

August 2026

KANAPAHA TIMES

Kanapaha Presbyterian Church
Monthly Newsletter - August 2026



**"Forget the former things;
do not dwell on the past.
See, I am doing a new thing!
Now it springs up;
do you not perceive
it? I am making a way in the
wilderness and streams
in the wasteland.
Isaiah 43:18-19**

Walking in Faith Through the Last Days of Summer

August often feels like a month of transition. Summer vacations begin to wind down, children prepare to return to school, and many of us begin looking ahead to the routines and responsibilities of autumn. It is a season that reminds us that life is always moving, changing, and inviting us to trust God in new ways. As Presbyterians, we believe that God is faithfully at work in every season of our lives. Whether we are enjoying times of joy, facing uncertainty, or carrying burdens known only to God, we are reminded that our hope rests not in changing circumstances but in the steadfast love of Jesus Christ.

The Apostle Paul writes in Romans 8:28, "We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose." This promise does not mean that every experience is easy or pleasant. Rather, it assures us that God never abandons us. Through the work of the Holy Spirit, God continues to shape us, strengthen us, and draw us closer to Christ.

As we enter this new month, let us look for opportunities to practice our faith in simple but meaningful ways. Reach out to someone who may be lonely. Offer a word of encouragement to a neighbor. Spend a few quiet moments each day in prayer and Scripture. Extend forgiveness where it is needed, and receive God's grace with gratitude. These ordinary acts become extraordinary when they are done in Christ's name.

August is also an excellent time to reconnect with the life of the church. As summer schedules settle, we invite everyone to return to regular worship, Bible study, and fellowship. The church is more than a building—it is the family of God, gathered to worship, serve, and grow together. Each person has unique gifts to share, and every member helps strengthen the body of Christ.

May this month be one of renewed faith, deeper discipleship, and joyful service. As we walk together, may we remember the words of the prophet Isaiah:

"Those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint." (Isaiah 40:31)

May God bless you and your family throughout August with peace, hope, and the assurance of His unfailing presence.

August 2026

Embracing a New Season of Service

Dear Church Family,

I would like to take a moment to introduce myself as I begin serving as your new church secretary. I am truly grateful for the opportunity to become a part of this wonderful church family and to serve alongside you in the ministry that God has entrusted to this congregation.

Beginning a new position always comes with excitement, anticipation, and a little nervousness. As I settle into this role, I am learning the many traditions, routines, and ministries that make our church such a special place. I appreciate your patience, kindness, and encouragement as I become familiar with the day-to-day responsibilities and get to know each of you.

While much of my work will take place behind the scenes—preparing bulletins, answering phones, coordinating schedules, and assisting with the many activities of the church—I see this position as much more than an administrative role. I believe it is a ministry of service. Every phone call answered, every visitor greeted, and every task completed is an opportunity to share Christ's love through kindness, compassion, and care.

I look forward to meeting many more of you in the weeks ahead, hearing your stories, and learning how I can best support the ministries of our church. Please don't hesitate to stop by the office to say hello. I would love the opportunity to get to know you.

As I begin this new chapter, I ask for your prayers as I continue to learn and grow in this position. In return, I promise to serve faithfully, with a willing heart and a spirit of gratitude, trusting that God will guide me in this work.

Thank you for welcoming me into your church family. I am excited to see what God has in store for us as we continue to serve Him together.

**With gratitude and God's blessings,
Tressy Barone**

"Faithful Pages"

- a book review for personal Bible Study by Karla Ellsworth, Education Committee

Due to a very crazy month, I was unable to research, read and review a book for us. I did however cancel my Netflix and Disney accounts and signed up instead for the streaming app Angel Guild. Angel markets its output as "values-based entertainment" and its programs include numerous faith base productions.

I had the pleasure of watching a 4-episode series called "Seeking Persephone" based on a novel by Sarah M. Eden. The show is described as having heavy Beauty and the Beast undertones and a tender approach to the Hades and Persephone myth. A beautiful period drama!

I found the movie refreshingly quiet, simplistic and endearing. Filmed in a stunning location, it follows the story of Persephone being wed in an arranged marriage to the Duke of Kielder and their journey learning to love and care for one another. . A perfectly lovely, clean television show that I think people of all ages would enjoy!!



The Colleen Harrell Memorial Thanksgiving Baskets

This ministry has been a KPC tradition for many years that provides food insecure families from Wiles Elementary School enough food for at least a week including Thanksgiving dinner foods. There will be more information in October on how you can participate in giving to the Thanksgiving baskets including decorating the boxes. Stay tuned.

Instead of a Youth Luncheon we have some ideas to include the Scouts.

Thanks to Mary Searle for kicking off the Family Promise need drive. We collected \$230 and it will be used to purchase back to school items for the children in the program.

None of these mission ministries can be done without the generous giving of KPC members and friends.

