

# THE KIRK KONNECTION

Editor: Carolyn Marnon

February 2017



I had an interesting visit to Grand Rapids this past week.

During my time in GR (as we Michiganders refer to the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest city in our state), I had the privilege of attending the Calvin Symposium on Worship at Calvin College, my wife's alma mater. The symposium had been advertised by its sponsor, the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship, as a conference that "brings together a wide audience of artists, musicians, pastors, scholars, students, worship leaders and planners," and the CICW also made the statement that "People come from around the world for a time of fellowship, worship, and learning together, seeking to develop their gifts, encourage each other and renew their commitment to the full ministry of the church."

When I read about the vast array of folks who would be attending and presenting at this conference, I assumed that at least some of the presenters would employ the same sort of inclusive language that much of my home Presbytery of Detroit and my denomination of PC USA has adopted in recent years. This proved to be a naïve assumption, as I did not hear any speaker or leader of worship, panels or seminars do so.

I recognize that this is a non-issue for many people (that was never clearer to me than it was last week), and even though we strive to use this language at my own church I was genuinely surprised at just how much the lack of it at the symposium affected me.

Quick definition of inclusive language, courtesy dictionary.com:

1. language that avoids the use of certain expressions or words that might be considered to exclude particular groups of people, esp gender-specific words, such as "man", "mankind", and masculine pronouns, the use of which might be considered to exclude women

When I began attending seminary I did not use this sort of language, but Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary quickly changed all that. They made it clear that their standard – and the only acceptable sort of language submitted on paperwork at LPTS – had to conform to the definition above. Having no choice but to play by their rules, I began to refer to God as God (and not as he). Did I think it was ridiculous at first? You bet I did. Did my feelings on the matter change completely before I graduated? You bet they did.

Allow me to be clear and concise: I have no issue with anyone who does not use inclusive language. And no; I am not playing both sides here: I believe that everyone is entitled to their own theology and to their own way of expressing that theology. I have simply made this personal observation: Inclusive language is more welcoming than the alternative. It doesn't matter what I or anyone else thinks language does or what it means; all that matters is what the individual hearer is experiencing when they hear what they hear. And if I can be more welcoming to more people and do a better job of reflecting the love and passion of Christ by using this sort of language – *without forsaking my own beliefs* – I would prefer to do that.

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# February 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 7:45-9:30pm Alanon	4
5 <b>Communion</b>	6 7:30-9pm Bi-Polar Depression Support Group	7 7-10pm Harmony Town Chorus	8	9 7pm-WCCP Maintenance	10 7:45-9:30pm Alanon	11
12 <b>Session Meeting</b>	13 9am-Noon WCCP Fellowship/Kitchen 7:30-9pm Bi-Polar Depression Support Group 6:30-8:30pm Hope for Healing Hearts	14 9am-Noon WCCP Fellowship/Kitchen 7-10pm Harmony Town Chorus	15	16	17 7:45-9:30pm Alanon	18 9am WCCP Maintenance  <b>Leadership Training</b>
19 <b>Ordination/ Installation Chili Luncheon</b>	20 1:30-3:30pm Wayne –Westland Senior Choir Practice 7:30-9pm Bi-Polar Depression Support Group	21 7-10pm Harmony Town Chorus	22 11:30 <b>Classy Lassies and Grazers Lunch</b>	23	24 7:45-9:30pm Alanon <b>7-10pm Game Night</b>	25
26 <b>Communion Deacon Meeting</b>	27 7:30-9pm Bi-Polar Depression Support Group 6:30-8:30pm Hope for Healing Hearts	28 7-10pm Harmony Town Chorus				

**Kirk of Our Savior Annual Meeting of the Congregation**  
January 22, 2017

After the Clerk of Session verified that there was a quorum present, the Moderator called the meeting to order with prayer at 12:25 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

It was MOVED by Sharon Garcia, SECONDED, and CARRIED to approve the agenda as presented.  
It was MOVED by Sharon Garcia, SECONDED, and CARRIED to approve the minutes of the January 24, 2016, annual congregational meeting and annual meeting of the corporation as written and presented at this meeting.

