ANNOUNCEMENTS

2027 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

We continue to make progress with the 2027 Stewardship Campaign with 155 households pledging over $702k. We would like to hear from every household. We invite you to take a few moments to consider making a financial pledge for 2027 to show your support and help us plan for the ministry and mission we share. Your prayerful consideration is deeply appreciated. Please make your 2027 pledge today at https://www.kirkwoodpres.org/pledge-form or through the Realm app.

ARTE DE LAGRIMAS: DETAILS FOR A MEANINGFUL WEEKEND

TODAY, First Presbyterian Church of Kirkwood welcomes Dr. Gregory and Nohemi Cuellar of Arte de Lágrimas, a powerful art exhibit that tells the stories of refugee and asylum-seeking Central American children and youth crossing the Texas–Mexico border. Please join us at 3 pm this afternoon, in the chapel, for a public lecture presented by Dr. Cuellar: Empathy Fulfilled: Be-longing versus Be-littling. The exhibit is also open after worship today.

SAVE THE DATE: ABIDE IN LOVE PRESENTATION

Join us in the fellowship hall on Sunday, **November 8** at 12:15 pm for a presentation from Abide in Love. Vicky Michaels will share with us a bit about the organization and how we can get involved. Abide in Love St. Louis fosters compassion, dignity and community with immigrants and their families. We build meaningful relationships, provide support in times of need, and connect individuals with essential resources that promote stability. To learn more about Abide in Love's work, visit **abideinlovestl.org**.

COMMUNITY FALL BLOOD DRIVE NOVEMBER 2026

The Deacons at First Presbyterian Church Kirkwood are sponsoring a community Red Cross Blood Drive on **tomorrow afternoon, November 2, from 1-6:00 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. Appointments can be made online by visiting RedCrossBlood.org and entering **FirstPresKirkwood** or you can sign up on the Red Cross App. Walk-ins are accepted, but those with appointments will be taken first. You can streamline your donation experience by visiting RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass to complete pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of the appointment. We will be in the Gathering Space for **"in person" sign up** after the 11:00 a.m. service. Our community really supported the extra blood drive in August. However there continues to be a critical need for blood. Please consider giving this gift of life and letting friends/family know about the need to keep the blood supply stable in our community.

CHAMBER MUSIC ST LOUIS WEEKDAY SERIES

Join us for a special weekday concert on Monday, **November 2nd at 2:00 p.m.** to hear Chamber Music St. Louis perform Familiar Territory - a program of audience favorites, timeless gems, and chamber works you love to hear again and again. Tickets are $30 and are available online ahead of time or at the door. Bill Stein will be a featured soloist, playing the great 'Toccata and Fugue in D minor' by Johann Sebastian Bach on our magnificent Casavant pipe organ.
Visit chambermusicstl.org for more information.

INTERESTED IN JOINING FIRST PRESBYTERIAN OF KIRKWOOD?

To join the church, you'll need to do a few things:

- Attend one 45-minute new member class at the church
- Fill out a few forms
- Attend worship on a designated date where you will be officially welcomed as a new member

Our next group of new members will join the church on the first Sunday of Advent, November 29! We only have two classes left.

- **Wednesday, November 4, 6:00 p.m.**
- **Sunday, November 8, 10:00 a.m.**

Scan the QR code to sign up to attend a new member class. If you have questions, or would like to join but have scheduling conflicts, please reach out to Pastor Rachel at rfinken@kirkwoodpres.org.

FALL CLEAN UP

The Buildings and Grounds Committee invites you to join us on **Saturday, November 7, 8am-11am** for the Fall Clean-Up. We will be cleaning up garden areas, trimming bushes, branch removal, and start prepping for winter. Please bring rakes, trowels, shovels, work gloves and hedge trimmers. Thank you in advance for helping keep our grounds looking their best. Contact Bill Larson blarson@kirkwoodpres.org if you have any questions.

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING

MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF KIRKWOOD
NOVEMBER 15TH FOLLOWING THE 11AM SERVICE IN THE SANCTUARY

Pursuant to the Form of Government G-1.0502, the Session has called a Special Meeting of the Congregation immediately following the 11:00 a.m. Worship Service on Sunday, November 15, 2026, for the purpose of accepting the terms of call for Rev'd Gary Noonan, Senior Pastor and Rev. Rachel Finken, Associate Pastor.

By order of the Session
Thomas E. Edelstein
Clerk of Session

THE TABLE: PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN BIBLE STUDY

You are invited to *The Table: A Presbyterian Women Bible Study*, a new monthly gathering centered on Scripture, conversation, and community. Mary Hall leads the group using the Presbyterian Women curriculum, with each meeting designed to feel relaxed and welcoming—more like gathering in a café with friends than attending a formal class.

Our next meeting is Thursday, November 5th from 10:30–11:30 a.m. in the Fireplace Room. We are using the Bible Study, *United Through Christ, Bound to Each Other Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians* by Rhonda Mawhood Lee.
Scan the QR code to register!

ISAIAH 58: HELP FAMILIES WITH HOLIDAY GROCERIES

Buy-A-Bird is live for 2026!

Help support Isaiah 58 Ministries in their winter holiday efforts. Giving thanks is a holiday tradition celebrated by families everywhere. But for many, this proves difficult due to financial hardships. Through December 31, 2026, your gift to our Buy-A-Bird campaign will help 700 local families gather around tables overflowing with both food and gratitude. Each guest will receive holiday groceries and gift cards to celebrate the season abundantly with joy and grace.

