

September 16 & 23, 2018

MARK'S MESSAGE

## Traveling to the Kansas State Fair

Last Saturday, my son and his family joined me at the Kansas State Fair. Their travels from Omaha went well due to our wonderful highway system. There were plenty of others at the fair that day. I wonder what highway they took to get to the fair?



In the summer of 1919 the U.S military undertook a major mission. Their goal was to find out if it was possible to drive from one coast of the United States to the other. The Motor Transport Corps Convoy was born, a line of 81 trucks and vehicles carrying some 300 officers and enlisted men.

The convoy left Washington D.C. on July 7 and headed west through 11 states and more than 350 communities. The roads were rough. From Illinois to Nevada, most of them were little more than dusty trails. The convoy experienced more than 230 road incidents; 21 men suffered injuries and had to drop out; 9 of the trucks broke down and were left behind. The convoy finally arrived in San Francisco on September 6. The convoy had taken 62 days to travel 3,250 grueling miles. The experiment had been a success. Americans now knew it was possible to drive from sea to shining sea.

Even more important, the trip ignited the imagination of a young military officer who had joined the trip. His name was Dwight D. Eisenhower, future commander of the Allied forces in Europe during World War II, and president of the United States from 1953 to 1961. Eisenhower never forgot his trip across the wilderness of the United States. He resolved that the country should have fast, beautiful, multi-lane highways.

What would it take to prepare a highway for God? A familiar text in the Old Testament book of Isaiah answers that question. *"A voice of one calling: 'In the wilderness prepare the way for the Lord. Make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain. And the glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all people will see it together. For the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'"* (Isaiah 40:3-5)

What would our nation need to do to "pave a path" for God to move among us? The text suggests four highway-building imperatives: First, we must fill up the low places. Symbolically, that means filling in the holes or gaps that plague our lives. Connecting with God is not a Sunday thing or a holiday thing. It's an everyday privilege to walk with the Lord. Second, we must bring down the high places. That means checking our pride at the door. Americans are extraordinary, but we have no grounds for arrogance. Third, we must straighten the crooked places. That begins with the habits that steal our peace of mind and prompt us to hide from God, others and ourselves.

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## MISSION EXPERIENCE

Max McQueen spent eight weeks in Asia over the summer sharing the gospel with others. He will talk about his mission experience in Fellowship Hall on Thursday, September 20 at 6:30 p.m. Please join us!

**MISSION**  
**EXPERIENCE**

## DINNER GROUPS

**Looking to meet other adults of the church in an informal, casual atmosphere?**

**D-Groups (Dinner Groups) are Back!**

**What is it?** Small dinner gatherings for 6-8 adults of the church for the sole purpose of fellowship and becoming better acquainted with fellow adults in our church family. Each group will be multigenerational and will try to meet once a month from October thru May. Your group will set their own dates. Even if you know you are going to be gone for a few months, still feel free to sign up!

**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, Dillons 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, **September 30 at 5:30**, in Fellowship Hall. At this time, you will find out the individuals in your group. Bring your calendar so your group can set its first date. 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 Sunday, September 23**. 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 Sunday, September 23.**

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

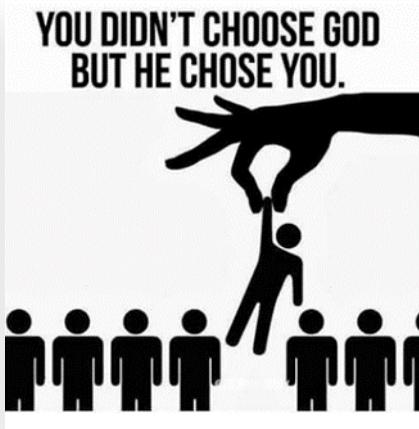
Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Will you be able to attend the potluck on Sunday, September 30? \_\_\_\_\_

## A THOUGHT FROM KEITH



We all know the story really well; we have heard it so many times and yet I would guess that something happens in the story that we don't pay any attention to. Have you ever stopped to think about the fact that when Jesus was choosing his disciples he actually went to them and sought them out? When he asked them to follow him it happened on their own turf, in their neighborhood, or where they worked. Jesus was the one who initiated the contact with them and developed a relationship with them and he was the one who sought them out to make them his disciples. He didn't ask them to fill in forms, outline their abilities or if they had a Masters or Doctors degree. He went to them to model what their calling to follow him would be like, a life of going to meet people in the places they lived, worked and played.

