

## **CONGREGATIONAL LIFE**

**Christa Longkumer** ~ An update from us living in Laos during COVID.

We're all healthy and safe. There are no flights anywhere and all of the borders have been closed for a week. So, we closed Pilgrim's on the 28th, because there are very few customers and so our employees can stay home and stay safe. ARDA classes have been online for a week so that teachers can also teach from home. Laos produces very few things and imports almost everything, so we are a little uncertain if and when supplies will be brought into Savannakhet again. We heard that delivery trucks will be allowed in, but I think they have come in the last week. We stocked up quite well last week, but we also have one or two employees who will be staying with us for the month.

There are only 3 confirmed cases (as of March 26), but we assume there are more here. As we begin to see more confirmed cases, we think of the elderly and people with underlying health issues as there is no real medical care here. Please ask that God would be merciful to Laos (and other poor countries without basic medical care) and spare us from widespread infection.

As we live in these uncertain times, we are thankful that we know our sovereign Lord who holds us all in his loving hands. And we ask that we will still be a blessing to whoever the Lord places in our lives.

### **LIFTING LAMBS TO THE SHEPHERD**

Don Uittenbogaard  
Harv & Linda Verbrugge  
Jack & Carol Elgersma

### **Pray for our Current Staff and Leadership during this transition**

**Pray for Openness.** Pray that God would prepare the hearts of our leaders and staff to joyfully embrace the new pastor that God is calling to our church.

*"May God, who gives this patience and encouragement, help you live in complete harmony with each other – each with the attitude of Christ Jesus toward the other."*

**Romans 15: 5**

## **WORSHIP NOTES**

**Pastor Al Kuiper's** message was recorded during this past week, and can be accessed by:

1) Left clicking on this link:

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCd3\\_43l-0A8List-FOhhphg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCd3_43l-0A8List-FOhhphg)

2) Go to [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) - and type in Sanborn CRC

3) The AM message will also be on the Church Cable Channel

**Offerings for ~ Budget, Benevolence, CES (Fair Share), and Mission Fund, or other needs as marked can be mailed to the Church or placed in the new dropbox on the West side of Church under the carport.**

## **CONGREGATIONAL NOTES**

**The Churches of Sanborn** have come together to coordinate a community-wide response to the effects of COVID-19. One of the responses is a **Community Food Pantry** that will be housed in our church's fireside room. If you want to help, contact any of our deacons. You can also reach out to the Sanborn Churches group via Facebook, [sanbornchurches@gmail.com](mailto:sanbornchurches@gmail.com) or text/call 712-746-7480.

**GEMS Girls Club ~ Sub Sandwich Fundraiser ~** We will be postponing the assembling of Sub Sandwiches until Wednesday, April 29 (temporary date set). If we have received a payment by check from you, we will not be depositing it until the Subs are made.

**Quilt Days** have been postponed! However, there are squares of different sizes for you to sew for quilt tops. The squares are on the table in the fireside room ~ so stop anytime and choose some cheery squares to sew into quilt tops. Hoping to set a day for quilting soon. Any questions, contact Susie Van Tol or Carol Buteyn. Thanks in advance for your help!

**GEMS Sunday** Activities and the **GEMS Mother/Daughter Banquet** are canceled for this year. Parents and girls should have received a letter via 'Snail mail', E-mail, and Facebook, which explains the postponement of Sub Sandwich - making, and details on other activities which are being planned for later May into early June.

***If your face reflected your God, what would you see when you looked in the mirror?***

## **ADDITIONAL ANNOUNCEMENT**

Because of the recent closing of schools by Governor Reynolds, **8th Grade Day at Western Christian High School**, scheduled for Thursday, April 2, has been cancelled. Information will be coming on how 8th graders can register for next fall's classes and will be available by calling the office at Western Christian at 712-439-1013. If any parents or students would like a tour of the school or and/or would like to visit about the registration process with Karinda de Boom - Academic Registrar, please call the office to make arrangements.

The **Joan Ringerwole Recital Series** ~ Masterclass, Organ Recital, & Hymn Festival at Dordt College has been postponed, most likely to Spring 2021.

**Her Health Women's Center (Pro-life)– Fundraising Banquet** has been postponed until this fall (date will come out soon). [PartnersofHerHealth.org](http://PartnersofHerHealth.org) or call (712) 276-0237.

**The 14th Annual BENEFIT BANQUET** for **Cornerstone Prison Church** has been postponed/rescheduled for June 29 at Trinity CRC in Rock Valley.