The following reports were presented for approval:

Board of Deacon's	Treasurer's:
Clerk of Session	a) 2016 Audit
Children & Youth	b) Statement of Benevolence
Church Foundation	c) Balance Sheet
Fellowship	d) Income Statement
Outreach/Mission	e) Terms of Call*
Pastor's	Worship

After the opportunity for comments, questions, and discussion, it was MOVED by Jenny Root, SECONDED, and CARRIED to approve the reports as presented.

The Treasurer presented, for information only, the 2017 Operating Budget.

The following elections took place:

Officers

For Elders, class of 2020: Patrick Frobe, Nancy Pride, and Dorothy Albright

For Deacons, class of 2020: Lynn King, Irene Gaylord, and Robert Otte

It was MOVED by Betty Hesselgrave, SECONDED, and CARRIED to close the nominations and cast 1 ballot for the slate.

Audit Committee, 2017

John Rose and Joan Nystrom placed themselves into nomination.

It was MOVED by Betty Hesselgrave, SECONDED, and CARRIED to close the nominations and cast 1 ballot for the slate.

Nomination Committee, 2017

Jenny Root and Lois Hanley placed themselves into nomination; Jennifer Otte was placed into nomination.

It was MOVED by Sharon Garcia, SECONDED, and CARRIED to close the nominations and cast 1 ballot for the slate.

The Moderator recessed the meeting at 12:55 p.m. in order for the business of the corporation to be held.

**Kirk of Our Savior Annual Meeting of the Corporation**  
January 22, 2017

President Judy Curtis called the meeting to order at 12:55 p.m.

It was MOVED by Jenny Root, SECONDED, and CARRIED to elect as Trustees Patrick Frobe, Nancy Pride, and Dorothy Albright. No others were eligible for election.

It was MOVED by Jenny Root, SECONDED, and CARRIED to elect Dorothy Albright to serve as Vice President of the Corporation.

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It was MOVED by Betty Hesselgrave, SECONDED, and CARRIED to close the meeting with prayer by the President at 12:57 p.m.

The meeting of the congregation was resumed at 1:00 p.m.; it was MOVED by Betty Hesselgrave, SECONDED, and CARRIED to adjourn the meeting with prayer by the Moderator at 1:01 p.m.

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Jenny M. Root, Clerk of Session

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Rev. Michael Beckman, Moderator

\*TERMS OF CALL for Rev. Michael Beckman, 2017:

EFFECTIVE SALARY

Salary	21,032
Housing Allowance	<u>18,279</u>
TOTAL	\$39,311

PAID BENEFITS

Major Medical	10,780
Pension	4,324
Death Benefit	393
Social Security	3,007

REIMBURSED EXPENSES

Study Allowance	900
Professional Expenses	<u>1,350</u>

TOTAL COMPENSATION \$60,065

## February 2017 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.*

### **Wednesday, February 1**

Morning: Pss. 96; 147:1–11  
Evening: Pss. 132; 134  
Isa. 52:13–53:12  
Gal. 4:21–31  
Mark 8:11–26

### **Thursday, February 2**

Morning: Pss. 116;  
147:12–20  
Evening: Pss. 26; 130  
Isa. 54:1–10 (11–17)  
Gal. 5:1–15  
Mark 8:27–9:1

### **Friday, February 3**

Morning: Pss. 84; 148  
Evening: Pss. 25; 40  
Isa. 55:1–13  
Gal. 5:16–24  
Mark 9:2–13

### **Saturday, February 4**

Morning: Pss. 63; 149  
Evening: Pss. 125; 90  
Isa. 56:1–8  
Gal. 5:25–6:10  
Mark 9:14–29

### **Sunday, February 5** **5th Sunday after Epiphany**

Morning: Pss. 103; 150  
Evening: Pss. 117; 139  
Isa. 57:1–13  
Heb. 12:1–6  
John 7:37–46

