



the
Encourager

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTH PARK
CHURCH OF CHRIST

March 2022

IMPACTFUL

Many of us have physical scars that serve as reminders of accidents, injuries, bad choices, or unavoidable mishaps in our lives. I have a scar on the inside of my left arm from being burned by hot antifreeze that shot out of the radiator when the cap came off in July 1990; a five inch scar above my right knee from surgery to repair a torn patella tendon in 2007; and a scar on my right arm from the repair of a torn bicep in 2012. I can remember how they happened, when they happened, and the aftermath of each.

We may also have emotional or spiritual scars from past hurts or errors that remind us of people and things that we are embarrassed to share with others or even stop to consider ourselves because they are too painful. It is said that “time heals all wounds” but it rarely erases the scars/the memories. At best, we learn from them, move on, try to do better, and look for ways to make up for them in some manner.

However, I don’t want to focus on the negative in this March 2022 *Encourager* article. After all, March is a great month . . . I was born in March and will actually turn 65 this month (I know you are surprised that I am really that old).

Lately, I’ve been thinking about people who have left their mark on my life in favorable ways. It seems relatively easy to remember the scars and wounds we’ve endured or inflicted but maybe not so easy to remember those who have positively contributed to our lives. Recently, I shared with our Life Group the impact that my ninth grade basketball coach had on me and how what he did for me is still something I rely on to this day (some 50 years later).

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“Coach M” (his last name is really too long and difficult to spell and pronounce) not only coached basketball but was my health teacher in ninth grade as well. One of the things that he taught me and every other boy in my ninth grade class was the proper way to tie a tie. You may be wondering how that’s related to health class and I’m not sure it really is; but back then, if you played sports then on game day, you wore a shirt and tie to school and to the game (not to mention ties were a regular part of the wardrobe on Sundays too). He felt it important that young guys knew how to tie a tie. So for the last 50 years, every time I tie a tie, I think of Coach M. In fact, a few weeks ago I called him and we talked for twenty minutes (We’d written to each other a few times over the years but I hadn’t talked with him for close to 50 years). During our conversation, I thanked him for a number of things, including teaching me to tie a tie and made sure he knew that every time I have tied a tie in the last 50 years, I thought of him.

Why is that important? Three reasons come to mind:

“⁹ Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed. ¹⁰ If one person falls, the other can reach out and help. But someone who falls alone is in real trouble. ¹¹ Likewise, two people lying close together can keep each other warm. But how can one be warm alone? ¹² A person standing alone can be attacked and defeated, but two can stand back-to-back and conquer. Three are even better, for a triple-braided cord is not easily broken.”

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

1) You never know how what you do for someone will impact them. 2) Just because you were never told so (or it took 50 years to find out) doesn’t mean you didn’t have an impact. 3) We need to do a better job of telling the people in our lives just how much we appreciate them and what they do.

The Apostle Paul wrote to the church in Philippi and thanked God for them and for the support they had given to Paul. He thanked them as well for their gifts and their partnership in the gospel. That “thanking thing” seems like a good practice and one that helps to encourage and build up those around us.

Coach M didn’t teach us to tie a tie in order to get some special recognition, but because he genuinely cared about making sure we were properly equipped to carry out a task that was important to him and useful to us.

Let’s keep looking for opportunities to have a positive impact on others and remember to thank those who bless our lives as well. (Just don’t wait 50 years to do so.)

~Tim~

ATTENTION: If you are listed to serve and are unable to, please contact Wayne Morris to let him know as soon as possible.

Those to Serve –March 6, 2022

Worship Director: Ken Maupin
Opening Prayer: Simon-Peter Broughton
Preside: Ron King
Ann/Closing Prayer: Stan Gregory
Scripture Reading: John Castree
Greeters: Murrays
Class Attendance: Jaye Lavern
Usher #1: Scott Weir
Usher #2: JJ Whaley
A/V Booth: Scott Weir
Security: Wayne Morris
Church Mailbox: Judi Rogers, Jeanne Wadsworth
Nursery: Janice Adkins

