

Revelation 9:20–21 (ESV)

<sup>20</sup> The rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands nor give up worshiping demons and idols of gold and silver and bronze and stone and wood, which cannot see or hear or walk, <sup>21</sup> nor did they repent of their murders or their sorceries or their sexual immorality or their thefts.



So how have you survived the corona virus so far? Perhaps you know someone who has caught it. Maybe you even know someone who had died from it. By this time if you are even an introvert, you may be going crazy with all the social distancing. Maybe by the time you read this the panic and the pandemic will be over. Who knows?

Some people are concerned that this pandemic is one of the “last plagues” to come before the end. Well I’d like to remind you the book of Revelation is not written in linear time, that is to say, it isn’t prophesying things that will happen in linear time fashion from chapter one to the end. It’s in fact written in traditional Hebrew style with circular descriptions more like the spiral of a screw. Many things will be and are happening and have been happening since Christ was born, died, risen and ascended into heaven. The seals all but the sixth has been broken. The trumpets except the seventh have been blowing. The vials have been being poured out except the last one. Many of the intermediate stuff in the book has already happened and some is still left to happen.

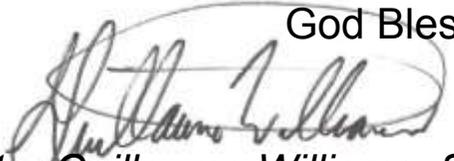
But we should not worry about any of it. The LORD Jesus Christ is with us. His name has been written upon our hearts and our heads at our baptism. Whatever we are going through is only temporary as we await the world to come where we will see and spend eternity with Jesus. And all this craziness won’t happen anymore.

Indeed, Easter will be upon us soon in which we will celebrate Jesus’ resurrection from the dead. He will never die again. Good news for you, when you rise from the dead when Christ returns, you will never die again, get sick again, get hungry or thirsty again. You won’t have to deal with people who totally upset all your expectations. There will be no sin, death or the devil anymore.

So what to do until that time? Don't be like the people in the scripture passage above. With the plagues that came down upon them they did not repent of their sins. They didn't repent of their trusting things of creation for every good. They didn't repent of anything. In fact, they probably doubled down and dared God to do more. Don't be like them.

When we see these things like plagues, pestilences, pandemics, earthquakes, hurricanes, tornadoes and all other sorts of things, the thing we should do is look in the mirror of God's law and examine 'ourselves'! What sins are we committing? Do we have any habitual sins? What are we doing instead of trusting God the Father to care of all our needs today? Those things are our idols! We should confess our sins to God. We should ask for his grace and mercy. Pray for the Holy Spirit to overcome these things in our lives and put us on the right path to hate our sins and to love God and serving our neighbor. So as we approach our Easter joy, let us now in these last days of Lent, looking at our current situation make sure we are being repentant, trusting Jesus for our salvation and our Father for every need of body, soul and spirit.

God Bless!



*Pastor Guillaume Williams, Sr.*

## **FROM OUR ELDERS**

Hello from your Board of Elders:

I hope everyone is well. We are experiencing difficult times now. Most of us have not seen a healthcare crisis of this magnitude in our lifetime. Those who have, are experiencing it on a far different level. News is so much more available now, and available more quickly, it makes the present situation even more real to us. Following the guidelines for hand washing and social distancing are the most effective things we can do at the present to slow the spread of this virus. Avoiding large crowds is also an effective way to slow the spread of this virus. Taking advantage of the early shopping hours available at many grocery stores for anyone over 60 is another good practice.

If anyone is unable to get out to get daily essentials of OTC medications, prescription medication, or groceries, please call the church office at 573-348-

2108. Kathy or Pastor will be able to arrange for someone to help you. Your elder can also be a good resource for you.

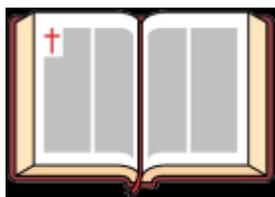
Our April 5<sup>th</sup> service, at this time, is scheduled to be a live service. Additional information will be made available to you as it is finalized.

