

~ *Kevin's Kolumn* ~

Never without intention

Commitment. It has a nice ring to it, doesn't it? Commitment is a word we hear when speaking of a championship team or when making reference to exemplary leadership. But, we need to take into consideration that commitment doesn't come easily. Commitment is a pledged promise made to solidify one's belief in seeing something to its end. Even at times when it would be easier to bale than to push forward, commitment reminds us there's no turning back.

Jesus reminds us in Luke 9 that no one having putting his hand to the plow and then turning back is fit for the kingdom of heaven. Let's be honest...there are times in life that tempt us to quit short of our goal.

I'm reminded of a time when Caleb first started playing pop warner football. The conditioning wrought upon these youngsters was intense! The coach had his sights set on winning the championship, so these kids ran hills, pulled tractor tires the length of the field and did numerous calisthenics. Caleb came home after a particular grueling practice and announced he wanted to quit. I told him at the end of the year if he decided he no longer wanted to play he could quit then. Interestingly enough, his team won the championship game that year by one touchdown (the only touchdown scored in the entire game). Caleb made sure to thank me for not letting him quit before he tasted victory that year. I couldn't get him off the field after that win! Our Christian lives can be like that. There are times laced with sorrow, difficulty and even fear. We can be devastated by a doctor's diagnosis, a layoff notice, or an unexpected financial difficulty. God's Word reminds us not to give up until we taste victory; eternal life. It's then we can look back and be reminded that every ounce of travail was well worth the victory.

Have a blessed day and remember the One who gave it to you!

Kevin

Good Morning & Welcome!

Prayer Requests

- ♥Kim Dumire had her port installed this past Wednesday morning. She should be starting Chemotherapy this coming Wednesday.
- ♥Kim Dumire's mother (Jean Linn) was taken to FRMC's emergency room this past week as well. Doctor's determined she was dehydrated and was suffering with a stomach virus.
- ♥Joan Matheny has one more visit to the wound center and doctors have said she is improving nicely.
- ♥Mary Moore is doing well. Thank you for lifting her up in prayer.
- ♥Stacey Reszler has been suffering recently with vertigo issues.
- ♥Our sympathy is extended to Tanya Robe. Tanya's grandfather passed away last week.
- ♥Continue to pray for Keith and Marsha Kisner, Edwina and Jerry, Harold and Jean Phillips, and Bob Carpenter.
- ♥Prayers have been requested for John Heck, friend of Matt Tonkery. John is going through treatments for cancer and needs heart by-pass surgery.
- ♥Noah Miller, Jr., son-in-law of Robert Tonkery, is now in the VA Hospital in Clarksburg. He had cancer removed from his head this past week.

News and Notes

FRIEND DAY is next Sunday, April 19th. Please invite your friends and family to join us! We will also be having a covered dish luncheon immediately following the morning service. Everyone welcome! There **WILL NOT** be services next Sunday evening.

Graduating Seniors – If you or your child will be graduating high school or college this spring, please let Dianne know by April 19th. She will need a wallet size photo for the bulletin and 12 pictures for the slide show. If you have questions, please see Dianne Tonkery.

Cuba Mission Yard Sale – There will be a yard sale to benefit the Cuba Mission trip on May 1st and May 2nd. Please place all donations for the yard sale in the Upper Fellowship Hall. **WE WILL NOT BE ACCEPTING ADULT CLOTHES.** Any questions, please see Deb Carpenter.