

April 29 & May 6, 2018

MARK'S MESSAGE

Bernoulli's Principle

Last week I returned from a vacation in Florida with my daughter and her family. Except for having to land twice due to high winds in Wichita, my travels went very well. However, last week's Southwest Airlines tragedy has rekindled for many people a fear of flying.

After an unprecedented nine consecutive years (and over 100 million flights) in which the commercial airline industry in the United States had a perfect safety record, a passenger on a Southwest Airlines flight lost her life when an engine exploded mid-flight and sprayed her window with shrapnel.

Many people find air travel a little unnerving. We suspect that any number of things might go wrong. We wonder, *"How in the world is this airplane staying up in the air?"* Planes are considerably heavier than the sky. The law of gravity declares whatever is heavier than air will be drawn toward the center of the earth.

Then, how is it possible that every day tens of thousands of commercial flights take off and land safely somewhere in the world? The answer is Bernoulli's Principle. Airplane wings are curved in such a way that air flows faster above the wings than beneath it. That's what gives an airplane wing its lift. Planes are able to fly simply because they are empowered by a *greater* law – one that supersedes gravity.

The apostle Paul writes in Romans 8:2, *"For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and death."* To put it another way, God doesn't eradicate our impulses that cause us to make a shambles of virtually everything we do and say. Those *"I'm-in-charge-here desires"* that we can't seem to shake, the ones that prompt us to ignore God's design for our lives, remain exceedingly strong.

But those who are led by Christ are offered something even more powerful: a new set of desires that, coupled with the power of the Holy Spirit, can overcome the gravity-like tug of our dark side.

Bernoulli's Principle allows airplanes to overcome the law of gravity. But Bernoulli's Principle has never once pried a jet off the ground. That's the pilot's job. For a plane to fly, somebody has to start the engines, taxi to the runway, and gun the engines to reach sufficient speed to become airborne. *(Continued on page 2)*



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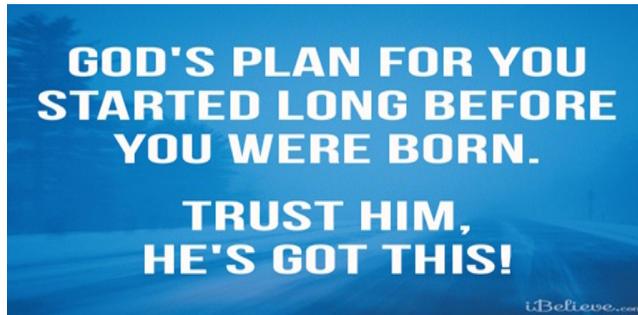
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So, as many of you will know, the long journey and wait for Jennifer and I in our immigration process has finally come to an end and we are now permanent residents in the USA. This has been a journey that has been difficult at times because our future has been in the balance, or has it? I suppose it was in our minds but in God's, well that's a different matter. You see as the title at the top says, "God's plan for us started long before we were born." For each of us, we face the future not knowing what lies ahead, but we have the assurance that God knows. "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "Plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future" Jeremiah 29:11. We have a God who loves us so much and He has great things in store for us.

We are so thankful for the support of you all here in First Presbyterian Church. Many people have helped us get to this point. We have had to fill in a mountain of paperwork, go through interviews and medicals. This all started almost five years ago with Tim Lackey when we first felt God was calling us here and we had to get our Religious Visa. Then over the last 15 months Sam Buttram has worked so hard to make sure everything was done correctly, every page filled in and double-checked and then triple-checked for us to get through the last two processes in this immigration marathon. Also a big thank-you to Session members, especially those who first took a chance on this guy from all the way across the ocean. You have supported me in my ministry by your encouragement, even when that crazy guy from Northern Ireland was always pushing to change things. You have been willing to move forward and change and this has been so important to me.

You see I always felt that God called Jennifer and me here for a long-term project. He had a plan, a plan to grow this church, to use you, the terrific people in FPC, to change the lives of people in this community and we get to play a part in that. We have taken some big steps but I think the biggest leap is still to come. I hope we will all jump together into an exciting future. We are here at this time not by chance but because God needs us all here. That verse from Jeremiah is one of my favorites because a relative gave it to me before we came here. He didn't know that we were thinking of moving but he wrote me a letter saying that God had prompted him to write to me and give me this verse. He said that he didn't know why he was doing this, he had never written to me before, but he knew that God wanted me to have this assurance and to go for whatever it was that was about to happen.

