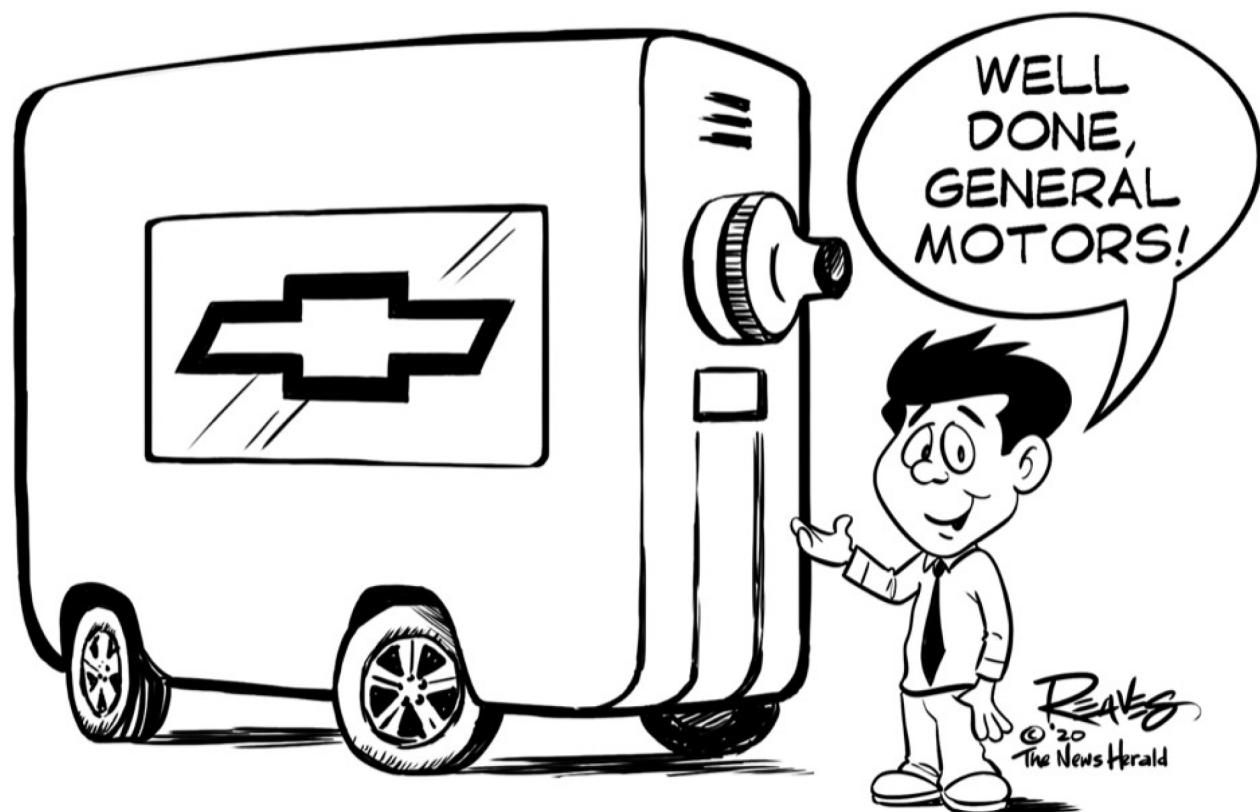


Introducing the all new 2020 Chevy Ventilator!



Time is gift from above

By Rev. Tom Mansbarger

Do you ever feel like you are racing the clock? I don't know how many times I have heard people say, "I don't know how I had time to work, I'm busy all day long."

Others say, "I wish I had a day to do whatever I want to do." Time is an amazing thing. There is no doubt that time goes faster the older we get. When we are in a hurry and pressed for time, it seems as though that is all we think about!

Well it is obvious by now that we all have more time on our hands than we would have ever dreamed. Due to the recent lockdown, we are all faced with a new style of living. What are you doing with all of the time you have? This is an excellent time for each of us to reflect on the time we have had and the time we have now.

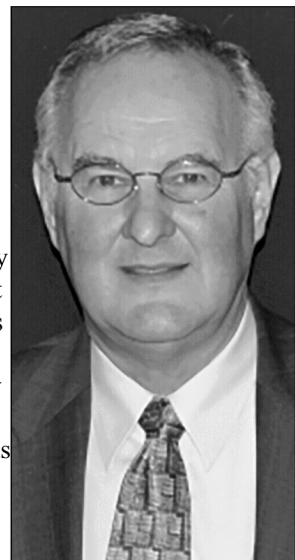
I believe that everything happens for a purpose. God knows everything about us and He knows what we need. His Word teaches, "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to His purpose" (Romans 8:28). What a powerful thought. God can take any and every situation, no matter how bad it may seem, and make something good of it. Do you believe it? It is hard to believe but God is watching over us at all times. He promises us that He will never leave us nor forsake us.

