

August 20 & 27, 2017**MARK'S MESSAGE**

Transformers or Transmitters

Those almost gray boxes or canisters hanging near the top of utility poles are called transformers. A transformer is a specialized device that converts electricity of one voltage into another voltage. Voltage, as we were told back in high school science, is a measure of the electric force that "pushes" electrons around a circuit.

Power plants send out electricity at extremely high volts so it can travel hundreds of miles along wires. But that voltage is way too "hot" for our coffee makers. Therefore the voltage is stepped-down through a series of transformers. Up on a pole in your neighborhood in one of those gray boxes or in a big box on the ground the electricity is transformed to 220 volts for major appliances or 110 volts for almost everything else. In short, a transformer takes a dangerously high torrent of energy and converts it into something helpful and productive.

Which is the very reason God calls all of us to be transformers. Relying on our own strength and wits, we're no better than bare electric wires. Whatever comes into us is what naturally pours out of us. Someone snipes at us, we snipe back. People call us names, we call them names. Or worse: we pass it on to a family member when we get home.

Father Richard Rohr points out that if we do not transform our stress, challenges and pain, we will always transmit them. We will pass on whatever level of negative energy has been thrust upon us. Whenever you feel a surge of irritation welling up inside you, or experience the overwhelming need to judge someone, or put them in their place, it's likely you're being a transmitter of pain and not a transformer.

So then, what does transforming look like? You're on the receiving end of someone's high-voltage anger; you internalize it and respond with kindness. You live in the hearing of a co-worker's endless complaining; you refuse to let it unhinge your day and offer encouragement instead. God calls us to "step-down" whatever comes our way and transform it into love and grace.

(Continued on page 8)



INDEX

PAGE 2*1 BIG DAY
COLLEGE
CONFIRMATION***PAGE 3***A THOUGHT
FROM KEITH***PAGE 4***DIRECTORIES
D-GROUPS***PAGE 5***CHRISTIAN ED.
GREETERS
PRAYER
BIRTHDAYS***PAGE 6***YOUTH
CHURCH OFFICE***PAGE 7***CALENDAR
FOODBANK/NEW
BEGINNINGS*

1 BIG DAY



We are excited to let you know that our 1 Big Day is coming up on August 20. So we are calling on all our members to "ACTION."

We want to encourage you to bring families, friends, neighbors and people you work with along to worship and our pancake feast with Chris Cakes of Wichita straight after our 10:30am contemporary worship, and inflatables in the gym for kids.

Our Refresh Café will be open after our 8:15am worship as normal for great food and fellowship.

Our 1 Big Day will kick start our programs for all ages for the new season. People can check out our Logos and Children's ministry programs, or our Confirmation and Youth program, as well as Scouts, Adult Christian Education,

Mission, Choir and much more.

So start asking and then bring them along to be part of our church family here at First Presbyterian, Hutchinson.

COLLEGE STUDENTS

We would like to keep up with our college students this year. Please contact the church office with your college address. Send updated information to rita@fpchutch.org or call (620) 665-5549, ext. 101.

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation

For students 7th grade and older

August 23, 2017 – March 25, 2018

Wednesdays, 6:15-7:00 pm, Large Conference Room

The confirmation experience will begin soon for those students starting 7th grade and older who are interested in journeying through the basics of the Christian faith in a brand new way. Students will explore together their questions about the Bible, Presbyterianism, and what it means to be a Christian.

Each session will dive into a topic with content appropriate for our youth including Bible verses, theological background and lots of creative ideas. Confirmation students will meet in the Large Conference Room beginning Wednesday evening, August 23, 6:15 – 7:00 pm. To register your student for confirmation, or for more information including a complete schedule, please contact Pastor Mark Miller at (620) 665-5549, ext. 102, or at mark@fpchutch.org.

colaborate
Presbyterian Confirmation

A THOUGHT FROM KEITH

So I came up with this idea that we as a church needed to get out of the building and spring into action. Then I thought how about cancelling our 10:30am worship service and we will go and put our faith in action by serving the community down at Lincoln Elementary.

Could it possibly work? I don't believe it had ever been done in the history of First Presbyterian but it was heavy on my heart and I believed it was something we had to do. So a conversation started with our awesome Mission Committee and they said let's go for it and so we set the plan in motion. Darla Fisher was so excited that we would come and serve around the school and we started to look at projects that needed done. The Community group and Lincoln PTA came on board and we drew up a long list of jobs.

