



March 22, 2020

Until April 5

**Church Worship Services
and
Activities are cancelled.**

**Office Open
9:00-Noon Monday-Thursday**

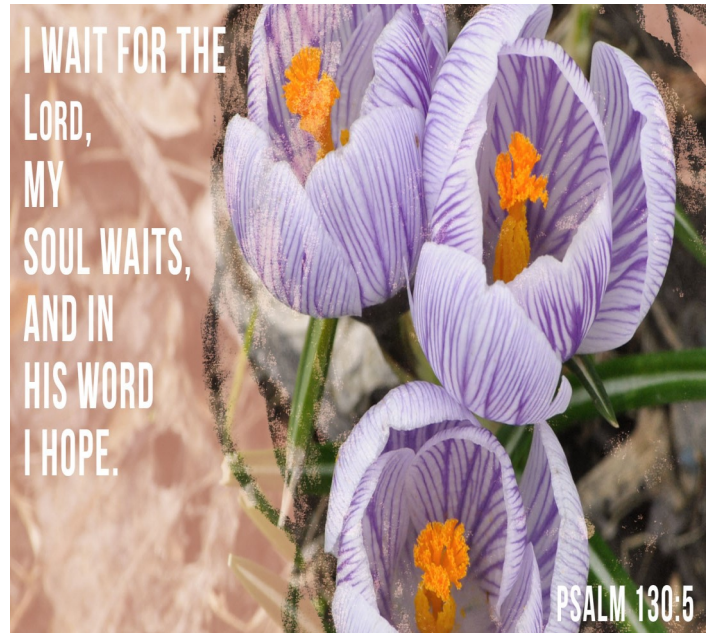
**Prayer Requests can be emailed to:
office@trinitypresbyfairfield.org**

God's Perfect Timing

After serving as a missionary with her husband for 20 years, L.B. Cowman compiled the widely read devotional *Streams in the Desert*. Below are two insights from Cowman about the need for patience:

"God is never an instant too late. He may keep us from the knowledge of what he is going to do; but he always has his perfect plans successfully made. All we need to do is to put ourselves wholly in his hands, ask his guidance, follow his leadings and count confidently upon his blessings."

When I cannot understand my Father's leading, And it seems to be but hard and cruel fate, Still I hear that gentle whisper ever pleading, God is working, God is faithful, ONLY WAIT.



Upcoming Dates for Your Calendar

April 2		Choir
April 5	10:15 AM	Palm Sunday
		One Great Hour Sharing
April 9	6:00 PM	Maundy Thursday Meal
	7:00 PM	Service

We thank, Worship Leaders for their service:

All Worship Volunteer Leaders please watch future Newsletters to know when the Worship Schedule will resume.



Trinity Presbyterian Church
 Rev. Tom Dunlap Pastor

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 Corner of Ross and Mack Roads
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Prepare for Worship Fifth Sunday in Lent

Psalm 130

Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD.
Lord, hear my voice!
Let your ears be attentive
to the voice of my supplications!

If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities,
Lord, who could stand?
But there is forgiveness with you,
so that you may be revered.

I wait for the LORD, my soul waits,
and in his word I hope;
my soul waits for the Lord
more than those who watch for the morning,
more than those who watch for the morning

O Israel, hope in the LORD!
For with the LORD there is steadfast love,
and with him is great power to redeem.
It is he who will redeem Israel
from all its iniquities.

Reflection

How are you waiting on the Lord as we navigate the changes of each day? What are you doing to build up your spiritual strength?

Feeling isolated, alone? From Presbyter Lisa Allgood *daily* questions:

“What are you grateful for today?

Who are you checking in on or connecting with today?

What expectations of “normal” are you going to let go today?

How are you taking care of yourself today - getting outside, moving, meditating?

What beauty can I cultivate today?”

Morning Prayer

My soul awakes with you, O Lord, and with all who arise this morning. Help me to remain in your peace for you are as close to me as my every breath. Enkindle your Spirit within me, and let my words and actions help others to know that you are my Lord and my God and that I Trust in you. Amen.



Prayer Helps

Pray where you are. God is present everywhere and ready to listen. God is with us in every situation and walks with us through them.

Pray, when possible, in a quiet place where you can be alone. It is good to fix your mind deliberately on God, apart from confusing distractions.

Pray to God simply and naturally, as to a friend. Tell him what is on your mind. Get help from the prayers of others.

Pray, remembering the good things God has done for you. Give thanks for all your blessings.

