



Kenilworth Church PC(USA)

Faith, Love, Action

Fall, 2017

From Our Pastor

The apostle Paul has written a powerful and comforting statement in his letter to the Romans: “We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord’s.”.



As we move into the end of the year, the days get shorter and our schedules increase in length. We are thrown into some exciting times and many stressful situations. We will celebrate holidays, eat amazing food and remember the power and hope found in our faith. We will be pulled in various directions and many times have no idea which way is up!

In all that we do over the next few months, it will be helpful to remember the wisdom of Paul. In all things, we belong to God. Paul's words put all we do in perspective. May these words guide us and inspire us each day.

- Allen



Pastor Appreciation Day Observed

On Sunday, October 15 we expressed our appreciation and gratitude to our Pastor, Rev. Dr. Allen Smith. Interestingly enough, the morning scripture (from Matthew 22) and the sermon were about a banquet fit for a king. Little did the Pastor know that a surprise dinner had been prepared in Kenilworth Center in his honor! Following the sermon everyone present was invited to attend. He was honored with praise and thanks from members, cards, and a small gift. All enjoyed a great meal and wonderful fellowship together.

- Don Peterson (Pictures by Leslie Godbold)



Meeting of the Congregation / Corporation: Immediately after morning worship on **November 12**, we will have our annual meeting to elect new members of Session and a Nominating Committee for the coming calendar year. (As we are incorporated, it will also serve as an annual meeting of our corporation.)

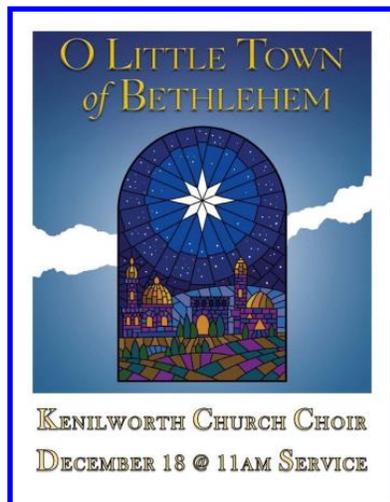
- Don, Clerk of Session

Love God... And Love Your Neighbor

Choir News

The Choir rehearses at 10:15am each Sunday. All voices and age groups are welcome.

Christmas Cantata



Our special rehearsals for the Christmas cantata will begin November 5 at 10am. Come share your voice in this musical tribute to the birth of Jesus. It promises to be an exciting season.

- Chuck

Prayer Circle

The Prayer Circle will meet in the Parlor on November 26 and December 24 (usually the fourth Sunday) following Worship Service. They invite all who would like to join them in sharing prayers for the community.

Contact Norma Warren at norma@dickandnorma.com to be placed on the Prayer Circle email contact list.

Donations Needed

Not being able to keep yourself clean can be a terrible side effect of disaster or poverty. We have neighbors in the community and in hurricane disaster areas who need basic stuff like toothpaste, soap, Kleenex and shampoo.



Challenge yourself to help, and clean out a few drawers while you are at it. Katherine Jowers and Jeff Scoltock recently donated over 300 hygiene items to our church to be distributed to folks in need, and are working on another round to bring in.

Take that as a challenge! Clean out your drawers, look in your suitcases, hit the Dollar store, and bring in soaps, shampoos, dental floss, baby wipes, etc.

There are neighbors in need who will be thrilled to get it.

- Katherine Jowers

Halloween



Halloween! It's that time of year to start bringing in candy for the Monstrous Kenilworth Halloween festivities. We usually "treat" around a 1,000 ghouls with candy, so bring in a few bags to help out. Please see Marsha Cox with questions.

Women's Group

The women of Kenilworth gathered in September and October for food, fellowship and Bible study. We are now part of Presbyterian Women of the PCUSA whose purposes are to nurture faith through prayer and Bible study, support the mission of the church in the world, to work for justice and peace, and build an inclusive, caring community of women. **Norma Warren** is serving as moderator; **Rita Warren** as vice-moderator; and **Shirley Mathis** as secretary-treasurer.

The next gathering will be on **November 12th at 12:30** (following worship) in the back of the sanctuary and in the parlor. Sandwiches will be served. We will be discussing lesson three in *Cloud of Witnesses*. All women are invited to join us.

- Edna

Love God... And Love Your Neighbor

World Communion Celebrated with U2charist

It was a Beautiful Day Rocking out to U2!! The first U2charist in Asheville was an enormous success! On October 1 we celebrated World Communion Sunday by singing the music of the incredible band of Christians, U2, and raising money for LFR (Loving Food Resources).

Thanks to everyone that came out and celebrated. We had an awesome time rocking out and doing good. We raised \$1,725.00 for Loving Food Resources!!!!!!



Thanks to everyone that worked so hard to make this special worship service a reality.

Special thanks to **Chuck Lockwood** and the House Band: **Gus Adams, Harlan Johnson and Howie Johnson**

- Katie



Edna and Allen presenting Communion Table.

