The Common Line

Live in the Present By Steve McGuire

We are yet again at a starting point. Students and teachers begin a new academic year. [I was apprehensive about including "teachers" in that description. There is obvious tension and rivalry about the matter here at FUMCN.] Athletes begin a new season of sport. Some will welcome a new season of weather patterns. I could go on but you get the point. Our lives are built around beginnings. Days, weeks, months, and years grant the opportunity to start over.

In the movie, "Ground Hog Day," a cynical and out-of-sorts Bill Murray is stuck in a time warp of sorts. He relives February 2nd over and over again. No matter what he does, good or bad, he cannot escape that day. But this endless cycle enables Murray's completely self-absorbed character to come to grips with a deep-seated problem and find a way to a serious relationship by genuine caring about someone other than himself. By countless examples of trial and error he discovers how to love. Of course, from a Christian vantage-point, how Murray works at this is flawed but the main difference between him and us is that we don't get a second, third, or many opportunities to correct the sad mistakes of a single day until we get them right. February 2 lasts but 24 hours before we advance to February 3, ready or not.

For us, time is holy and each day an opportunity to see the will of God enacted in our lives. And God's presence, grace, and instruction are available to prevent and/or minimize some mistakes and failures. Many people struggle, unable to live in the moment. They are stuck in some past victory or defeat; or in a future hope or fear. [There may be things that need to be dealt with in those areas and God can do that for us. There is much more to be said about that but I'll not explore it here.] But "Today" is an important word in Scripture. Today is a day of salvation, a day for hearing God's voice, for seeing new things that God is doing in our own lives and all around us. Today means we can live in the present, assured of God's kindness and help for whatever confronts us. It means in union with Christ, we can get this day right.

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Psalm 119:114 (ESV)

You are my hiding place and my shield; I hope in your word.



FOR THE GLORY OF GOD

Remembering Kathryn Lois "Katie" McCoy 1923-2019

A Message about Katie By Merrilee Carlson

If you were lucky enough to have had Katie McCoy and Mary Jane McKinley as teachers, be it through band, choir, church, golf or any other opportunity you knew them, you know that no one set a better example of "a life well lived" then they did.

I just returned from the funeral service for Katie, where her life was celebrated in a way that would make her smile. Music, love and laughter were all there. The Nelsonville-York band played, Cheryl Nunnally gave a lovely eulogy, her brother shared his love for his big sister and Steve Cox showed the congregation where Katie had sat in the sanctuary after she had finally stopped sitting in her director seat in the choir loft, not that many years ago. I could see her there in the choir loft in her blue choir robe, explaining aspects of a song to us hormonal kids in the middle school band long ago, or hear her frustration as I squeaked out a sad attempt to play the clarinet (a horrible experience, no doubt, for a true clarinet expert like herself).

Over the years I continued to learn from Katie, some lessons I didn't realize I had learned until today. Today was a reminder that if you use each day and each opportunity to give of yourself, like she did, it is all time well spent. She used all of her 95 years doing that. A classroom is more than four walls- everywhere Katie went there too was her classroom. Thank you, Katie, for the lessons in living well you taught us all.

What Katie Taught Us

I sang in the church choir with Katie for about 50 years, starting at the old church on Jefferson St. When I turned 80, I thought it was time for me to give up the choir. Katie said to me, "If you can still sing, it's your duty to God to sing in the choir." So, I keep singing. Katie and Mary Jane were really something. It will be a long time before we see the likes of them again. We were blessed.

— Ann Nixon

Katie constantly enforced my love of choral music. It was evident in her diligent attention to getting the parts sung perfectly and her smile of satisfaction when it took place that music was an absolute blessing in her life.

You could tell she passed that love on to many many others, as a choir, thirty some strong came together at her service, to honor her memory and thank her for so many wonderful moments together.

Katie showed me the value of faithfulness and commitment to our church, through her willingness to help with any task, serve on any committee, raise or give any funds needed and do anything she could to give aid to all of her fellow church members. Her commitment and faithfulness were only magnified in my eyes over the last few years when it was so difficult for her even to make it to be there with us-----and yet she did!

Steve Cox

She taught me to play clarinet better following a good start with Mary Jane. She taught me to be a good sport in both bowling and golf even though you get frustrated at times. She taught me etiquette on the golf course, which was greatly important, and to put a smile on your face as much as possible and to never give up.

