Maranatha News

May 2020

From Pastor Ryan....

I am sure of this: that He who began a good work in you
will bring it to completion at the day of Christ Jesus. - Philippians 1:6

The month of April has afforded me many opportunities to work from home. Between quarantine and the birth of our son, Declan Breck Tonneson - who is doing very well, by the way - I've often found myself setting up shop at home. While we don't have a dedicated "office space" at home, my kitchen and - now that it's been warmer - outdoor patio tables have doubled to serve as desks. Technology and online tools, such as Zoom, makes it easy to accomplish much, but not all, of what needs to be done from anywhere. While home, I've been able to enjoy some of the smaller things I miss out on while at the office and elsewhere, like eating lunch everyday with the kids - usually a picnic outside - and getting to read the oldest ones a story before their naptime.

But for me, at times it's harder to work from home. There is always something else that wants to draw my attention away from the tasks at hand: our two-year old needs help to go to the bathroom, the dishes that could be washed, the yard that needs a raking, the cars that still haven't been washed since winter.

And in addition to the mundane, daily tasks, my house is rife with unfinished projects that constantly stare me down, reminding me of how I'm great at starting something - but am often slack at bringing it to completion. A wooden toy tractor that needs repairing; an end table that has been in the refinishing stages for three years; the basement remodel that seems to be going in reverse.

I know that I'm not the only one at Maranatha who has unfinished projects that are just waiting for you to get around to them. In fact, we even have a group that (before quarantine) meet occasionally at church called "UFOs," or UnFinished Objects. This group would get together with their unfinished projects and provide the moral support to each other to bring those projects and objects to completion.

But most projects are a process, aren't they? There are many different stages in each project. Very seldomly do projects only have one simple, easy step. Usually, there is some time and effort involved in bringing a project to completion. If you look at a project in its intermediate state, you might not recognize what the builder or artist has in mind for the completed work.

In Ephesians 2:10, Paul describes believers as "God's workmanship." We are the projects that God is continually working on. We are, as the psalmist says, "fearfully and wonderfully made" (Psalm 139:14). And Paul reminds us in Philippians 1:6, "that He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Christ Jesus."

You might be tempted to look at your life and think, "But, Lord! I'm such a mess! I don't have anything put together rightly! I constantly struggle with sin and doubt. How can I be Your workmanship?" When the accuser puts doubts such as those into your mind, believer, remind yourself of who you are in Christ Jesus. In Christ, you have been adopted into God's family (Galatians 4:4-6), you are His child (1 John 3:1), you are a new creature (2 Corinthians 5:17), you have been forgiven (1 John 1:9, Romans 8:1), you are precious and honored in God's sight, (Isaiah 43:1-4), and He loves you (1 John 4:10). Don't give up on yourself; He is still working on you.

In Christ,

Pastor Ryan

Maranatha in May - A Note from Pastor Lloyd

I listened today to our Minnesota Governor give his Coronavirus update, and field questions from reporters. I was disappointed in his message, but by the time he was done, I was feeling sorry for him. He has a challenging job processing all of the information and making decisions that are guaranteed to make someone unhappy with him. We need to keep praying for him, and those who advise him. We delayed the Newsletter this month, waiting for a word from him that would help us know what to put on the Maranatha Calendar. And at this point it looks like our congregation will not be gathering in our sanctuary until May 24th at the earliest.

So with that in mind, here is what we anticipate the next Sundays looking like:

May 10 (Mother's Day) 9:30 AM – A Parking Lot Worship Service! - Weather permitting, you are invited to drive to Maranatha, stay in your car, tuned in to an FM Station, and you will be able to participate in our service, led from a flatbed trailer. (You will not be able to hear this service on this radio station from home, as it has a very limited radius. However, watching it online will be available, but delayed till around 3 that afternoon.)

May 17 (Sr. Recognition Sunday) 9:30 – Our Service will be online, complete with some video clips from each of the High School Srs. whom we wish to honor.

May 24 (Memorial Day Wknd.) & May 31 – If we are able to be back in our Sanctuary together, we will possibly have two services and some pews will be taped off so we can give each-other space. There will be no Sunday School, no Nursery available, and fellowship will be outside in the open air! We will send you more information when we know more! We encourage those with health risks to feel free to continue to stay home longer, and we will be working on a plan to record the services and play them back later on Sunday afternoons.

