

CTK CONNECTIONS Keeping you informed on the Mission and Ministry of Christ the King Lutheran Church, Delafield, WI

Daily Devotions from Pastor Jim April 2 & 3

In the Cross of Christ, I Glory

It is tempting to focus on the moment when circumstances around us are so unstable and scary. Incessant watching of the news is not necessarily the best plan for our mental or emotional health. While we carefully abide by the mandates and recommendations from our government and health agencies we can also look beyond the current crisis



and come back to the grounding we have in our God. The great hymn of Lent "In the Cross of Christ I Glory" by John Bowring, 1792 -1872, expresses the truth of the cross of Jesus that helps us look beyond the day to day struggle. The first verse is:

In the cross of Christ I glory, tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of sacred story, gathers round its head sublime.

In my personal devotions this week I was struck by the fourth verse.

Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure, by the cross are sanctified; peace is there that knows no measure, joys that through all time abide.

All our life experiences, good and bad, are sanctified, made holy, by Jesus on the cross. In the cross of Christ I can know peace that has no limit and can experience joy that transcends the moment that we are now in. This was good news for me.

Psalm 143:8 Let me hear of your lovingkindness in the morning, for I put my trust in you; show me the road that I must walk, for I lift up my soul to you. Prayer: O God, we have moments of despair and uncertainty. We hurt for those who must suffer and die alone and without family surrounding them. Help us to trust in these times of trial and pain. Lift our eyes to focus on your presence and show us the way to follow. Amen.

Hosanna in the Highest

Sunday of the Passion/Palm Sunday can be a confusing day on the church calendar. The scriptures for the day move from crowds shouting praise to Jesus who comes in Jerusalem on a donkey and ends with an angry mob demanding that he be crucified. I don't mind saying that I prefer Palm Sunday with a good crowd that waves branches and encourages Jesus. However, one of the reasons this Sunday was changed to the Sunday of the Passion was that many people were missing the Maundy Thursday and Good



Friday worship when the "rest of the story" was told in all its raw and disturbing detail. The cross was by-passed on the route to the resurrection.

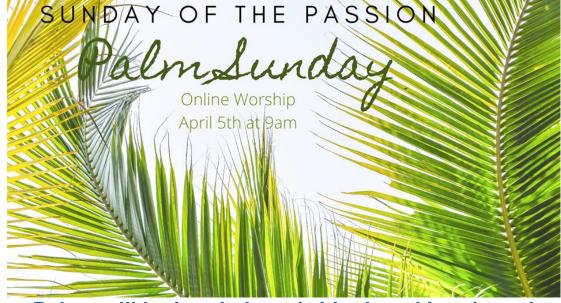
Another lesson from this Sunday comes from Psalm 31. Jesus uses words from this Psalm when he proclaims from the cross, "Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit" (Ps. 31:5).

Psalm 31:9-10, goes on with verses that some who are experiencing the ravages of covid-19 may understand only too well.

We approach this Sunday from a different vantage point this year. Palms will be handed out (with gloved hands and facemasks) to those in the safety of vehicles passing through the church parking lot. How odd, and yet it may be a reminder that we gather to be sent again on a mission to proclaim Christ to the world in need of the Savior. Save those palms for burning to be used next Ash Wednesday. We still shout "Hosanna, blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord".

Prayer: Compassionate God, thank you for small gifts we can celebrate each day; the kindness of strangers, the compassion of healthcare workers, the friends who call. May we be that gift to others. Amen

Worship Online



Palms will be handed out (with gloved hands and facemasks) to those in the safety of their vehicles from 10:00 to 10:30 am on Sunday, April 5.

Bishop Erickson's Palm Sunday Message

<u>Listen Here</u> In a Palm Sunday message, Bishop Paul Erickson reflects on the meaning and lessons of Holy Week in these challenging times.



Prepare Your Hearts For Easter Holy Week Online Worship Schedule

Maundy Thursday 6:30 pm Good Friday 6:30 pm Easter Prelude at 9:40 am Easter Sunday 10:00 am

Easter Breakfast is cancelled at church.



Counting Our Blessings-Share Good News!

Many thanks to the members who reached out and let me know they liked the links about good news. If you would like me to share a blessing or a word of encouragement, email me at office@ctkdelafield.org. Thanks Jill

Carl Scheid shared the following:

When in total darkness with no companion, there is still one to turn to.

