



"WALKING A LIFE OF PASSION AND PURPOSE FOR JESUS CHRIST"

Pastor Kirk Werner

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Knoxville, TN 37920

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Friends and **F**amily of **C**ross**W**alk,

This month's letter is sort of an addendum to my sermon this past Sunday as I wish to focus on Ephesians 5:15 and 16 which reads, ***"Be very careful, then, how you live — not unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil."*** As I noted the word for evil means, "diseased." The days are dying, and the implication is that the remainder of our time on this earth is fleeting. So, it is that Paul counsels us to make the most of every opportunity. In the verses just prior to this Paul notes that we are ***"children of the light"*** and should live as such.

We all must make decisions on how we use our time. In today's world we live under tremendous pressure as we deal with the demands on our time. Only the Lord can enable us to live wisely so we may make the most of every opportunity.

There is much going on at CrossWalk this month — a ministry fair, our annual ice cream supper, a viewing of the film *I Can Only Imagine*, followed by a four-week Bible Study and our annual Fall Festival. I would like to say that the movie, *I Can Only Imagine*, is a powerful and moving true story about the redemptive love of God and His awesome power that enables us to overcome deep wounds and experience His healing touch. I believe it will speak to all who view it of God's grace and mercy.

I do want to thank the many volunteers who are working together so that these events can take place and be a blessing to those who participate. Please carefully consider where God wants you in ministry for His glory. May we all be very careful how we live. By His grace we will live wisely.

Your brother and co-worker in
Christ,
Kirk



Messages for the Month

SEPTEMBER 02, 2018 – **James 1:19 - 25** “The Saving Word” – **Communion**

SEPTEMBER 09, 2018 – **Mark 7:24 - 30** – “Gratefully Humble” – 16th Sunday after Pentecost

SEPTEMBER 16, 2018 – Viewing of the film- “**I Can Only Imagine**”

SEPTEMBER 23, 2018 – **Mark 9:30 - 37** - “Sent to Serve” – 18th Sunday after Pentecost

SEPTEMBER 30, 2018 – **Psalm 124:1 - 8** - “God’s Got This” – 19th Sunday after Pentecost

Our Staff

Pastor: Kirk Werner

Child Care Director: Linda Odle

Music Director: Trey Lister

Director of Children’s Ministries:

Anna Baker

Class of 2018:

Donna Carter, Matt Peterson & Greg Waldrop

Class of 2019:

John Carson, & Courtney Scollard

Class of 2020:

Carol Jordan, Jim Slyman & Maurice Briere



BIRTHDAYS



Jeanne Cecil – 1st

Katie Fletcher – 3rd

Susan Fletcher – 5th

Ben Baker – 6th

Abby Johnson – 8th

Matt Peterson – 10th

Christian Rosa – 14th

Elizabeth Kyser – 14th

Clara Scollard – 15th

Clark Werner – 16th

Ryan Spargo – 21st

Carol Jordan – 24th

Barry Burnette – 25th

Chelsea Peterson – 25th

Carolyn Carson – 28th



ANNIVERSARIES



Stan & Susan Fletcher – 12th

Matt & Courtney Scollard – 12th

Bill & Diana Hawk – 28th



NURSERY SCHEDULE



Kids Crossing with **Jim Odle** **John Carson or Courtney Scollard**

September 02: Matt Peterson

September 09: Jeanne Cecil

September 16: Susan Fletcher

September 23: Sue Werner

September 23: Gwen Davis



Preschool Room with **Linda Odle** **Dawn Briere, Laine Donnell or Carol Jordan**

Extra

Helper

Teacher

Sep 02: Debbie Lutton Gwen Davis Carol Jordan

Sep 09: Jeremy Cecil Travis Baker Laine Donnell

Sep 16: Anna Baker Irving Rosa Dawn Briere

Sep 23: Mike Walkup Stan Fletcher Carol Jordan

Sep 23: Brenda Clabo Lindsay Rosa Dawn Briere

If you **cannot** work *your scheduled time*, please swap with someone and if you *cannot find a substitute*, call Linda Odle at 690-9358 or 207-2623. **When you know you can't work in the nursery, please e-mail the date(s) to jlodle@comcast.net or put them in writing and give them to Linda Odle in the nursery. Thanks!**

BABIES/TODDLERS/PRESCHOOL & KIDS CROSSING CHILDREN

We are in serious need for more helpers in the preschool room or kids crossing. It is taking more people because we are having more children and because Linda Odle cannot teach due to her cancer treatments. Please call Linda Odle at 690-9358 to help. There is no preparation!



