

November 12 & 19, 2017

MARK'S MESSAGE

## Life Full of Close Calls

As Thanksgiving Day approaches, recently I have been reflecting about my past. I'm reminded of that especially when my family sitting around the Thanksgiving table would wade into one of those "Remember when...?" conversations that inevitably dredged up childhood near-misses.

There was the day, for example, when I got too close to the neighbor's burning leaves pile at the curb that I melted the bottom of my shoes. Thank goodness the bottoms of my feet weren't burned.

Think about the myriad close calls that have been part of your life. Do they mean something? Are they just lucky breaks or providential interventions? How can we possibly know?

God knows. The biblical doctrine of providence comes from the Latin words *pro* ("before") and *video* ("to see"). God sees everything in advance. In fact God simultaneously sees all of reality – past, present and future – and the totality of life's complex inter-connections.

Scripture tells us there are no trivial happenings. God is fully attentive at every moment, and this very moment matters. Sports stars routinely assure reporters, "*Right now we control our own destiny.*" We do nothing of the kind. In truth we control almost nothing.

One of the great questions of our time is where ultimate security can be found. Is it available through a great job, an adorable spouse, wise investments, a foolproof burglar alarm, or strategies to counteract terrorism?

Psalm 34:7 reminds us: "*The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and he delivers them.*" You and I are alive right now because God has preserved you through every close call. The best advice we could possibly heed with regard to finding security is, "*Take hold of God with all of your heart, and never let go – confident that He will never let go of you.*"

Happy Thanksgiving!



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COMMUNION

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.



**Join the Excitement!**  
**Worship @ 9 is Coming to FPC**  
**Beginning Sunday Morning, November 12**

This Sunday we will start our new worship service at 9:00 a.m. at First Presbyterian Church! Our aim is to continue serving the needs of not only our own members but to reach others for Christ who would be more comfortable in a relaxed contemporary style worship. W@9 will be a 45-minute worship experience in the sanctuary and we will encourage everyone to have a time of fellowship together after worship in our Refresh Café. Our Nursery and Kidz Church will be available during the service.

The 8:15 a.m. informal traditional worship service in the chapel will continue without change. Adult Christian Education at 9:30 a.m. will not change, either. Kidz Church will continue to be offered during the 10:30 a.m. worship service. The Refresh Café will continue to be open 8:45-10:15 a.m. The 10:30 a.m. worship service in the sanctuary will become more traditional with the Chancel Choir.

It is our hope and prayer that our new look Sunday morning will give members and many others better options to worship the Lord and to invite children, youth and adults to FPC.

See you Sunday mornings at 8:15, 9:00 or 10:30 a.m.!

## BLESSING BOX

### We Need Your Help!

**Our Blessing Box is running out of supplies on a regular basis. Please help us fill it!**

The concept is simple: Stock a box with nonperishable food items, toiletries or other basic household needs that can withstand storage outdoors. Invite people to take what they need and give what they can. Nobody is coming along and taking all of the contents from the box; it is only one or two items. It really is meeting a need already in our community. The people who are using it are not operating out of greed, but instead out of need.

**Please support our Blessing Box Mission by bringing:**

**Boxes of Mac & Cheese ~ Canned Food ~ Hygiene Items ~ Diapers/Wipes ~ Socks, Gloves, Scarves**  
*(Please put items in plastic bags)*





"Jesus said to them, 'Follow Me, and I will make you become fishers of men'" Mark 1:17.

We are saved to serve; we are fished out of this messy world so that we in turn may become fishers of men. This invitation to discipleship is the most thrilling ever to come to mankind. Just imagine being a working partner with God in the redemption of the world!

Christian discipleship gives us the privilege of being in an intimate relationship with Christ. My friends, it is time to take off our coat of indifference, roll up our sleeves and go to work in bringing others to Christ. Opportunities lie all around you. Our neighbors are without Christ, our children may be unsaved, our colleagues and friends are waiting to see Jesus in you.

It's time to bring others to discover God's love for them. On Sunday the theme for our first W@9 is "No perfect people allowed." Join me on this new journey to reach out to those in need of a God who brings hope and love. It is going to be a relaxed, come-as-you-are service that is suitable for all ages. So pull on your jeans or whatever you feel comfortable in and be involved in this exciting opportunity. Did you know that 125 million Americans are unchurched? Only 25% of Americans actually attend a worship service on a weekly basis.