Those to Serve –March 13, 2022

Worship Director: Jordan Siracusa
Opening Prayer: Jeremy Schulz
Preside: Marcus Price
Ann/Closing Prayer: Stan Gregory
Scripture Reading: Tim Firm
Greeters: Gibsons
Class Attendance: Marcus Cassady
Usher #1: Jaye Lavern
Usher #2: Steve Adkins
A/V Booth: Justin Reese
Security: Jaye Lavern
Church Mailbox: Judi Rogers, Jeanne Wadsworth
Nursery: Valerie Nicosia

Those to Serve –March 20, 2022

Worship Director: Sid Long
Opening Prayer: Jordan Siracusa
Preside: Steve Adkins
Ann/Closing Prayer: Stan Gregory
Scripture Reading: Jeff Hagerman
Greeters: Reeses
Class Attendance: Jaye Lavern
Usher #1: Mark Murray
Usher #2: Marcus Price
A/V Booth: Ken Maupin
Security: Ken Maupin
Church Mailbox: Judi Rogers, Jeanne Wadsworth
Nursery: Elizabeth Soter

Those to Serve –March 27, 2022

Worship Director: Ken Maupin
Opening Prayer: Scott Siegrist
Preside: Scott Weir
Ann/Closing Prayer: Stan Gregory
Scripture Reading: Ron King
Greeters: Soters
Class Attendance: Marcus Cassady
Usher #1: John Castree
Usher #2: Greg Peck
A/V Booth: Tim Barton
Security: Joe Nicosia
Church Mailbox: Judi Rogers, Jeanne Wadsworth
Nursery: Pat Seifert

D E V A U L T S S E N K R A D E H F
 E F A T H E R S H A M E S L U A A F
 K G R O U N D H E A D W A T E R S Y
 A R E H T O M F L E S H S A D T G E
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 H L A R I R V E G E T A T I O N E H
 P I S H O N E O G N I R E V O H B E
 R A M A N K I N D T T N N E D R A G

Word List:

HEAVENS
 MORNING
 VAULT
 BLESSINGS
 FEMALE
 EVE
 GARDEN
 HAVILAH
 HELPER
 MOTHER

EARTH
 EVENING
 PLEASING
 LIVESTOCK
 GROUND
 APPLE
 EDEN
 AROMATIC
 FLESH
 NAKED

HOVERING
 VEGETATION
 LIVING
 LIKENESS
 GOOD
 DEVIL
 HEADWATERS
 EUHRATES
 BONES
 SHAME

DARKNESS
 FRUITFUL
 ANIMALS
 MANKIND
 ADAM
 BREATHE
 PISHON
 COMMANDMENTS
 FATHER
 SLEEPING

Pantry Sub List

Justin Reese	815-299-0762	Jaye Lavern	815-608-4465
Elizabeth Soter	815-721-0405	Jeremy Schulz	630-418-0371
Cameron Maupin	815-978-3362	Ken Maupin	815-262-1487
Mary Riley	815-988-7440	Sara Maupin	815-262-0303
Tammy Weir	815-751-0866	Naomi Gibson	815-742-2291
Katie Schulz	630-418-0372	Cathy Firm	815-298-6341
Maxine Byrne	815-494-2512	Liz Willis	815-494-0595
Joan Schmidt	815-708-3993	Brenda Mohler	815-505-7205
Pat Seifert	815-871-7236	Tim Firm	815-914-1782

Prayer List

- Jason Willis** **Anneka Broughton** **Sue Ann Diaz** **Donna Fincher**
Helen Holland **Lucy Chamberlain** **Wendy Williams**
Brandi Ostergard – friend of Wendy Williams who has cancer
Michelle Hutchison – Tammy Weir’s sister in law, undergoing cancer treatment
Mike Trank – Melanie Lavern's dad, being treated for cancer
Kevin Sircloumb – tumor on his brain stem
Gregory Willis – Ron Willis's brother, diagnosed with Myeloma
Earline Nipps – has started chemo treatments
People of Haiti – please continue to keep Haiti in your prayers as the political strife in the country continues
Lindsey Farley – friend of Katrina Whaley’s, recovering after a bad car accident
Jan Lavern – leg is doing better and she is back to work this week. Still in therapy
Deckard family – friends of the Morris/Zomok family who are going through a lot after a cancer diagnosis and a job relocation
Myrtle Williams – recovering from surgery
Greg Jines - friend of the Morris's who is being treated for stage 5 kidney disease
Sherry McKuen and Dr. Rigsby - two of Lisa Warkins’ friends who were recently diagnosed with cancer
Family of Daniel Batha – Sally’s husband, who had been battling pancreatic cancer, passed away this week
Joan Wadsworth – dealing with pain from an auto-immune flare up
Pat and Judy Callery – Judy is Ken Bolen's sister; Pat passed away after complications from Covid and Judy is still recovering from her struggles with Covid
John Parker – recent lymph node biopsy came back cancerous
Nikki Bolen – diagnosed with Covid
Jan Morris – dealing with a lot of pain
Vernon Ray Sr. – doctor’s are continuing to work his a treatment plan
Mary Spohnholz - continues to be under a doctor’s care for her medical issues
Melinda Willis – awaiting results of a biopsy