2 Corinthians 8:1-5

8 Now I want you to know, dear brothers and sisters, what God in his kindness has done through the churches in Macedonia. 2 They are being tested by many troubles, and they are very poor. But they are also filled with abundant joy, which has overflowed in rich generosity.

3 For I can testify that they gave not only what they could afford, but far more. And they did it of their own free will. 4 They begged us again and again for the privilege of sharing in the gift for the believers in Jerusalem. 5 They even did more than we had hoped, for their first action was to give themselves to the Lord and to us, just as God wanted them to do.

Troop 371 Summer Camp Recap

Troop 371 had an incredible week at Camp Woodruff, and it is safe to say that it was one of the best summer camp experiences our troop has ever had. From outstanding facilities and exceptional food to exciting adventures and outstanding training opportunities, Camp Woodruff provided an unforgettable week for both our Scouts and adult leaders.

Throughout the week, our Scouts challenged themselves, learned new skills, and had a tremendous amount of fun. Collectively, Troop 371 Scouts earned an impressive 49 Merit Badges. Our four newest Scouts also completed the Mountaineer Program, allowing them to accomplish many of the requirements needed to advance from Scout through First Class Rank.

Our adult leaders also took advantage of the outstanding training opportunities available at camp. Congratulations to Chris Curran and Dean Chance for successfully completing Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS), an important milestone in Scout leadership training. Leanne and I completed the Angling Educator Course, and Leanne also completed courses in Tree Identification and Outdoor Cooking.

Summer camp is about much more than merit badges, and our Scouts took full advantage of everything Camp Woodruff had to offer. Many Scouts, and even Jamie, competed in the camp's legendary Battle of the Paddle, racing across the lake for the ultimate prize: ice cream. Unfortunately for Jamie, all of the canoes and kayaks had already been claimed, leaving him to make the journey on an inner tube. While he may not have won the race, he certainly won the award for determination!

Scouts and leaders also enjoyed visiting Kendall Crossing, Camp Woodruff's Frontier Village, where they cooled off with ice-cold Appalachian root beer while enjoying live music, dancing, and fellowship with Scouts from across the country.

The food at Camp Woodruff deserves special recognition. It was, without question, the best food we have experienced at any Scouts BSA summer camp. In addition to the excellent dining hall meals, our troop enjoyed a pizza night together during the week, and our Saturday arrival group kicked off the adventure with delicious street tacos at Lucky's.

Adventure was everywhere throughout the week. Most of our Scouts and leaders participated in an exciting white-water rafting trip, and those enrolled in the Water Sports program had the opportunity to water ski throughout the week.

During their free time, Scouts could often be found fishing, playing sports and games on the activity field, or simply spending time together building friendships that will last a lifetime.

One of the highlights of the week was a four-troop campfire and ice cream social at our campsite. Scouts from multiple troops gathered for campfire games, fellowship, and even enjoyed live music performed by a Scout from another troop.

The week concluded with Camp Woodruff's closing campfire program, followed by an unforgettable fireworks display celebrating America's 250th Anniversary, a spectacular ending to an extraordinary week of Scouting.

While the adventures, merit badges, and training made for an incredible week, one of the moments that made us the proudest happened before camp had even officially begun. During dinner at Lucky's, our server stopped to tell us that Troop 371 was the most polite and well-behaved group of boys their age she had ever served and that we were doing a great job with them. That compliment meant more than she probably realized. It reflects the character our Scouts demonstrate every day and serves as a reminder that the greatest measure of success in Scouting is not the number of merit badges earned, but the kind of young men our Scouts are becoming.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to all of our adult volunteers who generously gave their time, talents, and encouragement to make this adventure possible. Thank you also to our Scouts for representing Troop 371, their families, Kanapaha Presbyterian Church, and Scouting America with enthusiasm, kindness, respect, and Scout spirit throughout the week. We are incredibly proud of each and every one of you.

After such an amazing experience, we're excited to announce that Troop 371 will be returning to Camp Woodruff for Summer Camp 2027! We have already reserved Week 4 (June 27 - July 3, 2027) and will once again offer a Saturday arrival option for families who wish to get an early start on the adventure. We look forward to another unforgettable week of adventure, learning, and fellowship next summer!

Yours in Scouting,
Robert Turner
Scoutmaster, Troop 371
Adventure. Leadership. Service.



