

October 1 & 8, 2017

MARK'S MESSAGE

Making a Great Decision

"Excellent choice!" "Oh, that's my favorite dish here." "Perfect!" Have you ever noticed that restaurant servers seem to go out of their way to affirm their customers' menu selections?



That's not an accident. Many restaurants equip their servers with specific words and phrases to help people feel affirmed when ordering. That's because a great many of us feel intimidated when making decisions. Even when choosing between fish and pasta.

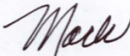
Princeton philosopher Walter Kaufmann calls it *decidophobia*. We're concerned about the possibility of making a mistake, of missing an opportunity, or of looking foolish in front of others. A sociologist named Sheena Iyengar reports most of us make about 70 conscious decisions every day. If we live 70 years, we're responsible for making 1,788,500 decisions. We make lots and lots of decisions.

What goes into the making of a great life? Should I pursue an amazing spouse, a jaw-dropping paycheck, a grateful and happy family, an HGTV vacation home, or a résumé that impresses everyone at the high school reunion?

The Hebrews would say: "*Don't waste your time.*" Life is all about wisdom, as evidenced by the fact that a huge chunk of the Bible — almost 15% — is known as Wisdom Literature. Wisdom, according to those Hebrew authors, is the art of making great decisions. That's because making great decisions is the essence of making a great life. "*Getting wisdom is the wisest thing you can do! And whatever else you do, develop good judgment*" (Proverbs 4:7).

This month you have an important decision to make. How generous will you support First Presbyterian in 2018? FPC has been making differences in the lives of children, youth and adults in the church and in our surrounding community. How will you respond? Will you respond with a thankful heart for the Lord's blessings in your life? Psalm 100:4-5 declares, "*Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.*"

Give generously to the Lord through First Presbyterian Church. Don't be paralyzed by decidophobia. Be wise. Go with the pasta.

In Christ, 

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FOOD BANK/NEW BEGINNINGS

It's time again for our monthly donation to the Reno County Food Bank. They are requesting **canned chicken or tuna, juice, pancake mix and syrup**. You may leave those items at any of the entrances to First Presbyterian. We will pick them up on October 1. Monetary donations to the food bank are welcome and needed, as well. We also will collect donations for New Beginnings. Suggested items are: **laundry soap, dish soap, tall kitchen trash bags, 33-39 gallon trash bags and magic erasers**.

Thanks, The Deacons

¹ John 3:17-18 *"But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth."*

PEACE AND GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING

The Mission Committee met with Donna Davis from Sexual Assault/Domestic Violence Center. Inc. We feel this organization meets the criteria of the Presbyterian Church (USA)'s Special Offering for Peace and Global Witness scheduled for October 1. We can help this worthy organization by helping them update their facility, provide assistance to help victims start over, help pay for health care and groceries. They also provide bus or train tickets for victims to arrive at a safe location.

Please look for the envelope in Sunday's bulletin and give generously to this worthy organization as 25% of what we receive will go to them. The other 75% goes to peacekeeping projects and ministries for peace and reconciliation.

CHURCH OFFICE NOTES

Chimes Note

Deadline for next issue of *Chimes* will be **10:00 a.m. Monday, October 9**, for the issue covering October 15-28.

Chancel Flower Calendar

October 1, 8, 29, November 12 and 26 are open on the 2017 Chancel Flower Calendar. If you would like to provide flowers for worship one of these days, please contact Janice in the church office: janice@fpchutch.org, or 665-5549, ext. 106 (afternoons), by the preceding Monday.

Could You Help?

Would you have approximately one to two hours once or twice a month to donate to your church? We have a wonderful group of volunteers who restocks pew supplies, picks up left-over bulletins, etc., in the chapel and sanctuary. We could use a few more to put in the rotation. If you're interested, please contact Rita in the church office: rita@fpchutch.org or 665-5549, ext. 101.