Your pastor, and your elders are praying for you and our country daily. Together, we will get through this difficult time.

Yours in Christ,  
Alan Wiese  
Chairman, Board of Elders

Chuck Kiel	573-302-0438
Mike Merchant	1-618-789-2464
Alan Wiese	573-424-4600

## BIBLE STUDIES



**Sunday's Bible Study Classes** – Pastor is working on a possible online option, but until we can get that worked out, they are cancelled till indoor services resume.

## DRIVE IN SERVICES FOR APRIL

We do care about your health! Physical and Spiritual so we are adding to the emergency service options a modified drive in service. The Elders and Pastor are in constant contact and discuss various options but there are a few strict rules that will need to be followed in order to everyone safe.

When: Sundays 10 am

Where: Hope Chapel upper parking lot



**Rule #1:** No one is to get out of their cars. And especially - no bathroom breaks.

**Rule #2:** Park with at least one car space in between you and the next vehicle. This is so you can safely roll down your windows for fresh air and to hear better.

**No communion** – if you feel you need communion, please contact Pastor and schedule an appointment. He is happy to do this for you.

**No fellowship** – well, not of the food and drink kind since we cannot get out of our vehicles, but you are welcome to chat, nod, or wave to your neighbor. In fact we encourage this.

Please enter via the upper driveway where we will have masked & gloved greeters passing out bulletins and palms as you enter.

Please exit via the upper driveway where we will have a masked and gloved person with a basket to collect any offerings.

And this would be a good time to bring that pet that really needs to hear God's Word!

## FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Yes, these are some trying times, but the Lord will take us thru them. This is where our faith has to be strong. Just because we are not at church on Sunday's doesn't mean we cannot talk to God. Times are bad now, but can you imagine how they would be if we didn't believe in the Lord? Now, more than ever, call a church member and talk with them. Everyone one will feel better. Our faith in Christ is more important now than ever. Faith people, keep the Faith.

No decision about services for Holy Week, Palm Sunday, or Easter Sunday, and Easter breakfast as of this time.

Remember, if the Lord take's you there - he will take you thru it. We thank the Lord for watching over pastor's father, and giving the family peace thru these trying times.

*May the Lord bless you, your family and loved one's.*

*Don Hunkeler*

## FROM OUR SEMINARY STUDENT

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Greetings to you from Concordia Seminary! Thank you so much for your continuing generosity. Your support is an encouragement and inspiration.

Without the outpouring of your Christian love, my seminary studies would not be possible. Like the Christians from Philippi, you have partnered in the ministry of the Gospel. Your work is integral to the mission of the church.

These first weeks of Spring Semester have been challenging and enlightening. This semester I am taking my first class on Homiletics. I am learning the first steps to the art of sermon writing and delivery. God continues to enrich our church with the word of forgiveness and salvation. He has equipped the Body of Christ with pastors and educators to form them. I am thankful that through your support I am being formed for this service.

As we enter the Lenten Season, we prepare ourselves to receive this word of the cross. I pray that the Holy Spirit draw you closer to our Lord in faith, and that you comprehend His wonderful work for you. Thank you again for your wonderful generosity. May God continue to strengthen you in faith as we journey together to the joyous resurrection of Jesus Christ.

***On my heart imprint Your image,  
Blessed Jesus, King of grace,  
That life's riches, cares, and pleasures  
Never may Your work erase;  
Let the clear inscription be:  
Jesus, crucified for me,  
Is my life, my hope's foundation,  
And my glory and salvation!***

In Him,



Matthew Gerzevske

## **2020 FELLOWSHIP**

Do you have an idea for an event/activity for us? Just let the church office know and we will put it on the calendar.

