



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

PASTOR KIRK WERNER

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

As I'm sure you are aware by now, *I am retiring this summer as pastor of CrossWalk Community Church.* My last Sunday in the pulpit as your pastor is June 30, 2019. Each month, I have the opportunity to share with you my thoughts by way of our monthly newsletter. Starting in July, each month, one of your elders will be sharing his or her thoughts with you regarding life together in the body of our Lord Jesus Christ. This will be my final letter to you in the newsletter and so I find it fitting to close with a passage from Paul's letter to the Philippians. Paul was very close to the saints at Philippi. The primary theme of his letter to them is joy! Paul had invested himself deeply with the Philippian believers. This is reflected so beautifully in his expression of thanksgiving for them and his heartfelt prayer recorded in Philippians 1:3-11: ***"I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.***

It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart; for whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God's grace with me. God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus.

And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless until the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ — to the glory and praise of God." Amen and amen!

Know this my brothers and sisters, I will always have you in my heart and I will continue to pray for you. I love you and wish you all God's very best as you look to our Lord for discernment and invest yourselves in that which truly matters.

I know that God will bring you the right person to be your pastor and He has great things in store for you as you continue to serve and minister in His name.

I am and will always be...
your brother in Christ,
Kirk



Messages for the Month

June **02**, 2019 – **Ezekiel 37:1 - 10** “Where Revival Begins” 7th Sunday of Easter – Communion

June **09**, 2019 – **John 14:18 - 27** - “Never An Orphan” – The Day of Pentecost

June **16**, 2019 – **Romans 5:1 - 5** - “Hope That Does Not Disappoint” – Trinity Sunday

June **23**, 2019 – **Galatians 3: 23 - 29** – “The Ultimate ‘Before and After’” – 2nd Sunday after Pentecost

June **30**, 2019 – **Philippians 2:1 - 11** – “His Way *Is* the High Way” – 3rd Sunday after Pentecost

Our Staff

Pastor: Kirk Werner

Music **D**irector: Trey Lister

Class of 2019:

John Carson, Courtney Scollard & Mike Walkup

Class of 2020:

Carol Jordan, Jim Slyman & Maurice Briere

Class of 2021:

John Morton, Matt Peterson & Greg Waldrop



BIRTHDAYS



JoDee Schenk – 4th

Nancye Esch – 6th

Madeline Baker – 6th

Fletcher Peterson – 13th

Miles Baker – 14th

Micah Davis – 16th

Becky Baker – 19th

Jeffrey Hayes – 25th

Annabell Rosa – 27th

Maurice Briere – 29th



WEDDING SHOWER

June 9th - **Jeremy Walkup** & **Abby Bushur**.
They are registered at **Bed Bath & Beyond**, **Target**, and **Amazon**.

June 23rd - **Jodee Schenk** & **Mathew Putnam**.

They are registered at **Target** and **Bed Bath & Beyond**.





NURSERY SCHEDULE

June 02: Carol Jordan & Stan Fletcher

June 09: Laine Donnell & Wanda Wayman

June 16: Dawn Briere & Gwen Davis & Susan Fletcher

June 23: Carol Jordan & Brenda Clabo

June 30: Laine Donnell & Debbie Lutton

*KIDS CROSSING

with **John Carson**

June 09: Courtney Scollard & Jeanne or Jeremy Cecil

June 23: Jim Odle & Irving or Lindsay Rosa

**Note: Only meeting on dates indicated due to Pastor Kirk retiring! Will be working on memorizing the books of the Bible this summer!*

New Hopewell School



Please pray for the children at New Hopewell Elementary that the children would be safe and remember that God loves them during their summer break. Also, please pray for the *After School-Good News Club* for this fall. Thank you for helping the school with supplies last year and please remember the needs as you shop this summer. When you find good deals, it would be great to stock up for the fall. You are welcome to put them in the containers anytime.

Linda Odle

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

CrossWalk Café

Our next Cafe' will be **June 2, 2019!** With the arrival of Summer (June 21) and the observance of D-Day (June 6) and Flag Day (June 14) in the month of June, it seems like a good time for an "All-American BBQ"! Pork, beef or chicken, there is bound to be something that will tantalize your taste buds. So, plan now to join us for some wonderful food, great conversation and fellowship around the table.