Your Prayers are Needed for The Good News Club at New Hopewell Elementary



If you can, please remember to bring school supplies purchased for the children attending New Hopewell School or supplies used by the teachers to feed and care for the children in serious need. Children have much difficulty learning when hungry in the morning. Your help in this matter is greatly appreciated. *Items can be placed in the back of the church.*

GOD BLESS & Thank You



SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:



CrossWalk Café

September is going to be a very busy month and we will be changing things up a bit, so hopefully you'll be reading over the newsletter for this month carefully. *First, our café' which is typically the first Sunday of the month will be held on **September 16th**.* It will be a brunch at 10 a.m. sharp followed by the film ***I Can Only Imagine***. This powerful film explores some basic Biblical truths which will serve as the basis for a four-week Bible study series in which we hope you will consider being a participant.



THANK YOU...KUDOS...APPLAUSE!!!

The session would like to say THANK YOU to all families for your service on the **Refreshment Ministry Team**. When you join the church, you are assigned to this team, as we feel it is a ministry that all can participate in. You are paired with another family and given one month (every 1 1/2 – 2 years) to provide Sunday morning refreshments. Most teams take two weeks each; others share in the entire month. *It is up to you.* **Please remember that you are NOT responsible for providing breakfast for everyone.** This is just a light refreshment to have with coffee or juice. (Coffee is provided by the church.) *What the teams provide is their gift to the church in service to our Lord.* Be sure and show your gratitude... We are certainly grateful to each of you!!!

**The teams are posted on the bulletin board for the year and printed 3 months ahead in the newsletter, so that you can plan ahead.*



Sunday Morning Refreshment Schedule

September 2018

Lisa & Pat McNabb 951-1866
Janice & Jim Slyman 250-1821

October 2018

LJ & Davin Olafson 609-6061
Sandy & Fred May 579-5182

November 2018

Karen & Mike Walkup 573-0105
Judy Campbell 573-0037



CrossWalk family, if you see a need to replenish **coffee supplies** - coffee, hot/cold cups, coffee stirrers, **kitchen supplies** - paper towels, kitchen dish soap or **men's/women's room supplies**, please let us know by; (1) **noting what is needed on the bulletin board located in the kitchen** so that supplies can be replenished **before they are completely out.** If you have questions, please contact **Judy Campbell** or **Sue Werner**. Thank you!



Check out our website!

Have you checked out our website lately? It's a great way to introduce people to our church. Navigate through the site and see pictures of various activities. There are photos of JAM (Jesus And Me children's ministry), church events, a calendar of events, and the weekly messages are catalogued in the media section. This is a helpful tool in keeping informed and a good resource to refer to your friends. The web address is www.crosswalkepc.org.



Church Cleaning Committee

Aug 30 - Sept 02 – Stan & Susan Fletcher
Sept 06 – Sept 09 – Fred & Sandy May
Sept 13 – Sept 16 – Fred & Sandy May
Sept 20 – Sept 23 – Matt & Chelsea Peterson
Sept 27 – Sept 30 – Matt & Chelsea Peterson



PLEASE!



If you use the church during the week, please, be sure to take your trash with you when you leave – especially food waste.



Ice Cream Social



It's that time of year again to break out the ice cream freezer! The Walkups have offered to host the ice cream social at their home (1705 Hopewell Dr.) at 6 p.m. on **Sunday, September 9th**. What creative concoction can you dream up? This is always a fun time for some wonderful frozen treats as well as some great fellowship. See you there!



FALL FESTIVAL

&

Craft Fair

Saturday, September 29, 2018
from 9am-2pm

We need volunteers to help run the activities.

A sign-up sheet is out at church. We still have a few spaces for vendors, so if you know anyone who would like to rent a booth, please contact Courtney.

Start spreading the word! Mark that you are going to the event on Facebook, tell your friends and co-workers! *There is a flyer attached at the end of the newsletter that you can put up on community boards!*

Contact *Courtney Scollard* if you have any questions.



"People are often unreasonable and self-centered. Forgive them anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of ulterior motives. Be kind anyway.

If you are honest, people may cheat you. Be honest anyway.

If you find happiness, people may be jealous. Be happy anyway.

The good you do today may be forgotten tomorrow. Do good anyway.

Give the world the best you have, and it may never be enough. Give your best anyway.

For you see, in the end, it is between you and God. It was never between you and them anyway."

Mother Teresa





Ministry Fair

What's your ministry?

