

First Presbyterian  
Church of Kent  
Pastor Carol  
Kirkpatrick

P.O. Box 5217  
Kent, WA 980364

9425 S. 248th St.  
Kent, WA 98030

253-852-3370  
Email: [kfpchurch@q.com](mailto:kfpchurch@q.com)

We're on the web!

[WWW.KENTFIRST.NET](http://WWW.KENTFIRST.NET)

#### MISSION STATEMENT

We are a welcoming and inclusive community worshipping in the reformed tradition. As we are empowered by God's grace we strive to educate, serve, and witness to members and friends of Kent First Presbyterian Church and to the people of Kent and surrounding communities, in, with, and through Christ's abiding love.

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF KENT



From the Pastor's Desk

January 2010

The New Year is upon us. As I face the New Year I wonder what lies ahead; what joys, challenges, and sorrows? In my uncertainty I can begin to feel anxious. But then I remember and find assurance that God is there in it. God is in the present and future as God was in the past. The assurance of God's presence gives me reason for joy through all circumstances, and strength and courage to not lose hope through the sorrows and challenges.

Through my readings I found a book on Prayers & Praises in the Celtic Tradition. After reading the prayer "Journey Without End" I had real peace and even stronger faith building up within me as I face the unknown future. Let me share it with you.

Thy beauty will be ever new, ever freshly kindling a fire,  
through all the ages of

eternity, evermore without fail; a fervent flame without  
end, through all the degrees

of heaven together, it will continue to burn brightly as  
long as God shall last.

There is nothing in heaven or on earth but thy divine  
greatness that could kindle

such love as I now feel; who could settle my unquiet  
spirit, who could establish

me in my place, but the Illimitable, who is the perfection  
of earth and heaven?

Yonder there is no end of singing, yonder there is no end  
of remembering every

past trouble; never will it cease, the praise of God in  
our Father's house. A beginning

of praise - such, O Jesus, at the end of a thousand long  
ages, will be the joy

of the pilgrims yonder at the end of their road; there  
will never be an end to the sound of the golden harp.

No matter what we face in 2010 our Lord, our God is there. For this we can give praise to God! May your life be filled with the blessed presence of our Triune God in this new year!

Blessings,

Pastor Carol

**SUMMARY OF MINUTES OF SESSION NOVEMBER 29, 2009**

- Examined and welcomed John Akers as a new member of Kent First.
- Distributed money from the Mission Auction Fund to 1) Emergency Fund to be used by Pastor Carol to respond to individuals seeing emergency assistance, 2) assist Kent Lutheran Church in the establishment of a cold weather shelter ministry, and 3) Bethel Evangelical Secondary School.
- Approve vacation time for Pastor Carol for Dec. 26 – Jan. 2.
- Explore creating a joint Bible study night with El Podoroso and Pilgrim churches.
- Authorize the Explorer's Group to solicit items to give to H.O.M.E. during the Christmas season.

**SUMMARY OF MINUTES OF CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

**NOVEMBER 29, 2009**

- Elected Rita Dermody, Jim Drinkwine, Lud Ludwig, and Emil Drivdahl as elders.
  - Elected Jeanne Alexander, Neil Bolkcom, and Sharon Drivdahl as deacons.
- Elected JoJo Gibson, Margola McKean, Gerry Levelle, and Neil Bolkcom as members at large on the Nominating Committee.

**SUNDAY MORNING ADULT EDUCATION – 9:00AM-10:00AM****TWO NEW VIDEO-DISCUSSION SERIES TO BEGIN**

Beginning Sunday, January 3, we begin a 6-part video-discussion series: **QUESTIONS OF FAITH**. Then during Lent, we'll be using this 5-week DVD series: **COUNTERING PHARAOH'S PRODUCTION-CONSUMPTION SOCIETY TODAY**.

Here are brief descriptions of these two compelling video-series.

**QUESTIONS OF FAITH**

Throughout life, we find ourselves face to face with basic questions of belief and meaning. Sometimes we outgrow our answers – we may even decide the questions don't really matter any longer. But we seem to thirst for meaning, and to find it, every generation must ask these questions anew in their times. This series presents a variety of 14 contemporary American Protestant, Roman Catholic and Jewish thinkers including Madeleine L'Engle, Will Campbell, William Sloane Coffin, Harold Kushner, and Peggy Way. Each provocative montage of reflections helps us struggle with one of these six faith questions: *Who Is God? What Good Is Prayer? What's God Got to Do with Evil? What's Being Good Good For? Who Needs Organized Religion? And What Matters Anyway?*

**COUNTERING PHARAOH'S PRODUCTION-CONSUMPTION SOCIETY TODAY**

"It is a journey from slavery to covenant that we keep making over and over again... [because] Pharaoh has immense power always to draw us back into slavery." - *Walter Brueggemann*

Session One: The Way Out

Session Two: The Decalogue

Session Three: Countering Caesar

Session Four: An Act of Imagination

Session Five: On Not Doing God Any Favors

This series features Walter Brueggemann, an Old Testament scholar and retired professor from Columbia Theological Seminary. Also a United Church of Christ minister, Brueggemann has authored hundreds of articles, several biblical commentaries and more than 50 books, including *The Prophetic Imagination*, *Genesis: A Bible Commentary for Teaching and Preaching*, *Finally Comes the Poet*, and *Theology of the Old Testament*.