*We still need someone to chair this committee. This committee is in charge of helping organize all fellowship activities and potluck's at Hope Chapel. They also help get volunteers to pick up donuts and make coffee for Sunday Fellowship. If you are interested in chairing this committee, please let Pastor, Don Hunkeler, or Kathy Heinemann know.*

## BUDGET INFORMATION

FYI – to keep in mind our 2020 Budgeted weekly amount is \$3,430.87.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Service Type</u>	<u>Total Offerings</u>	<u>Total Attend.</u>
February 2 2020	Sunday	\$ 1,018.18	36
February 9 2020	Sunday	\$ 940.31	37
February 16 2020	Sunday	\$ 3,031.00	37
February 23 2020	Sunday	\$ 1,592.45	35
March 1 2020	Sunday	\$ 1,924.15	34
March 8 2020	Sunday	\$ 1,454.01	49
March 15 2020	Sunday	\$ 1,458.38	35
March 22 2020	Sunday	\$ 1,445.00	Online
March 29 2020	Sunday	\$ -	Online

## PRAYER CHAIN

PRAY for one  
another  
*James 5:16*

To place a prayer request on the prayer chain, please call the coordinator, Doris Meyer at 346-7681 or 434-6633. If you cannot reach Doris, call the church office at 348-2108 or Pastor Williams. All the participants are appreciated and more are certainly welcome to

join. Just sign the sheet in the narthex or call Doris or the Church office. Prayer changes things. Thanks be to God!

In His Name we pray,  
*Doris Meyer, 346-7681*

If you CAN NOT reach Doris, call the church office, 348-2108.

## STEWARDSHIP



On the topic of stewardship, one of the most common questions a person might ask is *not* whether a Christian should give to their church. Everyone knows this. Of course, Christians should give to their church.

The most common question: “How much should I give?” But what they really

mean is this: “Should Christians give a tithe of their income to their local congregation?” So, let’s look at why you should or should not tithe.

Following are some reasons often offered for why Christians *shouldn’t* give a tithe to their church.

Some say you shouldn’t tithe because it isn’t expressly commanded in the New Testament. Lacking that command, there is no “Thus saith the Lord” and no “should” for giving a tithe to your congregation.

Others say that Christians give to their congregation in ways much broader than money. They give of their time and their talents, and these, together with treasures (money), add up to more than a tithe.

Still others say they give of their treasures to other things besides their congregation, and they want to support those things alongside their church.

And there are those who think Christians shouldn’t tithe because of fear. If they tithe, they are afraid their gift will be misused, and they are afraid they won’t have enough to get the things they use, want, or need.

Following are some reasons for why Christians *should* give a tithe to their church.

Even though the New Testament doesn’t specifically command Christians to give a tithe, the Old Testament people were commanded to tithe and did. On top of this, St. Paul often describes the giving Christians are to do in similar terms as a tithe: a regular and generous proportion of the first fruits of their income (1 Cor. 6:1–2; 2 Cor. 8:7–23; 2 Cor. 9:2–7).

But here’s another way to think about it. What was the point of the tithe in the Old Testament? Where did it go? The reason for the Old Testament tithe was to support the full ministry of the Levites. They were not given any land because they had no time to farm; their full-time job was the ministry.

What does it say in the New Testament? “The Lord has commanded that those who preach the Gospel should make their living from the Gospel” (1 Cor. 9:14). This is the verse that Luther put in the *Small Catechism’s* Table of Duties to cover what Christians owe to the support of the ministry.

It seems clear from both the Old and the New Testaments that the tithe is the goal of Christians in their giving. But what if we’re not there yet? How should we handle this? What are we to do?

Let’s answer this by asking a different question about something entirely different. What would you say to your adult children who only attended church quarterly or once a month? There, is after all, no passage in the New Testament

that requires Christians to go to church weekly. Hebrews 10:25 is the closest we have, and it states simply for Christians to not neglect gathering together. Even though there is no passage that commands Christians to gather weekly, that is the implicit expectation throughout the Old and New Testaments. It is the goal.

