



News from KCC

November 30, 2016



NEW Sunday Morning Sermon Series!

Join us Sunday as we kick off a new series called, "Unbelievable." During this series we will look at four unbelievable yet true stories of the Bible. Each of them has their own message, yet together they tell the story of God's love, justice, and mercy. I am looking forward to a great Christmas season. Come share it with us on Sunday mornings at 8:30 or 11 am. See you there! ~ Andy B.

Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas



Saturday, December 3rd 9:00am - 2:00pm

[CLICK HERE to register to shop at HYAMLC](#)

"Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas" provides a one day FREE CHRISTMAS STORE for anyone in the Kalkaska community & surrounding area who finds themselves struggling this time of year to make ends meet. This "store" is for children only (0-18 yrs. old) not for adults, and is only for parents/guardians to shop for children that live in their home. "Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas" is Saturday, December 3rd from 9:00am - 2:00pm at the Kalkaska Church of Christ in the Lower Level. If you would like more information or to volunteer, please call Hollie Bittenbender at 231-384-1255.



Ronnie Carpenter



Chanee Stingley



Ryan Ramsdell

NEW BAPTISMS!

Congratulations to Ronnie Carpenter, Chanee Stingley & Ryan Ramsdell who were baptized Sunday, November 20th by Andy Bratton. Please welcome them to the KCC family! Pray for Ronnie, Chanee & Ryan as they strive to walk closer with Jesus Christ, their Lord & Savior.

If you've been considering this step of salvation, contact the [church office](#) to talk with one of the ministers or Elders about it.

Understanding the Results

By Andy Bratton, Senior Minister

Well, I did it. I ran my first ever 5K race on Thanksgiving Day. It was an encouraging race in that I finished and ran the whole time. It was encouraging because I could eat as much as I wanted later without feeling guilty, assuming (wrongfully I am sure), that the calories I burned earlier would make up for what I was about to gorge myself with. And, after 12 weeks of going without my favorite beverage, Mt. Dew, I was about to enjoy an ice cold Dew with my lunch. There was one discouraging thing about the race, however.

What was most discouraging was the people that finished ahead of me. For example, finishing right ahead of me in 362nd place was Janie Melsheimer. Now I try not to be sexist, but guys let's admit it, none of us like to be outdone by a woman. I know it is a pride thing and something I shouldn't let get to me, but it is what it is. In fact, if all men are honest, we would prefer that when competition is involved, all women would finish behind us. Now I don't know Janie and I doubt you do either. Not only is Janie a female but Janie is 66 years old according to the sheets they posted with the finishing times, and no doubt, she is a former olympic athlete to have defeated me in the 5K race (yeah right).

Place	Div/Tot	No.	Name	Age	S	City	St	Time
351	41/54	128	Sullivan Brown	20	M	Avon	IN	30
352	29/74	991	Hannah Smarrella	25	F	Brownsburg	IN	30
353	16/40	954	Isabel Schaefer	11	F	Brownsburg	IN	30
354	49/80	3286	Eric Marion	48	M	Indianapolis	IN	30
355	19/92	24	Beverley Austin	49	F	Avon	IN	30
356	20/92	537	Loran Johnston	45	F	Indianapolis	IN	31
357	12/48	208	Angela Cole	51	F	Indianapolis	IN	31
358	30/74	648	Rachel Lucas	24	F	Avon	IN	31
359	23/39	649	Roger Lucas	56	M	Avon	IN	31
360	37/58	3530	Unknown Unknown	99	M			31
361	50/80	219	Todd Courtney	46	M	Greenwood	IN	31
362	3/9	708	Janie Melsheimer	66	F	Avon	IN	31
363	51/80	111	Andy Bratton	48	M	Kalkaska	MI	31
364	24/68	184	Jessica Chapman	39	F	Avon	IN	31
365	13/48	905	Angelia Ridgway	50	F	Avon	IN	31

That got me thinking about our series coming up, and more specifically this first sermon on Sunday. The first sermon in our Unbelievable series will be about the story of Jonah. Jonah didn't want to go on the mission God had given him because he didn't think the Ninevites were worthy of the same grace extended to him. The Ninevites were enemies of the Israelites and there was no way they deserved to finish life equal to Jonah.

