



THE FIRST WORD
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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Volume XXXVII, Number 4

April 2020

The Church Continues in the Valley of Shadows

First and foremost, it is important to remember that the Church is not a building. Never has been, never will be. A Church is made up of people who are walking in the footsteps that God has laid out for us through two simple paths: 1) Love the Lord your God with all your heart and all your soul and all your mind; and 2) Love your neighbor as yourself.

With that said, how exactly do we continue to be the Church when we cannot gather together as the Church? It's not impossible.

Phone calls...(Where 2 or more are gathered...) while everyone doesn't answer their phones these days because most calls are telemarketers and scams, do it anyway and leave a *"how are you, just checking in"* message.

Texting...include a picture or meme to brighten someone's day.

Skype/FaceTime...In need of some grandkid time? Try FaceTime or Skype to see their faces while you talk. Read them a bedtime story, show them a craft you have been working on or what you are having for dinner. Make plans for a fun outing this summer.

Zoom...Who says we can't meet? It's very possible to have a Bible Study meeting using an app like Zoom. Share during meal, raise a toast to recent successes. If it's a small group, try sending everyone some takeout or dessert before the meeting. Set a time and do it.

Emails...This is a great way to share details that need to be consistent and specific. No guessing what someone said, it's in writing.

Worship—Participate in an online/streaming worship service. Several local churches offer this via StreamingChurchTV and FB Live (among other ways).

Pray—Free, easy, portable, no further explanation needed.

Hang in there. We will come out of this with some great ideas on ways to **BE THE CHURCH.**



As of right now, there will be no worship service at First Presbyterian Church on March 29. The building is to remain closed to all with the exceptions of Property persons regarding property issues, Donna Wilson and other financial persons regarding financial matters, and the pastor regarding pastoral care issues. Even if you have a key and therefore access to the building, please refrain from entering. This way we may be able to keep a safe environment for those at risk when we return to a more normal schedule.

In the event we are able to gather together, here is a tentative list of Easter services and activities:

EASTER CALENDAR

**Sunday, April 5—Palm Sunday
10:30 am Easter Egg Hunt at church**

Monday, April 6—Last day to order lilies

**Thursday, April 9—Maundy Thursday 6:30 pm Supper
7:30 pm Communion Worship Service**

Friday, April 10—Good Friday

**Sunday, April 12—Easter 11:00 am Communion Worship Service
One Great Hour of Sharing special offering received**



A Facebook post from a Tennessee Pastor:

I trust God...and I wear my seatbelt.

I trust God...and I wear a motorcycle helmet.

I trust God...and there are enough life jackets in my boat for everyone on board.

I trust God...and I use oven mitts with really hot dishes.

I trust God...and I lock my house at night.

I trust God...and I have smoke detectors in my house.

I trust God...and I take my prescribed medicines.

I trust God...and I will follow the best guidelines to share the task of flattening the curve.

Acting with caution and wisdom does not indicate a lack of trust in God.

(adapted)

REVISED COMMON LECTIONARY FOR SUNDAYS & FESTIVALS

**We are invited to read and reflect on these scripture passages
as a part of our preparation for worship.**

Palm/Passion Sunday—April 5

Sixth Sunday in Lent

Liturgy of the Palms

Matthew 21:1–11

Psalm 118:1–2, 19–29

Liturgy of the Passion

Isaiah 50:4–9a

Psalm 31:9–16

Philippians 2:5–11

Matthew 26:14—27:66 or Matthew 27:11–54

Monday of Holy Week—April 6

Isaiah 42:1–9

Psalm 36:5–11

Hebrews 9:11–15

John 12:1–11

Tuesday of Holy Week—April 7

Isaiah 49:1–7

Psalm 71:1–14

1 Corinthians 1:18–31

John 12:20–36

Wednesday of Holy Week—April 8

Isaiah 50:4–9a

Psalm 70

Hebrews 12:1–3

John 13:21–32

Maundy Thursday—April 9

Exodus 12:1–4 [5–10] 11–14

Psalm 116:1–2, 12–19

1 Corinthians 11:23–26

John 13:1–17, 31b–35

Good Friday—April 10

Isaiah 52:13—53:12

Psalm 22

Hebrews 10:16–25 or Hebrews 4:14–16; 5:7–9

John 18:1—19:42

Easter Vigil—April 11

**A minimum of three Old Testament readings
should be chosen.**

**The reading from Exodus 14 should always
be used.**

Genesis 1:1—2:4a

Psalm 136:1–9, 23–26

Genesis 7:1–5, 11–18; 8:6–18; 9:8–13

Psalm 46

Easter Vigil—April 11 (continued)