### **Monday, February 6**

Morning: Pss. 5; 145  
Evening: Pss. 82; 29  
Isa. 57:14–21  
Gal. 6:11–18  
Mark 9:30–41

### **Tuesday, February 7**

Morning: Pss. 42; 146  
Evening: Pss. 102; 133  
Isa. 58:1–12  
2 Tim. 1:1–14  
Mark 9:42–50

### **Wednesday, February 8**

Morning: Pss. 89:1–18;  
147:1–11  
Evening: Pss. 1; 33  
Isa. 59:1–21  
2 Tim. 1:15–2:13  
Mark 10:1–16

### **Thursday, February 9**

Morning: Pss. 97; 147:12–20  
Evening: Pss. 16; 62  
Isa. 60:1–22  
2 Tim. 2:14–26  
Mark 10:17–31

### **Friday, February 10**

Morning: Pss. 51; 148  
Evening: Pss. 142; 65  
Isa. 61:1–9  
2 Tim. 3:1–17  
Mark 10:32–45

### **Saturday, February 11**

Morning: Pss. 104; 149  
Evening: Pss. 138; 98  
Isa. 61:10–62:5  
2 Tim. 4:1–8  
Mark 10:46–52

### **Sunday, February 12** **6th Sunday after Epiphany**

Morning: Pss. 19; 150  
Evening: Pss. 81; 113  
Isa. 62:6–12  
1 John 2:3–11  
John 8:12–19

### **Monday, February 13**

Morning: Pss. 135; 145  
Evening: Pss. 97; 112  
Isa. 63:1–6  
1 Tim. 1:1–17  
Mark 11:1–11

### **Tuesday, February 14**

Morning: Pss. 123; 146  
Evening: Pss. 30; 86  
Isa. 63:7–14  
1 Tim. 1:18–2:8 (9–15)  
Mark 11:12–26

### **Wednesday, February 15**

Morning: Pss. 15; 147:1–11  
Evening: Pss. 48; 4  
Isa. 63:15–64:9  
1 Tim. 3:1–16  
Mark 11:27–12:12

### **Thursday, February 16**

Morning: Pss. 36; 147:12–20  
Evening: Pss. 80; 27  
Isa. 65:1–12  
1 Tim. 4:1–16  
Mark 12:13–27

### **Friday, February 17**

Morning: Pss. 130; 148  
Evening: Pss. 32; 139  
Isa. 65:17–25  
1 Tim. 5:(1–16) 17–22  
(23–25)  
Mark 12:28–34

### **Saturday, February 18**

Morning: Pss. 56; 149  
Evening: Pss. 118; 111  
Isa. 66:1–6  
1 Tim. 6:(1–5) 6–21  
Mark 12:35–44

**Sunday, February 19**  
**7th Sunday after Epiphany**

Morning: Pss. 67; 150  
Evening: Pss. 46; 93  
Isa. 66:7–14  
1 John 3:4–10  
John 10:7–16

**Sunday, February 26**  
**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, February 20**

Morning: Pss. 57; 145  
Evening: Pss. 85; 47  
Ruth 1:1–14  
2 Cor. 1:1–11  
Matt. 5:1–12

**Monday, February 27**

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

**Tuesday, February 21**

Morning: Pss. 54; 146  
Evening: Pss. 28; 99  
Ruth 1:15–22  
2 Cor. 1:12–22  
Matt. 5:13–20

**Tuesday, February 28**

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

**Wednesday, February 22**

Morning: Pss. 65; 147:1–11  
Evening: Pss. 125; 91  
Ruth 2:1–13  
2 Cor. 1:23–2:17  
Matt. 5:21–26

**Thursday, February 23**

Morning: Pss. 143;  
147:12–20  
Evening: Pss. 81; 116  
Ruth 2:14–23  
2 Cor. 3:1–18  
Matt. 5:27–37

**Friday, February 24**

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

**Saturday, February 25**

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

# KONNECTING with....

## Bonnie Dee Hilberer

I was born a twin. My original name was to be Gail Dee and his, Gary Lee. Unfortunately, he was stillborn.

