

## This Week at Kirkwood

### Sunday, September 27, 2015

9:45 AM Adult/Youth Sunday School  
11:00 AM Worship Service (S)  
12:15 PM Youth Group

### Monday, September 28, 2015

11:00 AM Fire Alarm Inspection  
5:15 PM GS Troop 144 (FH)  
6:30 PM CSP 1140 Den Meeting (SB, 3 CR)  
7:00 PM Aging Support Group (CO)  
7:00 PM CSP 1140 Pack Meeting (FH)

### Tuesday, September 29, 2015

6:00 PM CSP 1140 Den Meeting (SB)

### Wednesday, September 30, 2015

7:00 PM BSA Troop 1140 Meeting (FH)  
7:30 PM WEBS (CO)  
8:30 PM AA (SB)

### Thursday, October 1, 2015

6:30 PM GS Troop 3573 (FH)  
6:30 PM Ladies Night Out AA (SB)  
7:30 PM BSA Troop 1140 ASM Meeting (CO)  
7:30 PM Chancel Choir (S/Choir Room)

### Friday, October 2, 2015

4:30 PM GS Troop 707 (CO)

### Saturday, October 3, 2015

9:00 AM Concert Rehearsal (S)  
3:00 PM Concerts from Kirkwood (S/FH)

(S) Sanctuary (CO) Conference Room (CR) Classrooms (SB) Sanctuary Basement (FH) Fellowship Hall (P) Parlor



## KIRKWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

MINISTERS: All Members

CLERK/SESSION ELDERS: Doug Amon, Dan Larson, Merissa Larson, Nathan Mottl,  
Joan Reynolds, Donna Ross, Martha Schoonmaker, Bob Snyder, Yvonne Taylor;  
Karen Koenig: Clerk of Session, John Wherry: Assistant Clerk of Session

DEACONS: Aida Cardona, Ann Gisch, Jim Heidenreich, Betsy Johnson, Clydette Lobred, Tammy Mottl, Sandy Webster, Ardyss Wherry

YAD (Youth Advisory Delegate): Lindsey Windhausen

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# KIRKWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Scroll of Esther. Italian, 18th c. Hechal Shalom Wolfson Museum, Jerusalem.

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

*Kirkwood's Mission Statement*

# EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

## SILENT REFLECTION

*"The story of any one of us is in some measure the story of us all."*

~ Frederick Buechner

## WE GATHER TOGETHER

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

**PRELUDE** *He Hideth My Soul* Lloyd Larson/William J. Kirkpatrick

**PSALM FOR THE DAY** Psalm 124 p. 537

**LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES** Acolytes

**TOLLING OF THE BELLS**

**WORDS OF WELCOME** Maggie Snyder

Leader: Grace to you and peace in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
People: **Let us worship God!**

**INTROIT** *God is Here Today* Raúl Galeano

**CALL TO WORSHIP** Maggie Snyder  
~adapted from Psalm 124:1-8

Leader: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God  
And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: If it had not been for God, who was on our side,  
we would have fallen prey to those who want to harm us.

People: **We would have been swept away by sadness and fear.  
Blessed be the Lord, our protector!**

**Lynbrook Tutoring:** Make a difference in the life of a student at Lynbrook Elementary School by volunteering to be a tutor and mentor this year. Tutoring begins on **Tuesday, October 20, 2015** and ends on Tuesday, May 10, 2016. You can sign up in the narthex - contact Donna Ross for more information.

**Peacemaking Offering:** This offering supports the peacemaking efforts of the church at every governing body level and provides an opportunity to witness to God's gift of peace in the world. Gifts given are divided in the following manner: 25% retained by congregations for support of their own peacemaking ministry, 25% used to support presbytery and synod peacemaking efforts, and 50% forwarded to the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program of the Presbyterian Mission Agency so that it can continue to provide assistance and resources for congregations and other bodies of the PC(USA). The peacemaking offering will be collected **Sunday, October 4.**

**Thanksgiving Baskets:** The Mission Committee and Deacons are accepting cash donations to prepare Thanksgiving Baskets for some families that can use the help. We are working with Ecumenical Community Helping Others (ECHO) who identifies families in need. There are envelopes in the pews and the donation boxes on the tables in the narthex and common area.

