



By This All Will Know by Carol Landis

I'm watching the birds eating at our small feeder. Hearing their soft chirps through the window brings a smile. Two beautiful bluebirds munch together with a tiny sparrow...now another sparrow joins them. It's quite a different scenario from last winter when two blue jays each fought to claim the feeder. They exemplified, *"if you keep on biting and devouring each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other"* (Gal. 5:15). They chased each other around the branches above the feeder so neither could eat. Although more than enough room for both, they couldn't perch on either side and eat together. Who am I? I'd like to be a blue bird, or even a sparrow, but when am I more like those blue jays?

Recently I attempted to memorize the thirteen verses of 1 Corinthians 13. Can't say I accomplished that goal, but after focusing on these verses, I find their message continuing to challenge me to look for, and practice, them in daily life. Several examples come to mind: a host, a friend, loving parents. A host we barely knew, joyfully hosted 7 of us. Lavishly preparing delightful meals, fresh bedding, even a birthday cake, yet tells me she doesn't remember that I wasn't feeling well, and went to bed without offering to help in any way. And she invited us back again. *Love is kind...is not easily angered* (v.4,5). A friend I hurt by my words and actions. I apologized afterwards, but the damage was done. Yet she gave me the gift of forgiveness and grace. I savor the restored friendship; the forgiveness; the grace. *Love keeps no record of wrongs* (v.5). The love of parents for their disabled child; moving to a new home to accommodate changing needs; valuing and including the child as much as possible in activities and outings. *Love is not self-seeking; love always protects; always perseveres* (vv.5,6). Such love embodies the grace we each need.

Am I a blue jay creating havoc by biting and devouring? Or like the sparrows, black chickadees, and finches now sharing the feeder outside my window? Do I recognize each person as created in God's image? Is the visual I leave: *"by this all...will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another"* (John 13:35)?

Lord, with the power of Your Spirit within me,
enable me to love as You love me.

Love
embodies
the grace
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February 2025 |



WOMEN'S MINISTRY MISSION STATEMENT: Encouraging women to connect in deeper, genuine relationships both with each other and with Jesus Christ.



Making Connections

Meet **Kim Wieder.**

My name is Kim Wieder. My parents are Paul & Ruth Wimmer. When many people hear who my parents are, I often learn that my dad did their wedding flowers. I'm sure there are a good number of couples here at FMC who have had my dad do their wedding flowers. I have two older brothers, Dean and Gary. Fun fact, I live in the house I was raised in. When we bought the house from my parents, we built an in-law suite for them. Unfortunately, my dad passed away suddenly and unexpectedly and never got to enjoy it. But we are so thankful to have mom live there.

Growing up I played every sport I could and just loved to sing. Occasionally I would sing with my parents in church. I was involved in musicals, school and church choirs, and anything else that gave me the opportunity to sing. I've been involved with Zion Choral Society for 35 years. I sang the first 15 years and have been helping Gary with percussion for the last 20 years.

I married Gary 35 years ago. We met on a football field. He was the drum line instructor and I was the color guard instructor for Quakertown High School marching band. We have three children. Bekah is 32 and is a hair stylist and make up artist. She is married to Patrick and lives in Telford. Then we had twins, Nick and Katie. They will be 30 in March. Nick is an RN and lives in Buffalo, NY with his wife Britta. Katie is a veterinary nurse and lives in Telford.

I was blessed to be a stay-at-home mom. When all the kids were in elementary school, I started working at Christopher Dock in the cafeteria. I was there for 10 years. I now work for Transportation Services as a school bus aide. I work with special needs kids and absolutely love my job. I have been there for 15 years.

In 1997 I experienced something that changed my life and my family's life forever. I was diagnosed with a benign brain tumor. After two brain surgeries, relearning to walk, and lots of physical and occupational therapies, I'm happy to say that 28 years later I'm still tumor free. My balance and gimpy walk are a result of the surgeries. Then in 2020, I was presented with a new battle. A rare and aggressive type of Thyroid cancer. With the removal of my Thyroid, my singing voice was severely affected. This is something that is still tough to deal with. However, my latest checkup showed that I'm cancer free. Psalm 121 is a passage that really spoke to me during these times and continues to lift me up when I need assurance.

Some of my favorite things are...

Sports teams: the Eagles and Phillies

Travel spots: Disney World and Ocean City, NJ

Activities: Swimming, puzzles, working in my flower beds, mowing the lawn, listening to music and playing games

Christian singing group: The Collingsworth Family

Holiday: CHRISTMAS!!

Day of the week: Monday, our kids come home for a home cooked meal and play games. I love being with my family.

Song: Your Ways Are Higher Than Mine by Courtney Collingsworth

Food: Mashed potatoes

Now that you know a little more about me, I look forward to getting to know more of you here at FMC. If you go past my house and see me outside, beep your horn. Or better yet, stop in for some garden tea and a chat.





