M.E./Kids Helping Kids (FH)
9:45 AM Adult and Teen Sunday School; Kids
Rock 'N Stuff
11:00 AM Worship Service (S) - children dis-
missed to Sunday School

Monday, December 22, 2014

5:00 PM Girl Scout Troop 2460 (FH)
6:30 PM CS Pack 1140 den meetings (CR)

Tuesday, December 23, 2014

6:30 PM CS Pack 1140 Den Meetings (CR)

Wednesday, December 24, 2014

Christmas Eve
5:00 PM Christmas Eve Worship Service
8:00 PM Christmas Eve Worship Service

Thursday, December 25, 2014

Christmas Day
Office Closed
7:00 PM Ladies AA

Friday, December 26, 2014

Office Closed

(S) Sanctuary (C) Conference Room (CR) Classrooms (N) Nursery (FH) Fellowship Hall (P) Parlor



KIRKWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. Larry C. Lees, Pastor, pastor@kirkwoodpres.com
Director of Music, Christopher Smith, music.director@kirkwoodpres.com
Organist/Accompanist, Hongjoo Lee, klavier1129@gmail.com
Office Manager, Anne Myers, office.manager@kirkwoodpres.com
Youth Ministry Coordinator, Rex Grigg, youth.director@kirkwoodpres.com

MINISTERS: All Members

CLERK/SESSION ELDERS: Doug Amon, Bob Gisch, Pam Johnson, Dan Larson, Nathan Mottl,
Joan Reynolds, Donna Ross, Martha Schoonmaker, Bob Snyder, Yvonne Taylor, Joe Yancey;
Karen Koenig—Clerk of Session

DEACONS: Aida Cardona, Ann Gisch, Myra Kurtz, Clydette Lobred, Tammy Mottl, Warren Qualley,
Maggie Snyder, Sandy Webster, Ardyss Wherry

YADS (Youth Advisory Delegates): Rachel Amon and Briana Windhausen

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KIRKWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



~John Leech's *Scrooge's Third Visitor*,
from Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*

*"Kirkwood Presbyterian Church is a joyful community of faith—
seeking, serving, and sharing Jesus Christ."*

Kirkwood's Mission Statement

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SILENT REFLECTION

“With a deep sense of my responsibility always upon me when I exercise my art, one of my most constant and most earnest endeavors has been to exhibit in all my good people some faint reflections of the teachings of our great Master, ...All of my strongest illustrations are derived from the New Testament; all my social abuses are shown as departures from its spirit; all my good people are humble, charitable, faithful, and forgiving.”

~ Charles Dickens

WE GATHER TOGETHER

As you enter the sanctuary, please prepare for worship with quiet reverence.

PRELUDE *I Saw Three Ships* arr. Dan R. Edwards/English Carol

PSALM FOR THE DAY Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

TOLLING OF THE BELLS

WORDS OF WELCOME Sylvia Kelty

Leader: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

People: Let us worship God!

Introit *My Soul in Stillness Waits* Marty Haugen
(Please sing the refrain after the verses)

Refrain: *For you, O Lord, my soul in stillness waits; truly my hope is in you.*

1. *O Spring of Joy, rain down upon our spirits; our thirsty hearts are yearning for your word; come, make us whole, be comfort to our hearts. (Refrain)*
2. *O Root of Life, implant your seed within us, and in your advent, draw us all to you, our hope reborn in dying and in rising. (Refrain)*
3. *Here we shall meet the Maker of the heavens, Creator of the mountains and the seas, Lord of the stars and present to us now. (Refrain)*

Counting Team Members Needed: Please consider being part of a two-member team that counts the offering on Sundays. We will be making up the 2015 schedule very soon and have lost a couple of counters in the past year to retirement and moves. It's an easy task that generally takes about 20 minutes, and with a few more volunteers, we can keep the commitment to once every six weeks. If you'd like to volunteer to serve on a team during 2015, please contact Steve Wingfield as soon as practical at steve.wingfield@gmail.com or call 703-690-9135.

Giving Tree Update: Kirkwood's tutors delivered an abundance of gifts to Lynbrook Elementary School Family Learning Center on December 16. It took many trips from the car into the school to carry the games, books, and playing cards; baby bath towels, diapers, and wipes; strollers; and gloves and hats. The Center's coordinator said, "They are a godsend." The very next day, the gifts were distributed to women and children at the Center's Holiday Party. Thank you for your generosity!