**ECHO Food Collection:** The ECHO Box will be at the entrance to the sanctuary **next Sunday, October 4** (Communion Sunday). As we gather to celebrate Christ's holy meal, please remember to bring a few items to fill the box and feed those who do not have the means to feed themselves. Current ECHO needs can be found at [www.echo-inc.org](http://www.echo-inc.org).

## Joys & Concerns

### *This Week's Birthdays:*

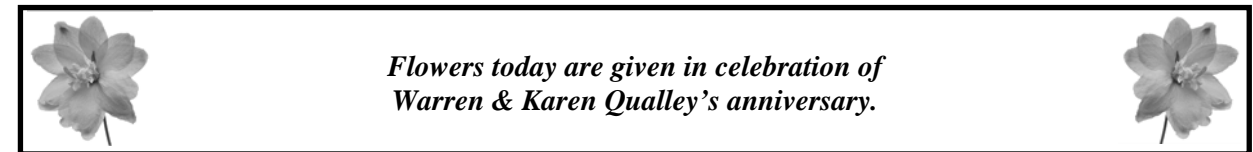
Sept 27 Maggie Snyder  
Sept 28 Katie Mateyka  
Oct 2 A.J. Scofield  
Vince Telfer

### *Health & Personal Concerns:*

Dave Johnson  
Bob Flory  
Hal Sellers  
Dick Pape  
Keith Scott  
Bob Snow, Heather Telfer's father  
Michael Taylor, brother of Ron Taylor  
Jimmy, brother of Cecilia Wu  
Abigail, daughter of Joan Reynolds' nephew  
Sallie Yaskin, sister of Ann Gisch

### *Special Concerns:*

Tom & Karen Mirabella and family, serving in the mission field in Japan  
Chris Sadler, grandson of Jack Downing, providing humanitarian relief in Turkey  
Church of Central Africa Presbyterian - Zambia



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

Esther 7:1-6,9-10; 9:20-22  
Psalm 124  
James 5:13-20  
Mark 9:38-50

Job 1:1; 2:1-10  
Psalm 26  
Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-13  
Mark 10:2-16

Rev. Lees will be in the Narthex after worship to greet you. We welcome you to join us for a time of refreshments and fellowship.

**Nursery:** Nursery care is available for newborns through age 2.

**Rev. Lees would like to invite you to read the book of Esther in preparation for our current sermon series. (You may also want to watch the Veggie Tales video with your children!)**

The next **Brunch with a Bunch** will be held on **Sunday, October 4** at El Paso Mexican Restaurant (6804 Commerce St, Springfield) beginning at 12:30 pm. Please RSVP to John and Sandy Webster at john.webster1@cox.net. November's brunch will be held at Eleni's Greek Taverna (6131 Backlick Rd, Springfield) on **Sunday, November 8**. Please let Jean Hemm know if you're interested in attending.

**Advent Devotionals:** We are currently working on a special Advent Devotional created especially for and by the Kirkwood congregation. **Please consider volunteering to write one or more devotions for our booklet.** We need 27 of them! Identify an Advent scripture or other work that has meaning to you with relevance to expectant waiting, write a paragraph about what the scripture means to you, and a short sentence or two prayer – that's it! Please contact Martha Schoonmaker to volunteer via email (home@schoonmaker.org) or phone (703-451-0808) with questions or for more information. She can also help identify scripture if needed. The deadline is **October 16**.

**ECHO Clothing Drive:** Starting this month, please help ECHO prepare for the fall needs of needy families in our area by bringing in donations of your gently used fall and winter clothing in addition to the always needed items - new white socks and underwear for adults and children, boys' jeans in all sizes and men's jeans in small and medium sizes. We also need new or gently used and clean winter coats, especially for children.

