



Reaching an Ever-Changing World With God's Never-Changing Word

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April 2020



Pastor Kent

"But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For as by a man came death, by a man has come

also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power."

(1Corinthians 15:20-24 ESV)

Easter is upon us. And regardless of whether we can join together in public celebration of Jesus' resurrection, this remains true. He has risen from the grave, and this is of utmost importance for each of us.

The resurrection of Jesus assures us of the truth of the gospel. Because he's risen from the grave, we know that the penalty of our sin has been paid. Because he's risen from the grave, we know that the power of death has been defeated. And, because he's risen from the grave, we know that we too will, one day, rise.

Christ is the firstfruits, Paul tells us. He is the first to rise from the grave. And, as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.

When Jesus returns, Scripture tells us, the dead will be raised. Then comes the end. Then comes the end when we'll dwell eternally with Christ in the new creation prepared for us.

This is our hope! And what a great hope it is. It in no way compares to our life in this world.

Many of us struggle as we near the end of our time in this life. Many of us struggle with the idea of death. Many of us struggle with the idea of the

end of the world. We want to hang on to this life. We want to hang on to that which is so familiar.

But what we are to receive is so much greater. What we are to receive far surpasses the fallen world in which we now find ourselves. In fact, it's beyond our comprehension.

Realizing this, letting go of what we now have is that much easier. Reaching out for that which is to come is that much easier. We can do so knowing that Christ has redeemed us and saved us from this world of sin and death.

I'm not suggesting that we squander the life God has given to us right here and right now. I'm not suggesting that we throw it away. And I'm not suggesting that it's of no value.

However, this life isn't our goal. Jesus didn't suffer and die, nor did he rise, that we might remain in this fallen world. He endured the cross that we might receive something far greater.

UPDATE

As a congregation, there are many things currently on our radar. The first big event coming up is Easter. The following week, our spring Spiritual Life meetings are scheduled to be held. Confirmation is scheduled for the first Sunday in May. And, of course, graduations fall right after.

I have been in regular communication with medical staff from the area, belonging to our church, for advice regarding how to proceed. At this point, it looks like we'll continue with electronic/video-based ministry through April.

This means that Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter services will be online. It means that we'll be working to reschedule our speaker for Spiritual Life Meetings until fall. And we will likely have a video-based replacement for these meetings, the week of April 19th. If anything should suddenly change, and the church is able to reopen, we'll let you know right away.

Looking beyond April, we are keeping these events on the calendar for the time being. We are preparing for confirmation as if it will happen. And we are planning for graduation recognition as if it will happen. However, please bear in mind that we must be flexible. If things don't begin to improve, some of these additional events will be postponed or canceled altogether.

As I've said several times already, please take advantage of everything we are offering, from devotionals, video/audio recorded services, online Bible studies, etc. We are trying to minister in every way we can during this time.

Please, also, continue to give as you always have. You can mail in your offerings, or you can give electronically on our new Faithlife app as well as on our website. We ask you to do so that our ministry might continue without any problems.

We look forward to gathering again. The first Sunday we resume public worship will be a communion Sunday, regardless of where it falls in the month. And please let us know if we can do anything for you in the meantime.

May the Lord bless each one of you,
Pastor Kent



Holy Week EASTER PLANS

Keeping in mind that all of these services will be online.

Palm Sunday April 5 @ 9:00am

Maundy Thurs April 9 @ 7:00pm

Good Friday service April 10 @ 7:00pm

Resurrection service April 12 @ 9:00am



Pastoral Intern Kevin Hall

This is no time to stop worshipping together.

Hebrews 10:22-25 (ESV) 19 Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, 20 by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, 21 and since we have a great priest over the house of God, 22 let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. 23 Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. 24 And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, 25 not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

Verse 25 has been heavy on my heart the last few weeks. Our physical separation is a necessity, so if “not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some,” means we must on a regular basis come together and breathe the same oxygen, then we’re just plain stuck between a rock and a hard place. If verse 25 is a formal, religious requirement (as if the text means “you must worship together once a week or you are not Christian”), we’re simply not going to be able to fulfill it, and we’re in trouble. Thankfully this isn’t the case. Sure, we do need to practice our religion, but woe to us if we do it at the expense of “the weightier matters of the Law,” (See Matthew 23:23).

