

KINGSTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

NOVEMBER, 2015

Pastor's Message

Scripture is full of verses and passages calling us to thanksgiving! Do you have a favourite verse that speaks about thanksgiving? I'd love to hear them. Below are a few of mine.

Psalm 95:2-3 ²Let us come before God with thanksgiving and extol God with music and song. ³ For the LORD is the great God, the great King above all gods.

1 Corinthians 1:4-5 ⁴I always thank God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus. ⁵ For in him you have been enriched in every way--in all your speaking and in all your knowledge

1 Chronicles 16:34 ³⁴Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever.

Colossians 3:17 ¹⁷And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Philippians 4:6-7 ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Psalm 28:7 ⁷The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and I am helped. My heart leaps for joy and I will give thanks to him in song.

In this month when we celebrate Thanksgiving I find myself asking do we really give thanks? Are we full of thanks? Is it our habit to be thankful? How are we at giving thanks?

There is that great Bible story in Luke 17 that tells us about how Jesus healed 10 lepers but only one having been healed came back to Jesus to praise God and give thanks. Are we like that one? Or are we like the nine?

It is not always easy to give thanks or to feel thankful and yet we are called to give thanks and to be mindful of all the ways God walks with us and is for us. Even in the darkest and hardest days there are ways to give thanks. When we give thanks we raise our heads, we are mindful of what is beyond us and we mark hope. When we give thanks we seek to put our trust in a God who doesn't leave us alone but calls us to a relationship and love so big.

I'd like to challenge us this month to not only count our blessings but to also give thanks. Throughout November, let us each day make a point to give thanks. Let us record them. Let's not only give thanks on the 26th but let us walk through this month in a spirit and active way of being full of thanks. On the 1st of November in worship we will have *Thanks Giving Sheets* but you can also make your own by taking a piece of paper and making 30 lines and then each day record your thankfulness.

Come into this month ready to say thank you to our Lord and God. Let us take on the disciple of giving thanks and leaning into gratitude. When we do we are saying God is active in the world, in our lives and that the darkness doesn't win. May you this month be stretched in your practice of thankfulness and draw closer to Christ to whom we owe all our thanks.

Giving thanks for you in Christ,
Pastor Sharyl



Bonus verses: Psalm 7:17, Psalm 28:7, Psalm 100:4, Psalm 106:1, Is 12:4, Jeremiah 33:11, Philippians 1:3 and Thessalonians 5:18.

NOTES

November, 2015 Sanctuary Flowers



November 1: In loving memory of her parents Elsy and Alvin Roy by Kathy Roy Petersen.

November 8: In loving memory of Donald E. Wolf and in honor of Virginia R. Wolf with love from their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

November 15: In loving memory of her Grandfather, Clifton Van Dyke, by Lois and Patrick Foley and children.

November 22: In memory of his parents Fergus and Marion Anderson, Aunt Jessie, and his brother Lloyd by Robert Anderson.

November 29: To God's Glory.

Notes from the Organ Bench

This year our choir will present a variety of anthems, styles and sources, as we have before. Each month, we will highlight a contemporary American composer who has provided us with a particular anthem.

Natalie Sleeth (1930-1992) was born in Evanston, IL, and in 1952, she received an Academic major in music theory and a BA in music theory at Wellesley College in Massachusetts. She married a Professor of Homiletics, The Reverend Ronald E. Sleeth. On the occasion of his inauguration as President of West Virginia Wesleyan College in 1977, Natalie wrote the "inauguration anthem" entitled "Joy in the Morning." Another favorite is "In the Bulb There is a Flower." This was composed as an anthem and dedicated to Ronald, who was diagnosed with cancer very soon after its composition. It was performed at Ronald's funeral, the only song of hers to be performed for that occasion at his request.

She received honorary doctorates from West Virginia Wesleyan College in 1959 and from Nebraska Wesleyan College in 1990. Also an organist, she wrote over 180 highly successful selections for church and school. At age 62, at the height of her career, she died of cancer in Denver, Colorado. Our anthem by Natalie Sleeth is "A Canon of Praise," written for three voice parts and handbells.

~Jean Volk

Grace Note Singers – Tuesdays at 12:45 PM

Adults who have had to retire from choir or who have been unable to join in the past are invited to a new choir. Rehearsals will be held at the Kingston Presbyterian Church every Tuesday from 12:45 - 2:00 PM. Under the direction of **Noel Werner from Nassau Presbyterian Church**, the choir will provide fellowship that may have been lost when leaving a choir community, and together we will find opportunities to share our song through outreach and worship. Participation is open to all regardless of church affiliation.