I live in Ann Arbor.

I've been a member of the KIRK for 58 years! I'm not that old!-I was born here



I love the sound of baby laughter.

One thing I love about the Kirk is that we are a family. The music, "We are one in the Spirit"-IS THE KIRK!

If my life was a book, the title would be "I've Become My Mother" or "She Does Too Much" or "Recognizing My Epiphany."

One of my favorite quotes: "Always keep a place in your heart for dreams."

What ways have I tried to serve God, the church and others?

Leading the grief support group for prison families. Volunteering to help others. Being an Elder, numerous times. Using some of the talents He has given me to help others.

I started coming to the KIRK because we lived near Wayne & Ford Rds, and my mom was a member of Garden City. Kirk of our Savior had formed a mission church and was meeting at Cady Elementary School. The first time we were there, I checked the box that mom was interested in joining-the rest is history. (There is more to the story. Ask me about it.)



I knew God was working in my life with my involvement in prison ministry. It began after my first husband died in 1990. I never asked God, "why?"-I always knew there was a reason, I just didn't know the specifics until an indirect family member went to prison. I watched the heartache of other family members and realized they were grieving the loss of a loved one—not through death, but something uglier-through the prison system. Grief is grief. I started a support group for those with incarcerated loved ones. I am still leading this group after 8 years-God saw a need, and put me where I could help others.

Three things on my bucket list:

1. Maintain good health so we can enjoy things for many years to come
2. Take at least 30 lbs off, so I can have an entire new wardrobe to make #1 a reality.
3. Slow down from some of my current activities and spend more time traveling in our motorhome.

I enjoy a variety of crafts-crocheting baby blankets, making jewelry from spoons and beads; just being creative. I learned I can make some pretty nice floral arrangements, but I can't draw a straight line! I can write and enjoy public speaking! "Love my Toastmasters"-17 years. I enjoy dancing, karaoke, riding the back of Frank's motorcycle, camping and just love life! Dearly love helping those in the support group hold their heads high and begin to heal their broken hearts.



**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19**

Following worship

We will be serving 5-6 different pots of chili, crackers, shredded cheese and sour cream. Join us!



**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24**

7:00 pm

Bring board games, snacks to share and your own beverage. We will have a fun night of games and fellowship. Bring friends!



3 Nancy Pride  
15 Brian Shrewsbury  
24 Judy Curtis

**LET'S LEARN ABOUT EACH OTHER!**

We had new members join in 2016. It would be great to get to know our new members better as well as our "older" members. Please feel free to fill out the questionnaire on the table in the lounge and submit it to the office. We want to feature you in a future

edition of the Konnection. This is a wonderful way to get to know each other, find things we have in common with each other, and perhaps provide an avenue to a new friendship.



**IT'S A LUNCH DATE!**

**February 22**

Meet with other church members at 11:30am in the church lounge on the last Wednesday of the month for the monthly lunch date of the Classy Lassies and the Grazers. All are invited to attend and enjoy lunch and fellowship together at a local restaurant.



A publication for the family and friends of Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church (USA)

36660 Cherry Hill Road, Westland MI 48185

Office: (734) 728-1088 churchoffice@wowway.biz

Michael Beckman, Pastor (215) 620-3259, mikebeckman2@gmail.com

Facebook.com/kirkofoursavior



## **KROGER COMMUNITY** **REWARDS**

The Meijer Community Rewards program which the Kirk participated in for a number of years was ended mid-year by Meijer, and the Kirk has finally been qualified to participate in the Kroger Community Rewards program which will provide the Kirk a small portion of income when member's do regular grocery shopping and get gas. The program is similar to what Meijer did, but Kroger puts no requirements on method of payment used. The essence of the Kroger program is the KrogerPlus card which is their standard card that is scanned at the register in order to obtain sale prices. If you are even a semi-regular shopper at Kroger you probably have one. If you don't have one you can apply at the service desk of your local Kroger store. The next step in the program for all members' KrogerPlus accounts is to register on-line and designate the Kirk as your charity of choice. Not only Kirk members can do this, but your family and friends can do it as well. Below are the instructions for registering. It is not as daunting as it seems, but if you have questions about registering or need assistance see Fred Kirk or Joan Nystrom.

