

First Presbyterian
Church of Kent
Pastor Carol
Kirkpatrick

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We're on the web!

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



June/July 2011

From the Pastor's Desk

This is the last newsletter article before I leave on sabbatical. I am looking forward to this time of rest and renewal, but know I will miss you. After the first three weeks (my usual length of time away) I will yearn to be back with all of you. Not to work or to be your pastor, but to be in the church family that I deeply appreciate and love.

Know that during my sabbatical time you will be in my daily prayers. My prayers for you are of rest, renewal and great joy being together. I will be praying that your relationship with Eliana will flourish. I have great peace of mind that you are all in and under good care. I pray that you are able to see and sense the things God is doing in your midst. I look forward to returning after the sabbatical ready to share my story and to hear yours.

To keep you updated on my travels and experiences, during this sabbatical time, I want to regularly send post cards. I will do this via a blog. The address is <http://kfpsabbatical.blogspot.com>. I will post something new each week. Please note this is not an interactive blog but one set up so you can check on my experiences. Yes, I will have plenty of pictures posted after Juliann's wedding in August.

As I leave you I am reminded of Paul's words to a cherished community, the Philippians, Philippians 1:3-7a.

"I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart."

Blessing to all of you during June, July, and August and I look forward to returning to you in September full of energy ready to engage with you in ministry.

Sincerely,
Pastor Carol

Greetings friends,

Pastor Carol goes on a well-deserved sabbatical in order to restore and re-create. And you, the congregation gets to stay home and... have a temporary supply pastor. This sounds a lot like having a substitute teacher, doesn't it?

Well, before you start switching nametags and folding bulletins into paper airplanes, allow me to assure you that I am no sub. You and I are about to embark on our own sabbatical-like journey; a time to deepen our faith, enrich our worship life, and prayerfully consider the manners that God continues to call the Kent church in new and exciting ways to love and serve our Lord. I am convinced that each of us is called and placed by God in a particular place at a particular time in order to fulfill God's will. Our adventure will be in figuring out what that might be!

I will be in the church office on Wednesdays.

Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays you can find me at the Seattle Presbytery office. Fridays will be my sermon-writing day. Please feel free to contact me any time. I am here to walk with you while Pastor Carol rests and I am blessed to have this gift to be in community with all of you.

There are so many wonderful and exciting opportunities coming up to be community; hosting H.O.M.E in the month of June, the Mission Auction Dinner on June 4th, the Multicultural Potluck & Conversation on July 23 and so much more. And of course, our Sunday mornings together when we can come from north, south, east and west and be one body in worshiping and praising our God.

I look forward to getting to know you all. Please don't be shy and introduce yourself.

In Christ's love and grace,

Eliana

Rev. Eliana Maxim

SUMMER MUSIC COORDINATOR

Dear musical friends, Neil Bolkcom has stepped forward to be our summer music coordinator. If you would like to provide some special music this summer, you can check in with him, and sign up. We will all look forward to your participation in worship! Thanks, Richard

BUILDING AND GROUNDS

NEW PADDED FOLDING CHAIRS

Eighty new padded folding chairs have been purchased for the church using Bequest Funds. There are 30 of the old folding chairs stored in the trailer and these will be available for people to borrow. The remaining older folding chairs have been placed alongside the lift on the lower level. Those persons wanting any of the old folding chairs are welcome to take them as soon as possible. The middle of June, all chairs remaining alongside the lift downstairs will be disposed of.

PEOPLE NEEDED FOR NEW ROOF TASK FORCE 2011

The roof of our church is reaching the end of its useful life. In March, Building and Grounds went through the process of prioritizing a list of approximately 20 items/projects to use the Bequest Funds allocated for church improvements.

The top priority item was to form a task force to evaluate roof replacement options available for our church. The task force would contact an architect to consider various types of roofing material, impact to the structure, ventilation requirements, appearance, life span of materials, maintenance, etc.

After the selection of the roofing material, the task force would then contact at least three roofing contractors to request cost and schedule proposals for the roof project.

The task force would then explore fund raising and financing for the roof replacement. The plan would be to replace the roof during the summer of 2012.

Volunteers are needed for the task force as well as a team leader. Please contact Bill Jones at 253-854-6748 to volunteer.

Wealth Is Not Enough

Money will buy:

- A bed but not sleep.
- Books but not brains.
- Food but not appetite.
- Finery but not beauty
- A house but not a home.
- Medicine but not health.
- Luxuries but not culture.
- Amusement but not happiness.
- A crucifix but not a Savior.
- A church pew but not Heaven.

GREAT MISSION AUCTION AND DINNER

Please come and support the Great Mission Auction & Dinner on Saturday, June 4TH @ 5:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall!