Office Closures and Vacation Schedules: The office will be closed for Christmas on Thursday, December 25 and Friday, December 26. It will also be closed for New Year's from Tuesday, December 30 through Friday, January 2. Pastor Lees will be on vacation December 30 through January 4 and will return to the office on Monday, January 5. Rev. Saul Cardona will be on call for any pastoral emergencies while Rev. Lees is away from the office and can be reached at 703-232-3041. He will also lead us in worship on January 4.

Christmas Eve Services:

At 5:00 pm, we will have a less formal candlelight service for families.

At 8:00 pm, there will be a traditional candlelight service of lessons and carols.



Joys & Concerns

This Week's Birthdays:

- Dec. 21 Susanna Campbell
- Dec. 26 JoAnne Collins

This Week's Anniversaries:

- Dec. 24 Dave & Pat Johnson
- Dec. 26 Cliff & JoAnne Collins
- Kristen & Peter Scott

Special Concerns:

Our Missionaries in Zambia:
Rev. Kari Nicewander & Joel DeJong

Tom & Karen Mirabella and family, serving in the mission field in Japan

Health & Personal Concerns:

- Bob Flory
- Hal Sellers
- Dick Pape
- Bob Snow, Heather Telfer's father
- Morgan Death, friend of Jon Larson
- Keith Scott
- Bobbie Myers, Phil Myers' mother
- Dani Schwalb
- Caitlyn Hutter, friend of Dani Schwalb
- Jolynn Desch, friend of Dani Schwalb
- Gary Klimek, husband of Ann Gisch's niece
- Michael Taylor, brother of Ron Taylor
- Brian Costello
- Don Fredericksen
- Sue Ann Jocson, friend of Jon Larson
- Charlie Myers, grandfather of Anne & Jason Myers



***Flowers today are given in celebration of
Kristen & Pete Scott's 31st wedding anniversary.***



Today's Revised Common Lectionary Readings: Next Sunday's Revised Common Lectionary Readings:

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16
Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26 (or) Luke 1:46b-55
Romans 16:25-27
Luke 1:26-38

Isaiah 61:10-62:2
Psalm 148
Galatians 4:4-7
Luke 2:22-40

Lighting the Candles of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love on our Advent Wreath this morning are **Jim Heidenreich & Blake Aronson** and their family.

Following service, Pastor Lees will be in the Narthex to greet you. We welcome you to join us for a time of refreshments and fellowship.

Christmas Joy Offering: Today's Christmas Joy Offering is one of four special offerings for the Presbyterian Church (USA). Gifts contributed to this offering offer provide financial support and grants for current and retired Presbyterian church workers and supports leadership and education at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges. If you have any questions contact Nathan Mottl of the Mission Committee.

Communion Table Flowers: The 2015 flower calendar is now available in the main hallway outside the kitchen. If you would like to honor or remember someone by giving flowers, please consider signing up. The cost is \$45.

S.O.M.E. Sandwich Making: Today, immediately after the worship service, volunteers will gather in the Fellowship Hall to prepare sandwiches for So Others May Eat. Contributions of bologna or sliced cheese are welcome and should be placed in the kitchen refrigerator. Join us for fellowship and to help feed the homeless.

Kids Helping Kids: Today is Kids Helping Kids! All kids of Kirkwood, get ready to help assemble weekend food packs for hungry students at Newington Forest Elementary after service in the Fellowship Hall. Donations of boxed mac & cheese, ramen noodles, instant oatmeal, canned chicken or tuna, cheese and crackers, and granola bars are always welcome. Bring your items with you to the Fellowship Hall or place them in the ECHO box labeled "Kids Helping Kids." See you there!

ECHO Food Collection: The ECHO Box will be at the entrance to the sanctuary on **January 4** (Communion Sunday). As we gather to celebrate Christ's holy meal, please remember to bring a few items to fill the box and to feed those who have trouble feeding themselves. Current ECHO needs can be found at www.echo-inc.org.

Brunch With a Bunch: This small group is open to all on **Sunday, January 4** at Asian Grill, West Springfield Shopping Center, 6228 Rolling Rd, Springfield (across Rolling Road from Traford Ln). It's scheduled for 12:30 pm, so head straight there after worship and the Hospitality Table. Please contact John and Ardyss Wherry at (703) 866-0327 or via e-mail at jhw@parent-institute.com if you have any questions. We hope to see you there!