Praise the Lord then that this portion of scripture is not intended to pile onto us more religious duties. The author is exhorting us to walk with ever greater confidence in the promises (v.23) and finished work (v.19-20) of Jesus Christ. Since (v.19) we have these awesome things, therefore let us (v.22) continue to draw ever closer to Christ. The purpose of our gathering for worship is not to earn the grace of God by fulfilling religious duties, rather it is a response to the grace of God, and it’s where we receive the grace of God. This is important for us to remember as we have had to change how we worship. Why are we crowding around laptops in our pajamas? Since we can’t “go” to church, can’t we just skip it?

No, brothers and sisters. It is more important now than ever that we worship together, in Spirit, and that we worship Jesus in His Word. If we are all to crowd around our devices and watch ourselves on YouTube, then that is what we must do. And since God has given us more time to study Scripture, then that is what we must do, especially right now.

A few verses later he writes, Hebrews 10:32-36 (ESV) 32 But recall the former days when, after you were enlightened, you endured a hard struggle with sufferings, 33 sometimes being publicly exposed to reproach and affliction, and sometimes being partners with those so treated. 34 For you had compassion on those in prison, and you joyfully accepted the plundering of your property, since you knew that you yourselves had a better possession and an abiding one. 35 Therefore do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward. 36 For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God you may receive what is promised.

The original audience of the book of Hebrews was dealing with affliction. They were struggling with some stuff, and their responses to their struggles were varied. Some of them were bailing on the whole Christianity thing entirely. For them, life was just easier without it.

Other Christians were being grown by the Word of God in the midst of their struggles. Their bold adherence to their confession that Jesus Christ is the Lord of all mankind was making them mighty. They were able to endure public humiliation (v.33), theft, property and income loss and even imprisonment (v.34) and other hard struggles (v.32). Through all this they kept their confidence (V.34), but as one might expect, the whole ordeal required a whole bunch of endurance that came from outside of them (V.35).

I guess what I’m saying is, I don’t think it’s so far-fetched to think that for a short time we will also need that endurance and confidence. We too may deal with income loss, hardship, a strange kind of imprisonment and maybe even some kinds of humiliation. I pray we don’t have to, but it sure seems possible. We too will need that endurance that comes from Christ.

Our endurance comes from Christ. It’s a spiritual gift given to us by Jesus Christ (Philippians 4:13), but it’s

given, we don't earn it, create it, or find it deep within us. We receive it the same way we receive anything and everything we receive from Jesus Christ, including His Holy Spirit, which is through the Gospel (Romans 1:16, Galatians 3:3-6.) Paul says in Romans 5:1-5 that when you place your faith in the grace of Christ, your suffering actually creates endurance. Growing in your knowledge of the grace of God will actually enable you to rejoice in the midst of suffering, rather than be pulled away from God by suffering.

On the other hand, though, when we endure adversity and suffering by ourselves, instead of relying on the promises of God, we will probably fall away. That's why the writer to the Hebrews was warning his people that they must grow in their faith during their struggle, because his audience was being enticed away from the one true faith by the false promise and "easier" options. He saw that some of his people were not growing in grace, but instead they were falling away, and the consequences were dire. He wrote,

Hebrews 10:26-31 (ESV) 26 For if we go on sinning deliberately after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, 27 but a fearful expectation of judgment, and a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries. 28 Anyone who has set aside the law of Moses dies without mercy on the evidence of two or three witnesses. 29 How much worse punishment, do you think, will be deserved by the one who has trampled underfoot the Son of God, and has profaned the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has outraged the Spirit of grace? 30 For we know him who said, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay." And again, "The Lord will judge his people." 31 It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

It's not by accident that Hebrews puts these tough words in between discussions of why we worship together and how we endure trials. It is literally hearing the Word of God that has rescued us from judgement and brought us into life (John 5:24). If hearing the Word can do that, surely reading the Word can help us endure our earthly struggles, and even do so to the glory of our God and the advancement of His Kingdom.

As Paul says in Romans 15:4-7 (ESV) 4 For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement

of the Scriptures we might have hope. 5 May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, 6 that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

So right now, we cannot physically come together (though we will again soon), but we must continue to worship together. This time is actually a unique and wonderful opportunity. How many Christians think to themselves "I wish I had more time to read the Bible," but never experience any kind of disruption in their life to actually find the time. Well, the opportunity has come, and the time is now. Not only do we have the opportunity to slow down and spend more time in Scripture, we must slow down and spend more time exploring the promises and works of our great and loving God. For now, even though we do not gather physically, we must continue to gather together under Christ's Word.

