



# The Mountain Top Messenger

ZION LUTHERAN EVANGELICAL CHURCH, ASHLAND, WI APRIL 2020

I pray this newsletter finds you all well. It is indeed an interesting time that we are living in. I don't think anyone would have imagined a month ago that today we would all be living under an order to stay at home and avoid human contact. As well as being challenged in so many aspects of our lives it can also be a bit scary. With all of the doom and gloom information that seems to be streaming out of our televisions and on the internet it is hard to sort fact from fiction, underestimation from over-exaggeration. My personal thought is to err on the side of caution. I pray often that the Lord watches over me and those around me, but I also know that he would expect me to use all of the resources around me to protect myself as well. I truly believe common sense is a gift from God and we really need to use it, particularly at a time like this. As I was writing this, I was looking for something inspiring to share, to help strengthen you and help lead you through this, and was at a bit of a loss. Unfortunately, (well maybe fortunately) this is my first pandemic and pearls of wisdom were simply not flowing. So, my thought was where could I go to find such things. Facebook is full of meme's and other bits of wisdom and wit, but also, you're never quite sure where those come from. I decided to look at older and perhaps more authoritative sources.

First, I remembered a book I had received when I started at the seminary, a gift from Lutheran Hour Ministries. The book is called *What Luther Says*, 1667 pages of wit and wisdom from Dr. Martin Luther. Luther was a survivor of a pandemic, as a matter of fact his daughter died from that plague. As I began to look at Luther's writings I wondered how do I narrow down my search, so I decided to focus on a few words that might express how we are feeling, so I searched on fear, sadness, sickness, trials, and worry. These were a couple of my favorites: **Fear**; *Whatever fear still assails us is either a temptation of Satan or a remnant of the old man, for in Christ there can be nothing but supreme assurance and joy.* **Sadness**; *The deeper a person is sunk in sadness and emotional upheavals, the better he serves as an instrument of Satan. For our emotions are instruments through which he gets into us and works in us if we do not watch our step. It is easy to water where it is wet. Where the fence is dilapidated, it is easy to get across. So Satan has easy access where there is sadness. Therefore one must pray and associate with godly people.* **Trials**; *This is truly the noblest directive of all in times of tribulation, a teaching of pure gold and the best of advice, which can rescue us from every evil, when in tribulation we can say that God is in the right and can bless and praise Him, as the example of the three men in the fiery furnace shows (Daniel 3).* “© Lord,

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***righteousness belongeth unto Thee, but unto us confusion of faces, as at this day” (Dan. 9:7)***

*It is incredible how efficacious a remedy this praise of God is in times of danger; for as soon as you begin to praise God, the evil lessens, confidence grows, and calling upon God in faith follows. And this one on which I will close is my favorite, **Worry**; Let him, then, who wants to be a Christian by all means learn to believe and to exercise and demonstrate his faith in his affairs, both physical and spiritual, in what he does and in what he endures, in life and in death. Let him divest himself of care and fearful apprehensions, vigorously and confidently flinging them aside, but not into a corner, as some vainly mean to do; for when cares cling to the heart, they cannot be flung aside in that way. Let the Christian learn to cast both his heart and his cares upon God’s back, for God has a strong neck and strong shoulders; He can easily carry the load. Moreover, He has commanded us to commit our cares to Him. Nor can we lay and cast too much upon Him; He only likes it even more. And He also promises that He will carry your cares and concerns for you. This is truly a splendid promise and a beautiful and precious statement – if we only believed it... For what is better and nobler than a calm and peaceful heart? All men strive and labor for that. We, too, have hitherto done so. We have run here and there in search of a peaceful heart, yet we have found it nowhere but in the Word of God. This Word bids us cast our cares and concerns upon God and thus seek peace and rest.*

*So as I close I thank Dr. Luther for his words, I hope that you find them helpful, and along with those I close with one of my favorite scripture verses which ties in nicely with both the above words and of our trying times. It comes from Matthew chapter 6:*

*“Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? <sup>26</sup> Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? <sup>27</sup> **And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life?** <sup>28</sup> And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, <sup>29</sup> yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. <sup>30</sup> But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? <sup>31</sup> Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ <sup>32</sup> For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. <sup>33</sup> But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. <sup>34</sup> “Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.*

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**Pastor Rick Williams -**  
715-209-0479

**Lynn** 715-292-0592

**Church President:**  
**John Pruss** 715-292-4825

**Head Elder:**  
**Darryl Warren** 715-492-0488

**Current Office Hours:**  
Unscheduled at this point.  
Please call ahead to see if some-  
one is at the Church.

Or email -  
secre-  
tary@zionlutheranashland.com  
Emails are checked daily.

