

Joyful in Hope - Day 3, March 20, 2020, (thoughts & ideas to encourage & challenge)

"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer."

Romans 12:9

It's Friday! It's the Weekend!! I'm not quite sure what that means anymore. For many, Friday, Saturday, Sunday will look pretty similar to Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday for the next little while. We won't be going to out for dinner and a movie. We won't be going to our children's games. We won't be headed to the gym. And we won't be gathering for worship on Sunday.

Still, life goes on. Even though we won't see each other at the church building for a while, and even though we can't fellowship with and talk to each other face to face (except through Facetime or What's App), we need to be "checking up and checking in."

The Elders are committed to making a weekly phone call to everyone in the Heritage directory. We are sending out daily words of encouragement, and news updates. This Sunday, beginning at 10AM, you can go online for some worship time. (I'll tell you the YouTube information in tomorrow's 'Joyful in Hope'.)

I want challenge each of you to "check up and check in", as well. I read a news story about all the churches in New York and around the country that have closed their doors, and are holding worship online. In her first sermon preaching to a crowd of only church staff, Kristin Miles, pastor for the Trinity Church Wall Street said, "Every hand we don't shake must become a phone call we make," then added, "Every inch and every foot of distance we put between ourselves and another must become a thought about how we could help that other should the need arise."

I like that. And I want suggest a good way for us to that. Beginning now, I want to encourage every Heritage member to make one phone call and send one card of encouragement to another Heritage member or family each week, until we are together again. And I suggest it be to someone you don't normally hang out with, or check on, or go to lunch with. How about it? Let's stay connected. Let's take care of each other, even if we can't be together with each other.

Prayer Updates

1. Percy Pasquin has been testing patients all week, and began showing symptoms of Covid-19, so he has been tested himself, and the family is in self-imposed quarantine. Test results should come back Sunday.
2. Phuong is still awaiting results from her biopsy. She is home resting.