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Children's Sunday school Teachers Learning Along With The Children

One question the Nurture Ministry Team has been asking throughout the year centers around how to build a solid Christian formation. At Kent First, there are many opportunities to help us form that foundation, regardless of age.

Since September, 13 of our adult members have spent a few Sundays building foundational formation of our youth. While we hear the readings and sermon, those young in age and in spirit spend time downstairs with a lesson of their own.

"The children are enthusiastic and pretty attentive," says Lynda Bollman, Children's Sunday School Coordinator. Sue York agrees, "The kids who attend are really great to work with!"

Janelle McCarty echoes that: "Carolee always came up from Sunday School with something special that she had made to show me. That is important to her. Also, she usually knew the Bible story to go with what she made."

The creativity of the teachers showed when the curriculum needed to be adapted. "The lessons were really designed for kids who are able to read, and since many of those attending are not able to read, the lessons had to be adapted. I also adapted my lessons according to what types of activities the children seemed to like best – drawing/coloring is a must," said Cheryl Drinkwine. Lynda agrees, "They enjoy using their hands in coloring, cutting, and so forth".

But teaching wasn't just about granting an elder's knowledge to the next generation. Teachers got back as much as they gave. Vern Elgin enjoyed knowing "that I was doing one of the three major ministries of Jesus: Preaching, teaching, and healing," he said. "And, there was the joy of being made to feel young and useful in the church. I feel I got back more than I gave."

Lynda says working with younger students was something new for her. "Last year was the first time I have ever worked with children as young as three and four years old. I really noticed how appreciative, cooperative and trusting they are; it has been a joy to work with them," she says. "I have felt the satisfaction of being able to guide them in God's Word." Cheryl also experienced this; "I enjoyed discovering the unique personalities of the children who attended."

Looking back, Janelle says one of the most memorable times was her lesson during Lent. For this season, students had a purple cross with six squares. At the start of Lent, all six had a battery-powered candle. Each Sunday, a candle was removed and that space covered with a Holy Week symbol. "The cross getting darker represented the struggle Jesus went through for us," she said. "I'm not sure if the kids understood all of this, but I enjoyed the symbolism and having a theme to take the kids through."

Formational Work Continues Through The Summer

The Sunday morning adult class will continue meeting through the summer and all are welcome!

The summer 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. session will try to link our learning and knowledge to the current events happening in our lives and around the world. While we may not have answers to everything, good discussions are bound to happen.

Bring your questions and be ready to share some thoughts on the topics of the day. Together we can see how God is working in our lives.

MULTICULTURAL POTLUCK

AND CONVERSATION

SATURDAYJULY 23, 2011

TIME: 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM

LOCATION: KENTFIRST FELLOWSHIP HALL

ALL ARE WELCOME

ENJOY A MEAL WITH AND GET TO KNOW

THE PEOPLE OF DIVERSE CULTURES

WHO ATTEND KENT FIRST

For more information you may contact

Lovey Keele or Neil Bolcom

OUTREACH MINISTRY

WALMSLEY SCHOLARSHIP

The Robert Walmsley Scholarship, worth \$500, is being offered to members of Kent First Presbyterian Church enrolled in a college or university for the 2011/12 academic year. Prospective applicants must be a member of Kent First and must write a letter addressed to Early Edition Odyssey, c/o Sharon Drivdahl, to be considered for the scholarship. Please submit your application letter no later than August 31, 2011. As an added incentive to apply, some colleges or universities offer a dollar for dollar matching scholarship. Check with your school's Financial Aid office for confirmation of matching funds. Please contact Sharon at (253) 631-3543 if you have questions, or need more information.

APLAUSE FOR OUR TUTORS

The school year is rapidly coming to an end and we want to thank those persons tutoring in the schools this year. There are eight people tutoring at the elementary level:

Neil Bolcom, Susan Doody, Emil Drivdahl, Ruth Jones, Carol Kirkpatrick, Tom Kirkpatrick, Carole Millam and Kay Payne. Diane Lee is tutoring at a high school in the sewing class. There may be other people helping in the schools that we are not aware of.

Those tutoring at the lower elementary level are rewarded with a lot of smiles and hugs. All persons tutoring find joy in seeing the progress of the students they are involved with. Reports are coming back that there are a lot of very capable and dedicated teachers in the Kent School District.

Take a minute to thank a tutor for their efforts on behalf of students. The extra attention and opportunity to work with an adult on a personal level is very valuable.