**Office Hours: Sporadic**  
Please call ahead if you need to  
speak with Pastor Williams as  
he may be visiting shut-in's, at  
a conference, etc.

**Office Secretary**  
**Lynn Ladd** 715-682-6075  
Office Hours M-W 8-3  
Days and times may change  
upon need of work.

**Little Friends of Jesus Child**  
**Care Center:** 715-682-5185

**LFOJ Administrator:**  
**Karyn Leino** 715-682-6075

**Website**  
www.zionashland.org

**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**1111-11TH AVE WEST**  
**ASHLAND, WI 54806**  
**715-682-6075**

Sunday Worship Service 9:00am  
Wednesday Evening Service 6:30pm  
Sunday School 10:15am (Sept.-May)  
Bible Studies Sun. 10:15am Mon. 10:00am  
*(The church is closed until further notice)*

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My friends I ask God's blessings upon you. I want to remind you that we will stream the last Lenten midweek service on Wednesday April 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 pm, Palm Sunday will be Sunday April 5<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am, Maundy Thursday will be at 6:30 pm on the 9<sup>th</sup>, Good Friday at 6:30 pm on the 10<sup>th</sup> and Easter morning at 9:00 on April 12<sup>th</sup>. You can watch these live on Facebook, or they will also be listed on our church website (zionashland.org) the following morning. We also now have a smartphone app for both iPhone and Android, you can get it in the Apple App Store or Google Play Store, the name of the app is Zion Lutheran Ashland. Thank you for all your support and prayers during this time of uncertainty, I am keeping all of you in my prayers and ask that you do the same.

My friends; The Lord bless and keep you, the Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you, the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. Amen.

Pastor Rick

	<u>"Giving" budget per week amount: \$3262.00</u>	
Weekly	March 9 <sup>th</sup> \$2478	March 16 <sup>th</sup> \$2748
	March 23 <sup>rd</sup> \$0	March 30 \$2695

# PRAYERS FOR HEALTH AND HEALING

For good test results, treatment, positive thinking, healing, and comfort during cancer treatments, for those suffering from addiction, mental illness and for healing, strength, comfort, and peace for family we pray for:

Linda Larson-Nelson  
Bob Heggie  
Kate Smith  
Brad Prill  
Mary Siefers  
Jim Bullis  
Lloyd Koosmann  
Theresa Koosmann  
Penny Mattson  
Rebecca Gurske  
Michael Thompson  
LeAnn Billing  
Angie Guski  
Scott Barylski

Tim Smith  
Kevin Heggie  
Alice Balmer  
David Kaarre  
Mary Bullis  
Mike Dimich  
Helen Korpela  
Marty Kaarre  
Penny Larson  
David Gustafson  
Ellen Hudgeson  
Duane Lynch  
David Ruthberg



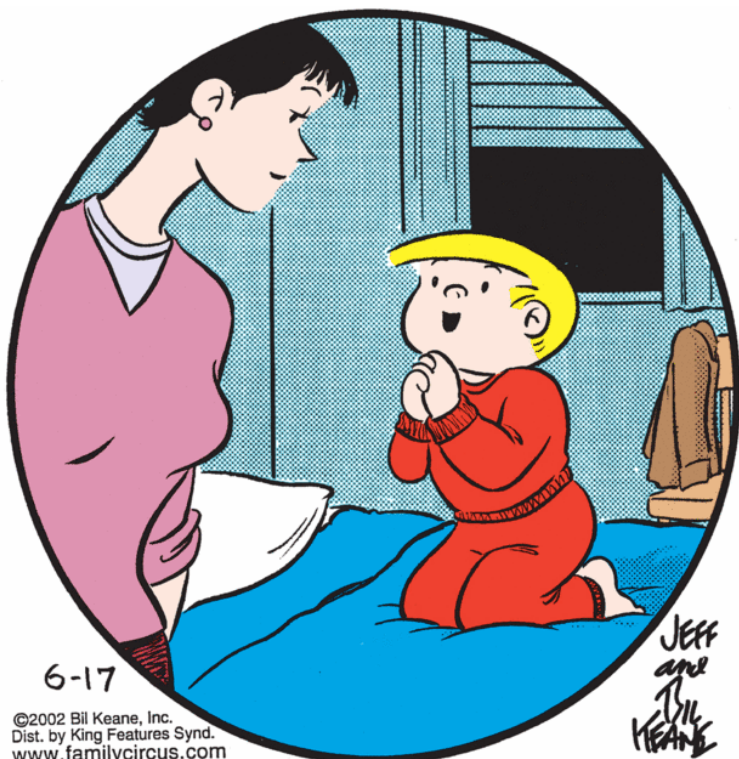
Curtis James  
Paul Tolliver  
*and those in our hearts.*