CHAIRMAN

I shared this with the council last meeting it's another Psalm that I like Psalm 121:1-8

1. I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. 2. My help cometh from the Lord, which made the heaven and earth. 3. He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: he that keepeth thee will not slumber. 4. Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep. 5. The Lord is thy keeper. The Lord is thy shade upon thy right hand. 6. The sun shall not smite thee by day, nor the moon by night. 7. The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil: he shall preserve thy soul. 8. The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore.
2. Their is some good things here about the one who created us. He's are help, he's the one who made the heaven and earth, he does not slumber , he is our keeper, our shade from the sun and moon. Keeps us from evil, and watch's over us in our going out and coming in. What a wonderful God we serve. In Christ Marvin

RADIO BROADCAST



Please Contact the office if you are interested in sponsoring a radio broadcast. The cost is \$35. The Radio Broadcast is heard on Sundays at 11:30 AM on KDKT, 1410 AM. Available Sundays to sponsor are April 5,12,19, & 26 and May 3,10,17, 24, & 31. Send an email to the office or call to reserve a Sunday broadcast! This ministry is more important than EVER!

Missed a Sunday church service?

Did you know that each Sunday's Sermons are recorded? If you would like a CD copy, the cost is \$1.00. You may have the entire service or just sermon recorded onto the CD. You can get up to 2 sermons on one CD. Please call or email the office and we will get one to you! The sermon is also available on our website by the following Monday, on our KDKT Radio broadcast at 11:30 on Sunday mornings and live on our facebook page.



Prayer Request

Prince of Peace is part of a community wide prayer chain. If you have something you would like added to the email prayer chain or would like to receive the prayer emails – please email the church office. If it is after office hours, please email Margie Lee at lee@beu.midco.net

Women's Care Clinic Baby Shower

When things are back to normal, you can drop your donated items at the church and we will get them to Bismarck.

Faithlife **EQUIP**

Prince of Peace is transitioning to a new membership, media streaming, church management, online directory and Bible resource program called Faithlife Equip. Each of our members and those who worship with us will be given an option to register for an account. Please be patient with us as we work through this transition. Our Rightnow media will run for a few weeks while those that are using it can finish up their Bible studies. This new program will connect all of the different ministries, studies, and activities that we do here at POP! Please email the office if you have not received a digital invitation to faithlife. Check out the Faithlifetv.com also! You just need to enter your ID and password for Faithlife. There is some great content on there.



Sunday School Corner

Nothing submitted



Prince of Peace
Women's Missionary
Federation (WMF)

*The Mission of the WMF of Prince of Peace
is to study and share the Good News of Jesus, through
word and deed, at home, in our community and
throughout the world.*

When will ever get to be together again? Missing the fellowship and camaraderie of the church family. Joan and I were thinking along the same line and we both looked at some of our WMF Bible study lessons.

I was looking at my WMF Bible study book at Lesson 3, "When I Feel Hopeless". I have sort of been feeling that way lately. The lesson starts "Are you discouraged, defeated? Do you feel like giving up? Have you struggled with feeling worthless and rejected? Perhaps someone close to you feels that way. ...Where do you go to find hope?"

Author Linda Korhonen said in bold caps: "CONCENTRATE ON THE TRUTHS ABOUT GOD"; "OUR VALUE COMES FROM GOD HIMSELF!"; "REJECT SATAN'S LIES"; "We demolish lies with TRUTH!" God's Word is TRUTH. We cannot rely on our feelings about ourselves because our sinful flesh will always disappoint us. The author uses a train to illustrate this: the engine is FACT that pulls us to FAITH and while our FEELINGS are important they can't be allowed to pull the train when we get down.

Some words of promise from God's word in Lesson 3: Romans 15:13 "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." and Psalm 62:5-6 "Find rest, o my soul, in God alone: My hope comes from Him. He alone is my rock and my salvation; He is my fortress; I will not be shaken."

I also looked at Lesson 4, our April lesson,

"The Poison of Unresolved Anger". I thought I don't identify with anger. As the day went on I was feeling trapped in my own home away from those people I love and need: my Grands, my kids, my friends, my church family, and this could go on for so much longer. I got mad! I got mad at my fellow prisoner, and everyone who is making these "rules". I guess this lesson is for me.

Joan looked at Lesson 5, our May lesson. She sent out sweet note to many of our dear ladies who attend these studies. Some of you may have read the e-mail and this is sort of a summary of that note.

