

March 6, 2016

Breaking Free from the Kingdom of Me

Only 14.3 acres in total landmass, it is a small kingdom headquartered near Dayton, Nevada. Located in three separate areas in the United States — part in Nevada, Pennsylvania, and Northern California — you can leave the United States and enter the Republic of Molossia — a self-proclaimed micronation . . . a “nation within” our nation that was first established on September 3, 1999.

Molossia has its own flag, its own signs, and its own boundary markers. It even has its own tourist attractions. Kevin Baugh is the president over his own little kingdom. His space program consists of model rockets. The basic unit of currency in Molossia is the valora. The valora is linked in value to Pillsbury Cookie Dough. Three valora has equal value to one tube of cookie dough.

There is a railroad — model sized. The national sport is broomball. And although his nation is landlocked, he claims a navy that is merely an inflatable boat. You can visit anytime you like. But — although it sounds fun — don't think you can move there. He says there is not enough room. Kevin affectionately calls his nation “*The Kingdom of Me.*”

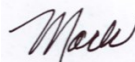
Don't laugh too quickly. We may not have gone to the same extremes as Kevin Baugh, but we mostly live our lives as if we are rulers of our own kingdoms. What a surprise it is when we discover that we are living in a kingdom but it is not ours.

That's the message of Jesus. He came saying, “*The time has come. The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news*” (Mark 1:15). Literally He says the kingdom is “*at hand.*” It is that close. It's all around us. It's within reach.

His kingdom is not as a nation with armies and weapons but as a farmer who comes with seed and the seed falls on soil (Mark 4:3-9). Finding His kingdom is like finding a treasure in a field (Matthew 13:44). And His kingdom is worry-free (Matthew 6:25-34). Best of all, this kingdom has a king who is in control (Mark 4:35-39).

Jesus said, “*All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. . .*” (Matthew 28:18). Kings say things like that. Unlike Molossia, if you want to enter and live in this kingdom, there is room for everyone. That's not the problem. But you need to know that there is only room enough on the throne of this kingdom for one King.

Reading *The Story* With You,



Service for the Lord's Day

Sunday, March 6, 2016

Sermon: "No Ordinary Man"

(Series on *The Story*, Chapter 24)

Scripture: Matthew 8:23-27

Hymns and Songs:

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

"How Firm a Foundation"

"Blessed Be Your Name"

"The Same Love"

Chancel Choir (10:30):

"Secure"


Leading worship today: *Pastor* Mark H. Miller; *Liturgist* Mike McClenahan; *Organist* Shirley Brandyberry; *Pianist* Dee Ann Showalter; *Director of Music Ministries* David Anderson; *Praise Band* Keith Neill; *Media Technicians* Tom McAuley, Kyle Keast, Kevin Long; *Ushers* Tom & Barb Lappin, Randy Wood, Bob Fee, Jim Gilliland, Galen Green, Wally Holderman, Darrel McCool, Mert Sellers; *Greeters* Charles & Jo Ann Craig; *Fellowship Time Hostess* Linda Graves; *Nursery Staff* Toni Estes, Randy Wood; *Custodian* Greg Cox. The chancel flowers are in loving memory of Elmo, Maxine and Jim Young, from their family, Dick & Lillian, Sharon & Jan Young. A staffed nursery is available, 9:00am to 12:00pm, each Sunday morning. Please ask an usher for directions, if needed. Weekly worship CDs are available in the church office. The radio broadcast will be live at 10:30 on 102.9 FM, KHUT.

GriefShare

February 2–April 26, 7:00–9:00 pm

GriefShare is a Christian grief recovery ministry supporting those who have lost loved ones due to death. With GriefShare you will learn how to walk the journey of grief and be supported on the way.

Please see Pastor Mark Miller for more information and/or to sign up. Also check out www.griefshare.org for more information. You can also sign up there, as well.

	2016 Lenten Lunch Series "Let Your Light Shine"
Wednesdays, February 17-March 16 12:00-1:00 p.m. ~ FPC Fellowship Hall <i>RSVP by Monday each week. Donations appreciated.</i>	
March 9: Ken Johnson, President & CEO Hutchinson Regional Medical Center	
March 16: Nikkee Byard Communities in Schools	

Care Portal Update

It has been a busy time for the Care Portal in the three weeks since our last update. In one case, the grandparents were getting their three grandchildren back in their home and we were able to purchase a set of bunk beds, two mattresses and a dresser for the kids. To be in compliance with the state, an area in their basement needed partition walls built for the granddaughter to have a private room. We furnished a Lowe's gift card for the family to purchase the needed building materials for this project. The grandparents and the kids are going to do the work themselves, another indication that the family is beginning to function as a caring, cohesive unit.

Just this week we have worked with Crossroads Christian Church on another case where a woman has been working hard on issues which had prevented her four boys (ages 2 to 12) from living with her. She has made enough progress that the children are now back in her home on a part-time basis. Unfortunately, she had no furniture for them but Crossroads purchased two sets of bunk beds and FPC bought four new twin mattresses.

