

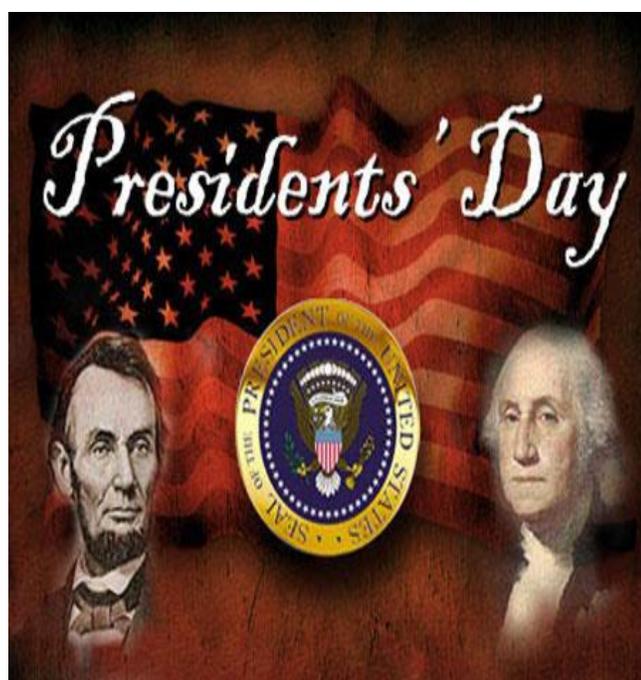
## THE LEAVEN

First Presbyterian Church  
Leavenworth, Kansas

**FEBRUARY 2018**

### SOULE SEARCHING

**#constantpositive** was emblazoned on his T-shirt. His blue ball cap said, **Know Hope**. He needed two crutches to walk and it was still very difficult. He was in the line ahead of me and as we snaked around the waiting room I commented on his shirt. He told me it was a program, his program, to prevent suicide. Before I said anything else he handed me a rubber wrist band with the same hashtag. "I can't give you my shirt but you can have this. Share it with someone who needs it or wear it yourself." We talked until it was his turn at the counter. By that time he was talking to several other people who had overheard some of our conversation. His spirit touched me. He had a message of hope and help that he was ready to share with others. When I read the front of the shirt, I immediately thought of Roger Frazer. He tells me every time I see him, "I am trying to remain positive, it is really important to be positive." **#constantpositive**



I read this story the next morning while thinking about Valentine's Day, February and the season of Lent. Little Chad was a shy, quiet boy. Day after day, his mother agonized when she watched the children coming home from school. While they laughed and talked to each other and hung onto each other, Chad always lagged behind - alone. One day, Chad came home and told his mother that he'd like to make Valentines for everyone in his class. Her heart sank. She thought, "I wish he wouldn't do that! They never include him in anything." Nevertheless, she decided she would go along with her son. So she purchased the paper and glue and crayons, and for three weeks, night after night, Chad painstakingly made 35 valentines. Valentine's Day dawned, and Chad was beside himself with excitement as he started out for school. That afternoon, Chad's mother placed cookies and milk on the table. Then she looked out the window and saw the children coming home from school. There they came, laughing and having the best time and as always, there was Chad in the rear, alone, but walking a little faster than usual. His arms were empty. Obviously, he had not received any valentines, and she fully expected him to break into tears when he got inside. She choked back her own tears, saying as he came in, "Mommy has some cookies and milk for you." But he hardly heard her words. He just marched right on by, his face aglow. And all he could say was: "Not a one. Not a one." Her heart sank. And then, he added: "I didn't forget a one, Mommy. Not a single one."

--Dale Galloway, *Dream a New Dream: How to Rebuild a Broken Life* (Wheaton, Ill.: Tyndale House Publishers, 1975), 77-8.

What an attitude! What focus! What a blessing to others! What a way to love!

February, the month of Love, Valentines and the beginning of Lent is a great time for us to remember the bigger picture. God loves us and does not forget a one of us, so we can focus on serving others. We are asked to love our neighbors with the same kind of sacrificial, joy-filled and transformational love that God has demonstrated from the beginning.

May we be **#constantlypositive** on our life and faith journeys,  
Tim

## SOME OTHER THOUGHTS FOR THE MONTH

Participate in the Souper Bowl of Caring this weekend. Bring a can or two of soup with you to worship and place in the boxes by the front door. The Soup will be shared with the Salvation Army Food cupboard to go to those who need some assistance with food.

Think of a person or two who could use a valentine and see that they are not forgotten.

Join in the fun and fellowship at our Valentine's Dinner on February 11<sup>th</sup>.

Plan to come to worship on Ash Wednesday at noon or 5:30pm in the sanctuary.

I think men who have a pierced ear are better prepared for marriage. They've experienced pain and bought jewelry.

—Rita Rudner.

I don't understand why Cupid was chosen to represent Valentine's Day. When I think about romance, the last thing on my mind is a short, chubby toddler coming at me with a weapon.

—Anonymous.

Jim asked his friend Tony whether he had bought his wife anything for Valentine's Day.

"Yes," came the answer from Tony, who was a bit of a chauvinist. "I've bought her a belt and a bag."

"That was very kind of you," Jim noted. "I hope she appreciates the thought."

"So do I," Tony replied. "And hopefully the vacuum cleaner will work better now."

Tenderness and stubbornness make for a good marriage, and marriage is the true test of character — to make a good life with your best critic. You have many critics, but your spouse is by far the best informed of all of them.

--Garrison Kellior

Tim

## SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

The First Presbyterian Church has scholarship opportunities from three different endowments: the Boatright Scholarship Fund, the C Cory Community Scholarship Fund, and the Carol Ann Low Scholarship Fund.

