

SIERRA EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH MONDAY MESSENGER - APRIL 12, 2021

♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ THANK YOU FROM INTERN PASTOR ANNELA AND REESE ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥

Reese and I are overwhelmed by the generosity that we experienced through the baby showering. We cannot thank you all enough for what you have provided us in your words, gifts and intention. We would've loved to have been in person with you, to share hugs, hear stories and engage in meaningful fellowship around this new life we are being entrusted with here in a few weeks. We understand this isn't possible and are amazed by the effort and love we have felt despite the lack of face to face. We feel very supported by you all and do not feel alone in this experience. Thank you for this, as we are both overjoyed and terrified at the same time, which can be a lonely place to be. We are holding you all in our prayers of gratitude as your love, gifts and words are helping a young family in a very uncertain world. We hope that as vaccines become more available there will be a day when we can come together as a community in person and you all can meet the baby!

EARTH DAY CELEBRATIONS

Earth Day is Thursday, April 22nd and in honor of that anniversary of lifting up God's good earth we're having some special activities at church on Sunday, April 18th. Our worship that day will include some celebration and prayers about Creation. The Creation Care Team is offering a free aloe vera plant to any in worship that day who'd like one. (Arrangements can be made also if you'd like one but aren't going to be in worship that day; just call the church office). And, with Intern Pastor Annela and Reese's blessing, our Landscaping Team along with the Creation Care Team are going to dedicate an acacia tree to plant in honor of their new child-to-be whose due date just happens to be April 22nd! After worship, we'll go out and offer a prayer of blessing on the place on our church property where it will eventually be planted. (Note: No "Coffee Chat" that day due to this special activity).

Our Creation Care Team also invites everyone to join them at the Sierra Vista Farmer's Market on Thursday, 10 am - 2 pm, at Veteran's Park, for a variety of Earth Day activities and offerings. For more information about all this, contact Christie Brown, Creation Care Team leader, brownchristie1@gmail.com, or 520-227-8905. And watch for more opportunities to donate towards other plant or trees to be also located onto our church property as we seek to make our little corner of God's green Earth a little greener and prettier!

INTERESTED IN AN EVENING BIBLE STUDY?

Pastor Perry is offering to start an evening Bible Study (for now on Zoom) for any who may be interested. It would be like our Wednesday Morning Bible Study in terms of studying the upcoming Sunday's lectionary readings, at least for the time being. We're looking at Wednesday evenings unless the group decides another night would be better. Let Pastor Perry know if you're interested by emailing him, pastor@selcaz.org, or calling the office, 459-0444.

WORSHIP RSVP'S REMINDER

Thank you to all those who have graciously and patiently called the church office to let us know you plan to join us for worship on Sundays! We know it's a bit of a hassle, but we thank you for helping us keep the worship space as safe as possible. If you plan to come, please do call 520-459-0444 by Thursday, 4 pm. Again, all previous protocols such as masks, distancing and soloist-only singing continue to be observed.

FAITH5

Every Night In Every Home!

Our FAITH5 verse of the week is
John 20:28-29

²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

(Post or keep this weekly scripture in a handy place and every morning or evening share the following as a couple, or with family members in the home or even with a dear friend over the phone.)



Share your highs and lows of the day with one another.



Read the verse of the week and if time permits, the Bible story that pertains to the Scripture of the week.



Talk about how the Bible reading might relate to your highs and lows of the day or how it's speaking to you.



Pray for one another's highs and lows and other prayer requests.



Bless one another. Make the sign of the cross on each other's forehead or palm of your hands and say something simple such as: "God bless you and keep you in His love and care!" Or feel free to make up your own blessing that incorporates part of the FAITH5 verse.

Be creative! Stay open to the Holy Spirit!

SUNDAY LECTIONARY DAILY READINGS

The readings are chosen so that the days flowing out from Sunday (Mon. - Wed.) reflect upon that Sunday's readings. The days leading up to Sunday (Thur. - Sat.) prepare for next Sunday readings.

Monday

Psalm 135
Daniel 3:1-30
1 John 2:3-11

Tuesday

Psalm 135
Daniel 6:1-28
1 John 2:12-17

Wednesday

Psalm 135
Isaiah 26:1-15
Mark 12:18-27

Thursday

Psalm 4
Daniel 9:1-19
1 John 2:18-25

Friday

Psalm 4
Daniel 10:2-19
1 John 2:26-28

Saturday

Psalm 4
Acts 3:1-10
Luke 22:24-30

Sunday

Acts 3:12-19
Psalm 4
1 John 3:1-7
Luke 24:36b-48