

# THE KIRK KONNECTION

Editor: Carolyn Marnon

January 2019



I was really looking forward to slowing down and relaxing. I love the season of Advent, but it can get pretty busy for a pastor. Christmas had arrived, though, and my much-needed break was here. Eggnog in hand, my batteries would finally be recharged. Time for a little R & R!

...perhaps if John Steinbeck or Robert Burns had received invitations to chez Beckman in Hillsdale I would have gently been reminded that “the best laid plans of mice and men often go awry.”

And oh, how awry did they go.

Theo was sick on Christmas Eve morning, but he improved later in the day and was well enough to travel by evening. So I (foolishly) thought everything was fine. But my 15-month old had “awry” on his mind, and in the middle of some evening milk decided to decorate

our guest bedroom at my parents’ house with all sorts of brightly colored projectiles. Mieke cleaned Theo and, armed with a healthy dose of water, vinegar and towels, I dutifully mopped up the bedroom. Theo soon improved and all would be well for Christmas!

...and it mostly was. But the next day wore on and Theo again deteriorated and got a little dehydrated. So Mieke worried and I then worried about both of them. Finally, though, Theo drank and returned to normal. I had visions of sugar plums floating through the air, and I could see myself being delicately lowered by cherubs into a soft chair, my legs and torso warmly wrapped in blankets of cashmere...

But then Mieke got sick. And stayed sick. For days.

In an effort to speed this column up I will spare you details of the scene that ensued. Suffice it to say, the Christmas – New Year’s Eve “break” that I was expecting was anything but.

A funny thing happened on the way to 2019, though. I received a wonderful gift that I never asked for and certainly did not see coming. I got to see how much my wife does for my son and for me.

Mieke and I typically split the household duties, chores, Theo stuff, everything. I like to think we have a pretty good system, and I have an academic understanding of what she does on a daily and weekly basis. But, as is true with so many things in this world, an academic understanding of something is no serviceable substitute for actually experiencing it. We cannot know what it’s like to fly in an airplane until we do it. We cannot understand what a strawberry tastes like until it’s actually crossed our lips.

So I did all the work, from chores to errands to Theo stuff to everything else. I was physically and emotionally exhausted. And so was Mieke; her sickness had robbed her of every ounce of strength. Amazingly, though, every night she *still* put Theo to bed (Theo won’t let Daddy; he demands Mommy). *This is no small task.* Theo fights sleep like no child I have ever known. It’s painstakingly slow and tedious work. Not an undertaking for the fainthearted. Yet she did this for us *every single night.*

*Continued on next page...*

And thus I was gifted with a profoundly deeper understanding of how much Mieke loves Theo and me. I didn't think it possible, but I love her even more now than I did a week ago.

If we all took the time to look at Christmas and at the birth of Jesus with fresh eyes and open hearts, maybe we, too would have a "profoundly deeper understanding" of how much God loves us. Too long we have all taken for granted that wonderful gift that God gave us in the Messiah. We now all have a future and we will experience salvation because of the original Christmas gift. Why do we try to substitute so many other things for the perfection that was already graciously given? We have *already* unwrapped the perfect gift. We waste our lives when we engage in a fruitless search for something else to fill the void that forms when Jesus is pushed aside.

And so I will say again what I said at church this past Sunday: Christmas has passed, and the world is going to run away from Santa. There is no need for the *Christian* to run away from *Christ*. Even when there is no greenery present, no holly on the mantle, no snow falling outside the window...I pray that you will still treasure in your hearts the love that God showed all of us in the gift of Jesus.

*Pastor Mike*



#### Financial Report as of 11/30/2018

|                           | November | Year to Date | Budget  |
|---------------------------|----------|--------------|---------|
| <b>Income</b>             | 10,462   | 104,070      | 108,668 |
| <b>Expenses</b>           | 11,458   | 109,059      | 106,070 |
| <b>Net Income or Loss</b> | -996     | -4,989       | 2,598   |
| <b>Liquid Assets*</b>     | 102,632  | 102,632      |         |

\* equals the total for Kirk checking, savings, and mutual funds.

Does not include Thank God 4 Christian Parents Fund.

November was down nearly \$1,000 due principally to being a 3-pay period month. The usual impact of this semi-annual event was lessened by an above budget revenue volume. Our liquid assets dropped due to final payment of the carpeting bill. We anticipate showing a negative for the year due to the high snow and salting bills

for the first 3 months of the year and the paper losses in our mutual fund accounts. Again, please note that we have yet to withdraw any funds from our own mutual funds or

*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.*

## Classy Lassies and Grazers

January 30

Besides being National Croissant Day, Wednesday January 30 is also the day the Classy Lassies and Grazers will next come together for their monthly lunch date. All are welcome! Come alone or bring a friend. Meet at 11:30am in the church lounge.