UPCOMING SUMMER OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

Believe it or not, summer is just around the corner! The Outreach Ministry Team is now planning for a number of events and activities, and we are looking for your participation:

- Food Drive Saturday, June 11. We will be setting up at the Kent Top Foods and Safeway again this year from 9am - noon. Please join us to help collect food for the food bank, during this often forgotten time of the year when kids are out of school and away from lunch assistance programs.
- Kent Cornucopia Days July 8. Kent First will set up a booth at the festival on Friday, July 8 to let the community know who we are, to invite folks to the Summer Festival, and to just have fun people watching. Please contact Neil Bolkcom if you are able to join us for a time slot at the booth.
- Summer Festival Saturday, July 30. Our annual summer tradition returns this year with plenty of fun for our church family and the community around us. There will be a kids bouncy, a car show coordinated by Rod Parkinson, live music from Justin Cormier's band, ice cream and kids activities. On the kid's activities, Ruth Jones will be making giant bubbles, but we are also looking for another children's activity coordinator. If you have an activity that you would be willing to coordinate (kite making, crafts, painting, etc.), please contact Mike McCarty.

PLEASE REMEMBER ! JUNE 5 IS WE CARE SUNDAY

Please bring your gifts of nonperishable food and clothing to church. Mission Committee volunteers will deliver them to The Kent Community Service Center whose shelves are in constant need of our donations. All categories of food are needed, including baby food, and infant formula. Donated clothing goes out quickly. All sizes, infant through adult, are welcome. Men's clothing is often scarce. Just remember that used clothing should be clean and ready to wear because the Service Center does not launder or mend donations. Other needed items include back packs, bedding, towels, baby powder, lotion and diapers.

Monetary contributions are also welcome. You may place your check or cash donation in the bank on the table. Make your check out to Kent First Presbyterian Church and write *food bank* in the memo area. Our treasurer will send your donations to the Community Service Center.

The response of our congregation to those who need help has been warmly received. **Thank you for continuing to CARE.**

SAVE THIS DATE

SUMMER FESTIVAL JULY 30 SATURDAY 1 TO 4 P.M.



Summer Festival will once again be held outdoors at the church. Rod Parkinson is in charge of inviting folks with cool cars for display. We will also have Justin Cormier and friends entertaining us with light music. What a treat to have live music as we enjoy ourselves visiting, meeting new people, eating ice cream, and looking at the cars.

There are activities planned for children including the very popular bouncy thing, and an opportunity to make giant bubbles. Other activities for kids are being planned.

This is also an opportunity to meet some of our neighbors who come to enjoy the festival.

MOSES AND THE RED SEA

Nine-year-old Joey was asked by his mother what he had learned in Sunday School. "Well, Mom, our teacher told us how God sent Moses behind enemy lines on a rescue mission to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. When he got to the Red Sea, he had his army build a pontoon bridge and all the people walked across safely. Then he radioed headquarters for reinforcements. They sent bombers to blow up the bridge and all the Israelites were saved."

"Now, Joey, is that really what your teacher taught you??" his Mother asked.

"Well, no, Mom. But, if I told it the way the teacher did, you'd never believe it!"

PERSONNEL & STEWARDSHIP

I wish to thank all of you who participated in the pastoral evaluation process this year. I know it was a different format than what has been done before, but it gave us an opportunity to create open and honest discussion and gather more detailed information. All the information has been summarized and was presented to Pastor Carol.

One of the items that came up was communication. One of the comments we received seemed to address what some of you are feeling: "...if you are not on a committee, a deacon or session member, you don't know what is going on." We wanted to make sure that you are aware of the resources that are available. We have the monthly newsletter, the church web site, quarterly town meetings, and session and deacon meetings that are open to anyone who wants to attend. If you have questions, all the session and deacon members are willing to talk with you about them. Pastor Carol is also willing to address your questions or concerns. In addition, Pastor Carol does a monthly "Pastor's Report" which lists her activities for the month. This report is available by request through the church office.

My questions for you are: What kind of communication would be meaningful for you? How frequently would this communication occur? Maybe the current methods are getting a little stale. Please give me your comments by either leaving them in my mail box in the church office, emailing me, or talking to me personally.

Again, thank you for being open and honest in your feedback.

Diane Lee, Elder for Personnel

PERSONNEL & STEWARDSHIP

BUDGET REMINDER

It looks like Mother Nature finely got to us hardy "moss backs". I have seen an increasing number of motor homes, campers, and fifth wheels heading out of town. And, I am sure they are off to warmer weather!

As many of you plan your summer vacations please remember that you still have a commitment to our church in the form of your pledge. So as you set aside your vacation dollars also set aside your pledge dollars that can be given to the church before you leave. This will insure that the programs and activities can continue. This also reduces the need to draw from the reserve account unnecessarily.

