

April 15 & 22, 2018

MARK'S MESSAGE

He Was Really Real!

Have you ever wanted to send a hand-written note to someone on paper made from 100% recycled elephant dung, or use a bookmark made entirely from horse manure? If so, you're blessed to be living at just the right moment in history.

PooPooPaper is the world's leading manufacturer of *"handcrafted, natural, tree-free, recycled, odorless, memorable, unique paper and stationery products made from poo"* as stated on their website.

The folks at PooPoo have managed to transform the excrement of horses, cows, donkeys, pandas, elephants, and moose into non-traditional paper for your greeting cards and wedding invitations. Those behind this movement are enthusiastic about eco-friendly, pro-sustainability manufacturing processes. That may be wonderful, but people who receive PooPoo products mostly find themselves thinking, *"I can't believe I'm touching this."*

Gnosticism was founded on the notion that God is absolutely pure and perfect. A pure and perfect God, it was assumed, would never want to have anything to do with physical stuff. The Gnostics believed everything related to physical matter – such as our bodies, the food we eat, the ground we walk on – must be an accident or perhaps the work of a demon. According to Gnosticism, matter doesn't matter.

According to Jesus, however, matter matters. When Jesus suddenly appeared in the midst of His friends after His resurrection, the disciples had a common reaction: they were freaked out! They had no way of understanding how a corpse – someone whom they knew had been tortured to death just a few days earlier – could suddenly be walking among them again, apparently in excellent health.

Jesus, however, invited them to touch Him. Then He asked, *"Do you have anything here to eat?"* The disciples promptly gave Him a piece of broiled fish. He ate it. He was really there. He was really real!

One of the most important aspects of the original Easter accounts is the reality of Jesus' resurrection body. He could touch, hug, eat, and walk. He was not an illusion of fearful, confused people. Matter matters to God. And God is able and willing to use the most ordinary stuff to do extraordinary things.

God made human beings out of dust. He empowered a donkey to talk to Balaam the prophet. Jesus used saliva to help a blind man see. If God can speak through a donkey, He can speak through you and me. If Jesus can use spit, He can use you and me, too. What's a great way to remind yourself of those important truths? Just write them down on a piece of paper made from 100% recycled elephant dung.

In Christ,




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SUNDAY
APRIL 15

LAUNDRY LOVE

Help Needed in Building Relationships

The first Tuesday of each month Giant Laundry at 5th and Adams participates in a ministry called "LAUNDRY LOVE", a national program. Many come in the evening to wash their clothes for free.

In March, two Circle Leaders started to build relationships with participants as they wash. The Circle Leaders plan to bring cookies in April and by June hope to hand out personal hygiene items.

There is a basket by the east entrance to collect items such as travel size shampoo, lotion, mouthwash, toothpaste, toothbrushes, mini brushes and combs, razors for men and women and feminine hygiene items (pads and tampons). If it is easier to give a cash donation or check (made out to Beth Southern) please leave it with Robbie in the office.

Because of budding relationships, stories have been gathered and some will be shared at a Poverty Taskforce "Frontline Training for Churches" starting May 30. Thank you for opening your hearts and for your contributions.



CHURCH OFFICE NOTES

Chimes Note

Deadline for next issue of *Chimes* will be **10:00 a.m. Monday, April 23**, for the issue covering April 29-May 12.

Chancel Flower Calendar

April 22, May 6, 13, June 24, July 1 and 15 are open on the Chancel Flower Calendar. If you would like to provide flowers for worship one of these days, please contact Janice in the church office: 665-5549, ext. 106 (afternoons) or janice@fpchutch.org, by the preceding Monday.

CARE PORTAL

The Care Portal has had two cases this week which we answered. For a new mother due in June, we purchased an infant "travel system" which was a new term to me. It's a combo infant seat and stroller. As the mother doesn't have a car, this will enable her to use the stroller while the newborn is safely secured in the infant seat. It can also be adapted to use in a vehicle, too.

The other case was a Walmart gift card for a grandmother in western Reno County who has taken on her 4-year-old granddaughter. The little girl loves being outside and this will enable Grandma to purchase yard toys and some new spring clothing for her.

Thanks, as always, to Portal Presbys for your support of this vital outreach!



