

THE KIRK KONNECTION

Editor: Carolyn Marnon

November 2021



Consecration Sunday Is Here!

Beginning in 2013, Kirk of Our Savior began utilizing the *New Consecration Sunday* Stewardship Program as a method by which we would articulate the biblical and spiritual principles of generous giving in our emphasis of stewardship education.

This program is based upon the biblical philosophy of the need of the giver to give for his or her own spiritual development, rather than on the need of the church to receive. Rather than treating people like members of a social club who should pay dues, we instead treat people like followers of Jesus Christ who naturally want to give as an act of discipleship.

For obvious reasons, the past two years of our stewardship program have not resembled the previous seven nearly as much as we would have liked...the pandemic's twists and turns have impacted everything and this is no exception. One constant in the midst of everything, however, has been the *commitment of Jesus Christ to all of us*. Our savior has never stopped walking with us, never stopped loving us and never stopped sustaining us in our time of need. As such – knowing that God has already given us all we could ever hope for in the form of the saving Messiah – we faithfully ask the same question we *have* asked the previous seven years: “What is God calling me to give?”

The most important part of this question has *absolutely nothing to do with money*. And no: I am not trying to be clever here.

None of what we contribute financially at our church matters if our hearts do not desire to give joyfully as we have received. It is an empty action. It does not help **you** at all, and that is the biggest reason we have our stewardship program in place: to facilitate discipleship for our church members...to assist as best we can in helping all of our Kirk family to grow in relationship with the Lord by utilizing our God-given resources as *faithfully* as we possibly can. Our program is not about “paying the church's bills.” It's about growing in our faith with the acknowledgement that all we have – time, talent, resources – is a gift and comes only from God. It's about spiritual growth for all of us that cannot possibly take place if we cling to earthly resources while placing trust in ourselves instead of God.

The church's mission obviously matters. *But so do you*. There is no reason that we cannot continue our individual and collective spiritual development while simultaneously supporting our church's mission to the local community and the world. And I will be so bold as to inform everyone that even in the midst of these past two years *our mission has only grown*. Your contributions have had a tremendous impact upon children as near as Wayne and Westland but also as far away as South Africa. We have been blessed with opportunities to help people and you all should be proud of that which you are such an integral part.

During morning worship on November 14, 2021 (Consecration Sunday), we are asking our attendees and members to make their financial commitments to our church's ministries in this community and around the world. We will have a brief period of instruction and inspiration, culminating in members making their commitments as a confidential act of worship.

Continued on next page...

Every attendee and member who completes an *Estimate of Giving Card* does so voluntarily by attending morning worship on Consecration Sunday, and the procedure is done in such a way that no one is singled out if he or she chooses not to fill out a card. If you are unable to attend, we sincerely hope that you will still participate by filling out the card that was sent to your home and mailing it back.

Thank you for your continued commitment both to your individual and also our collective congregational spiritual development as we all seek to grow in relationship with the Lord. The impact of our growth in these areas does not just benefit us personally, but stands also to touch the lives of so, so many others. Only by and through God's grace have we been put into this amazing position and I pray we never take that for granted.

In peace, love and joy,

Pastor Mike



Thank you to everyone who sponsored birthday shopping trips for the children of Middelburg Care Village this year! We are excited to announce the continuation of this program through 2022. Each sponsorship will cost \$20. You may sponsor as many or as few children as you would like. Email Mieke Beckman (miekebeckman@gmail.com) to sponsor a child. \$20 (in a marked envelope) can be dropped off at the church, sent to the church in the mail, or placed in the offering plate on Sunday. These children are so incredibly grateful for what you do for them!

Mieke Beckman





November BIRTHDAYS

- 4 Cathy Troutman
- 13 John Rose
- 19 Leslie Holland
- 24 Rob Otte
- 25 Tom Forgacs

NO MORE BOTTLES AND CANS

We are no longer accepting bottles and cans at the church for recycling.

Please do not leave cans and/or bottles in the hallway. We are grateful for your past donations; however, the ants have become a problem for us. We need to do everything we can to prevent them from entering the building.



Financial Report as of 10/31/2021

	October	Year to Date	Budget
Income	10,861	91,011	90,111
Expenses	12,791	98,955	101,405
Net Income or Loss	-1,930	-7,944	-11,294
Liquid Assets*	133,381	133,381	

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

October included 5 collections but also 3 pay periods. This is usually a difficult situation for the Kirk to show positives financially. We did post a loss which was about 75% of a normal pay period making the results somewhat better than expected. We are getting by financially but monthly results are mixed. We still have a significant cushion in liquid assets.

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.

Celebrating 100 Years of Life!

MY LIFE by Lois Hanley

The first words that came to mind were GOOD or maybe BLESSED

My parents were great and struggled to get us through the depression. My two sisters and I never knew we were poor. We always had food. Mom was an excellent cook and a splendid seamstress. We always wore hand-me-downs with some new material dresses at times. Mom blue rubber soles on our shoes and saw that we polished those shoes.

Our meals were served at 6 p.m., dinner time was special and we all sat down together. Dad carved and served and Mom saw to it that we ate balanced meals. We had great times talking and joking at the dinner table.

