

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Lenten Water Challenge



A Lenten Water Challenge: Living Generously, Serving Boldly

- Rev'd Gary Noonan invites us to a simple and meaningful Lenten practice: for the 40 days of Lent, consider drinking only clean tap water and donating the money you would normally spend on other beverages to support the building of clean water wells in Africa through our mission partner, **Marion Medical Mission**.
- Skipping the morning coffee run, the drink with a drive-through meal, or an evening adult beverage can help us become more mindful of how much we spend on beverages—and how blessed we are to have access to clean water. This practice invites us to stand in solidarity with communities who do not share that same access and to support faithful partners working to provide life-giving water for all of God's children.
- **Contributions may be placed in the water jug located in the Gathering Space, by using the QR code or by visiting <https://bit.ly/fpklentonwaterchallenge>**
Thank you for joining in this Lenten act of care and compassion.

Lenten Recital Series

Our next Lenten Recital Series program is this Friday, March 13th, 2026 and will feature the St. Louis Irish Arts. They will perform traditional Irish music. Join us each Friday in Lent for these 30 minute meditative recitals at noon in our Tree of Life Chapel.

AIM Band Concert Today!

AIM Band will present its 47th Annual Concert on Sunday, March 8, at 3:00pm in the church Sanctuary. Ed Jacobs, a regular performer at the church and assistant conductor of the Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra, will solo on euphonium. The band will play music by John Williams, Richard Wagner and others. Jim Wehrman conducts.

One Great Hour of Sharing

The Presbyterian Church USA annually sponsors three special offerings that support a variety of services and ministries worldwide. One Great Hour of Sharing (Feb 18-Apr 5) supports Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People. Collection envelopes are available in the Narthex and welcome desk. Online gifts may be made through our website under the Give tab. For more info, visit pcusa.org.



Midmonth Music Series

Join us for our next Midmonth recital on Wednesday, March 18, at 12:15 pm. John Cargile, organist at Manchester United Methodist Church, will perform a half hour concert featuring organ works by women composers in honor of Women's History Month. All are welcome!

Maundy Thursday Dinner Signup



We ask that you please sign up for dinner by using the website address <https://bit.ly/SoupSupper2026> or by using the QR code. Questions? Contact Bill Larson at blarson@kirkwoodpres.org or by calling the church office at 314-965-0326.

Easter Flowers

Participating in our Easter Flowers Sponsorship is a wonderful way to honor a loved one while helping beautify our worship spaces for Easter. A \$30 contribution is suggested per dedication.

Go to <https://onrealm.org/kirkwoodpres/give/easterflowers> or use the QR code to order.



Flu and COVID Tests Available

To help us care for one another, free flu and COVID tests are available to take as needed at the Welcome Desk. Thank you for helping keep our community healthy and looking out for one another.

Coming Soon: A New Way to Connect and Give at First Pres

We're excited to share that we'll soon be launching Realm, a new online giving and community platform that will replace our current Shelby system. Realm is designed to make staying connected to First Pres simpler, more secure, and more personal. You'll have greater control over your personal information, easy and flexible giving options, and a clearer way to stay connected with the people, groups, and ministries that matter most to you—all in one place. You don't need to do anything yet, this is simply a heads up. More details, guidance, and next steps will be shared soon.



Lenten Book Study: Why Did Jesus Have to Die?

Please join Pastors Gary and Rachel for a Lenten book study where we will read and discuss Adam Hamilton's book, *Why Did Jesus Have to Die?* In this study we will explore the different ways Christians understand the meaning of Christ's death on the cross. If you are interested, please RSVP for the class and purchase a copy of the book by using the QR codes.

This is a six-week series which began on Wednesday, February 25 and will conclude on Wednesday April 1. You can choose to attend the daytime session (Wednesdays from 1-2 pm) or the evening session (Wednesdays from 6-7 pm). For questions, please reach out to Rachel at rfinken@kirkwoodpres.org.



Scan to register



Scan to buy the book



Save the Date for Next Con Spirito Concert

Save the date for Sunday, March 22nd at 3:00 p.m. for our next Con Spirito Concert featuring guitarist, W. Mark Akin.

Award-winning classical guitarist W. Mark Akin is a St. Louis based musician who has engaged audiences across the country with his dynamic on-stage presence and musicality.