## PRAYERS for Homebound, Assisted Living, Nursing Home

Those who aren't able to attend common worship that they would find comfort knowing that the Lord is with them. *Walt Schutte* *Arlene Zimmerman* *Violet Basina*  
*Madge Houle* *Donna Graves* *Nancy Zehe*

## PRAYERS FOR PROTECTION

For our full-time troops and public servants, for travel, missionaries, and for peace and protection for families. *David Wright* *Emily Melecha* *Tucker Melecha*  
*Jordan Thimm* *Andrew Pruss*



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“Sayin’ ‘Amen’ is like pressing the ‘SEND’ button for your prayers.”

## Resources

Northwest Wisconsin District -  
LCMS [www.nwdlcms.org](http://www.nwdlcms.org)

LCMS - St. Louis  
[www.lcms.org](http://www.lcms.org)

Zion's website  
[www.zionashland.org](http://www.zionashland.org)  
Website

Zion's Facebook  
Zion Lutheran Ashland - LCMS

**In case you didn't know -  
Church will be closed at least  
through April 30th. Services  
will continue to be live-  
streamed at regular times.**

**"Now when the sun was setting, all those who had any that were sick with various diseases brought them to him; and he laid his hands on every one of them and healed them." Luke 4:40**

As a hobby photographer, I am very aware of what folks call the "golden hour"- the hour before the sun sets each day. At that time of day the flat angle of sun highlights the texture of the landscape and brightens up the colors. This was especially true the other day, when I was out about 3:30 pm. I was hoping to see birds; they seem to have a built-in clock that beckons them during this golden hour. Sure enough, a group of pine grosbeaks landed on nearby evergreens. Their colors were lit by the afternoon sun, and as I adjusted my camera, I was able to focus on the pair at the top of one tree. My camera revealed that one was a male (red plumage) and the other a female, gray with a dull-yellow head. I could even "hear" these birds...full of chatter during this golden hour.



Humans also respond to the golden hour of day. Folks used to pull up a rocking chair on the porch and chat with neighbors out for a walk. Or the kettle was put on and afternoon cups of tea brewed conversation. Even today, folks often have a cup of coffee and relax while they catch up with the news of the day through social media.

In the Fourth Chapter of Luke, folks hear Jesus is nearby- the one who cures the sick.

And the opportunity to bring their sick ones cannot be missed. So... before the day ends, they go to Jesus. And He does not disappoint, but rather walks around and lays his hands on everyone who needs healing. For this truly was a "golden hour."

Now the crowd was eager to share this Good News. But Jesus told them not to tell others. This *order of silence* is baffling. But on the other hand, Jesus was on an eternal mission of healing and his hour of glory had not yet come.

Yes, the golden hour is a gift of light to a photographer looking for that "perfect" snapshot, and Luke's record of a golden opportunity was a gift for all who came to Jesus- the Light of the World. Dear Gentle Reader, this story is still lived today as we know the healing touch of Jesus. We no longer have to keep silent, but are encouraged to tell others the Good News. What a gift to live this Eternal Hope of God's Golden Glory!

February 4, 2019

A. Ellis



1-13

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**"If I can't see any germs before I wash my hands, how do I know when I get them all off?"**

## Guarding Angels

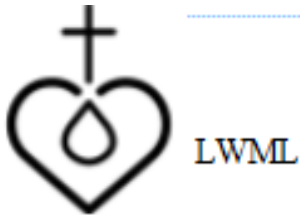
*From The Story of Angels.*

*As you read this, think of what the guarding angels are doing for you.*

Corrie ten Boom is now in heaven with her Lord, but before she left earth she experienced many heavy trials. We look at just one.

