

May 29, 2020

## **PRAYER & PRAISE NOTES**

- Continue to pray for those you know who are living with health struggles, including: Ken Hostetlrx, Bill Barrxtt, Sam Plxnk, Mary Ann Kxng, and others.
- Remember Janet W. in prayer as she begins radiation next Thursday (June 4), for 20 days. Pray also for Suzanne Hostetlrx, Jan's neighbor, who is undergoing chemo treatments. May our healing God provide strength and restoration to each of them.
- Pray for those in our congregation, community and country who are feeling isolated or lonely. May they find comfort in God's promises and presence, and may we follow the leading of the Holy Spirit to reach out as we are able.
- Be in prayerful preparation for our congregational meeting, planned for June 7 (details to come). May the Holy Spirit prepare us to listen well to each other, and to discern wisely as we contemplate and make decisions about renovating our church building. Pray for those involved in planning and leading the meeting, particularly Dave Lxnk, our congregational chairperson.
- Pray for Governor DeWinx, Dr. Amy Actxn, lawmakers, Green Hills administrators, and other public officials and community leaders. May they be guided by wisdom and compassion. May a spirit of collaboration and creativity grow.
- Join Deb Bylrx in prayer for the people of Guatemala as they live with tight restrictions to movement and commerce brought on by Covid-19. Give thanks that the spread of the disease has been fairly limited there, and pray that people will work together to sustain their communities physically, emotionally, and spiritually. May God bless the women who took part in the recent trauma healing workshop, as well as the writing work Deb has been able to do.
- Faith leaders across the country have invited us to set Monday, June 1 as a National Day of Mourning and Lament. We mourn: 100,000 deaths in the United States, and more than 350,000 worldwide, from Covid-19. We mourn with those who were not able to be with their loved ones at the time of death, or to grieve with their community. We acknowledge and lament the hard truths about our nation that this pandemic has exposed - that suffering continues to be born unequally. We lament that Asian Americans have been targeted by hateful words and actions. We lament that African Americans and Hispanic Americans and Native communities have been disproportionately affected by the deaths. We lament the financial burdens of this pandemic and that the burden falls more heavily on the poor. May our God of healing and justice bring healing and justice to our land, and may the Holy Spirit make us bold to join in God's reconciling work.
- We lament the senseless deaths of black and brown people, and pray God's victory over the principalities and powers of racism, fear, violence and systemic injustices.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Sundays at 11:00 am - **Sharing and prayer time**. This is an opportunity to connect with each other as a group for 40-50 minutes. The format offers time to share news from your life, comment on the worship materials or other reflections, to share joys, struggles, and prayer requests. We conclude with a simple time of guided prayer. There is no obligation to talk; your listening presence is welcome. We use GoToMeeting, and you can join online or by simply calling in. *Let Rebecca know if you need assistance or have questions.*

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: June 7, 1:00 (till approx 2:30) at the church.** The purpose of the meeting is to continue our discernment on the West Entrance Addition proposal. In order to proceed with the project, we need congregational approval, so we plan to hold a vote that will determine if we have sufficient support to begin this renovation project. Agenda includes: looking at design plans; updates on costs, a possible construction schedule, and contractors; time for discussion, suggestions and questions; and taking a vote by paper ballot.

We decided to hold this meeting in person at the church in order to better facilitate group conversation and information sharing (such as diagrams, pictures). We will practice physical distancing and other recommended precautions. If you are unable or chose not to attend, you are welcome to contact Dave L. or Dean with any questions, and you may request and submit an absentee ballot. (More details about the meeting & voting will be sent separately in the next couple days.)

### **Spiritual Practices webinar with Karla Mintxr**

Encounter anew, or rediscover ancient spiritual practices which create a daily rhythm of life. Turn your despair and isolation into hope and community. Join us for this webinar, exploring the practice of prayer, ritual, and community in this time of loss and loneliness.

**When:** June 4, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. EDT

**Where:** ZOOM webinar

**What:** Spiritual practices for peacemakers: finding your center when you feel pulled apart

**How:** Visit [the registration page](#) for instructions to join!

**Women Serving in Love** plans to meet again in July. Look forward to serving together on Tuesday, July 14.

**MCC invites you to a free webinar series on immigration and border realities.** Join Mennonite Central Committee staff and partners in the field who will provide insight into the current reality of the U.S. immigration and border crisis. For more information and to register, visit [mcc.org/immigration-webinar-series](http://mcc.org/immigration-webinar-series). The next webinar session, "Church efforts to address immigration" is June 2 at 2:00 pm EST.

If anyone has Tim Hortons coupons that you don't want, Cindy would be glad to have them. You can put them in her church mailbox. She thanks you!



**Birthdays this week:**

Friday, June 6

Jan Smuckxr

**Anniversaries:**

June 2, 1979

Dave & Michelle Lxnk

***Pastoral Care Person*** this week: Carl Newcomer