



The Messenger

Ordinary people, Extraordinary God.....



2020

"Faith, Wisdom and COVID 19"

From Pastor Bruce Grentz

UPCOMING EVENTS

TBA

CALENDAR LISTINGS ARE
SUBJECT TO RE-OPENING

June
Hospitality
Team
Coordinator:
Mary Kartak

Gerri Wessner
Dema Jo Call
Peggy Tackett
Joyce Bellucci
The Heiskanen's
The Hallsten's
Elizabeth Cooper
The Isaacson's
JR Wolfe Family
The Kartak's



In a March 19th blog post by Jack Lee on Patheos.com entitled, "Christians, COVID-19 and the Dangerous Idol of Personal Safety," makes this statement, "Whatever trials the days ahead may bring, it seems certain our faith will be tested. How will you choose to respond? At the risk of oversimplifying it, I propose you have two basic choices: fear or faith."

Lee goes on to say that we can trust social distancing and the stock of food in our pantries for our security or trust the Lord our God to look after us. Lee admits that he struggles with self-trusting and murmuring under trials that God uses to refine (1 Peter 1:7) and mature (James 1:4) our faith. He, also, admonishes us to get our focus off of our personal safety and serve our neighbor during this pandemic.

However, I do take issue with the binary choice he offers us – fear or faith. He said that he risked oversimplifying the issue and he has. This kind of black and white thinking from pastors and Christian leaders can cause unnecessary guilt in believers. In the midst of this pandemic, we are told by some that unless we are willing to go mask-less

and sit right next to a fellow worshipper, we lack faith, and are succumbing to fear.

Lee is correct to look to James 1 for help in understanding trials. But he stops too soon. He only looks to verses 2 – 3 where James says, "Consider it pure joy when you fall into trials of various kinds for you know that the testing of your faith produces endurance." Lee rightly concludes if we embrace trials, they will make our faith mature and complete, lacking in nothing. In other words, we will become like Christ.

I lived in Texas for over thirty years. Tornado watches were almost daily. Occasionally, we would have a tornado warning. We would head to our coat closet because there are no basements in most houses there. Was my faith lacking because I went into a coat closet and prayed like crazy? Would I have had a mature faith if I went out into the tornado while quoting Psalm 91:12 that the angels will protect believers from harm? But as Satan quoted this Psalm to Jesus while on the top of the temple in Luke 4:12, Jesus responded, "You shall not put the Lord your God to the test."

The middle-ground that exists in this oversimplified explanation – faith or

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District Treas.

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Boy Scout Council

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Council Secretary

Kathy Sutherland
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Main Office
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Welcome/Reach

Mary Kartak
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Women's Ministry

Ashley Kaiser
801-643-5451

Hospitality Team

Mary Daugaard &
Mary Kartak

Via de Cristo

Janet Tow
801-309-6969

fear – for handling trials is found in verse 5 of James 1. There James tells us, “But if anyone is deficient in wisdom, he should ask God, who gives to all generously and without reprimand, and it will be given to him. ⁶But he must ask in faith, without doubting.....” (New English Translation)

Notice James, and ultimately, the Lord doesn't say, “Where's your faith?” In fact, James tells us when we ask in faith for wisdom, God is good with us and doesn't reprimand us (NET) or condescend to us (The Message) for not knowing how to handle our trials i.e. Covid-19.

So why would God tell us to ask for wisdom, if we only have two choices – fear or faith? Obviously, faith does not exclude wisdom. In fact, we have God's promise if we ask in faith, not doubting, he will give us wisdom, not more faith. Obviously, we already have faith. What we need is wisdom – Sophia in the Greek. In the Lutheran Study Bible's notes for verse 5, it defines wisdom as “the ability to reach and implement proper decisions when facing challenges.” (Lutheran Study Bible, Concordia, p.2135).

Certainly, we can ask the Lord to increase our faith (Mark 9:24) but let's remember faith doesn't exclude wisdom. In fact, James is telling us we aren't faith-deficient Christians if we want to be wise as we walk by faith in the midst of the Covid-19 trial.

I saw a post from a pastor in Tennessee this past week who made it quite clear that our choices are not only faith or fear but also, faith with wisdom. His post read:

I trust God.... and I wear my seatbelt.

I trust God.... and I wear a motorcycle helmet

I trust God.... and there enough life jackets in my boat for everyone on board.

I trust God.... and I use oven mitts with really hot dishes.

I trust Godand I lock my house at night.

I trust Godand I have smoke detectors in my house.

I trust God.... and I take prescribed medicines.

Acting with caution and wisdom does not indicate a lack of trust in God.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Bruce

**** FROM THE DESK OF THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT ****

As we continue to get used to the new world that we live in, don't forget Jesus told us in "The Great Commission" He would always be there with us to the end of the age. No matter what comes along Jesus has overcome this world. We are all part of a church family and can find comfort in staying close to each other. What part of this can you be involved with? Checking on a neighbor, calling someone who is on your mind, always giving comfort in the love of Jesus. He is the answer.