Don't miss the "**Ministry Fair**" on **September 9th**

Immediately after our worship service you will have a chance to learn more about ministry opportunities at CrossWalk from people who serve in them. These include:

Outside CrossWalk – Family Promise, Good News Club, Local Schools (New Hopewell Elementary, Gap Creek Elementary, South Doyle Middle), and Faith in Action.

Inside CrossWalk – Children's Ministry, Music, Small Groups, Church Cleaning, and Church Flower Beds.



PSALM 124 – THANKING GOD FOR THE HELP ONLY HE CAN BRING

This Psalm is titled, **A Song of Ascents. Of David.** Psalm 122:4 mentions that the pilgrims gathered in Jerusalem to give thanks. Here we see David leading Israel in giving thanks to God for past help

and expressing their confidence in His continuing help.

Despite the attribution to David, several commentators connect this Psalm with exiles returning from Babylon. James Montgomery Boice answered such well: "The expressions of the psalm ('when men attacked us,' 'swept us away,' 'escaped like a bird') sound more like a military attack and deliverance from it than captivity." It is best to keep the connection with David, considering it an earnest plea for Israel to thank God for deliverance past and present.

"In the year 1582, this Psalm was sung on a remarkable occasion in Edinburgh. An imprisoned minister, John Durie, had been set free, and was met and welcomed on entering the town by two hundred of his friends. The number increased till he found himself in the midst of a company of two thousand, who began to sing, as they moved up the long High Street, 'Now Israel may say,' etc. They sang in four parts with deep solemnity, all joining in the well-known tune and Psalm. They were much moved themselves, and so were all who heard; and one of the chief persecutors is said to have been more alarmed at this sight and song than at anything he had seen in Scotland." (Bonar, cited in Spurgeon)

A. Gratitude for God's help.

1. (1-2) THE HELP OF GOD WHEN UNDER THE THREAT OF MEN.

"If it had not been the LORD who was on our side,"

Let Israel now say—

"If it had not been the LORD who was on our side,

When men rose up against us,"

If it had not been for the LORD who was on our side: Twice in the first two verses of Psalm 124, David called Israel to recognize that their help was in God alone. It wasn't just that Yahweh was present, but that He actively worked on behalf of His people (on our side).

i "The phrase '**had been on our side**' (hāyāh lānû) is the past tense of Immanuel ('God is with us'). Thus, the community confesses that God has been with them in their past history." (VanGemeren)

ii “Here is an **If** which cannot be an if. It is never a matter of uncertainty whether the Lord will be on our side or not. For the Lord Jesus in His incarnation and death has taken His place beside us forevermore. He is always on our side, so long as we keep His paths and walk in His ways.” (Meyer)

iii. “This repetition is not in vain. For whilst we are in danger, our fear is without measure; but when it is once past, we imagine it to have been less than it was indeed. And this is the delusion of Satan, to diminish and obscure the grace of God.” (Luther, cited in Spurgeon)

b. **Let Israel now say:** David thought it necessary that all God’s covenant people recognize this. It wasn’t enough for he or a few others to do this; it was the duty of all **Israel** to know and to say that God was their absolutely essential help.

c. **When men rose up against us:** There were many times in David’s reign and before when this was true, but perhaps the most likely time was when the Philistines threatened to overwhelm Israel at the start of David’s reign (2 Samuel 5:17-25). When **men** opposed the people of God, God stepped in to help.

i **When men rose:** “Monsters rather; but such as think themselves the only men alive, and us the only slaves and zanies.” (Trapp)

ii. “As a psalm of David, this gives us a rare insight into the early peril of his kingdom, particularly from the Philistines, who had thought to see the last of Israel when they shattered the kingdom of Saul. 2 Samuel 5:17ff. shows how serious the threat was, and how little confidence David placed in his own power to survive it.” (Kidner)

iii. “It is easy to see how a psalm praising God’s protection from the early days of Israel’s national history might be incorporated into the songs pilgrims sang on their way to Jerusalem, which David had made his capital.” (Boice)

2. (3-5) **THE DISASTER THAT COULD HAVE HAPPENED HAD NOT GOD HELPED.**

**“Then they would have swallowed us alive,
When their wrath was kindled against us;
Then the waters would have overwhelmed us,
The stream would have gone over our soul;**

Then the swollen waters Would have gone over our soul.”

a. **Then they would have swallowed us alive:** Carrying the thought from the emphatic repetition in the first two verses, if God had not helped Israel they would have been destroyed by their enemies. Yahweh wasn’t one of many possible solutions to their problem; He and He alone was their savior.