I grew up in Wayne, MI when it was still a Village. Wayne had its own water processing plant, there was a Fire Department and Police Department. We never had to lock things up. We had a hat store, grocery store, flower shop, dress store, bowling alley, Theater, good schools and banks.

It had a small population so mostly we knew everyone so we couldn't get away with much.

Sundays were a special day and stores were closed that day. Most of us went to church. The ladies dressed up and wore hats, there were all denominations. Sunday morning church bells thrilled me as they called us in for service.

Neighbors really neighbored in those days, like Sunday morning breakfast with Joe next door in the park.

After graduating from high school I married and had my children, Jimmy, first and after a 6 and a half year wait Leslie arrived. She was a beautiful child. For years it was like playing with a doll. When she reached high school buying prom dresses was great fun.

A divorce after 25 years of marriage. I had to go to work for the first time. Scary, yes but I grew up very fast. I loved clerking, first at Montgomery Ward six years, Sears six years and Fisher Wallpaper and Paint for seven years.

Met a wonderful man named George and we dated 3 months and were married. I shared 28 wonderful years with him before he passed. Now I have lived almost as long without him.

So many kindnesses from friends, family and neighbors have carried me through the past years. Thanks to my special friends at the Kirk—God Bless.





October was a very busy and exciting month at Learn Through Play Preschool.

We visited Three Cedars Farm where we took a hayride out to the pumpkin patch, picked pumpkins and enjoyed cider and doughnuts. We did several different activities with pumpkins and our favorite was pumpkin volcanoes! We finished out the month with our first annual trunk-or-treat celebration. It was a great success! We had about 45 attendees which included our students and their families.





- 1 Melissa Lewandowski
- 5 Fred and Georgeen Kirk's Anniversary
- 11 Frank Hilberer



Thank you, John Rose, for your time and dedication to keeping the grounds of the Kirk trimmed. John's job has been made easier with a new riding lawn mower that won't need the extensive maintenance the prior mower needed.



WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Madeline Carpenter (2022), Chairman and Elder

Bonnie Hilberer (2022) Elder

Colleen Williamson (2022) Deacon

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

(2022) Deacon

Bill Partaka (2024) Deacon

CHILDREN & YOUTH

Peggy Flacks (2022) Deacon

MISSION/OUTREACH

Mieke Beckman (2023) Chairman and Elder

June Jennings (2023) Elder

Andrea Alicea (2022) Deacon

FOUNDATION

Rob Otte (2022) Chairman and Elder

Patrick Frobe (2023) Elder

CALLS AND CARDS TEAM

Lois Hanley (2023) Deacon

TREASURER: Fred Kirk

CLERK: June Jennings

A publication for the family and friends of
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November 2021 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.

Monday, November 1

All Saints' Day

Morning: Pss. 5; 145
Evening: Pss. 82; 29
Isa. 26:1–4, 8–9, 12–13,
19–21
Rev. 21:9–11, 22–27
(22:1–5)
or Heb. 11:32–12:2
Matt. 5:1–12

Tuesday, November 2

Morning: Pss. 42; 146
Evening: Pss. 102; 133
Neh. 12:27–31a, 42b–47
or Ezra 4:7, 11–24
Rev. 11:1–19
Matt. 13:44–52

Wednesday, November 3

Morning: Pss. 89:1–18;
147:1–11
Evening: Pss. 1; 33
Neh. 13:4–22
or Hag. 1:1–2:9
Rev. 12:1–12
Matt. 13:53–58

Thursday, November 4

Morning: Pss. 97; 147:12–20
Evening: Pss. 16; 62
Ezra 7:(1–10) 11–26
or Zech. 1:7–17
Rev. 14:1–13
Matt. 14:1–12

Friday, November 5

Morning: Pss. 51; 148
Evening: Pss. 142; 65
Ezra 7:27–28; 8:21–36
or Ezra 5:1–17
Rev. 15:1–8
Matt. 14:13–21

Saturday, November 6

Morning: Pss. 104; 149
Evening: Pss. 138; 98
Ezra 9:1–15 or Ezra 6:1–22
Rev. 17:1–14
Matt. 14:22–36

Sunday, November 7

Morning: Pss. 19; 150
Evening: Pss. 81; 113
Ezra 10:1–17 or Neh. 1:1–11
Acts 24:10–21
Luke 14:12–24

Monday, November 8

Morning: Pss. 135; 145
Evening: Pss. 97; 112
Neh. 9:1–15 (16–25)
or Neh. 2:1–20
Rev. 18:1–8
Matt. 15:1–20

Tuesday, November 9

Morning: Pss. 123; 146
Evening: Pss. 30; 86
Neh. 9:26–38 or Neh. 4:1–23
Rev. 18:9–20
Matt. 15:21–28

Wednesday, November 10

Morning: Pss. 15; 147:1–11
Evening: Pss. 48; 4
Neh. 7:73b–8:3, 5–18
or Neh. 5:1–19
Rev. 18:21–24
Matt. 15:29–39