Our purpose at FPC is to LOVE God, Love People. We are striving to create worship experiences that are engaging and challenging to everyone who attends no matter what the style. Jesus spoke to his followers in a parable in Luke 14 about bringing people into God's house. His desire was to see His house full. He challenged others with His words, "Go out into the country lanes and behind the hedges and urge anyone you find to come, so that the house will be full." Luke 14:23

As Christians, we should desire the same as Jesus did...to see God's house full! One of the main ways we can help accomplish this is to invite our friends and family to join us at church. The process is simple. YOU invite your friends and family to come to a worship experience and WE will create an experience to engage them with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Their lives can be changed forever and it starts with one invitation.



Don't forget the **Warm Up Hutch project**. Bring your items to the parlor that can be used for Outreach, where there are two bins for the collection of blankets, bedding, hats and gloves. If you are donating gently used bedding, please indicate the size.

## Outreach Offering ~ November 12 ~ "Giving Shape to God's Grace"

Have you heard the call? Giving shape to God's grace with words of encouragement, acts of kindness and gentle acceptance can change a world of too much taking into more giving. This call is for you. FPC Outreach Offering collected on November 12 will support the year-round programs of Christmas Giving and Summer Scholarships.

**Shop for a family!** Depending on the situation, you will either initiate a phone interview with your family to find out needs or for confidentiality purposes, the list of needs maybe provided directly to you. You will then be provided a designated amount of money to shop for your family. Depending on your family's preference, you will bring items to the church in mid-December for your family to pick up or you will deliver the items to their home.



**Support our Outreach program financially!** Your check will support these two neighborhood Outreach projects...Christmas Giving and Summer Scholarships. Please make your check out to First Presbyterian Church and note "Outreach Offering" in the memo. Place your check and form below in the offering plate or mail them to the church office.

Mel Dower	(960-5540)	dowerm@usd308.com
Terri McQueen	(664-7731)	maxandlil@yahoo.com
Heidi Schultz	(669-7956)	hlmschultz@hotmail.com
Beth Southern	(474-1693)	wsouthern@cox.net

————— (Tear off and return to the church) —————

### Outreach Offering 2017

\_\_\_\_\_ I/We would like to sign up and want to shop for a family this Christmas

\_\_\_\_\_ I/We will financially support FPC's expanded neighborhood Outreach

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

## NEW MEMBERS

We welcome new members **Mike & Jane Harrison!** Their daughter Laura joined the church recently and — get this — their grandson Harry seems to be the one who brought them all to our church. Harry came to Bible School last year and enjoyed it very much.

So, as Mike says, “We wanted to worship with Laura and Harry and be a family.” They also have a son Mark and grandson Connor who live in the DC area.

Mike has retired from his career farming the family farm northeast of Nickerson. He grew up on the farm and those roots go deep.

Jane grew up in Kansas City. How did she land in Nickerson? She and Mike met at K-State. She started a pre-school in the Nickerson Methodist Church and has taught in Nickerson and Hutchinson. Jane has already gotten involved with First Presbyterian by serving on the Mission and Social Committees.

Thank you, Mike & Jane, for being part of our church family and helping us reach out to those in need.

## 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”

The next meeting of our small group will be at 1:30 p.m., Tuesday, November 14, at Gene & Arlene Becker’s house. We will discuss parables of the “Good Samaritan,” “Friend in Need” and “Rich Fool.” All are welcome.

## CHURCH OFFICE NOTES

### *Chimes* Note

Deadline for next issue of *Chimes* will be **10:00 a.m. Monday, November 20**, for the issue covering November 26-December 9.

### Chancel Flower Calendar

**November 12, 26, December 10, 24, and 31** 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@fpchurch.org](mailto:janice@fpchurch.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@fpchurch.org](mailto:rita@fpchurch.org) or 665-5549, ext. 101.

## PARISH PERSONALS

- We would like to thank all those, Deacons and volunteers, who stepped up for us serving the Soup Kitchen on September 21 while we enjoyed a vacation. Helping us prepare and cook the meal in October was Beth Southern, serving was Donna Kelley. Driving our routes were Martin Miller, Ed & Marj Johnson and Amanda Jackson, Libby, Kate and Luke. Thank you Deacons, as always, for answering the call and providing support in many ways. — Gene & Arlene Becker
- Thank you for your overwhelming appreciation of us on Pastor Appreciation Sunday. Thank you for your kind comments, wonderful cards, delicious cake reception, and thoughtful gifts. How blessed we are!  
Love, Mark and Keith
- Dear First Presbyterian Church [Koinonia Women]:  
On behalf of the Hutchinson School Board of Education, I would like to convey our thanks and appreciation for your donation to Hutchinson Middle School-7 for school needs. We are especially grateful for the generosity and support of our patrons. Thank you for your continued support of our schools. Sincerely,  
Gary Price, Superintendent of Schools
- Thank you for your support and for joining SADVC in making our community safer and healthier! Each year, SADVC reaches hundreds of adults and children with services making our community safer. We provide advocacy to victims of violence in our community in *so many* forms—safety planning, financial advocacy, court and legal advocacy, crisis intervention, personal health and wellness planning, 24-hour on call hotline assistance, as well as our safe shelter house services. Your donation helps SADVC continue its life-saving services in Reno, Rice, Kingman, and Harper counties. With your help, SADVC will remain strong and consistent in its advocacy for victims and survivors. Sincerely, Donna Davis, Executive Director, Sexual Assault/Domestic Violence Center, Inc.