MARCH 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Jaye Lavern's bday	2 10:00 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Devol Singing Dexter Schultz & Ron King's bday	3	4 Lisa Watkins' bday	5 Partry 10:00am
6 9:30 am Bible Class 10:30 am Worship Cora Parker's bday	7 ROMEO Club	8 Blanket Ministry workday @ 9am	9 10:00 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Devol/Singing HHHP Food Delivery	10 6-7 pm Partry Brad Comstock's bday Sid & Hong Long's am,	11	12 Leachtyle singer bridal shower @ 10:00 am
13 9:30 am Bible Class 10:30 am Worship LIFE Group Sunday Presley Reese's bday	14 Cervantes' am,	15 Tim Firm's bday	16 10:00 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Devol/Singing	17 Margaret Couch, Pat Seifert & Liam Riley's bday	18 Imagin Long's bday	19 Partry 10:00am Jeanne Wadsworth's bday
20 9:30 am Bible Class 10:30 am Worship	21	22	23 10:00 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Devol/Singing HHHP Food Delivery Kristen Duckmann's bday	24 6-7 pm Partry	25 Doug Soter's bday	26
27 9:30 am Bible Class 10:30 am Worship LIFE Group Sunday	28	29	30 Mary Ann Stircounb's bday	31 Mary Spothholz's bday		



NEWS & EVENTS

- If you would like make a donation to RCC to help with raising funds for the cabin siding, you can write a check made to RCC or you can go to this website <https://rockfordchristiancamp.org/cabin-keepers/>
- The first Meijer Simply Give campaign of the year will run from Sunday, January 2nd through Saturday, April 2nd. The double match days will be March 5th and March 26th
- Thank you to all the ladies who have started helping at the pantry. Having more of us there lightens the load for everyone, plus it gives us an opportunity for more fellowship. We are so glad that you've joined us. It's so nice to have a fuller team! An extra thanks to Debbie Letsinger and Pat Seifert for helping with sorting during the week!
- There will be a wedding brunch and shower for Braydon Letsinger and his fiancé Olivia Leach on March 12th at 10 am in the Fellowship Hall. Please sign up if you plan on attending. Their wedding will be on June 5th in Mitchell, Indiana and all are invited to attend.
- Don't forget that the time changes on Sunday, March 13th!!
- The dates for the 2022 season at Rockford Christian Camp
 - Memorial Day Retreat (ages 10-14) - May 27th - May 30th
 - Senior Week (7th –12th grade) - July 8th - 16th
 - Junior Week (2nd - 6th grade) - July 16th - 23rd

Elder's Group E-Mail Address
northparkcofcelders@gmail.com

Steve Adkins
eldersteveadkins@gmail.com

Jeff Hagerman
elderjeffhagerman@gmail.com

Joe Nicosia
elderjoenicosia@gmail.com

Ken Maupin
elderkenmaupin@gmail.com

The North Park Church of Christ is committed to sharing Jesus with our community and the world; while encouraging the spiritual development of our youth, strengthening the bond of our families, and serving the needs of our senior adults to build a church known by its love and message that flows from the very heart of God.

Where Friends Learn to Live and Love Like Jesus

MINISTER

Tim Firm - cell phone: 815.914.1782

CONTACT US:

Phone—815-633-4253

Email—NorthParkCofC@gmail.com

www.northparkchurchofchristil.com

Helping Hands Pantry— 815-633-1504

www.helpinghandspantry.com