i. “One thought runs through it all, that the sole actor in their deliverance has been Jehovah. No human arm has been bared for them; no created might could have rescued them from the rush of the swelling deluge.” (Maclaren)

ii. “We have often involved ourselves in entanglements, through our own disobedience; but we have never been able to extricate ourselves from them. Escape has always come by His action.” (Morgan)

iii. **Their wrath was kindled against us:** “Anger is never fierier than when the people of God are its objects. Sparks become flames, and the furnace is heated seven times hotter when God’s elect are to be thrust into the blaze.” (Spurgeon)

b. **Then the waters would have overwhelmed us:** David poetically described their potential ruin. The danger was like being swallowed alive by a giant beast, or like being drowned when waters overwhelmed.

“The metaphor of water as a destructive force is common in the OT (cf. Psalm 18:16; 42:7; 69:1–2, 15; Isaiah 8:7–8; Lamentations 3:54) because of the destructive torrential rains known to that part of the world.” (VanGemeren)

c. **Then the swollen waters:** The idea here is of a rushing river, not the rising flood. In the poetic picture, they were in danger of being swept away by the torrent.

d. **Gone over our soul:** David again used repetition to emphasize the idea that the danger was not only political or economic; it had to do with the very soul, with life at the deepest levels. From these great dangers, God was their deliverer.

David poetically described many of the troubles that face our **soul**:

Sometimes our troubles swallow and devour us.

- Sometimes our troubles overwhelm us like a flood.
- Sometimes our troubles sweep us away like a torrent.

B. Praise to the LORD who helps.

1. (6-7) *Praise for the help received.*

**Blessed be the LORD,
Who has not given us as prey to their teeth.
Our soul has escaped as a bird from the snare
of the fowlers: The snare is broken, and we
have escaped.**

a. **Blessed be the LORD:** As in other places in the Psalms, the thought is not bestowing a blessing upon Yahweh, but on thanking, praising, and announcing Him as **blessed**. It is a powerful expression of thanks and praise.

i. “When we look back on life, as the psalmist does here, we become aware of the myriad instances of Divine protection. We were not so vividly conscious at the time; we might even have had fits of depression and counted ourselves bereft. But if we narrowly consider the perils from which we have been rescued, when we were about to be swallowed up quick, we become convinced that He was there.” (Meyer)

ii. “The redeemed are astonished, upon looking back, at the greatness of the danger to which they had been exposed.” (Horne)

b. **Who has not given us as prey to their teeth:** David again described their danger poetically—first as a being delivered from a beast with grinding **teeth**, then as deliverance from a trap (**snare**) set for birds. With God’s help, the people of God were safe from destruction and loss of liberty.

i. **Prey to their teeth:** “This is not quite the same figure as that of verse 3. In these jaws we feel the slower agonies of defeat, like the tearing and grinding of the prey.” (Kidner)

ii. **As a bird from the snare:** “The comparison of the soul to a bird is beautiful. [Psalms 11:1] It hints at tremors and feebleness, at alternations of feeling like the flutter of some weak-winged songster, at the utter helplessness of the panting creature in the toils.” (Maclaren)

iii. **Fowlers** have many methods of taking small

birds, and Satan, has many methods of entrapping souls. Some are decoyed by evil companions, others are enticed by the love of dainties; hunger drives many into the trap, and fright impels numbers to fly into the net.” (Spurgeon)

iv. “As the bird could not get out of the snare, so the soul cannot escape from temptation; but God can bring it out, and he works the rescue. Hear this, ye that are slaves to drunkenness: God can deliver you. You that have fallen into licentiousness hear it, — God can deliver you. Whatever the sin that has birdlimed you, that gracious hand which once was nailed to the cross can set you free.” (Spurgeon)

v. “Save us, O God, from the rage and the subtlety of our spiritual adversary; save us from his teeth, when he would devour; from his snares, when he would deceive.” (Horne)

vi. Here are two more poetic pictures of that which may trouble our **soul**:

- Sometimes our troubles grind us to powder.
- Sometimes our troubles capture us like a trap or snare.