A word concerning "Visitation"

Your Pastors and Deacons have been making a lot of phone calls to parishioners in the last month and a half. I have enjoyed connecting with many of you in this way, and am glad to hear how many of you are weathering this crisis. However, I would like to offer a variation to this for the next month. I am going to call it **"Backyard Visitation!"** Invite me over, and I would be glad to minimize the risk by just coming and sitting in your backyard with you. I will even bring my own lawn chair! Pastor Ryan and Deacon Cliff would also be glad to do something similar if you invite them. The fellowship of believers is a sweet thing, and though we are still not free to do it in mass numbers – *where two or three are gathered in My name, there I am in their midst!* With God's help we will get through this with a faith strengthened by His grace.

Maranatha Church – Glyndon
Council Meeting
April 15, 2020 at 7:00 PM

Present: Todd Dravland, Cliff Langerud, Mary Langerud, Pat Lewis, Tim Pender and Pastor Lloyd Quanbeck

Meeting was called to order by President Todd Dravland. Todd led devotion with Psalm 27 and prayer.

Secretary's report of March 11, 2020 was read by Pat. Cliff made a motion to approve the minutes as read and seconded by Mary; motion passed.

Treasurer's report was reviewed by Tim. March income was $29,490.65 and expenses were $27,067.69 with year to date at -$9,617.56. Motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Mary and seconded by Cliff; motion passed.

Board Report

Christian Education

VBS is still being planned for the first week in August; materials have been ordered.

Deacons – Cliff Langerud

Looking into the possibility of having drive-up outdoor services.

Deacons are calling the elderly and praying with them as well as those with illnesses.

Finance – Tim Pender

Online giving has been going well.

Trustees – No report.

Worship & Music – Mary Langerud

Confirmation and Senior Recognition has been postponed.

Pastor's Report

Younger Confirmation group is meeting online. Older class in more interactive with personal interviews that will be scheduled when possible. Class is doing sermon notes at home.

Keeping in contact with elderly members and those in poor health.

Ulen members are watching Sunday sermons on the website.

Annual conference has been postponed.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Tim made a motion to approve Pastor Ryan Tonneson's housing allowance change and seconded by Cliff; motion carried.

Resolved, that the total compensation paid to Pastor Ryan Tonneson for the calendar year 2020 shall be $64,260 of which $36,500 is designated to be the housing and utilities allowance, and that the designation of $36,500 as a housing and utilities allowance apply to 2020 and all future years unless otherwise provided.

Pastor Lloyd Quanbeck's housing allowance will remain as last year.

Pastor Lloyd closed in prayer.

Next Meeting: May 13th at 7 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Pat Lewis

WMF NOTES

(Women's Missionary Federation)

GLYNDON MORNING WMF

ULEN WMF

GLYNDON EVENING WMF

No WMF's met in April

ATTENTION LADIES OF SERVING GROUP I— WHEN CHURCH RESUMES…..

We will be responsible for serving the months of **May and June.** A signup sheet will be posted in the kitchen *in the end of March*, please take time to check those date or dates that you would be willing to serve goodies on a Sunday morning.

We will also be responsible for serving pot-blessings, wedding receptions, special events and funerals that happen during our 3 months. Thank you for your willingness to serve and your cooperation. It is much appreciated.

The **Women's Retreat** that was being planned for June has been postponed due to the COVID (even if we are released from restrictions there are many that would be high risk to be there)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

Aleithia Quanbeck	May 01
Zachary Larson	May 01
Lisa Jenson	May 02
Kristopher Rasmussen	May 02
Nathan DeJong	May 03
Taylor Fuhs	May 03
Mark Bekkerus	May 04
Sharon Christensen	May 05
Ryan Menholt	May 06
Sawyer Lambert	May 06
Morgan Okke	May 07
Craig Larson	May 07
Caitlin Olek	May 07
Helmer Gaukler	May 07
William Tonneson	May 07
Shirley Swenson	May 09
Jacob Skolness	May 09
Chris Hong	May 10
Jack Olek	May 11
Noah Ebner	May 11
Becca Buchfink	May 11
Hilda Schneidermann	May 11
Calvin Oberg	May 12
Grace Toms	May 13
Isaac Schlauderaff	May 14
Linda Bekkerus	May 15
Canaan Baer	May 16
Rhyse Menholt	May 17
Isaiah Trick	May 17

