

# THE KIRK KONNECTION

Editor: Carolyn Marnon

March 2019



I've begun to wonder if the mark of a decent columnist is the ability to find something new to write about every month. This is my 4<sup>th</sup> go-round writing this column during the season of Lent, and I'm wondering how I can jazz this edition up a little, or at least separate it from the others I've submitted. Years ago I had a professor in seminary who told me I had a "conversational writing style," which I'm choosing this morning to remember as a compliment (and not the constructive criticism that was probably intended). So conversational writing style it is, and off we go!

I think we walk a link between our efforts to "keep things fresh" and adhere to tradition. The idea of "adding something" as opposed to "eliminating something" during the season of Lent has become so popular that theological thought is often left out of the mix. Why are you adding? Why subtracting? Are you trendily cutting out fried foods during Lent the same way you're consuming pumpkin spiced lattes in September? If so, it's probably time to engage in some careful thought about what you believe and why you do what you do. The goal should never be to get skinnier or stricter; it should be to get closer to God. If cutting things out leaves more room for Jesus, that's great....but why, then, do so for only 40 days? Leaving more room for Jesus is worthy of ALL of our days and time, and if we're not doing that already then perhaps we should use Lent as a springboard for a richer, more fulfilling relationship with our Lord. Fasting is fine, but only if Jesus is the sustenance that fills the void of missing earthly morsels.

The self-examination that is encouraged during this season doesn't have to involve the fad of adding or subtracting just for the sake of not-so-theological math. What are we examining? Well, our priorities. What matters most to us? Where do our thoughts, our time, our energy go? I view these 40 days as a time to be extra-intentional in my effort to release my desire to control every area of my life. To stop worshipping financial security and other comfortable areas of certainty and predictability that prevent me from stretching myself to go exactly where God is directing me. I need to die to the earthly things I embrace if I truly hope to live in Christ (quite simply - with an eye on Easter - I need to "put my eggs in a different basket"). And this is not something that should intimidate us.

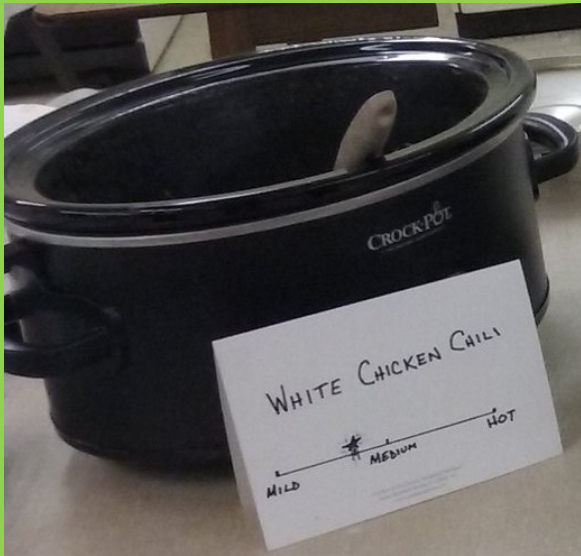
*Presbyterianmission.org* is quite helpful in its articulation of this time and act:

"In order to embrace the resurrection, we must experience the passion of Jesus. The way of the cross, the way to Easter, is through death of the "old self." In dying, we live. Therefore, at the beginning of Lent, we are reminded that our possessions, our rulers, our empires, our projects, our families and even our lives do not last forever. "You are dust, and to dust you shall return" (Genesis 3:19). The liturgies throughout Lent try to pry loose our fingers, one by one, from presumed securities and plunge us into unknown baptismal waters, waters that turn out to be not only our death tomb but surprisingly our womb of life. Rather than falling back into nothingness, we fall back on everlasting arms. Death? How can we fear what we have already undergone in baptism?

It is the power of the resurrection on the horizon ahead that draws us into repentance toward the cross and tomb. Through the intervention of God's gracious resurrection, lifelong changes in our values and behavior become possible. By turning from the end of the "old self" in us, Lenten repentance makes it possible for us to affirm joyfully, "Death is no more!" and to aim toward the landscape of the new age. Faithfully adhering to the Lenten journey of "prayer, fasting and almsgiving" leads to the destination of Easter."

As you journey through the wilderness, may you walk hand-in-hand with He who went before you.