To participate - contact Juanell Boyd at juanellbo@aol.com or 732-940-9442.

MISSION TRIP TO HAITI

January 30 – February 6

Haiti Meeting – Sunday, November 8 at 12:20 PM

Friends For Health
I N H A I T I

A green silhouette map of Haiti, positioned to the right of the text "Friends For Health IN HAITI".

Adult Class – Sundays at 9:30 AM in the Assembly Room

We will continue to have light refreshments at 9:30 and a few minutes to “socialize”, announcements, and a hymn.

Class starts at 9:50.



Class Schedule November – December 2015

November 1: Leader– Charlie Bushnell – “Mission...Impossible”

November 8: Dr. Katie Wolf will speak first to the children and then at 9:50 tell the adults about the new census they have completed, the latrine project and new staff, etc.

November 15: Intergenerational Time for adults and children

November 22, 29, December 6, 13: Leader: David Luck

Once again we are using Adam Hamilton’s video advent series. *The Journey* - We will follow in the footsteps of Mary, Joseph, the shepherds and others, gaining insight into our own journeys with Christ.

Christian Education

Children’s Youth Group – November 6

Youth group takes place the first Friday of each month for children ages 3 years through 12th grade. We will meet in the **Parish House** from **6:30 – 8:00 PM**. Join us for a fun night of games, dancing, discussion or craft, and a delicious snack. Invite your neighbors, friends, cousins, etc.!

Questions or comments? Contact Karen Emmons.

Women’s Bible Study – Thursday, November 12



Come To The Waters - Led by Reverend Sharyl Dixon

The Women’s Bible Study will meet on Thursday, November 12; from 12:00 until 2:00 PM. Pastor Sharyl will lead the study of Lesson 3, “Absence of Water – Thirst and Longing.” We all have dry spells in our lives – our bodies and our souls thirst. How do we survive times of little or no water?

All women are invited and encouraged to attend. Bring a sandwich. Dessert and beverage will be provided. For information or transportation, call Christy Parker..

Reading the New Testament in 2015

November is for 1, 2 Peter, 1, 2, 3 John and Jude.

Start the month matching the day of the month throughout the chapter.

On the 6th you will jump into reading 2nd Peter.

On the 9th we start 1st John. On the 14th we start 2nd John.

On the 15th we read 3rd John and on the 16th we read Jude.

It’s going to be a fun month of reading.

You could even read them twice if you were looking for extra fun.

Enjoy these rich books.

If questions pop up from your reading I’d love to hear them.

SERVING AT KPC

November 1

Head Usher: Nancy Wright
Ushers: Susan Shuke
Robert Anderson
Elise Cheng
Communion: Cindy Gibson – Prepare
Refreshments: Christian Education
Hospital Visitation: Robin DeGutis
Sound Technician: Chris Emmons
Children’s Message: Rebecca Robinson

November 8

Head Usher: Nancy Wright
Ushers: George Luck
Victoria Luck
Corey Hwong
Refreshments: Anne Luck-Deak
Hospital Visitation: Mickey Shimomura
Sound Technician: Bryan Huttar
Children’s Message: Rip Diring

November 15

Head Usher: Brad Clifton
Ushers: Alice Wright
Katie Bachman
Brianei Mabin
Refreshments: Music & Worship
Hospital Visitation: Mickey Shimonura
Sound Technician: Brian Hou
Children’s Message: Pastor Sharyl

November 22

Head Usher: Scott Hodge
Ushers: Rae Hodge
Leah Hodge
Eric Zapf
Refreshments: Membership & Outreach
Hospital Visitation: Elise Cheng
Sound Technician: Rip Diring
Children’s Message: Kathryn Petersen

November 29 – Advent 1

Head Usher: Joe Reitano
Ushers: Robinson Family
Refreshments: Housekeeping
Hospital Visitation: Elise Cheng
Sound Technician: Bryan Huttar
Children’s Message: Katherine Scott



November Birthdays

05 Richard Wolf
08 Robin DeGutis
09 James Ogden
12 Charles Mauser
15 Tony Baionno
15 Riley Robinson
17 Robert Anderson
17 Dawn Myers
17 Leah Hodge
18 Kaitlyn Born
19 Ellen Myers
21 Heather Caruso
21 Paul Day
28 Brian Barcelo
29 Catherine Repka