Genesis 22:1–18

Psalm 16

Exodus 14:10–31; 15:20–21

Exodus 15:1b–13, 17–18

Baruch 3:9–15, 32—4:4 or Proverbs 8:1–8, 19–21;
9:4b–6

Psalm 19

Isaiah 55:1–11

Isaiah 12:2–6

Isaiah 61:1–4, 9–11

Deuteronomy 32:1–4, 7, 36a, 43a

Ezekiel 36:24–28

Psalm 42 and 43

Ezekiel 37:1–14

Psalm 143

Daniel 3:1–29

Song of the Three 35–65

Jonah 1:1—2:1

Jonah 2:2–3 (4–6), 7–9

Zephaniah 3:14–20

Psalm 98

Romans 6:3–11

Psalm 114

John 20:1–18

Resurrection of the Lord—April 12

Easter Sunday

Acts 10:34–43 or Jeremiah 31:1–6

Psalm 118:1–2, 14–24

Colossians 3:1–4 or Acts 10:34–43

John 20:1–18 or Matthew 28:1–10

Easter Evening

Isaiah 25:6–9

Psalm 114

1 Corinthians 5:6b–8

Luke 24:13–49

Second Sunday of Easter—April 19

Acts 2:14a, 22–32

Psalm 16

1 Peter 1:3–9

John 20:19–31

Third Sunday of Easter—April 26

Acts 2:14a, 36–41

Psalm 116:1–4, 12–19

1 Peter 1:17–23

Luke 24:13–35

Well this is wonderful!

Lockdown

Yes there is fear.

Yes there is isolation.

Yes there is panic buying.

Yes there is sickness.

Yes there is even death.

BUT,

They say that in Wuhan after so many years of noise, you can hear the birds again.

They say that after just a few weeks of quiet, the sky is no longer thick with fumes but blue and grey and clear.

They say that in the streets of Assisi, people are singing to each other across the empty squares, keeping their windows open so that those who are alone may hear the sounds of family around them.

They say that a hotel in the West of Ireland is offering free meals and delivery to the house-bound.

Today a young woman I know is busy spreading fliers with her number through the neighborhood so that the elders may have someone to call on.

Today Churches, Synagogues, Mosques and Temples are preparing to welcome and shelter the homeless, the sick, the weary.

All over the world people are slowing down and reflecting.
All over the world people are looking at their neighbors in a new way.
All over the world people are waking up to a new reality.

To how big we really are.
To how little control we really have.
To what really matters.
To Love.

SO WE PRAY AND WE REMEMBER THAT:

Yes there is fear.

But there does not have to be hate.

Yes there is isolation.

But there does not have to be loneliness.

Yes there is panic buying.

But there does not have to be meanness.

Yes there is sickness.

But there does not have to be disease of the soul

Yes there is even death.

But there can always be a rebirth of love.

Wake to the choices you make as to how to live now.

Today, breathe.

Listen, behind the factory noises of your panic

The birds are singing again

The sky is clearing,

Spring is coming,

And we are always encompassed by Love.



Open the windows of your soul
And though you may not be able to touch across the empty square,
SING

*Fr. Richard Hendrick, OFM
March 13th 2020*

Food Options in the Shelbyville Area

If you or a friend are in need of food, there are several options available to help.
It is suggested that you call to verify that the info below is still correct before going.

School aged children are eligible for free, to go breakfasts and lunches every school day. There are multiple distribution sites across the county targeting each school's students. To find your child's site, please contact their school's Family Resource/Youth Service Center (yes, they are working).

