



THE OLIVE BRANCH

Kirkpatrick Memorial Presbyterian Church

Ringoes, New Jersey

From The Pastor

At the end of January, Kevin Ireland, Pat Pickard, and I drove out to Grand Rapids, Michigan to attend the Calvin Symposium on Worship. This conference included two worship services and several seminars every day. It was a great conference with inspiring worship, thought-provoking seminars, and interesting conversation.

While I was there, I went to one particular seminar called, "Faith Formation in Worship" that I have been thinking about a lot since I have returned. The leader of the workshop argued that Sunday corporate worship is the focal point for much of our Christian formation. He

said that Sunday worship is an indispensable part of growing to Christian maturity. It is in worship that we learn to pray together, to bear one another's burdens and share each other's joys. He also said that the act of gathering around the Word of God as it is read and proclaimed is a vital piece of our spiritual development. If worship is a key component to Christian maturity, then it is important that we all put a lot of thought into what we do in worship.

He said that worship is especially important for children and youth. The Church is one of the few places where youth and adults are together, participating in the same event. It is in worship where young people can see older people practice their faith and, through prayer requests, prayers of confession, and other responses show vulnerabilities that many young people never see in adults.

Naturally, my thoughts turn to our worship at Kirkpatrick. I am so grateful for this congregation and our intergenerational worship. I am especially glad for the volunteers who have provided activity bags for young worshipers. These bags provide materials to keep busy hands occupied, but also offer ways for elementary aged students to engage with worship.

This seminar also prompted me to think about how we might improve our worship. If our goal is to be a place that strives to spiritually form worshipers rather than being merely another activity on the weekly calendar, then we need to be intentional about our worship. Perhaps there are things that we could do differently or better; perhaps there

are practices that we could add to our worship that would make it more accessible, meaningful, or empowering. Maybe there is something that you have been longing to see as part of our worship at Kirkpatrick.

For worship to be a faith-forming event, there are a few things that we can do right away. I always put the upcoming scripture passages in the bulletin so you know what I will be preaching about. I encourage you to spend some time each week reading and meditating on these passages in preparation for worship. Even take some time to write down questions about the passage, or ideas that the passage raises for you.

If you have children who stay in worship with you, you can have conversations about the sermon or other things that happen in worship, asking them what they heard or what they think about their experience in worship. I have discovered that children are eager to be included in conversation about worship.

I also would love to hear from you. If there is something that you would like to try in worship, or something that you would like to do more often as part of our worship, or if there is something that you find particularly significant in worship, or if you would like to hear me preach about particular passages from the Bible, call me or e-mail me so that we can begin a conversation about worship. That would be a great joy for me.

Grace and Peace,
Ryan Balsan, Pastor

Upcoming Events

March 8—Deacon's Blood Drive

March 17—Westminster Guild 1:30 pm

March 18—KMPC Hosts IHN

March 20—Another Women's Bible Study 8:30 a

March 27—KMPC Easter Egg Hunt

March 28—Palm Sunday

IHN Scheduled for March

Kirkpatrick Memorial is scheduled to host the Interfaith Hospitality Network on Thursday, March 18th. Volunteers are needed to help make dinner, sleep over and entertain the guests.

If you can help, or need additional information, contact Karen Stover at karinmike@comcast.net or 908-782-0132. Your help is greatly appreciated.

Master Schedule

	8:45 Nursery	Jr. Church	8:45 Greeters	8:45 Offering Ushers	Coffee Break	Communion Prep	11:15 Nursery/Jr Church	11:15 Greeters Ushers
Mar. 7	Anthony & Beth Dell	Kathleen & Greg Ruel	Donna & Bob Trevithick	Donna & Bob Trevithick, Barry & Jennifer Bacorn	Dave & Karla Gambrill	Donna Trevithick	Kate Kennedy	Don & Betty Reilly
Mar. 14	Skip & Terri Kell	Tracy McClelland & Michelle Carey	Gary & Eileen Vincent-Smith	Gary & Eileen Vincent-Smith, Pat & Terry Wright	Pat Wright & Terry Kell	Sarah Wier	Sharyn Danner	Betty Bevis & Janice Jarrett
Mar. 21	Erin Kalajian & Kristina Munson	John & Connie Raskin	Steve & Lori Wonsor	Steve & Lori Wonsor, Darryl & Nancy Cronce	Linda Weller & Karen Shipman	Sarah Wier	Jennifer Balsan	Mike & Lynn Villano
Mar. 28	Bob & Donna Trevithick	Jennifer Balsan & Margaret Case	Dave & Karla Gambrill	Dave & Karla Gambrill, Glenn & Carol Riffin	Jennifer & Barry Bacorn	Donna Trevithick	Bev Kaminski	Karen & Roger DeLay
Apr. 4	Kevin & Tina Ireland	Easter	Skip & Terry Kell	Skip & Terry Kell, Lowell & Lorraine Rader	Easter Breakfast	Donna Trevithick	Jennifer Balsan & TBD	Fred & Irene Kuhl
Apr. 11	Chris & Mika Colavita	Ellie & Tom Verbyst	Colleen Case & Norma Zimmerman	Colleen Case & Norma Zimmerman, David Case & Marilyn Desnos	Sue King & Linda Hults	Sarah Wier	Sharyn Danner	Bob & Sally Fulper
Apr. 18	Lowell & Lorraine Rader	Michele & Jim Hawthorne	Linda Hults & Sue King	Linda Hults & Sue King, Hillary Tobin & Margaret Case	Michelle Carey & Tracy McClelland	Sarah Wier	Angela Bodine	Renn & Bev Kaminski
Apr. 25	Karla Gambrill & Erin Kalajian	Carrie & Bob Breech	Norma Case & Lorraine Rader	Norma Case & Lorraine Rader, Lillian Snyder & Liz Kadezabeck	Jennifer & Barry Bacorn	Donna Trevithick	Liz Hodes	Don & Betty Reilly

