

Servant Thoughts

The other day a few words just randomly ran through my mind from a song many years ago. While I don't advocate for the philosophies John Lennon held later in life, the chorus of his song, "Nobody Told Me" seems appropriate to the days in which we find ourselves right now.

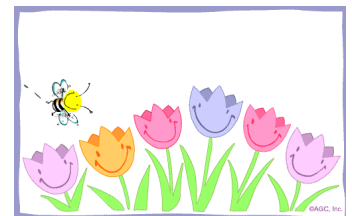
*Nobody told me there'd be days like these
Nobody told me there'd be days like these
Strange days indeed
strange days indeed*

It's surreal coming into an empty church with only a few helping run the video, play the organ and give a little accompaniment to the singing and holding worship that way. Yesterday I sat with my family in our living room as Pastor Bill led worship at the church. Pastor Bill and I have also been avoiding being together so that if one of us has to be quarantined, it won't impact us both. What is even stranger is thinking about the very real possibility of doing Holy Week this way, which based off schools being closed through May 1, looks like a very real possibility. These are strange days indeed, and if you had asked me back in January or February if any of this was a possibility, I would have probably given you a strange look. But it is our new reality for the time being.

In these strange days, it is good to know that while everything else may be chaotic, troubling, scary and unsettling, our Lord is always the same. He is same gracious and loving Father who sent His Son to redeem us and gave us the Holy Spirit to create faith in us, and to provide all we need for eternal life. That hasn't changed and it is the one constant thing amid all this change. As you read through this copy of the Trumpet, you will probably note that there is a lot of cancelled or pending events, as we just don't know what regulations we will be operating under as of this writing. We will celebrate Easter and Holy Week, but it clearly won't be the same online. We will be offering ways to make it seem like a normal Easter, but once we are allowed to have larger gatherings again, I am planning on designating that as our Easter Celebration and we will do it up big. Easter breakfast, all the Easter hymns... special music... the works! Please hold on to your Easter joy, and when we get through this together (even though we are apart), we will really celebrate!

In the service and love of Jesus,

Hebrews 13:20-21



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Dear Christian Friends,

By now most of us are tired of coping with the pandemic caused by COVID 19. We want our lives to return to normal again. We want to be able to attend church in-person once again. We want to gather with friends and family. We want to be able to travel, go to restaurants, buy groceries, all in the manner in which we are accustomed. We don't like this disruption of our lives. Some would say we are spoiled. We have never had to deal with a situation like this. We can't understand why somebody doesn't do something to make it all go away. We get down on our knees and pray that God will change all this and return to us what we call our way of life.

I am sure that you have pondered these thoughts just as I have in the past few days and weeks. One memory returned to me of something my Grandfather used to say, "God never said that this was going to be a bed of roses." Oh, how right Grandpa was. This isn't what God had planned for us but our sin messed all that up. Instead of the Garden of Eden, i.e. Grandpa's bed of roses, we live in a bed of thorns and thistles. When we experience these types of problems, we must remember that Jesus told us that these were signs that the end was near. He also said to be prepared for His return.

God is going to answer our prayers. He has already begun. We are in the process of remembering His beginning. He sent His Son to open the door to our "real way of life." He suffered in our place and now we can look forward to the result of His grace and mercy. I urge you to go to John 14. Read those words of Jesus, those promises he made. Read them again and again. Remember, He always keeps His promises. We will soon celebrate Easter. It may not be together in body, but we will all rejoice in spirit.

As I was writing this an e-mail hit my mailbox from President Matthew Harrison. He passed on the words of Martin Luther when the plague enveloped Wittenberg in 1527. Though medicine has exponentially changed since those days, much of what Luther said and advised is very much the same. Even though this article is getting much longer than usual, I want to share them with you.

Use medicine; take potions which can help you; fumigate house, yard, and street; shun persons and places wherever your neighbor does not need your presence or has recovered, and act like a man who wants to help put out the burning city. What else is the epidemic but a fire which instead of consuming wood and straw devours life and body? You ought to think this way: "Very well, by God's decree the enemy has sent us poison and deadly offal. Therefore, I shall ask God mercifully to protect us. Then I shall fumigate, help purify the air, administer medicine, and take it. I shall avoid places and persons where my presence is not needed in order not to become contaminated and thus perchance infect and pollute others, and so cause their death as a result of my negligence. If God should wish to take me, he will surely find me and I have done what he has expected of me and so I am not responsible for either my own death or the death of others. If my neighbor needs me, however, I shall not avoid place or person but will go freely. ...See, this is such a God-fearing faith because it is neither brash nor foolhardy and does not tempt God.

