

September 2 & 9, 2018

MARK'S MESSAGE

Slow Down to Experience More

It's one of the most memorable NBA moments of the recent past, and it didn't even happen on the basketball court. When the Chicago Bulls were hosting the Boston Celtics a few years ago, the Kiss Cam went into high gear during a timeout.

If the Kiss Cam plasters your face on the big screen you are to turn and kiss that special person next to you. So at the game it's a really good idea to pay attention to what's happening right in front of you.

Full disclosure: after this Kiss Cam clip brought smiles all over the world, the Bulls marketing department admitted that it was a prearranged skit. You have to feel suspicious, after all, when the guy holding the phone just happens to be wearing a Celtics jersey.

That being said, this sure looks like real life in the 21st century. Our phones go with us wherever we go just in case we need to make a call, respond to a text, post a selfie, or watch videos of dancing chickens. Much has been made of the fact that the word "amuse" literally means "not to think" (a-muse). We live in a culture of amusement with a never-ending menu of mind-numbing distractions.

So, what's the formula for being a healthy person in such an age? Experience life just one thing at a time. It may seem impressive that we can simultaneously eat waffles, check out the morning news on our flat screens, reply to an email, and seemingly hang on every word that we hear from that loved one with whom we're sharing breakfast.

But we're just fooling ourselves and almost certainly not fooling the person across the table. Extensive studies have shown that there is no such thing as multi-tasking. Our brains are engineered to tackle one task at a time.

Most of us have learned to flit quickly from activity to activity. But there's a price to pay. We almost always lose the context, the flow, the body language, the deeper meaning, and yes, the joy of so many of life's moments – all because we simply aren't paying attention.

So, as school is back in session slow down and do less in order to experience more. Who knows? You might even get kissed.

In Christ,



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SESSION

“The Numbers Tell the Stories”

One pair of jeans and one trundle bed

Two twin mattresses

Three hundred dollars in gift cards

Four bikes for four brothers

Five bike helmets

Six separate Care Portal cases in...

Seven days!

Care Portal has now answered 108 cases in our three years of partnership with the St. Francis and DCF offices in town, and this past week was an especially busy time in meeting some of the many needs. Pastor Mark’s basement sofa even found a new home in Careyville, thanks to the muscle power of Kevin Long and his son Kyle.

As always, we continue to appreciate all the FPC members who faithfully support this endeavor with your ongoing monetary donations. Thanks be to God!



YOUTH NEWS

Youth Group had its kickoff last Wednesday evening and it was a blast! Our tailgate event was fantastic with Jamie Schultz and Brian Bobo firing up the grill for hamburgers and hot dogs. We had B Epic Events and Brian Davis providing the music and Big Screen games for everyone, as well as our 9-square all going on in the parking lot. The rain didn’t come but lots of young people came to enjoy a great night. This week we are at The Alley and look forward to seeing more new faces join us for another great night. If you are in Middle and High school we would love for you to come along and join us.



A THOUGHT FROM KEITH



What do you do when you begin to feel weak or exhausted? It could be that you are physically worn out from work, from school, college, from relationships, from parenting, or just from life. We all have days when we don't want to get out of bed, right, or is that just me? Now your diet, exercise, and sleep all play a part in our physical well being but what about our spiritual well being? What we need from God isn't weighed in calories but in how much we exercise the spiritual disciplines of Bible study, prayer and time listening to Him. If you want to serve God to the fullest then you have to get spiritually fit. Neglect God, neglect His word, neglect spending time with Him and you will become weak and unable to run the race He has before us. The strength that you and I need doesn't begin with bigger muscles, it starts somewhere deep in our souls.

We can do nothing in our own strength; we only find the real strength we need when we choose God to be our training partner. We need to run the race with Him. He is like the pace setter in a long distance race. He leads the way, He helps us pace ourselves and He sets us up for the ultimate performance. The difference with God as our pace setter is that He never drops out but continues to run with us encouraging us to go hard for the finish line.

My friends, if today you are feeling weak, you do not need more of you, no, you need more of God. He helps us to get fit so that we can serve. He is blessing you and me so we can in turn pass that blessing on to others. This is an endurance race we are on; it isn't easy, it takes grit and determination, and it also takes faith and a belief that we are up to it. Who do you need to run alongside? You do you need to support on this race of life? Who can you encourage and help strengthen?

There are so many people living around us that need to experience God as a running partner and who can help them get spiritually fit. We are happy to introduce our friends to our workout plans at Genesis, Prairie Dunes or Planet Fitness but we shy away from telling them about our spiritual workout plan. Perhaps that's because you don't have one. If that's the case you need to get signed up to God's workout plan and then share it with others.

If you want to be on top of your game, get more of God in your life! How different would you look if you had a 30-minute workout with God each day? Remember these words from 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 and take care not only of your body but your soul as well.

Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.

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 2. 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."*

Chimes Note

Deadline for next issue of *Chimes* will be **10:00 a.m. Monday, September 10**, for the issue covering September 16-29.