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

June 2019

Jane & Ricardo Gracia 579-0899
Regina Miller 207-7097
Wanda & Albert Wayman 850-4039

July 2019

Fran & Marshall Mckenna 963-9152
Brenda & Steve Clabo 546-4830

August 2019

Anna & Travis Baker 609-1854
Courtney & Matt Scollard 789-1999



CrossWalk family, if you see a need to replenish coffee supplies such as coffee, hot/cold cups, 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 in the kitchen for refreshment supplies** and (2) **noting on the rest room listing in the rest rooms** so that supplies can be replenished **before they are completely out**. If you have questions, please contact *Judy Campbell* or *Sue Werner*. Thank you!



Family Promise 2019 Schedule

So that you can go ahead and get the dates on your calendars, the weeks that we will be supporting **First Baptist Knoxville** are as follows:

July 21-28
September 29-October 6
December 8-15

Family Promise is always accepting gently used household items such as furniture, towels, kitchen items (plates, utensils, kitchen gadgets, etc.). So, think of them as you do your spring cleaning!!!

If you would like to be added to the Family Promise email list, please let **Courtney Scollard** know.

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 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

May 29 – June 1 – Matt & Chelsea Peterson

June 5 – June 8 – Matt & Chelsea Peterson

June 12 – June 15 – John & Carolyn Carson

June 19 – June 22 – John & Carolyn Carson

June 26 – June 29 – Mike & Karen Walkup



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



Fall Festival

Save the Date!
Saturday, September 28, 2019
10am - 3pm

Contact Courtney Scollard if you would like to help with planning.



The Significance of the Day of Pentecost

By **Wayne Jackson**

Acts chapter ten is a unique portion of the New Testament. It commences by introducing the reader to a splendid citizen of Caesarea, a Roman centurion whose name was Cornelius. Though a Gentile, Cornelius had been attracted to the concept of Israel's one God. Hence, he was devoutly religious and a splendid example of high moral ideals. He was, in fact, held in high regard by the Jews, a rather unusual circumstance in that era of religious bigotry.

One day, as this Roman military man was observing one of his regular hours of prayer, an angel appeared to him, instructing the centurion to send for Peter, the apostle of Christ, who was at Joppa some thirty miles to the south. No Gentile, of course, had entered the Christian system at this point, insofar as the record is explicit. It was thus necessary for God to prepare his Jewish apostle for this experience. Accordingly, as the messengers dispatched by Cornelius made their way toward Joppa, Peter experienced a vision. It involved a sheet let down from heaven containing various creatures, classified by Old Testament law as "unclean," which the apostle was commanded to eat. Peter initially resisted, but finally, as the messengers arrived at the residence he was visiting, the apostle was persuaded by the Lord that this supernatural scene represented the "cleansing" of the Gentiles, i.e., their right to share in the blessings of the gospel.

Peter invited the Gentile servants to lodge with him overnight (a remarkable example of insight and courage), and the next day, accompanied by six Jewish companions, the obedient apostle made his way to Caesarea. There he found a willing company waiting-Cornelius and his family and near friends. The facts of the gospel were proclaimed to these eager Gentiles. They believed the message and Peter commanded them to be immersed (10:48).

Significantly, in conjunction with this momentous event, there was an outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon that Gentile company; as evidence of it, they were empowered to speak in foreign languages, and they magnified God. The Lord was providing divine documentation that this acceptance of the Gentiles had the validation of Heaven. This proof would surely be needed in the face of Jewish prejudice. When the report of the Gentile conversions reached Jerusalem, Peter, taking his half-dozen Hebrew witnesses with him, journeyed to that city to deal with the unrest generated over the matter. Certain Jews “contended with him” (11:2), accusing the apostle of violating decorum by fraternizing with these undesirable people. Peter needed to make a defense of his actions. He thus rehearsed the details of his encounter at Caesarea. He affirmed that the entire episode was God’s working. His clinching argument was this: as he had begun his preaching to the Gentiles, the Holy Spirit “fell on them, even as on us at the **beginning**” (11:15).

The Uniqueness of Holy Spirit Baptism

There is an important inference that must be drawn from this apostolic incident. First, let us make this observation. It is a well-known fact that many modern religionists of the “Pentecostal” persuasion contend that Holy Spirit baptism is a common phenomenon—even today. Some allege that this experience will be given to all new converts as an evidence of salvation received. If this assumption were true, then every saved soul, from the day of Pentecost (Acts 2) to the conversion of Cornelius (Acts 10)—a period of possibly a decade—would have received Spirit baptism. That obviously was not the case inasmuch as Peter, in order to find an **analogous experience** to illustrate what had happened at the house of Cornelius, had to go all the way back to “the beginning” of the Christian movement for a precedent! It is thus quite clear that Holy Spirit baptism had not been received by the multitudes since that auspicious commencement. It is not an event that accompanies the regular reception of redemption.