Don't Blend in, Stand Out

It's hard to turn on the TV, listen to the radio, open a newspaper or look on the Internet without coming face-to-face with the evil of this world. I know more than ever that Jesus needs us to live ready! God has a calling on my life and yours, and He wants us to help people grow up spiritually so they can have the abundant life Jesus died for them to have. That means we can't just tell them what they want to hear. Your Life Is a Sermon. Now you may say, Keith I'm not a preacher, but we are all preachers! Maybe not with your mouth all the time but as a believer in Christ, your life is a living sermon.

At work, at the grocery store, at school...your life should encourage others by showing them the love of God working in your life and you don't even have to open your mouth to do it! So what kind of life makes a good sermon? It's the kind of life that reflects the fact that you are a child of God. That alone will stand out in this world.

For example, 1 John 4 says we can live without fear because of what God has done for us. God promises that He will take care of us, whatever our circumstances or what's going on in the world around us. People today are scared. They're scared of wars, the economy, the government...it seems the news is a constant fear-fest these days. We as Christians know that we are safe and secure in God's arms and that He will always take care of us, even in the hardest of times. Our lives should reflect our faith in that truth. That kind of living is what makes you "holy" or "set apart" from the world. The very fact that you can go out and live unafraid is a witness and a testimony to the world.

It's time for you to prepare to leave your comfort zone. Safety doesn't always equal comfort, though. Living in the world means we're always going to see things and hear things that make us a little uncomfortable and that's OK. Sometimes God places us in situations where we're uncomfortable just so we turn the light up a little bit brighter. To do this, we don't have to get all "religious." There's no need for you to walk around with your six-pack of Bibles and covered head to toe with bumper stickers. All you need to do is let your light shine. Loving, calm, happy, gracious behavior will stand out. That will be a light in a dark place.

In these tough times, we need God more than ever and as we are the body of Christ, God needs us to be acting on His behalf. He needs us to go out and shine His light into the darkness of the world. Believe today that in Christ, you have what it takes to not be afraid and to be a person that God can use to change people's lives.

An Opportunity for Change...

“Warm Up Hutch”

FPC’s tradition of the Mitten Tree is morphing into a new program called “Warm Up Hutch”. We are beginning our collection early this year to allow time to gather plenty of items to provide all of our Christmas Outreach families with outer wear and coverings to warm them up! **Starting in October, two bins will be placed in the parlor for the collection of blankets, bedding, hats and gloves.** If you are donating gently used bedding, please indicate the size.

Thank you for generously sharing your blessings in “Warming Up Hutch” this Christmas! You can even say that you already have some of your Christmas shopping done, and it’s in a box!

PARISH PERSONALS

- Dear First Presbyterian Church,
Thank you very much for awarding me with a scholarship. I truly appreciate your investment in my education. Furthermore, thank you so much for the love and support that this congregation has provided for me throughout my life. It means so much to me. Sincerely, Casey Lane
- FPC Scholarship Committee —
Thank you for the scholarship money. I greatly appreciate it. I am really enjoying K-State so far. God has done amazing things already. Can’t wait to come back to my home church next time I’m in Hutch. — Lillie McQueen
- Thank you for giving us a place to stay! God bless this church! — David C. Lyman, Boy Scout Troop #226

KEEP IN PRAYER

For those in the hospital or hurting
For all FPC shut-ins
For those recovering from hurricanes
For First Presbyterian Church, Conway Springs
(10/01/17)
For St. Marks Presbyterian Church, Haysville
(10/08/17)

BIRTHDAYS

1	Tish Petitjean	7	Will Meredith
2	Lois Cox	7	Beth Southern
2	Denise Hallman	9	Marj Johnson
2	Steve Richardson	10	Sandy Goltry
3	Tad Dower	10	Andy Klamm
3	Wes Kimmel	10	Lucas Munds
5	David Weidensaul	10	Randy Wood
6	Chelsea Barker	11	Arlene Becker
6	Karley Keast	11	Mary Jane Mollett
6	Donna Kelley	13	Ariel Gamber
7	Matt Leslie	14	Jenna Lackey

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Sunday Morning Adult Education Opportunities — 9:30-10:15 a.m.