**Eat Pizza to Support ECHO:** On **Monday, September 28**, 25% of all dine-in, carry-out, delivery, and catering orders at Malek's Pizza Palace (7118 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield) will be donated to ECHO. Enjoy some pizza while supporting a good cause!

**Fun with the Wee Ones!** Volunteers are needed to lead a Children's Sermon during the service held on the first Sunday of each month. Slots are open for Sundays throughout the coming year. Training, assistance and support offered in abundance. Contact Deanna Johnson at djohnson@abcstaff.org or 703-913-3511 if you'd like to participate in this special ministry.

**Lynbrook Elementary School Supplies:** Kirkwood will continue to collect school supply donations **through October 4** in the Lynbrook Collection Box. These donations support Lynbrook Elementary School which has released their supply list online at <http://www.fcps.edu/LynbrookES/docs/supplylist.pdf> Copies of the list can also be found in the commons area.

Leader:    Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.  
People:    **Blessed be God's holy name.**

**GATHERING PRAYER**

Faithful God, you raised up Esther and gave her the courage to speak to the courts of power to save her people. Help us to trust that you are still present and active in this world and that your grace remains an everlasting force in our lives. In Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

(PLEASE STAND)

**HYMN**

*Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

150 BH

(PLEASE SIT)

**WE PREPARE FOR THE WORD**

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

Beloved in Christ, though we have sinned, we are affirmed; though we have not loved, we are loved; though we have walked away from God's call, we are drawn back according to the God's steadfast love; according to the Lord's abundant mercy. Let us confess our sin together.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION (A UNISON PRAYER)**

God our strength and savior, you know our great transgressions, our hidden faults, and secret sins. With our hands we grasp for power; with our feet we stumble into evil; with our eyes we covet our neighbor's prosperity and blessings. Forgive us gracious God, and lead us in your holy way of life, contentment, and peace; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*(moment of silence for personal confession)*

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

~adapted from Psalm 103:8, 11

Leader:    Brothers and sisters, the Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is God's loving-kindness toward those who fear him.

**People:    In the name of Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!**

(PLEASE STAND)

**CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

*Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me (vs 1)*

insert

*Glory to God, whose good-ness shines on me,  
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,  
And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.*

**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)

**A MOMENT WITH THE CHILDREN**

*(children ages 3 through 6th grade are dismissed to Sunday School)*

**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.)*

**MINUTES FOR MISSION**

Elder Nate Mottl

**OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY** *Sarabande in F Major*  
(PLEASE STAND)

**DOXOLOGY**

*Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow*

*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.*

**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 EPISTLE LESSON**

Psalm 2

p. 465

(PLEASE STAND)

**HYMN**

*Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty*

482 BH

(PLEASE SIT)

**THE GOSPEL LESSON**

Esther 1:1-22

p. 427

**SERMON**

*Esther—the Curtain Rises: A King’s Folly*

**ANTHEM**

*Prayer of St. Francis*

Carol McClure (BMI)

**WE RESPOND TO THE WORD**

**COLLECT FOR THE DAY**

O God, you declare your mighty power chiefly in showing mercy and compassion: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

(PLEASE STAND)

**HYMN**

*God of Grace and God of Glory*

420 BH

**BENEDICTION**

**CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

*Farewell, Good Friends!*

Traditional Hebrew Blessing



Farewell, good friends! Farewell, good friends! Sha-lom, sha -  
Sha-lom, cha-ve-rim! Sha-lom, cha-ve-rot! Sha-lom, sha -



lom! Till we meet a-gain, till we meet a-gain, shalom, sha-lom.  
lom! Le - hit-ra-ot, le - hit-ra-ot, shalom, sha-lom.

**POSTLUDE**

*The March of Faith*

Paul Taylor

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BH—Blue Hymnal GH—Green Hymnal  
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