## Warm the Children

Outreach/Mission Chairman Judy Curtis reports that 22 coats, 4 pairs of boots and a pair of tennis shoes were taken to the Family Resource Center last month. Thank you for your donations of new and used coats.



- |    |                     |
|----|---------------------|
| 3  | Joan Nystrom        |
| 3  | Tom Roe             |
| 16 | Pat Ross            |
| 22 | Pastor Mike Beckman |
| 26 | Walter Jennings     |
| 27 | Jim Troutman        |
| 28 | Lorraine Scott      |



## Food Collection

Thank you to everyone who donated to our food cupboard over the last two months. The response was overwhelmingly generous. The people who came to us for help with food expressed joy at having such a variety to choose from.



Bible Study will resume  
Tuesday, January 8 at  
2:00pm in the church  
lounge. Join us as we  
study the book of  
Revelation.





The Deacons will be holding a bake sale on Sunday, January 20 after worship. Be sure to have some cash on hand to purchase some yummy goodies from them. The funds will help them carry out their duties as deacons.

The Freebie Table in the lounge will be completely refreshed sometime during the first few weeks of January.

If there is anything on the table you wish to keep, please make sure you take it home with you before January 1.

All items left on the table after December 31 will be donated to a local thrift center. We will start the new year with a clean table ready for new donations.

Items on the freebie table are usually kept on the table for about two months. Any items left longer than that are donated to a local thrift center.



## PER CAPITA 2019

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.



# SUNDAY JANUARY 27 ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AND POTLUCK

## Potluck Assignments Based on Last Names

- |     |             |
|-----|-------------|
| A-I | Main Course |
| J-R | Side Dishes |
| S-V | Desserts    |
| W-Z | Drinks      |

## January 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

#### JANUARY

##### **Tuesday, January 1**

Morning: Pss. 98; 146  
Evening: Pss. 99; 8  
Gen. 17:1–12a, 15–16  
Col. 2:6–12  
John 16:23b–30

##### **Wednesday, January 2**

Morning: Pss. 48; 147:1–11  
Evening: Pss. 9; 29  
Gen. 12:1–7  
Heb. 11:1–12  
John 6:35–42, 48–51

##### **Thursday, January 3**

Morning: Pss. 111;  
147:12–20  
Evening: Pss. 107; 15  
Gen. 28:10–22  
Heb. 11:13–22  
John 10:7–17

##### **Friday, January 4**

Morning: Pss. 20; 148  
Evening: Pss. 93; 97  
Exod. 3:1–5  
Heb. 11:23–31  
John 14:6–14

##### **Saturday, January 5**

Morning: Pss. 99; 149  
Evening: Pss. 96; 110  
Josh. 1:1–9  
Heb. 11:32–12:2  
John 15:1–16

##### **Sunday, January 6**

##### **Epiphany of the Lord**

Morning: Pss. 72; 150  
Evening: Pss. 100; 67  
Isa. 52:7–10  
Rev. 21:22–27  
Matt. 12:14–21

##### **Monday, January 7**

Morning: Pss. 46 or 97; 145  
Evening: Pss. 27; 93 or 114  
Isa. 52:3–6  
Rev. 2:1–7  
John 2:1–11

##### **Tuesday, January 8**

Morning: Pss. 46 or 47; 146  
Evening: Pss. 27; 93 or 114  
Isa. 59:15b–21  
Rev. 2:8–17  
John 4:46–54

##### **Wednesday, January 9**

Morning: Pss. 46 or 47;  
147:1–11  
Evening: Pss. 27; 93 or 114  
Isa. 63:1–5  
Rev. 2:18–29  
John 5:1–15

##### **Thursday, January 10**

Morning: Pss. 46 or 47;  
147:12–20  
Evening: Pss. 27; 93 or 114  
Isa. 65:1–9  
Rev. 3:1–6  
John 6:1–14

##### **Friday, January 11**

Morning: Pss. 46 or 47;  
148  
Evening: Pss. 27; 93 or 114  
Isa. 65:13–16  
Rev. 3:7–13  
John 6:15–27

##### **Saturday, January 12**

Morning: Pss. 46 or 97; 149  
Evening: Pss. 27; 93 or 114  
Isa. 66:1–2, 22–23  
Rev. 3:14–22  
John 9:1–12, 35–38

##### **Sunday, January 13**

##### **Baptism of the Lord**

Morning: Pss. 104; 150  
Evening: Pss. 29  
Isa. 40:1–11  
Heb. 1:1–12  
John 1:1–7, 19–20, 29–34