$40 = One Holiday Meal $400 = Ten Holiday Meals

Click the button below and pick the designation "buy-a-bird"
OR scan the QR code to make a donation online.

Or mail a check to:
Isaiah 58 Ministries 2149 S. Grand Blvd. St. Louis, MO 63104
(memo: Buy-A-Bird)

MIDMONTH MUSIC SERIES

MIDMONTH RECITAL: DAVID SINDEN, ORGANIST

On Wednesday, November 18th, at 12:15 p.m., we welcome David Sinden, Director of Music and Organist at St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Ladue. Whether you have 30 minutes to spare over lunch or have been looking for an excuse to hear our organ in full voice, we'd love to have you join us. Can't attend in person? Watch the recital live on our YouTube channel at **youtube.com/@FPCKirkwood/streams**.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT AND DINNER

Please make sure you have Sunday, December 13th, 4:00 pm on your calendars – the date and time of our Annual Christmas Concert! This popular event is a highlight in the life of our congregation.

NOW SHOWING IN THE KIRK GALLERY: ART BY OUR MEMBERS

We are excited to share the newest exhibit in The Kirk Gallery, located on the lower level of the church near the elevator. Now through November 22, the gallery features a special exhibition celebrating the creativity and talents of artists from our own congregation. We invite you to spend some time in the gallery, enjoy the work, and experience art as a source of inspiration, meditation, and conversation.

BOOK CLUB: BEING PRESBYTERIAN IN A DYSVANGELICAL AMERICA

Please join Pastors Gary and Rachel for a book club discussing the new book, *Being Presbyterian in a Dysvangelical America: A Guide to Reclaiming the Good News of God's Grace,* by Ted Foote and P. Alex Thornburg. Written by two Presbyterian pastors, the book explores how Christians (and in particular Presbyterians) can claim our faith as good news for all in a time when Christianity has been weaponized against so many. **We meet weekly on Wednesdays from 1-2:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall and will conclude on November 18.** Please order a copy of the book ahead of time! It can be purchased on Amazon or a variety of other booksellers.

Register on Realm using this QR code:

CHRISTIAN CONCERNS CLASS

November 8th, 15th and 22nd George Durnell will be with us for four weeks of listening and dialogue around the composition *A German Requiem* by Johannes Brahms.
Join us in room 009 at 9:30 am Sunday morning or join with Zoom
To be added to the Zoom or recording list: Ann Miller: ann.willie@hotmail.com.

FAITH AND FELLOWSHIP NEW SERIES

Please join Faith and Fellowship for our new series, Praying Through the Psalms, which will run November 8 through December 20. In this class we will explore how we can deepen our prayer lives through this ancient prayer book in the Bible. Please join us Sundays at 10 am in the Fireplace Room for conversation, coffee, and community.

HELP FILL OUR LITTLE FREE PANTRIES

We need more food donations for our Little Free Pantries. Our supplies are almost empty. **The greatest needs are:** canned foods with pull top lids (NOT cans that you need a can opener), canned tuna, canned chicken, soup, chili, ravioli, beef jerky, crackers, peanut butter, granola bars, trail mix, fruit cups.
Please drop off any items at the Welcome Desk.

BOOK CLUBS

- **Tuesday Book Club:** *Ministry for the Future* by Kim Stanley Robinson on Tuesdays, 10:00-11:00 AM in Fireplace Room. November book: *Dispatches from Pluto: Lost and Found in the Mississippi Delta* by Richard Grant. Contact kochkarenp@gmail.com with questions.
- **History Book Club**: *Mornings on Horseback* by David Mc Cullough on Thursday, November 19 at 10:30 in Rm 29. Contact gornatir@yahoo.com with questions.

SAVE THE DATES

- **Sunday, 11/1:** All Saints Sunday; Arte de Lagrimas Lecture at 3PM and Exhibit
- **Monday, 11/2:** Blood Drive
- **Wednesday, 11/4:** New Member Class at 6PM
- **Thursday, 11/5:** PW The Table 10:30 AM
- **Sunday, 11/8:** New Member Class at 10AM,
- **Sunday, 11/8:** Abide in Love Presentation, 12:15 pm
- **Friday-Sunday, 11/13-11/15:** SHF Retreat
- **Sunday, 11/15:** Congregational Meeting at 12PM
- **Wednesday, 11/18:** Midmonth Recital at 12:15PM
- **Thursday-Friday, 11/26-11/27:** Thanksgiving holiday, church offices closed
- **Sunday, 11/29:** 1st Sun of Advent; New Members join
- **Sunday, 12/6:** Alternative Gift Market 8:45-12:30
- **Sunday, 12/13:** Alternative Gift Market 8:45-12:30
  Christmas Concert 4 – 5pm
  Christmas Dinner 5:30 – 6:30pm
- **Tuesday, 12/15:** Service of Comfort 6:00 p.m.
- **Wednesday 12/16:** Mid-Month Music Series
- **Thursday, 12/24:** Christmas Eve Services
  Worship Service 2:00 p.m.
  Children's Pageant 4:00 p.m.
  Lesson & Carols 10:00 p.m.
- **Sunday, 12/27** Worship Service 10:00 a.m.

GIVE ONLINE

Give online with a one-time gift or set up recurring 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 to our giving portal. Questions? Reach out to accounting@kirkwoodpres.org

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN OF KIRKWOOD