Annual Report Info Needed: The Session has called for the **Annual Meeting of the Congregation** to be held on **January 25, 2015** immediately following the worship service. The agenda will include: the review and reception of the Annual Reports for 2014, a review and reception of 2015 budget, and the presentation and approval of changes in the terms of the pastoral call for 2015. Committee chairs and organizational leaders are reminded that all articles for the 2014 Annual Report need to be submitted to the church office **no later than Sunday, January 4**. Please email your report to Anne at office.manager@kirkwoodpres.com.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Sylvia Kelty
~ from Luke 1:46b, 49

Leader: This is the season of holy waiting.
People: We wait and we watch for the coming of Jesus our Lord.
Leader: My soul magnifies the Lord.
People: My spirit rejoices in God my Savior.
Leader: For the Mighty One has done great things.
People: And holy is God's name.

GATHERING PRAYER (UNISON)

Mighty God, your faithfulness is magnified in the coming of your Son, in the long-awaited birth of the promised Messiah. May we, like Mary, proclaim your greatness as we rejoice in our Savior, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(PLEASE STAND)

HYMN
(PLEASE SIT)

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

9 BH

WE PREPARE FOR THE WORD

CALL TO CONFESSION

~ adapted from Luke 1:50

Beloved in Christ: Let us confess our sins to the One whose mercy endures from generation to generation. Let us pray...

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)

God of Love, Eternal Keeper of Sacred Promises: we light the candle of love to join with the light of your hope, peace, and joy to prepare the way for our Savior's coming. Into the darkness of our own doubting and troubled spirits, the Light of the Christ Child would come to save us from our sin. O Lord of Mercy, let it be to us as it was to Mary, to have faith and to believe You have come to bless us. Forgive us for not believing You can make a remarkable difference in our lives. We confess, mighty God that we do not look with favor on the lowly and the meek. Lowliness receives our pity, not honor; our leftovers, not our abundance. Forgive us, merciful Father. May we be embraced in your gentle arms of mercy. May we extend our arms joyfully to those in need of your blessing through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(moment of silence for personal confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

~ adapted from Luke 1:54/I Peter 1:3

Leader: Brothers and sisters, God has remembered his mercy and is with us this day, that even in our own sin, we may know God's steadfast love in

Jesus our Savior. Blessed be the God of our salvation, whose mercy is from everlasting to everlasting.

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

(PLEASE STAND)

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *While we are Waiting, Come* Claire Coninger/Don Cason

*Come, Savior, quickly come; come Savior, quickly come.
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting come.*

*With power and glory, come; with power and glory, come.
Jesus our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting come.*

*Come, Savior, quickly come; come Savior, quickly come.
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.*

WE PASS THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Leader: The Peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

(PLEASE SIT)

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

The Candle of Love

A MOMENT WITH THE CHILDREN

GREETING, NEWS OF THE CHURCH

*(Please sign the friendship folder and pass it along the pew.)
(You may complete prayer request cards and give them to an usher.)*

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Chorale Prelude on "In dulci jubilo"

arr. Michael Ryan/Johann Sebastian Back

(PLEASE STAND)

DOXOLOGY *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow ~tune 53 BH Greensleeves*

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him all creatures here below.
Praise him above ye heavenly hosts: Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.
This, this is Christ the King, Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring Him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary!*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

(PLEASE SIT)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

WE HEAR THE WORD

THE LESSON FROM THE PROPHETS Micah 5:2-5a p. 805

(Please Stand)

HYMN *The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came* 16 BH

(PLEASE SIT)

THE ADVENT GOSPEL Luke 1:46b-55 p. 888

SERMON *The Spirit of Christmas Future*

ANTHEM *Grant Us Your Peace* Felix Mendelssohn/arr. SJMP

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

CLOSING PRAYER (UNISON) ~ *The Book of Common Worship*

God of grace, You chose the Virgin Mary, full of grace, to be the mother of our Lord and Savior. Now fill us with your grace, that with her, we may rejoice in your salvation, and in all things, embrace your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

(PLEASE STAND)

HYMN *I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day* 267 GH

BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *My Soul in Stillness Waits* Marty Haugen

Cantor: For you, O Lord, my soul in stillness waits; truly my hope is in you.

Choir/Congregation: For you, O Lord, my soul in stillness waits, truly my hope is in you.

POSTLUDE *Joyous Praise Unending* Lani Smith

BH—Blue Hymnal GH—Green Hymnal

All quotations from Charles Dickens are from "A Christmas Carol,"
Christmas Books, Volume 18, Peter Fenelon Collier, Publisher.