##### **Monday, January 14**

Morning: Pss. 5; 145  
Evening: Pss. 82; 29  
Isa. 40:12–24  
Eph. 1:1–14  
Mark 1:1–13

##### **Tuesday, January 15**

Morning: Pss. 42; 146  
Evening: Pss. 102; 133  
Isa. 40:25–31  
Eph. 1:15–23  
Mark 1:14–28

**Wednesday, January 16**

Morning: Pss. 89:1–18;  
147:1–11  
Evening: Pss. 1; 33  
Isa. 41:1–16  
Eph. 2:1–10  
Mark 1:29–45

**Thursday, January 17**

Morning: Pss. 97; 147:12–20  
Evening: Pss. 16; 62  
Isa. 41:17–29  
Eph. 2:11–22  
Mark 2:1–12

**Friday, January 18**

Morning: Pss. 51; 148  
Evening: Pss. 142; 65  
Isa. 42:(1–9) 10–17  
Eph. 3:1–13  
Mark 2:13–22

**Saturday, January 19**

Morning: Pss. 104; 149  
Evening: Pss. 138; 98  
Isa. (42:18–25) 43:1–13  
Eph. 3:14–21  
Mark 2:23–3:6

**Sunday, January 20**

Morning: Pss. 19; 150  
Evening: Pss. 81; 113  
Isa. 43:14–44:5  
Heb. 6:17–7:10  
John 4:27–42

**Monday, January 21**

Morning: Pss. 135; 145  
Evening: Pss. 97; 112  
Isa. 44:6–8, 21–23  
Eph. 4:1–16  
Mark 3:7–19a

**Tuesday, January 22**

Morning: Pss. 123; 146  
Evening: Pss. 30; 86  
Isa. 44:9–20  
Eph. 4:17–32  
Mark 3:19b–35

**Wednesday, January 23**

Morning: Pss. 15; 147:1–11  
Evening: Pss. 48; 4  
Isa. 44:24–45:7  
Eph. 5:1–14  
Mark 4:1–20

**Thursday, January 24**

Morning: Pss. 36; 147:12–20  
Evening: Pss. 80; 27  
Isa. 45:5–17  
Eph. 5:15–33  
Mark 4:21–34

**Friday, January 25**

Morning: Pss. 130; 148  
Evening: Pss. 32; 139  
Isa. 45:18–25  
Eph. 6:1–9  
Mark 4:35–41

**Saturday, January 26**

Morning: Pss. 56; 149  
Evening: Pss. 118; 111  
Isa. 46:1–13  
Eph. 6:10–24  
Mark 5:1–20

**Sunday, January 27**

Morning: Pss. 67; 150  
Evening: Pss. 46; 93  
Isa. 47:1–15  
Heb. 10:19–31  
John 5:2–18

**Monday, January 28**

Morning: Pss. 57; 145  
Evening: Pss. 85; 47  
Isa. 48:1–11  
Gal. 1:1–17  
Mark 5:21–43

**Tuesday, January 29**

Morning: Pss. 54; 146  
Evening: Pss. 28; 99  
Isa. 48:12–21 (22)  
Gal. 1:18–2:10  
Mark 6:1–13

**Wednesday, January 30**

Morning: Pss. 65; 147:1–11  
Evening: Pss. 125; 91  
Isa. 49:1–12  
Gal. 2:11–21  
Mark 6:13–29

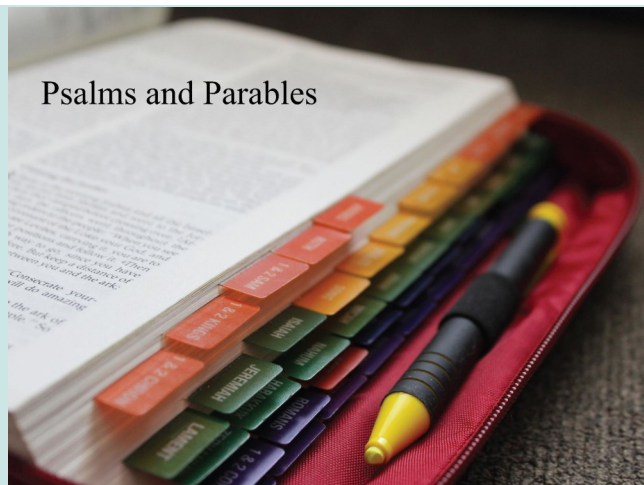
**Thursday, January 31**

Morning: Pss. 143;  
147:12–20  
Evening: Pss. 81; 116  
Isa. 49:13–23 (24–26)  
Gal. 3:1–14  
Mark 6:30–46

# January 2019

| Sun  | Mon   | Tue   | Wed   | Thu  | Fri                                | Sat                            |
|--|---|---|---|--|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
|  |   | 1<br>7-10pm Harmony<br>Town Chorus-<br>Fellowship Hall  | 2   | 3<br>7-9pm<br>Harmony Town<br>Board Meeting-<br>Lounge | 4<br>7:45-9:30pm<br>Alanon-Lounge  | 5<br>9:30am-Choir<br>Practice  |
| 6<br>10:30am-Worship in<br>Sanctuary   | 7<br>6:30-8 Girl Scouts-<br>Fellowship<br>7:30-9pm Bi-Polar<br>Depression Support<br>Group-Lounge                         | 8<br>2pm-Bible Study-<br>Lounge<br>6:30-9:30pm WCCP<br>Board Meeting-Class<br>7-10pm Harmony<br>Town Chorus-<br>Fellowship Hall | 9   | 10<br>6-9pm WCCP<br>Maintenance                        | 11<br>7:45-9:30pm<br>Alanon-Lounge | 12<br>9:30am-Choir<br>Practice |
| 13<br>10:30am-Worship in<br>Sanctuary<br>Session-Fellowship                                      | 14<br>6:30-8:30pm Hope 4<br>Healing Hearts-<br>Fellowship Hall<br>7:30-9pm Bi-Polar<br>Depression Support<br>Group-Lounge | 15<br>2pm-Bible Study-<br>Lounge<br>7-10pm Harmony<br>Town Chorus-<br>Fellowship Hall   | 16  | 17   | 18<br>7:45-9:30pm<br>Alanon-Lounge | 19<br>9:30am-Choir<br>Practice |
| 20<br>10:30am-Worship in<br>Sanctuary<br>Deacons Bake Sale                                       | 21<br>6:30-8 Girl Scouts-<br>Fellowship<br>7:30-9pm Bi-Polar<br>Depression Support<br>Group-Lounge                        | 22<br>2pm-Bible Study-<br>Lounge<br>7-10pm Harmony<br>Town Chorus-<br>Fellowship Hall   | 23  | 24<br>6-9pm WCCP<br>Maintenance                        | 25<br>7:45-9:30pm<br>Alanon-Lounge | 26<br>9:30am-Choir<br>Practice |
| 27<br>10:30am-Worship in<br>Sanctuary<br>Deacons-Sanctuary<br>Annual Congrega-<br>tional Meeting | 28<br>6:30-8:30pm Hope 4<br>Healing Hearts-<br>Fellowship Hall<br>7:30-9pm Bi-Polar<br>Depression Support<br>Group-Lounge | 29<br>7-10pm Harmony<br>Town Chorus-<br>Fellowship Hall   | 30<br>11:30 am Classy<br>Lassies and<br>Grazers Lunch | 31   |                                    |                                |

# There will not be a Family Fun Night in January.



Psalms and Parables

Kirk of Our Savior is collaborating with St. Andrew's Presbyterian, Cherry Hill Presbyterian and Garden City Presbyterian for a 4 week "Psalms and Parables" Bible Study series! There are 4 meetings, all on Tuesdays at 2:00 PM, one at each location. The schedule is as follows: Feb. 5 at Cherry Hill Presbyterian (24110 Cherry Hill Dearborn), Feb. 12 at St Andrew's (26701 Joy Rd. Dearborn Heights), Feb. 19 here at the Kirk, and Feb. 26 at Garden City (1841 Middlebelt Rd, Garden City). Nothing but a Bible is required, and all are welcome and invited to attend!



## **WORSHIP COMMITTEE**

Madeline Carpenter (2021), Chairman and Elder

Bonnie Hilberer (2019) Elder

Irene Gaylord (2020) Deacon

## **FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE**

Mark Gallaher (2019) Chairman and Elder

Cindy Handford (2019) Deacon

Lynn King (2020) Deacon

## **CHILDREN & YOUTH**

Dorothy Albright, (2020) Chairman and Elder

Bill Partaka (2021) Deacon

## **MISSION/OUTREACH**

Judy Curtis (2021) Chairman and Elder

Nancy Pride (2020), Elder

Lorraine Scott (2019) Deacon

Audrey Conner (2019) Deacon

## **FOUNDATION**

Leslie Holland (2019) Chairman and Elder

Patrick Frobe (2020) Elder

Rob Otte (2020) Deacon

Judy Walker (2021) Deacon and Deacon Moderator

**TREASURER:** Fred Kirk

**CLERK:** Jenny Root

A publication for the family and friends of  
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