Serenity Center: 502-647-5555 (currently serving via drive thru)
98 7th Street Shelbyville, KY 40065
Every Wednesday 12pm-4pm (Shelby County residents only)
Emergency boxes also available by calling, restrictions apply

Operation Care: 502-633-1965 option 205 for food
802 Washington Street Shelbyville, KY 40065
Mon, Tues, Wed, Friday, Sat 10am-5pm Thursday 10am-6 pm

Bagdad Baptist: 502-747-8933
5790 Elmburg Road Bagdad, KY 40003
2nd & 4th Saturday 9:15am – 12pm

Centro Latino: 502-647-3349
121 Main Street Shelbyville, KY 40065
Tues – Fri 9am – 2 pm Closed for lunch 12 pm-1pm

Iglesia Aposento Alto: 502-647-0072
2093 Midland Trail #2 Shelbyville, KY 40065
1st & 3rd Friday 5pm-8pm

Simpsonville Christian Church: 502-722-8995
7002 Shelbyville Road Simpsonville, KY 40067
Tues & Thur 11am-1pm in back of church



EASTER LILY ORDER FORM

Cost \$11.00 each

Please make check payable to FPC and mark it for "lily."

LAST DAY TO ORDER APRIL 6TH

Quantity: _____

In memory of:

1) _____

2) _____

In honor of:

1) _____

2) _____

Given by: _____
(This will be the listing for the bulletin)

FINANCE REPORT FEBRUARY 2020

In February, we collected \$10,587.00 On the expense side, we spent \$18,097.57. We collected a total of \$7,510.57 less than we spent. Questions? Please call Fred Waits (502) 321-5128.

	Last Month	Year to Date	
Pledges Received	\$5,284.00	\$15,038.83	
Kroger Gift Card	\$0.00	\$0.00	
From Savings	\$0.00	\$9,100.00	
Other Income	\$5,303.00	\$7,868.80	
Designated Funds	\$0.00	\$31.00	
Total Income	\$10,587.00	\$32,038.63	
OPERATING INCOME	\$10,587.00	\$32,007.63	
Personnel Expense	\$15,757.89	\$29,118.70	
Utilities	\$1,083.98	\$3,603.66	
Building Maintenance	\$196.28	\$325.98	
Youth & Education	\$20.08	\$20.08	
Music	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Office	\$302.85	\$1,262.98	
Shared Mission	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Per Capita	\$0.00	\$3,900.00	
Other	\$736.49	\$784.32	
Designated Expenses	\$0.00	\$120.00	
Total Expenses	\$18,097.57	\$39,135.72	
OPERATING EXPENSES	\$18,097.57	\$39,015.72	
Summary 2020	Income	Expense	Difference
December			
November			
October			
September			
August			
July			
June			
May			
April			
March			
February	\$10,587.00	\$18,097.57	(\$7,510.57)
January	\$31,649.80	\$20,918.15	\$10,731.65

Ways you can **SERVE**



Love one another.

APRIL 12 **Remember** **Love Sunday**

Funds collected on Love Sunday are used to help many individuals in the community needing assistance with utilities, prescriptions, school supplies, and more. Payments are made directly to the vendors, and cash is never given to an individual. Individuals may request assistance once in a 12-month period with a \$ limit per request. Make your checks payable to First Presbyterian Church and mark it for **LOVE SUNDAY**.