November Anniversaries

12 Suzanne & Robert Born – 16th
15 Amy & David Radzycki – 29th
17 Pastor Sharyl & Peyton Dixon – 3rd

NOTES

November's Sermons & Preachers

November 1: **Found Faithful*, 1 Corinthians 4:1-13, Hebrews 11:1-16, Rebecca Robinson, Liturgist

November 8: **Faithful In Little*, John 4:1-14, Rip Diringer, Liturgist

November 15: *Faithful with Much*, Matthew 6:19-34, Katherine Scott, Preaching, Joe Reitano, Liturgist

November 22: **Faithful with All*, Luke 19:12-26, Kathryn Petersen, Liturgist

November 29: **Yes?*, Luke 1:5-25, Nancy Wright, Liturgist

*Pastor Sharyl preaching



GriefShare "Surviving the Holidays"

No matter how long it's been since your loved one died, grief can make the holidays a painful time. But there's hope. Join us for an encouraging seminar that will help you survive the holidays and discover new reasons to enjoy them again.

Sunday, November 22

6:00-8:30 PM (Assembly Room)

Dinner provided

Call to register: 609-921-8895 or

Email: mariekluck@yahoo.com

Mission in Maine - Two Opportunities

Donate Clothing

For the New Portland Community Church thrift shop.

Summer and winter clothing items (*no shoes*) are needed.

Bring items in plastic bags (sorted and marked by season) to Church on the following

Sundays – November 1, 8 & 15 for deposit in the trailer located by the Parish House.



Purchase a Wreath

Supporting a cottage industry in Kingfield, Maine

Wreaths are \$12 each.

Contact Charles Bushnell - chas.bushnell@verizon.net

Wreaths will be available for pick up at the Church on Sunday November 22.

~Charles Bushnell

Christmas Poinsettias

For Christmas, our church sanctuary will be beautifully decorated with poinsettias.

To take part in providing poinsettias for display, you may either supply your own or place an order by filling out the form in the church bulletins or by contacting Lois Foley or the Church Office - 609-921-8895 by **Sunday, November 29**



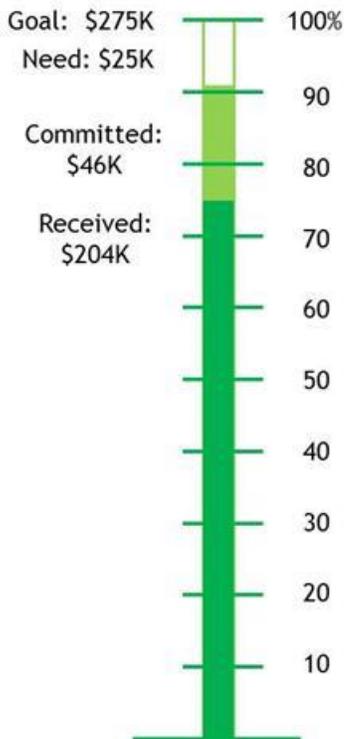
Steeple Renovation Update- Finishing the Work



Help the People
RAISE the
STEEPLE

It's been 6 months since the historic "Big Lift" that restored the steeple atop the church building, so once again this beacon shines over Kingston.

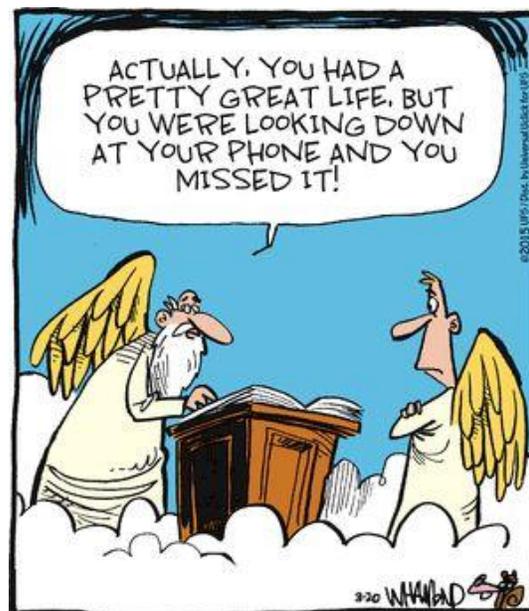
With the recent payment for exterior lighting, we can provide a final project cost of \$270K. We've also received a final estimate of Mission pledges associated with the project of \$5K (to be spread over 3 years) so the revised fundraising goal is \$275K.



