

KAIROS PRISON MINISTRY UPDATE

From Bernie DeVault

Kairos Reunion West Side

(1 Corinthians 11:23-28; Revelation 12:11; 2 Corinthians 13:5)

The leader of this West Side reunion asked two questions: 1) How do you examine yourself, and 2) Are you in True Faith when you examine yourself.


He brought up the fact that you should not deliver from emotions. When doing this, you should have

your mind on Christ. Then you can set your mind on Heavenly things.

In verse 28, it says “everyone ought to examine themselves before they eat of the bread and drink from the cup.”

When we broke into small groups, my group talked about choosing the Word and that the Word should come from the heart. Among other things we brought up was the need to examine yourself through prayer before commune.

...continued below



Spring flowers are in blossom all over. The whole world's a choir - and singing! Spring warblers are filling the forest with sweet arpeggios. Lilacs are exuberantly purple and perfumed, and cherry trees fragrant with blossoms. Oh, get up, dear friend, my fair and beautiful lover - come to me!

Song of Solomon 2:12-13

When we decide what to do, we should make a list of the good things and list the bad things. One inmate said that you need to take the plank out of your eye before you can take the splinter out of your friend's eye.

Kairos Reunion East Side

(Romans 12:2; Philippians 4:8; Revelation 3:14-15; Hebrews 2:13)

The leader of this group chose “Faith” as the topic, and didn't have a lot to say on the subject other than God's Love has Faith.

As we broke into small groups, my group talked about how Faith is hard to stay with. It was said

that Trust and Belief = Faith.

In the prison system, God does do things in many mysterious ways. I told them that this is very true, even on the outside, as I was able to give them my small testimonial of what I have been going through the last couple years.

Another inmate said, “Don't lose hope but keep the Faith and quoted James 1:2-4. “Consider it pure joy, brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may mature and complete, not lacking anything.”

And the 2019 Quiet Disciple Award goes to...



Each year it is the privilege of each local UMC to select a Quiet Disciple — someone “exemplifies the best of the unsung heroes of our churches. A Quiet Disciple is one who goes about his or her business in ministry or service to one’s church or community, without fanfare or filling a specific position. This person is likely to be self-starting and self-directed in filling unmet needs, using his/her own time, talents and often resources.”



Kathy Bradley serves others with a passion and persistence like no other. As a retired nurse, her nurturing skills fit perfectly as the chairperson of our Care Team and organizer of CPR in the past. She consults our safety team, serves on our Outreach team, participates in our God’s House Band, and is our go to person when it comes to knowing where everything goes in our church. She helps organize the decorating of our church for Christmas and is consistently present for small and big tasks, whether that be an all church clean-up day or acting as the leader of our Twin Peaks NOW group. She not only serves at

our church, but through UMCOR and youth mission trips, serves others across the country (Missouri, Louisiana and Utah). She has participated in the Cancel Choir and Wesley Ann’s choir, helps the Children and Family ministry team during VBS and other events and she organizes the flowers for the alter and buys the poinsettia’s at Christmas time. Kathy has been a valued member of the Justice Seekers group and worked diligently to guide our church into being a reconciling ministry church. The Heart of Longmont is proud to announce Kathy Bradley as our 2019 Quiet Disciple.

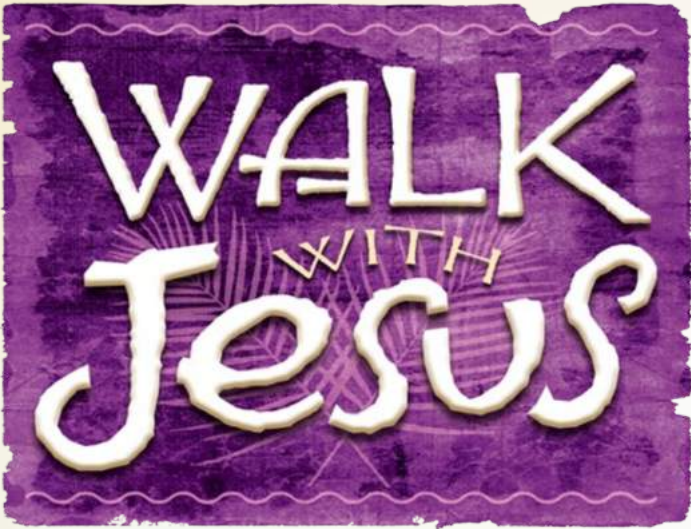


Kathy, thank you for being you, we love you!