SERENITY CENTER VOLUNTEERS

**The Serenity Center is still
distributing food every
Wednesday
between
12:00 noon & 4:00 p.m.
98 7th Street**



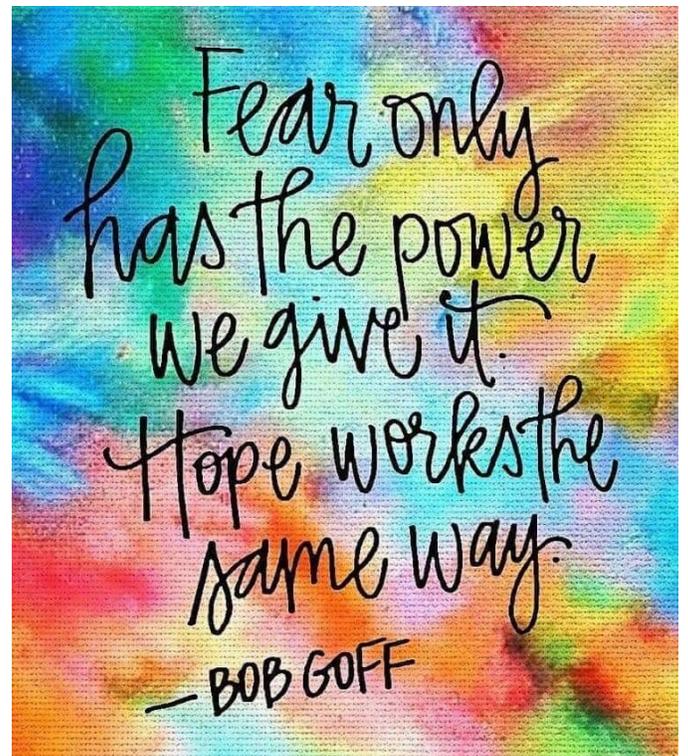
Until further notice, volunteers are distributing via a drive thru system. If you are able and willing to help, call 647-5555 to schedule a time. Help distribute food to 600+ Shelby County families.



Bibles **for Seniors**

We are again planning to give a Bible to every Shelby County and Martha Layne Collins High School senior who would like to have one. Request forms have been distributed.

The cost is still \$5.00 per Bible. If you would like to help, make checks payable to First Presbyterian Church and put Bibles on the memo line.



EASTER SUNDAY

AWAKE MINISTRY'S VETERANS VILLAGE UPDATE

It's Happening!!!

Want to honor
a loved one?
Buy a brick!



Help pave the path... for only \$150!

This Christmas, we would like to give you an opportunity to honor a loved one, military or otherwise, by purchasing an engraved brick that will literally pave the path to the doorway of our heroes' homes at Veterans Village!

Engraving may include up to 18 characters per line (2 lines) each additional line is extra.

Please contact Marcia Mitchum at Awake Ministries:
502-647-5555 ext.221 | Marcia@awakeky.com



\$150



May 17

Veterans' Village
Celebration &
Worship at the
Fairgrounds

More
Details
Next
Month



SEE YOU

THERE



EVERYDAY HEROES

Lift up all our First Responders and medical personnel in prayer as they work to keep us safe and healthy.



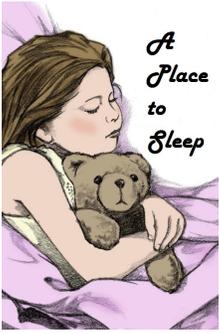
PROGRESS CONTINUES ON VETERANS VILLAGE

As you can see in these photos, walls are up and roofs are on. Now they are awaiting windows and doors.

The Palace, previously a bar/club next door to the tiny houses, is under renovation as well. Plans are for meeting rooms, gathering space, recreation area, and some upstairs emergency housing.



A Place to Sleep



A
Place
to
Sleep

All pickups and deliveries for A Place to Sleep have been halted until we get the all clear to resume activities. We appreciate everyone who is Spring cleaning and offering items now; however, you'll have to hold on to the items for a bit. We are continuing to take applications so we will be ready to roll when the time comes!



**Here are some ways you can continue to help
A Place to Sleep
without spending anything extra:**

QUOTES FOR GOOD

Chase Young State Farm Insurance is again partnering with us to donate \$10 for every quote given that selects A Place to Sleep as their charity. Simply stop in at 201 Alpine Drive, Suite A, or call 502-513-5139 to get a free quote. No purchase necessary!

10 quotes = 1 twin mattress
25 quotes = an entire twin bed & bedding

AMAZONSMILE.COM

Support A Place to Sleep by shopping at AmazonSmile. Anytime you shop, AmazonSmile donates to A Place to Sleep!

Simply go to: smile.amazon.com/ch/83-2952455

FLIPGIVE.COM

Download the Flipgive app, select A Place to Sleep to support, and shop at family favorites like Walmart, Starbucks, Sam's Club, Lowe's, Nike and more. You can also buy gift cards for restaurants, airlines, movies and many more. All you have to do is continue to buy the things you need. A percentage of your purchase will be donated to our nonprofit. (FYI—Once you join, eating at Cattleman's and Ditto's Grill automatically makes a donation!)



Greetings from Kentucky!