Pray for God's forgiveness for the unworthy things you may have done. He is near to a humble and contrite heart.

Pray especially for those things that will make your life more Christlike.

Pray for others, remembering the help they need for the situations they confront.

Pray for the world in its need, and for God to guide you toward ways you can help.

Pray that God's will be done in you. His purposes are deeper and wiser than our own.

Pray, and trust God will work through your prayers.

A copy of The Wired Word

You can right click on the link below, open and read a free copy of the Wired Word lesson for this week.

www.thewiredword.com/covid19-lesson-for-churches

Lenten Mission Project

If you need a Lenten bag, you will find the calendar and bags are on the Information Table in the narthex. The bag is to collect items listed on the calendar. Please put in the bag what you are able to donate even though it may not be all the items on the calendar. **Bags are due back on Maundy Thursday.**

Missions at Work

- ◆ Sewing of dresses for Mission Project in Appalachia will be held the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 10:00 AM
- ◆ Knitters /Crocheters: Mercy and our church are in need of prayer shawls and baby blankets.
- ◆ NON food Pantry needs: shampoo and dish soap for February.
- ◆ Collecting plastic lids, soda pull tabs, and cancelled stamps

Palm Sunday—April 5

As a Mission project, Trinity and over a 1,000 other congregations ordered their palms from Eco-Palms. The *Eco-Palm Project* provides an opportunity to purchase high quality *Chamaedorea* palm fronds— a purchase which supports indigenous communities in Guatemala and Mexico, as well as preserves the rainforest. The Eco-Palms concept teaches villagers sustainable harvesting techniques; eliminates middlemen; pays more for harvesting.

Though it seems like a small project, use of the Eco-Palms means that an increase of 250% of the money from the palms is going directly back into the harvesting communities.



One Great Hour—April 5

Where God is, there is hope for the suffering and the vulnerable.

Each gift to One Great Hour of Sharing helps to improve the lives of the suffering and the vulnerable. Providing relief from natural disasters, food for the hungry, and support for the poor and oppressed

Together, we become the household of God. We extend shelter to those who have no place to stay, offer compassion to those who have pain—be it physical, emotional or spiritual—and we set a feast, with God, for those who lack access to enough food to eat. ***This Lenten season, please give generously to One Great Hour of Sharing on Sunday, April 5.***



Uplifting Sources

There are a myriad of online devotions available as well.

“Devotions on the go - www.d365.org” This is a free online daily devotional provided by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A) and an app is available for cell phones.

“Dial Hope”- An alternative to the digital world and online. You can listen to a brief message and prayer by calling 866-528-4673. Also available online www.dialhope.org The messages are prepared and read by Joe Albright, a Presbyterian pastor from Florida.

“Our Daily Bread” - www.odb.org - Daily devotions free online. —Lisa Allgood,

Cincinnati Presbyterian

The Nun Who Kidded God—The 16th century nun known as Teresa of Ávila (Spain) had a great sense of humor. Caught in a thunderstorm and getting soaked, she was heard to pray, “Lord, it’s no wonder [you] have so many enemies, if this is the way you treat your friends.”

PASTORAL LETTER

I have been musing today on Psalm 24:3-4 (slightly revised version):

*Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord?
And who shall stand in his holy place?
Those who have clean hands and "purell" hearts.*

