

YOUR PRESBYTERIAN NEIGHBOR

August 2018

THE PASSING OF SOMEONE ELSE

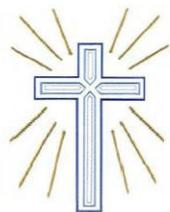
The church was bowed in grief this week to learn that one of our most valuable members, Someone Else, passed away. This death creates a vacancy that will be difficult to fill. Someone Else has been with us for many years. During all these years, he did far more than a normal person's share of the work. Whenever leadership was mentioned, this wonderful person was looked to for inspiration as well as results.

Whenever there was a job to do—a class to teach, or a meeting to attend— one name was on everyone's list: "Let Someone Else do it."

Someone Else was also among the largest givers of the church. Whenever there was a financial need, everyone just assumed that Someone Else would make up the difference.

This beloved church member was a wonderful person, sometimes appearing super-human; but a person can only do so much. Everybody expected too much of Someone Else.

Now Someone Else is gone. Who will pitch in to do the things that Someone Else has done? If you are asked to take a job in church, we hope you won't reply, "Let Someone else do it." Now we need you to pick up where Someone Else left off.



Rest In Peace

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CALENDAR

- 8/1 9:30 A.M. Quilters
- 8/2 10:30 A.M. Travelogue
2-4 P.M. Prayer Shawl Group
- 8/5 10:00 A.M. Worship - Guest Speaker
Rev. Joanna Bailey, Communion,
Missions offering
11:00 A.M. Fellowship, refreshments
- 8/8 9:30 A.M. Quilters
- 8/9 2-4 P.M. Prayer Shawl Group
- 8/12 10:00 A.M. Worship - Guest Speaker
Dr. Chris Dorn, Kosbar Scholarship
presentations
11:00 A.M. Fellowship, refreshments
- 8/15 9:30 A.M. Quilters
- 8/16 2-4 P.M. Prayer Shawl Group
5:00 P.M. Soup Kitchen, Team #2
Captain, Margaret Gregory
- 8/19 10:00 A.M. Worship - Guest Speaker
Dr. Chris Dorn
11:00 A.M. Fellowship, refreshments
- 8/22 9:30 A.M. Quilters
- 8/23 2-4 P.M. Prayer Shawl Group
- 8/26 10:00 A.M. Worship - Guest Speaker
Dr. Chris Dorn
11:00 A.M. Fellowship, refreshments
- 8/29 9:30 A.M. Quilters
- 8/30 2-4 P.M. Prayer Shawl Group

Birthdays

- 8/1 Heather Arnold
- 8/5 JoAnn Fuhrman
- 8/5 Megan Ransom
- 8/9 Susan Shaver
- 8/15 Thomas Cox, Jr.
- 8/25 Warren Thompson
- 8/27 Lee Hunsberger
- 8/28 Sally Wilcox



Soup Kitchen
August 16 @ 5:00 P.M.
Team #2
Captain, Margaret Gregory



August Worship Stewards

August 5 - Communion Servers: Ami Cox, Bill Robinson, Jan Arnold
Communion Preparation: Lee Hunsberger, Keith Sterner; **Liturgist:** Lee Hunsberger
Ushers/Greeters: Pat Gustafson, Oscar and Leon Johnson

August 12 - Liturgist: Perry Gregory; **Ushers/Greeters:** Shelly Reglin, Lavonna and David Hoover; **Children's Message:** Sue Thompson

August 19 - Liturgist: Sue Reglin; **Ushers/Greeters:** Dr. Keith and Lynn Sterner
Children's Message: Judi Emlinger

August 26 - Liturgist: Robert Sykes; **Ushers/Greeters:** Dr. Keith and Lynn Sterner, Evelyn Ransom

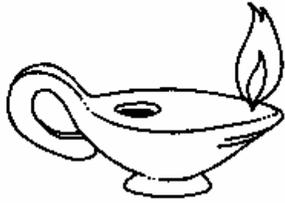
Prayer Shawl Group News

Just a reminder that blankets are available for all ages. Recipient does not need to be a church member. If you know of someone who could use a blanket, please contact Mary Williams or Evelyn Ransom.