Chancel Flower Calendar

September 9, 16, 30, October 7, 28 and November 4 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: janice@fpchutch.org or 665-5549 (afternoons) by the preceding Monday.

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation

For students 7th grade and older

September 19, 2018-March 24, 2019 – Wednesdays, 6:15-7:00 p.m.

Large Conference Room – Led by Pastor Mark Miller

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 the Bible, the Christian faith and so much more. Confirmation students will meet in the Large Conference Room beginning Wednesday evening, September 19, 6:15 – 7:00 p.m. Confirmation Sunday will be on Sunday morning, March 24, 2019. To register your student for confirmation, or for more information including a complete schedule, please contact Pastor Mark Miller at (620) 665-5549 or at mark@fpchutch.org.

colaborate
Presbyterian Confirmation

KEEP IN PRAYER

For those in the hospital or hurting

- Rosalea & Roy Sudlow on the death of their nephew, Mark Buss

For all FPC shut-ins

For Zenith Presbyterian Church, Sylvia (9/02/18)

For First Presbyterian Church, Yates Center

(9/09/18)



BIRTHDAYS

3	Darrel McCool	11	Steve Seltzer
4	Casey Ediger	12	Holly Coopriider
4	Garrett Ediger	12	Tyler Fee
6	Jayne Briscoe	12	Vi Hoffman
6	Jordan Fee	13	Chase Swanson
7	Codi Schoenhoff	14	Chase Denison
8	Robert Graber	14	Clark Denison
8	Megan Hansen	14	Laura Harrison
8	Laura Sellers	14	Kate Jackson
9	Jon Davis	14	Scott Meggers
10	Kalen Stewart	14	Craig Rife
11	Mike McQueen	14	Hannah Woods
11	Sheila Meggers		

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

"Becoming a Contagious Christian" Study

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, September 4, at 1:30 p.m. at Chery Lackey's house. We will continue discussion of Chapters 3 and 4 of Bill Hybels' book, "Becoming A Contagious Christian." All are welcome.

Koinonia Women

Koinonia Ladies Bible Study Fellowship will begin again on Tuesday, September 18, from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. We will study the book and DVD "Anxious for Nothing" by Max Lucado. Books are \$13 and will be available at the first study in the large conference room.

We also partner with Mission Committee to offer support for Hutchinson Middle School 7 (HMS-7) with a monthly offering for needs of students. Cookies are taken as well to the teachers and staff for holidays. We plan to attend monthly Parent-Teacher Organization meetings. The PTO was organized just last year. By attending and helping with events we can keep in contact with staff, parents and children at HMS-7, our neighbors.

All ladies are welcome to attend. If you need a ride or more information please call Annie Gajewski at (620)662-5256. See you September 18!

PARISH PERSONALS

- Sincere sympathy goes out to Rosalea & Roy Sudlow. Rosalea's nephew, Mark Buss of Newton, died in a truck accident August 16 in Iowa.
- FPC Mission Committee,
Words can't begin to describe how grateful I am for getting the chance to see the other side of the world with the pure focus of sharing Jesus. In Istanbul, Turkey, it was very eye-opening and sad to see how despaired they were. Their freedom, their income, their circumstances, but ultimately their life without Christ! This card isn't about me though, it's about you! Thank you so much for supporting me on this trip and enabling me to do so! You all were just as much a part of this experience as I was. Please continue to love and support others going on trips like these. Thanks again! Sincerely, Max McQueen
- On Thursday, August 16, 100 people were served at the Soup Kitchen and 74 meals were delivered at a cost of \$204.00. Cooks were Mike Taylor, Denise Hallman, Martin Miller and Kirk Johnson. Servers were Donna Kelley, Julia and Lydia Johnson and Jenn Epp. Delivery drivers were Laura Ontjes, Dianne Coons, Martin Miller, Jenn Epp and family. Thanks to all who help the Deacons feed God's people. Serving with you, Melody Cole. Matthew 25:40 "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'" NIV
- Thank you, Carol Weidensaul, for delivering the beautiful flowers that were given by Dan & Jennifer Forker in honor of Hannah's 16th birthday. Carol and I had a great visit, part of it watching golf! I appreciate so much her coming by. – Margaret Kennedy



***Helping and encouraging people after the death of
a spouse, child, family member or friend***

Tuesdays, September 18 – December 11, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church Large Conference Room

Pastor Mark Miller, Facilitator

First Presbyterian Church will again offer GriefShare, a Christian grief recovery ministry supporting those who have lost a spouse, child family member or friend due to death. At GriefShare attendees will learn how to walk the journey of grief and be supported on the way. GriefShare is a place where hurting people find healing and hope. Each GriefShare session is designed to help participants recover from the deep hurt of loss. A few years ago GriefShare helped Pastor Mark Miller following the death of his wife. The GriefShare experience includes three key elements working together to guide the healing process: a weekly DVD study, the support group, and a personal workbook. The workbook costs \$15.00. For more information and to register please check out www.griefshare.org, or contact Pastor Mark Miller at mark@fpchutch.org or (620) 665-5549.