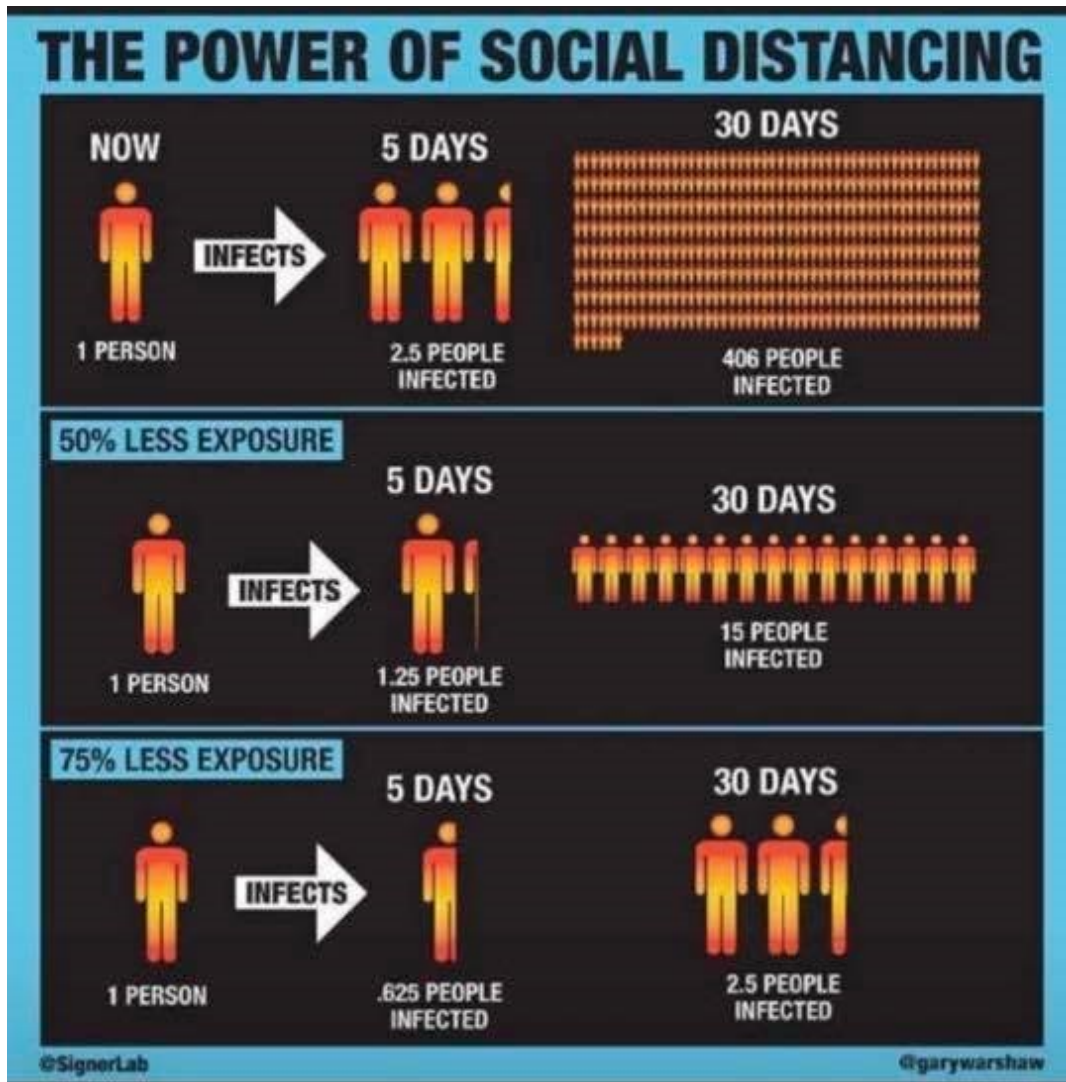
By now, the sobering reality of what is happening to our lives is settling in. We are truly in a *kairos* moment as the disconcerting awareness that things will never be quite the same becomes more apparent each day. For those who may not be familiar with the Greek word, *kairos*, it has a dual meaning of "crisis" on the one hand and "opportunity" on the other. What it means is that while every crisis we go through is disturbing and can upend our lives, it also brings with it a hidden opportunity for positive change.

So the question increasingly becomes, where will we focus our attention? The easiest place is on the restrictions we are now facing. For those who are living alone; those with children who are now out of school and need to be cared for; the students themselves who can't see their friends and schoolmates; and those with relatives in nursing homes whom you cannot visit. The challenges are severe. It would be easier if we knew for certain life would return to normal on a particular date. But that is surely not the case. And what will the new normal look like?

On the other hand, we could choose to focus our attention on the opportunity all of this presents. Isn't this a test of our faith? Where is it that God can help us to grow through this? From what I have experienced thus far, I believe that our church, our nation and even our world will be stronger because of this affliction. We are figuring out just how much we mean to each other and how much we miss seeing one another and worshipping together. We may need each other a lot more than we realized.

And so I urge you to keep your faith and keep connected. Reach out to each other frequently so that everyone is assured that they are loved, cared for...and missed. I miss you! You are an important part of my extended family.