Delores Welle	May 18
Laura Scheuring	May 19
Ezekiel Nordvik	May 19
Kyle Johnson	May 20
Sara Larson	May 20
Jill Olek	May 21
Matthew Larson	May 22
Lily Olson	May 22
James Trick	May 22
Thomas Buchfink	May 22
Brad Dunham	May 23
Laci Chromey	May 25
Nolan Dale	May 25
Diane Rosenfeldt	May 26
Alex Klevgaard	May 26
Dawsen Johnson	May 26
Gauge Graff	May 26
Marissa John	May 26
Michael Trulson	May 27
Dylan Eckert	May 27
Ron Larson	May 28
Gary Langerud	May 28
Ruth Stong	May 31
Cassie Graff	May 31

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

Jim & Ardis Johnson Haarstad	May 03
Tim & Stephanie Schlauderaff	May 07
Ordean & Bernadene Bentley	May 12
Blaine & Cheryl Sivertson	May 14
Ben & Nicole Nordvik	May 14
Kenton & Bonita Chromey	May 15
Todd & Rhonda Rasmussen	May 16
Matthew & Amanda Larson	May 27

SALT TEENS

Wednesday evenings: Meeting each week at 7:00pm on Zoom.

We continue to look for commitments to donate to **Narcice**, **Our Compassion Child** from Togo, Africa.

SENIORS ~ please check page 6 on how to send a video clip of yourself telling us a few things about you and your plans. On May 17th we want to honor you on our Online Service. Thanks!

Confirmation Students

Maranatha-Glyndon Confirmands:

Savannah Brown; Laci Chromey; Harley Dale; Cianna Gilbert; Joshua Koehler; Bailey Murack; Isaiah Quanbeck and Autumn Schlauderaff

Maranatha Ulen **Confirmand -** Isabel Klemetson

A new date for Confirmation has not been set at this time.

High School Graduates will be recognized on Sunday May 17th on online service time.

High School Seniors:

Emma Dahl; Keagan Gilbert; Ethan John; Katie Koehler; Max Okke; Tristen Olson; Kallie Quanbeck; Laura Scheuring; Carter Schmidt and Joseph Thomas

Thankful for all who serve our country!

Kally Anderson, granddaughter of Vonnie Anderson

Trevor Dufault, son of Todd & Sara Dravland

Andy Heisinger, husband of Tracy

Kyle Johnson, son-in-law of Gary & Debi Langerud

Layne Johnson, grandson of Ardis Johnson

Wyatt Ladwig, Son of Scott & Heidi Ladwig

Jessica Myers, granddaughter of Gerrie Payne

Luke Stensgard, grandson of Jane Williams

Jonathan Taylor, grandson of Fran Jenson

Josh Trulson, son-in-law of John & Terrie Enlow

Marcus Young, John & Terrie Enlow's niece's husband

Thank You to all Men & Women, family and friends, who are serving our country both here at home and in other countries. Let's remember them in prayer!

I want to thank all who have been praying for me during this time of having shingles. Thank you for all the cards and phone calls and thoughts that have been sent my way. God is good and I pray that He blesses each of you in my Maranatha Church family.

Mary Ellen Ward

Bob & Clarice Softing extend their deep Thank You for your prayers for Bob's cousin, Earl Herbranson. Earl passed away on Saturday, May 2.

Emy DeBoer fell and broke her hip, She is now at

Grace Lutheran Communities
286 N Willson Dr
Altoona, WI 54720

Please remember her in your prayers as she goes through the healing process. A card would be of encouragement to her.

Remembering a Great Man of God

The Abel family owes a debt of gratitude to our wonderful father and grandfather and great grandfather. We would have loved to have a grand gathering of the many people he has impacted through the years. However, with the present situation in our world, we have had to adjust the funeral plans. We are planning a simple burial service with the family on May 15, 2020, in Hitterdal, MN. On Thursday, June 18, at 3:00 p.m. we hope to gather a larger group (depending on the gathering rules at that time) for a celebration service at the AFLC headquarters.