God provides many opportunities for all of us and I am convinced that time is an essential tool. During this last month how have you invested your time? When the Apostle Paul wrote to the church of Ephesus, he stressed to them how the life of the believer should be. As Paul taught in chapter five about our walk, he mentioned time, "Redeeming the time, because the days are evil" (Ephesians 5:16). We must make a conscious effort to make the most of what we have. Our Heavenly Father has given us 24 hours in every day.

Solomon was the wisest man who ever lived but when he had grown old in years, he realized many things about the time he had. He said, "To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: a time to be born and a time to die" (Ecclesiastes 3:1, 22). Solomon did things in his life like no one before and no one after. He had established a system of government that still works today. He was not only the wisest man who ever lived, he was the richest. However, reflecting back, he realized that he had invested in the wrong things of this life. He repeatedly proclaimed in Ecclesiastes that "all is vanity, vanity of vanities."

My prayer today is a very simple one: Lord, help each and every one of us to realize that every day we have is a gift from you. Help us to use our time wisely and take the resources you have given us to be the best we can be. Help us not to complain about this dilemma we are in, but let us see that it is truly an opportunity to love someone else with what we have. Don't let us focus on what we don't have, but let us see all of the blessings that have come our way. Thank you, Lord for all you do for us. In Jesus name, Amen!

The Rev. Tom Mansbarger is senior pastor at Grace Community Church. He offers free counseling. Reach him at 765-517-1187 or tom@gracecmarion.org.



Steve Wright new Grant County YMCA director

By Alan Miller

Since Steve Wright retired from General Motors and moved back to Marion in January of 2019, he has spent the past 16 months redefining what retirement looks like.

Wright reinvested himself immediately and played an active role in two of his favorite community events: the International Walkway of Lights and the Marion Easter Pageant. For a few months in late 2019, he served as development director for the Marion Campus of Ivy Tech Community College.

When the executive director of the Grant County Family YMCA resigned a few weeks ago, the agency's board of directors sought out Wright to provide leadership – at least on an interim basis.

"I signed an agreement with the Y's board of directors to serve as the acting executive director for six months, with a three-month review involving myself and my wife as well as the board," Wright said. "I have never managed a YMCA, so we all need to see if I am able to do the job. After we complete that process, we will see what comes next."

Wright became the acting director on April 1, succeeding Kyle Strohmman, who has been the YMCA director for six years. Strohmman will be-



come director of a YMCA that manages a community center in New Jersey.

Wright does not see the various assignments he has accepted since returning to Marion as an interruption, or a delay, of what were to be his retirement years.

"That is the reason Cindy and I came back to Marion," said Wright, who will be 65 in August. "We love this community, and I wanted to be in a place where I could serve. That's what I've always wanted to do, and I am eager to see what I can do to assist the YMCA."

Before joining General Motors six years ago, a job that took Wright across the country, he had served 12 years on the Marion City Council. He also had chaired several local organizations, including the chamber of commerce and the growth council.

Wright said the timing could not have been better for a transition in leadership at the YMCA.

"Since the Y is now closed because of the coronavirus outbreak, this gave the board of directors an opportunity to bring someone in as an acting director so that the agency could study what its future might look like," Wright said.

Wright has spent his first month on the job supervising a deep cleaning of the building, discussing programs – both current and future – but most of all considering ways to keep its 2,800 members safe when the Y reopens.

"We have no idea when we will be able to reopen; that's up to the governor," Wright said. "But we already are working with local officials to make sure we are doing the right things and to get their ideas on things we could do

better."

Wright is a Marion native and a 1973 graduate of Marion High School. Over the last seven years, he earned three college degrees: an associate's and master's from Indiana Wesleyan University and a bachelor's from Concordia University. He is a member of Sunnycrest Baptist Church where he is active in the TV ministry.

Strohmman, whose last day in Marion will be May 1, agreed to stay in Marion for a month to assist Wright with the transition. "I could not have asked for a better hand-off to my new job than what Kyle has provided," Wright said. "On behalf of our entire community, I want to thank him for his six years of service."

Strohmman said he leaves with the assurance that the YMCA is in a position to grow and thrive. Under his leadership, Strohmman said the agency was able to retire \$605,000 in debt, becoming debt free, and also to invest more than \$400,000 in capital improvements.

"The past six years have been some of the greatest for our family," he said. "I have deeply cherished leading our amazing Y. We have developed real partnerships that will continue to serve and improve the lives of everyone in this community."