Our ability to help these families in need is possible through the generosity of all you Portal Presbys. We are blessed by your willingness to assist in these cases. If you are not yet on the list to receive Care Portal emails, just contact e.n.johnson@icloud.com and we'll add your name. Contributions can be made to Robbie in the church office.

The Care Portal — Every church doing a little.



Yard Clean-Up

Jackie Richardson
901 West Ave. D

Saturday, March 19, at 8:00 a.m.

Interfaith Housing will be placing a dumpster at Jackie's house on Friday, March 18. We will be picking up branches and putting them into the dumpster. Please bring gloves, and a rake if possible.

Jackie's place is hard to find, so call or text Bob Callahan at (620)727-3659, or email bcallahan6@cox.net for directions or more information.

Many hands make light work.

Praying with the People of God

For those in the hospital or hurting

- Ardon Brandyberry
- Sam Butterfield

For all FPC shut-ins

For First Presbyterian Church, Independence

“Handle With Prayer”

Would you like to learn more about prayer? Would you benefit from ideas on how to improve your prayer life? A casual monthly group study and discussion of Charles Stanley's book, “Handle With Prayer” begins the first week in April. Meeting times will depend upon preferences of the participants. If you are interested or have questions, please contact either Dick and Carol Brown (785-229-5438) or Sam and Judy Ontjes (620-474-0563).



Birthdays This Week

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| 6 Karen Gilliland | 9 Chace Dillon |
| 7 Chery Lackey | Annie Gajewski |
| Carson Schoenhoff | 12 Shirley Brandyberry |
| 8 Sam Butterfield | Alex Schmitt |
| | Bryson Stricker |

This Week at

Sunday, March 6, 2016—Fourth Sunday in Lent

DEACON OF THE WEEK: Terri McQueen, 663-5719

8:15 am	Worship service	Chapel
9:00 am	Chancel Choir	Sanctuary
9:00-10:15	ReFresh Café open	
9:00-12:00	Book store open	Parlor
9:30 am	Christian Education	
10:30 am	Worship service	Sanctuary
11:30 am	Fellowship time	Parlor

Monday, March 7

8:00 am	Exercise class	Calvin Hall
9:30 am	Book study	Cornerstone Room
5:30 pm	Worship Committee	Conference Room
6:30 pm	“Messiah” rehearsal	Sanctuary
7:00 pm	Scout Troop #301	Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, March 8

8:30 am	Yoga	Sunflower Studio
9:30 am	The Story women's group	The Basement
7:00 pm	GriefShare	Cornerstone Room

Wednesday, March 9

8:00 am	Exercise class	Calvin Hall
9:00 am	Staff meeting	Conference Room
12:00 pm	Lenten lunch	Fellowship Hall
3:30 pm	LOGOS	
6:00 pm	Confirmation class	Cornerstone Room
6:30 pm	FPC Bells	Choir Room
7:00 pm	Youth Group	The Basement

Thursday, March 10

4:30 pm	Volleyball	Calvin Hall
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Friday, March 11

9:00 am	Walk-a-mile class	Calvin Hall
1:00 pm	Congregational Connections	Conference Rm
3:00 pm	Youth depart for Winter Jam	
6:30 pm	“Messiah” rehearsal	Sanctuary

Saturday, March 12

12:30 pm	“Messiah” rehearsal	Sanctuary
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Sunday, March 13—Fifth Sunday in Lent

DEACON OF THE WEEK: Mel Dower, 663-4639

2:00 am	Daylight Saving Time — Set clocks ahead	
8:15 am	Worship service	Chapel
9:00 am	Chancel Choir	Sanctuary
9:00-10:15	ReFresh Café open	
9:00-12:00	Book store open	Parlor
9:30 am	Christian Education	
10:30 am	Worship service	Sanctuary
11:30 am	Fellowship time	Parlor
3:00 pm	“Messiah”	Sanctuary, Fellowship Hall

February 28, 2016

Combined Attendance: 160

Offering: \$ 3,892.00



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 201 EAST SHERMAN
 HUTCHINSON, KANSAS 67501
 (620)665-5549; fax (620)665-5518
 e-mail: fpc@fpchutch.org
 web site: www.fpchutch.org

Return Service Requested

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Easter Lilies

Easter lilies are again available for you to purchase in memory of, or thanksgiving for, loved ones. The cost is \$8.25 each. Simply fill out the form below, designate if you would like to pick up the plant or have it delivered to a shut-in, and return the form and payment to the church office. Easter lilies create a beautiful church for Easter services and brighten the day for many others! Thank you for participating in this ministry. **Deadline is Friday, March 18.**



Name _____

Number of Easter lilies _____ at \$8.25 each

Amount enclosed \$ _____

In memory of: _____

OR

In thanksgiving for: _____

After worship on Easter:

_____ I will pick up

_____ Take to a shut-in: *Fill in information below if you desire to designate:*

(Return with payment to the church office)

Name of recipient _____

Address _____ Phone _____