You see it was all part of God's plan, even before we ever knew what was going to happen. I am excited about the future here at FPC. I believe God will pour out His blessings upon us as we continue to follow the plan He has for His church and His people here in Hutchinson, Kansas.

— Keith

CHILDREN'S NEWS

Calling everyone who has signed up to help in Children's Ministry and anyone else who will step up to nurture our children's faith.

WE INVITE YOU to meet with Keith for 15-20 minutes on MAY 6 after our W@9 worship in the back area of the Refresh Café or after our 10:30 a.m. worship in the Parlor. **WE NEED YOUR HELP!**



DEACONS' DOINGS

The FPC Deacon Board of Directors met on April 9. We are continuing to collect for the Food Bank and New Beginnings. Volunteers helped at the Soup Kitchen on the 19th, and plans are ongoing for sending children from our neighborhood to Graber School's Stay to Play and Dillon Nature Center.

Deacon members are 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 and Carol Weidensaul. Be sure to contact any of them if you would like to assist in anyway.

Blessings, Anne Sellers and Dianne Coons

FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY



First Presbyterian Church
Large Conference Room
Tuesdays, June 5 – July 31, 2018
7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

This summer you have the opportunity to learn how to use your money God's way and end up in better financial shape than you ever thought possible. Pastor Mark Miller and Terri McQueen will co-lead nine weekly sessions of *Financial Peace University* taught on DVD by best-seller author and financial counselor Dave Ramsey. *Financial Peace University* takes knowledge from Scripture and turns it into real action steps in our lives. The sessions will be held Tuesday evenings, June 5 – July 31, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. in the church large conference room.

Each family (a single adult through a married couple with high school students) attending will need to purchase a membership kit. The kit includes membership to attend classes anywhere, anytime at no additional cost, a workbook containing all nine lessons, Dave's book *Complete Guide to Money*, online assess to countless resources, and much more. Join the five million people who have taken control of their money.

For more information please click on www.DaveRamsey.com or contact Pastor Mark Miller in person, 620-665-5549, or Mark@fpchurch.org. To register online for the class click: www.fpu.com/1063850.

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

Philippians Study

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, May 1, at 1:30 p.m. at Sam & Judy Ontjes' house. We will continue our study of Philippians with the 2nd chapter. The next meeting after that will be Tuesday, May 15, at Linda Chandler's house. All are welcome.

SESSION SNIPPET

The Session met on April 23, one week later than usual, due to Pastor Mark's vacation in Florida. All committees continue to function well and ensure that church operations run smoothly. The Children's and Youth Committees are busy developing new programs for summer activities, and Mission Committee also has a full plate with their outreach to our community. FPC will be helping with the Lincoln Block Party on May 11 and volunteers are needed to assist with this fun event. Congregational Connections is already looking ahead to fall and have determined that the Kick-Off event will take place in October.

Financials continue to be healthy, with expenses running a little below the budget. However, there is still a deficit in pledges in comparison to our approved budget. Building and Grounds is beginning to look at security issues within the building and during worship and it was agreed that the presentation given on April 18 by Brice Burlie of HPD was an important overview of what we need to be aware of for the safety of our worshippers.

Elders appreciate any input from the congregation. Please visit with them over any concerns or ideas you may have.

CHURCH OFFICE NOTES

Chimes Note

Deadline for next issue of *Chimes* will be **10:00 a.m. Monday, May 7**, for the issue covering May 13-26.

Chancel Flower Calendar

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.



We are excited about the future and the plans we have been developing for our Youth Group at FPC. A few Wednesday nights ago we had a great meal prepared by Julie Kimmel. Julie is the chairperson of our Youth Committee and we spent the night dreaming about what we would like to see youth group develop into as we move into a new season.

The creative ideas flowed as they wrote down ideas, thoughts, topics, issues, hopes and dreams on flip chart paper and post-it notes. It was a truly inspiring night and it will shape the way we move forward in the coming months. Our young people felt excited and pumped as we shared and prayed together.