Get Involved!

Women's Spring Bible Study

Wednesday mornings, 9:30-11:00 AM

March 5th (Ash Wednesday) – April 16

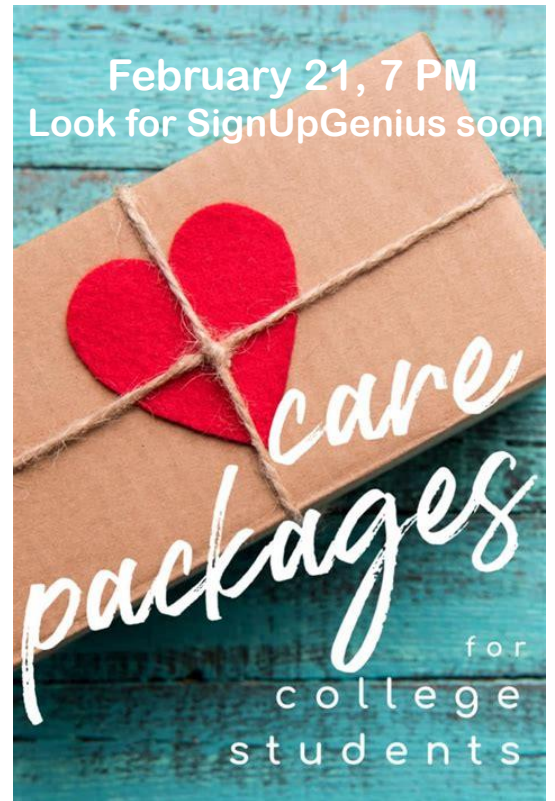
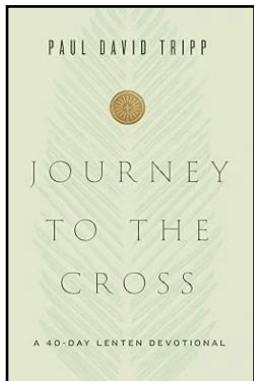
Lent is a time in the yearly Christian calendar when we mourn our sin and let go of worldly things that keep our hearts from experiencing God more fully. But how do we reevaluate and recalibrate the values of our hearts to match those of our suffering Savior?

In this study, we will set aside some time each week from the busyness of our lives to focus on the suffering and incredible sacrifice of Jesus. Through short readings and prayer, we will reflect on the sin that can so easily entangle us as we prepare our hearts for Easter and the abundant joy in knowing our Savior more fully. The study is based on the book by Pastor Tripp, "Journey to the Cross: A 40 Day Lenten Devotional".

Please sign up by February 25 at the Women's Ministry table in the foyer or by emailing facilitator, Lori Menzies at

lmenzies95@gmail.com.

Books \$5



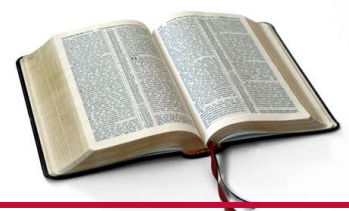
An invitation to join the Bible Memory/Meditation Email group

THIS GROUP IS A PLACE TO SHARE A VERSE, OR SECTION OF VERSES, YOU'D LIKE TO COMMIT TO DAILY READING, AND MEDITATING ON, OR MEMORIZE, FOR THE COMING MONTH. IT'S A PLACE TO ENCOURAGE EACH OTHER TO PERSEVERE, ALSO A PLACE TO SHARE THOUGHTS & PRAYER REQUESTS.

WE DON'T ALWAYS MEET OUR INTENDED GOAL, BUT AS ISAIAH 55: 1 1 PROMISES, GOD'S WORD DOES NOT RETURN EMPTY BUT ACCOMPLISHES HIS DESIRES AND PURPOSES AND HELPS US TO DRAW CLOSER TO JESUS AND EACH OTHER.

IF YOU'D LIKE MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE SEE CAROL LANDIS OR JANE SEAMAN IN PERSON OR THROUGH EMAIL: CAROLDANLANDIS@GMAIL.COM OR MJSEAMAN@ICLOUD.COM. YOU CAN ALSO JOIN, BY SIGNING UP AT THE WOMEN'S MINISTRY TABLE, OR EMAIL FRANCONIAWOMEN@GMAIL.COM,

WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!



THANKS FOR JOINING US FOR
THE WOMEN'S WINTER SOCIAL!



Other Upcoming Activities

Sewing Circle
Tuesday, Feb. 11
8 AM – 4 PM

Prayer Shawl Ministry
Tuesday, Feb. 11 at 7 PM

CONTACT US: franconiawomen@gmail.com

Women's Ministry Co-Chairs: Gail Reinford & Sydney Leaman
Team Members: Janet Derstine, Julie Stitt, Charity Veltre, & Heidi Yoder,