Thursday, November 11

Morning: Pss. 36; 147:12–20
Evening: Pss. 80; 27
Neh. 6:1–19
Rev. 19:1–10
Matt. 16:1–12

Friday, November 12

Morning: Pss. 130; 148
Evening: Pss. 32; 139
Neh. 12:27–31a, 42b–47
Rev. 19:11–16
Matt. 16:13–20

Saturday, November 13

Morning: Pss. 56; 149
Evening: Pss. 118; 111
Neh. 13:4–22
Rev. 20:1–6
Matt. 16:21–28

Sunday, November 14

Morning: Pss. 67; 150
Evening: Pss. 46; 93
Ezra 7:(1–10) 11–26
Acts 28:14b–23
Luke 16:1–13

Monday, November 15

Morning: Pss. 57; 145
Evening: Pss. 85; 47
Ezra 7:27–28; 8:21–36
Rev. 20:7–15
Matt. 17:1–13

Tuesday, November 16

Morning: Pss. 54; 146
Evening: Pss. 28; 99
Ezra 9:1–15
Rev. 21:1–8
Matt. 17:14–21

Wednesday, November 17

Morning: Pss. 65; 147:1–11
Evening: Pss. 125; 91
Ezra 10:1–17
Rev. 21:9–21
Matt. 17:22–27

Thursday, November 18

Morning: Pss. 143;
147:12–20
Evening: Pss. 81; 116
Neh. 9:1–15 (16–25)
Rev. 21:22–22:5
Matt. 18:1–9

Friday, November 19

Morning: Pss. 88; 148
Evening: Pss. 6; 20
Neh. 9:26–38
Rev. 22:6–13
Matt. 18:10–20

Saturday, November 20

Morning: Pss. 122; 149
Evening: Pss. 100; 63
Neh. 7:73b–8:3, 5–18
Rev. 22:14–21
Matt. 18:21–35

Sunday, November 21**Christ the King /****Reign of Christ**

Morning: Pss. 108; 150
Evening: Pss. 66; 23
Isa. 19:19–25
Rom. 15:5–13
Luke 19:11–27

Monday, November 22

Morning: Pss. 62; 145
Evening: Pss. 73; 9
Joel 3:1–2, 9–17
1 Peter 1:1–12
Matt. 19:1–12

Tuesday, November 23

Morning: Pss. 12; 146
Evening: Pss. 36; 7
Nahum 1:1–13
1 Peter 1:13–25
Matt. 19:13–22

Wednesday, November 24

Morning: Pss. 96; 147:1–11
Evening: Pss. 132; 134
Obad. 15–21
1 Peter 2:1–10
Matt. 19:23–30

Thursday, November 25

Morning: Pss. 116;
147:12–20
Evening: Pss. 26; 130
Zeph. 3:1–13
1 Peter 2:11–25
Matt. 20:1–16

Friday, November 26

Morning: Pss. 84; 148
Evening: Pss. 25; 40
Isa. 24:14–23
1 Peter 3:13–4:6
Matt. 20:17–28

Saturday, November 27

Morning: Pss. 63; 149
Evening: Pss. 125; 90
Micah 7:11–20
1 Peter 4:7–19
Matt. 20:29–34

[Begin Year 2]**Sunday, November 28****First Sunday of Advent**

Morning: Pss. 24; 150
Evening: Pss. 25; 110
Amos 1:1–5, 13–2:8
1 Thess. 5:1–11
Luke 21:5–19

Monday, November 29

Morning: Pss. 122; 145
Evening: Pss. 40; 67
Amos 2:6–16
2 Peter 1:1–11
Matt. 21:1–11

Tuesday, November 30

Morning: Pss. 33; 146
Evening: Pss. 85; 94
Amos 3:1–11
2 Peter 1:12–21
Matt. 21:12–22

November 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 No School for LTP (Staff Training) 7:30-9pm BiPolar Depression Support Group Meeting- Lounge	2 No School for LTP (Staff Training)	3	4	5 7:30-9pm Alcohol - Lounge	6 9:30-11:30 am-Choir Rehearsal
7 9:30am-Choir Rehearsal 10:30am Worship Audrey Conner Funeral Service	8 7:30-9pm BiPolar Depression Support Group Meeting- Lounge	9	10	11	12 7:30-9pm Alcohol - Lounge	13 9:30-11:30 am-Choir Rehearsal
14 9:30am-Choir Rehearsal 10:30am Worship Consecration Sunday	15 7:30-9pm BiPolar Depression Support Group Meeting- Lounge	16	17	18	19 7:30-9pm Alcohol - Lounge	20 9:30-11:30 am-Choir Rehearsal Presby Meeting
21 9:30am-Choir Rehearsal 10:30am Worship	22 7:30-9pm BiPolar Depression Support Group Meeting- Lounge	23	24 No School For LTP Thanksgiving Recess	25 No School For LTP Thanksgiving Recess	26 No School For LTP Thanksgiving Recess 7:30-9pm Alcohol - Lounge	27 9:30-11:30 am-Choir Rehearsal
28 9:30am-Choir Rehearsal 10:30am Worship	29 7:30-9pm BiPolar Depression Support Group Meeting- Lounge	30				