So, what would you say to that son or daughter? I'd expect that conversation would be something like this: "I'm glad you're still going to church. It is a wonderful blessing to hear God's promises of forgiveness, life, and salvation, and to receive His gifts in the Word and the Sacraments. But you can do better, and it will only be a blessing to you. There is a better way, and I'd really like you to try to attain it."

This same conversation is how we should approach the topic of the tithe. It's not specifically commanded in the New Testament, but it sure seems like the implicit expectation of both the Old and New Testaments. So, the church is ecstatic that you're giving when you're giving in all these ways – time, talents, and treasures.

*Reprinted from [lcms.org/stewardshipministryresources](http://lcms.org/stewardshipministryresources)*

## LWML Ladies Guild News



Due to the closing and Easter we will wait to meet again in May. All of the Ladies of Hope Chapel are invited to join us for our next meeting on Tuesday, May 5<sup>th</sup> at 11 am in the meeting room. And don't forget – Gift Cards are still available for sale.

If you have any questions, call 573-348-2108 or email [office@hopelutheranchapel.org](mailto:office@hopelutheranchapel.org)

**LWML Spring Rally** at Bethany in Eldon *has been cancelled at this time.* May be just postponed.

**The Missouri District LWML Convention** is still on for now - June 12 - 14, 2020, in Springfield, MO. We are allowed 2 delegates. If you would like to be a delegate, please let Kathy Heinemann know ASAP as the deadline has passed.

**Spring Rummage Sale** will be announced – more information to follow as soon as we have it. Sonja Howard and Joyce Trost will host it, please let one of them know if you have items you wish to donate. Clothes are ok, but they really do not sell as well as other items.

## HELP WANTED!!

Want to share your gifts? Have a chat with your Elder, Don Hunkeler, Pastor, or church secretary! Many roles/opportunities are available.

## THANK YOU!

**Faith Comes By Hearing** – I am grateful for you and your congregation's generosity toward Faith Comes By Hearing. Thank you for your gift of \$187.10. Your prayers and financial investment are vital in reaching and discipling our military veterans. ~ *Your Servant in Christ, Morgan Jackson Sr VP*

**Concordia Theological Seminary – Fort Wayne, IN** – Thank you for the gift of \$4,000 we received in December. We gratefully receive this gift as the result of a bequest to the congregation from the Estate of Nadine Meyer. ~ *Yours in Christ, Rev. Mark Steines*

## SURVIVING COVID-19

In addition to the common warnings: hand washing, distancing, and so on, here are a few helpful items.

Many restaurants are offering curbside pickup and sometimes delivery. Give your favorite restaurant a call to see if they are offering this service!

Camden and Miller County Coronavirus Community Hotlines are setup for senior citizens and those with underlying health concerns. This is a new program, specifically created to enable groceries and medicine to be delivered to county residents who are practicing self-quarantine.

**Camden County – 573-346-6145 ~ Miller County – 573-692-0426**

Monday through Friday 8:30 am till 4:30 pm

[www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov) and [www.usa.gov/coronavirus](http://www.usa.gov/coronavirus) are great resources for facts about the pandemic. There are so many rumors about the virus so please be careful who you are listening to.

# FROM THE CHURCH SECRETARY

## ***PORTALS OF PRAYER!***

If you would like a Portals of Prayer mailed to you, please contact the church office. They are also available online from [cph.org](http://cph.org)

## ***FLOWER CHART!***



Find your special date to donate flowers for the Altar while the selection is good. Sign up early and often. The cost of flowers is \$26 per Sunday and you just need to put the money in the offering plate marked "Altar Flowers".

## ***MISC WOOD PROJECTS***

We have a few small woodworking projects that we are looking for 1 – 2 volunteers to help with.

Contact the church office for more measurements.