This class meets downstairs in room #1 each Sunday morning from 9:00AM-10:00AM. Everyone is welcome! Contact Tom Kirkpatrick, class facilitator, for more information.

**ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

Session has called for the Annual Congregational meeting to be held on Sunday, January 24<sup>th</sup> following worship. The meeting will be held downstairs in the fellowship hall and will cover reports from Session, the church staff, board of deacons and various organizations of the church and hear plans for the coming year. The adequacy of the compensation of the pastor will also be reviewed. Please plan to attend this meeting in which we celebrate the ministry of 2009 and look forward to 2010.

## BUILDING AND GROUNDS

The Building and Grounds Committee would like to thank all the volunteers that helped keep our facility in shape during 2009. Volunteers helped clean, organize, paint, repair electrical wiring and plumbing, change light bulbs, and also put a lot of effort into maintaining the grounds around our building. This is just some of the tasks accomplished. The number of hours and minutes people put in made a significant difference to our facility.

HAPPY NEW YEAR! Bill Jones, chairman - Building and Grounds Committee

## OUTREACH DIVISION

PLEASE REMEMBER ! SUNDAY, JANUARY 3RD, IS WE CARE SUNDAY.

Please bring your gifts of nonperishable food and clothing to church. The Kent Community Service Center's shelves are in constant need of our donations. Right now they could use an increase in donations of SOUP, but of course all other categories of food are needed, too. Donated clothing goes out quickly. All sizes, infant through adult, are welcome. Just remember that used clothing should be clean and ready to wear because the Service Center does not launder or mend donations.

## FOOD BANK

FOOD BANK DONATIONS will continue to be collected at our church. Mission Committee volunteers will take grocery and clothing items to the Food Bank. Checks for the food bank can be made out to Kent First Presbyterian Church and marked in the memo: Food Bank Donation. Our treasurer sends these money donations to the food bank. There will also be a bank on the donor table, cash can be put into the bank, it will be counted, and then a check from the church will be sent to the food bank. The response of our congregation has continued to be good in correspondence to the increased need for food donations this year.

## UGANDAN ORPHAN'S CHOIR

The Uganda Orphan's choir has received their visa's, 8 months late, but are on their way over. Unfortunately, this delay has drastically altered their schedule and they won't be able to come Dec. 13th as planned, but will instead be coming on June 13th 2010 for the 10:30 service. We will also need four host families to keep them overnight on Sat. June 12th. I know this is a way off, but now is a good time to put them down on your future calendar. All of this will become official after Pastor Carol returns, and the session approves the change in date, and other circumstances regarding their housing and meals. Thanks to all of you for your prayers for the choir, and your calls to government officials to help get their visa's approved. It is quite a story, and nothing less than a miracle that they were finally approved. Blessings to all, Richard Power

## Moderator minute for mission: Living Waters for the World

Throughout my travels as I have been attending conferences and visiting ministries, I have invited folks to send me short write-ups on their ministries and, with the understanding that, as I was able, I would post them on this blog. My hope in doing this is by no means to touch upon all ministries with a Presbyterian connection, but only to give glimpses of the breadth and depth in which we engage in ministry around the world.

Here is one received from [Living Waters for the World](#), a group whose mission is to serve as a resource to churches of all denominations, civic organizations and others in mission, enabling them to provide clean water to their partners in need

*from Janet Tuck, Director of Communications, Synod of Living Waters.*



Whenever I travel to large meetings of the Presbyterian Church, I run into Pierce Buford. She was at the General Assembly meeting last summer, at the Big Tent in June of this year and then at the PW Gathering in Louisville in July. She is always there, thrilled for an opportunity to talk about Living Waters for the World.

Pierce Buford has reason to be excited about Living Waters for the World. The mission project of the Synod of Living Waters, LWW provides training and materials to empower churches and other organizations to bring clean water to people where water supplies are polluted.

But this isn't a "go in and fix it" type of mission. This is mission based in partnership, in relationship. This is what makes LWW so exciting. When a church embarks on a LWW project, they commit to a three-year partnership with an international institution such as a school, clinic, church or seminary.

The team travels to the possible installation site to survey it and develop a partnership, then travel to assist as the partners install a clean water system and trains for maintenance and hygiene education. Then they stay in relationship, visiting the site again for follow-up and troubleshooting.

This model of ministry continues to amaze all involved with significant results flowing from the work. LWW now has installations in 312 installations in 23 countries. Those include Mexico, Haiti, Cuba, Ghana, Thailand and Madagascar. This also includes clean water system installations in Appalachia in our own country.

This growing ministry is providing clean water where it is needed the most. The world is experiencing a water crisis. 1.2 billion people have no access to clean water. 3 million people die each year of preventable water-related disease, most of them children.