Luta, Jeremy, Jathniel and Azai are PC(USA) Mission Co-workers serving with partner churches in Malawi, Zambia, Democratic Republic of Congo, South Sudan, and Ethiopia.

Contact Info

Luta Garbat-Welch, MPH: luta.garbat-welch@pcusa.org

Rev. Jeremy Garbat-Welch,
BCC: jeremy.garbat-welch@pcusa.org

Facebook: [Garbat-Welchs in Africa](#)

<http://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/missionconnections/garbat-welch-jeremy-and-luta/>

If you would like to support us financially, our account number is E200515. You can give here:

<http://www.presbyterianmission.org/donate/E200515/>

Mailing addresses:

Rev. Jeremy and Luta Garbat-Welch
 P.O. Box 1480
 Lilongwe
 Malawi

PC(USA) Mission Agency
 100 Witherspoon Street
 Louisville, KY 40202

It has been a hectic and anxious few weeks as we made plans to leave Malawi and return to the USA for our interpretation assignment (time to visit you, our supporting churches). For those of you who may not already know, I (Luta) am pregnant and need to be in the USA for this child's birth due to complications in our previous labor. As the Coronavirus situation was and is changing on a daily basis, we were anxious to leave so we did not get caught behind closed borders. One night we went to bed thinking we were going to be okay with our flight out, only to wake up the next morning with multiple texts from our parents, and emails from PC(USA) Mission Agency letting us know that the border between Europe and USA was closing and we needed to rethink our flight options. We definitely began to feel like we were flying by the seat of our pants. Thankfully we arrived safely and without any unnecessary complications.

It has been a surreal experience being in the USA and experiencing the quietness of isolation. It is a shock to our system coming from a culture where there are people everywhere and isolation was not yet being practiced. We are thankful that we are isolating with Luta's parents and brother on their farm, so we are not totally alone and are getting to enjoy being together with family again.

Since we arrived in the USA, the PC(USA) Mission Agency has called all mission co-workers back to the USA. Some mission coworkers are not able to leave because the borders of their country have already closed, while others are choosing to shelter in place. Some families have become separated across countries as a result of borders closing. We are grateful that we already had plans to come the USA before the virus hit, but not everyone had that advantage. Please keep all of us in prayer as we deal with having said quick goodbyes to those we love and are faced with uncertainty of when we will be able to return home to our places of service. Malawi has not yet reported their first case of Coronavirus though we have heard testing kits have arrived. It will be very difficult culturally for Malawians to practice social isolation and difficult structurally for appropriate hygiene measures to be implemented. Lack of consistent water supply, as well as people relying on crowded local markets for daily food and income, are just some of the challenges. In addition, Malawi already struggles with an inadequate supply of oxygen machines, and deaths are common due to the lack of medical resources. As the reality of the severity of this pandemic hits us, we are anxious for several friends in Malawi who are at high risk and the lack of care that will be available to them if they contract the coronavirus.

A common struggle we have as mission co-workers is living between two worlds. There are differences between our various homes and cultures that cause us shock and weariness, often at unexpected times. We struggle with being away from family and friends, no matter where we are. As COVID-19 continues to spread this tension has increased. When in Malawi, we worried about our friends and family in the USA. When in the USA, we are worried about our friends in Malawi and family who are not near us. All Christians are familiar with a similar tension: we proclaim that we do not need to fear death, and yet we worry about those we love

