

Amazing Grace

May, 2020

Volume 39, Issue # 5



Our mission to the Inland Empire is to be **heralds** of the transforming Gospel of Jesus Christ, **healers** to our brothers and sisters in Christ, and **upholders** of God's will and Word.

A MESSAGE from Pastor Maggard

Dear Saints of Grace,

Hallelujah, He is Risen!

Pastor Holm and I have been providing daily devotional videos during this lonely time. There was a lot of thought that went into how I do them. There are several reasons why we do it the way we do it.

First, I wanted us to serve you with the Word of God on a daily basis. During this time we are having what Rev. Bill Cwirla calls a Eucharistic fast. We are not able to meet together to gather around the Lord's Supper. Thanks be to God, the Word comes in many forms including preaching, teaching, baptism, office of the keys, and the Lord's Supper. Whether they have an element like bread attached to them or not, they all convey the Word to you. You need the Word. The Scripture we pick is from the Treasury of Daily Prayer based on the daily lectionary found in your hymnal, LSB 299-304. It is not important what reading plan you have for reading Scripture, but it is important to have one.

Second, I wanted to give you an example of what a home devotion looks like. I could have done Matins, but I wanted it to be more like what you would do at home. As you can see, it's not very complicated. I chose the Noon Daily Prayer because it doesn't have time markers so whenever you watch it is appropriate to your time of day. One of the things I have discovered during this time is that I'm not as organized as I thought I

was. If I had it to do over again, I would follow the order printed in the bulletin. Since we have started with Noon Prayer, we'll continue. Again, it's not important what liturgy/order of prayer you use at home, but it is important that you use one consistently.

Third, I wanted to show you that the devotion part doesn't have to be complicated. I'm not trying to give a sermon every day. I just see something in the Scripture reading and want to share it with you. Sometimes it's a longer devotion and sometimes it's a shorter devotion and both are okay! There are so many wonderful devotion books out there that work well with ordered prayer. Again, it's not important which one you use as long as it has good theology. For the most part you can trust the devotions at cph.org.

We all have seasons of great devotion and seasons of extraordinarily little devotion. I encourage you to continue on your own when we get back together at Grace. The Word of God is always available to you. I'll leave you with that very Word of God that has wonderful promises (underlined):

⁷ The law of the Lord is perfect,
reviving the soul;

the testimony of the Lord is sure,
making wise the simple;

⁸ the precepts of the Lord are right,
rejoicing the heart;

the commandment of the Lord is
pure,

enlightening the eyes;

⁹ the fear of the Lord is clean,

enduring forever;
the rules of the Lord are true,
and righteous altogether.

Psalm 19:7-9

God will bless you richly as you read His Word.

Blessings,

Pastor Maggard

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Tuesday, MAY 19th

EVANGELISM

My sister received the following article from her Bible Study leader in Reno and I'm not sure of the original author, but I think it's worthy of sharing.

WORLD QUARANTINE

The Latin root of the word "quarantine" is "forty".

So what does the Bible say about 40?

The flood lasted 40 days. 40 years Moses fled Egypt.

40 days Moses stayed on Mount Sinai to receive the Commandments. Exodus lasted 40 years.

Jesus fasted for 40 days. Lent is 40 days.

40 days for a woman to rest after giving birth.

A group of theologians thinks the number 40 represents "change". It is the time of preparing a person, or people, to make a fundamental change.

Something will happen after these 40 days. Just

believe and pray. Remember; whenever the number 40 appears in the Bible, there is a "change".

Please know that during this "quarantine" rivers are cleaning up, vegetation is growing, the air is becoming cleaner because of less pollution, there is less theft and murder, healing is happening, and most importantly, people are turning to Christ. The Earth is at rest for the first time in many years and hearts are truly transforming.

So, during this time, enjoy it with your loved ones and return to the family altar together. Family prayer is a great blessing. Through prayer you will see the changes God can work in you and in your home. Christ promises us that everything works together for the good for those who love God: Romans 8:28!

Remember we are in the year 2020, and $20 + 20 = 40$.

Also, 2020 is the year of the United States Census. Jesus Christ, the savior of the world, was born during a census.

