

Through Zion's Window

JUNE 2020



Dear friends in Christ,

Last week the Supreme Court of Wisconsin issued a ruling that, whether one agrees or disagrees, leaves a great deal of confusion. Even those who brought the lawsuit were expecting a six day stay on the verdict to sort things out. As much as many understandably wanted the restrictions eased, very few expected regulations to be thrown out immediately.

So then what are we as followers of Christ to do? First and foremost, this is a time for caution and consideration. While the emotions are running hot on all sides, Jesus' command to love one another still stands as our ultimate guide. So as always, be kind and loving to one another, even if you are not seeing eye to eye with your neighbor. Give a listening ear and be sure to love the person beyond any disagreement.

The ongoing illness and death from the coronavirus did not disappear overnight with the ruling. People are still suffering and dying. Our medical personnel still struggle with decisions of life and death every day. Those in our workplaces still must wonder whether they will contract COVID-19 today. Many of our neighbors will continue to struggle financially, mentally, and physically for a long time to come. This needs to be our focus, serving those and even just earnestly praying for those who need our love, concern, and care. Maybe it's a close relative, perhaps a friend from school or work, but let's commit ourselves to somehow making a difference in their lives by sharing what we can in these times and in doing so be God's healing hands in this world.

Hoping that the legislature and governor will come together and actually listen to one another, there certainly will be reasonable, life-giving guidance will be offered sooner rather than later—guidance that considers the well-being of all. Until then, I humbly request that we continue to follow the well-researched guidance of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the Wisconsin Council of Churches in determining our path forward as the communities in Christ known as Cross and Zion.

In following that guidance, we will remain worshiping online for the time being. The church building will remain closed as we wait for further guidance on what to do next. Please know that no matter where we gather to offer our praise to God, God is there. God's love cannot and will not be bound within the walls of a building, no matter how sacred we may proclaim it to be. God's word stretches beyond all man-made barriers and boundaries, with us even when we are at home in our pajamas.

So, we will cautiously move forward in love for all of you. The church councils will be meeting in the next few weeks as we plot our course. While it's a certainty that we won't please everyone as we try to make faith-filled decisions for our future, we will make these decisions in good will and with deep care for each one of you. We ask you to keep the leadership in prayer and have patience with us as we truly do the very best we can in such uncharted waters.

In God's unending love,

Pastor Doug



JUNE

Birthdays & Anniversaries

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

03 – Luke Petersen
 12 – Amanda Louden
 19 – Kyle Schultz
 20 – Bruce Petersen
 20 – Courtney Liesener
 21 – Lynn Clemans
 23 – Shari Franke
 28 – Suzy Rather
 30 – Millie Moldenhauer
 30 – Sandy Jaeger
 30 – Vickie Schlieve

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO

04 – Steve & Cindy Wagner
 15 – Lester & Carol Schuett
 21 – Steve & Amanda Louden
 23 – Franklin & Karen Wolter
 30 – Scott & Anna Gramling

SPECIAL JUNE DATES TO REMEMBER

07 – TRINITY SUNDAY
 14 – FLAG DAY
 20 – FIRST DAY OF SUMMER!
 21 – FATHER'S DAY



Remember – Please continue to save all your Oconomowoc Piggly Wiggly receipts! It may be a while before you get to bring them to church, but we'll be happy to be deluged with tons of receipts for which The Pig donates 1% of total sales to the youth savings account for youth future travels. Thanks for your support!

Please keep these people and families in your thoughts & prayers...



Art & Pauline Hall
Millie Kopfer
Courtney Liesener
Erla Newbecker
Allen Petersen
Lois Wittnebel
Ellen Braunschweig
Shirley Chatfield
Carly Ostrom
Gordon Petersen
Tim Roskopf
Peyton Wolter
Tom & Donna Meotke
Steve Fuerstenau
Wilber Pieper

The Family of Daniel Zwieg (*Beatrice Zwieg's son*)
The Family of Bernard Falksen (*Pastor Bruce's father*)