It was during this time of planning that God really showed up and I believe put His stamp on this project. The school playground was a jungle, full of cracks and weeds and it was not on the district plans to upgrade it. However after Darla asked them for weed killer and some tools to help the members of FPC clear the area, she heard back that the district would not only take care of the weeds and cracks but also put new blacktop down. Amazing how when there is momentum with a project how others step up and get things done.

But still we wondered what support we could get for this Church in Action Project on a Sunday morning? Well last Sunday 118 people turned up to do the most amazing work and face lift to the area. Weeding, painting of soccer goals, basketball posts and backboards, painting rusted iron railings and parking posts, as well as tackling major yard work for a local home owner who really needed the help was tackled with energy and enthusiasm. Others came alongside teachers to prepare rooms, organize books and stationery and make the school look amazing for first day back on Wednesday.

My friends, this Sunday painted a picture of church for me that I believe Jesus modeled himself. He was always "GOING", he was always "DOING" and he was always "SERVING OTHERS." This I believe is the heart and passion for others that we at First Presbyterian must continue to cultivate and grow. We are making a difference in this community because we are willing to "GO" and live out our lives with those around us. God bless you all for your support in this project and let us continue to reach out and show the love of Christ through our actions.



Membership Directories

New membership directories are available for pick-up in the church office. Feel free to help yourself!

DINNER GROUPS

Looking to Meet Other Adults of the Church in an Informal, Casual Atmosphere?

D-Groups (Dinner Groups) are Coming!

WHAT IS IT? Small dinner gatherings for 6-8 adults for the sole purpose of fellowship and becoming better acquainted with fellow adults in our church family. Each group will be multigenerational and will meet once a month from October thru May.

WHO IS IT? Open to all adult couples or singles (significant others are welcome). You need not sign up with a partner. Group members take turns hosting, with the host providing the main course and beverages, and other members bringing salad, vegetable, bread, or dessert. And yes, Dillon's can do your cooking! Worried about lack of space in your home? Then a restaurant is a great alternative!

WHEN IS IT? A kick-off potluck gathering will be held **Sunday evening, October 1**, in Fellowship Hall. At this time, you will find out the individuals in your group. Bring your calendar because your group will set its dinner dates and locations for the upcoming months. If you cannot be present for the kick-off, someone in your group will contact you.

HOW DO I SIGN UP? Please complete the registration form below and **return it to the church office by Friday, September 22**. You will receive information prior to the potluck, designating a type of dish to bring.

QUESTIONS? Please contact Terri McQueen at 620-664-7731 or maxandlil@yahoo.com.



D-GROUP REGISTRATION – please return this form to the church office by Friday, September 22.

Name(s): _____

Phone Number: _____

Address: _____

E-mail address: _____

How many will be attending the kick-off potluck dinner on Sunday evening, October 1? _____

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

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

"The Wired Word", Facilitated by Bob Fee, Fellowship Hall

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

"The Parables of Jesus"

Our next small group meeting is scheduled for 1:30 p.m., Tuesday, August 22, at Sam & Judy Ontjes's house. We will continue our study of the Parables of Jesus. Everyone is welcome.

Koinonia Bible Study — Welcome!

Koinonia Women's Bible study will begin meeting again September 18 from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. in the large conference room, meeting every Tuesday. Study will be about Hebrews entitled "Cloud of Witnesses" by Melissa Bane Servier, a Presbyterian minister.

Join us for brunch at 9:00 a.m. Tuesday, August 29 at the Downtown Sampler (First National Bank) to order a book (\$10) and plan to support the HMS-7 Emergency Fund as we did last year. Call Annie Gajewski at (620) 662-5256 for details.

CHAPEL GREETERS

Looking for Chapel Greeters

If you are interested in serving as a greeter before the Sunday morning chapel services, please contact Doxie Keller, (620)474-4942, doxie@southwind.net. Thank you.

KEEP IN PRAYER

For those in the hospital or hurting

- Christina Long
- Roy Sudlow

For all FPC shut-ins

For Zenith Presbyterian

Church, Zenith (8/20/17)

For First Presbyterian Church,

Cherryvale (8/27/17)



BIRTHDAYS

20	Kirk Johnson	28	Darron Veh
20	Tom Sellers	29	Sam Ontjes
21	Wynnie Barker	30	Sharon DeShazer
22	Summer Gajewski	30	Mert Sellers
23	Brynne Hobart	31	Gene Becker
24	Brenda Leslie	31	Kriss Fee
25	Julia Johnson	31	Sam Leiker
26	Mary Cline	1	Melody Cole
26	Kail Denison	1	Claire Elliott
27	Karen Voss	1	Marci Heck
28	Hannah Forker	1	Mike Petitjean

YOUTH GROUP



Wow, it's time for Youth Group to kick off already and I wonder where that summer just went? Wednesday night saw us begin our new season with an evening at Hutch Putt and food at Freddy's. We certainly have an exciting new program organized and we have a new time each Wednesday, 7:00pm to 8:30pm.