My prayers are with you all. God's blessings be with you



April 9, 2020 At 9:00 p.m. Canceled

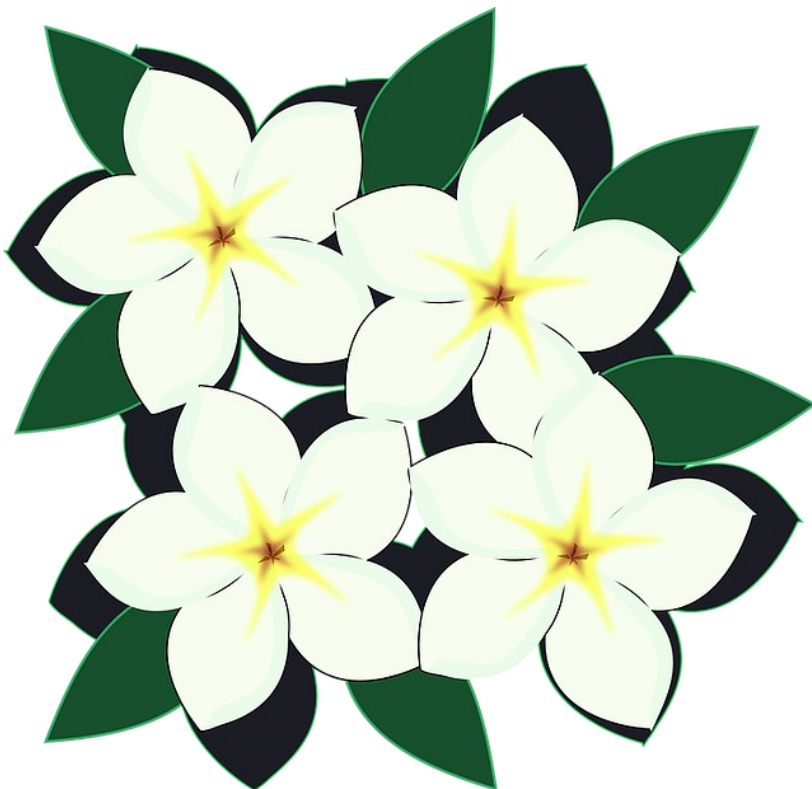
Spring Salad Luncheon Postponed to **June 18**

Seek & Serve At Concordia Seward Postponed



Christian Family Night

- ◆ Christian Family Night (CFN) may or may not resume in April as we continue to follow state and federal directives for group gatherings associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. In case we are able to resume gathering sometime in April, there would only be CFN on April 1 and April 15, as April 8 falls during Holy Week and April 22 is hopefully the night the eighth graders can prepare for confirmation.
- ◆ Chef Batie is being cautious and is not planning set menus, rather we will have a Chef's Surprise on either of those nights, using items from Trinity's freezer and pantry stash in order to be a good steward of our resources.



LUTHERAN HOUR– KRVN

(880 AM)

Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

◆ **April 5, 2020**

"There's Still Time"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

People can be unreceptive to God's love because they are very bad-or because they think they are very good.
(Exodus 11-12)

◆ **April 12, 2020**

"You Haven't Lost Me"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler
(Exodus 14)

April 19, 2020

"The Great Pursuit"

Guest Speaker: Pastor Ryan Tinetti
(Exodus 15)

◆ **April 26, 2020**

"Rescue, Test, Rest"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler
(Exodus 16)



THOSE SERVING OUR COUNTRY

Lucas Horn, Randy Kwiatkowski,
Jason Murray, Dylan Samway,
Jennifer Coryell, Perry Pierce, Andy
Howard, Chris Licking, John C.
Moore, Ben Wichelt, Devin Hueftle,
Nic Van Cura, Tyler Schukar.