2. (8) *Confidence in the continuing help of God.*

Our help is in the name of the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

a. **Our help is in the name of the LORD:** We sense a bit of defiance in this declaration. The nations find their supposed help in their supposed deities; God’s people confidently find their **help** in **the name of the LORD**.

i. “Experience should breed confidence... write up experiences therefore, oft rub them over, and then conclude as here.” (Trapp)

ii. “The great lesson of this Psalm, from the beginning to the end, inculcates is, that for every deliverance, whether of a temporal or spiritual nature, we should, in imitation of the saints above, ascribe ‘Salvation to God and the Lamb.’” (Horne)

iii. “If Jehovah had not helped, how great would have been the calamity! But He has helped, and the sigh which trembles with the consciousness of past peril, merges into the glad song: Blessed be Jehovah.” (Morgan)

b. **who made heaven and earth**: It was not a vain confidence. The same God who created **heaven and earth** was mighty to help His people.

i. "God's power is the prop of our faith, and pricks on to prayer; commit we ourselves to him as to a faithful Creator, 1 Peter 4:19, of infinite might and mercy." (Trapp)

ii. "When we worship the Creator let us increase our trust in our Comforter. Did he create all that we see, and can he not preserve us from evils which we cannot see?" (Spurgeon)

by David Guzik



The Beggar Gives His All

Before India gained independence, a few young men from the villages wanted to free India from the foreign yoke; they wanted the British to quit India. They needed material wealth to throw the British out of India, so they started collecting money in the Indian villages.

One day, they got inspired to collect material things as well. They went from door to door carrying a huge bag, which gradually was filled with money and gifts. As they went, a one-legged beggar kept following them. The young men did not mind.

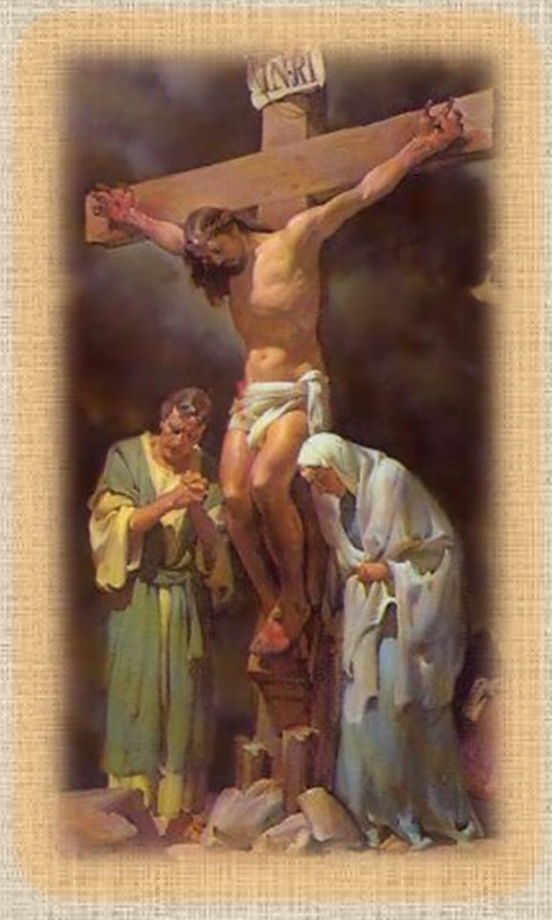
At the end of the day, they entered into a house to see what they had collected. The beggar also wanted to enter, but since he was not a member of

the group, they did not allow him in. The beggar pleaded with them: "I walked such a long distance right behind you. You want freedom; I also want freedom. Our Motherland is not only your property. It is also my property."

At first, the young men got mad and told the beggar to go away. Then one of the men felt sorry for him, so they decided to show him the things they had collected. While the beggar was looking at the gifts in their bag, most of them were showing him real contempt. Then suddenly the beggar opened up the bag that he had been carrying. It contained a few coins and some rice. He spontaneously threw all the contents into their bag.

Immediately all the members of the revolutionary group started shedding tears of gratitude, because he had given all that he had to their cause. On that day, they had gone to visit so many rich families, who had given them next to nothing; but this beggar had given them everything that he had! They were deeply moved by the beggar's contribution.

by Sri Chinmoy



CrossWalk

COMMUNITY CHURCH

2131 East Governor John Sevier Hwy, Knoxville TN 37920

Saturday, Sept 29 9am - 2pm

Come for Fun, Food, Crafts and More!!!!



Start your Christmas shopping! Prices to accommodate all!

Children can enjoy crafts inside



and games outside!!



Bouncy toys!!

Lots of supervised fun!!!!

Lunch will be served



entire desserts/single servings

What is better than shaved ice on a hot day? Yum!!

You will have the opportunity to donate blood for those in need!



MEDIC
REGIONAL BLOOD CENTER