



## Grand Commandery of Michigan

“Together, for a Better Tomorrow”

Gary L. Paquet, Right Eminent Grand Commander

Sir Knights and Ladies,

On behalf of all the officers, Committee men and ladies of your Grand Commandery, I'd like to say thank you for providing us with the opportunity to serve. It is an awesome responsibility and one which we do not take for granted. We thank you for your confidence in us.



As we start a new Templar chapter, let's resolve to give of ourselves by living and modeling our Christian values. It may be monetary by contributing to one of our three philanthropies: Holy Land Pilgrimage, Eye Foundation, or the Education Foundation. It may be by actively supporting functions at our individual churches, supporting your local food bank, visiting, or calling a family member, friend, or Sir Knight you've been meaning to contact. Little acts become big acts! Never forget the power of individual kindness and the joy they can bring to those who receive your blessing of charity and love.

You may have noticed in the quotes above, Together, for a Better Tomorrow. This is the theme from which our foundation will be built this year. As we are all keenly aware, society has been changing over the decades. Masonry is not playing as prominent a role as it once did. There are certainly many factors, work, the advent of television, computers, social media, and Smart phones just to name a few. People are just not joining organizations or attending church like they once did. Why is that? Are we no longer providing them with what they seek? On some level the answer is yes! However, I strongly believe the ideals of Masonry and the Christian ideals of feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, binding up the wounds of the afflicted and inculcating the duties of charity and hospitality have and must play an important role in our daily lives. Yes, we have changes to make, yes, we cannot continue to do the same thing and expect different results. We will need to work together, embrace change and when we do, we will have a better tomorrow.

To that end, and throughout the Pandemic, the officers have been meeting to discuss ways to make our experience better, not just for the current Sir Knights, but for our future ones. One change, and we are looking

September Inspections – 50 <sup>th</sup> Annual Bark River 9/16-9/18 (see <a href="http://KT-MI.org">KT-MI.org</a> for details)	
9/16	Cheboygan in St. Ignace 9:30 am chamber
9/17	Superior/Escaaba 1:00 pm School
9/25	Bad Axe 1:30 pm chamber

at a three-year process, is to restructure how we conduct inspections. Our Instruction Board is being expanded to work with Commanderies on a plan, of their choosing, for improvement.

### **September Birthdays of Grand Officers and Ladies: The happiest of birthdays to each of you!**

- 9/3-Lady Jean Roggow
- 9/5-Lady Mary Jo Trumbull
- 9/9-Lady Susan Dossette
- 9/10-Lady Brandi Kennedy
- 9/11-Sir Knight Glenn Leeper-PGC
- 9/18-Sir Knight Ryan Groat, PMIGM

This could be the 10 Man Opening, Reception of Grand Officers. Whatever the plan, this will be the foundation of the “inspection.” Additionally, as many Commanderies are unable to perform the Order of the Temple on their own, we are looking to build up our Battalions. When we have Knights of Malta in waiting, and rather than waiting for an inspection to roll around,

the Battalions can perform the Order. These simple changes will hopefully provide Commanderies with other opportunities, rather than focus on an inspection, to hold a membership drive, awards ceremony to honor their Sir Knights or Ladies, or conduct a community event. Don't be limited by what we have done. Think beyond to the possibilities of what can be and lay the groundwork of a new tradition that starts today. When we think like this and we work together, there will be a better tomorrow.

Until our paths cross again, safe travels to wherever the journey takes you!

Sir Knight Gary L. Paquet, KCT, KYGCH  
Grand Commander



Music was part of my home life growing up and was just part of each day. It was not unusual to hear any one of a number of my Mom's favorite songs from the church hymnal. One of them was "Great is thy Faithfulness". It speaks of the Majesty of a great and faithful God, master of all of nature and universally acknowledged.

As a nation we have come through one of the most trying times of our history. The challenges we all have faced do not need to be rehearsed, the burdens that came to us have left their imprint upon us. But there is news; Good news— news to comfort each of us and news to build up our resolve as each new day dawns.

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
 Thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide;  
 Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!  
 Great is thy Faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!  
 Morning by morning new mercies I see.  
 All I have needed Thy hand hath provided  
 Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me.

- Sir Knight David Dossette, PC, KYGCH, Eminent Grand Prelate