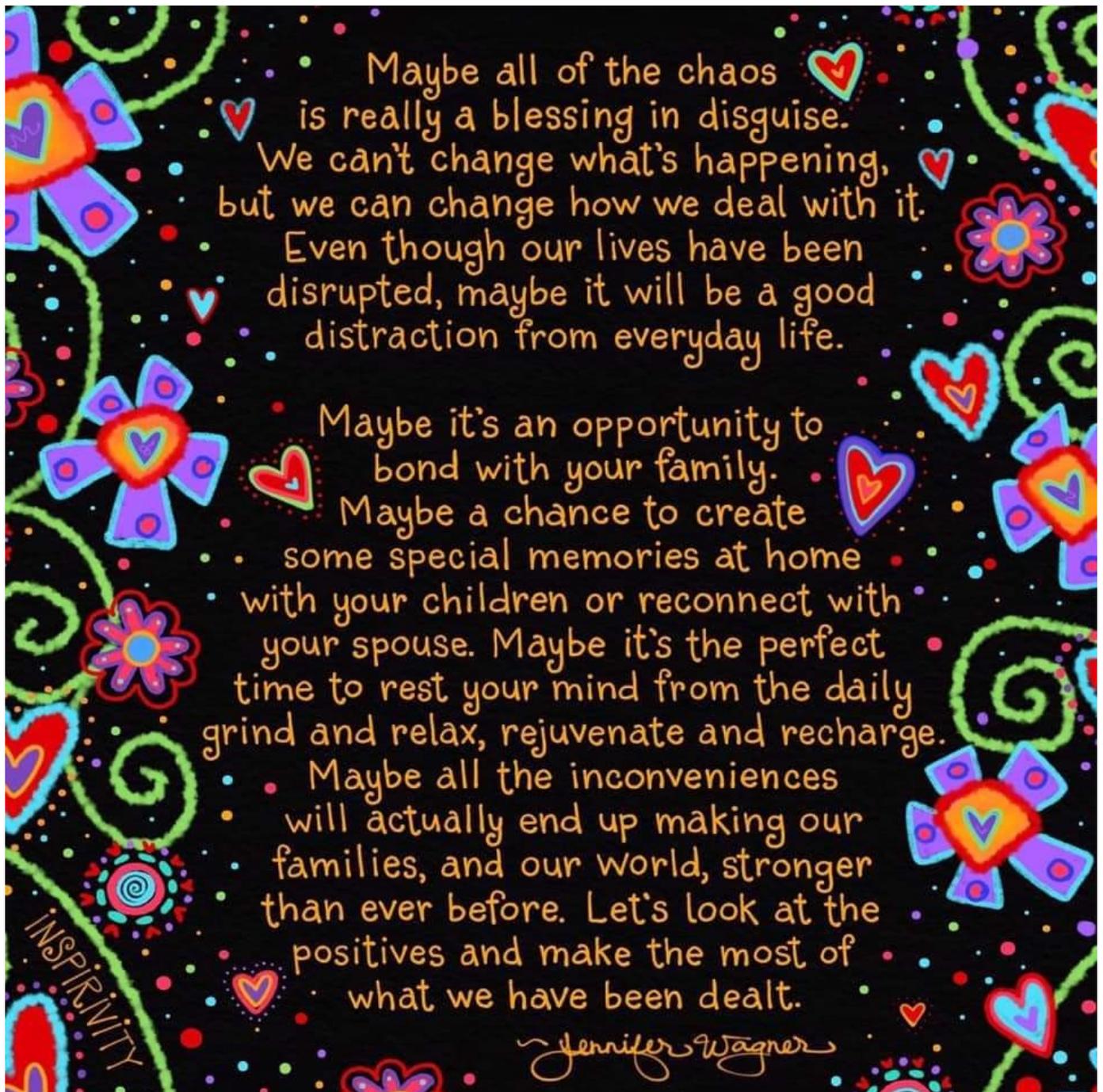
becoming sick with the virus.

There is no easy way to release this anxiety or to manage this tension. Followers of Jesus are called to do difficult things, and the reality of living in two places, whether they are geographic or ideological, is always difficult. But even as we look at our calendar and cancel visits to our supporters, we have hope that this too shall pass. Lent is traditionally a time in the wilderness as we prepare our hearts for the coming of Jesus at Easter. None of us would have thought a few months ago that this Lent would be "The

Wilderness of Corona Virus,” and yet here we are. Even as we wander through this wilderness, we do so remembering that we are not alone. It is a difficult journey, and one that needs to be taken with prayer. But the isolation of the virus reminds us of the Isolation Jesus went through. The separation from our friends and family reminds us of the Separation of Jesus from his Heavenly Parent. The Wilderness is rarely a pleasant place to be, and anxiety and worry are feelings we prefer to avoid. The burden of anxiety is a heavy one, so remember Jesus’ words: “Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light.” (Matthew 11:28-30, NLT) When Jesus says his yoke is easy to bear, and the burden he gives is light, I (Jeremy) do not think he meant, “simple” or “without struggle.” I think what he meant was, my burden is light because I am with you, and my Heavenly Parent is with you, and the Holy Spirit is in you, and we carry this burden together.