Prayer Shawl Group

Please note the "Presbyterians on the Go" will continue meeting the first Thursday of each month at 10:30 A.M. for a travelogue. Everyone is welcome to come, young or old.

Christian Ed has planned a Summer field trip for youth and any adults who may want to lend a hand on August 3rd. We will be going to Outdoor Discovery Center in Allegan. We will leave church at 9:15 A.M. There will be a picnic lunch. Big event will be watching as they feed their birds of prey. Any questions contact Mary Williams.



About Our Songs & Hymns: "Thy Word"

It's Mike Kaufman here. Almost three years ago we added the Christian song, "Thy Word" to our Sunday repertoire at First Presbyterian and we have sung it at Sunday worship several times. For 35 years it has played on radio stations, in homes and elsewhere on several continents.

Do you remember this song which we sing as a bulletin insert? Here is the refrain:

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path

Having recently watched a documentary about co-composer Amy Grant on www.youtube.com, as well as seeing her in a Grand Rapids concert last December, I now share Dr. Chris Dorn's words about this song that we sing in worship.

From Dr Chris:

"Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path." These words have been made familiar to generations of listeners to Christian contemporary music by singer-songwriter Amy Grant. Composed by Grant and fellow artist Michael W. Smith, the song "Thy Word" first appeared in the album *Straight Ahead*, which was released in 1984. It claims the distinction as the first Christian album to make it on the Billboard pop music chart for over one year.

The words are drawn from Psalm 119: 105. This Psalm is the longest in the entire Psalter. It is a paean, or song of praise, to God's law and its cognates, which include "commands," "precepts," "decrees," "statutes," and "words." However they may be called, the Psalmist finds

in them joy, comfort, guidance, wisdom and protection. For this reason the Psalmist loves God's law, which he values more than gold (127).

It is especially comfort and guidance that Grant finds in God's word, as the lyrics reveal:

*When I feel afraid,
And think I've lost my way.
Still, You're there right beside me.*

*Nothing will I fear
As long as You are near;
Please be near me to the end.*

Later in the song Grant shifts focus from God's word to Jesus.

*Jesus be my guide,
And hold me to Your side,
And I will love you to the end.*

For the Christian, this is entirely appropriate. In the Gospel of John, Jesus proclaims himself as the light of the world, so that whoever follows him will not walk in darkness, but enjoy the light of life (8:12). Indeed, the Gospel of Matthew suggests that this is a reflected light. For in the Sermon on the Mount Jesus teaches his followers that *they* are the light of the world (5:14).

Grant's song contains rich biblical themes, and has the added advantage that it is set to a memorable melody, which is easy to sing. Let us continue to avail ourselves of this song in our worship from time to time. In singing the lyrics we affirm our conviction that God's word indeed is a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our paths..

~

It was Palm Sunday but because of a sore throat, five year old Bobby stayed home from church with a sitter. When the family returned home, they were carrying several palm fronds Bobby asked them what they were for.

“People held them over Jesus’ head as he walked by,” his father told him.

“Wouldn’t you know it,” Bobby complained, “the one Sunday I don’t go and He shows up”

A man and his wife were having an argument about who should brew the coffee each morning.

The wife said, “You should do it, because you get up first, and then we don’t have to wait as long to get our coffee.”

The husband said, “You are in charge of cooking around here and you should do it, because that is your job, and I can just wait for my coffee.”

Wife replies, “No, you should do it, and besides, it is in the Bible that the man should do the coffee.”

Husband replies, “I can’t believe that, show me.”

So she fetched the Bible, and opened the New Testament and showed him at the top of several page, that it indeed says: HEBREWS

Newsletters, Calendar and more at www.ioniafpc.com

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Church Office Hours - Monday through Thursday

9:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M., Phone 527-2320