Love is patient, love is kind, it is not envious. Love does not brag, it is not puffed up. It is not rude, it is not self-serving, it is not easily angered or resentful. It is not glad about injustice, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

~1 Corinthians 13:4-7

Walk With Jesus ~ an Easter Event for everyone!



Join us for an unforgettable multi-generational experience this Easter!

Follow in Jesus' footsteps from His triumphant entry into Jerusalem through His glorious resurrection. This truly unique experience will fill you with excitement, fear, sadness, and unimaginable joy!

Easter Sunday, April 21, 2019 @ 8:30 am. Meet us in the Gallery and you'll be directed on where to go from there!

Why Did Jesus Fold the Napkin?



The Gospel of John (20:7) tells us that the napkin, which was placed over the face of Jesus,

was not just thrown aside like the grave clothes. The Bible takes an entire verse to tell us that the napkin was neatly folded, and was placed separate from the grave clothes.

Early Sunday morning, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and found that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance. She ran and found Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved. She said, "They have taken the Lord's body out of the tomb, and I don't know where they have put him!" Peter and the other disciple ran to the tomb to see. The other disciple outran Peter and got there first. He stooped and looked in and saw the linen cloth lying there, but he didn't go in.

Then Simon Peter arrived and went inside. He also noticed the linen wrappings lying there, while the cloth that had covered Jesus' head was folded up and lying to the side.

Was that important? Absolutely!

Is it really significant? Yes!

In order to understand the significance of the folded napkin, you have to understand a little bit about Hebrew tradition of that day. The folded napkin had to do with the master and servant, and every Jewish boy knew this tradition.

When the servant set the dinner table for the master, he made sure that it was exactly the way the master wanted it.

The table was furnished perfectly, and then the servant would wait, just out of sight, until the master had finished eating, and the servant would not dare touch that table, until the master was finished. Now, if the master were done eating, he would rise from the table, wipe his fingers, his mouth, and clean his beard, and would wad up that napkin and toss it onto the table.

The servant would then know to clear the table. For in those days, the wadded napkin meant, "I'm done."

But if the master got up from the table, and folded his napkin, and laid it beside his plate, the servant would not dare touch the table, because.....the folded napkin meant, "I'm coming back!"

He is Coming Back!

LENT IS AN OPPORTUNITY

Lent doesn't always mean forbidding ourselves pleasure; it can be an opportunity to seek the pleasure of God's love and presence.



Get outdoors

One of the simplest and most immediate ways for me to get a sense of God's presence is to go outside and look for it.

Although I live out in the country, I'm indoors much of the time, often spending whole days – in my office at the university where I teach, in my house, in stores – barely aware of the weather or what's growing on or that birds are singing.

To remind myself of God's omnipresence, I plan outdoor time: a trip across campus for my mail instead of having it delivered, a long run on the country roads near my house, a magically relaxing moment of bird watching.

My garden has always been for me what Celtic believers call a "thin place": a place where the membrane between our world and God seems particularly thin.

When I'm out turning the cold wet dirt with my spade or sowing early seeds – spinach, radishes, peas – or harvesting the slender onions that volunteer themselves to the sunlight after the long winter, I connect with the presence of the One who created it all.

Spend time with others

Another place where I'm sure to find God is in others, specifically those who are – or should be – the recipients of my generosity and compassion.

The needy themselves, according to Jesus, are God. In answer to his disciples' questions about what to expect at the end of time, Jesus envisions himself enthroned in heaven, dividing the nations into two groups: those who showed him hospitality when he was hungry, thirsty, naked, sick and alone, and those who did not.

Neither group remembers encountering Jesus in such circumstances, and he explains, "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

I don't have to go very far to find God in the needy. They're all around me: retired colleagues, a neighbor kid whose mom needs a break, the mom herself. During Lent, I consciously set out to enjoy moments with them.

Pray for the little things

During Lent I pray more often – out in the garden, on my runs, over lunch with friends. I also pray smaller, about the most minor details of my life: to-do lists, writing deadlines, lost keys.

Others may consider such prayers inappropriate or irreverent. Many limit their prayers to desires they think God wants for them, not what they want for themselves.

Certainly, we should put God's will before ours. But aren't we also meant to be childlike in our faith? My daughters prayed about the most minute details of their lives – a lost toy, a sibling fight, a hard test, a bad breakup. Often, even when they prayed in anger or malice, I sensed a peace in them afterward, as though God had heard and answered their prayers. It's never wrong to pray about anything.