The Beginning

Of interest, though, in this context is the expression “the beginning” (11:15). What does it signify? It certainly does not refer to the beginning of the universe—or the origin of the human family. Rather, it denotes the beginning of Christianity. It is an allusion to the events of the day of Pentecost. There is scarcely a New Testament scholar who does not acknowledge this fact (see Hackett, Robertson, Bruce, Kistemaker, etc.). The fact is, the day of Pentecost was the beginning of several very significant events associated with the Christian religion.

The Last Days

Human existence may be divided into three major eras of religious history. First, there was the **Patriarchal** dispensation, a universal period of “father rule,” from the time of Eden to the giving of the law of Moses. At Sinai, the Israelite people were separated from the balance of humanity, and for *fifteen centuries* they lived under the **Mosaic** regime. The Mosaic system was never intended primarily for Gentiles.

Finally, at Pentecost, the **Christian** age began. *This is the final era of earth’s history, and it spans the period from Pentecost to the second coming of Christ.* For this reason, it is known as “the last days.” It was foretold by the prophets (cf. Isaiah 2:2-4; Joel 2:28-30) and identified with the day of Pentecost by the inspired apostle (Acts 2:16, 17; cf. Hebrews 1:1).

Universal Remission of Sins in Jesus’ Name

Prior to the day of Pentecost, the remission of sins was technically available only on a “promissory” basis, i.e., through the animal sacrificial system of the Old Testament regime. Forgiveness of sin was granted upon the ground of shed blood (Hebrews 9:22). The problem was, those systems prior to the death of Christ had only animal blood, which had no permanent efficacious power (Hebrews 10:1-4). Even the remission of sins connected with John’s

baptism (Mark 1:4) was dependent upon the sacrifice of the Lamb of God (John 1:29). The death of Jesus was required for ultimate forgiveness of all sinners, both before and since the Savior's atoning mission (cf. Galatians 4:4; Hebrews 9:15-17), though, of course, the citizens of ancient societies, from a practical vantage point, enjoyed pardon as they yielded to the divine requirements of the systems to which they were amenable. In view of this, shortly before his ascension into heaven, the Lord proclaimed: "**Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and rise again from the dead the third day; and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name unto all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem**" (Luke 24:46, 47). This began to unfold on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2:38f).

The Facts of the Gospel

The word "gospel" translates a Greek term literally meaning "good tidings." A verbal form of the word is translated in that fashion in Luke 2:10, where an angel declared to those Judean shepherds, "**Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy.**" There is a sense in which those good tidings had been proclaimed for centuries. At the beginning, God had announced that eventually the woman's seed would crush Satan's head (Genesis 3:15). Scholars refer to this as the **protevangelium**, the "first gospel." It was the good news of Christ's final victory over the enemy, and so has been called the gospel "in promise." Later, Jehovah declared to Abraham that through his seed all families of the earth (the Gentiles) would be blessed (Genesis 22:18). In a sense, this was a prophetic gospel proclamation to the patriarch, as Paul indeed affirmed in Galatians 3:8. John the baptizer, as the harbinger of Christ, preached the gospel in a preparatory fashion (see Mark 1:1-4). It was not until the day of Pentecost, however, that the full facts of the gospel, namely the good news regarding the death, burial, and resurrection of the Lord, were announced (see 1 Corinthians 15:1-4). Pentecost was, therefore, the beginning of gospel proclamation in the **fullest** sense of that term.

The Establishment of the Church

It has been common across the years for denominationalists to allege that the church existed, throughout the centuries of Old Testament history. Some would argue for its origin in Eden; others suggest the church was set up in the time of John the baptizer, or perhaps during the personal ministry of Jesus. None of these views is correct. It has been refreshing to observe these theories increasingly have been repudiated by some sectarian scholars. For example, theologian H. C. Thiessen declared that the book of Acts "recounts the founding of the Church on the Day of Pentecost" (1955, 187). The fact is, approximately six months before his death, the Lord spoke of building his church as a future event (Matthew 16:18). The church did not become an established reality until Acts 2. Pentecost is thus the beginning of the church, the commencement of Christianity.