"The Wired Word", Facilitated by Bob Fee, Cornerstone Room

"The Psalms — Glorifying the Lord", Facilitated by Pastor Mark Miller, Large Conference Room

"The Parables of Jesus"

Our next meeting will be 1:30 p.m., Tuesday, October 3, at Jay & Michele Lane's house. At that meeting, we will resume our study of the Parables of Jesus with "Tenants," "Wedding Banquet," and "Fig Tree." After that, our next meeting will be 1:30 p.m., Tuesday, October 17, at Dick & Carol Brown's house.

SOCIAL EVENT

Join the Social Committee for a fun get-together on Saturday, October 14, at the Tech Art Gallery from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. and bring your friends! There will be appetizers, desserts, wine and tea plus lots of great art to admire and friends to visit with. Whether or not you are attending the Fox Theater show "iLuminate", join us for fun and fellowship.

Please RSVP by October 6 to Rita at (620) 665-5549, ext. 101, or rita@fpchutch.org. A goodwill offering will be received. Please enter the gallery through the 1st Street entrance.

LOGOS

Kids Helping Kids at LOGOS

Lincoln Elementary can use new or "gently-used" items in their Clothing Closet. Help the 6th grade LOGOS class in collection.

Delivery will be November 8.

Collection boxes are at the bottom of east stairs.

Drawstring Pants — Shirts — Coats — Hats — Scarves — Mittens/Gloves — Socks — Underwear



SESSION SNIPPET

The Session met on September 18 and elders report that their committees are continuing with their projects and responsibilities. Congregational Connections is undertaking a renewal of the fellowship dinner groups which have been renamed D-Groups for 7 or 8. The kick-off will be a potluck at church on October 1 and there is still time to sign up to participate. The newly formed Membership Committee is working to go through our rolls and reach out to those who are no longer worshipping with us. Mission is busy with a variety of outreach projects in the Lincoln School and FPC neighborhoods. The Youth Group is gearing up for fall with a variety of activities and the Confirmation Class has started meeting for their several month course of study. Eight students are attending. Nominating Committee is working hard to fill the slate of officers needed for the 2018-2021 term. If questions or concerns on any Session matters, please visit with Pastor Mark or any elder.



One of the aims of our youth ministry is for us to spark a blaze in the lives of our teens so they will lead lives set on fire for God. True discipleship is about more than providing our teens with the right theology or steering them through the latest Christian self-help topics. Don't get me wrong, those are good things; but to become truly like Jesus, our teens must be ablaze for God.

If we are to be more like Jesus we must be on a constant search-and-rescue mission for the lost. Remember the first thing Jesus told His followers as He was calling them out was, "Come follow Me and I will make you fishers of men," Matthew 4:19. Clearly, a core goal behind His recruiting disciples was evangelism. We need to call people to "Dangerous Discipleship." You see, our teenagers are being challenged everywhere — in sports, at school, by their friends — to give in to peer pressure. Sometimes the only place teenagers don't get challenged is at church. Instead, they learn safe little lessons about safe little things. But Jesus called his disciples to danger, to cause, to go on a search-and-rescue mission for lost souls.

In Matthew 10, He warned them of the dangers they were about to face; then He unleashed them to face those dangers by sending them on a community-wide mission trip. Much of what passes as disciple-making today is a faint echo of Jesus' model. We have discipleship without danger, which is not discipleship at all. If I'm a teenager, I have nothing to lose in a typical youth group except an hour or so of my time. The closest I'll get to danger is a paper cut from turning the pages during a lesson.

Here at FPC Youth, teenagers are put in a position of sharing their faith with their friends and the wider community. Now they have purpose. Now they have a vested interest in understanding their faith so they can explain it to others in a clear and compelling way. Now they are hungry for spiritual truth that can reach into the lives of their lost and hurting friends. Now they are motivated to pray with passion as they see heaven and hell as realities when it comes to their friends' souls. This is why we have a group of young people willing to tell their stories and share their lives with others. This is discipleship and this is what we all need to be like. Let's live dangerously for God because actually it's the safest way to live! Please encourage the young people you know to get involved with our youth group and let them take this exciting journey with us.