Why did the Lord ask anything so hard from us? I pleaded, "O Lord, if Thou dost nevertheless ask this sacrifice of us, give us the strength to offer it; give us the willingness to make it." For a few minutes we were quiet and spoke softly with the Saviour. He was with us and knew what we were suffering, and He loved us. "Corrie, I am ready," whispered Betsie softly "Then everything is all right," I answered. I took her arm, and together we entered the terrifying building. At a table were women who took away all our possessions. Everyone had to undress completely and then go to a room where hair was checked. I asked a woman who was busy checking the possessions of the new arrivals if I might use the toilet. She pointed to a door, and I discovered that convenience was nothing more than a hole in the shower-room floor. Betsie stayed close beside me all the time. Suddenly I had an inspiration. "Quick, take off your woolen underwear," I whispered to her. I rolled it up with mine and laid the bundle in a corner with my little Bible. The spot was alive with cockroaches, but I didn't worry about that. I felt wonderfully relieved and happy. "The Lord is busy answering our prayers, Betsie," I whispered, we shall not have to make the sacrifice of all our clothes." We hurried back to the row of women waiting to be undressed. A little later, after we had our showers and put on our shirts and shabby dresses, I hid the roll of underwear and my Bible under my dress. It did bulge out obviously through my dress; but I prayed, "Lord, cause now Thine angels to surround me; and let them not be transparent today, for the guards must not see me" Everyone was checked, from the front, the sides, the back. Not a bulge escaped the eyes of the guard. The woman just in front of me had hidden a woolen vest under her dress; it was taken from her. They let me pass, for they did not see me. Betsie, right behind me, was searched. But outside awaited another danger. On each side of the door were women who looked everyone over for the second time. They felt over the body of each one who passed. I knew that they would not see me, for the angels were still surrounding me. I was not even surprised when they passed me by; but within me rose the jubilant cry, "O Lord, if Thou dost so answer prayer, I can face even Ravensbruck unafraid" (A Prisoner and yet. pp. 82-83, Corrie ten Boom).

Yes, some angels guard, and they guard well! (The Story of Angels, pp. 52-53, by Pastor Don Ginkel)



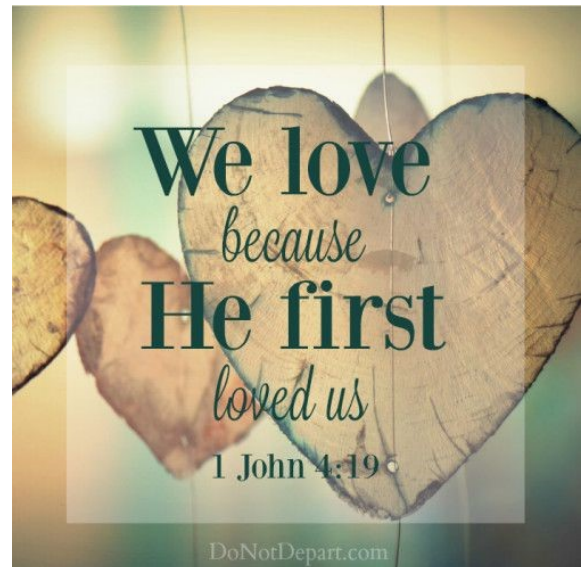
## Joy in God's Love

*We love because he first loved us* (1 John 4:19).

Elizabeth Barrett Browning wrote the famous words, "How do I love thee? Let me count the ways ... " Yet when God looked at us, how many ways could He have counted? He saw our sins *red as crimson* (Isaiah 1:18b). And He loved us anyway!

*"For God so loved the world, that he gave His only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life"* (John 3:16). When He looks at us now – through the cross of Jesus – God sees us as the people He designed us to be: forgiven, loving, serving people. Though we sin daily, God's love and forgiveness are always available to us. His love never fails, and He never withholds forgiveness from the repentant sinner. In Him we have comfort and joy.

**Prayer:** Thank You, Lord, for Your unconditional love. We could not have loved You first, and we could not have brought ourselves to You. Help us to respond to the love You have given us by sharing it with those whose lives touch ours. In Jesus' name. Amen.



### Direct Debit for Offerings

VANCO Services provides Zion with direct deposit of offerings from members. It is a convenient, secure and easy method for contributions, especially during times when you are on vacation, out of town, etc. and you aren't able to drop off your offering. We use Direct Debit e.service® - Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) provides a secure electronic transfer of an authorized donation/payment from an individual's checking or savings account into the Church's bank account. Vanco processes recurring, variable and one-time transactions. We even have some who do both – they have Vanco deposits and yet put a bit in an envelope offering. If this is something you would like to look further into, please contact Lynn, [secretary@zionlutheranashland.com](mailto:secretary@zionlutheranashland.com), 715-682-6034, (church), or cell 715-292-0592 - an application will be sent to you, once it returned we can set up your direct deposit account.

