



Kenmore
Presbyterian
Church

THE CROSSROADS

FEBRUARY 2019

*A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you;
and I will remove from your body the heart of stone
and give you a heart of flesh.*

- Ezekiel 36:26

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ONE BLOCK NORTH AND WORSHIP AT KENMORE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Building on a Blessed Community: Recognizing the Church's True Center

Years ago I read a quote by the Quaker mystic, Thomas Kelly, that changed my ministry: "Yet ever within that Society, and ever within the Christian church, has existed the Holy Fellowship, the Blessed Community, an *ekklesiola in ekklesia*, a little church within the church."

Like a great artist Kelly was discovered in death after being mostly unknown in life. Over the final three years of his life he gave a series of talks around the Philadelphia area that were collected and turned into his classic book, *A Testament of Devotion*, published in 1941.

Kelly spoke about the deep spiritual life and its transforming impact on Christian churches, saying that at the core of every church there exists a small, inner circle of prayerful, spiritually aware people who keep a church alive. They're the true church center, not the leaders. Pastors and lay leaders can be replaced as the church marches forward because this Blessed Community holds the church in deep connection with Christ who lives at the core of the church. If the embers of this Blessed Community grow cold, the church grows cold. If the embers are fanned, the church transforms.

Fanning the Embers

My ministry and leadership were transformed as I became aware of how much we focus our attention on elders, deacons, board or committee members, thinking that they're the center of the church. I was especially transformed as I became aware that deep within my church was a Blessed Community that lived in deep connection with Christ. Kelly says that they "may not have been effective speakers or weighty financiers or charming conversationalists or members of prominent families," but instead "are found to be men and women on whom the dews of heaven have fallen indeed, who live continuously in the Center and who, in mature appreciation, understand our leaping heart and unbounded enthusiasm for God. And although they are not commissioned to any earthly office, yet they welcome us authoritatively into the Fellowship of Love."

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"ONE BLOCK NORTH AND WORSHIP" CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

I knew them. They were the women and men who exuded authenticity and radiated light. When I visited them in hospitals, they cared more about my life than about their illnesses. When I spoke with them after worship, they cared more about how me and my family were doing than about how they were doing.

When a church loses, through death or dysfunction, those who have a flaming passion for God, the church's pilot light goes out. How do we find them? They're the ones in any church who genuinely and faithfully pray for people on the church's prayer chain. You know it's true when they say they are praying for you. They're the ones who live in grateful awareness of God's presence all around them and always seem to sparkle in this awareness. They're the ones who have a deep wisdom that goes beyond any training or schooling. They've had difficult desert experiences in their lives that have revealed God's blessings blossoming everywhere.

I realized that these are the ones we should attend to if we want to revitalize a church. If we can identify them and fan the flames of their embers, the church will come alive.

From Embers to Flames

Trying to fan their embers into flames early on in my ministry at Calvin Presbyterian Church, I gathered a number of them to create a weekly prayer group. I developed a healing prayer ministry with many of them so that we could pray for those struggling physically, mentally, or spiritually. I made sure that we praised their ministry as much as that of others.

Over time we created small groups for them and others to grow spiritually, developed monthly prayer vigils and centering prayer groups. We brought their spirits into the rest of the life of the church. And when possible, we invited those with leadership skills to become elders. We recognized that when those with a flaming passion for God and skill in leading became elders and leaders, they would help the church become a blessed church. I got to witness that core blessed community become a deeply blessed church.

We live in functional times where we often can't be bothered to identify those who really keep our churches alive. It just doesn't enter our minds. But if we can turn our attention to them and allow them to breathe life into our churches, we just might find that they will guide our churches to be churches of faith, hope, and love.

by Graham Standish, *Presbyterians Today*

The Rev. N. Graham Standish, Ph.D., M.S.W., is executive director of Samaritan Counseling, Guidance, Consulting, where he leads their Caring for Clergy and Congregations program (www.ngrahamstandish.org).



MUSIC NOTES

BY EMMA HAUPT, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

“Thank you for the welcome!”

Thank you all for the wonderful welcome to Kenmore Presbyterian Church as your new Director of Music! Joining you here at this time means the year 2018 will forever hold a dear place in my memory as a huge joy in my life.



The congregation has played an innovative role in aiding with the hymn selection process since many members submitted their top ten favorite hymns to me. Some gave two or three ideas while others wrote out an entire list spanning both sides of a piece of notebook paper! Each selection has been documented in a spreadsheet and I have been working my way down the list to match your hymn selections with readings and sermon topics. Thank you all for your contributions and feel free to submit more favorites throughout 2019!

Since I began my first Sunday on April 22, 2018 we have sung 89 hymns, the chancel choir has sung 45 anthems, and the bell choir has played 11 pieces; each group faced some challenging new repertoire which they conquered without complaint. We had a number of soloists beginning with Jamie Boswell (tenor) on Howard's Farewell Sunday, summer vocal and instrumental soloists including Ken Perry (accordion), David Sisson (tenor), Emma Haupt (alto), Ellen Hughes (Celtic whistle), Betty Behr (alto), Judy Arnold (soprano), Jen Anderson (alto), and Kris deGuehery (alto). When the heat faded and fall began we heard from a few additional soloists including Kevin Schoener (tenor), Rhett Boswell (percussion), and in December, Nancy Trower (flute).