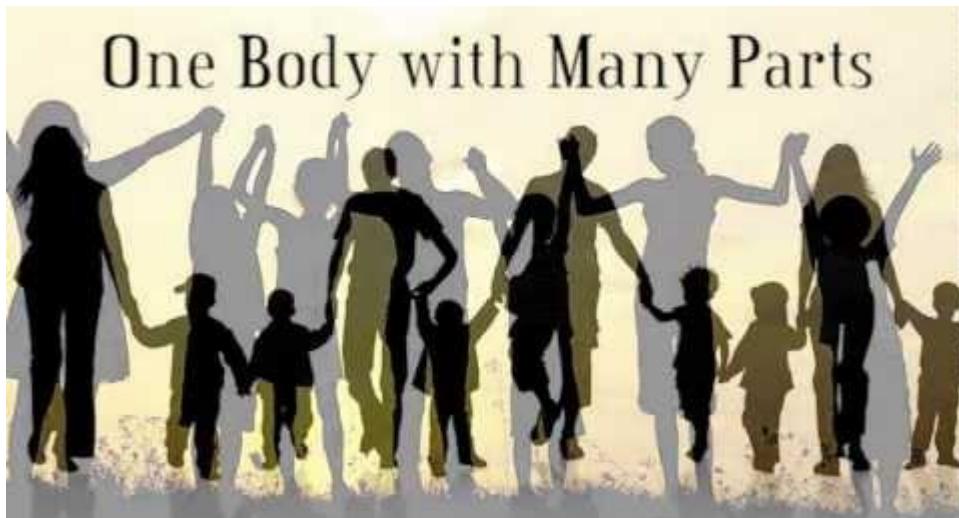
I want us to think about the fact that the first Christians were revolutionaries. Could we call ourselves that today? The group they formed was, in many ways, very different from what we know as the Church today. According to the Book of Acts, they met in their homes and devoted themselves to God's Word. As a result, these early Christians brought about the most amazing and powerful transformation the world has ever known.

Think about it for a minute. Christians emerged in the midst of a tremendously diverse Roman melting pot of social and religious ideas, and through purely peaceful means completely changed the Empire and united it under the banner of Christianity. They did it without a single mega-church, television program, website or social media. They simply opened their homes, spoke the truth fearlessly and trusted God for the results.

Christianity was and is a divine movement of God. Long before Christianity found a comfortable home in church buildings, it was an active body of passionate believers who were committed to telling others that Jesus Christ was God and He was the only way to enter into a personal relationship with the Creator of the World. Christians were also known as people with immense joy in their lives, even in the midst of terrible persecution and hardship. You see, these early believers were able to stay focused on God instead of their own situation. As a result, regardless of their personal circumstances, they were able to live with joy.

I love the fact that these early Christians were a fearless and animated bunch. They weren't a Passive Church; in fact these early Christians did not *go* to church, they *were* the church; they did not attend church services, they impacted their culture as the people of God. So when they got together it was not as the end goal, but as a way to equip themselves to be the people God intended them to be and do the work God intended them to do. These Christians were known by their love because they had surrendered so completely to God's call on their lives. They began to live as the children of God and the world took notice.

Another reason they stood out was because they gave sacrificially to those in need. These early believers understood why God had given them the limited wealth they had. They poured their financial gifts into the care of the needy. In fact, over and over again in Scripture, this is the only thing offerings were used for. These Christians were seen as God's Ambassadors in a messed up world. The world also quickly recognized there was something very different about these Christians. They represented something good and pure, and were influential in their communities. Things haven't changed much in our world. There is still great need, there is still a need for people to hear and know the Gospel, there is a desperate need to share God's love but the real change is that we the Christians of today are not living like those early Christians. Life has taken over us instead of us allowing God to take over our lives!



All of you together are Christ's body, and each one of you is a separate and necessary part of it."
(1 Corinthians 12:27 NLT)

One reason why you need to be connected to a church family is to fulfill your calling to serve other believers in practical ways. The Bible says, "All of you together are Christ's body, and each one of you is a separate and necessary part of it" (1 Corinthians 12:27 NLT).

Your service is desperately needed in the Body of Christ — just ask any local church. Each of us has a role to play, and every role is important. There is no small service to God; it all matters.

Likewise, there are no insignificant ministries in the church. Some are visible and some are behind the scenes, but all are valuable. Small or hidden ministries often make the biggest difference. In my home, the most important light is not the large chandelier in our dining room but the little night-light that keeps me from stubbing my toe when I get up at night. There is no correlation between size and significance. Every ministry matters, because we are all dependent on each other to function.

What happens when one part of your body fails to function? You get sick. The rest of your body suffers. Imagine if your liver decided to start living for itself: "I'm tired! I don't want to serve the body anymore! I want a year off just to be fed. I've got to do what's best for me! Let some other part take over."

What would happen? Your body would die. Today, thousands of local churches are dying because of Christians who are unwilling to serve. They sit on the sidelines as spectators, and the Body suffers. God calls you to a service far beyond anything you could ever imagine. He created *you* for a life of good deeds, which He has already prepared for you to do (Ephesians 2:10). Whenever you serve others in any way, you are actually serving God. How are you serving the Body of Christ through your church?