The Council and Pastor are exploring ways to get back to meeting together, following Utah Health Department guidelines. We have already had a clean up on the church grounds, and that was a blessing to all who attended. We are planning to start the floor replacement in the fellowship hall [on May 30](#). We are getting bids to sanitize the church before any reopening happens. We are anxious to get back to some kind of normal but we don't want to do anything that will put anyone at risk. Pray and read your Bible daily, looking for the good in everything. Please submit any prayer requests to Bobbi so we can hold each other up to God. If you know of anyone in need, please let us know so we can help.

Blessing to you all.

Your Brother In Christ,

Elton Sutherland



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN ~ Vickie Duncan



FELLOWSHIP/Connect ~ Renae Schmid - Katleen Tisdale Council Rep.



GROW-BIBLE HOUR ~ Kathy Sutherland - Peggy Tackett Council Rep.



FINANCIAL GENERAL FUND INCOME TO BUDGET RATIO

Monthly Income needed to meet budget \$15,986.42 YTD 63,945.67

Jan -April Income +/-	(46,465.85)	(17,479.82)
Jan-Mar Expended +/-	44,555.22	23.2% YTD
Jan -April YTD Giving compared to 2019	(5,538.80)	



MEN'S MINISTRY ~ Elton Sutherland - *Alan Huss Council Rep.*

PRAYER TIME:

The Men's Ministry encourages everyone to pray for our nation as we struggle with the imposing virus that has us shut down. Please e-mail your prayer request to the office at oslcroyutah@qwestoffice.net. The church building continues to be closed to gatherings so please pray from your homes. Pray always, pray often!

CHURCH SECURITY TEAM:

The security team are people of the congregation who have taken an interest in the safety and well being of our congregation. If you have any specialized training in defense or first aid, we would like to hear from you. Any questions or if you would like to join this team please contact Alan Huss.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS:

We always have needs for the building and grounds. There are some yard jobs that can be accomplished at this time of social distancing. Please contact John Crossfield for assignments or if you have questions.

We will begin replacing the floor in the fellowship hall on Saturday May 30.

It was decided hiring the pro's is not in our budget.

We need as much help as possible. John is hoping to at least get the old carpet up this week. It will be a great test for the new air conditioning system.

BIBLE STUDY AT DENNY'S:

The Bible study is suspended until the risk of the virus has passed. Pray for our nation that we may turn back to God!

CHURCH WIDE YARD SALE

The Boy Scouts will reschedule the yard sale after the threat has passed.



MISSION & SERVICE ~ Kathy Sutherland - *Josh Ashcraft Council Rep.*

2nd Sunday offering helps Roy Food Bank. I think God may have had a hand in this one.....

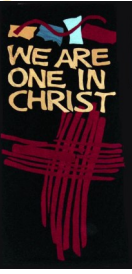


MUSIC AND WORSHIP ~ Wendy Nelson ~ *Trent Schmid Council Rep.*



WOMEN'S MINISTRY ~ ASLEY KAISER - *Nancy Gerry Council Rep*

In this time of disconnect try to reach out to Your Secret Sister. You are not the only one who is missing someone.



WELCOME/REACH MINISTRY ~ Mary Kartak - Terry Schmid Council

BE THE CHURCH

I have thought about this phrase so often in the past couple months. I have seen so many examples of individuals doing just that, and I want to share a few.

Our next-door neighbor was witnessed waiting for the garbage man so that he could give him a tip, "just because". He knows that individual by name only because he has taken the time.

A modern day "Good Samaritan" story involving a relative of a relative who contacted someone who lived nearby to give "at your door" assistance to my nephew who was suffering the isolating, intense symptoms of Covid-19 while away from home.

A 98-pound young adult was found helping shingle a roof for her brother because, "that is what families do."

An updated church directory that was a large part of our last newsletter and was the result of a huge amount of effort by our church secretary. It inspired me to send up a little prayer for each family listed, and to remember how they have impacted me and my Christian walk.

The positive remarks, the genuine laughter and gratitude, and the prayers expressed when we call friends and family who are isolated during this pandemic.

I look forward to the time when we can safely reach out and personally welcome those we love. In the meanwhile, I am reminded of Micah 6:8:

This is what the LORD requires of you. To do what is right, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God.

Blessings from the Reach and Welcome Ministry



Thank you all for looking over the directories. I needed your eyes and input. Thank you for your corrections. It was cumbersome to work three sources at the same time and get them all correct. I managed to leave a couple families out and would like to apologize, it was not intentional and I felt terrible. I am sending what I hope to be a final copy. Please review and let me know if I missed anything else.