Asheville Period Project

Asheville Period Project supports Head Start! **Cynthia, a Head Start Program case worker**, recently "shopped" for 3 homeless families in the Period Project supply room. We were able to provide wipes, baby clothes, deodorant, tooth brushes, tooth paste, shampoo, conditioner, soap, tampons, pads, condoms and more!



One of the families we provided items for is temporarily in a shelter awaiting the birth of their new baby. When the baby leaves the hospital it will have no home to go to.

Another family we provided hygiene items and condoms for has a HIV + parent. Providing for the basic needs of our brothers and sisters keeps them healthy!

Please keep donating supplies to the Asheville Period Project. The need continues to grow and we are very grateful for your donations of hygiene products.

Thank you! - Katie

Pub Theology

Pub Theology has a new home! Join us on **Nov. 1 at 6pm at Hillman Beer located at 25 Sweeten Creek Rd.** for Pub Theology. Pub Theology is an awesome group devoted to deep conversations about religion related topics led by Rev. Allen Smith. Invite a friend and come on out.

- Katie

Welcome Kenilworth Neighbors

The Kenilworth Resident's Association has found a home at KPC! It seems only fitting that the Kenilworth Resident's Association is now "housed" out of KPC as we have been in close relationship for many years. Two of the founding members of the KRA were none other than KPC's Reverend Secrest and Marvin Chambers. The KRA has held monthly board meetings, annual community meetings and fall and Christmas events at KPC for years and has done a lot in promoting KPC activities to the community. The KRA uses one of the classrooms upstairs to store their signs, decorations and to hold meetings.

Be sure to give them a warm KPC welcome to our little corner of the neighborhood!

- Katie

Lunch and Learn

Join us for Lunch and Learn on November 19.

The first KPC Lunch and Learn was held on Oct. 22 and dug into the history of the Reformation. The church provided lasagna and attendees brought delicious sides. It was such a hit we will be meeting again **November 19 at 12:30 in the Fellowship Hall.** The church will provide a ham and a Turkey for vegetarians. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share.

This is going to be good. See you there!

- Katie

The Star of Bethlehem

by Shirley Mathis

The University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill has the Morehead Planetarium which, at least in the 1960s, was one of the finest in the country. When the United States was just entering the space age, part of the training of future astronauts included study at this planetarium. It was also open to the public and various interesting programs were presented throughout the year. I was fortunate to see the program about the Star of Bethlehem and this is the story about that event.

At the appointed time, our group entered the planetarium auditorium. It was round or oval as I recall, but not like most auditoriums. There was no stage or speaker's platform, and the seating consisted of rows of individual lounge chairs. A pleasant voice welcomed us and asked us to get comfortable in our recliners and extend them so that we were looking at the domed ceiling above us. As the house lights gradually dimmed and our eyes became adjusted to the total darkness, we became aware of tiny lights twinkling in our "sky", some brighter than others and seemingly randomly placed. The unseen lecturer told us that the planetarium could reproduce the sky in any part of the world, at any time in history, on any particular date! He further explained that we were looking at the sky as it appeared in the Near East shortly before the birth of Christ!

Those last two matter-of-fact statements were quite a lot to absorb. I was awestruck, first, to realize the centuries of observations and study it took by thousands of astronomers to accurately plot the orbits and speed of these various celestial bodies. And then, secondly, the unimaginable technology involved in placing them in the ceiling of this auditorium, and ever so slowly moving them across the sky as they would appear from our particular vantage point at that particular time in history.

Very gradually, as the whole visible sky was moving to simulate the real-time observations from Earth, several bright stars became more apparent, each moving in separate orbits and at different speeds, until they appeared to the naked eye to converge into one very large "star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright." And that was the star that the shepherds and wise men followed to Bethlehem. Those planets were either Jupiter and Saturn in 6 to 7 BC, or Jupiter and Venus in 2 to 3 BC. There are many mysteries in the Bible which we don't understand, but at least now there is one thing that both Bible scholars and the scientific astronomers can agree on; there really was a Star of Bethlehem.

As I recall, at the end of the presentation the "sky" became dark except for one small, bright light directly in front of us. It became larger with increasing speed as we seemingly were hurtling through space toward this planet, then there was a "blink" as the parachute seemingly deployed and our speed decreased. Very shortly all that could be seen was this planet Earth, then another "blink." We had landed safely from outer space, back from where we started. The "sky" slowly dimmed and the house lights came up. I left the auditorium on rubbery legs and somewhat discombobulated, rather surprised that nothing had really changed outside in Chapel Hill. In real time of a little over an hour, I had been transported halfway around the world, back in time over 2000 years, then brought back from outer space!

What a trip!