Now if that was the way Jesus chose to call his disciples then he hasn't changed the way he calls us today. He comes in pursuit of you

and me. He comes to you and me and asks us to follow him. I wonder — is our response as bold as the first disciples when they left everything behind to follow him? John 15:16 tells us *"You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you."*

It's important that in light of this we remind ourselves every day that we have been chosen, hand picked by Jesus. It is so easy to be dragged into the trap of believing that life is all about me and even as Christians we fall into that type of thinking. Perhaps like me, you often think you need to do more, follow stronger, get better at loads of stuff and forget that it's actually not about what you or I need to do but it's all about what God has already done for us. Why on earth would he choose you and me? It's simple: he believes we are worth choosing.

The most amazing thing about all of this is that when you totally grasp the fact that life is all about Jesus and not about what you need to be or what you need to improve, you are set free. Yes you are set free to serve him, just the way you are, with your weaknesses and uncertainties because it's not about you anymore, it's about what Jesus is doing through you. It's when we come to terms with this type of freedom that we can move forward as followers of Jesus and live a life that draws others to him. We start to live in the freedom of knowing that on your best day or even on our worst day, we still need Jesus just the same and that no matter what happens He has chosen you.

He believes in you and me to do the job he has chosen us to do and that is to share the Gospel, bring people to him and build his Kingdom here on earth. He chose you for a purpose so live your life to fulfill that purpose.

## WOMEN'S NEWS

Come along and see what our fellow Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Southern Kansas are doing. Annie Gajewski is planning to take a car October 6 to the FPC Newton gathering. \$8 includes meal and full day of activities. See the fall newsletter on the church bulletin board for more information.



## Chimes Note

Deadline for next issue of *Chimes* will be **10:00 a.m. Monday, September 24**, for the issue covering September 30-October 13.

## Chancel Flower Calendar

**September 16, 30, October 7, 28, November 4 and 11** 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](mailto:janice@fpchutch.org) or 665-5549 (afternoons) by the preceding Monday.

## Looking for Volunteers

The church office has a few openings for volunteers on a very minimal basis. We could use one more person to put in the rotation for covering the office during staff meetings on Wednesdays at 9:00 a.m. Your commitment would be once a month for 1.5—2 hours.

We also could use a few more people to take a turn straightening up in the sanctuary and chapel each week. This involves restocking pew supplies and picking up leftover bulletins, etc. to prepare for the next worship service. This would be approximately once a month, as well.

If you are interested or if you're willing to be a substitute for either position, please contact Rita in the church office, [rita@fpchutch.org](mailto:rita@fpchutch.org) or 665-5549. Thank you for your prayerful consideration.

## PEACE AND GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING

*"Now may the Lord of peace give you peace at all times in all ways."* 2 Thessalonians 3:16

**Blessed are the peacemakers!** "The Peace and Global Witness Offering unites our church with Presbyterians everywhere reaching out to people across the globe who long for peace and reconciliation." While part of the monies received will be used for several national or world projects, 25% stays in our local community. Please consider prayerfully giving to the Peace and Global Witness Offering. It will be received on October 7, World Communion Sunday.

## KEEP IN PRAYER

*For those in the hospital or hurting*

*For all FPC shut-ins*

*For Wichita Korean Presbyterian Church, Wichita*

*(9/23/18)*



## BIRTHDAYS

17	Doug Armstrong	20	Maren Lackey
17	Carol Brown	21	Zach Schmitt
17	Tom McAuley	22	Ryan Klamm
18	Linda Graves	22	Abby Lee
18	Dave Mencl	25	Madison
18	Barbara Withrow		Horbotowicz
19	Skip Wilson	25	Kaitlyn Maschler
20	Jim Anderson	28	Gannon Veh
20	Jim Kirkpatrick		

## 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

### "Becoming a Contagious Christian" Study

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, September 18, at 1:30 p.m. at Sam & Judy Ontjes' house. We will continue discussion of Chapters 4 and 5 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!

## SELLERS' FARM

### Reminder!! Don't Forget!!

The fall worship service at Sellers' Farm will be Sunday, September 23 at 10:30 am. — 4109 Wilson Road. Please bring your own chairs if possible.

— Worship Committee

We hope that you will join us and bring a friend for this very special morning. Cost for picnic: \$5/person or \$20/family of five or more; free/5 and under.



**Worship at 8:15 a.m. in the Chapel as usual. See you there!**

***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 and Heidi Schultz, Facilitators**

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](http://www.griefshare.org), or contact Pastor Mark Miller at [mark@fpchurch.org](mailto:mark@fpchurch.org) or (620) 665-5549.