A Note Of Thanks From Dick Reul

To CTK members, Staff, Pastor Jim-

Never have been so shaken as to day with the outpouring love and kindness poured upon me and Jane. Arliss would have been embarrassed but deep down would have been proud. I look forward to the day when we can worship and have fellowship together. Thank you, Thank you, Thank you.

Blessings, Dick Reul

If you would like Dick's new address and phone please contact office@ctkdelafield.org.

A Site For Good News

https://www.goodnewsnetwork.org/

The Show Must Go On! Musicals Going From Stage To Screen

"Joseph and The Amazing Dreamcoat" Tonight, Friday, April 3 on Facebook

Tune in to see one of Andrew Lloyd Weber's musicals every Friday for the nest few weeks!

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Universal have come up with a great idea called 'The Shows Must Go On', the new YouTube Channel that will be streaming a full-length musical every Friday at 7pm GMT for free so you can bring the theatre home! It will be available for 48 hours, so you can tune in whenever you like over the weekend! First up, it's Joseph! - ALW

#GoGoGoJoseph#TheShowsMustGoOnyoutube.com/theshowsmustgoon

Phone Scam Alert

A CTK member received a call this morning, their caller ID read "Christ the King". The man stated that he was "Sam, from Medicare". His language was very broken English and he obviously wasn't from CTK.

If you receive a call from the church be sure that you are talking to a familiar person from CTK. If you do not recognize the person or it seems suspicious, hang up, do not proceed to answer any of their questions or give them any information.

Prayer Ministry



Individual Prayers: Alice Sorenson, Emil & Sheryl Skorik, Valerie McNamara, Sharon G., Elayne Nicholls (Brenda Hine's Mother)

The Grieving Families of: Arliss Reul and Dale Hight.

Ongoing Prayers: Karen N. Dale H., Bob, Kim & Kyle, Elaine Irwin, Kelly, Trisha S., Matt, Bill, Mike Corgiat, victims

of human trafficking, those serving in the military, those who are incarcerated, and their families.

Ministry Partners:

Serenity Inn, Family Promise, Reformation Lutheran Church, Lutherdale Bible Camp, All God's Children, Mt. Meru Coffee Project & Outreach for Hope Congregations.

COVID-19 (Coronavirus)

OFFICE HOURS: We are evaluating if and how the office functions can continue. At the very least both Pastor Jim and Jill will be available by phone. We will keep you updated through the website, email, and Facebook. Staff are available via email, <u>(office@ctkdelafield.org)</u>, All other events and gatherings are postponed or cancelled.

PASTORAL CARE: If you have pastoral care needs or if you need prayer or counsel please call me anytime at 262-219-2986. If I am unable to answer immediately I will return the call as soon as possible. I will be writing a devotion several days a week that will be emailed through our CTK Connections. Look for it. If you have an interest in sharing your own prayers and devotional writing, please let me know. Your brothers and sisters in Christ would love to hear from you.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT: If you or someone from your our church family needs additional support (groceries, access to medications, etc.) we are ready to provide support. Please contact the church office 262-646-2343, email the church office at office@ctkdelafield.org or my cell for help 262-219-2986 (Pastor Jim).

We have many CTK members who are willing to help out, while maintaining social distancing. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you need assistance.

Contact the Office if you would like a list of names of our CTK members in nursing homes. We can provide you with their address to send a card, lift their spirits, let them know they are being thought of.

OFFERINGS: We continue to rely on the faithful giving of our community to sustain the ministries of the church and ask you to consider giving electronically through our website or by mailing in your offering during this time.

Youth News

During this time of social distancing when we are not at church, I wanted to let you know about a few resources available to help families continue to grow together in faith.

1. Facebook!

Our Sunday and Wednesday Lenten services are posted to Facebook.

Pastor Jim also has a daily devotional posted.

I am creating a Saturday morning 1030am children's sermon. These are for all ages! Check out yesterday's and post a picture of your activity.

Check out our page: www.facebook.com/ctkdelafield/

2. Sparkhouse!

This is the curriculum we use for Sunday School. They are expanding our outlet during this time. If you are interested in using curriculum directly at home, please let me know and I can add your email for a temporary time.