Lastly, 2020 is perfect vision. May our sight focus on the Lord Jesus, and living according to His perfect vision for us, knowing He holds us in the palm of His hand.

May these days of "quarantine" bring spiritual liberation to our souls, our nation, and our world.

The best is yet to come.

Trust in the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit!"

Kathy Holm, *Evangelism*

We will reopen when it is safe to do so.

We are following the Governor's guidelines.



Thank you for remembering our “shut-ins” Margaret Dickenson, Bette Howard, Jan Mansell, Joyce McFarland, Larry Maudlin, Dick & Margie Nelson, Evelyn Smith, Charlie Thompson and Joyce Waters.

POSTPONED AT THIS TIME:

Faith and Family Night, May 8th at Inland Empire 66ers. This is being rescheduled.

Scouting for a Cause Pancake Breakfast fundraiser – in the Fellowship Hall. This is being rescheduled for the fall.

Fontana/Rialto Relay for Life, Fontana High School. This is being rescheduled for the fall.

This month’s added prayers: JoAnn Miller and family; Dolores Smith’s sister – Margie Maletta Miller’s cousin – Dorothy and family, her friend – Lisa and her dad – Larry and another friend – Lisa; Nancy Nobis’ friend – Shirley; Nancy Telizyn’s friend – Hilary and her mom – Helen; Tamara Mahomes’ friend – Barbara’s daughter – Leslie and her family; Barbara and Allan Dellinger; Marcy and Bryan Stringham; Emily Dellinger’s mom – Cindy Phelps; Judy Parker-Choske’s friend and his wife – Erin, Essential Workers; Ron Pickinpaugh’s niece, Carrie Pickinpaugh; Debbie Schwartz’s niece – Arla and sister – Suzzanne; Tamara Mahomes’ friend – Angela and her daughter, Shelby and family; Anthony Palmer and his wife; Richard Lowe and family.

YOUR TITHES FOR THE LORD’S WORK

MARCH OFFERING ATTENDANCE

1 ST	\$ 3,055.00	42
8 TH	\$ 4,975.00	42
15 TH	\$ 3,385.00	?
22 ND	\$ N/A	N/A
29 th	\$ 2,890.00	N/A

We keep in prayer - Tony Mantz, Dave Nehls, Dave Weir and their families.

We pray for all of our troops overseas and their families, and for our own young people in uniform: Kurt Wampole, Jr., Noah Nery, Jeremiah and Summer Hart, Jacob Blanton and Jacob Livoni.

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Funny Corner 

What do you call a dinosaur that is sleeping?



A



BIRTHDAYS

2	Tamara	Mahomes
5	Dave	Weir
8	Savannah	Travers
9	Nancy	Nobis
13	Kurt	Wampole, Jr
15	Maletta	Miller
18	Nathan	Pickinpaugh
19	Carla	Del Rio
20	Nathaniel	Petrovick
22	Mike	Draney
	Hannah	Villasenor
28	Patrick	Holm
	Heather	Hathcock

MAY BAPTISMS

Nancy Nobis Kim Pickinpaugh
Richard Franzen

Do you know when you were baptized?
Just send a quick email to the church office at:
gracelutheranrialto@gmail.com

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

2	Randy and Gail	York
5	Don and Sue	Sidoti
20	Tony and Katryn	Mantz
29	Dave and Sue	Nehls

Quarantine Poem: Focus on Jesus

The churches are empty,
The schools are empty,
The shelves are empty.
But that's OK because
The tomb is empty too!

The theaters are empty,
The arenas are empty,
The offices are empty.
But that's OK because
The grave is empty too!

Don't touch your face,
Don't touch your mouth,
Don't touch your eyes.
That's OK because
He touched my life.

Wipe clean your house,
Wipe clean your car,
Wipe clean your food,
Yes, and Jesus
Wiped clean my heart.

The President said
Stay safe, Stay home,
The Governor said
Stay safe, Stay home,
The Doctors said Stay safe, Stay home.
Jesus said
You're safe,
Your heart is my home.

The tiny, invisible enemy may be here for
now, but my God is Real, Bigger and
Forever!

Author Unknown
Submitted by Kathy Holm



**Make sure to catch the
'Noon Day Prayer' on our Facebook page
provided by Pastor Maggard and Pastor Holm!**