**KIDS' POWER CLUB**



**Wednesdays after School: 5:00 - 6:30 p.m.**

**September 19 - December 19**

Join us for a fun interactive experience for kids, K - 6th Grade at First Presbyterian Church. The program will run throughout the school year and will be packed full of fun activities, music, structured lessons from the Bible and a light meal as they arrive at 5:00 p.m. The kids will

take part in Sunday worship every six weeks.

Our 5th and 6th grade students will be part of a new Junior Youth Group program with Keith Neill and Misti McLain. On October 24 and November 14 Junior Youth Group will meet at church at 4:00 p.m. to take part in Mission Projects. If you need help transporting your child to Power Club for 5:00 p.m. please contact Keith at [keith@fpchurch.org](mailto:keith@fpchurch.org) to arrange pick up. Children have to be picked up at 6:30 p.m. by their family. Power Club is free to all children so please invite and bring your friends.

**Schedule**

- 5:00 Light Meal
- 5:20 Activities & Games
- 5:30 Music: Singing & playing Boomwhacker instruments  
6th Grade (5 & 6th Grade will have Jnr Youth Group)
- 6:30 Dismissal

## CALENDAR — SEPTEMBER 16 – 30

**Sunday, September 16, 2018**

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	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, September 17**

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, September 18**

9:00 am	Koinonia Women	Large Conference Rm
1:30 pm	Bible study	Ontjes's house
7:00 pm	GriefShare	Large Conference Room

**Wednesday, September 19**

8:30 am	Exercise class	Kids' Cave
9:00 am	Staff meeting	Conference Room
5:00 pm	Kids Power Club	
6:00 pm	FPC Bells	Choir Room
7:00 pm	Youth group	The Basement

**Thursday, September 20**

7:00 am	Men's Bible study	Parlor
2:00 pm	Prepare and serve meal	Soup Kitchen
6:30 pm	Max McQueen share about Turkey experience	Fellowship Hall

**Friday, September 21**

9:00 am	Walk-a-mile class	Kids' Cave
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**Sunday, September 23**

DEACON OF THE WEEK: Laura Ontjes, (913)687-5781

*Preacher Mark Miller (8:15 & 10:30): Galatians 3:1-29*

8:15 am	Worship service	Chapel
10:30 am	Worship service/picnic	Sellers' Farm

**Monday, September 24**

8:30 am	Exercise class	Kids' Cave
7:00 pm	Boy Scout Troop 301	Fellowship Hall

**Tuesday, September 25**

9:00 am	Koinonia Women	Large Conference Rm
7:00 pm	GriefShare	Large Conference Room

**Wednesday, September 26**

8:30 am	Exercise class	Kids' Cave
9:00 am	Staff meeting	Conference Room
5:00 pm	Kids Power Club	
6:00 pm	FPC Bells	Choir Room
7:00 pm	Youth group	The Basement

**Thursday, September 27**

7:00 am	Men's Bible study	Parlor
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**Friday, September 28**

9:00 am	Walk-a-mile class	Kids' Cave
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**Sunday, September 30**

DEACON OF THE WEEK: Jane Harrison, 921-5144

*Preacher Mark Miller (8:15 & 10:30): Galatians 6:1-10**Preacher Keith Neill (9:00): Luke 12:2*

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 am	Adult Christian Education	
10:30 am	Worship service	Sanctuary
11:30 am	Fellowship time	Parlor
5:30 pm	Dinners for 8 kick-off potluck	Fellowship Hall

## CONFIRMATION

The confirmation experience will begin soon for those students starting 7<sup>th</sup> 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.



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*("Traveling...." continued from front page)*

Fourth, we must smooth out the rough places. It's so easy to become tolerant of a chuckhole. We just learn to drive around it. But God wants to heal what is broken in this world, beginning with our society's aching needs.

If God wanted to drive into our lives today, would He find an open highway? Prepare the way for the Lord, says the ancient prophet. That's an invitation to join our Creator on the road trip of life, especially to the state fair.

Traveling with you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mark".

The **BEST PLACE** to be  
**SUNDAY MORNING**

**SELLERS FARM SEPTEMBER 23, 10:30AM**

**4109 WILSON ROAD, HUTCHINSON, KANSAS**

**BRING YOUR LAWN CHAIRS OR PICNIC BLANKET TO ENJOY WORSHIP &  
 LUNCH WITH FRIED CHICKEN - SIDES - CAKE & HOME MADE ICE CREAM**