*Pastor Mike*



**February's Game Night was a Chili Night.**



Kirk of Our Savior collaborated with St. Andrew's Presbyterian and Cherry Hill Presbyterian last month for a 4-week "Psalms and Parables" Bible Study series. Pastor Mike shows a Mentos commercial before he discusses "The Parable of the Unjust Steward" during the meeting held at the Kirk.

*The mission of the Kirk of Our Savior is to glorify God, nurture new and existing relationships, and bear witness to our faith and divine calling through worship, service, stewardship and prayer.*

*It is the vision of this church to become a living example of God's love, called to show Christ to those within the church community by offering ourselves in service to those in need and inviting all to share in this vision.*



The Class of 2022 of Deacons and Elders were ordained and installed on February 17.

Elders: Bonnie Hilberer, Cindy Handford and Jenny Root

Deacons: Andrea Alicea, Colleen Williamson and Peggy Flacks

## **ANNUAL ELDER AND DEACON TRAINING**

March 30

10:00 AM

Annual elder and deacon training will be held in the lounge on Saturday, March 30th, at 10:00 AM. The presence of *all* elders and deacons is requested at this meeting for a time of fun, fellowship and education.

Lunch will be provided in the form of pizza/bread/salad. If you have dietary restrictions we request that you notify Pastor Mike or the church office.

Please make plans to join those with whom you will be serving in the coming year!

## **Classy Lassies and Grazers**

March 27

Classy Lassies and Grazers will next come together for their monthly lunch date on Wednesday, March 27. All are welcome! Come alone or bring a friend. Meet at 11:30am in the church lounge.

## **WORSHIP COMMITTEE**

Madeline Carpenter (2021), Chairman and Elder

Bonnie Hilberer (2022) Elder

Peggy Flacks (2022) Deacon

## **FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE**

Chairman and Elder

Cindy Handford (2022) Elder

Lynn King (2020) Deacon

Irene Gaylord (2020) Deacon

## **CHILDREN & YOUTH**

Dorothy Albright, (2020) Chairman and Elder

Colleen Williamson (2022) Deacon

## **MISSION/OUTREACH**

Judy Curtis (2021) Chairman and Elder

Nancy Pride (2020), Elder

Bill Partaka (2021) Deacon

Andrea Alicea (2022) Deacon

## **FOUNDATION**

Jenny Root (2022) Chairman and Elder

Patrick Frobe (2020) Elder

Rob Otte (2020) Deacon

Judy Walker (2021) Deacon and Deacon Moderator

**TREASURER:** Fred Kirk

**CLERK:** Jenny Root

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# March 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 7:45-9:30pm Alanon-Lounge	2 9:30am-Choir Practice
3 10:30am-Worship in Sanctuary	4 6:30-8 Girl Scouts- Fellowship 7:30-9pm Bi-Polar Depression Support Group-Lounge	5 7-10pm Harmony Town Chorus- Fellowship Hall	6 6pm-Ash Wednesday Worship	7 7-9pm Harmony Town Board Meeting- Lounge	8 7:45-9:30pm Alanon-Lounge	9 9:30am-Choir Practice
10 10:30am-Worship in Sanctuary Session-Fellowship	11 6:30-8:30pm Hope 4 Healing Hearts- Fellowship Hall 7:30-9pm Bi-Polar Depression Support Group-Lounge	12 7-10pm Harmony Town Chorus- Fellowship Hall	13	14	15 6pm-Family Fun Night 7:45-9:30pm Alanon-Lounge	16 9:30am-Choir Practice
17 10:30am-Worship in Sanctuary	18 6:30-8 Girl Scouts- Fellowship 7:30-9pm Bi-Polar Depression Support Group-Lounge	19 7-10pm Harmony Town Chorus- Fellowship Hall	20	21	22 7:45-9:30pm Alanon-Lounge	23 9am-Presby Meeting- Howell Nature Center 9:30am-Choir Practice
24 10:30am-Worship in Sanctuary Deacons-Sanctuary 31 10:30am-Worship in Sanctuary	25 6:30-8:30pm Hope 4 Healing Hearts- Fellowship Hall 7:30-9pm Bi-Polar Depression Support Group-Lounge	26 7-10pm Harmony Town Chorus- Fellowship Hall	27 11:30 am Classy Lassies and Grazers Lunch	28	29 7:45-9:30pm Alanon-Lounge	30 9:30am-Choir Practice 10am-Elder and Deacon Training- Lounge