Living Waters for the World has developed practical, sustainable solutions to this crisis. And it is exciting because the clean water is flowing. Just ask Pierce. She'll be happy to tell you.

For more information go to [www.livingwatersfortheworld.org](http://www.livingwatersfortheworld.org) or follow on twitter: [@LWW\\_LCWF](https://twitter.com/LWW_LCWF)

Afternoon Circle will meet January, 7th at 11:30 AM in the Fireside Room. All women are invited. Bring a sandwich to share. Dessert, coffee and tea will be furnished. There will be a very short meeting with devotions, followed by lunch and fellowship. Bible study will be led by Margaret Johnson. If you have any questions or need a ride call Marian Willhite 253-852-2881.

### PRIME TIME JOURNEY

**Prime Time Journey** meets the first Monday of each month. The next meeting will be January 4, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. in the fireside room. We will be discussing the first 115 (or so) pages of The Glass Castle, a memoir by Jeannette Walls.

“In *The Glass Castle*, Walls chronicles her upbringing at the hands of eccentric, nomadic parents--Rose Mary, her frustrated-artist mother, and Rex, her brilliant, alcoholic father. To call the elder Walls's childrearing style laissez faire would be putting it mildly. Though Walls has well earned the right to complain, at no point does she play the victim. But on the contrary, Walls respects her parents' knack for making hardships feel like adventures, and her love for them--despite their overwhelming self-absorption--resonates from cover to cover.” ( **Brangien Davis, Amazon.com Review**)

Join us for lively study and conversation! For more information, contact Maureen Dean: 253-939-5528.

### PRAYER CHAIN

Prayer chain. Our church has two prayer chains, one telephone and one e-mail. If you are in need of prayers for your life or would like to be part of this ministry you may call the church office 253-852-3370, Maureen Ludwig, 253-852-7532 or e-mail Gene [Sherwood@g12gesher@aol.com](mailto:Sherwood@g12gesher@aol.com).

### EARLY EDITION ODYSSEY

The Early Edition Odyssey Circle will meet Tuesday, January 26, in the Fireside Room at 1:00 p.m. All women are invited to attend this afternoon event of fellowship, study and refreshment. Jeanne Alexander will be hostess, assisted by Marjorie Elgin. Nora Fisher will lead devotions and Carole Millam will facilitate the study, chapter 4 of Joshua. Contact Nora Fisher, Early Edition Odyssey chair, for more information.

### MENS BREAKFAST

The **Men's Fellowship** group meets the second and fourth Saturday of each month at the Golden Steer restaurant in Kent, located at 240th and 104th. Join other men from Kent First on January 9th and 23rd at 7:30 AM for good food and fellowship!

### YOUTH GROUP

**Youth Group** for students in 6th—12th grade meets each Sunday following Worship for a sandwich lunch and great discussion. A great program year has been planned and the more the merrier! Please call Brad Kibbel for more information.

### MORNING PRAYER

Get a powerful start to your Monday Morning!!!

You are invited to join us every Monday morning at 7:00 for a quiet, but powerful, time of prayer. We gather in the sanctuary, the setting is comfortable, and the prayers are informal but meaningful.

If you have questions please contact Pastor Carol.

### OUT TO LUNCH BUNCH

Out to Lunch Bunch meets the 4th Sunday of each month. We enjoy fellowship with each other over lunch at a local area restaurant. All are welcome to join us. Questions? - call Maureen Ludwig, 253-852-7532 .

JANUARY 2010				
3rd	10th	17th	24th	31st
LAY READER				
Tom Kirkpatrick	Rita Dermody	Waverly James	Margaret Johnson	Maureen Dean
USHERS				
Al Dermody	Jeanne Alexander	Lud Ludwig	Glen Sherwood	Al Dermody
Rod Parkinson	JoJo Gibson	Maureen Ludwig	Sharon Drivdahl	Rod Parkinson
GREETERS				
Waverly James	Marie Heft	Nora Fisher	Carol Dunford	
COMMUNION SERVERS JANUARY 3RD				

**\$\$\$ TREASURER'S REPORT \$\$\$**  
**FOR THE PERIOD NOVEMBER 1 THROUGH NOVEMBER 30, 2009**

GENERAL FUND SUMMARY

**INCOME**

General Fund	\$134,306.08
Other Giving	\$2,313.84
Building Use	\$20,030.00
<u>Other (Note 1)</u>	<u>\$14,000.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>\$170,649.92</u></b>

Note 1: \$14,000 transfer from Reserve Fund

Program	\$47,641.12
Mission	\$11,176.11
<u>Payroll</u>	<u>\$115,812.12</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>\$174,629.35</u></b>

RECONCILIATION

**GENERAL FUND**

Beginning Balance	\$4,402.34
Income	\$170,649.92
<u>Expenses</u>	<u>\$174,629.35</u>
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b><u>\$422.91</u></b>

**Specified Funds \*** \$23,452.57

**Gen/Spec Funds** \$23,875.48  
**Bank/BECU Bal.** \$23,875.48

\* Specified Funds includes Reserve Fund of \$4,831.00