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

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

Come and join us for "*The Wired Word*" in the Cornerstone Room

"Witnesses of the Faith", Facilitated by Pastor Mark Miller, Large Conference Room

"Anxious for Nothing"

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, April 17, at 1:30 p.m. at Dick & Carol Brown's house. We will finish our discussion with the final chapter of Max Lucado's book, "Anxious for Nothing." Also, we will begin a new study with the first chapter of Philippians. The next meeting after that will be on Tuesday, May 1, at Sam & Judy Ontjes's house. All are welcome.

PARISH PERSONALS

- Deepest sympathy is extended to Jim & Marci Heck and family. Jim's mother, Barbara Heck, died April 3 in Pittsburg, Kansas.
- Dear Children of the LOGOS Program:
Thanks so much for your gift directed toward Salthawk Community Support. Your investment in this important program is so greatly appreciated! On behalf of all the churches, organizations and individuals who are working so hard to improve the lives of Hutchinson High School students, please accept our sincere thanks for your support. Most sincerely, Faye Summervill, Church Administrator, Trinity United Methodist Church
- Thank you for your on-going TLC! LOGOS kids are fantastic! Sincerely, Donna Davis, Executive Director, Sexual Assault/Domestic Violence Center, Inc.
- Thank you to Shirley Brandyberry helping the Deacons by bringing me a beautiful lily on Easter Sunday. We had such a good visit, and I appreciate receiving that from our church. Thank you, Margaret Kennedy

KEEP IN PRAYER

For those in the hospital or hurting

- Jim & Marci Heck and family on the death of Jim's mother, Barbara Heck

For all FPC shut-ins***For First Presbyterian Church, Dodge City***

(4/15/18)

For Grace Presbyterian Church, Wichita

(4/22/18)

BIRTHDAYS

| | | | |
|----|----------------|----|---------------|
| 15 | Annie Fee | 23 | Blair Starr |
| 15 | Joe Wagner | 23 | Jane Whitlow |
| 16 | Robby Fee | 24 | Libby Jackson |
| 17 | Jo Ann Cole | 26 | Jane Eriksen |
| 17 | Mary Holderman | 26 | Mary Stewart |
| 20 | Jill Brown | 27 | Luke Jackson |
| 20 | Caroline Fee | 28 | Laura Ontjes |
| 21 | Zahn Lukens | | |

YOUTH NEWS



I have been serving teens now for over 35 years as a volunteer and on staff at different churches, and I believe we are at a time when youth ministry is even more vital today than ever before. Consistency is big in our youth ministry because so much of life today is

inconsistent. The typical American dream is fading. Family life is always changing. Teens are being forced to make choices about their future (college and career) at a time when they are just figuring out who they are. Teens need consistency and they need it from the church more than ever.

We really believe that in a culture that is continually changing, Jesus is the one thing that will always be unchanging. Jesus is relevant today and our youth ministry is here to help them deepen their faith and to lead teens to Jesus. That's why what we do in youth ministry is important.

Youth ministry is discipleship, not just gathering a crowd. Our goal is to help teens follow Christ with all of their life. We are not just trying to reach teens, we are also trying to shape them to look more like Jesus. This is not hype. We see this happen by encouraging and leading young people to engage in worship, study God's Word through relevant teaching, process faith and have fun during our youth group meetings on Wednesday nights. It is our hope and desire to help teens to be followers of Jesus and that they become life-long disciples of Him. — Keith Neill

SESSION & DEACON NEWS

Our Session and Deacons have been busy with many projects and activities within and outside of FPC. Please pray for them as they continue to carry out God's mission for us to **Love God, Love People**.

2018 Session

Jayne Briscoe, Susan Buttram, Jeff Eriksen, Dan Fee, Dan Forker, Don Graves, Chance Gregory, Kirk Johnson, Julie Kimmel, Elizabeth Lane, Kevin Long, Mike McQueen, Scott Meggers, Mimi Meredith, Cindy Proett, David Weidensaul

2018 Deacons

Melody Cole, Dianne Coons, Margie Miller Dick, Mel Dower, Kriss Fee, Denise Hallman, Jane Harrison, Laura Harrison, Amanda Jackson, Lydia Johnson, Martin Miller, Laura Ontjes, Heidi Schultz, Ann Sellers, Anne Sellers, Carol Weidensaul

CALENDAR — APRIL 15 – 29

Sunday, April 15, 2018

DEACON OF THE WEEK: Anne Sellers, 663-4998

Preacher Keith Neill (8:15, 9:00 & 10:30): Acts 9:31

- | | | |
|------------|-----------------------------|--------------|
| 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 | Sanctuary |
| 11:30 am | Fellowship time | Parlor |

Monday, April 16

- | | | |
|---------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| 8:30 am | Exercise class | Kids' Cave |
| 4:00 pm | Hutch Rec. karate class | Calvin Hall |
| 7:00 pm | Boy Scout Troop 301 | Fellowship Hall |