The New Covenant

The prophet Jeremiah foretold of a coming day when Jehovah would make a "new covenant" with Israel and Judah which, in many respects, would stand in marked contrast to the Mosaic code (see Jeremiah 31:31-34). Isaiah, in speaking of the same system, declared that it would be a law for all nations (2:2-4). When did this new law become operative? It could not have been functional before the death of Christ, for a testament avails only after the death of its testator (Hebrews 9:15-17). Moreover, the old covenant was not a legal obligation after the event of Calvary, for, figuratively speaking, that system was "nailed to the cross" (Colossians 2:14), abrogated by the death of Jesus' body (Ephesians 2:14-16). All the relevant biblical data lead only to the conclusion that the new covenant, ratified by the Lord's blood (cf. Matthew 26:28), became operative on the day of Pentecost as that new law went forth from Jerusalem (cf. Isaiah 2:3).

There are numerous religionists (e.g., our sabbatarian friends) who desperately need to learn that we are not under the Mosaic regime today, and that attempted allegiance to two systems places one

in a position of being in spiritual adultery (see Romans 7:1-4). Pentecost marks the beginning of human obligation to the new covenant.

New System of Worship

In the ninth chapter of Hebrews, the inspired writer has a discussion of the Mosaic tabernacle system and the various components that characterized it. These things, says he, serve as “a figure” for the “time present” (v. 9). The author goes on to describe the Old Testament economy as one of “carnal ordinances” which were imposed “until a time of reformation,” that is, until superseded by the Christian system. The term “carnal” is interesting. It derives from a Greek term meaning “flesh.” It represents a lower element of service than that which animates the nature of Christianity.

Under the new regime, animal sacrifices are no longer offered; they have been replaced by the offering of the Lamb of God (John 1:29) and the spiritual sacrifice of the Christian’s body (Romans 12:1). We do not burn incense, for our prayers go up as incense before the creator (Revelation 5:8). *We have no fleshly priesthood, as such was the case under the law; rather, all children of God are priests* (1 Peter 2:9; Revelation 1:6). We do not pluck the harp (or use other instruments) as an act of worship to Jehovah; we “pluck” the strings of our hearts when we sing songs of praise in worship (Ephesians 5:19). Why would anyone want to abandon the spiritual emphasis of the new covenant arrangement and clamor for the carnality of the Mosaic law? Pentecost was the beginning of a new, spiritual order of worship.

New Marital Requirements

God’s original plan for marriage, as evidenced by the home’s initial design at the beginning, was a lifelong, monogamous relationship between a man and a woman. As humanity drifted from Jehovah’s perfect domestic pattern, such digressions as polygamy and capricious divorce became common. Due to the hardness of heart that was a part of the fabric of the antique world, God permitted a relaxation of the divine marital standard during that era (Matthew 19:8; cf. Acts 14:16; 17:30). Jesus

Christ declared, however, that with the implementation of his reign, marriage would be restored to its original status. The day of Pentecost initiated a new era of marital responsibility (see the author’s booklet, *The Teaching of Jesus Christ on Divorce & Remarriage*).

Considering the points emphasized above and perhaps other considerations, the expression “at the beginning” (Acts 11:15) takes on a very significant flavor. *The day of Pentecost was one of the most important days in world history!*



Author unknown

An 80-year-old man was sitting on the sofa in his house along with his 45 year’s old highly educated son. Suddenly a crow perched on their window. The Father asked his Son, “**What is this?**” The Son replied, “**It is a crow**”. After a few minutes, the Father asked his Son the 2nd time, “**What is this?**” The Son said “**Father, I have just now told you ‘It’s a crow’**”.

After a little while, the old Father again asked his Son the 3rd time, “**What is this?**” At this time some expression of irritation was felt in the Son’s tone when he said to his Father with a rebuff. “**It’s a crow, a crow, a crow**”.

A little after, the Father again asked his Son the 4th time, “**What is this?**” This time the Son shouted at his Father, “**Why do you keep asking me the same question again and again, although I have told you so many times ‘IT IS A CROW’. Are you not able to understand this?**”

A little later the Father went to his room and came back with an old tattered diary, which he had maintained since his Son was born. On opening a page, he asked his Son to read that page. When the son read it, the following words were written in the diary:-

“Today my little son aged three was sitting with me on the sofa, when a crow was sitting on the window. My Son asked me 23 times what it was, and I replied to him all 23 times that it was a Crow. I hugged him lovingly each time he asked me the same question again and again for 23 times. I did not at all feel irritated I rather felt affection for my innocent child”.

While the little child asked him 23 times **“What is this”**, the Father had felt no irritation in replying to the same question all 23 times and when today the

Father asked his Son the same question just 4 times, the Son felt irritated and annoyed.

From today say this aloud, *“I want to see my parents happy forever. They have cared for me ever since I was a little child. They have always showered their selfless love on me. They crossed all mountains and valleys without seeing the storm and heat to make me a person presentable in the society today”.*