The Olive Branch

The Olive Branch is published monthly by the Kirkpatrick Memorial Presbyterian Church, Ringoes NJ. Deadline for article submission is the 15th of the month prior to publication. Submit articles to Barry Campbell by email to kirkpatricchurch@earthlink.net, or in person. For information, call the church office at 908-782-1177.

KMPC Youth Happenings

In February we had the opportunity to take a trip to the Broad Street Ministry in Philadelphia for an overnight. It was an opportunity to worship with this church that serves those in need in Philly as well as to help out a friend of theirs, the Norris Square Neighborhood Project by painting their computer lab and helping to label their library by reading level. I always love these opportunities because they are when you get to see our students at their best: serving their neighbors and reflecting on the grace of God and the need in our communities.

We have two other opportunities coming up for our students to serve in March and I can't wait to see how they turn out! The first is our 30-hour Famine event on March 19th-20th. This event allows students to see what it's like to be hungry as they fast for 30 hours while they raise money for hunger causes around the world. This event also provides an opportunity as we go out into our community with other area youth ministries for a variety of service projects. The other event is the exact opposite of going hungry, as we help to sell a table full of deserts and goodies to help raise money for our friends the Good News Home for Women at their annual bake sale on April 3rd. Both of these events are a great opportunity for us and there are a variety of ways you can be a part of them. We need drivers and chaperones for both, people to cover us in prayer, and people to come out and help support us. If you are interested in either of these opportunities, please give me a call or drop me an e-mail so we can partner with you, our youth and our communities in being a part of God's hands and feet in the world.

Grace and Peace,
Kevin Ireland

Questions? Comments?
Want to schedule an event or get-together?
Contact Kevin Ireland at 908-782-1177 or
kevin.ireland@earthlink.net

After School Special: March 9th - 4:30-6:00

(3rd-5th Graders) Joins us for our time of food, friends, faith discussion and crafts together in the Gym. Bring a friend! After School Special meets on the second Tuesday of every month.

Jr. High Wednesdays: March 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st - 6:00-7:30

(6th-8th Graders) Join us for a time of food, friends, and faith discussion together in the Gym. Please bring a snack or drink to share and all your friends.

Sr. High Small Group Wednesdays: March 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st -7:30-9:00

(9th-12th Graders) Join us for a time of food, friends, and faith discussion together in the Blue Room. Please bring a snack or drink to share and all your friends.

Sr. High House Parties: March 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th - 7:00-8:30

(9th-12th Graders) Join us for a time of food, friends, and faith discussion together at your house! Would you like to host a Sr. High House Party? Please talk to Kevin and keep an eye out here to see where we are at each week, or join the Sr. High House Party e-mail list by e-mailing kevin.ireland@earthlink.net

30-Hour Famine: March 19th-20th- 7:00-11:30, 8:00-2:00

Join us as we fast to better understand our neighbors who have to face hunger every day. We will also be raising money for hunger causes around the world. This even will be done together with other area youth ministrys as well as we meet on Friday night to play games, worship and reflect on the needs in our area and then on Saturday we will be heading out to a variety of service projects. Transportation is limited so please RSVP with Kevin to pick up your donation envelope and to make sure you have a spot!

Kirkpatrick Prayer List

KMPC Family

Margaret Case
 Doug & Grace Cronce
 Those with Parkinson
 Sharon Mitzen
 Bob & Melissa Hults-Mokros
 Brian Case (military)
 Fred Kuhl (healing)
 Kurti family
 Thomas family (Khalif & Khalil)
 Homebound members
 KMPC Deacons
 KMPC Session members
 High School/College students
 Colleen
 Mavis
 Donna
 Adam Adams (Afghanistan)
 Shannon and Lucas Endicott

KMPC Extended Family

Amanda Russo/David Case
 Children with cancer
 Troubled youth
 Toby & Judy Nelson (healing)
 Susan bills
 Dolores Heinrich
 Mary Robins
 Jim
 Szabo family
 Marie Stra
 Young family
 Angelina
 Baby Hugh
 Nancy (cancer)
 William Brooksbank
 Tom Holcombe & Son, Casey
 Karen (healing)
 Bobby Hackney

Clarence Hackney
 Phillips family
 Mary Ann Covello
 Charles Prall (healing)
 Doug Harriman (cancer)
 Maddalena family
 Virginia Lavan
 Brianna
 Those affected by the Ft. Hood tragedy
 Those affected by Haiti disaster
 President Obama
 U.S. & World situations
 Unemployed

Contact Irene Kuhl
 (irenekuhl@comcast.net or 908-782-6736 to have names added or deleted from the list.

