

MONDAY MESSENGER - MAY 5, 2020
SIERRA EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

“GOD PROVIDES! WE SERVE! THANKS BE TO GOD!”

Thanks be to God, indeed! Once again our congregation has risen to the challenge of responding to needs put before us. We offer our sincere thanks to all who have been so generous and faithful in their giving, even and especially in these difficult times. We are especially thankful for the way the following invitations to donate have been met and more:

- ✘ **Mission Plan Budget Offerings** - Thank you to all who have been able to remain faithful in giving their regular offering. Our income exceeded our expenses in April, even with not being able to be in worship together the whole month! (And please remember, God and we are grateful for any amount folks are able to give. We also understand if someone is not able to give anything at this time. Be sure to let Pastor know if you have a particular need at this time. We might be able to help).
- ✘ **Navajo Evangelical Lutheran Mission Matching Grant**- A week after we publicized the invitation to donate towards a special matching grant to benefit our brothers and sisters at Navajo Evangelical Lutheran Mission in Rock Point, AZ you already exceeded the goal of \$2500 and then some! We'll pass it on to the Synod who will add it to the grant and send it to the Mission. (Watch for more opportunities to support NELM through Intern Pastor Paul Benz' internship project). Staff at the Mission and members of House of Prayer Lutheran Church are very grateful for all of our gifts and have shared this with Intern Pastor Paul in conversation this past week. Also please remember to pray for and send cards, as you may feel prompted, to the list of staff and folks listed in last week's *Monday Messenger*.
- ✘ **NELM Mask Project** - Thank you to all the hard-working sewers who have *already* sewn and shipped 217 face masks to the Reservation, with more being readied to send! There is still a great need for more. Masks can be brought to the church to be sent together. Contact the church office 459-0444 if you would like to help or for more information.
- ✘ **Shepherd's Fold cleaning items** - Thank you to all who donated baby wipes and sanitizing wipes to our childcare center. They already received more than enough and don't need any more at this time.
- ✘ **Electronic tablets for hospital pastoral care** - Thank you to Don & Barb Williams and Jim Cleven who donated a total of six iPads and other tablets to use at Canyon Vista Medical Center for patients to connect virtually with community pastors during this time when no chaplain ministry is allowed on site. (Now please pray for overcoming a 'glitch' at the hospital in getting them into use).

A MOTHER'S DAY MESSAGE FROM DIRECTOR OF FAITH FORMATION, LINDA PERRY:

Mother's Day is soon upon us! This will be quite a different Mother's Day indeed amidst COVID -19. And for those whose mothers have lost their lives in this tragic pandemic, have passed on previously, or are still here but cannot physically be together, we hope that there will still be a celebration of the heart for "*The loveliest masterpiece of the heart of God is the heart of the mother.*" (St. Therese of Liseux).

A mother's love reflects that of God - selfless, enduring, and unconditional. If you're missing your mom this Mother's Day or it is especially difficult for you in this most unprecedented time, know that you are not alone. God understands and wants to help you find peace, hope and healing.

Our faith family here is blessed to have so many servant hearted, loving and Christ-filled women in our midst! To celebrate and honor these women, we had a special gift to give them in worship on Mother's Day. It is a simple, lovely bookmark with this scripture and the following words upon it:



*Strength and honor are her clothing;
and she shall rejoice in time to come.*

Proverbs 31:25

God blessed the world with special women like you!



We share the verse now to honor and thank you all. In time it will be given to you in person as a small token of our love and gratitude for all you have done and more importantly for all that you are to us and God!

May we continue to celebrate and lift up the memories and lives of all women, to cheer them on and help lead the way for women of faith and for the passing on of the faith to each new generation. And may special moments of connecting via technology- if not in person- with your mother or a dear mother figure or treasured memories of her love fill your heart this week and may the grace and love that has been extended to you bring a smile and deep joy within you, a joy that transcends time or distance.

FAITH



Every Night In Every Home!

**Our FAITH5 verse of the week is
John 10:10:**

“The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”

(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 the 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 a part of the FAITH5 verse of the week.

SUNDAY LECTIONARY DAILY READINGS

The readings are chosen so that the days leading up to Sunday (Thursday through Saturday) prepare for the Sunday readings. The days flowing out from Sunday (Monday through Wednesday) reflect upon the Sunday readings.

Week around Easter 4

Monday

Psalm 100

Ezekiel 34:17-23

1 Peter 5:1-5

Tuesday

Psalm 100

Ezekiel 34:23-31

Hebrews 13:20-21

Wednesday

Psalm 100

Jeremiah 23:1-8

Matthew 20:17-28

Week around Easter 5

Thursday

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

Genesis 12:1-3

Acts 6:8-15

Friday

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

Exodus 3:1-12

Acts 7:1-16

Saturday

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

Jeremiah 26:20-24

John 8:48-59

Sunday- Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 7:55-60

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

1 Peter 2:2-10

John 14:1-14