I often have to check my vision to make sure I am not letting my personal thoughts about who is worthy of the Gospel get in the way of my following the great commission Jesus gave his disciples to "Go into all the world and make disciples of all nations." My preconceived notions about people's backgrounds or heritage can affect the ambition I have toward sharing Jesus with them. And that simply should not be so. Jesus' desire, according to [1 Timothy 2:4](#) is that all would come to knowledge of the truth. And as we

see in the book of Jonah, when people repent and turn to God, He hears them and forgives. Father, forgive me for having foggy lenses. And may my eyes be wide open to the lost and dying world around me. And may your Gospel be ever on my lips. Congratulations 66 year old Janie from Avon, IN. Thanks for keeping me humble.

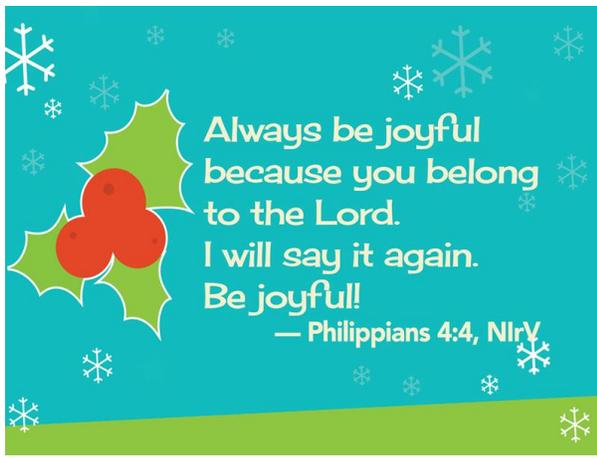
FAMILY STUFF is **THIS SUNDAY at 11:00am** in the Lower Level for all kids Kindergarten through 5th Grade & their parents!

Joy is a response to the character of God. When God created the world, He made it to be a place of peace and contentment. In the Magnificent Paradise, God provided fruit trees that were pleasing to the eye and good to eat. And He personally walked with His creation! But when sin entered the world, so did greed and jealousy. As circumstances changed and life presented more challenges, people found it harder and harder to be happy. However, even now in this broken world, God wants us to have joy. Even though we try to find joy through our stuff, or our vacations, or our relationships, joy isn't dependent upon any of those things. Joy is about being content beyond our circumstances. We can have joy when we recognize that God's plan is greater than our own. Joy is a response to our trust in God.



Jesus is the reason we find joy. God sent His only son as a baby, born in humble circumstances. Jesus wasn't what anyone expected, but this was how God wanted to rescue the world. God made good on the promise He made hundreds of years before. This December, we pray that through the story of Jesus, kids realize that God loved them so much that He sent His Son to be here on this earth. The story of Christmas can remind us through every season, regardless of our situation, there's a reason to celebrate what it means to have a relationship with God. That's why it's important for us to help our kids and families discovery more about **JOY - finding a way to be happy even when things don't go your way.**

Our Memory Verse for December comes from Philippians 4:4. When Paul wrote this letter to the church at Philippi, he wasn't saying to have joy only when it's easy. Paul was writing from prison and learned the secret of having joy no matter what his circumstances looked like. Paul's faith in God made him strong and gave him the ability to find joy, even in the difficult times.