See the answers

Early in my adult faith I longed to read the Bible daily. As a full-time teacher and the mother of two toddlers, though, I had to spend what little unoccupied time I had grading papers. So I prayed for more time.

I didn't really expect anything to change. And nothing did, exactly. I stayed just as busy at work, grading papers, just as busy at home, as I always had. Nevertheless, somehow I was able to get it all done. Every morning, that whole year, I read the Bible. I was granted the miracle of time.

Lent is a time to consciously acknowledge and appreciate life's daily miracles. The miracles of dirt and winter onions and answered prayers.

Turn worry into prayer

If I ever felt challenged to give a cherished or unhealthy habit up for Lent, it would have to be worrying. Worries about my daughters or money or some conflict wake me most nights. I even worry about worrying. And I'm forever vowing, in vain, to stop.

In the spirit of Lenten renewal, though, I weave my worrying into prayers. I call it "pray-worrying", the closest I've ever come to that mysterious faith achievement of "just giving it to Jesus".

"Here's this problem," I rant, as though God were a student who had skipped several classes. Then I worry forth my certitude of how bad things are and how much worse they're likely to get.

I may sound pushy, disrespectful even, in my prayer-worries, and I am. I am as self-absorbed and demanding as my teenage daughters can be. But here's the thing. During Lent and always, God is present. Nearby. Listening. Longing to respond.

If the one thing I give up during the Lenten season is worry, it's only because I take on prayer. Prayer always draws us closer to God, and that is what Lent is all about—finding greater opportunities to bring the Divine into our daily lives. Hopefully that is what I can teach my daughters.

(Excerpted from a 2015 Guideposts article by Patty Kirk)

Compassion Offering Results



In January, \$628 was raised for OUR Center and in February, \$1,204.76 was raised for Days for Girls (<https://www.daysforgirls.org/>). The OUR Center offering was given directly to OUR Center while the monies raised for Days for Girls are being used to buy special moisture-proof materials that are necessary when making pads for Days for Girls.

That brings the total for January and February to \$1,832.76! Thank you for your generous donations and for helping those in need.

Save the Date ~ ALL-CHURCH GARAGE SALE!



The garage sale we have every two years is scheduled for **Friday, July 5, and Saturday, July 6, from 8am – 2pm.**

We will be working on setting up and marking items Monday through Thursday of that week (July 1-4), starting at 9am.

You can begin bringing in items on Sunday, June 30. Please put them at the front of the stage in Wesley Hall. Please bring your items early in the week (S/M/T/W) so we can get them marked, organized and displayed on Thursday.

Let's clear out all those cupboards, closets and basements and help in our recycle efforts!

We **cannot** accept recorders, tvs, computers, printers (any electronic) or clothing. Good condition shoes are acceptable.

Any large items must have prior approval by Gloria Hinz (303-776-3383) and you must bring them to the church and take them home if they do not sell. We do not have people available to transport items.

A sign-up sheet is available on the Hospitality Desk in the Gallery for those interested in helping.

Painting Party



Come open up the storehouse of creativity that God placed inside of you at the "He is Risen" painting party! This special time of art and fellowship will be held on Sunday, April 14th from 11am-3pm in Wesley Hall. Cost for the event is \$35, and you can pay at the event when you arrive. Light refreshments,

painting supplies and guidance will be provided! A sign up sheet is available on the Hospitality Desk in the Gallery.

Featured painting is pictured above!

Contact Misty Bone with any questions at 720-628-7261 or kidsofhol@hotmail.com.

Easter Lilies for Loved Ones



Order beautiful lilies in honor, recognition or memory of a loved one and help decorate our Sanctuary for our Easter Service! These lovely lilies will be delivered fresh to the church prior to Easter and will be available for you to take home after worship on Easter Sunday (April 21).

Only \$10 per plant! Order forms are available at the church office and are available as a bulletin insert during service. Checks can be left in the offering plate or dropped off at the church office. A special insert

of lily dedications will be included in the service bulletin on Easter Sunday. The last date to order your Easter Lily is *Palm Sunday, April 14*.

Don't wait, order a lily for a loved one now!



Heart of Longmont, 350 Eleventh Avenue, Longmont, CO 80501
heartoflongmont.org / 303-776-3523 / WIFI Password HOL2016M

Holy Week Services

Join us as we journey through Holy Week in preparation and anticipation of Easter morning, when we will celebrate the risen Lord together!

Palm Sunday: April 14 @ 10am

Maundy Thursday: April 18 @ 7pm

Good Friday: April 19 @ 7pm

Easter: April 21 @ 10am