The **Northwest Iowa Symphony Orchestra's** Spring Concert for Tuesday, April 7<sup>th</sup> has been cancelled. Questions can be directed to the NISO website or [niso@dordt.edu](mailto:niso@dordt.edu).

Registration for Summer Camps at **Inspiration Hills**

Log onto [www.inspirationhills.org](http://www.inspirationhills.org) to see what camps are available. We have Wilderness, Lodge, CHIPS, Day Camp, Discovery, Guys Only, Girls Only, Take Me Fishing, Saddle Up, Journey Camp, Grand Camp, and Family Camp! Brochures are on the literature table.

**Love, INC needs (Vouchers for Loving Help program)**

Laundry Detergent, Liquid Fabric Softener, Bleach, Dish Soap, Conditioner, 13 gal. Garbage Bags, Q-Tips, Toothpaste, Kleenex, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Quart & Gal Ziploc Bags. Donation - put in the Fireside room.

On Recording Cabinet in West Entrance – **Luke Society newsletter**

## Christian Reformed Church on-line resources

**GROUNDWORK: I BELIEVE IN GOD, THE SON** - What do we mean when we say "I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord"? Join Groundwork as we study Matthew 16:13-16, John 1:1-18, and Philippians 2:9-11 to discover who we believe Jesus Christ is and what this belief means for how we live our lives. Listen now at [GroundworkOnline.com](http://GroundworkOnline.com) and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes. Also on **KDCR Radio 88.5FM** – Sunday at 8:30 a.m. and 9:30 p.m.

**BEAT THE BUZZER** - Check out our children's program - this week's episode "Beat the Buzzer," at [www.kidscorner.net](http://www.kidscorner.net). Liz and his friends are very excited about competing in the Beat the Buzzer game ... so excited that they don't complete their assignment for church school, figuring out the [difference between](#) grace, mercy, and justice. Listen now at [kidscorner.net](http://kidscorner.net) and subscribe to KC's weekly emails for future episodes. Download this month's Kid Corner Easter puzzle and game giveaway The Bible Challenge Activity Book Five. <https://kidscorner.net/activities>.

**Holy Week Devotional for Families** - Families, are you looking for an easy way to celebrate Holy Week at home? DWELL at Home's new devotional *God's Big Easter Story* is free to download. (And has a color-in printable!) You can read one devotion each day of Holy Week or combine readings over a few days. Find it at [dwellcurriculum.org](http://dwellcurriculum.org) under "**Family Support.**" (An e-mail with attachments will be sent along with next week's bulletin)

**Lent At-Home Faith Formation Tip** - Hold a modified Seder meal with your family or friends to draw connections between the traditional Jewish Passover meal and the Last Supper. This also provides a wonderful opportunity to teach children about communion and how Jesus asked us to remember him when we celebrate it. Author Ann Voskamp offers Christian seder meal instructions at [tinyurl.com/VoskampSeder](http://tinyurl.com/VoskampSeder). (There is also an e-mail sent, which has this information attached in a PDF).

**FAMILY FIRE** is an online community exploring Spirit-led family, marriage, parenting, in-laws, blended families, and intimacy. Find encouraging articles and devotions at [familyfire.com](http://familyfire.com). Subscribe for regular email updates and connect with our Family Fire community on Facebook.

**THE LORD'S DAY – March 29, 2020**  
**MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE 9:30 A.M.**  
**Pastor Al Kuiper**

**IN HIS PRESENCE**

Call to Worship ~ John 8: 12

Hymn of Praise "***Here I Am to Worship***" LUYH 567

God's Greeting

**IN HIS GRACE**

Litany of Confession and Assurance (see below)

Ministry of Music "***The Lord's Prayer***"

God's Will for Our Lives

Congregational Prayer

Diaconal Encouragement and Prayer

**IN HIS WORD**

Song of Preparation "***Be Thou My Vision***" vs 1,2,4 LUYH 859

Scripture: **Exodus 25: 31 – 40**

**Leviticus 24: 1 – 4**

**John 8: 12**

Message: "**THE WAY OF SALVATION –**

**The Light of the World"**

Prayer of Application

Song of Hope "***When Peace Like a River***" vs 1,4 LUYH 451

**IN HIS SERVICE**

God's Parting Blessing

Doxology "***Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow***"

LUYH 965

# THE WAY OF SALVATION

*"I Am the Light of the World"* ~ Exodus 25:31-40, John 8:12

## THE LIGHT SHINES IN THE \_\_\_\_\_.

"We look for light, but all is darkness . . . like the blind we grope along the wall, feeling our way like men without eyes."