## Logic Questions

1. I'm where yesterday follows today and tomorrow is in the middle. What am I?
2. Everyone has me but nobody can lose me. What am I?
3. What's always coming, but never arrives?
4. The more you take from me, the bigger I get. What am I?
5. There is a word in the English language in which the first two letters signify a male, the first three letters signify a female, the first four signify a great man, and the whole word, a great woman. What is the word?
6. What gets broken without being held?
7. If I have it, I don't share it. If I share it, I don't have it. What is it?
8. A mother had five boys Marco, Tucker, Webster and Thomas. Was the fifth boys name Frank, Evan or Alex?
9. MT\_TF\_S What are the missing letters? Why?
10. George, Helen, and Steve are drinking coffee. Bert, Karen, and Dave are drinking soda. Is Elizabeth drinking coffee or soda?
11. If 5 cats catch 5 mice in 5 minutes, how long will it take one cat to catch a mouse?
12. A girl was ten on her last birthday, and will be twelve on her next birthday. How is this possible?
13. I'm simple for a few people. But hard for them to hear. I live inside of secrets. I bring people's worst fears. What am I?
14. There is a man in a 4 story building. He jumps out of the window and is unharmed. He used no padding, and had no harm done. How?
15. What is neither inside the house nor outside the house but a necessity for any home?

1. What can travel around the world while staying in a corner?
2. What type of dress can never be worn?
3. What has 4 eyes but can't see.
4. What kind of cup doesn't hold water?
5. What always goes to bed with its shoes on?
6. What word becomes shorter when you add two letters to it?
7. Which side of a cat has the most fur?
8. I have eight to spare and am covered with hair.
9. What building has the most stories?
10. What starts with an "e" but only has a single letter in it?
11. What ship has no captain but two mates?
12. The shorter I am, the bigger I am. What am I?
13. What is bought by the yard by is worn by the foot?
14. What's the red stuff between elephant's toes?
15. There is a kind of fish that can never swim. What is that?
16. What is a Mummy's favorite type of music?
17. What can you catch but not throw?
18. What do you get if you put a radio in the fridge?
19. What ship has no captain but two mates?
20. The shorter I am, the bigger I am. What am I?
21. What is bought by the yard by is worn by the foot?
22. What's the red stuff between elephant's toes?
23. There is a kind of fish that can never swim. What is that?

In this month's Newsletter we are including some extra puzzles, riddles, etc. in case you are looking for something to do. Enjoy!

**I am so excited,  
it's time to take  
the GARBAGE OUT**

**I'm wondering  
what I should  
wear?**



## **Bible Quiz One Questions**

1. How many books are there in the Bible?
2. How many books are there in the Old Testament?
3. How many books are there in the New Testament?
4. Which is the shortest book in the Bible?
5. Which is the longest book in the Bible?
6. Which is the shortest chapter in the Bible?
7. Which is the longest chapter in the Bible?
8. Which is the shortest verse in the Bible?
9. Which is the longest verse in the Bible?
10. Which chapter of which book has been calculated as being at the middle of the Bible?
11. Which is the first book in the Bible?
12. Which is the last book in the Bible?
13. Which is the first book in the New Testament?
14. Which is the last book in the Old Testament?
15. In what year was the Authorized Version of the Bible first produced?
16. Which English monarch was responsible for the Authorized Version of the Bible?
17. What are the first three words of the book of Genesis?
18. Which other book begins with the same three words?
19. In what language was most of the Old Testament originally written?
20. In what language was most of the New Testament written?