Prayers for Health & Healing,

Barb Horn, Jackie Rowan, John Jordening, Kimmy Sheen, Marilyn Hersh, Keith Swartz, Dottie Phillippi, Rod Holtz, Pauline Thornburg, Bob Anderson, Linda Fees, Penny Post, Dale Swartz, Karol O'nele, Kim Rice, Keiley Stoterau, Henry Lucas, Murl Tiede, Meghan Stapleton, Jon Buhlmann, Eileen Woltemath, Lori Anderson, Karen Sappingfield, Charlotte Renner, Christie Bevington, Logan Pelster, Cathy Petersen, Marilyn Bock, Eileen Holbrook, Alan Kruetzer, Glenda Huff, Bob Seacrest, Berlene Kinslow, Geraldine Gutierrez, Eleanor Schwank, Pat Meyer, Lois Lee, Larry Hidy, Ann Blackmore, Verne Riege, Maria, Emiliano.



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Happy Anniversary

Francine Stieb, 04-03
Ryan Jensen, 04-05
Mary Wichelt, 04-07
Barb Easterday, 04-09
Duane Phillippi, 04-10
Nyndeng Kug, 04-11
Agany Donato, 04-13
Trevor Soncksen, 04-14
Pauline Thornburg, 04-15
Larry Rossen, 04-15
Peggy Inness, 04-21
Benjamin Kuefner, 04-21
James Maxcy, 04-22
Ronald Davey, 04-24
Kimmy Sheen, 04-24
Adam Stauffer, 04-25
David Kitzing, 04-25
Caylee Hoefener, 04-26
Connor Hoefener, 04-26
Dale Hladky, 04-27
Brenda Bierman, 04-29
Howard Swartz, 04-30
Myra Ringenberg, 04-30

Curt and Kelly Kopf, 04-05
William and Julie Stauffer, 04-07
Ed and Mary Johnson, 04-08
David and Beverley Kitzing, 04-08
Ronald and Christina Davey, 04-12
Charles and Marilyn Licking, 04-13
Roger and Sandra Jensen, 04-15
Tyson and Elizabeth Atwood, 04-17



- ◆ Our Anniversary and Birthday list is generated by information in the computer. If there is a mistake or we missed something, please let us know in the office. Thank you!

Coping In the Midst of Social Distancing Plans

It is very likely that the requirement for groups of no more than 10 in gatherings will continue throughout April, so as you look at the church calendar, you'll note that we are planning accordingly. Should this restriction be lifted we will continue to communicate any changes and seek to get back to a new normal at that time. For now, here are some plans...

We will celebrate the events of Holy Week with online services. Note the ways we will try to make this special...

Palm Sunday April 5th- After the 10:00 am service, we are inviting you to join in a Palm Sunday Parade. At approximately 11:00 am we will begin handing out Palm Branches (yes we will use gloves) in front of the church as you drive by in your car. Please park in the church parking lot or the courthouse area. At approximately 11:40-11:45 am, to allow for people to arrive from out of town, we will be led by Pastor Rob and his family in the church car as we drive around Lexington with our windows down, waving our Palm Branches and proclaiming, "Hosana to the Son of David!" "Jesus is King!" and other appropriate things. Yes, you can honk your horn too. Please be safe and respectful as we do this. If we are asked to stop by a police officer we will follow their instructions, but let's make this Palm Sunday Parade a memorable one!

Maundy Thursday will be a replay of a past Last Supper Drama at 7:00 pm April 9th.

Good Friday will be the traditional Tenebrae Service. As you follow along with the service at home, you may choose to have 7 candles lit, 6 that will be extinguished and 1 that serves as the Christ Candle which remains lit. Families may take turns putting out candles when the time comes in the service. During the time of the loud noise, someone can slam a book or ring a bell to mark that time.

Between Good Friday and Easter Sunday, we will be looking at providing the Lord's Supper for those who wish to partake. This would be done by a reservation process so no more than 10 will participate at a time. Watch for more details as we work through this.

Easter Sunday morning we will have a service online at 10 a.m. Pastor Rob will also be providing a special Easter Sunrise online message at 7:00 a.m. for those who would like to rise with the Son that morning. Watch for more details on this as well.

When we are allowed to have large group gatherings again, the first Sunday after this is permitted will be a special one service Easter Celebration in all of its splendor!

Confirmation- I will be working with the 8th Graders to determine a date that will work for all of the families to celebrate this special day when their families and Trinity can celebrate this special moment in their lives!