Cheryl Nunnally

When I retired and was able to spend more time in Nelsonville after living and working away for more than 40 years, Katie greeted me with the words "I'm glad you're back." Knowing the dedication she had for this town and this church, for so many years, I understood her words meant get busy and get to work. It was the only thing I could do when faced with such a role model.

Mary K. Walsh

Katie taught me many things. Find good in everyone no matter what. Give back in any way you can. She was strong, respected and had a sharp mind. She was a proud woman. If she got mad, she would apologize later for being cross. She loved her family and church family very much. She did not like to miss church and wanted to be there every Sunday. After she fell and needed a walker, she did not want to come to church using a walker. She was worried about what people would say and I told her it didn't matter, it helped her and that is what counted. She especially liked the kids. If Claire would get in trouble or was not allowed to do something, Katie would want to know what happened and hear the whole story. Then she would tell me not to be mad at her and tell me I needed to let her do it whatever it was. promise to Katie when she said she did not want to go to a nursing home that we would work it out so that she could live in her home. From her I learned, never give up, stay humble and be kind.

Challie Abraham

Rally Day September 29th

Summer vacations and travel are over. It's time to gather again and recommit to attending church and Sunday school and growing in our Christian faith. Plan on a fun Sunday with our church family enjoying worship, lunch and even a "bouncy house." Bring a dessert to share.

POTH Another Success

This was a record-breaking year for our Parade of the Hills food sale. A whopping \$6,200 was collected for many pounds of noodles (the supply totally ran out) and all the other traditional favorites. Several volunteers noted that this year seemed to bring in many unfamiliar faces, including new students at Hocking College, who we invited as our guests. We extended a warm welcome to all.



Thank You, Mr. Taggart

Sunday School children's art captures the gratitude of the congregation for Tom Taggart keeping the church lawn looking great.



Moveolution By Grace Sinnott

Almost two years ago Kaleigh and Casey announced to us that we would be going to Europe to attend the same mission trip Kaleigh did when she was in high school. I don't think any of us really knew what the trip would actually entail, but we were too excited to care. We did multiple fundraisers in order to pay for our trip, one of my favorites being the chili-bowl cookoff last fall (I'm a sucker for a good bowl of chili). We continued to do fundraisers and events to raise money until about June of this year, when our trip was finally paid off. We could have never achieved this were it not for everyone in the church who bought countless items from us, attended our different events, and just supported us through everything we did.

This trip is something all of us will remember for the rest of our lives, for countless reasons. Each and every one of experienced something that changed us, whether it was from the people we met or just learning more about ourselves. For me, meeting the 14-year-old boy named Reuben and getting to discuss our similar situations and our beliefs helped me more than I could have ever even imagined. Reuben wasn't hesitant to discuss where he stood in his faith, even if it was different from everyone else's. He was super interested in learning about Nelsonville and just America in general, which kind of opened my eyes and made me realize how much I take our small little town for granted. This trip was almost like an escape for us all to focus back on God and work to better our relationship with him, something I think we all desperately needed. I cannot express how truly thankful I am for the opportunity to go on this trip.

Thank you to everyone who contributed and supported us all as we went on this journey together. We could not have done any of this without your love and prayers. Special thank you to Baird Brothers Foundation for paying off the last of our trip, you guys took a huge weight off of our shoulders and we are so thankful for it. Everyone in our church contributed in some shape or form, and we just want to express how grateful we are for everything. You all rock!



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Other Events and Announcements

Sunday School every Sunday at 9 AM

Worship services every Sunday at 10 AM

Anchored Youth Group every Sunday at 5 PM

AA every Monday and Thursday at 8 PM

Leadership Team Meeting September 25th at 6 PM

Holy Communion every first Sunday of the month

- Our office will be closed September 18th so that staff can attend our pre-charge conference briefing.
- Please visit our website and check out our 'Photos' tab to view pictures of our scouts, noodle day, and others! Also check out our calendar tab and see what's going on in our church.

Cub Scouts Schedule

Wolf: Sundays at 4PM; Dee Dee Loge (740) 707-5318

Bear: Mondays at 6PM; Ryan Harris (937) 902-9609

Webelos 1: Every other Tuesday at 6PM; Zach Odenthal (740) 707-

7035

Webelos 2: Sundays at 6PM; Zach Odenthal (740) 707-7035

*If you have any questions about Cub Scouts, you can always contact Dee Dee or Dave Loge (740) 707-1630

He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their woun<u>ds.</u>

Psalm 147:3

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