Tuesday, April 17

- | | | |
|---------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 9:00 am | Koinonia Women | Large Conference Rm |
| 1:30 pm | Bible study | Brown's house |
| 4:00 pm | Hutch Rec. karate class | Calvin Hall |

Wednesday, April 18

- | | | |
|---------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| 8:30 am | Exercise class | Kids' Cave |
| 9:00 am | Staff meeting | Conference Room |
| 5:30 pm | FPC Bells | Choir Room |
| 6:30 pm | Church security training | Sanctuary |
| 7:00 pm | Youth group | The Basement |

Thursday, April 19

- | | | |
|----------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| 7:00 am | Men's Bible study | Parlor |
| 10:00 am | Finance Committee | Conference Room |
| 2:00 pm | Prepare and serve meal | Soup Kitchen |
| 4:00 pm | Hutch Rec. karate class | Calvin Hall |

Friday, April 20

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

Sunday, April 22

DEACON OF THE WEEK: Mel Dower, 960-5540

*Preacher Mark Miller (8:15 & 10:30): Mark 8:27**Preacher Keith Neill (9:00): Acts 4:23-31*

- | | | |
|------------|-----------------------------|--------------|
| 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 | Sanctuary |
| 11:30 am | Fellowship time | Parlor |
| 5:00 pm | Ulster Project meeting | The Basement |

Monday, April 23

- | | | |
|---------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 8:30 am | Exercise class | Kids' Cave |
| 4:00 pm | Hutch Rec. karate class | Calvin Hall |
| 6:30 pm | Session meeting | Large Conference Rm |
| 7:00 pm | Boy Scout Troop 301 | Fellowship Hall |

Tuesday, April 24

- | | | |
|---------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 9:00 am | Koinonia Women | Large Conference Rm |
| 4:00 pm | Hutch Rec. karate class | Calvin Hall |

Wednesday, April 25

- | | | |
|---------|----------------|-----------------|
| 8:30 am | Exercise class | Kids' Cave |
| 9:00 am | Staff meeting | Conference Room |
| 5:30 pm | FPC Bells | Choir Room |
| 7:00 pm | Youth group | The Basement |

Thursday, April 26

- | | | |
|---------|-------------------------------|-------------|
| 7:00 am | Men's Bible study | Parlor |
| 4:00 pm | Hutch Rec. karate class | Calvin Hall |
| 6:30 pm | Grand Staff Ministries set-up | Calvin Hall |

Friday, April 27

- | | | |
|---------|-------------------------------|-------------|
| All day | Grand Staff Ministries set-up | Calvin Hall |
| 9:00 am | Walk-a-mile class | Kids' Cave |

Saturday, April 28

- | | | |
|---------|------------------------|--|
| All day | Grand Staff Ministries | Calvin Hall, Fellowship Hall, Kitchen |
|---------|------------------------|--|

Sunday, April 29—Youth Sunday

DEACON OF THE WEEK: Heidi Schultz, 669-7956

*Preacher Mark Miller (8:15 & 10:30): Matthew 23:11-12**Preacher Keith Neill (9:00): Mark 8:27*

- | | | |
|------------|-----------------------------|--------------|
| 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 | Sanctuary |
| 11:30 am | Fellowship time | Parlor |

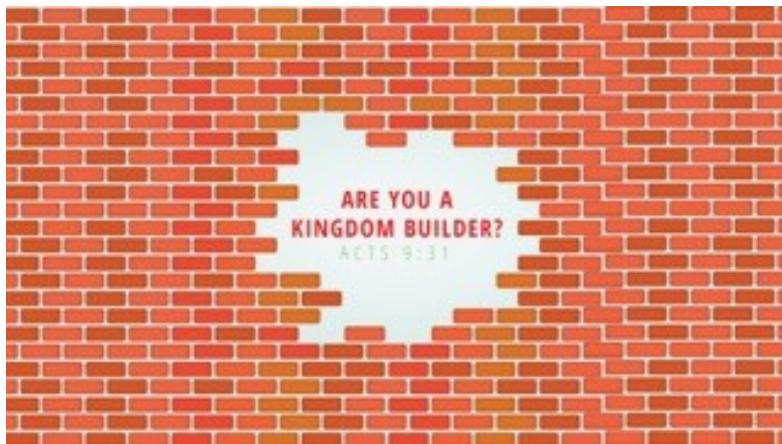
Give unto the *Lord*
the *glory* due unto his name;
worship the *Lord*
in the *beauty* of holiness.
Psalms 29:2



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Sunday, April 15

8:15 a.m.

9:00 a.m.

10:30 a.m.

Keith will speak at
all services