Baby Care Kits

The Westminster Guild of Kirkpatrick Church is embarking on a project to supply “Baby Care Kits” for Haiti earthquake victims, and you can help.

This project is particularly important for earthquake relief in Haiti, but also for us it’s during our self-denial Lenten Season. Your help is needed to obtain baby items that will be packaged by the Guild members and forwarded to Church World Service for Haitian distribution.

Items you can supply include cloth diapers and diaper pins, undershirts (no “onesies), wash cloths, sleepers or gowns, sweater or sweat shirts and



- Baby Kit**
- Six cloth diapers
 - Two shirts
 - Two washcloths
 - Two gowns or sleepers
 - Two diaper pins
 - One sweater or sweatshirt
 - Two receiving blankets
(one can be a knitted blanket)

receiving blankets. All items must be new and under 12 months in size.

Burlington Coat Factory not only has an excellent selection of all of the above items—yes, even cloth diapers—they will also give a discount to your purchase if you ask for the KMPC discount when purchasing them for the Haiti Baby Care Kit project.

Monetary donations are also accepted. Checks can be made out to KMPC with “Haiti Baby Care Kit” in the memo line.

Guild members will be assembling the kits on Monday, April 5, so donations should be made by April 4. A box is available in the connector.

Note of Thanks

The Friendship Center for New Beginnings sent the following note:

Dear Peggy and friends in Kirkpatrick’s Westminster Guild

What a joy to return from the Christmas break to find your generous gift awaiting us – we are blessed by your faithful kindness at the end of such a challenging year. God bless you all richly!

As we look forward to this new year, there is an even deeper understanding that none of us can accurately predict how our economic

situation will develop, but one thing is certain: like Moses, we say “teach me Your ways, so I may know You and continue to find favor with You.” What a privilege it is for us to be co-workers with such a generous community in reaching out to the fatherless families in our midst. At Friendship Center, we have the joy that everyday has given, not just at Christmas but throughout the year. Literally hundreds of children received the tangible expressions of god’s love in their Christmas gifts of new clothing and toys, which their mothers had

chosen for them. These lists of choices went out to several local churches and families, while other local churches and agencies kindly asked what items were most needed, and then purchased those in abundance so that clients who find us for the first time at Christmas—through word of mouth referrals—can choose gifts for their children. Many then choose to enroll in our Life Skills Coaching Program. Together in His service
 Jeannie Avery
 Executive Director

Mission News

Dear Friends;

It is time to bring you up to date on our ministries here in Papua.

COMMUNITY CENTER

*We are happy to report that the land office has confirmed that there are no other claims to the land for the community center, and that land for an access road up to the property has been approved, so we are free to proceed with the building project. Here is an architect's rendering of the proposed building. As the funds come in we will decide if we need to scale down on the size, or proceed as planned. If you feel led to make a donation toward the building project, funds can be sent to the following address, designated for **Kennedy Community Center – Papua**. Your partnership with us as we proceed with this project is a real encouragement!*

TEAM, P.O. Box 969, Wheaton, IL 60187-0969

Thanks for your prayers as we proceed with the project!



MANOKWARI COMMUNITY CENTER

KEVIN... AND DIANE'S KNEES

We are planning to head to the states in May for our son Kevin's wedding. He is to be married on June 12 in Florida. Diane has been having a lot of pain in her knees and will need knee surgery while we are there. Hopefully she can have this done and be back on her feet in time for the wedding. Please pray that the wedding plans, trip plans and the knee surgery plans will go smoothly. We are still trying to locate a medical facilities for the treatment.

RYAN

We were happy to hear that Ryan has been accepted to Columbia International University in Columbia, SC for the masters program (one year). Please pray that he will finish up his studies at Kana-kuk Institute well (which he is thoroughly enjoying!) and that he has wisdom as he seeks the Lord's will regarding missionary service in the future.

NATIONAL MISSION BOARD

The mission board took the Christmas holidays off from meetings, but has not yet gotten back into the swing of things. It seems that the members are very busy with other commitments. Please pray that I will have wisdom to know if some of the present board members, with their busy schedule should be asked to turn their responsibilities over to others who have more time. Pray also that the present members will sense the urgency to proceed with the mobilization of national missionaries.

Thanks for your continued prayers for us and our ministry!

Have a very blessed year ahead.

In Him, Walter & Diane Kennedy