

TODAY >

**April 26, 2020**

## AMONG FRIENDS with Robert

With the management of COVID-19 calling for social separation, I am reminded of a story told by Stu Weber in his book, *Locking Arms*. Weber, who won three bronze stars as a Green Beret in Vietnam, described his physical training at the US Army Ranger School. He recalled a day when his unit reported for a morning run in full uniform with helmets, boots, rifles and packs. The instructions were clear. "You go out together. You stick together. You work as a unit. And you come in together."

The southern Georgia sun was merciless that day, and fatigue soon took its toll. Up ahead in the column, Weber spotted something wrong in the formation. A guy named Sanderson was pumping his legs, but he was visibly out of sync with the rhythm of the run. Weber wondered if anyone else had noticed.

Without missing a step, the Ranger next to Sanderson reached over and took his rifle. The Ranger on his left took his helmet. For a few minutes Sanderson seemed to recover before again starting to fade. Immediately, two soldiers behind him lifted the pack from his shoulders, each one taking one of the straps in his free hand. Sanderson squared his shoulders and summoned his remaining strength. The platoon pressed on and finished its run intact. Weber wrote, "We left together. We returned together. And all of us were stronger for it."

As the church, we, too, are better together, functioning as a unit. If I falter, others share my load. If I fall, someone lifts me up. If I am overwhelmed, those beside me close the ranks. For more than a month, the Crosstown church family has been running a bit out of sync, but ironically, we are finding a new rhythm. Recorded worship services, online giving, Zoom Bible classes, and other recorded classes for adults and children, weekly online bulletin and email messages, congregational phone calls, and other encouraging videos have kept us intact. Congregational outreach has been energized with personal responsibility. Families have rediscovered the joy and adventure of innovation. Through it all, information technology has provided the link to keep us connected.

I suspect if we were talking with the apostle Paul, he would remind us that it takes more than a virus to disconnect us from each other or from our Father. According to him, nothing "in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 8:39)

-- Robert --

## Order of Worship

April 26, 2020

Song Leader: **Charles Schellhorn**

#NIB: "**Blessed Be the Name of the Lord**"

Scripture Reading: **Roddy Roberts**

Opening Prayer: **Timothy Anuu**

#NIB: "**As the Deer Thirsts**"

#490: "**It is Well With My Soul**" (1-3)

Communion ~ Offering: **Brandon Babitzke**

#943: "**Do You Know My Jesus**" (1-3)

#595: **I Come to the Garden Alone** (1-3)

Sermon: **Robert Prater**

#134: "**The Lord's My Shepherd**" (1-5)

Closing Prayer and Final Words: **Steve Parker**

## Sermon Outline

### *Lament*

- A. 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
- B. When you bypass grief, hope is cheapened
- C. Grief is feeling the loss internally

## I. Psalms of Lament

- A. Helps people of God express grief
- B. We love Psalm 231, but what about Psalm 22?
- C. Pattern of lament psalms
  - 1. Complaint (Psalm 22:6, 14)
  - 2. Request (Psalm 22:19)
  - 3. Trust (Psalm 22:24)

## II. Stages of Grief

- Stage 1: Denial
- Stage 2: Anger
- Stage 3: Bargaining
- Stage 4: Depression
- Stage 5: Acceptance

- A. The importance of compassion in acceptance
- B. Can you put words to your grief?
  - 1. What have you lost?
  - 2. How are you feeling?