Donations continue to be received and progress on pledges has exceeded expectations. We can all be grateful for those who have made this renovation possible. As of October 17, \$204K had been received and with remaining pledges, we expect to reach \$250K by the end of 2017.

There is a remaining need of \$25K. The Finance Committee will recommend to Session a plan to close the gap by the end of 2017. All funds received are above and beyond regular giving for the operation of the church. If you are able to make an additional tax-deductible contribution, it would relieve pressure on the operating budget for the next few years.

~Brad Clifton & Nancy Wright, Steeple Task Force Co-chairs



Compassion & Choices NJ

We enjoyed a thorough discussion of the NJ Aid in Dying for the Terminally Ill Act with the Kingston Presbyterian Church's adult education program yesterday! (October 18)

Big thanks to everyone that participated in the event.

(Pictures and comments from Compassion & Choices NJ website)



Ethan Andersen



Virginia Wolf - Ethan presented a very balanced presentation and was very knowledgeable about his topic. Many thanks, Ethan. Virginia Wolf, program coordinator.

Mission Commission

Those of us on the Mission Commission would like to acknowledge and express our appreciation to Emily Raduzycki for the assistance she provided in creating the "Mission Partners Cards." After offering to help set up the template, Emily ended up doing the majority of the work in creating the cards and preparing the files to be forwarded to the printer. It was a complicated process and had a tight time schedule and Emily accomplished it all just in time for us to give them out on World Communion Sunday on October 4.

We created cards for each of our Mission Partners with their picture as well as some information about them. You will also find their website and some suggestions for prayer. We will leave some of the cards on the table in the vestibule so you can take one if you did not receive one or misplaced yours. We ask that you commit to praying for your Mission Partner over the coming year. We would also encourage you to consider making a special donation to them using the yellow envelopes in your pews. Just place a check next to their name on the front or write it in.

It was a blessing that one of our missionaries was worshiping with on October 4, Rev John and Aruni Desai. They are the representatives of International Students Incorporated (ISI) which they founded back in 1976. John and some of the students from Princeton University and Princeton Seminary joined us during Sunday School and then John preached for the worship service. It is always such a blessing when we have a chance to spend time with some of the people that KPC has been praying for and providing financial assistance to for many years.

We thank you as members and friends of the Kingston Presbyterian Church for your commitment and interest in sharing what we have been blessed with, with others both locally and throughout the world. It is what we are commanded to do and we will be blessed for our obedience.

~The Mission Commission

Stewardship Commission News

"Think of us in this way, as servants of Christ and stewards of God's mysteries. Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy." 1 Corinthians 4:1-2. NRSV

This verse from the Apostle Paul's first letter to the Corinthians launches our stewardship emphasis which will begin Sunday, November 1st, 2015. We will spend four weeks exploring what it means to be **found faithful** in giving to God and being **faithful in little, faithful with much, and faith with all** God has given us. We will continue the exploration for the four weeks of the stewardship emphasis through sermons, scripture, song, children's messages, and prayers.

Special events are planned for the last two Sundays of the stewardship emphasis. On Sunday November 15th, the Deacons will host a Gratitude and Service Luncheon after worship and members have been asked to bring a food item for the pantry at **HomeFront** for homeless families. On Sunday, November 22nd, the pledge commitment cards that were previously mailed to members will be collected and Rev. Dixon will lead the congregation in dedicating them to KPC's work for God's Kingdom. The pledge commitments will form the basis for KPC's 2016 budget and determine the extent to which we will continue mission and ministry locally and throughout the world.

Although the stewardship emphasis is brief, the members of the stewardship commission serve year-round to ensure that the church's financial resources are used effectively for KPC's missions and ministries. As Chairperson I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to these tireless volunteers for their generous commitment of time and talents to KPC's missions and ministries:

~Florence Perren-Diaz, Stewardship Chairperson



Music & Worship Commission

Fall greetings to all from M&W. At our October 14th meeting, Pastor Sharyl reported that the recent Liturgist Workshops were well attended and that the feedback she received as to the instruction given was positive. She plans to repeat them again next year. Pastor also presented her November Stewardship sermon schedule themed on ways that we, as Christians, can be faithful in our lives.

Although it is hard to believe, November 30th, the last Sunday in November, begins the season of Advent. M&W has worked with Memorials on the Christmas tree issue, and we have concurred that this year KPC will again have a live Christmas tree. Thank you to the congregation for all of your phone calls, e-mails and personal conversations with me on this issue over the last month. Your input is valued and very much appreciated.