## March 2019 Daily Lectionary

*These Scripture readings are from the two-year daily lectionary of the Presbyterian Book of Common Worship (Westminster John Knox Press 2018). The readings from the three-year Revised Common Lectionary for Sundays and Festivals are not included in this document.*

### Year 1

#### MARCH

##### **Friday, March 1**

Morning: Pss. 88; 148  
Evening: Pss. 6; 20  
Ruth 3:1–18  
2 Cor. 4:1–12  
Matt. 5:38–48

##### **Saturday, March 2**

Morning: Pss. 122; 149  
Evening: Pss. 100; 63  
Ruth 4:1–22  
2 Cor. 4:13–5:10  
Matt. 6:1–6

##### **Sunday, March 3**

##### **Transfiguration of the Lord**

Morning: Pss. 103; 150  
Evening: Pss. 117; 139  
Dan. 7:9–10, 13–14  
2 Cor. 3:1–9  
John 12:27–36a

##### **Monday, March 4**

Morning: Pss. 5; 145  
Evening: Pss. 82; 29  
Deut. 6:1–15  
Heb. 1:1–14  
John 1:1–18

##### **Tuesday, March 5**

Morning: Pss. 42; 146  
Evening: Pss. 102; 133  
Deut. 6:16–25  
Heb. 2:1–10  
John 1:19–28

##### **Wednesday, March 6**

##### **Ash Wednesday**

Morning: Pss. 5; 147:1–11  
Evening: Pss. 27; 51  
Jonah 3:1–4:11  
Heb. 12:1–14  
Luke 18:9–14

##### **Thursday, March 7**

Morning: Pss. 27; 147:12–20  
Evening: Pss. 126; 102  
Deut. 7:6–11  
Titus 1:1–16  
John 1:29–34

##### **Friday, March 8**

Morning: Pss. 22; 148  
Evening: Pss. 105; 130  
Deut. 7:12–16  
Titus 2:1–15  
John 1:35–42

##### **Saturday, March 9**

Morning: Pss. 43; 149  
Evening: Pss. 31; 143  
Deut. 7:17–26  
Titus 3:1–15  
John 1:43–51

##### **Sunday, March 10**

##### **1st Sunday in Lent**

Morning: Pss. 84; 150  
Evening: Pss. 42; 32  
Jer. 9:23–24  
1 Cor. 1:18–31  
Mark 2:18–22

##### **Monday, March 11**

Morning: Pss. 119:73–80; 145  
Evening: Pss. 121; 6  
Deut. 8:1–20  
Heb. 2:11–18  
John 2:1–12

##### **Tuesday, March 12**

Morning: Pss. 34; 146  
Evening: Pss. 25; 91  
Deut. 9:(1–3) 4–12  
Heb. 3:1–11  
John 2:13–22

##### **Wednesday, March 13**

Morning: Pss. 5; 147:1–11  
Evening: Pss. 27; 51  
Deut. 9:13–21  
Heb. 3:12–19  
John 2:23–3:15

##### **Thursday, March 14**

Morning: Pss. 27; 147:12–20  
Evening: Pss. 126; 102  
Deut. 9:23–10:5  
Heb. 4:1–10  
John 3:16–21

##### **Friday, March 15**

Morning: Pss. 22; 148  
Evening: Pss. 105; 130  
Deut. 10:12–22  
Heb. 4:11–16  
John 3:22–36

##### **Saturday, March 16**

Morning: Pss. 43; 149  
Evening: Pss. 31; 143  
Deut. 11:18–28  
Heb. 5:1–10  
John 4:1–26

**Sunday, March 17**  
**2nd Sunday in Lent**

Morning: Pss. 84; 150  
Evening: Pss. 42; 32  
Jer. 1:1–10  
1 Cor. 3:11–23  
Mark 3:31–4:9

**Monday, March 18**

Morning: Pss. 119:73–80;  
145  
Evening: Pss. 121; 6  
Jer. 1:11–19  
Rom. 1:1–15  
John 4:27–42

**Tuesday, March 19**

Morning: Pss. 34; 146  
Evening: Pss. 25; 91  
Jer. 2:1–13, 29–32  
Rom. 1:16–25  
John 4:43–54

**Wednesday, March 20**

Morning: Pss. 5; 147:1–11  
Evening: Pss. 27; 51  
Jer. 3:6–18  
Rom. 1:(26–27) 28–2:11  
John 5:1–18