If you would like to read **John Abel's obituary** (in English or Portuguese) just visit https://www.gillbrothers.com We will enjoy reading the entries friends and families make on this website. Thanks for your prayers for us during this time. May the Lord be glorified as we remember the life of this very special person. Blessings to each of you as you trust the Lord in this "quarantine phase" of our lives.

In Christ, Paul and Becky

(Missionary & Pastor John Abel past away on April 15, 2020)

If you would like to send a card, you can send it to:
RUBY ABEL
240 CENTRAL AVE N APT 118
WAYZATA MN 55391-1222

AFLC ANNUAL CONFERENCE HAS A NEW DATE: August 10– 12

AFLC Association of Free Lutheran Congregations

Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, the AFLC Conference Committee, in consultation with this year's host, the Association Retreat Center, is announcing a change in dates. A shortened version of the Annual Conference will be held starting at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, August 10th and will close with the business session on Wednesday, August 12th at 5:30 p.m.

We confess that we certainly see through a glass darkly right now, but believe the most helpful thing we can do for our future planning is to set these dates and trust that we will be able to move forward when the time arrives.

Host: Association Retreat Center - Osceola, WI
Theme: Luke 18:8
"Will He Find Faith?"

Register online at aflc.org

Please note: *If you had registered for Conference before the change of dates, you are still registered. If you are now unable to attend, please contact the AFLC President's office.*

GLYNDON PARISH NURSE

Is it COVID-19?

COVID-19 symptoms can include fever, cough, and shortness of breath. This may be similar to other illnesses, like the flu and common cold. Many people with COVID-19 have mild or few symptoms, and some may have no symptoms at all.

If you are able to manage your symptoms at home, you don't need to seek care or get a COVID-19 test. Contact your medical provider for any symptoms that are severe. **For medical emergencies, such as difficulty breathing, call 911.**

SYMPTOMS	COVID-19	FLU	COLD	ALLERGIES
Cough	Often	Often	Sometimes	Sometimes
Fever	Often	Often	Rarely	Never
Body aches	Often	Often	Rarely	Never
Shortness of breath	Sometimes	Sometimes	Rarely	Rarely
Headache	Sometimes	Often	Sometimes	Sometimes
Fatigue	Sometimes	Often	Sometimes	Sometimes
Sore throat	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes	Never
Loss of taste or smell	Sometimes	Rarely	Rarely	Rarely
Diarrhea	Sometimes	Rarely	Never	Never
Chest pain or pressure	Rarely	Rarely	Never	Never
Runny nose	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Often
Sneezing	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Often
Watery eyes	Never	Never	Never	Often

This list is not all-inclusive.

mn DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

health.mn.gov | 04/20/2020

Be strong and courageous.

Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you.

Deuteronomy 31:6

Congratulations, Grad! You've done it!

All the studying, all the tests, all the papers, all the chemistry reports. You are done with High School! Congratulations! And, if anything, you doubly need the recognition for your accomplishments in a time of quarantine and social distancing. But, as our Stay at Home order has been extended in Minnesota until May 18, Maranatha is unable to gather together in person to celebrate your accomplishments.

Usually on Senior Recognition Sunday, we would invite you to the front of the Sanctuary and ask you a few questions about what the Lord's been teaching you in High School and what your plans are for the fall and beyond. **This year, we are asking that you record a video for us to play for Senior Recognition Sunday** on Sunday, May 17th. Please take a look at what we would like to hear from you and some basic instructions. If you have any questions, please let me know!

What We Would Like to Hear:

- Your name
- Where you graduated from
- A favorite Bible verse (or verses) - and yes, we would like you to read them for us
- One or two things the Lord has been teaching you during High School, and
- Your plans for the fall and beyond.

Basic Instructions for the Video:

- Please record the video on your phone in landscape mode.
- Follow basic YouTube etiquette: Try to find a quiet place. Make sure you are centered in the video. Speak directly into the camera, not off in the distance. Don't talk too fast - or to slow. And don't forget to practice it a few times!
- If possible, please upload the video to the Drive folder (see link at MaranathaFreeLutheran.com/SaltTeens by Wednesday, May 13 so they can be edited for Sunday.