The Kirk has been assigned number 69358.

### **TO USE THE KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM:**

Register online at [krogercommunityrewards.com](http://krogercommunityrewards.com)

Be sure to have your Kroger Plus card handy and register your card with your organization after you sign up.

Click on Sign In/Register

Most participants are new online customers, so they must click on SIGN UP TODAY in the 'New Customer?' box. Sign up for a Kroger Rewards Account by entering zip code, clicking on favorite store, entering your email address and creating a password, agreeing to the terms and conditions

You will then get a message to check your email inbox and click on the link within the body of the email.

If you already have an online account, for example to receive offers and emails from Kroger, you can just sign in.

Click on My Account and use your email address and password to proceed to the next step.

Click on Edit Kroger Community Rewards information and input your Kroger Plus card number.

Update or confirm your information.

Enter NPO number or name of organization, select organization from list and click on confirm.

**To verify you are enrolled correctly, you will see your organization's name on the right side of your information page and the Kirk's name should appear at the bottom of all your receipts after 48 hours.**

Do you use your phone number at the register? Call 877-576-7587 to get your Kroger Plus card number.

Members must swipe their registered Kroger Plus card or use the phone number that is related to their registered Kroger Plus card when shopping for each purchase to count.

## **2017 PER CAPITA**

Per Capita is the charge that each Presbyterian Church is billed annually to meet various operations at both the local Presbytery and national church levels. At the Kirk and at most other individual local churches, members are encouraged to help reimburse this larger expense. This year (2017) the amount suggested to be donated by the congregation is \$26 per member, an amount unchanged from 2016. Please consider paying this amount in the regular offering sometime in the coming months. If you have a box of giving envelopes there is a dedicated colored envelope for Per Capita payments included, but you can also just mark the payment on any envelope you choose. Thank you.



**Financial Report as of 12/31/2016**

	<b>Decem-ber</b>	<b>Year to Date</b>	<b>Budget</b>
<b>Income</b>	10,656	112,138	105,545
<b>Expenses</b>	10,396	109,779	107,163
<b>Net Income or Loss</b>	260	2,359	-1,618
<b>Liquid Assets*</b>	97,127	97,127	

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

Surprisingly the Kirk had a successful December in light of 3 pay periods occurring during the month. Usually in such months we have difficulty covering expenses with normal income but this December income was strong. For the year we had an excess of \$2,359 that occurred through higher weekly offerings as well as a higher volume of investment gains in our mutual funds. This more than offset a cost for tree removal and additional salary costs due to the Board of Pensions delaying Mike's pension payment from his hiring until January.

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As I scanned a room of 300 people that was 99% white and 85% male, I reflected on the Symposium's theme: "The Faithful Witness: Being Christ's Church in an Apocalyptic World." The description included the following: "Throughout our world in recent years, Christians along with everyone else have been convulsed by terrorism, martyrdom, persecution, and political upheavals of many varieties." When I read that statement, I thought of all the good friends I've made in ministry over the years – minorities of every type: gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, religious status, disability status, etc – who would have had difficulty receiving the witness that the presenters at the symposium were attempting to impart.

Language matters. Words matter. It's important to take responsibility and great care in our communication with all people, and this past week I was so thankful and proud to be a part of Kirk of Our Savior, Detroit Presbytery and the Presbyterian Church U.S.A. We as individuals are not the same, and that's ok. In all of these families I have been so lucky to witness a celebration of diversity and a welcoming spirit that I have not felt everywhere else. In the midst of this welcome and celebration, though, it will never quite be possible for me to understand the experiences of those who are not just like me. Therefore it was a gift for me to worship in a great sea of fellow Christians while I for once was the fish out of water.

*Pastor Mike*

***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.***