She had been working ahead on her WMF Bible study and was on Lesson 5. Very timely for what is happening now: "Why Do I Experience Suffering". The Lessons have "little boxes" with food for thought. On page 36 a box says "DON'T ASK 'WHY?' BUT RATHER ASK WHAT DOES GOD WANT TO TEACH ME THROUGH THIS?" James 1:2-4 is probably familiar to most of you; "Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. Perseverance must finish it's work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything."

We may have to admit that we are having trouble considering what is happening with "pure joy" but we must try to see the benefits of what is happening. It does bring joy to see how positive so many people are being. The sunshine and warmth God sends when we need it is such a blessing to us. If you have time, take a look at Lesson 5.

Many of you are working from home, have children perhaps that are being home schooled and have to maybe cook a bit more and there are all the regular chores that need to be done. That can be exhausting. Joan and I will be praying for you. Looking ahead to when we can gather again!

Love and prayers, Joan and Judy



Youth

In Times Like These

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight. Proverbs 3:5-6

It's hard during times like this to think of or talk about anything else other than what's going on around us. This illness consumes us because it is affecting us in ways that nothing probably ever has and hopefully never will again. Everything around us is changing, the way we do our jobs and if we even get to do our jobs has changed. I look at my job and how it used to look to how it looks now and it has changed so much, and that's a hard sell. All of my favorite parts of my job I am now unable to do. No more teaching, no more Sunday morning services, and no more youth groups. At least, not in the way I am used to. I get to teach, but only online. I get Sunday morning, but on facebook live. And we still have youth group, but on a group online video chat. Everything has changed, and that's not a bad thing. We are able to have church and youth groups and still be connected and see each other's faces without leaving our houses, something we wouldn't have been able to do just 20 years ago. But it's hard to look at the situation we're in and not be depressed.

But recently, I have been trying to see God's plan for my life in this specific situation. And I have started noticing the countless blessings that God has made for

me and all of us in this situation. Because of this, I have been required to lean more on God and less on my own understanding... a lesson I could always learn more about :). And I have noticed how God has protected us and myself from illness up until this point and that is always something to be thankful for. I encourage you to always look for God's blessings in your life, just as I am (with God's help) attempting to do also!

*For the time being, we will be having all of our normal youth events at the normal times but on Gotomeeting.com This includes High and Middle School youth group at normal times on Wednesdays and Thursdays, and Sunday school at 11:30 on Sundays.

*The youth Easter Breakfast has been canceled for April 12th

*Campus days has been canceled for April 17th-19th

2020 POP Church Council

President	Marvin Sigman (2020)
Treasurer	Margie Lee (2020)
Secretary	Deb Sayler (2020)
Deacons	Kevin Lee (2020) Garrett Sayler (2020) Don Buck (2021) Jim Wenning (2022)
Trustees	Les Buchmann (2020) Keith Peterson (2021) Ryan Tolosky (2022) Dustin Buchmann (2022)
Christian Education	Angie Wanzek (2020) Donna Bieri (2021) Rebecah Larson (2022) Chrisy Rotondo (2022)

Auditing Committee	Wayne Hoffner (2020)
	Kim Pacht (2020)
Personnel Committee Rep	Carl Sorenson (2020)
Nominating Committee	Marj Murray (2020)
	Marvin Bauer (2020)
	Jan Sigman (2020)

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

President's Report – Marvin Sigman

Marvin attended two meetings with FMSC committee and they are planning some fundraisers. He and John Mohl replaced two lights in the fellowship hall into LED. He and Keith Peterson replaced one today. Marvin did two a few weeks ago.

Pastor's Report – Pastor Kent

Participated in ministerial prayer meetings, and attended our monthly ministerial meeting.

Communed residents at KRCC.

Confirmation instruction is going well. We are currently doing an overview of the historical documents of our faith, and encouraging the kids to finish up their work for the year.

Sunday School has been going well. We have one lesson left in the Answers in Genesis curriculum. I will then be moving into a confirmation review, which will take us about two years to complete. We'll finish out this year looking at the historical documents of our faith, currently being studied by our confirmation students.

I've continued to attend meetings with hospice every other week to discuss the care and the care plans of the patients. I've also made a couple of visits for them.

I attended meetings of the AFLC World Missions Committee February 27-29. I also had a meeting with them by Go-to-Meeting on February 20th.