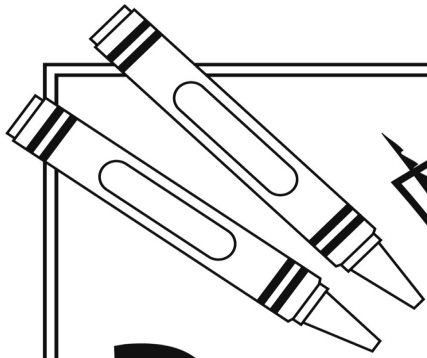
May the love of Christ be with you all...Tom



Additional resources from the Presbytery to help us through the present situations:

- United Way has announced an emergency relief fund for help with bills, rent and food (call 1-866-211-9966 and provide a zip code).
- Kroger and other grocery stores are still delivering; consider a gift card delivery to your at-risk congregation members www.kroger.com
- Many rental agencies as well as Duke Energy and GCWW have suspended stopping service for non-payment for the time being.
- Spectrum is offering free internet to students without it for study.
- O-Pi-O is offering free lunches to school age children.
- The Cincinnati Public School website has food pick-up locations for school age students.
- Google STEM projects, English projects, and history lessons online for students at home; as I get other resources identified I'll send those on too

Daniel (10:18-19): Do not be afraid, for you are deeply loved by God. Be at peace. Take heart. Be strong.



PUZZLE

POWER OF PRAYER

When life gets crazy, worry creeps in. But God tells us exactly what to do – any time and anywhere.

Directions: Circle the word in each group that doesn't belong. Then write those words on the numbered lines below.

1
apple
anxious
artichoke

2
every
eagle
emu

3
purple
pink
prayer

4
Paul
petition
Peter

5
taste
touch
thanksgiving

6
rest
requests
relax

7
God
George
Greg

8
puddle
peace
pond

9
transcends
train
truck

10
unusual
unique
understanding

11
guard
giraffe
gorilla

12
hearts
hold
held

13
many
minds
more

14
Philadelphia
Pennsylvania
Philippians

“Do not be _____¹ about anything, but in
 _____² situation, by _____³ and
 _____⁴, with _____⁵,
 present your _____⁶ to _____⁷. And
 the _____⁸ of God, which _____⁹
 all _____¹⁰, will _____¹¹
 your _____¹² and your _____¹³
 in Christ Jesus.” _____¹⁴ 4:6-7, NIV

Answers: 1. anxious, 2. every, 3. prayer, 4. petition, 5. thanksgiving, 6. requests, 7. God, 8. peace, 9. transcends, 10. understanding, 11. guard, 12. hearts, 13. minds, 14. Philippians

Jesus Helps in a Storm



As of March 22

Keep in your Prayers

Vicky Callow, Bill Tope's granddaughter	Thanksgiving for safe return to Muncie, IN of from her mission trip to Colombia, S.A.
Pam Kelso, Carol Kiphart's daughter	Healing/diagnosed with cancer
Megan, Nadine Jones' granddaughter	God's Providence and care/mother of twins needs bone marrow transplant
Vickie Murrell, Harrings' request	Healing/recovering from heart surgery
People of Nashville	God's providence and comfort
Jack Kraft, K. Kessler request	Healing/severe leg infection
Joe and Brenda Luebbe	Thanksgiving/great grandson birth and Healing/improved blood sugar
Caleb Erickson, D. Hess request	Continued healing/fighting infection
John Marshall, D. Hess request	Healing/dialysis and tumor concerns
Cassie, J. Reese request	Continued healing/improving/infections
Robbie, B. Pratt request	Healing/hearing threatening voices
Charlene Stumpf, K. Kessler request	Healing/knee surgery
Nancy Miracle, Schuler request	Healing/in decline from ALS
Billy, D. Hess request	Healing/heart surgery and mini stroke
Fran Thomas	Healing/pain relief
Natasha, B. Pratt request	Healing/recovery surgery on legs
Jean Parsley	Continued healing
Pam Harring	Continued healing/guidance with treatment
George Liles	Continued healing/home recovering
Dee Burkhardt	Continued healing
Diane Niehaus, B. Luebbe request	Continued healing/several health concerns
Gerald Reese, M. Reese's father	Continued healing/swallowing problems
Margie, Fran Thomas' sister	God's peace and comfort
All peoples in the Middle East	Peace and reconciliation
All Elected Government leaders	Wisdom/support/enlightenment
Support for all our military	Strength/discernment/God's protection
For all missionaries (Especially for S. and B.)	Protection/blessings/fruitful mission work

Names that have been on the Prayer List for more than 4 weeks are marked with an asterisk (). If you would like them to remain on the list, please contact the office by Tuesday.*

Financial Information

Donations Received 3/22/20	\$3,625
Kroger Rewards	\$55
Per Capita 2020 Donations	\$462
Property Fund Giving 2020	\$3,000
Property Fund Goal 2020	\$5,000

Per Capita for 2020 is \$33

Preaching Schedule

April 5	Rev. Tom Dunlap
April 12	Rev. Tom Dunlap