

Mount Hermon Baptist Church

Newsletter – April 2, 2020

<http://www.mt-hermon.org/>



Given present guidelines and the uncertainty of when social interaction advisories will change, we will NOT have church activities until further notice.

- Keep in touch through phone calls, emails, texts, and in other caring ways.
- Be aware of current stay-at-home guidelines.
- If you have an errand that needs to be run for food or medicine, there are folks who would be happy to do that for you. Just let us know.
- MHBC ministry continues, so please convey your contributions to the church as regularly as possible. -- To contribute online go to... <https://give.mogiv.com/app/giving/church07>



Message on our church sign now...

Prayers appreciated for...

Medical workers and first responders as they work on the frontlines of dealing with the needs of many people affected by the coronavirus.

Note from Linda Meyerhoeffer:

The other day, I awoke at 5:30 with this amazing calmness. Since November 2019, I have been to one doctor after another and then specialists for lots of tests, two benign biopsies, and most recently a surgery. In December I heard the word cancer casually mentioned. On March 30, I had a follow-up appointment with Dr. Randal West, specializing in Gynecologic/Oncology, and a cancer diagnosis was confirmed. So, this calmness I'm feeling this morning is God's protection covering me and for this I am thankful and blessed.

Another surgery is scheduled for April 30 and I would like to ask for your prayers for my family and me during surgery and recovery.

I do know God has a plan for me and my hope is to stay on His path. Some days will be bright and sunny and some days may seem dark and hopeless and I pray that this calmness I'm experiencing today will carry me to my ultimate goal; beating this diagnosis, continuing my work for Him, and staying here as long as I am able to be with my family and friends. Peace to all of you my friends and in the meantime, I find comfort knowing I am surrounded by your love and prayers. Stay safe and healthy in this time of uncertainty and this too shall pass.

Contributed last week: \$4,245.00

Average weekly need: 4,245.00

Happy Birthday! April

5 Lee Thompson	9 RJ Witt
6 James Weight	10 Amanda Witt
6 James Whatley	10 Margaret Tarkenton
7 Clyde Goode	10 Sharon Garber
8 Terri Matthews	10 Hyla George
9 Lindsey Beekman	11 Charles Blankenship

From the Pastor...

Control Issues

But the threat of a pandemic is different from that of a nerve agent, in that a disease can spread uncontrollably, long after the first carrier has succumbed. -- Hannah Fry

I haven't felt compelled to offer you a lot of comments about the present virus pandemic simply because you are already hearing enough about it from every other source of information out there. Since I am not a doctor nor an expert on the subject, you are better off listening to reliable sources of information. And I am sure that you are tired of hearing about it anyway.

If anything, this situation reminds us how little we control in our world. We like to think that we are in control, but we aren't. It's easy to suppose that government and world leaders have control, so they OUGHT TO DO SOMETHING! – But even governing officials and bodies have limited control.

And when we feel out of control, we get afraid; and fear can stymie effective responses and complicate our emotional well-being. An honest understanding of life leads us to realize that *there has always been MUCH we can't control*. The best we can do is to maximize that which we can affect or change. – In this situation we can be diligent in social distancing, washing hands, and all the other steps you already know about.

We put our faith in the One Who Is Truly in Control: our loving Heavenly Father. Yes, God has let go of the world and all the evil and suffering in it is not His doing. He is instead the Repairing God who heals, helps, comforts, and, yes, *resurrects*.

So, while we won't likely get to gather on Easter Sunday, we will still celebrate the fact that our God conquers death and keeps us living beyond this life. We claim the promise of Jesus who declared: **"I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?"** – John 11:25-26.

Notice how he asked: **"Do you believe this?"** – If we do, we have peace about not being in control. God is in control and He is the God of Life and the living.

God's best to you,

Lee