- The Boatright Scholarship is given to members of the congregation who have completed one or more years of college and will continue enrollment in 2018-2019.
- The Community Scholarship is given to assist a 2018 graduating senior from Leavenworth County with academic potential and financial need. It is for students who are not members of this church and who will enter college in 2018.
- The Carol Ann Low Scholarship is for members of the congregation who are 2018 graduating seniors and will be entering college in 2018-2019.

Applications forms (with specific application requirements) are available in the church office. Completed applications must be received by March 30, 2018. We encourage all interested students to apply. If you have questions, contact Judy Wiedower or Linda Barry.

## COMMUNITY MEAL

Thanks to First Presbyterian Church 277 meals were served here on Tuesday. Thanks to all those that donated and volunteered!



## PRAYER CONCERNS

**PRAYERS Immediate:** Breanna Hoffman (Cindy Scircle's relative), Bill Traynham (Jerry's brother), Katherine de la Cruz, Anna Hurt, Esther Ray, Steve Finch, Debbie Soule

**Ongoing:** Roger Frazer, Marilyn Ferbert (Judy Jahn's daughter), Joe Hudson, Al Pursell, Judy Jahn, Arlene Stovall, Jack Thomas, Dorothy Streiner (Cindy Scircle's relative), Harold Hathaway, Aunt JB (Kristen Michaels), Ellen Owen (Ann Keeling's neighbor), Katherine Traynham (Jerry's mother), Gail Garrett

## FEBRUARY FELLOWSHIP TREATS

Here is the schedule for providing treats for February:

**February 4**-Congregation A-M    **February 11**-Congregation N-Z  
**February 18**-Circle 3    **February 25**-Circle 2 & 4

## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

**2**-Pastor Tim Soule    **13**-Linda Thompson    **19**-Paige Cox  
**26**-Liz Williams    **27**-Joyce Kirk    **29**-Kelvin Brown



## FEBRUARY 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>28</b> Fellowship Treats-Choir and Bell Choir Valentine's Dinner Tickets go on sale <b>2:00 AM - 4:00 AM</b> Chambers Shower <b>9:00 AM</b> Adult Education Class <b>10:30 AM - 11:30 AM</b> Worship	<b>29</b> <b>7:00 AM</b> Men's Morning Discussion Group <b>7:00 PM - 8:30 PM</b> <i>Cody Choraliers</i>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> Crafts & Fellowship <b>6:00 PM</b> Bell Choir <b>7:00 PM</b> Choir Practice	<b>1</b> <b>6:00 PM</b> Deacons Meeting	<b>2</b> Church Office Closed	<b>3</b> <b>1:00 PM</b> Flute Practice
<b>4</b> Fellowship Treats Congregation A-M Valentine's Dinner go on sale <b>9:00 AM</b> Adult Education Class <b>10:30 AM - 11:30 AM</b> Worship	<b>5</b> <b>7:00 AM</b> Men's Morning Discussion Group <b>7:00 PM - 8:30 PM</b> <i>Cody Choraliers</i>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> Crafts & Fellowship <b>6:00 PM</b> Bell Choir <b>7:00 PM</b> Choir Practice	<b>8</b> <b>6:00 PM</b> Session Meeting	<b>9</b> Church Office Closed	<b>10</b> <b>1:00 PM</b> Flute Practice
<b>11</b>  Fellowship Treats-Congregation N-Z <b>9:00 AM</b> Adult Education Class <b>10:30 AM - 11:30 AM</b> Worship <b>5:00 PM</b> Valentine's Dinner	<b>12</b> <b>7:00 AM</b> Men's Morning Discussion Group <b>7:00 PM - 8:30 PM</b> <i>Cody Choraliers</i>	<b>13</b> <b>10:00 AM - 11:30 AM</b> Circle 3 <b>6:30 PM</b> Circle 5	<b>14</b>  <b>9:30 AM</b> Crafts & Fellowship <b>12:00 PM</b> Ash Wednesday Worship <b>5:30 PM</b> Ash Wednesday Worship	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Church Office Closed	<b>17</b> <b>1:00 PM</b> Flute Practice
<b>18</b> Fellowship Treats Circle 3 <b>9:00 AM</b> Adult Education Class <b>10:30 AM - 11:30 AM</b> Worship <b>11:30 AM</b> Christian Education Committee Meeting <b>2:30 PM</b> Circle 2 PWC-Kathie's Home	<b>19</b>  Church Office Closed	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> Crafts & Fellowship <b>6:00 PM</b> Bell Choir <b>7:00 PM</b> Choir Practice	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Church Office Closed <b>6:30 PM - 8:00 PM</b> Amateur Radio Testing	<b>24</b> <b>1:00 PM</b> Flute Practice
<b>25</b> Fellowship Treats Circle 2 & 4 <b>9:00 AM</b> Adult Education Class <b>10:30 AM - 11:30 AM</b> Worship <b>12:00 PM</b> Worship Committee Meeting	<b>26</b> <b>7:00 AM</b> Men's Morning Discussion Group <b>10:00 AM</b> Circle 4 <b>7:00 PM - 8:30 PM</b> <i>Cody Choraliers</i>	<b>27</b> <b>5:00 PM - 6:00 PM</b> Community Meal	<b>28</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> Crafts & Fellowship <b>6:00 PM</b> Bell Choir <b>7:00 PM</b> Choir Practice	<b>1</b> <b>6:00 PM</b> Deacons Meeting	<b>2</b> Church Office Closed	<b>3</b> <b>1:00 PM</b> Flute Practice