### Member Prayer Requests

**Meri-Sue Bachlor:** mother, **Carole Medina**, under hospice care  
**Sarah Beard:** having health issues; tests have been cancelled; waiting  
**Carole Brown:** continued recovery; therapy treatments are finished  
**Dorothy Brown:** neuropathy in feet  
**Lois Cox:** headaches; further testing to find cause  
**Paula Earp:** staph infection  
**Scott Hathaway:** reoccurring ear infection; needs to see specialist  
**Cheryl Krosse:** MRI results recommend seeing a neurosurgeon for surgery  
**Glenna Pickel:** home from hospital; blisters on feet;

### Healing from Surgery

**Wanda Dean:** neck; **Scott Fields:** back; **James Henderson:** rotator cuff; **Lynn Hoppes:** stint; **Terry Howard:** shoulder replacement; **Shirley Schellhorn:** shoulder replacement; **Sydney Schultz:** knee; Nathaniel Chisom: colon

### Extended Family and Friends for Prayers

**Eve Beard:** friend, Glenn Craft, surgery to remove kidney due to cancer  
**Joanie Brock:** mother, Vivian Lambert, loss of near sight vision  
Sara Duncan: former member, husband laid off  
**Joy Kelly:** brother, John Calaway, doing better; prayers for him to come to the Lord  
**Mike Vann:** grandson, Taylan, stronger seizures  
**Donna Washington:** son's health and mobility

### Members Working in the Medical Field or Assisted Living

**Robin Addington, Cheala Green, Cliff Holt, Kay Imhoff, Julie Kamalakis, Ty Kirkpatrick, Wendi Murrell, Hannah Parker, Tammy Pittman, Kristina Potter, Brandy Shultz, Julie Wade**

### Extended Family Working in Medical Field

**Rita Drummond-** daughter, Kelly; **Mike Vann:** daughter; **Patty VanTuyl:** daughter, Tricia Henderson

### General Church Prayers

Help for those living alone, getting through this COVID-19, so everyone can be together again, keep our families and friends and country safe, strength handling the anxiety, our economy, finances, healthcare workers everywhere.

**Members with Health Issues:** Cleve Brock, Kathleen Corns, Wanda & Ernest Dean, Mary-Anne Dye, Lynn Hoppes; Barbara Lakey, Sherry Meadors, Carole Medina, Leon Mills, Beckie Null, Glenna Pickel, Boone Roberts, Michael Robison, Willie Rose, Paul Schellhorn, Ann Thurman, Terry West, Mikey Yeary



**CONTACT US VIA EMAIL** > [info@crosstownfamily.org](mailto:info@crosstownfamily.org)  
**CHURCH OFFICE**> 918-834-1395

**PLEASE VISIT US ONLINE** > [www.crosstownfamily.org](http://www.crosstownfamily.org)

- Worship and Sermon Video Links
- Online Giving Secure Link

**PLEASE VISIT US ON FACEBOOK** > [facebook.com/CrosstownChurchOfChrist](https://facebook.com/CrosstownChurchOfChrist)

- Wednesday Bible Class Live at 7pm

**YOUTUBE** > [www.youtube.com/CrosstownChurchOfChrist](http://www.youtube.com/CrosstownChurchOfChrist)

- Wednesdays Children's Bible Class; New Premieres at 6pm
- Sunday General Bible Class ; New Premieres 9:15am
- Sunday Morning Worship: New Worship Premieres 10:15am

**ZOOM MEETINGS** > contact office for meeting ID and Password

- Youth Group: Monday & Friday at 9pm; Wednesday 6:30pm & 7pm; Tuesday & Thursday at Noon
- Ladies Bible Class: Wednesdays at 6:45pm
- Men's Bible Class: Wednesdays at 6:45pm

**Communion Supplies, contribution envelopes, song books, sermon outlines, and prayer journals available at the office** Monday—Thursday: 8:30-4:30 or Saturday at portico drive thru from 1pm-3pm.

**Sermon DVD's:** are available for those who do not have internet capabilities. Call the church office.

**Order of Worship & Sermon Outline:** will now be emailed on Friday with the bulletin. The order of worship will feature the page number and songs for those who wish to use the song books.

### **Church Contribution Stats:**

April 19, 2020  
Contribution: 11,547  
Contribution YTD: 151,766  
Budget YTD: 152,000  
Difference: (233)

### **Birthdays:**

5/4 Holly Fraser

5/6 Carrie Clayton

5/6 Julie Kamalakis