Advent also brings with it many wonderful opportunities to enjoy KPC's musical talent. We look forward to presentations by the Hand Bell Choir, Adult Choir, Calling on Him (our terrific Praise Band), as well as from our kids at the Sunday School Christmas Program planned for 11am Worship on Sunday, December 20th. Jean Volk, our Director of Music, Nick Robinson (Calling on Him) and many in our church family spend hours in practice preparing for these presentations. Please plan to come, worship and enjoy throughout the coming Season.

You will have noticed by the time you receive this Newsletter, that Phase I of the sanctuary reconfiguration has been successfully completed. M&W offers special thanks to Rebecca and Nick Robinson who, with their team, had a vision and saw it through. Charlie Bushnell and Eric Zapf beautifully executed the removal of the pews and the necessary floor refinishing - gentlemen, your efforts are gratefully acknowledged as well. As we move "into" this new space, there will be sound and other logistical issues to be addressed, preliminary plans for which are already underway. As always, we invite your comments and ideas.

Finally, M&W welcomes its newest member, Jeanne Radimer. We would also like to acknowledge Janet Rubinstein, a long-time member of M&W who recently resigned from our Commission. Janet, thank you for your years of dedicated service to M&W.

Enjoy Autumn!

~Lois Foley (Chair)

Music & Worship Commission



KPC Website - <http://kingstonpresbyterian.org>:

The website features the latest information about upcoming activities and events. We are now working on updating the information about KPC's ministries and we are looking for volunteers to help with keeping the website updated. No special technical skills are necessary beyond a basic familiarity with personal computers and Microsoft Word. If you want to pick up a new skill and have a few hours a month please call the office and leave your name, phone number, and email address.

~Florence Perren-Diaz, Stewardship Chairperson/Webmaster

KINGSTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

November, 2015



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:30 AM Church School 11:00 AM Worship 12:00 PM Nominating Comm. 12:30 PM Intergenerational Tone Choir 12:45 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal	2 10:00 AM Al-Anon 7:15 PM Deacons	3 Polling at KPC	4 10:00 AM Craft Group	5 7:30 PM Choir 8:00 PM Al-Anon	6 6:30 PM Youth Group	7 9:00AM – 12:30PM Korean School
8 9:30 AM Church School 11:00 AM Worship 12:20 PM Handbell Rehearsal 12:20 PM Haiti Meeting	9 10:00 AM Al-Anon	10 12:45 PM Grace Note Singers 5:45 PM Presbytery at 1 st Pres. Alexandria 7:30 PM Recorders	11 Veteran's Day 10:00 AM Craft Group 7:30 PM M&W	12 12:00 PM Women's Bible Study 7:30 PM Choir 8:00 PM Al-Anon	13 6:30 PM Praise Band Rehearsal	14 9:00AM – 12:30PM Korean School Korean Event 4:00 – 9:00 PM Assembly Room/Kitchen
15 9:30 AM Church School 11:00 AM Worship /Praise Band 12:02 PM Congregational Meeting/Gratitude Luncheon 12:20 PM Handbell Rehearsal	16 10:00 AM Al-Anon	17 12:45 PM Grace Note Singers 7:30 PM Session	18 10:00 AM Craft Group 7:00 PM GriefShare	19 7:30 PM Choir 8:00 PM Al-Anon	20 9:00AM – 12:30PM Korean School	
22 9:30 AM Church School 11:00 AM Worship 12:20 PM Handbell Rehearsal 3:30 PM Forrestal Service 6:00PM GriefShare	23 10:00 AM Al-Anon	24 12:45 PM Grace Note Singers	25 10:00 AM Craft Group 7:00 PM GriefShare	26 Thanksgiving Day – Office Closed 8:00 PM Al-Anon	27 Office Closed 6:00 PM ISI Dinner	28 9:00AM – 12:30PM Korean School
29 9:30 AM Church School 11:00 AM Worship 12:20 PM Handbell Rehearsal Poinsettia orders deadline	30 10:00 AM Al-Anon					

Save the Date

Sunday, November 15: Congregational Meeting followed by Gratitude Luncheon at 12:02 PM

Sunday, November 22: GriefShare “Surviving the Holidays” Seminar & Dinner at 6:00 PM

Sunday, December 6: Advent Dinner – look for details in upcoming church bulletins