Bach Society of St. Louis

Bach Society of St. Louis will present a concert of Handel's "Messiah" parts II and III with acclaimed guest artists Hannah De Priest, Jay Carter, Dann Coakwell and Elijah Blaisdell on Sunday, March 15 at 3pm in the sanctuary. Tickets are \$10-\$60 and may be purchased through the Bach Society website at <https://bachsociety.org/concerts>.

Christian Concerns

Sundays from 9:30-10:30 a.m. in Room 009 or on Zoom. Contact ann.willie@hotmail.com

We welcome back Betsy Solomon to Christian Concerns to share 3 artists' work.

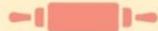
- 3-15-26 Jan Van Eyck: Seeing the Sacred and the Everyday
- 3-22-26 Raphael: An Angel from Urbino
- 3-29-26 Tintoretto: Venetian Renaissance Master

Marion Medical Mission presentation!

Join us on Sunday, March 22th at 10:00 a.m. in the Fireplace room (also happens to be "World Water Day!") Alisa Simpson has been on the trip to Tanzania and will share her experiences with us.



Know someone facing medical challenges who could use a reminder they're cared for?



WHO WE SUPPORT

Baking Angels supports families and individuals of all ages facing health-related circumstances that impact everyday life.

Our goal is to offer support during those challenging times.

HOW REFERRALS WORK

- A family is referred or self-nominates
- Volunteer bakers prepare homemade baked goods
 - Baked goods are safely packaged and delivered
- Families receive the goods and are reminded that somebody cares



MAKE A REFERRAL Visit our website at www.bakingangels.org or Scan the QR code to refer a family

Book Clubs and Circles

- **Tuesday Book Club:** The Tuesday Book Club will end our discussions March 17 on Fareed Zakaria's *THE AGE OF REVOLUTIONS*. Following that will be several sessions on *THE ROAD TO FREEDOM: ON TRUTH, SCIENCE, FAITH AND TRUST*, by Francis S. Collins. All are welcome to join us at 10 AM each Tuesday in the Fireplace Room. Contact: kochkarenp@gmail.com.
- **Sarah's Circle:** We are reading *Conquering Fear: Living Boldly in an Uncertain World* by Harold Kushner. We meet on the second Monday of the month at 2:00 pm in the Fireplace Room. If you are interested, please contact Jane Paniello at jgpaniello@charter.net or Ellen Wood at wood.ellen.g@gmail.com
- **Wednesday Book Club:** The next meeting of the Wednesday book club is March 25th at 1:30 in the fireplace room and over zoom. We will be discussing *The Spy and the Traitor* by Ben Macintyre. This is a true story of a KGB officer who became a double agent for MI6 during the Cold War. Please contact julia@abreu.net for more information.
- **History Book Club:** The History Book Club will meet on Thursday, March 26 at 10:30am in Room 29. This month we will be discussing "*The Barn: The Secret History of a Murder in Mississippi*" by Wright Thompson. This NYT best-seller is a "shocking and revelatory account of the murder of Emmett Till" and was named a Best Book of the Year by the Washington Post, Slate, Vanity Fair, Time, BuzzFeed, Smithsonian, BookPage et al. Contact gornatir@yahoo.com with any questions. All are welcome.

Childcare Offered During Worship

We offer childcare from 9:05 a.m. through the end of the 11:00 a.m. service (including during the 10:00 a.m. education hour) for ages birth through preschool in room 131 right next to Fellowship Hall!

Activity Bags & Children's Bulletins

Activity Bags & Children's Bulletins are available for kids in both services. For 9:05 a.m., bags and bulletins are on a table outside the Fellowship Hall doors. For 11:00 a.m., bags and bulletins are on a table in the Narthex, at the rear of the Sanctuary. Bags are refreshed weekly to provide fun & engaging activities that reflect the lectionary lessons.

Space for Nursing Mothers

We want everyone to feel welcome and included at church! If you are nursing a baby and would like a private space to feed your baby while you are here, please feel free to use the women's restroom in the staff offices on the second floor. The room can be locked and has a comfortable chair, changing table, outlet, and small table for your use.

Give Online

Give online with a onetime gift, or set up reoccurring payments and pay with ACH directly from your checking account, via credit card, or using GooglePay. Go to <https://onrealm.org/kirkwoodpres/-/form/give/now> and follow the prompts, text "GIVEFPCK" to 73256, or scan the QR code to go directly our giving portal. Questions? Reach out to accounting@kirkwoodpres.org.