Happy Birthday

Nate Ziegler

August 6

Isaac Dixon

August 16

Kathy Fishel

August 27

Fred Fishel

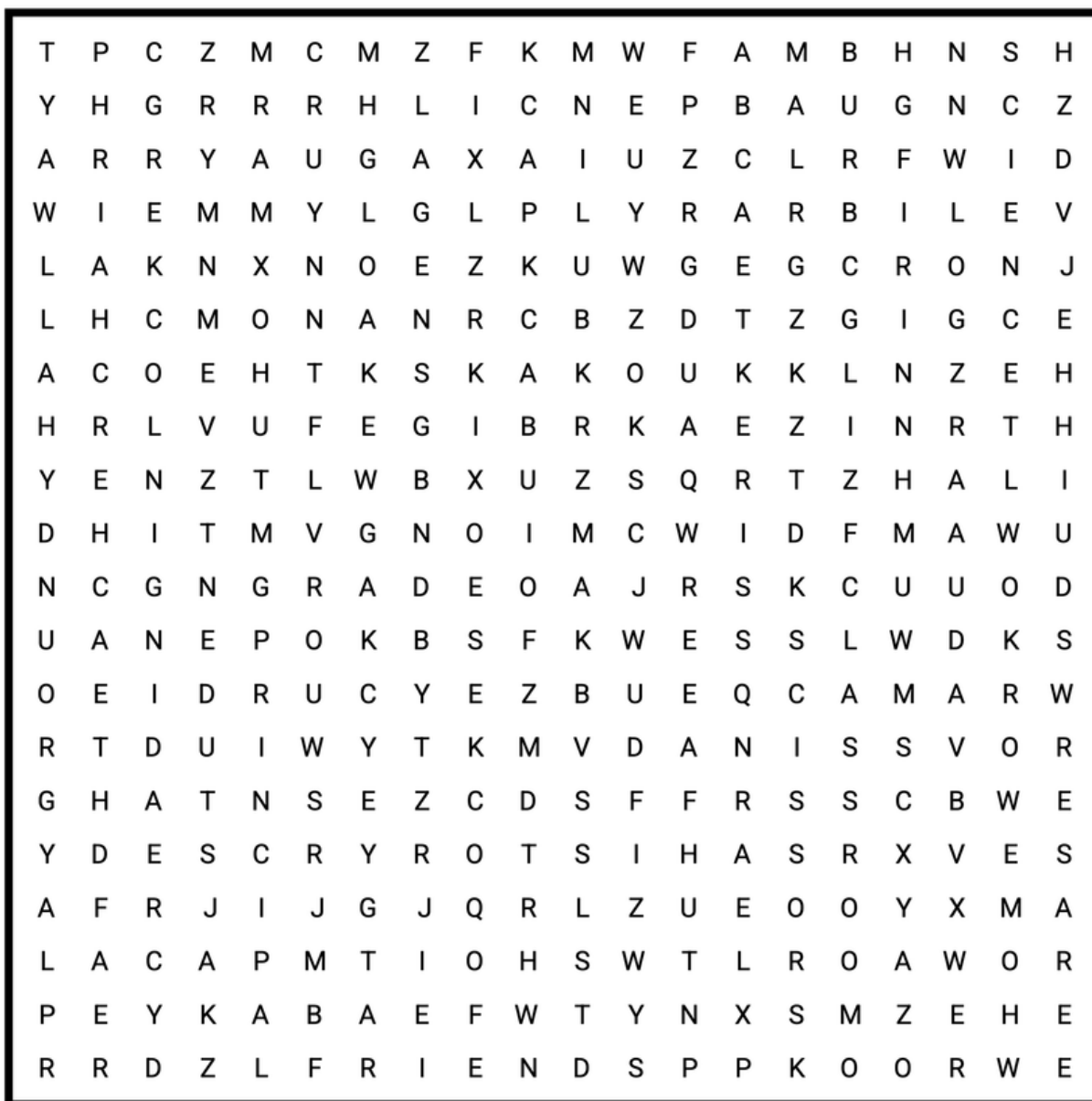
August 28

Samuel Wing

August 30



BACK TO SCHOOL



BACKPACK
PENCIL
CRAYON
SCISSORS
GLUE
ERASER
RULER
NOTEBOOK
TEACHER
STUDENT

CLASSROOM
DESK
CHAIR
CHALKBOARD
LOCKER
HALLWAY
CAFETERIA
PLAYGROUND
GYMNASIUM
HOMEWORK

READING
WRITING
MATH
SCIENCE
HISTORY
FRIENDS
LEARN
GRADE
PRINCIPAL
LIBRARY



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tuesday, August 11th ,18th, 25th

Bible Study 10am

Tuesday, August 25

Newsletter Deadline

**Saturday August 15th, 10AM-11:30AM Scouts Raingutter Regatta
race at Kanapaha Presbyteri
Church**



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Kanapaha Presbyterian Church
EST. 1859

Moderator of Session Rev. Dr. Don McGarity
Clerk of Session Kim Friend (2026)

Session Members	Name / Class	Co-chair
Administration and Finance	Bill Bahlke (2027)	Kim Friend (2028)
Buildings & Grounds	Bill Bahlke (2027)	
Church History & Cemetery Management	Joanna Long (2028)	
Education & Training	Karla Ellsworth (2028)	
Missions	Kim Friend (2028)	
Nomination Committee	Bill Bahlke (2027)	
Special Projects & Promotion	Karla Ellsworth (2028)	
Worship & Nurture	Joanna Long (2028)	Karla Ellsworth (2028)