December may have wrapped up the calendar year, however the church year has just begun with Jesus's birth. It was a mighty month full of anticipation and celebration for the arrival of Our Lord and Savior, the baby Jesus. The month included a Christmas Pageant written by members of the Worship Team based around Amy Grant's Christmas song "I Need A Silent Night", a striking musical number "Prepare Ye The Way of the Lord" from Stephen Schwartz's musical *Godspell*, and both traditional and new music for the 7:00 PM Christmas Eve service where we welcomed a few returning musicians to the chorus: Jamie Boswell, Ian Boswell, and Nancy Trower.

It has been a year filled with heart, spirit and the joy of music making. I can't thank you all enough for the warm welcome here and for making me feel that Kenmore Presbyterian is my new church home.

CALL FOR LITURGISTS



Kenmore Presbyterian is currently looking for members to assist with the Sunday liturgy throughout the month of January. If you would like to assist our service as Liturgist, please email Beth Randall at randales@gmail.com.

FEBRUARY PULPIT SUPPLY

WORSHIP MINISTRY TEAM

This month we are pleased to be welcoming the following to Kenmore Presbyterian Church to lead us in worship:

February 3rd:	Rev. Geri Lyon
February 10th:	Gladys Gifford
February 17th:	Mary Whitcomb
February 24th:	Nancy Trower

Please help Kenmore Presbyterian show our appreciation for the passion and talent these individuals will bring to our church throughout our transition!

DEACONS' DISPATCH

BY GLEN BURGSTAHLER

Happy New Year everyone!

I would like to personally thank all who have purchased tops cards this past year. The money we make from this as you know is put to good use helping our Scholarship Fund and our Deacons Fund.

Please keep in mind our upcoming scholarship luncheon and basket auction. Anyone can donate a basket for auction. We would appreciate all who could do so. It's a lot of fun and always a good time. Dates for this to come.

*I give you peace, the kind of peace that only I can give.
It isn't the kind of peace this world can give.
So don't be worried or afraid.
- John 14:27*

A NOTE OF THANKS

To our church family,

Your words of remembrance and sympathy for dad and the warm embraces were felt beyond words can express. We are overwhelmed by the love and support we have received in this season of loss and grieving.

We have faith and believe that Dad is in God's arms and he is healed and restored. With that belief it lessens those waves of grief, but that void my amazing, awesome, strong father left can never be filled. In the mist of our heartbreak God sends reminders of hope, strength and love. In this time you have been our hope, strength and love, and for that we cannot repay. Thank you so very much!

Love,
The Jaap Family



*He renews my soul. He guides me along the paths of righteousness for the sake of his name.
- Psalm 23:3*

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN CIRCLE 10

BY ELAINE LACLAIR, MODERATOR, CIRCLE 10



Presbyterian Women Circle 10 will meet on **Monday, February 11th** at 7:00 p.m. Our hostess will be Elaine LaClair, who lives at 320 Tremaine Avenue in Kenmore. Darbie Maccubbin will lead Bible Study #6 and Joann Dixon will offer devotions.

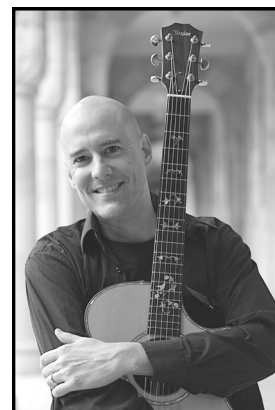
DAVID LAMOTTE IN CONCERT—FEBRUARY 22ND, 7:30PM

ORCHARD PARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - 4369 BUFFALO ST., ORCHARD PARK

Orchard Park Presbyterian Church welcomes award-winning songwriter, speaker and writer **David LaMotte** on Friday, February 22nd at 7:30pm.

David has performed over 3000 concerts and released twelve full-length CDs of primarily original music, touring in all of the fifty states, as well as five of the seven continents.

The *Boston Globe* writes that his music “pushes the envelope with challenging lyrics and unusual tunings, but he also pays homage to folk tradition,” while *BBC Radio Belfast* lauds his “charm, stories, humour, insightful songs, sweet voice and dazzling guitar ability.”



\$12 in advance/\$15 at the door. All ages welcome!

For tickets, call Mary Ann at 716-668-1995.

Sponsored by the Presbytery of WNY

CALL FOR COFFEE HOUR HOSTS/HOSTESSES

Hosting coffee hour is a great way to give to Ken Pres. without a large time commitment. If you are interested, please see a member of the Fellowship Ministry Team or contact Les Kellner at 695-2503.

**FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS**

1 Margaret Schmidt	14 Amy Arnold
2 Richard William Feather	17 Alicia LaClair
7 Rhett Boswell	24 Amanda Schultz
11 Chris Schreiber	

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:
Joseph and Bonnie Dagonese

FISCAL FACTS - December 2018

RECEIPTS:	BUDGET	DEC. ACTUAL	DEC. VARIANCE
Membership Pledges	\$15,000	\$13,510	\$1,490
Open Plate Offering	\$250	\$350	\$(100)
Fundraisers	\$250	\$250	-
Special Offerings	\$183	\$714	\$(531)
Per Capita	\$167	-	\$167
Trf from Reserves	\$1,868	-	\$1,868
Other Receipts	\$1,346	\$163	\$1,183
Total Receipts	\$19,064	\$14,987	\$4,077
DISBURSEMENTS:	BUDGET	DEC. ACTUAL	DEC. VARIANCE
Administration (Support)	\$13,251	\$4,983	\$8,267
Discipleship	\$150	\$958	\$(808)
Worship	\$242	\$207	\$35
Flowers	\$108	\$200	\$(92)
Nominating	\$100	-	\$100
Fundraisers	-	-	-
Witness	\$83	\$14	\$70
Fellowship	\$42	\$200	\$(158)
Building & Grounds	\$3,133	\$5,438	\$(2,305)
Office Expense	\$821	\$1,111	\$(291)
Session Expenses	\$167	\$210	\$(43)
Per Capita	\$300	\$300	-
Transfer to Mission	\$133	-	\$133
Debt Repayment - PILP	\$472	\$396	\$76
Debt Repayment - Line of Credit	\$217	\$318	\$(101)
Total Disbursements	\$19,218	\$14,334	\$4,884
Total Inflow/Outflow	\$(154)	\$653	\$(807)

FEBRUARY 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1 5:00 p.m. Dance (FH)	2 Communion Set-up (K)
3 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Coffee Hour (FH) 2:00 p.m. Creative Memories (22) 8:30 p.m. AA (FH)	4 6:00 p.m. Staff Meeting (22) 6:00 p.m. Boy Scouts (FH) 7:00 p.m. Ministry Teams	5 6:30 p.m. Brownie Scouts (22) 7:00 p.m. Gamblers Anonymous (FH)	6 10:00 a.m. Music with Mar (22) 7:00 p.m. JD Acting Studio (FH)	7 6:15 p.m. Joyous Bells (MR) 6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts (TBD) 7:00 p.m. Meditation Group (L) 7:00 p.m. Girl Scouts (22) 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir (MR)	8 5:00 p.m. Dance (FH)	9 9:00 a.m. Food Pantry (FH)
10 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Coffee Hour (FH) 8:30 p.m. AA (FH)	11 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts (FH) 7:00 Circle 10 (LaClair)	12 6:30 p.m. Brownie Scouts (22) 7:00 p.m. Gamblers Anonymous (FH)	13 10:00 a.m. Music with Mar (22) 7:00 p.m. JD Acting Studio (FH)	14 6:15 p.m. Joyous Bells (MR) 6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts (FH) 7:00 p.m. Meditation Group (L) 7:00 p.m. Girl Scouts (22) 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir (MR)	15 5:00 p.m. Dance (FH)	16 11:00 a.m. Reserved—Baby Shower (FH)
17 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Coffee Hour (FH) 8:30 p.m. AA (FH)	18	19 7:00 p.m. Gamblers Anonymous (FH)	20 10:00 a.m. Music with Mar (22)	21 6:15 p.m. Joyous Bells (MR) 6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts (FH) 7:00 p.m. Meditation Group (L) 7:00 p.m. Girl Scouts (22) 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir (MR)	22 5:00 p.m. Dance (FH)	23 9:00 a.m. Northmore Basket Raffle (FH)
24 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Coffee Hour (FH) 8:30 p.m. AA (FH)	25 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts (FH) 7:00 p.m. Deacons (L) 7:00 p.m. Session (22)	26 6:30 p.m. Brownie Scouts (22) 7:00 p.m. Gamblers Anonymous (FH)	27 9:00 a.m. Ken-Ton Mom's Club (FH) 10:00 a.m. Music with Mar (22)	28 12:00 p.m. Food Pantry (FH) 6:15 p.m. Joyous Bells (MR) 6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts (FH) 7:00 p.m. Meditation Group (L) 7:00 p.m. Girl Scouts (22) 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir (MR)		

For your information

- The Church Office is open Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays 9am to 1pm.
- The deadline for the weekly bulletin is Monday before 12 noon.
- The deadline for the March CROSSROADS is Monday, February 18th before 12 noon.

Legend

22 = Room 22
C = Chapel
FH = Fellowship Hall
WW = Windows on the World

L = Library
MR = Music Room
S = Sanctuary
K = Kitchen



KENMORE
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

2771 Delaware Avenue
Kenmore, New York 14217

Phone: (716) 875-7600

Fax: (716) 875-7601

E-mail: www.kenpresoffice@gmail.com

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Trust in the Lord
with all your heart.

Proverbs 3:5-6