## **Bible Quiz Two Questions**

1. Is the Epistle to the Colossians in the Old Testament or the New Testament?
2. What was Abraham and Sarah's son's name?
3. The parable of the Ten Virgins is mentioned only in one Gospel. Is it in Matthew or Luke?
4. How many soldiers were with Peter in his cell - 1,2 or 3?
5. How many angels were given trumpets when the seventh seal, in Revelation, was opened in heaven - 5, 7 or 12?
6. Which servant girl answered the door to Peter and left without opening the door?
7. When Peter was rescued by an angel from prison, whose house did he go to?
8. Were Jesus' disciples invited to the wedding where Jesus changed the water into wine? Yes or No.
9. Who did the Prodigal Son hire himself out to when he lost all his money?
10. To whom did Jesus say, "Dear woman, why do you involve me? My time has not yet come?"
11. Is honour your Father and your Mother the 5th or 6th commandment?
12. What is the 5th commandment?
13. How many times did Daniel pray each day (2,3 or 4 times)?
14. Which king ate grass?
15. Which captain came to slay Daniel - Arioch, Armoni or Azbuk?
16. What happened to Daniel's enemies after Daniel was freed from the lion's den?
17. Is the book of Ruth in the Old or the New Testament?
18. How many chapters are there in the book of Isaiah - 66,67 or 70?
19. How old was Mephibosheth when his nurse dropped him?
20. How many wings on a Seraphim?

from **GENERATION**  
To **GENERATION**

2020 VBS Day Camp will be August 10th-12th. Let's help Camp Luther celebrate their 75 years at Zion. Get out your photo-books. We would like pictures from when you were at Camp Luther. I will make copies of the pictures and make a big collage. I will also make a collage of the seven years (2013-2019) we have hosted Camp Luther Day Camp at Zion.



**Do You Know - - - - -**

1. How many hearts does an octopus have?
2. How long is the gestation period of an African elephant?
3. What's the scientific name of a wolf?
4. What name is used to refer to a group of frogs?
5. What is a female donkey called?
6. How many eyes does a bee have?
7. Which mammal has no vocal cords?
8. What's the fastest animal in the world?
9. Which animal symbolizes good luck in Europe?
10. Do sponges have hearts?

**“I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth”**

**(Psalm 121:1-2)**

**"Look among the nations! Observe! Be astonished! Wonder! Because I am doing something in your days--You would not believe if you were told." Habakkuk 1:5**

**Dear Friends and Family,**

Everyday we are hearing the latest COVID-19 news from around the globe. However, the news we are most interested in hearing is: What is the Lord doing? And how are YOU doing?

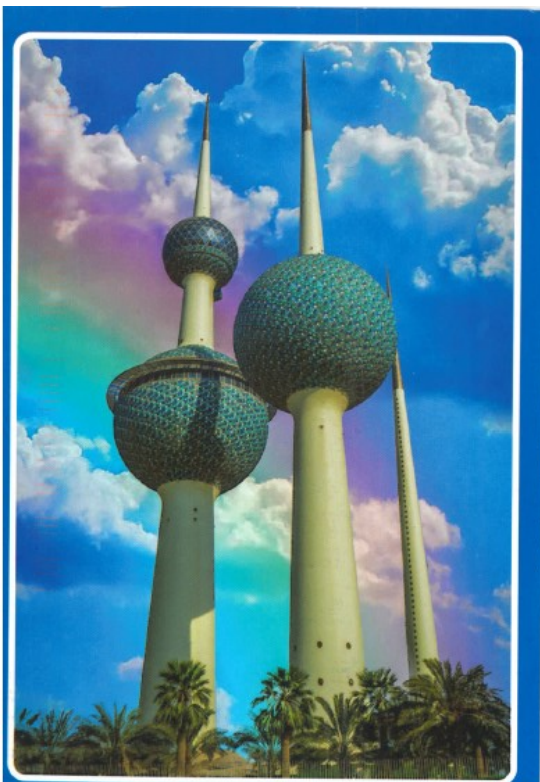
With limited activities happening right now and few chances to interact face to face with people, we have extra time to be praying! We would love to "hold up your arms" right now during this time, as we know many are facing new challenges due to the coronavirus storm and all that has come with it. **Please reply and share with us ONE or TWO of your prayer needs. We'll be lifting those up this coming week and send you anything we hear from the Throneroom.** We love you and want to stand with you, your family, and your community through this.

We would also love to hear testimonies of what the Lord is doing in the midst of these challenges. **Please reply and share with us ONE testimony of what the God-of-Angel-Armies has done in your life since the outbreak began.** We want to compile a list of testimonies we can send out and encourage each other with!

We are *honored* to take this opportunity to serve you in this way. Thank you for all the ways you have served and blessed us!

**Looking forward to hearing from you,  
Jordan, Julia, Hudson, Acacia, & Baby K**

[kroll@jordanandjulia.com](mailto:kroll@jordanandjulia.com)



← Kuwait Tower

Dear Zion,

Thank you all for the care package. All of the guys were happy to get a refill of supplies. We have been keeping ourselves occupied.