(Isaiah 59: 9,10)

Darkness is a symbol of \_\_\_\_\_, mourning, perplexity, ignorance and death (John 1:4).

Darkness also represents moral \_\_\_\_\_ (Rom 13:12-14).

## THE LIGHT SHINES IN THE \_\_\_\_\_.

The \_\_\_\_\_ of the lampstand was to provide light in the Holy Place.

The \_\_\_\_\_ of the lampstand pointed to the fullness of time when the Messiah would come to shine a great light on "the people walking in darkness" (Isaiah 9:2). (John 1:9)

The \_\_\_\_\_ of the lampstand was fulfilled when Jesus "the true light that gives light to everyone came into the world" (John 1:9).

## THE TRUE LIGHT SHINES AS THE LIGHT OF THE \_\_\_\_\_.

We need the "true" light in order to \_\_\_\_\_ God as he truly is.

*"God . . . made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God."* (2 Corinthians 4:6)

We need the "true" light in order to \_\_\_\_\_ with God (Isaiah 2:5) *"Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."* (John 8:12).

We need the "true" light in order to live as \_\_\_\_\_ of the light.

*"Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven."* (Matthew 5:14)

## Litany for Times of Trouble

Gracious Father, you are our only hope, our sure help in time of trouble.  
In all times and places you alone are our strength and shield.  
Because we trust in you, we dare to believe:

**Your goodness is stronger than evil; your love is stronger than hate;**  
**Your light is stronger than darkness; your gift of hope is stronger than despair.**

Although we are burdened with worry, and overwhelmed by fear and anger, we hear your call to stronger faith and deeper trust. In the midst of doubt and fear that comes in the spread of this pandemic, you call us to be a people of prayer.

Hear us, O Lord, as we lift our hearts to you in prayer for all those . . .  
who have lost loved ones in this wretched virus  
who are in danger of losing their jobs  
who face the threat of financial losses  
whose hearts are troubled by fear  
who are suffering because of this pandemic  
who are leaders of nations in this troubled time.

**Sing: Christ be our light! Shine in our hearts as we now pray.**  
**Christ be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.**  
(LUYH 908 – last line of refrain 2x)

O God, you are the true source of healing mercy and peace. In a world bearing fresh wounds of suffering and grief, you call us to be a people of healing. Help us to reach out to neighbors in need, to bear one another's burdens, to weep with those who weep.

Give us the grace to share the comfort of Christ  
with all those who long for his healing touch.  
Surround those who have been shaken by this pandemic  
with a sense of your unfailing love.

**Sing: Christ be our light! Shine in our hearts as we now pray.**  
**Christ be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.**

O God, you are omnipotent in power and unfailing in love. In a world torn by violence, and threatened by acts of terror, you call us to be a

people of love. Give us the strength to love, even when love is most difficult. Save us from the desire to retaliate, and from the temptation to rejoice in wrongdoing. Fill us with the love of Christ that we might seek the good for all people.

**Sing: Christ be our light! Shine in our hearts as we now pray.  
Christ be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.**

O God, you are omniscient in truth; you are surrounded with blazing glory. In a world of darkness you call us to bear witness to your light. Guide us by your Spirit, that we might reflect the glory of your Son . . .  
in his courage to speak the truth,  
in his compassion for others,  
in his refusal to return evil for evil  
in his willingness to suffer and die for the sin of the world.

**Sing: Christ be our light! Shine in our hearts as we now pray.  
Christ be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.**

O God, you are everywhere present, and ever-faithful. In your mercy, you call us to be a people of hope in a world of despair. When we are dismayed or discouraged, keep your Spirit alive in us. Grant us faith to look forward with confidence to that day when the whole world will be drawn into willing obedience to your reign, and people will come from east and west, from north and south, to sit at your table in your kingdom.

**Sing: Christ be our light! Shine in our hearts as we now pray.  
Christ be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.**

We praise you, O Lord! You are our refuge and strength, our help in time of trouble. Help us to hold in our hearts, and show in our lives all that we proclaim and confess with our lips:

**Your goodness is stronger than evil;  
your love is stronger than hate;  
your light is stronger than darkness;  
your gift of hope is stronger than despair.**

**“To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise  
and honor and glory and power, for ever and ever!”  
(Rev. 5:13)**