



Life of Faith

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Dear friends,

The times in which we live are unprecedented. The Corona Virus has curtailed most of the activities which make up our weekly lives. We send the newsletter out to keep in touch, with prayers that there is a learning curve we can embrace. Use the time to pray more, read and tell friends you love them. Don't worry about the numbers. Stay alert to those in need, beginning with the ones closest to you. (Mary Schramm)

THANK YOU, PR. NANCY FOR YOUR CARE AND CONCERN FOR US EVEN IN THESE WIERD TIMES. WE APPRECIATE THE SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE, PRAYERS AND SERMONS.





SO WHAT'S NEW?

The past several weeks have felt strangely other-worldly. It is difficult to find any time in history when we faced government ordered self-isolation. The inconvenient truth of the Corona Virus Pandemic that disrupts our lives is different, but thus far, tolerable. However, when told to look at least six weeks to three months into the future if we want to make plans, it is more disturbing. It feels almost like being quarantined on a cruise ship – stay in your room, remain six feet away from one another, wash your hands for 20 seconds, wash your hands, wash your hands for 20 seconds. Did we mention washing hands?

There are so many concerns: Daily lunches for school children, loss of many jobs, child care for working parents if their parents are allowed to go to work, lack of social interaction. What happens when grocery store shelves are bare?

An Aside Why the run on toilet paper when the disease doesn't cause diarrhea? Our family used a catalog in the out-house on our West Virginia farm. We read that a newspaper in Australia left eight pages blank as a possible solution to the TP dilemma. My daughter reported a customer in the grocery store dropped two of his rolls of it in her grocery cart – a random act of kindness.

Is it possible to turn these problems into Lenten meditations? (not the toilet tissue problem)
Could it be a reminder that joy can come from buying less, traveling less and re-focusing on the God of hope, the sustainer of life, the One who wants us to share our affluence with so many who have nothing in this world. Perhaps this is a time to re-learn how to pray with thankful hearts and with spirits informed by the grace of God. Replace fear with love. (mrs)

CHURCH COUNCIL REPORT

- Pastor Nancy will continue providing electronic sermons and other worship resources during this time of isolation. She will work with the Worship Committee to plan specific Holy Week resources.
- A special thank you to the Camp family for helping to provide technical support for Nancy.
- An email will be sent to the FLC community encouraging people to continue their financial giving during this time. It will also remind people of the opportunity to donate on-line if they wish.
- Work continues to get quotes for painting the church and roof and the council plans to move forward with this as possible.
- The stewardship committee is working to summarize material collected from the questionnaires.
- New cushions for the pews are expected soon. Hopefully they will await us when we resume regular worship services again.

ABOUT US

Times, they are a'changing and folks are moving. We are sad for our loss, but grateful to have had them in our church family:

- **Alan Whitemore** left the hospital and has recuperated at his home, with daughter Beth caring for him. He has decided to sell his house here and move to Seattle where he will be closer to his two children.
- **Ann and Marv Hinz** will also be moving over the mountain to Bellingham to be near to family. Ann's sister, Peggy, is already in residence there.
- **Zona McKenzie** is moving from her home on Riverbend Dr. to a place she owns on Orcas Island.

- **Dick Dickenson** is doing very poorly and is being taken to live with his daughter in Paulsbo. We need to keep him in our prayers.
- The Immigration/Justice Group received a financial gift from the Aukres who are Thrivent agents, in honor of **Trudy and Terry Leverenz** and **Caryll Tibbets**, Trudy's mother.
- **Geoff Richardson** had planned to go to Vietnam with daughter, **Lauren**, as part of his well-deserved sabbatical. **Tina and Buster** were to have joined them in France. The postponement of these plans is yet another result of our unseen enemy.
- We are thankful **Steebers** and the **Leverenzs** are safely back from their travels which were no doubt shortened by the Corona Virus.

The Facts of Growing Older

You have a party and the neighbors don't realize it
You can live without sex but not without glasses
Your secrets are safe with friends because they can't remember them
You consider coffee one of the most important things in life
In a hostage situation, you will probably be released first
People call at 9 p.m. and ask "Did I wake you?"
Your back goes out before you do.



April Birthdays

2 Carl Florea	14 Mary Schramm
8 Evan Butruille	17 Mary Jo Bartholomew
8 Dory White	23 Kjell Bakke
9 David Morgan	28 Amy Carlson
13 Gracie Camp	

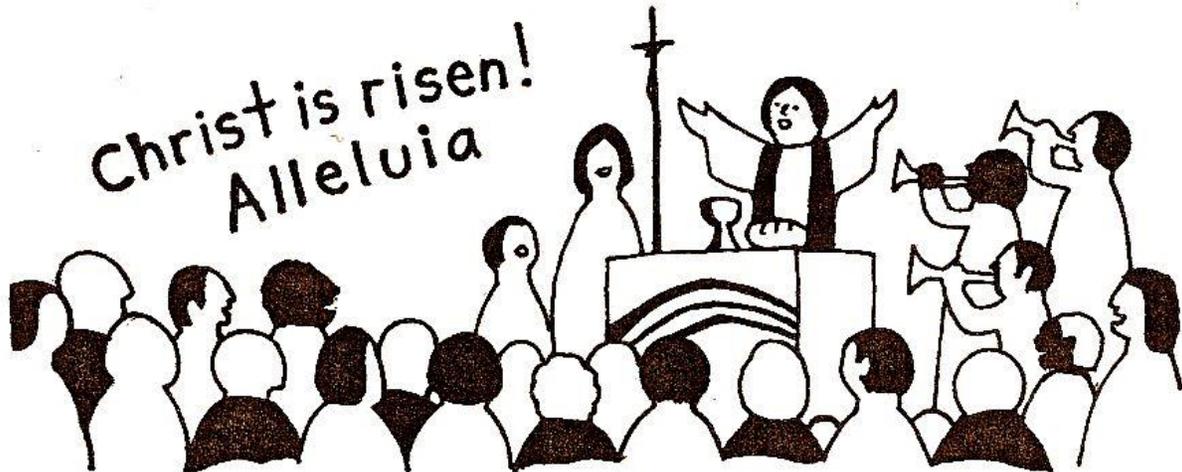
SHERRY THOMPSON KEEPS BUSY



Sherry got connected through a friend with a Christian non-profit called Little Dresses for Africa. One of their several projects is to make dresses out of pillowcases for girls in Africa. The idea is to plant in the hearts of little girls that they are worthy. It started in

Malawi in 2008 and dresses are now mailed, shipped, or carried out of its center in Michigan to 87 countries around the world, 47 of those in Africa. Sherry started in the winter of 2019 and has sent off one box with 11 dresses and now has 17 more ready to mail. I buy the pillowcases for \$.50 at our local Thrift shop and

using a simple pattern I cut arm holes, ruffle the front, and sew bias tape to finish the arms and make a ribbon tie. Trudy helped me get started and showed me several finishing touches. I work by myself at my own pace. It's fun and a rewarding project which gives me peace in this stressful time. If you would like to donate gently used pillowcases you can drop them off on my porch at 12662 Shore Street. For more information call Sherry at (360) 393-0362



In the Easter liturgy we say YES to God's YES. We affirm - the way of Jesus is the way of God! Baptized into Christ, we follow. Alleluia!