I can't wait to get back home and see you all again.

Andy Pruss

**THANKS**

## Not Many Years Ago Billy Graham Said:

"I often wonder what kind of earthquake or war (or pandemic) must be sent by God to awaken a sleeping world to the imminence of coming judgment. Even Christians are in a state of slumber, from which many of them do not want to be aroused."

### People always make time

for the things they value most. If they're not making time for church, that tells you something.

### Eric Geiger:

"Data is a great friend, but a horrible god. Facts should be our friend but never our king. When we make data our king, we are enslaved to something that will never satisfy us and to something that is never satisfied."

## Crazy Things that Happened at Funerals

Stories from pastors about funerals -

- Three different pastors told us they fell in the grave.
  - Three different widows jumped in the grave.
  - The family released a dove at the end of the funeral. A hawk was waiting. You know the rest of the story.
  - The pastor was interrupted during the funeral and asked to adjust the deceased in the casket because she did not look perky.
  - The funeral home showed up with the wrong body.
  - The widow began shouting and praying for her husband to rise from the dead.
  - There were two funerals close together. They finished at the same time. One funeral released doves. The other funeral had a salute with several guns. There were many dead doves.
- The pastor was asked to pose with the urn of ashes for photos after the funeral.

## Why You Should Encourage Your Child to Befriend the Kid Who's "Different"

"My mom said you are welcome to come to our home and play anytime." I turned, astonished, to look at who said this to my son as we were waiting to cross the street to go into school one morning. A sweet fourth-grade girl, whom I recognized as another student with exceptional needs, was standing beside him smiling.

"As you grow older you will discover that you have two hands. One for helping yourself, the other for helping others."

– **Audrey Hepburn**

## Please Imagine the Following Message As A Crackly, Radio Transmission

*By Drew Dyck*

**Update:** Day 10 of the home quarantine and the situation is dire. Supplies are dwindling. Cabin fever has set in. The little people in lock down with us have overrun the compound. They're wasting toilet paper. Eating all the good food. Messing up the house faster than we can clean it and refusing to obey even direct orders. They can be distracted for periods of time with TV, but they inevitably return to unleashing chaos. We've barricaded ourselves in our bedroom but the door will hold for only so long. Do not send backups. They will just perish along with us. This may be my last transmission. Over and out, Drew Dyck





In his late 80s, my father-in-law went to the DMV to renew his driver's license. At one point during the road test, he approached a four-way stop, looked to his left, and cruised straight through the stop sign. "Sir! You didn't look to your right," yelled the frightened inspector. My father-in-law calmly shook his head. "That's Mum's side."

Once there was a guy named Bill who wanted a horse. On Craigslist, Bill saw a Christian horse so he went to check it out. When Bill got to the ranch, the horse's owner said "It's easy to ride him. Just say 'praise the Lord' to make him go, and 'amen' to make him stop." Bill got on the horse and said "praise the Lord." the horse started to walk. "Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, praise the Lord" and the horse is running. Now Bill sees the cliff and says: "AMEN." The horse stops and Bill says: "Whew! Praise the lord!"

While taking a clinical history from an elderly patient, I asked, "How's your love life?" "I don't know," he said. "I'll ask my wife." He got up, walked into the hallway where his wife was sitting, and shouted, "Hey, the doctor wants to know if we still have sex." His wife shouted back, "No, the only thing we have is Medicare and Blue Cross."

A pastor received a letter from a congregant. When he removed the letter from the envelope, it had one word written on it-"Fool"!  
"Well", said the pastor, "the sender signed the letter, but didn't write anything else!"

In the foyer of a church, a young boy was looking at a plaque with the names of men and women who had died in various wars. He asked the pastor, "Who are these people?" The pastor said, "Those are members from our church who died in the service." The boy asked, "The early service or the second service?"

The four most beautiful words in our common language: I told you so. *Gore Vidal*

You know you're a mom when.....picking up another human to smell their butt is not only normal but totally necessary.

## The Importance of Relationships

By Carey Nieuwhof

The truth about our culture is this: thanks to an abundance of technology, we have never been more connected as a culture before, and we've never felt more disconnected. As our lives have moved online, and as people have become more mobile and even (in growing numbers) location independent, people have never felt more lonely. We know our neighbors less than we ever have before. Note to self: it's really hard to love someone you don't know.