As we wait through this time of uncertainty and do what we all need to do to keep ourselves and our communities be safe, our hope is that you will remember the presence of God during this wilderness time.

In Christ’s Service,
The Garbat-Welch’s
Facebook: Garbat-Welchs in Africa





OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT March 2020

One request for help with housing following a reported fire. We will investigate to see where help is needed.

A Place to Sleep

- 52 children received beds in 2020 making a total of 2073 children having received beds with 21 on the waiting list.
- Christ Community Church has agreed to continue to deliver beds on the fourth Sunday of each month.
- Upcoming events/activities –
 - March 16-20 – Board of Realtors Volunteer Week
 - March 21 - Table at Touched Twice, First Baptist Church
 - April 8 - Rock Academy students will be volunteering
 - April 18 - Table at Health & Fitness Fun Day, Family Activity Center
 - May 17 - Table at Veterans' Village Celebration & Worship at the Fairgrounds

Bibles for Graduating Seniors

The Bible Ministry has begun. Bible request forms are in both Shelby County high schools. You can help by donating \$5 per Bible. We normally give around 200 Bibles.

Serenity Center

This church continues to have volunteers serving at the Serenity Center every Wednesday when an average of 400 Shelby County families come through and receive a box of fresh produce, meat, canned goods, bread and whatever else comes in from Dare to Care and local sources. If you know of someone in need of food, all they need do is come to 98 7th Street between 12:00 noon and 4:00 p.m. any Wednesday with an ID and proof of Shelby County residency (could be drivers license, utility bill, etc.) An additional Senior Box is available once a month with prior approval via an application at the Serenity Center. They also do emergency boxes. Phone: 502-647-5555.

Musical Instrument Ministry

An electric keyboard was donated this month making a total of 118 instruments have been placed in the schools.

New Business

Easter Egg Hunt

The youth are planning an Easter Egg Hunt for the children of the church on Palm Sunday, April 5. Empty plastic eggs are available in the Mulberry Room for folks to take home, stuff with candy and prizes, then return before Palm Sunday. Talk to Deacons Lawson Zaring and Shelby Luckenbill for additional information.

Survival Bags

Survival baggies will be assembled containing a small bottle of water, peanut butter & cracker snacks, candy, etc., along with a list of places where help can be obtained. These will be made available for walk-ins looking for help. The Sunday School classes will be asked to see if they would like to assist with this project.

The next meeting will be April 13, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

In Our Hearts & Prayers



We give thanks to God for:

All those celebrating birthdays, including: Sally Zaring, Lawson Zaring, Dee Hochstrasser, Ruth Welch, Henley Stephens, Sam Hodge, Boyd Phillips, Kyrie Dickenson
Bryleigh Dew & Callaway Zaring serving as liturgists
Duke Owens return
Katie Hodge home

Since our last issue, we lift up the following in our prayers:

Deborah & Paul Masters' daughter & family in Uzbekistan
Family & friends of Danny Boyd
Family & friends of Robert Baker
For everyone to remain healthy & safe
Rosalind Ante
Safe travels for the Garbat Welch Family (they did arrive safely!)
The Hartano Family
Tom & Donna Wilson
Tom Gimm & family
Trinity Presbyterian Church, Independence, MO

We continue to lift up:

Barbara Troyer
Ben & Patricia Farris
Lisa & Bill Beasey
Lucy & Charles Long
Nancy Pearce
Sue & John Davis
The Fouts Family
The Garbat-Welch Family



WELCOME
Ellis Frederick Waits
Born January 20
to Chad & Becca Waits
and big brother, Oakley.
His grandparents are Fred & Cathy Waits.