1. Shelf above TV in Large Fellowship hall so VCR & DVD player are not sitting right on top.
  - a. Preferably a  $\frac{1}{2}$  -  $\frac{3}{4}$  shelf so the cords can be free and air can circulate.
2. Shelf in counter's cabinet above the current top shelf.
  - a. Approximately 5" from top – just low enough to hold the basket with the book.
  - b. Can be a  $\frac{3}{4}$  deep shelf.
3. Stand for the CD player and sound board in overflow. Would like a couple of shelves below for storage. See secretary for exact dimensions needed.

### ***Collections requested:***

*"infant items"* – for Swaddling Clothes mission

*"Cancelled stamps"* – for missions (LWML)

*"Money-off coupons – no expiration date"* - for Concordia Seminary Food Bank (LWML)

*"Portals of Prayer"* – Prison Ministries (LWML)

*"Empty Inkjet Cartridges"* – Offset office supplies & Habitat for Humanity

### **Office Secretary Hours for April**

*Monday thru Friday - 8 am to 12 pm.*

### **New Article/Bulletin Deadlines:**

*Newsletter Articles – 2<sup>nd</sup> to last Sunday of the Month*

*Bulletin Notes – Wednesdays at 9 am*



***WARNING: Articles not received by their deadline will not be included.***

Articles for the church newsletter, "The Anchor," or notices for the bulletins, may be put in the in-box on the church secretary's desk or sent by e-mail to: [office@hopelutheranchapel.org](mailto:office@hopelutheranchapel.org)

## ***CANS FOR CHARITY PROGRAM***

Our receptacle is here! We hope you have been saving your aluminum (soda) cans : )

Just drop them in the small dumpster that is located at the top of the upper driveway and we will turn them in for \$\$ that will be used to help those in need locally and world wide.



## ***APRIL WORSHIP SERVICE OPTIONS***

**Radio** – you can listen to an abbreviated service on your radio on Sundays from 8:30 – 9:00 am on KRMS 1150 AM and 97.5 FM Radio (If you tune in at 8 am you will hear Christ the King - Lake Ozark service). It will be a week behind the live service so if you tune in on April 5<sup>th</sup>, you will get March 29<sup>th</sup>'s service.

**Website** – Our website: [www.hopelutheranchapel.org](http://www.hopelutheranchapel.org) will have previous sermon's and a recording of the last couple of services. For April 5<sup>th</sup> it will not be posted until that afternoon or evening. The video is actually on YouTube, but it is much easier to access it through our website.

**Facebook** - If you haven't already saved our page to your favorites, just search for #HopeChapelOBMO and you will find us. Pastor will be live streaming the service on Sunday at 10 am and it will be saved so you can view it later.

**Drive In** – Yes, you read that right. We are bringing back the drive in service for the month of April and we will be following strict rules so we do not violate the social distancing ordinance that is in place.

## ***Daily Devotions***

Our Pastor publishes daily devotions on our website, facebook, twitter, and linkedin.

Visit our website: [www.hopelutheranchapel.org](http://www.hopelutheranchapel.org)

Follow us on Twitter - @hopelutheranmo

Facebook - [@HopeChapelOBMO](https://www.facebook.com/HopeChapelOBMO)

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Hope Lutheran Chapel  
5709 Osage Beach Parkway  
Osage Beach, MO 65065  
*Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod*

Rev. Guillaume J.S. Williams, Sr. ~ 573-286-3427  
Church Office ~ 573-348-2108

E-Mail: [office@hopelutheranchapel.org](mailto:office@hopelutheranchapel.org)  
Website: [www.hopelutheranchapel.org](http://www.hopelutheranchapel.org)

**Service Schedule**

11 a.m. Fellowship  
11:20 a.m. Sunday School/Adult Bible Study  
10 a.m. Communion Worship Service

Sunday Communion Worship Services (Ind.  
Cup)

Communion 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday (Common Cup only)

**April 2020**