



Mackinaw Christian Church

Many Voices; One Faith

March 17 2020

Words of Life

Worship in person has been canceled this Sunday. More news will be coming about how to worship together online. Thank you all for your understanding and faithfulness.

A Time of Disruption

Greetings Church,

I hope this letter finds you well. I thought since many of you were staying home for the most time I could write an extra mini newsletter from time to time in the hopes that it might bring some peace and joy to all of you.

It is definitely a time of disruption. Work, travel, going out to eat, and church are all different right now and for the most part canceled or done at home. None of us have experienced this before and it is distressing.

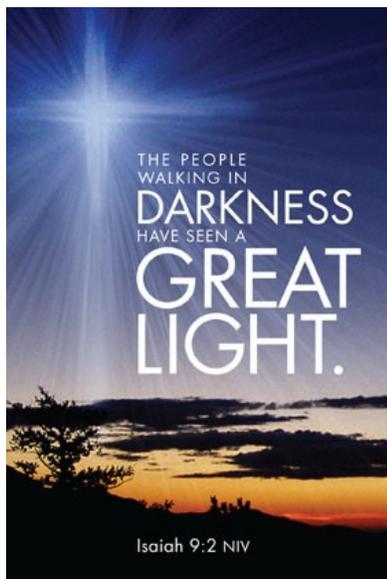
However, it is good to remember what the Psalmist wrote long ago, "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble" (Psalm 46:1)

As our routines change and we spend a lot more time at home I invite us to remember we are in the season of Lent. A season that invites us to sacrifice for others, invites us to spend time in prayer, in quiet, and in stillness. So take some time today to notice the presence of God. Let's remind ourselves that God is our refuge and strength. That God is present right now and helpful in our trouble.

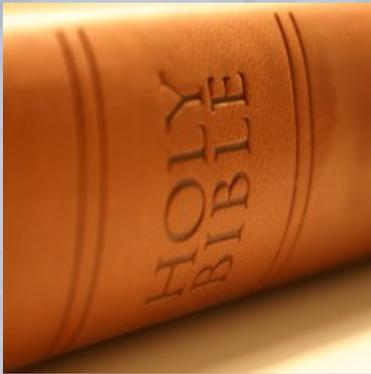
You all are continually in my prayers.

Peace be with you,

Pastor Judith



Bible Insights



Scripture is powerful and full of both words of hope and peace. I want to share with you a Psalm I turn to when I am feeling anxious and am unsure what to do. Hear these words. May they strengthen you at this time as they have strengthened me:

Psalm 121:

I lift my eyes to the hills
from where does my help come
my help comes from the Lord
who made heaven and earth
He will not let your foot be moved
He who keeps you will not slumber
He who keeps Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep

The Lord is your keeper;
the Lord is your shade at your right
hand
The sun shall not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night
The Lord will keep you from all evil;
he will keep your life.
The Lord will keep
your going out and your coming in
from this time on and forevermore.

Refresh Your Heart

“Isolating Together”

We’ve been hearing a lot about social distancing in the last few days. Staying home as much as we can and only going out when necessary. 6 ft of distance has become a common phrase of reminding folks to spread out. I recently heard that perhaps the word “social” distancing isn’t quite correct. We aren’t social distancing we are physical distancing. In a way the concerted effort is a huge moment of social togetherness. We are working together to stop the spread of disease. In addition I encourage you to reach out socially in any way possible. Make more phone calls than normal, post on facebook funny and uplifting stories or pictures, share with each other how you are spending your time. Most importantly, remember you are not alone in this. We are isolating together and in community.

Just a fun word game to keep your mind busy :).
Theme is Wilderness

Refresh Your Mind

Fill in the spaces below with the answer to the questions. I gave you some hints :).

The Calf the people worshipped was made out of this material

___ _o_ ___ ___

Moses’ Sister

___ _i_ ___ _i_ ___ ___

Mountain where Moses receive 10 Commandments

___ ___ ___ _a_ ___

The Israelites did this a lot in the wilderness

___ _o_ ___ ___ ___ _a_ ___ ___

Refresh Your Mind continued...

Moses' spokesperson and brother

___ _ _ _ _n_

The country the Israelites fled

___ _ _ _ _p_ ___

Community Outreach



A shout out to our outreach team. They helped coordinate a way to get lunches to school children this week. We partnered with Mackinaw United Methodist Church and Brett Zehr at IGA. Brett sold the lunches at cost and the churches are donating the lunches. Monday we gave out 18 lunches and Tuesday we handed out 18 again and Jill delivered lunches to two families in Deer Creek.

Thank you all for the support and for caring for the community.

If you need groceries, but don't want to go out, there are members of the church willing to make a grocery run. Give us a call and tell us what you need and we will get it for you. You are not alone.

If you or anyone else you know needs help during this time please do not hesitate to call the church or pastor Judith's cell.

Church office: Monday—Friday 9:00-12:00 (309)359-4921

Pastor Judith's Cell: (785)342-7810

Worship Plans!



We have decided to cancel worship in the building this Sunday, but we will definitely still worship together.

Please check your email in the coming days for updates and how to join us online this Sunday.

Also, I encourage you to create a worship space in your homes. Find a candle to light, add purple fabric to represent lent, if you have a cross or picture of Christ I encourage you bring that into the space. Having a space is not necessary but it helps us to switch into an intentional mind-set for worship and leave behind distractions.

Also, this is new. So there will be some mistakes and it might not "feel" as much like worship. But it will be worship and it will be good to worship together, to check in with each other, and to turn our eyes towards God. So I hope you will join us.

Peace be with you all,

Pastor Judith