Our social media feeds give us the illusion of community. But read between the lines and you'll see intense loneliness and even the re-emergence of tribalism where we only (virtually) associate with the people who agree with us. When I talk to people in my community and around the world who are working through life issues, I always ask them "Who are you talking to about this?" The number one answer? Nobody.

People may have friends, but few have deep friendships, friendships that can carry the weight of life and faith and hope and meaning and existence. The church hasn't done a great job of community in the past. We claim to be friendly, but that usually only means we're friendly to each other. And catching up on what happened this week and talking about sports or the weather is hardly what Jesus had in mind when he told us to love one another.

But the truth is the real mission of the church is relationship. It defines the vertical nature of our faith (love the Lord your God with all your heart, mind, soul and strength) and the horizontal essences of Christianity (love your neighbor as yourself). If anyone can get relationship right, it should be the church. So ask yourself as a church leader: what are you doing to forge the deepest relationships you can forge in this life?



## LOOK - WATCH - HELP - ENJOY

While you can't come to camp,  
camp will come to you!

Introducing Camp at Home, where you can be encouraged with the fun, excitement, and faith-building of camp in your own home.

Tune into Live! with Beemer & Sojo on Monday morning for all the details.

Live! with Beemer & Sojo (episode 32) Everything you need to know about "Camp at Home" - On Facebook at Camp Luther, Wi

Or [campluther.com/campathome](http://campluther.com/campathome)

email "historical" videos for The Camp Luther Archives to:  
[info@campluther.com](mailto:info@campluther.com)

FYI—Soon they will be posting the camps "Canteen" on line, where you can purchase sweatshirts, t-shirts and numerous other items. Each year the camp has to order these items well in advance with no returns. They are concerned of an overflux

### Bible Quiz One Answers

1. Sixty Six (66)
2. Thirty Nine (39)
3. Twenty Seven (27)
4. 2nd Epistle of John (by number of verses: 13) 3rd Epistle of John (by number of words)
5. Psalms (150 Chapters))
6. Psalm 117 (2 verses)
7. Psalm 119 (176 verses)
8. John 11 v 35 (2 words: ♦Jesus wept♦)
9. Esther 8 v 9 (78 words)
10. Psalm 118
11. Genesis
12. Revelation
13. Matthew
14. Malachi
15. 1611
16. King James
17. ♦In the beginning♦
18. Gospel of John
19. Hebrew
20. Greek

### Bible Quiz Two Answers

1. New Testament
2. Isaac
3. Matthew
4. Two (2)
5. Seven (7)
6. Rhoda
7. Mary's
8. Yes
9. To an inhabitant in the country he was in
10. To his Mother
11. 5th
12. Honour thy Father and thy Mother
13. Three (3) times a day
14. Nebuchadnezzar
15. Arioch
16. They were thrown into the lion's den
17. Old Testament
18. 66 Sixty Six (66)
19. Five (5) Years
20. Six (6)

### Do You Know Answers

1. Three
2. 22 months
3. Canis lupus
4. An army
5. A Jenny
6. Five
7. Giraffe
8. The cheetah
9. Ladybug
10. No

### Logic Answers

1. dictionary
2. shadow
3. tomorrow
4. hole
5. heroine
6. promise
7. secret
8. The answer is Frank. Each child's first name begins with the first letters of the days of the week M, T, W, T, Frank
9. W and S for days of the week
10. Elizabeth is drinking coffee. The letter E appears twice in her name, as it does in the names of the others that are drinking coffee.
11. Your mother.
12. Five minutes.
13. Today is her eleventh birthday.
14. The truth.
15. He jumped out of the ground floor.
16. windows

While I sat in the reception area of my doctor's office, a woman rolled an elderly man in a wheelchair into the room. As she went to the receptionist's desk, the man sat there, alone and silent. Just as I was thinking I should make small talk with him, a little boy slipped off his mother's lap and walked over to the wheelchair. Placing his hand on the man's, he said, "I know how you feel. My mom makes me ride in the stroller too."

### HEAVEN JOKE

After dying in a car crash, three friends go to Heaven for an orientation session. They are all asked the same question: "When you are in your casket and family and friends are mourning over you, what would you like to hear them say about you?" The first guy responds: "I would like to hear them say that I was one of the greatest doctors of my time and a great family man". The second guy says: "I would like to hear that I was a wonderful husband and a school teacher who made a huge difference in the children of tomorrow". The third guy thinks for a while and then replies: "I guess I'd like to hear them say 'Look – he's moving!'"