**Thursday, March 21**

Morning: Pss. 27; 147:12–20  
Evening: Pss. 126; 102  
Jer. 4:9–10, 19–28  
Rom. 2:12–24  
John 5:19–29

**Friday, March 22**

Morning: Pss. 22; 148  
Evening: Pss. 105; 130  
Jer. 5:1–9  
Rom. 2:25–3:18  
John 5:30–47

**Saturday, March 23**

Morning: Pss. 43; 149  
Evening: Pss. 31; 143  
Jer. 5:20–31  
Rom. 3:19–31  
John 7:1–13

**Sunday, March 24**  
**3rd Sunday in Lent**

Morning: Pss. 84; 150  
Evening: Pss. 42; 32  
Jer. 6:9–15  
1 Cor. 6:12–20  
Mark 5:1–20

**Monday, March 25**

Morning: Pss. 119:73–80;  
145  
Evening: Pss. 121; 6  
Jer. 7:1–15  
Rom. 4:1–12  
John 7:14–36

**Tuesday, March 26**

Morning: Pss. 34; 146  
Evening: Pss. 25; 91  
Jer. 7:21–34  
Rom. 4:13–25  
John 7:37–52

**Wednesday, March 27**

Morning: Pss. 5; 147:1–11  
Evening: Pss. 27; 51  
Jer. 8:4–7, 18–9:6  
Rom. 5:1–11  
John 8:12–20

**Thursday, March 28**

Morning: Pss. 27; 147:12–20  
Evening: Pss. 126; 102  
Jer. 10:11–24  
Rom. 5:12–21  
John 8:21–32

**Friday, March 29**

Morning: Pss. 22; 148  
Evening: Pss. 105; 130  
Jer. 11:1–8, 14–17  
Rom. 6:1–11  
John 8:33–47

**Saturday, March 30**

Morning: Pss. 43; 149  
Evening: Pss. 31; 143  
Jer. 13:1–11  
Rom. 6:12–23  
John 8:47–59

**Sunday, March 31**  
**4th Sunday in Lent**

Morning: Pss. 84; 150  
Evening: Pss. 42; 32  
Jer. 14:1–9 (10–16) 17–22  
Gal. 4:21–5:1  
Mark 8:11–21



11 Mieke Beckman  
 17 Jen Otte  
 18 Cindy Handford  
 18 Jenny Root  
 24 John Jennings  
 24 Marjorie Grubbs

The Per Capita amount for 2019 for the Presbytery of Detroit will be \$29 per person.

The Presbytery has increased the amount of Per Capita that is due from each member in 2019. Per Capita provides administrative support to the mission of the Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly. Among other things Per Capita provides office and clerical needs, accounting services for mission, and support to helping congregations find new pastors as well as assist candidates to prepare for the ministry. The Per Capita charge that the Kirk recommends is based on that assessed by the Presbytery. For 2019 the amount will increase to \$29 a member, a two-dollar increase over the past year. Please pay this amount at your convenience during the early part of 2019 using the envelope provided in your pledge envelope box or any other envelope that you mark as Per Capita. Thank you.



**Friday, March 15**

**6:00 pm**

Join us on Friday, March 15 for our next monthly Game Night! Game nights are held on the 3rd Friday of the month. Game night in March will have us filling up on corned beef and cabbage before the games come out.

### PLEA FOR HELP FROM YOUR CHURCH FOUNDATION TEAM

We are looking for anyone interesting in helping with a couple of carpentry projects—basic skills required, comfortable using a chop saw—and in doing some painting. If you are interested in helping with either or both, please contact Jenny Root at (734) 744-6316. Thank you.



**ASH WEDNESDAY**  
*Worship*

**Wednesday, March 6**

**6:00 pm**

#### Financial Report as of 1/31/2019

	January	Year to Date	Budget
<b>Income</b>	11,535	11,535	9,752
<b>Expenses</b>	9,937	9,937	10,217
<b>Net Income or Loss</b>	1,598	1,598	-465
<b>Liquid Assets*</b>	101,421	101,421	

\* equals the total for Kirk checking, savings, and mutual funds.  
 Does not include Thank God 4 Christian Parents Fund.

January's positive income is due chiefly to a gain in mutual funds of nearly \$3,000. Without these gains income was below budget by \$1,150. Nevertheless, all bills were paid as agreed including carryover expenses from December as well as a portion of old per capita expenses owed for the period 5-10 years ago.