

New Covenant Lutheran Church E-Weekly Newsletter



July 30 - August 6, 2020

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This Sunday

I Peter 3:13-22

Series: "Keep the Faith: Lessons from I Peter"

Sermon: "Suffering Unjustly!"

All worship services and activities at New Covenant have moved to an online (video conferencing) format or have been cancelled due to the COVID-19 concerns. In addition, the preschool is closed. We do not know when the social distancing restrictions will be lifted so that we will be able to resume activities on our campus. Please check our website at www.newcovenantaz.church for updates.

ONLINE WORSHIP INSTRUCTIONS:

During this time when as a church we cannot meet publicly to worship, New Covenant Lutheran Church will hold our worship services online.

We are now using only Facebook Live for all of our worship services. You do not have to have a Facebook account to watch the service.

FACEBOOK; go to New Covenant Lutheran Church's Facebook page at 10 am Sunday to see the video live. Our Facebook page is at www.facebook.com/NewCovenantAZ



Help us lift up the Kalogeris family (Chris, Becky and Ellie) and celebrate the lives of Don and Penny Schricker with a fantastical drive-by parade at the Kalogeris home.



Saturday, August 1 at 11:00 am
9542 E Dreyfus Place
Scottsdale 85260
Cards and balloons are encouraged
(to brighten Ellie's day).



Online Worship Sunday 10:00 am

"Keep the Faith!" That is the theme for our summer series on I Peter. As we progress through this book, Peter draws us deeper and deeper into what it means to be a Christian. **This Sunday, we will look at the theme of "Suffering Unjustly!" (I Peter 3:13-22)** Please also remember to have some bread and wine available for communion.

I think that we all know what it means to suffer – but what does it mean to suffer unjustly? To lose both of your parents in a matter of one month - Becky Kalogeris is certainly suffering unjustly. To lose a great-granddaughter in a freak car/bicycle accident - George and Kathryn Clarke know what it means to suffer unjustly. Not being able to gather for worship and fellowship has caused undue suffering for many of us. That was not a part of God's plan.

And what about families who experience the death of a loved one due to injustice – George Floyd's family is suffering. As I write this article the family of civil rights leader John Lewis is laying his body to rest. Whether you agree with all of his statements and policies or not, I think that one would have to agree that John Lewis knew what it meant to suffer unjustly. These examples point out for me the questions that we have about God's justice in the midst of injustice in our world.

Peter was addressing the Christian communities in Asia Minor as he deliberated this question. There would not be continual suffering, but there would be moments in life when Christians would have to suffer unjustly. Peter writes that "It is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God."

Peter is saying to the Christian community that you will suffer, but that Christ Jesus has paved the way by suffering the ultimate defeat and death but God took his death and made Jesus Christ alive in the Spirit. Join me this Sunday as we look at this Scripture and theme.

Pastor Steve

P.S. Please join us for a "Fantastical Drive-By" for the Kalogeris family this Saturday morning at 11:00 am. Let's make Ellie's day by showing them our love and support. Please see the information directly to the left of this article. In addition, we are planning a Virtual Memorial Service for Don and Penny, next Saturday, August 8.

Hospitality

Join us at 11 am on Sundays for time together on Zoom and be a part of face-to-face conversations with one another!
Zoom with meeting id: 841 5937 9421
(No password)



Several people have reported getting an email from Pastor Steve or one of the church staff asking for gift cards or assistance. Please be aware that we have not and will not send such emails. Pastor Steve's email is Pastor.Steve@newcovenantaz.org Please contact the office at 480-860-0169 if you are concerned about communication that you receive claiming to be from one of us. We appreciate reports of spam so that we can make everyone aware.

Dear New Covenant family,

I want to thank you so very much for your prayers and virtual and written messages wishing me healing from my headache these past weeks. I am so grateful to say that through your prayers and the amazing medical staff and medicine I am very close to being pain free! It's been a journey of humility and healing - all in the palm of God's hands.
Thank you dear friends!



Patti Kruse

Offerings can be mailed to:

New Covenant Lutheran Church
15152 N. Frank Lloyd Wright Blvd.
Scottsdale, AZ 85260

Online go to: www.newcovenantaz.church
Click on Donate Now



Thank you for helping us reach our goal of \$3000 so that New Covenant can provide a pallet of water to the Grace Lutheran Heat Respite program each week. Water can now be delivered into October and money will be available next year to start delivering water when the heat arrives early (as it did in April this year). August's Mission Project is collecting money for the ICM Food Bank. Thank you!



ICM has reopened and is in need of everything. ICM provides food and clothing for the working poor in central Phoenix. Donations can be taken to Mary Reynoso's home and she will arrange for the ICM truck to pick them up. Contact Mary at mreynoso1@cox.net to find out about specific donation items (for example, they can't accept furniture but need most everything else) and where items should be taken.



Did you miss Sunday's Service?

Can't find the last E-Weekly?

Want to hear Pastor Steve's Sermon?

Go to www.newcovenantaz.church

Under the Communications menu

Find the E-Weekly, podcasts & videos



(Sunday's Call to Worship Hymn)

Be Thou My Vision

Be thou my vision O Lord of my heart
Naught be all else to me save that thou art
Thou my best thought both by day and by night
Waking or sleeping thy presence my light

Be thou my wisdom and thou my true word
I ever with thee and thou with me Lord
Thou my soul's shelter and thou my high tow'r
Raise thou my heav'nward O Pow'r of my pow'r

Light of my soul after victory won
May I reach heaven's joys O heaven's Sun
Heart of my own heart whatever befall
Still be my vision O Ruler of all