I hope you have enjoyed watching some of our youth share on the First Presbyterian Facebook about how important Youth Group is to them and the reason why it is a brilliant place for young people to belong. If you haven't seen the short videos please go to the FPC Facebook page and listen to their thoughts and then share it with your friends. We welcome anyone in Middle and High School to our FPC Youth family and we have a place for you and your friends.

We are excited that Olivia McLain and Seth Ramirez — who will be at HCC this year — will be working alongside me in presenting our programs. We have a great team of young leaders who will be instrumental in making our Youth Group a great place to be, a great place to grow your faith and a great place to feel loved and supported. We will be introducing a system like Westminster Woods where young leaders will be there to support each student by serving as mentors for small groups of our members.

Please encourage any Middle and High School students to drop by on a Wednesday night at 7:00pm. We have new T-shirts which we are giving away to all our students, as well as an exciting fun-filled program planned. Nights out with Toby Mac at The Fair, a weekend away at Planet Wisdom in Dallas, guests, worship with Sterling College, movie nights, huge inflatable obstacle course, mission opportunities, food, fun and just the best place to spend your Wednesday nights.

Hope to see you all there.

Keith

CHURCH OFFICE NOTES

Chimes Note

Deadline for next issue of *Chimes* will be **10:00 a.m. Monday, August 28**, for the issue covering September 3-16.

Chancel Flower Calendar

September 17, October 1, 8 and 29 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.

CALENDAR — AUGUST 20 - SEPTEMBER 3

Sunday, August 20, 2017—1 Big Day

DEACON OF THE WEEK: Terri McQueen, 663-5719

Preachers Mark Miller, Keith Neill

- 8:15 am Worship service Chapel
- 9:00-9:45 ReFresh Café open
- 9:30 am Adult Christian Education
- 10:30 am Worship service/Kidz Church Sanctuary
- 11:30 am 1 Big Day event Calvin Hall

Monday, August 21

- 8:30 am Exercise class Calvin Hall
- 6:30 pm Session meeting Large Conference Rm

Tuesday, August 22

- 1:30 pm Bible study Ontjes' home

Wednesday, August 23

- 8:30 am Exercise class Calvin Hall
- 9:00 am Staff meeting Conference Room
- 6:15 pm Confirmation class Large Conf Room
- 7:00 pm Youth Group The Basement

Thursday, August 24

- 7:00 am Men's Bible study Parlor

Friday, August 25

- 9:00 am Walk-a-mile class Calvin Hall

Sunday, August 27

DEACON OF THE WEEK: Mel Dower, 663-4639

Preacher Mark Miller: Acts 1:1-11

- 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, August 28

- 8:30 am Exercise class Calvin Hall

Tuesday, August 29

- 9:00 am Koinonia Women brunch
Downtown Sampler

Wednesday, August 30

- 8:30 am Exercise class Calvin Hall
- 9:00 am Staff meeting Conference Room
- 6:15 pm Confirmation class Large Conf Room
- 7:00 pm Youth group The Basement

Thursday, August 31

- 7:00 am Men's Bible study Parlor

Friday, September 1

- 9:00 am Walk-a-mile class Calvin Hall

Sunday, September 3

DEACON OF THE WEEK: Heidi Schultz, 664-9181

Preacher Mark Miller: 1 John 4:7-21

- 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

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 September 3. 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."*

Reno County
Food Bank





FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 201 EAST SHERMAN
 HUTCHINSON, KANSAS 67501
 (620)665-5549; fax (620)665-5518
 e-mail: fpc@fpchutch.org
 web site: www.fpchutch.org

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(Continued from page 1)

Easy to say. Hard to do. In fact, the only way we can become transformers is if we ourselves are transformed. And the only way that will happen is if we yield our hearts to ongoing renovation by Jesus. Jesus embodied that role like no one else in history. He took everything thrown at Him – misunderstanding, betrayal, abandonment, torture and execution – and transformed it all. The high voltage of our anger, hatred and sin were stepped-down into the grace and forgiveness that are at the heart of the Good News.

That's something to remember the next time you see one of those gray transformers. And notice that the utility pole supporting it sure looks like a cross!

In Christ, 