SEMINAR



Martin Luther's Reformation: Celebrating 500 Years Seminar at Hutchinson Community College

A number of area churches including First Presbyterian Church are sponsoring a Hutchinson Community College Lifelong Learning seminar: Martin Luther's Reformation – Celebrating 500 Years, on October 5, 12, 19, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. in the Hutchinson Community College Shears Technology Center's Justice Theater.

Discover how the Reformation movement began and continues to influence us today. Friendly and informative seminars that Roman Catholics, Protestants and any interested historians will enjoy. The cost is \$45.00. For more information or to enroll call (620) 727-2790.

CALENDAR — OCTOBER 1 - 15

Sunday, October 1, 2017

DEACON OF THE WEEK: Denise Hallman, 921-0444

Preacher Mark Miller: 1 Corinthians 10:14-22

- 8:15 am Worship service Chapel
- 9:00 am Chancel Choir Sanctuary
- 9:00-10:15 ReFresh Café open
- 9:30 am Christian Education
- 10:30 am Worship service/Kidz Church Sanctuary
- 11:30 am Fellowship time Parlor
- 11:30-12:00 Book store open Parlor
- 5:30 pm Dinner groups' potluck Fellowship Hall
- 2:00 pm Communion by Deacons Wesley Towers

Monday, October 2

- 8:30 am Exercise class Kids' Cave
- 9:30 am Book study Large Conference Room
- 4:00 pm Music staff meeting Conference Room
- 5:30 pm Worship Committee Conference Room
- 7:00 pm Worship practice Sanctuary
- 7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 301 Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, October 3

- 1:30 pm Bible study Lane's house

Wednesday, October 4

- 8:30 am Exercise class Kids' Cave
- 9:00 am Staff meeting Conference Room
- 12:00 pm Building & Grounds Conference Room
- 3:30 pm LOGOS
- 6:15 pm Confirmation class Large Conf Room
- 7:00 pm Youth Group The Basement

Thursday, October 5

- 7:00 am Men's Bible study Parlor
- 12:00 pm Congregational Connections Conf Rm

Friday, October 6

- 9:00 am Walk-a-mile class Kids' Cave

Sunday, October 8

DEACON OF THE WEEK: Amanda Jackson, 669-5350

Preacher Mark Miller: Matthew 6:9-10; James 1:16-18

- 8:15 am Worship service Chapel
- 9:00 am Chancel Choir Sanctuary
- 9:00-10:15 ReRefresh Café open
- 9:30 am Christian Education
- 10:30 am Worship service/Kidz Church Sanctuary
- 11:30 am Fellowship time Parlor
- 11:30-12:00 Book store open Parlor

Monday, October 9

- 8:30 am Exercise class Kids' Cave
- 5:15 pm Mission Committee Conference Room
- 6:30 pm Deacons' meeting Lg Conference Rm
- 7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 301 Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, October 10

- 9:00 am Koinonia Women Large Conference Rm

Wednesday, October 11

- 8:30 am Exercise class Kids' Cave
- 9:00 am Staff meeting Conference Room
- 3:30 pm LOGOS
- 6:15 pm Confirmation class Large Conf Room
- 7:00 pm Youth Group The Basement

Thursday, October 12

- 7:00 am Men's Bible study Parlor
- 10:00 am Finance Committee Conference Room

Friday, October 13

- 9:00 am Walk-a-mile class Kids' Cave

Saturday, October 14

- 6:00 pm Social event TECH Art Gallery
- 7:30 pm "iLuminate" Fox Theater

Sunday, October 15

DEACON OF THE WEEK: Margie Miller Dick, 662-0315

Preacher Mark Miller: Psalm 100

- 8:15 am Worship service Chapel
- 9:00 am Chancel Choir Sanctuary
- 9:00-10:15 ReRefresh Café open
- 9:30 am Christian Education
- 10:30 am Worship service/Kidz Church Sanctuary
- 11:30 am Fellowship time Parlor
- 11:30-12:00 Book store open Parlor



World Communion Sunday

October 1 ~ 8:15 and 10:30 a.m.



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