God be with you and bring you home safely.

Diane Lee, Elder for Stewardship

**\$\$\$ TREASURER'S REPORT \$\$\$
FOR THE PERIOD APRIL 1 THROUGH APRIL 30, 2011**

<u>GENERAL FUND SUMMARY</u>		<u>RECONCILIATION</u>	
INCOME		GENERAL FUND	
General Fund	\$55,797.00	Beginning Balance	\$16,591.00
Other Giving	\$1,062.33	Income	\$51,584.68
Building Use	\$6,236.00	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>\$69,890.50</u>
Reimbursements	\$489.35	Ending Balance	<u>(\$1,714.82)</u>
Transfer to Sabbatical Fund	(\$12,000.00)	Specified Funds *	\$106,396.63
Other		Gen/Spec Funds	\$104,681.81
TOTAL	<u>\$51,584.68</u>	Bank/BECU Bal.	\$104,681.81
Program	\$19,477.03		
Mission	\$3,893.92		
Payroll	\$46,030.20		
Reimbursable Expenses	<u>\$489.35</u>	* Specified Funds includes	
TOTAL	<u>\$69,890.50</u>	Reserve Fund of \$31,304.38	

SMALL GROUPS

AFTERNOON CIRCLE

Afternoon Circle will meet June 2, 2011 at 11:30 A.M. in the Fireside Room. This is the first Thursday. All women are invited to join us. Bring a sandwich to share; coffee, tea and dessert are furnished. We have a short meeting, devotions, lunch followed by Bible Study. Margaret Johnson is the study leader. If you have any questions call the church office - 253-852-3370 or Marian Willhite 253-852-2881.

KNITING GROUP

The group will meet on the third Wednesday of the month from 1 to 3 in the afternoon. The next meeting will be Wednesday, May 18th. If you have questions, call Nora at 253-520-5480.

EARLY EDITION ODESSEY

The Early Edition Odyssey Circle will meet Tuesday, June 28, at the home of Carole Millam at 1:00 p.m. All women are invited to attend this afternoon event of fellowship, study and refreshment. Carole will be hostess, assisted by Jan Hefford. Lynda Bollman will lead devotions and Pat James will facilitate the study, chapter 9 of Journeys Through Revelation: Apocalyptic Hope for Today.

Contact Carole for driving directions. If you wish to carpool, please meet at the church parking lot at 12:30.

Contact Nora Fisher, Early Edition Odyssey chair, for more information.

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 at g12gesher@aol.com

MENS BREAKFAST

The **Men's Fellowship** group meets the first and third Saturday of each month at the Golden Steer restaurant in Kent, located at 240th and 104th.

OUT TO LUNCH BUNCH

Out to Lunch Bunch meets the 3rd 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.

EXPLORER'S GROUP

The Explorer's group will meet on June 10th at the home of Larry & Carole Millam

JUNE 2011

5TH	12TH	19TH	26TH
LAY READER			
Vernon Elgin	Sharon Drivdahl	Janelle McCarty	Rita Dermody
USHERS			
Wendell Alexander	Diane Lee	Horace Ludwig	Rod Parkinson
Jeanne Alexander	John Akers	Maureen Ludwig	Al Dermody
GREETERS			
Nora Fisher	Sharon Drivdahl	Neil Bolcom	Jeanne Alexander

JULY 2011

3rd	10th	17th	24th	31st
LAY READER				
Kay Payne	Brad Kibbel	Jim Drinkwine	Mike McCarty	Margaret Johnson
USHERS				
Glen Sherwood	Rod Parkinson	Glen Sherwood	Wendell Alexander	John Akers
Sharon Drivdahl	Al Dermody	Sharon Drivdahl	Jeanne Alexander	Diane Lee
GREETERS				
Tori Bell	Maureen Ludwig	Marian Willhite	Marion Rosenbaum	Lynda Bollman

JOY is prayer—

Joy is strength—

Joy is love—Joy is a net of love by which you can catch souls.

She gives most who gives with joy.

The best way to show our gratitude to God and the people is to accept everything with joy.

A joyful heart is the inevitable result of a heart burning with love.

We all long for heaven where God is but we have it in our power to be in heaven with Him right now—to be happy with Him at this very moment. But being happy with Him now means:

loving as He loves,

helping as He helps,

giving as He gives,

serving as He serves,

rescuing as He rescues,

being with Him for all the twenty-four hours,

touching Him in his distressing disguise.

By Mother Teresa-

Mother Teresa received the 1979 Nobel Peace Prize for her selfless devotion to India's poor and dying. The founder of the Missionaries of Charity, she was considered by many to be a living saint.