Watch this space when we announce the details about our “New Look” youth group which we hope will fit the needs of all the young people here at First Presbyterian as well as their friends. We believe that

God has called us to make a difference in the lives of young people in our church and reach out to others in our community. We hope that you will all pray for us as we look for new ways to engage all young people with God in a relevant way.

It is our hope that every youth will know that God loves them and so do we. That they are safe here in FPC and that they are very special to us. We want them to know that God has a plan for their lives, that God’s way really is the best way and that they can trust Him.

These are exciting new times here at First Presbyterian and we are ready to go on an exciting journey with God as we grow together and discover the ways we can serve Him in our community and further afield.

KEEP IN PRAYER

For those in the hospital or hurting

For all FPC shut-ins

For First Presbyterian Church, Halstead

(4/29/18)

For United Presbyterian Church, Sterling

(5/06/18)

BIRTHDAYS

30	Lindsey Maschler	8	Mike Harrison
4	David Kerr	9	Alex Saenger
5	John Swearer	10	Chris DeMeyer
5	Sheri Van Buren	10	Aden Gamber
7	Jim Heck	11	Elizabeth Lane
7	Connor McClenahan	12	Dan Fee
8	Ron Ediger	12	Jane Gamber

CALENDAR — APRIL 29 – MAY 13

Sunday, April 29, 2018—Youth Sunday

DEACON OF THE WEEK: Heidi Schultz, 669-7956

*Preachers Keith Neill and Youth (8:15, 9:00 & 10:30):**Mark 8:22-30*

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	Sanctuary
11:30 am	Fellowship time	Parlor

Monday, April 30

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, May 1

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

Wednesday, May 2

8:30 am	Exercise class	Kids' Cave
9:00 am	Staff meeting	Conference Room
12:00 pm	Building & Grounds	Conference Room
5:30 pm	FPC Bells	Choir Room
7:00 pm	Youth group	The Basement

Thursday, May 3

7:00 am	Men's Bible study	Parlor
12:00 pm	Congregational Connections	Conf Rm
4:00 pm	Hutch Rec. karate class	Calvin Hall

Friday, May 4

9:00 am	Walk-a-mile class	Kids' Cave
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Sunday, May 6

DEACON OF THE WEEK: Dianne Coons, 669-9258

*Preacher Mark Miller (8:15 & 10:30): Matthew 28:16-20**Preacher Keith Neill (9:00): Acts 4:29-30, 33*

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, May 7

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, May 8

TBA	Presbytery meeting	Grace P.C., Wichita
9:00 am	Koinonia Women	Large Conference Rm

Wednesday, May 9

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, May 10

7:00 am	Men's Bible study	Parlor
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Friday, May 11

9:00 am	Walk-a-mile class	Kids' Cave
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Sunday, May 13—Mother's Day

DEACON OF THE WEEK: Denise Hallman, 921-0444

*Preacher Mark Miller (8:15 & 10:30): Matthew 12:46-50;**John 2:1-5, 19:25-27**Preacher Keith Neill (9:00): Luke 1:26-38*

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

COMMUNION

"Do this in remembrance of Me."

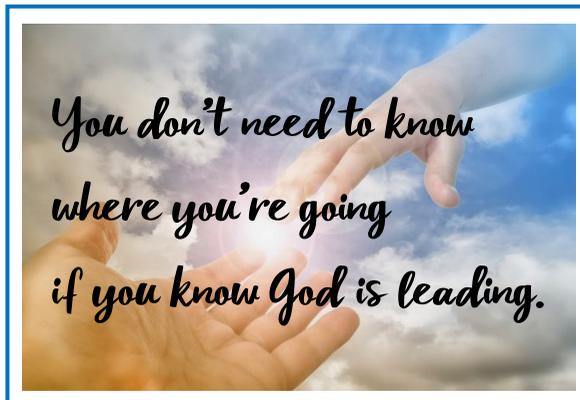
Communion will be served at the 8:15 and 10:30 a.m. services on Sunday, May 6.



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*You don't need to know
where you're going
if you know God is leading.*