- Shirley Mathis

Love God... And Love Your Neighbor

A Poem to Ponder

by Nancy Dillingham

Revelation



It is the sight
of Virginia creeper
glowing scarlet
in mid-October light

flung seductively
around the trunks
of the already
golden-leaved trees

like a fancy lady's
gaudy shawl
that holds us
in thrall

Clerk of Session Notes

Inclement Weather Policy: During inclement weather, we realize the importance of everyone knowing what our plans are as soon as possible. A committee composed of those who live in Kenilworth and other areas assists in any decision to delay or close the church on Sundays or other bad weather days. Our goal is to reach a decision by 8:00 a.m. on such days and to communicate plans via WLOS TV listings and possibly other electronic means, as well as to reflect the plan on our phone-answering message that day.

Door and Key Changes: It may take some time to complete, but we have begun a project to change some doors and all keys, as well as to install some combination key pads. This should make our buildings more secure. If you have had entrance access before and find that changes prevent your entering, please check with Don Peterson or Katie Adams about any access concerns.

Placing Signs on Church Property: Although our Kenilworth Center is used as a voting precinct, our church is not a political entity. Session recently adopted a policy regarding the posting of any sign, political or otherwise, on church property. No sign may be posted anywhere on the property without permission from the Kenilworth Church. The one exception is that during the voting process, political signs may be posted at the *entrance to the polling place only (Kenilworth Center)*, providing the the guidelines of the Buncombe County Board of Elections are followed.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Offering Continues: The Presbytery of Western North Carolina serves as a conduit for all to help the many in need after natural disasters such as hurricanes and other storms or events. Recent donations at the church earmarked for this have raised hundreds of dollars, and because there seems to be so many such events happening so often, we continue to leave out a basket for this important, ongoing need.

- Don, Clerk to Session

KPC Clean Up

In June, the Session directed a committee of three to sort through and clean out the Church closets which included the Belfry, the Minister's Closet, the Office Closet, the Flower Room, the Choir Room, the Chancel Closet, the Organ Closet, both Kenilworth Center Closets and the LFR basement. The committee started in earnest in September, meeting every Tuesday afternoon to sort through many decades' accumulation of old furniture, toys and other debris and staging materials for disposal. On Friday afternoon, September 29 a disposal crew joined members of the church for the final push to fill a single construction dumpster.

By the end of the day Friday we had filled three construction dumpsters. An auction was held the following day to give everyone an opportunity to do a little dumpster diving and purchase a few of the "more valuable" items. We netted about \$300 from sales and donated the remaining items to Habitat.

Reasonable care was taken in the removal of excess church materials, but with so much debris there are bound to have been some mistakes. If you find that you are missing something that needs to be replaced, just let Katie know and we will try to find where we misplaced it or see that it is replaced. Generally the church and grounds are more tidy than they had previously been, but there is at least one more construction dumpster of excess and useless materials that need to be disposed of. We'll see.

- Mike Cox, Property and Finance



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The Kenilworth Church Team

The 2017 Session:
Rev. Dr. Allen Smith, Session Moderator
Gus Adams
Bethany Brown
Steve Brown
Millie Bruns
Betsy Chater
Mike Cox
Bob Craddock
Katherine Jowers
Mary Virella-Minton

Staff:
Rev. Dr. Allen Smith, Minister, cell 828-808-1660
Rev. Dr. Edna Jacobs Baner, Parish Associate, cell 804-310-7249
Rev. John David Stewart, Pastor Emeritus
Katie Adams, Director of Outreach and Program Development
LaMont DeBruhl, Sexton
Chuck Lockwood, Music Minister
Don Peterson, Treasurer and Clerk

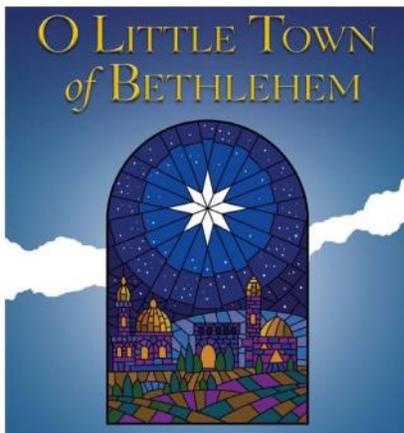
And, You...

About the Newsletter

If you would like to share a word of appreciation for someone, some personal news, give feedback to the editor, etc. please contact Calvin at 230-6317 or calvin.underwood@gmail.com

Our Mission : Kenilworth Church (PC USA) is called by God to welcome all people into the Christian Community. We strive to exhibit God's unconditional love and hospitality to all people. We welcome and include all people without regard to race, age, sexual orientation, physical and mental ability, education or economic class. We share our gifts of time, talent, and treasure to serve God in our community and the world.

Love God... And Love Your Neighbor



KENILWORTH CHURCH CHOIR
DECEMBER 18 @ 11AM SERVICE

Volunteers Needed

Please volunteer for greeters and hospitality time. Sign up sheets are in the Narthex.

Please help us out and reserve one, two or even three Sundays that you will assist.

See Leslie Godbold for more information.

Thank you.