

Pastor Brian's  
Mid Week Message  
November 6, 2019

**OBSERVATIONS FROM KANSAS CITY**

As most of you know, Kay and I spent this past weekend in Kansas City. Many have asked... "Why Kansas City?" The answer is simple; because we've never been there before. We wanted to see and experience what this place is all about. What follows are some rather random ruminations from my somewhat warped perspectives.



This was the observation from our hotel window. Ahead and to the right are the convention center. In the distance is the Kaufmann Center for

Performing Arts (The building that looks like a bunch of disks) and to the left the Crowne Plaza Hotel. Not a bad spot to watch the sunset.

It was COLD! Way to cold for my blood, and the wind added an extra bite. What's worse was the humidity, or lack thereof. By Sunday my forehead felt like alligator hide and skin was peeling off, while all of our clothes suffered from static cling. Gimme that old time Florida moisture!

The people of Kansas City, MO are wonderful; warm, welcoming and friendly. They all would fit in very nicely here at TLC.

Note to the church (I won't name names here); If you want to attract and welcome visitors...which just might foster growth...don't have your main doors (solid wood with no windows) locked just before service with no one stationed to let folks in. And then, don't do the same with the side door just around the corner. If there is a preferred entry point you might want to post a sign in the parking lot directing folks to where it might be. Just a thought! Also, when someone signs the guest book, they could be a visitor. You might want to pay attention to that too.

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I grew up in the Wisconsin Synod, and after being confirmed and coming to communion I discovered that they used a white wine...it was awful! The church we visited on Sunday offered the same stuff.

If you've never tried Australian food, you may be missing out on something wonderful. We took a food tour on Saturday and one stop was at "Banksia" an Australian Café...certainly authentic because the owner talked funny. The meat pie and the lamb sausage roll were incredible. The Lamington Cake for dessert wasn't too shabby either.

If you decide to visit KC don't do it on a weekend when the Chiefs host the Vikings. The visiting fans tilted slightly toward the obnoxious side.

Also, as Kansas City is the "City of Fountains" don't go during an unseasonable cold snap. They're almost all turned off.

Do go to Union Station, a beautiful and impressive edifice with lots of interesting things going on. A good place to watch people (indoors on a chilly day)

When sampling Kansas City Barbeque stick to the brisket and the ribs. They're awesome. The pulled pork? Not so much, we can make that just as good or better at home in a slow cooker. The "Little Barbeque Joint" in Independence was very good. "Burnt ends....m-m-m!

They have a church built right next to Arrowhead Stadium; The Church of the Resurrection, for folks that want to worship before the game and pray earnestly for a Chiefs victory, I guess.

The merchandise in the Team Stores at both Kaufmann Stadium (where the Royals play) and across the parking lot at Arrowhead (Home of the Chiefs) is incredibly overpriced...like at all pro sports venues.

There are Ginkgo trees all over the place. They seem to be the first trees to drop their leaves in the fall.

The art museum is pretty cool, and it's free. It does cost \$10 to park though. But that's a steal compared to the \$60 they're demanding for parking at the stadium on Sunday.

In our hotel room the clock automatically changed to Standard Time in the middle of the night. Not being aware of this caused us to miss the 8:00am worship service...thought the time was an hour earlier than it actually was as we had not changed the clock ourselves. That was okay though as we enjoyed breakfast in the Country Club Square shopping district (beautiful place) and then attended worship at 11:00am.

If you stand in the middle of State line road you can have your feet in two states (Missouri and Kansas) at the same time. Don't stand there too long though or your next stop will be the University of Kansas Hospital which is on the west side of the street.

Upon returning home I quickly realized that I don't at all miss having to wear long pants, sweatshirts, a jacket and insulated watertight shoes for more than 6 months out of the year. It was a good trip but it's good to be back home with all of you!