The speaking invitation I'd received from the Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy Association, in

Washington D.C., has been postponed due to the coronavirus. It was to be held on April 27th.

Intern Pastor's Report – Kevin Hall

February flew past as a blur of discerning God's next call on my life. I cannot say enough how thankful I am for the love and support of Prince of Peace while my family and I went through that time. We are very excited to report that we have accepted a call to Westaker Free Lutheran in Newfolden, MN.

Back home in Beulah, I was less active around Prince of Peace, as I was gone or preparing to be gone so much. Del assisted with pulling the cable for the security camera, and so I'm happy to report that we now have a functioning security camera behind the altar and the camera even has impressive "night vision."

The parsonage in Newfolden is undergoing significant renovations, and they have an interim pastor, so they are flexible as to the timeframe for us to move. I would like to request to keep working here through the first 3 weeks of May, with May 24th being my last day of employment, though I also would like to ask for a bit of flexibility.

February activities-

Led 4 worship services

Preached 5 times

Led 1 confirmation class, attended 3

Led men's study

Attended 2 mid-week studies

Attended 6 youth groups

Made 4 nursing home visits and 1 shut-in visit.

Youth Director's Report – Seth Larson

- Had the extra-long MSYG day
- Had the movie day
- Ski Trip
- Grace Sperry job shadowed
- Gone for Spring break - March 19-23
- Helping for Beulah and Hazen Prom
- Preaching for Lent
- Organizing fundraiser for FMSC
- Easter Breakfast
- Campus Days - April 17th-19th

Treasurers Report – Margie Lee

General Fund	\$ 25,631.75
Building Fund	\$ 24,811.44

Furnace Fund	\$ (2,673.87)
FMSC	\$ 1,055.00
Coffee Hour Fund	\$ 44.67
Intern Fund	\$ 31,413.25
Church Van Fund	\$ (7,046.90)
Total Bank Acct	\$ 77,092.57

Loan Borrowed 4/2015 \$ 250,000.00
 Loan Balance \$ 115,577.85

Deacon’s Report – Kevin Lee

Spiritual life meetings: Pastor Brian Ricke from Minneapolis will be here the week of April 19th-22nd. He will be speaking on how “We need to decide to decide between following the ways of this world or the ways of God”. Pastor Kent will be contacting him for a more detailed message schedule.

The Deacons discussed security needs at Prince of Peace.

Trustee’s Report – Keith Peterson

Keith reported he’ll be replacing water faucets in bathrooms, garbage disposal. He will help Angie Wanzek install the bulletin boards and the quiet bags. Angie reported there might be something wrong with the dishwasher and Keith will look at it.

Christian Ed Report – Angie Wanzek

Youth ski trip was February 16-17th. There were 4 High School and 7 Middle School participants. There have been a few issues in the middle school bible study and Seth is working hard to address them.

Sunday school is going well. The kids will be singing March 15th. They will also be practicing songs for Easter. March 22nd the kids will be going to the nursing home to sing and do crafts.

Vacation Bible School: Deadline was February 15th. No news of a team yet. The theme this year is Mystery Island and the publisher is Answers in Genesis.

Running in the church has improved!! Thanks to all who have been helping with the children.

Easter Event: Will be Saturday April 11th at 11am. Candy request will be put in the bulletin and slide soon. Angie will make a Facebook Event page.

OLD BUSINESS

Church Van Storage – Trustees looked at the tent enclosures and thought they’d like to explore building a garage. They are looking at costs.

East Sanctuary Door Security Camera – This project is installed and working well.

Policy Booklet – Marvin Sigman would like to have a policy booklet with all church policies in one place. This would be helpful when members have questions for council members and staff. Some of the things we talked about having in the booklet were how will the Deacons do pulpit fill when a pastor is gone; marriage policy; kitchen policy; van policy; how we inform members church is cancelled; etc.

NEW BUSINESS

Faith Life Equip Program – The program has been purchased. Darcee will be doing some training to get things up and running.

West River Transit – We voted to cover the \$2 per person per Sunday if our members utilize this service.

Tithe - We voted to split our tithe: \$2,917.15 to AFLC Bible Schools, \$300.00 to District Family Camp and \$300 to Lacey Wenning Biggs for her mission trip.

Correspondence

Thank you notes were received from Kevin Hall family for gift cards at Christmas, WARC for food donations, Women’s Care Center in Bismarck for baby shower gifts and ARC in Wisconsin for prayers and donations.