MISSION TRIP

Mission Trip to Cuba by the Presbytery of Southern Kansas

In October of 2016 two members of our presbytery visited Cuba on behalf of the Presbyterian Church (USA). On that trip they explored the potential for partnerships between our presbytery and our churches with a presbytery and churches in Cuba.

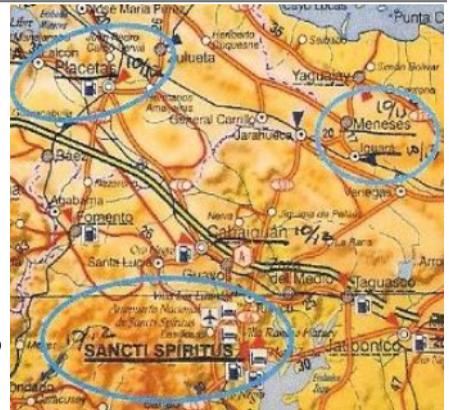
In February of 2018 four members of our presbytery visited all the Presbyterian churches in Presbytery del Centro as we narrowed our focus for partnerships.

Now coming in 2019 our presbytery will be sending two teams to Cuba. The first group will go down February 22, 2019. At this time plans are for a weeklong visit, returning on March 1. The group will visit churches in Placetas, Iguara, Meneses and Sancti Spiritus. Rev. Jeremiah Lange, Presbyterian pastor in Marion, KS, will be coordinating the trip of 5-8 people from southern Kansas for the trip in February. Participants do not have to be able to speak Spanish.

The cost is \$1,500 per person. Scholarships – full, partial and negotiable – are available through the presbytery. For scholarship information please contact Skip Johnson at revretired@gmail.com.

If you are interested, please contact Rev. Jeremiah Lange at marionrev@sbcglobal.net or (620) 381-3286. When contacting Jeremiah be ready to share your full name, date of birth, place of birth, country of citizenship, passport number, passport issue date, and passport expiration date. This information will be used to receive the visas.

The people of Cuba want to be assured that they are not alone in the faith. May we bear witness to the greater body of Christ of which they are a part!



CALENDAR — SEPTEMBER 2 – 16

Sunday, September 2, 2018

DEACON OF THE WEEK: Amanda Jackson, 669-5350

*Preacher Mark Miller (8:15 & 10:30): Romans 12:9-21**Preacher Keith Neill (9:00): John 15:12*

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
9:30/9:45	Adult Christian Education	
10:30 am	Worship service	Sanctuary
11:30 am	Fellowship time	Parlor

Monday, September 3 — Labor Day

Church offices closed

Tuesday, September 4

1:30 pm	Bible study	Lackey's house
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Wednesday, September 5

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

Thursday, September 6

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

Friday, September 7

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

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

*Preacher Mark Miller (8:15 & 10:30): Galatians 1:1-10**Preacher Keith Neill (9:00): Joshua 24:15*

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

Monday, September 10

8:30 am	Exercise class	Kids' Cave
5:15 pm	Mission Committee	Conference Room

Wednesday, September 12

8:30 am	Exercise class	Kids' Cave
9:00 am	Staff meeting	Conference Room
7:30 pm	Youth group to <i>For King and Country</i> concert	Kansas State Fair

Thursday, September 13

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

Friday, September 14

9:00 am	Walk-a-mile class	Kids' Cave
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Sunday, September 16

DEACON OF THE WEEK: Martin Miller, 727-4499

*Preacher Mark Miller (8:15 & 10:30): Galatians 1:11-2:10**Preacher Keith Neill (9:00): John 16:7*

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

KIDS POWER CLUB

SPREAD THE WORD! Our new midweek children's program is coming soon!

Each Wednesday evening here at First Presbyterian Church we will have a fantastic fun-packed learning experience for children K through 6th Grade.

We will kick-off on September 19 from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. Our church bus will be available to pick up children from home who cannot be brought to the church but parents need to pick up their children at 6:30 p.m. Call Keith (620) 665-5549, if you need us to provide transportation.

Kids Power Club will be on each week through December 19.





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 web site: www.fpchutch.org

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SESSION SNIPPET

The monthly stated meeting of the FPC Session was held on August 20. Committee reports indicate that fall activities are organized and underway. Each committee is working on their budget requirements for 2019 and the overall budget will be presented to the Session on October 15, with Dedication Sunday on October 21. Congregational Connections is formulating an idea on a "Homecoming" event to be held probably in November. It will be an outreach to those still on our membership rolls but who have not been in attendance in recent years. The Nominating Committee will begin their work on finding officers for the Class of 2021 in early September.

The issue of security for our worshipers and staff members is a major concern for FPC. The stated Session meeting on September 17 will be devoted to a definitive discussion of the various aspects of this topic. Members are encouraged to share their thoughts on this with Pastor Mark and/or any elder.