### KEEP IN PRAYER

*For those in the hospital or hurting*

*For all FPC shut-ins*

*For First Presbyterian Church, Marion (11/12/17)*

*For Federated Church of Mayfield (11/19/17)*



### BIRTHDAYS

12	Stacie Stricker	18	Jeff Eriksen
13	Ed Coons	18	Cayden Schoenhoff
13	Zac Heath	19	Ashton Fee
13	Chloe Hindman	19	Dawn Veh
15	Maggie Epp	20	Myrna Baird
15	Whitney Jones	22	Bob Callahan
15	Henry Welu	23	Mark Coberly
16	Drew DeMeyer	23	R. A. Edwards
17	Jo Ann Craig	25	Sarah Hansen
17	John Meschke		

## CALENDAR — NOVEMBER 12 - 26

### Sunday, November 12, 2017

DEACON OF THE WEEK: Misti McLain, 259-6977

Preacher Mark Miller (8:15 & 10:30): *Philippians 4:8-9*

Preacher Keith Neill (9:00): *2 Corinthians 12:9*

8:15 am Worship service Chapel  
 8:45-10:15 ReFresh Café open Refresh Café  
 9:00 am Worship service/Kidz Church Sanctuary  
 9:15 am Chancel Choir Chapel  
 9:30 am Adult 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, November 13

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, November 14

9:00 am Presbytery meeting FPC Wichita  
 9:00 am Koinonia Women Large Conference Rm  
 1:30 pm Bible study Becker's house

### Wednesday, November 15

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, November 16

7:00 am Men's Bible study Parlor  
 10:00 am Finance Committee Conference Room  
 2:00 pm Prepare and serve meal Soup Kitchen

### Friday, November 17

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

### Sunday, November 19

DEACON OF THE WEEK: Marj Johnson, 663-5697

Preacher Mark Miller (8:15 & 10:30): *Philippians 2:1-11*

Preacher Keith Neill (9:00): *John 1:40-42*

8:15 am Worship service Chapel  
 8:45-10:15 ReFresh Café open Refresh Café  
 9:00 am Worship service/Kidz Church Sanctuary  
 9:15 am Chancel Choir Chapel  
 9:30 am Adult Christian Education  
 10:30 am Worship service/Kidz Church Sanctuary

### Sunday, November 19, continued

11:30 am Fellowship time Parlor  
 11:30-12:00 Book store open Parlor

### Monday, November 20

8:30 am Exercise class Kids' Cave  
 6:30 pm Session meeting Large Conference Rm  
 7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 301 Fellowship Hall

### Tuesday, November 21

9:00 am Koinonia Women Large Conference Rm

### Wednesday, November 22

8:30 am Exercise class Kids' Cave  
 9:00 am Staff meeting Conference Room

### Thursday, November 23—Thanksgiving Day

Offices closed

### Friday, November 24

Offices closed

### Saturday, November 25

Downstairs reserved for family gathering

### Sunday, November 26

DEACON OF THE WEEK: Carol Weidensaul, 669-8661

Preacher Keith Neill: *Matthew 6:33 (8:15, 9:00 & 10:30)*

8:15 am Worship service Chapel  
 8:45-10:15 ReFresh Café open Refresh Café  
 9:00 am Worship service/Kidz Church Sanctuary  
 9:15 am Chancel Choir Chapel  
 9:30 am Adult Christian Education  
 10:30 am Worship service/Kidz Church Sanctuary  
 11:30 am Fellowship time Parlor  
 11:30-12:00 Book store open Parlor

**WITHOUT GOD**  
 our week would be  
**SINDAY**  
**MOURNDAY**  
**TEARSDAY**  
**WASTEDAY**  
**THIRSTDAY**  
**FIGHTDAY**  
**SHATTERDAY**  
 7days without God  
 makes **ONEWEAK**





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web site: [www.fpchutch.org](http://www.fpchutch.org)

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**Communion — Sunday, November 19 — 8:15 and 10:30 a.m. services**