Replace your old directory pages so the new ones are not lost. I will make corrections until I hear the *sweet sound of nothing*....I am hoping to get the pictorial portion done soon. If you did not have photos taken and could submit something it would be great! Thank you for your patience, Bobbi Spring

Worship Assistants



Commun. Assistant

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Acolytes

Pastor Bruce
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Altar Guild

Bobbi Spring
801-641-2810

Greeters

Marilyn Gour
801-773-0555

Ushers

Pat Simonson
801-721-7678

Projector

Antonio Ramirez
801-573-2559

Counters

Bobbi Spring
801-641-2810

Nursery

Pat Simonson
801-721-7678

TBA	June 7								
TBA	June 14								
TBA	June 21								
TBA	June 28								

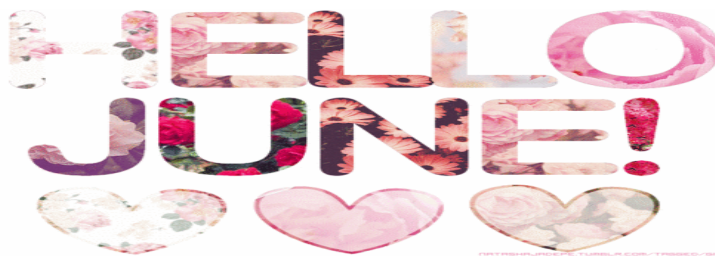


JUNE BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

6/1 Becki Standefer
6/1 Annika Schwartz
6/1 Andrea Graves
6/4 Mark Clanton
6/7 Steve Scholtec

6/7 Mallory Carpenter
6/9 Helen Cooper
6/9 Sharon Hallsten
6/11 Gracie Scholtec
6/13 Jim Campbell

6/16 Edward Gerry
6/19 Abigail Anopol
6/21 Pastor Bruce
6/28 Evan Kaiser
6/28 Cody Baker



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 10:30a Contemporary Svs.	01 Office Closed 11:00a Mary Kay Meeting 6:00p Boy Scouts	02	03 12:00p Brown Bag Lunch 6:00p The Good, Bad & Hungry @ Beez	04 5:30a Men's Bible Study @ Denny's in Layton	05 Office Closed 7:30a 1st Baptist of Roy Food Bank	06 8:30a Open Hand Food Pantry Help 8:00a Band Practice
07 TBA Contemporary Svs. 2nd Roy Food Bank	08 Office Closed 11:00a Mary Kay Meeting 6:00p Boy Scouts	09	10 12:00p Brown Bag Lunch 6:00p The Good, Bad & Hungry @ Beez	11 5:30a Men's Bible Study @ Denny's in Layton 9-4 Charity Quilting 6:00p Security Team Mtg 7:00p Church Council	12 Office Closed 7:30a 1st Baptist of Roy Food Bank	13 8:00a Band Practice
14 TBA Contemporary Svs.	15 Office Closed 11:00a Mary Kay Meeting 6:00p Boy Scouts	16	17 12:00p Brown Bag Lunch 6:00p The Good, Bad & Hungry @ Beez	18 5:30a Men's Bible Study @ Denny's in Layton 6:00p Security Team Mtg	19 Office Closed 7:30a 1st Baptist of Roy Food Bank	20 8:30a Open Hand Food Pantry Help 8:00a Band Practice
21 TBA Contemporary Svs.	22 Office Closed 11:00a Mary Kay Meeting 6:00p Boy Scouts	23	24 12:00p Brown Bag Lunch 6:00p The Good, Bad & Hungry @ Beez	25 5:30a Men's Bible Study @ Denny's in Layton 6:00p Security Team Mtg 7:00p Prayer Night	26 Office Closed 7:30a 1st Baptist of Roy Food Bank	27 8:00a Band Practice
28 TBA Contemporary Svs.	29 Office Closed 11:00a Mary Kay Meeting 6:00p Boy Scouts	30	01 12:00p Brown Bag Lunch 6:00p The Good, Bad & Hungry @ Beez	02 5:30a Men's Bible Study @ Denny's in Layton 6:00p Security Team Mtg	03 Office Closed 7:30a 1st Baptist of Roy Food Bank	04 8:00a Band Practice

Newsletter
Articles Due

Time Sensitive Material

PRSRT STD
NON-PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 1
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Web Site: oslcroy.com



***Next Months Newsletter Articles
Due Sunday, June 21, 2019***

June Lectionary

Sorry, your editor could not stop giggling.

<u>Date</u>	<u>1st Reading</u>	<u>Psalms</u>	<u>2nd Reading</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
May 31	Numbers 11:24-30	Psalms 25:1-15	Acts 2:1-21	John 7:37-39
June 7	Genesis 1:1-2:4a	Psalms 8	Acts 2:14a, 22-36	Matthew 28:16-20
June 14	Exodus 19:2-8	Psalms 100	Romans 5:6-15	Matt 9:35 -10:8-20
June 21	Jeremiah 20:7-13	Psalms 91:1-16	Romans 6:12-23	Matt 10:5a, 21-23
June 28	Jeremiah 28:5-9	Psalms 119:153-160	Romans 7:1-13	Matthew 10:34-42

Our Savior's Lutheran Church Newsletter



Thank You