We pray for our military family & friends:

Alaine Shepard, medic US Army, wife of Steve Shepard, daughter-in-law of Linda Shepard
Brandon Pettyjohn
Brandon Brouillet, father of Tyler Brouillet
Carmen Aragon Corum, sister of our childcare workers
Daniel Ehrichs, nephew of Joanne Burke
David Luebke
Frank Renner, US Navy, Leslee Bottorff's son
Gabriel Romeo, US Army, brother of our childcare workers
Hannah Riddle, US Air Force, granddaughter of Carlen & Jenny Pippin
Hunter Moore, US Marine Corps, Tom & Brenda Seecat's nephew
Jack Walters
Jared Bentley, US Marine Corps, Tom & Brenda Seecat's nephew
Jonathan Bowman
Ryan Donaldson, grandson of Joanne Burke
Seth LeMaster, US Marines, family of Lynn & Mark Whittaker
Spencer Goetzinger, US Army, husband of Bobbie Renner Goetzinger, son-in-law of Leslee Bottorff
Todd Dillon, US Army, friend of the Whittakers



(If you have additional information regarding any of the folks listed above or have someone else to add to the list, please contact the church office.)

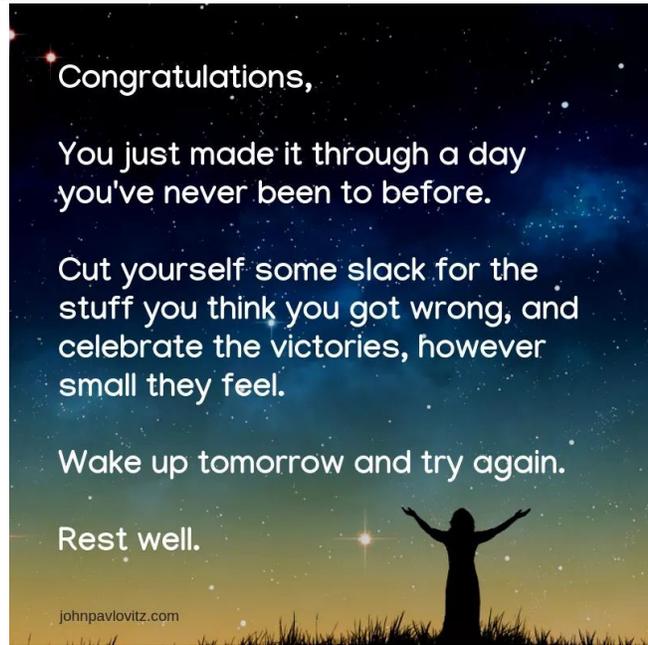


04/01 Emily Gimm
 04/03 Tom Seacat
 04/04 Jacquie Lier
 04/06 Phillip Newman
 04/06 Lincoln Weible
 04/09 Corey Gill
 04/10 Chris Dew
 04/10 Jim Henson
 04/11 Pate Giltner
 04/12 Charles Long
 04/14 John Chenault
 04/15 Linda Shepard
 04/16 Klayre Dickenson
 04/17 Linda Powell
 04/21 Olivia Sherrod
 04/22 Kennedy Collins
 04/22 Vic Schostkewitz
 04/23 Sondra Powers
 04/23 Mary Hamlin Sherrod
 04/25 Tommy Rempe
 04/26 Beth Herrinton-Hodge
 04/26 Janis LeMaster
 04/26 Maya LeMaster
 04/28 Meme Lafferty

If you know of someone whose birthday or anniversary aren't included, please contact the church office so we can add their information to our records.



04/01 Gary & Mary Steinhilber
 04/02 Brooke & Paul Caudill



CHOIR TRIAL PERIOD

(This article was submitted prior to the COVID-19 quarantine. Be thinking about joining while we wait this out. A great time to practice in the shower!)

The choir is in the process of starting a program for choir recruitment and calling it *The Choir Trial Period*. The trial period is just as it implies—a trial period. This involves participation by individuals who are interested in music and would like to just try the choir for a short period of time. If at the end you don't think it's for you, then that can be your decision.

Three of the biggest objections heard about singing in the choir are:

1. I can't read music.
2. I don't have time.
3. I can't sing.

We are a blessed congregation in that there are many people who are talented and need an outlet for that talent. Singing is good for your mental as well as your physical health. You are a happier person and can improve your breathing if you sing.

As we approach the season of Lent, this is the perfect time to take advantage of this opportunity. The *Trial Period* will begin Sunday, March 1st (Lent) and end Easter Sunday morning—April 12, 2020.

Please contact Tom Seacat and give this new concept a try.