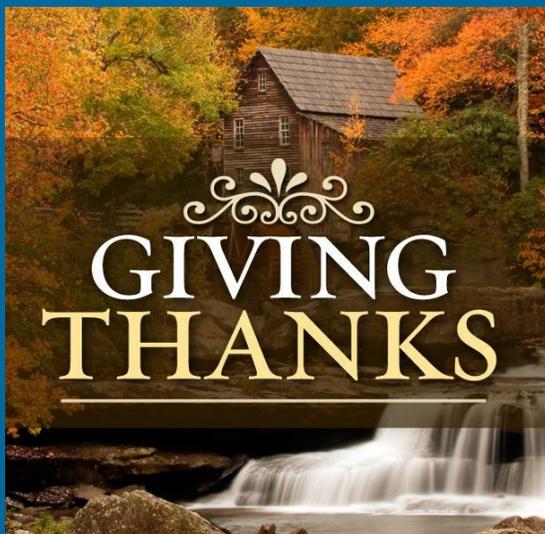


In Philippians 4:4, we read, *Always be joyful because you belong to the Lord. I will say it again. Be joyful!* (NIrV) As kids memorize this verse, we hope they remember that their joy is not tied to their circumstances. Instead, we find joy when we realize that we belong to God. When we trust God no matter what, we can find joy knowing that whatever happens He is in control. We will spend the month of December taking a closer look at the way joy

shows up throughout the Christmas story.

In Isaiah 9:6-7, the prophet Isaiah wrote: *'A child will be born to us. A son will be given to us. He will rule over us. And he will be called Wonderful Adviser and Mighty God. He will also be called Father Who Lives Forever and Prince Who Brings Peace,'* (NIrV). He wrote this hundreds of years before Mary or Joseph or any of the shepherds came on the scene. But this piece of history is significant to the Christmas story because it tells us something incredible about God. It reminds us that God made a promise to send a Savior. A promise He made at a time when things looked dark-during a period when the tribes of Israel were lost and scattered and hopeless. And then finally, hundreds of years later, God kept His promise on that first Christmas.

Bottom Line: **I can have joy because God keeps His promises.** We don't always see the bigger story that God is telling through our lives. But when we remember how God has kept His promise to us in the past, we realize that we can trust God with our future.



During this time of year, we are especially grateful for caring friends like you. We wish you & your family a Happy Thanksgiving and pray that your day be filled with God's richest blessings, peace, love and happiness. Thank you for your faithful prayer and financial support.

*~ Roy, Marianne, Anamarie & RJ Badongen,
Missionaries to the Philippians*

KAIR Christmas Food Drive

THIS Sunday, December 4th is "Take Out Sunday". We will be passing baskets during the offering time that have pieces of paper in them. On the pieces of paper are food items for the annual Christmas Food Drive for KAIR. Bring the food items back to KCC on the following Sunday, December 11th, and leave them in the Lobby. The food will be taken to Kalkaska Methodist Church on Thursday, December 15th from 5:00 - 7:00pm where they will be assembled into food baskets for area families in need.



Upcoming Events



Children's Christmas Program

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11TH AT 10:00AM IN THE WORSHIP CENTER



Children's Christmas Program

KCC Kids will have their Christmas Program on Sunday, Dec. 11th at 10:00am. Join us during the faith training hour in the Worship Center as we celebrate Jesus' birth. This program will include children from KCC's Sunday and Wednesday programs.



First Tuesday Lunch Bunch meets at **12:00pm next Tuesday, December 6th** at KCC in the Lower Level. Bring a dish to share and a friend or two. This is open to anyone available at noon. Hosted by Dan and Sherry Johnson.



Christmas Worship Schedule at KCC!

On Christmas Sunday, December 25th & New Year's Sunday, January 1st, KCC will have ONE WORSHIP SERVICE AT 11:00AM. We look forward to celebrating the birth of our Savior with you & your family!

TODAY - Wednesday, November 30, 2016

- **3:00 PM - WASP** - After school program for kids Kindergarten - 5th grade
- **6:00 PM - FUEL** - Middle School Youth Group



This Sunday - December 4, 2016

- **8:30 AM** - Worship
- **10:00 AM** - Faith Training for Preschool - Adults
- **11:00 AM** - Worship
- **11:00 AM - Family Stuff in the Lower Level for kids Kindergarten - 5th grade & their parents/grandparents!**
- **3:00 PM - Ladies Christmas Tea**
- **6:30 PM** - FUEL - High School Youth Group

[Check out kccwired.com for a full list of upcoming events!](http://kccwired.com)

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