3. Emails and Calls or Texts!

I am available during the day during this time (as is Pastor). While I can't visit in person, if you have questions, concerns, worries, or joys you want to share with us, please do! You can email, catch us on Facebook, or call or text. My cell is 262-215-7866. (Please leave a message and I will call you back!)

Many blessings, Summer

Outreach

Click Here For Your Lenten- Devotions

The devotion has special connections with two CTK members: Mike Groh is the Interim Executive Director of Outreach For Hope, and Pastor Goodrich is the editor of the devotional booklet.

Sign up now for our 2020 Lenten Devotions



Remembering the Past, Ministering in the Present, Looking to the Future

Ash Wednesday - Easter

Sign up at outreachforhope.org/lenten-devotions

Ways You Can Continue To Support Our Partners. Women's Center of Waukesha



Click for a list of <u>needs.</u>

Fresh Start Learning Franciscan Peacemakers.

Providing a pathway to a sustainable, healty, safe and productive life for women engaging in prostitution due to trauma, human sex trafficking or durg addiction.

How Can You Help?

Thanks, Karen

Stop Trafficking In Lake County

<u>Myth 9 By- Karen Huser</u> If We Build A Wall, We Stop Trafficking In This Country.

Reformation Neighborhood Store Needs - Spring 2020

- Baby/toddler/children's clothing to size 8 for Easter/spring/summer
- Maternity clothes only (No other adult clothes due to limited space)
- Bath and hand towels, washcloths and beach towels in good condition Rugs
- King and queen sheets only (the store has many twin and full sheets)

- Bed pillows, blankets/quilts/comforters (no afghans please)
- Bathroom rugs, shower curtains and rings
- Gift items for adults (Mother's/Father's Day)
- Kitchen utensils, linens and silverware, Pots and pans
- Small appliances including toasters, deep fryers, microwaves, fans, waffle irons, blenders, electric skillets, irons, etc,
- Flat screen TV's, Vacuums
- Large plastic children's playsets

Thank you for your continual support of Reformation Lutheran Church. Please check with me before donating items that are not on the list. Pam.kroening@gmail.com

Family Promise Host Week | April 19-26

CTK will only be hosting Family Promise two times in 2020. Don't wait to volunteer! We need lots of volunteers to make this week a successful one! Please check the Sign Up Genius to see if any volunteer opportunities speak to you. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer please contact on of us and we can give you the information on becoming a trained volunteer.



God's Work, Our Hands, Shelly Fuller, Jenni Marquardt & Vicky Jaeger.

Register Now For The 2020 Family Blke Ride

Bike Ride Supporter,

Our prayers are with you and your family as we learn to navigate these challenging times. In the midst of it all, we hope that you will be pleased to hear that registration is open for Outreach for Hope's 2020 Bike Ride! <u>OFHbikeride.com</u>

All riders who sign up by July 15 will receive Early Bird pricing of \$40/individual and \$80/family. Registering today not only qualifies you for a lower registration fee, but also helps ensure immediate and continued funding for OFH-supported ministries right here in Southeastern Wisconsin.

The theme of this year's event is PEDAL FOR A PURPOSE, in honor of Outreach for Hope's 25th anniversary. Sign up now to help us reach our goal of \$150,000 for life-giving ministries serving low-income neighborhoods in the Greater Milwaukee Synod! In difficult times both now and ahead, your support is more critical than ever. We will be closely monitoring public health restrictions due to COVID-19, and will keep you informed if any adjustments to our event are necessary.

Learn more and register at OFHbikeride.com. On behalf of the Bike Ride Planning Teams, thank you for your support and participation in 2020.



Nothing is insignificant when you serve God.

Sign Up as a Worship Volunteer Check the Schedule

Communion Assistants, Lectors, Greeters, Assisting Ministers, Acolytes, Welcome Announcers, Coffemakers, Bakery Set-up and Clean up, Tech Team, Alter Flowers, Volunteers Sunday School Teachers.

Click Here To "Plug Into Service"

The 2020 Flower Chart is hanging on the bulletin board outside the church office. If you have a special occasion or date that you would like to commemorate, sign up to sponsor the Chancel Flowers. The cost is \$30. Make check payable to CTK and bring it to the church office.





Looking for Daily Spiritual Refreshment?

God Pause Devotions are reflections sent daily via email brought to you by the alumni of Luther Seminary. Sign up to begin receiving your spiritual refreshment today!

God Pause Devotions





STAY CONNECTED:

