

THE KIRK KONNECTION

Editor: Carolyn Marnon

May 2018



My grandmother will die soon.

This morning I received word that she is no longer drinking water, and this comes on the heels of her refusing to eat, which followed word that she was refusing any further treatment/PT after her original diagnosis of congestive heart failure and possible pneumonia. So yes.....my grandmother will die soon.

Are you comfortable with my phrasing this in the manner that I do? Are you scandalized by how bluntly I speak of my grandmother's death? Do the stark words that I have chosen in describing her situation offend you?

I hope not, but I understand if they do. We regularly say "pass away" instead of "die" in an effort to soften the blow of death. But I have never been altogether comfortable with that phrase, because I feel as though we are running away from death; we want to make it something that it is not. We want it to be happier, rosier, easier, less final, less painful, less stressful, less...well, less actual dying. We flinch at the word; it's a gut-punch whereas "pass away" is the soft, tender description that we need in order for us to be ok with the concept of an end to life. I think we – even we Christians – feel this way because we are not as ok with death as we should be.

Yes, this is death. And death is most certainly an end. Death is a part of life, though, and it is also the means to a new beginning: a beginning of eternity with God. Do we not believe what we talked about on Easter Sunday, and what which we have proclaimed throughout this Easter season? Jesus conquered the grave; our Savior conquered death. Death was supposed to have LOST its sting; death will indeed come but that is when salvation will *begin*. Our funeral is a time to grieve, but it is also a service of *witness to the resurrection*, in which we experience assurance and perhaps the *reassurance* we need.

Salvation will begin for Grandmother before too long, and I wonder – as I have for so many years – what that will look like. I wonder if Grandmother wonders what it will look like and if she's looking forward to what she, a Christian, will encounter.

Little House on the Prairie and *Highway to Heaven* television star Michael Landon engaged in a very public battle with cancer in 1991 and, similar to my grandmother's current situation, it was public knowledge and accepted fact that he would soon die. I recall noticing his face on the cover of a magazine while standing in line at a grocery store one day, and next to his photo was this quote: "I'm anxious to go....."

Young as I was, those words made me uncomfortable; I thought death was the worst thing in the world. I've never forgotten that quote, which was likely taken out of context and was made by a man who, contrary to popular belief at the time, was **not** a Christian. But I do see things a little differently now.

Continued on next page...

Pastor's Column-Continued:

I would never suggest that any of us should necessarily be “anxious” to die. But since we Christians know that earthly *death* means eternal *life*, it should not be something we run away from once it arrives on our doorstep. Make no mistake: much death, especially unexpected death, is devastating in the moment and I am not saying it should not be. And we are human and we SHOULD grieve human loss of our loved ones. We should ALWAYS have a period of grieving, and we Christians are called to do so in the presence of God and linked arm-in-arm with our Christian brothers and sisters, leaning on them when we are experiencing the pain of loss. But those of us that go before we do would *never want us to live a life here in pain as they enjoy a paradise with God in Heaven.*

I will grieve my grandmother's loss, and I will continue to grieve the loss of all my loved ones when they depart this earthly life. But I am so thankful that, thanks to Jesus, I need not grieve forever. I am so thankful that, thanks to the resurrection of Christ, they are and will be free and at peace...and enjoying the salvation that I, too, will one day experience.

Praise God, and thank you Lord Jesus.



Children's Time during the Easter service on April 1.



May 3-Patrick Frobe
 May 4-William Partaka
 May 5-David Garcia
 May 9-Irene Gaylord
 May 18-Bonnie Hilberer
 May 23-Marjorie Dingman



Saturday, May 12

9am-Noon

We need volunteers to help. There will be an inside clean-up crew and an outside clean-up crew. You can sign up on the form in the lounge.

SUNDAY
SCHOOL



What has been missing? 'U'! We need children to help us build a bulletin board display, play games, and paint while we learn about God's Law and what it means for us. Won't you join us on Sunday mornings at 10:30 - it isn't the same without 'you'.

The theme this month is beginnings. The class will be building a bulletin board display, making headbands and making pendants).

The last day of classes will be May 27, 2018.

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

TREASURER: Fred Kirk

CLERK: Jenny Root

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HUMBLE DESIGN

FURNISHING HOMES FOR THE HOMELESS

Humble Designs picked up our donations on April 10. Thank you to everyone who donated and who helped with picking up larger items from homes the Saturday prior. Judy Curtis and her team worked hard to make this all come together.



Game Night

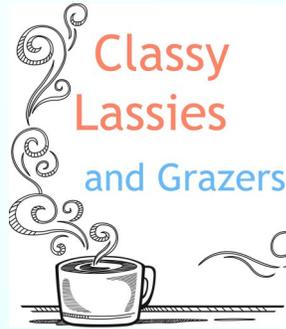
Friday, May 18

6pm

Join us for a Mexican-themed dinner at our monthly game night! Dinner is at 6pm. Games start at 6:30. Come out and have fun with us!

LEARNING TO PRAY

When words have failed me
Then O Lord teach me how to pray
These words of mine
seem empty now
And only in the way.
The times that words just
will not come,
And I don't know what to say—
Take then my thoughts
and Spirit, Lord
And teach me how to pray.
By Madeline Carpenter



May 30

May 30th is National Mint Julep Day. Perhaps this is the day when you finally choose to join the Classy Lassies and Grazers for lunch.

On the last Wednesday of every month, members of the Kirk gather at 11:30am in the church lobby before heading out to lunch together.

Mark your calendar now for May 30 and join the fun! Ladies go one place; men go to another. All enjoy buying their own lunch and the camaraderie of friends.

The Deacons Spring Bake sale brought in \$224 while the Easter Breakfast last month made a profit of \$287. Thanks to all who baked, bought and ate.



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.

Financial Report as of 03/31/2018

	March	Year to Date	Budget
Income	9,288	26,847	29,637
Expenses	9,298	27,103	28,928
Net Income or Loss	-10	-256	709

Liquid Assets*

108,390 108,390

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

March numbers were basically break even. Kirk Mutual Fund fluctuation accounted for a negative \$362 and we paid two DTE bills during the We are awaiting a snowplowing bill for the season which likely will be more than the previous two years.



April Game Night
brought out a fun crowd to play games such as Skip-Bo and Wii Bowling. Dinner was loaded baked potatoes. \$145 was raised for the patio fund.



May 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 6:30-8pm Girl Scouts-Lounge 7-10pm Harmony Town Chorus-Fellowship Hall	2 10am-12:45pm WCCP Pizza Kit Delivery-Fellowship	3 7-9pm Harmony Town Board Meeting-	4 7:45-9:30pm Alanon-Lounge	5 9:30am-Choir Practice
6 10:30 am Worship in Sanctuary	7 7:30-9pm Bi-Polar Depression Support Group-Lounge	8 7-9pm WCCP Maintenance -Fellowship Hall 7-10pm Harmony Town Chorus-Lounge	9	10	11 7:45-9:30pm Alanon-Lounge	12 9am-Noon-Spring Cleaning 9:30am-Choir Practice
13 10:30 am Worship in Sanctuary Session-Fellowship	14 6:30-8:30pm Hope 4 Healing Hearts-Fellowship Hall 7:30-9pm Bi-Polar Depression Support Group-Lounge	15 6:30-8pm Girl Scouts-Lounge 7-10pm Harmony Town Chorus-Fellowship Hall	16	17	18 8am-1pm WCCP Health and Safety Fair-Fellowship and Parking Lot 6pm-Game Night-Mexican Theme-Fellowship 7:45-9:30pm Alanon-Lounge	19 9am-1pm WCCP Tuesday Maintenance Crew-Fellowship Hal 9:30am-Choir Practice
20-Pentecost 10:30 am Worship in Sanctuary Communion	21 9am-Noon WCCP Graduation Practice-Sanctuary 7:30-9pm Bi-Polar Depression Support Group-Lounge Group	22 9am-Noon WCCP 3-Yr Last Day of School-Fellowship 7-10pm Harmony Town Chorus-Fellowship Hall	23 9am-Noon WCCP 4 Yr Graduation-Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall	24	25 7:45-9:30pm Alanon-Lounge	26
27-Trinity 10:30 am Worship in Sanctuary Communion Deacons-Sanctuary Wedding	28 6:30-8:30pm Hope 4 Healing Hearts-Fellowship Hall 7:30-9pm Bi-Polar Depression Support Group-Lounge	29 6:30-8pm Girl Scouts-Lounge 7-10pm Harmony Town Chorus-Fellowship Hall	30 11:30 am Classy Lassies and Grazers Lunch	31 8am-2pm WCCP Year-End Picnic		

May 2018 Daily Lectionary

These Scripture readings are from the two-year daily lectionary of the Presbyterian Book of Common Worship (Westminster John Knox Press, 1993). The readings from the three-year Revised Common Lectionary for Sundays and Festivals are not included in this document.

May

Tuesday, May 1
Morning: Pss. 98; 146
Evening: Pss. 66; 116
Lev. 16:20–34
1 Thess. 5:1–11
Matt. 6:7–15

Wednesday, May 2
Morning: Pss. 99;
147:1–11
Evening: Pss. 9; 118
Lev. 19:1–18
1 Thess. 5:12–28
Matt. 6:19–24

Thursday, May 3
Morning: Pss. 47;
147:12–20
Evening: Pss. 68; 113
Lev. 19:26–37
2 Thess. 1:1–12
Matt. 6:25–34

Friday, May 4
Morning: Pss. 96; 148
Evening: Pss. 49; 138
Lev. 23:1–22
2 Thess. 2:1–17
Matt. 7:1–12

Saturday, May 5
Morning: Pss. 92; 149
Evening: Pss. 23; 114
Lev. 23:23–44
2 Thess. 3:1–18
Matt. 7:13–21

Sunday, May 6
6th Sunday of Easter
Morning: Pss. 93; 150
Evening: Pss. 136; 117
Lev. 25:1–17
James 1:2–8, 16–18
Luke 12:13–21

Monday, May 7
Morning: Pss. 97; 145
Evening: Pss. 124; 115
Lev. 25:35–55
Col. 1:9–14
Matt. 13:1–16

Tuesday, May 8
Morning: Pss. 98; 146
Evening: Pss. 66; 116
Lev. 26:1–20
1 Tim. 2:1–6
Matt. 13:18–23

Wednesday, May 9
Morning: Pss. 99;
147:1–11
Evening: Pss. 9; 118
Lev. 26:27–42
Eph. 1:1–10
Matt. 22:41–46

Thursday, May 10
Ascension of the Lord
Morning: Pss. 47;
147:12–20
Evening: Pss. 68; 113
Dan. 7:9–14
Heb. 2:5–18
Matt. 28:16–20

Friday, May 11
Morning: Pss. 96; 148
Evening: Pss. 49; 138
1 Sam. 2:1–10
Eph. 2:1–10
Matt. 7:22–27

Saturday, May 12
Morning: Pss. 92; 149
Evening: Pss. 23; 114
Num. 11:16–17, 24–29
Eph. 2:11–22
Matt. 7:28–8:4

Sunday, May 13
7th Sunday of Easter
Morning: Pss. 93; 150
Evening: Pss. 136; 117
Exod. 3:1–12
Heb. 12:18–29
Luke 10:17–24

Monday, May 14
Morning: Pss. 97; 145
Evening: Pss. 124; 115
Josh. 1:1–9
Eph. 3:1–13
Matt. 8:5–17

Tuesday, May 15
Morning: Pss. 98; 146
Evening: Pss. 66; 116
1 Sam. 16:1–13a
Eph. 3:14–21
Matt. 8:18–27

Wednesday, May 16
Morning: Pss. 99;
147:1–11
Evening: Pss. 9; 118
Isa. 4:2–6
Eph. 4:1–16
Matt. 8:28–34

Thursday, May 17
Morning: Pss. 47;
147:12–20
Evening: Pss. 68; 113
Zech. 4:1–14
Eph. 4:17–32
Matt. 9:1–8

Friday, May 18
Morning: Pss. 96; 148
Evening: Pss. 49; 138
Jer. 31:27–34
Eph. 5:1–32
Matt. 9:9–17

Saturday, May 19
Morning: Pss. 92; 149
Evening: Pss. 23; 114
Ezek. 36:22–27
Eph. 6:1–24
Matt. 9:18–26

Sunday, May 20
Day of Pentecost
Morning: Pss. 104; 150
Evening: Pss. 29; 33
Deut. 16:9–12
Acts 4:18–21, 23–33
John 4:19–26

Monday, May 21
Morning: Pss. 5; 145
Evening: Pss. 82; 29
Prov. 3:11–20
1 John 3:18–4:6
Matt. 11:1–6

Tuesday, May 22
Morning: Pss. 42; 146
Evening: Pss. 102; 133
Prov. 4:1–27
1 John 4:7–21
Matt. 11:7–15

Wednesday, May 23
Morning: Pss. 89:1–18;
147:1–11
Evening: Pss. 1; 33
Prov. 6:1–19
1 John 5:1–12
Matt. 11:16–24

Thursday, May 24
Morning: Pss. 97;
147:12–20
Evening: Pss. Ps. 16; 62
Prov. 7:1–27
1 John 5:13–21
Matt. 11:25–30

Friday, May 25
Morning: Pss. 51; 148
Evening: Pss. 142; 65
Prov. 8:1–21
2 John 1–13
Matt. 12:1–14

Saturday, May 26
Morning: Pss. 104; 149
Evening: Pss. 138; 98
Prov. 8:22–36
3 John 1–15
Matt. 12:15–21

Sunday, May 27
Trinity Sunday
Morning: Pss. 103; 150
Evening: Pss. 117; 139
Job 38:1–11; 42:1–5
Rev. 19:4–16
John 1:29–34

Monday, May 28
Morning: Pss. 135; 145
Evening: Pss. 97; 112
Prov. 10:1–12
1 Tim. 1:1–17
Matt. 12:22–32

Tuesday, May 29
Morning: Pss. 123; 146
Evening: Pss. 30; 86
Prov. 15:16–33
1 Tim. 1:18–2:15
Matt. 12:33–42

Wednesday, May 30
Morning: Pss. 15;
147:1–11
Evening: Pss. 48; 4
Prov. 17:1–20
1 Tim. 3:1–16
Matt. 12:43–50

Thursday, May 31
Morning: Pss. 36;
147:12–20
Evening: Pss. 80; 27
Prov. 21:30–22:6
1 Tim. 4:1–16
Matt. 13:24–30