CPYU PARENT PAGE

MAY 2020

THE CENTER FOR PARENT/YOUTH UNDERSTANDING

Helping parents understand teenagers and their world

Teens, Sleep, and Pandemic Breakdown

WALT MUELLER, CPYU President

So. . . here we are. . . all still trying to navigate the Covid-19 pandemic. In recent weeks I've been listening to parents talk about the good, the bad, and the ugly that's been coming out of the stay-at-home-and-quarantine order. On the good side, families are spending more time together and rediscovering the joy of eating dinner together. Many families are taking advantage of this activity-free interlude to engage in playing games, getting outside together, and having family devotions. Believe it or not, there *are* bright spots shining in the midst of this Coronavirus.

But there's one dark spot I'm hearing about more and more. Long before Covid-19, we were sounding the alarm about how often kids are engaged with their devices, sometimes at the cost of uninterrupted sleep. Now, with Covid-19, our kids tend to go to bed later and use the overnight to kindle the peer-to-peer connections they've lost due to quarantine. I've been hearing this consistently from parents over the past few weeks, and they are looking for insight into how to remedy a situation that is undermining physical, emotional, and spiritual health.

We can begin by understanding just how much sleep our kids *do* need. Researchers tell us that teenagers have always needed just over nine hours of uninterrupted sleep for healthy physical and emotional growth/development. But judging from what the research is telling us about new patterns of adolescent sleep, healthy physical and emotional teenage development is in jeopardy of becoming a thing of the past.

We must also look at the clear and convincing data regarding the fallout from digitally-interrupted sleep. These dangers include:

Depression and Anxiety. Counselors who screen patients for depression and anxiety will first ask patients about their sleep. Not getting enough sleep not only leads to depression and anxiety, but will make it worse.

Obesity. People who don't sleep enough tend to crave and eat more food.

Heart Disease. A lack of sleep leads to greater stress, which in turn can elevate blood pressure and increase the risk of strokes and heart disease.

Decreased neurologic function. Not only does a lack of sleep lead to fatigue and decreased attention span, but it also effects driving and reaction time. Sleep impaired driving has been equated to driving while alcohol-impaired with a blood alcohol content of .08%.

Aggressive and inappropriate behavior. When you're tired, you tend to get grumpy.

Parents, we are called by God to nurture our children into spiritual, emotional, relational, and physical maturity in ways that glorify God and equip them to live a God-honoring life. We are called to protect our kids from harm and provide for their well-being. Safeguarding their sleep is our responsibility. And the antidote to digitally-interrupted sleep is simple: Don't let them sleep with their phones in the same room. Let's take advantage of pandemic-time to instill healthy digital habits. ✶

YOUTH CULTURE HOT QUOTE

"Let them sleep in! It is important that they maintain a regular sleep schedule and are not staying up too late. I would even recommend parents take this time to observe their children and see if they notice any improvements in their mood, concentration, performance, and behaviors with this extra sleep. Given the additional stress kids are going through, it is even more important we help them get adequate amounts of sleep so they are as resilient as possible."

Nicholas H. Benson, MD (Pulmonary and Sleep Medicine Specialist), when asked his opinion about letting teens sleep in (as long as they are still getting their distance learning schoolwork finished), mspmag.com, April 22, 2020

TOP 10... Most Viewed YouTube Channels in the U.S.

During the week of April 20, 2020
Source: *Tubefilter*

1. *Cocomelon - Nursery Rhymes*
2. *Like Nastya*
3. *Kids Diana Show*
4. *WWE*
5. *Movieclips*
6. *Vlad and Nikita*
7. *BabyBus - Nursery Rhymes*
8. *TC*
9. *Ryan's World*
10. *Sesame Street*

QUICK STATS

In 2014, 8.8% of lifetime e-cigarette users initiated use at age 14 years or younger, whereas in 2018 this number increased to 28.6%.
(American Journal of Public Health)

During the first week of most of the nation's stay-at-home order, network traffic for voice and video calls was up 212%.
(Comcast)

FROM THE NEWS:

HYPER-SEXUALIZED DANCE

In the wake of the controversy following this year's hyper-sexualized Super Bowl halftime dance show, Mary Bawden of the organization DA:NCE (Dance Awareness: No Child Exploited) wrote a timely blog. Bawden loves dance and says that watching a child explore the art of movement through dance is precious. But she is also sounding the alarm regarding how in children's dance classes around the nation, young children are being taught to dance with choreography that hypersexualizes them and their bodies. She warns readers that our kids are being taught movement patterns that are highly suggestive, and which include obscene gestures. Add to that the presence of sexualized music and seductive costumes, and you've got a mix that has negative effects on kids. These negative effects include body dysmorphia, desensitization to hyper-sexualization, promiscuity, higher risk of pornography use, and higher risk of abusive relationships. Parents, nurture your kids into the counter-cultural beauty of a biblical sexual ethic.

TRENDS:

METABOLISM DROPS

Styles and fads have come and gone in the teen population thanks in part to the way these things are spread from teen to teen through one's peer networks. The constant presence of social media has facilitated quicker and more widespread opportunities for viral fads, as kids are engaged 24/7 with their social media peer networks. The video-based social media platform known as Tik-Tok is one avenue where kids learn about the latest styles and practices. Tik-Tok influencers have fueled a dangerous fad towards the use of the Wellness Solution brand's products known as Metabolism Drops and Metabolism Capsules. Even though the weight-loss products are targeted to women over eighteen, girls are using Tik-Tok to encourage others to misuse the product, especially at high doses. Parents, be aware, and warn your kids about the dangers of these products. But be sure to go a step further and teach your kids that identity is not to be found in one's body image, but in who they are in Christ.

LATEST RESEARCH:

FAMILIES PRAYING AND WORSHIPING TOGETHER

In a recent article in *Christianity Today* magazine, Lyman Stone from the American Enterprise Institute reported on research into how family religious practices in the home influence the faith formation of children in positive ways into adulthood. Of course, this should not come as a surprise. Throughout the Scriptures, Christian parents are instructed to pass on the faith from generation to generation. If this is God's design, then we should expect it to work. After looking at the research, Stone writes these words: "Families who pray and worship together tend to continue praying and worshiping together. The key to the successful transmission of the Christian faith across generations is not more youth groups or hipper pastors but the Holy Spirit working through the vocation of parenthood as parents take the time to share their faith with their own children." Parents, remember that God has called you to be the primary nurturing influence your child's life. Embrace and live out that high calling!

CPYU'S DIGITAL KIDS INITIATIVE

www.DigitalKidsInitiative.com

Social Media Poison

by Walt Mueller

I recently read an informative op-ed piece by Stella O'Malley, a therapist who works with families. O'Malley titled her piece, "The Children I Meet Are Often Shattered By Their Social Media Use." The headline caught my eye as I am constantly involved in debates on the long and short term dangers related to life on our emerging smartphone populated landscape. She writes, "I can't help but notice how much our devices have become a poisoned chalice in our lives. On the one hand, they are great fun and often fascinating, but on the other hand, they can be a continuous distraction from our real lives and can often make us feel tense, nervous, and disconnected."

She then goes on to explain how companies that profit from technology target children and parents with the educational benefits of devices and apps. But, as she says, it doesn't take long for these things to be swapped for mindless rubbish. Parents, be aware. Jumping into the digital landscape without caution is very risky.

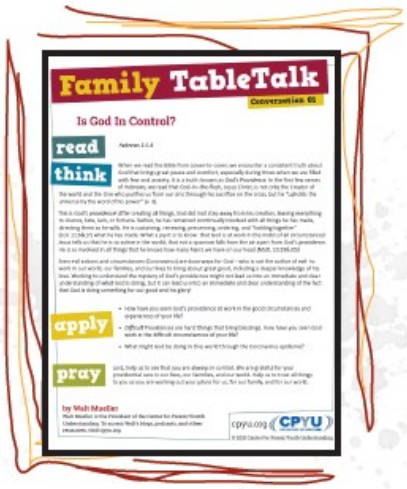
New Podcast

Youth Culture Matters
is a long-format podcast from CPYU co-hosted by Walt Mueller and Jason Soucinek.

Youth Culture Matters
A CPYU PODCAST

Listen at
www.cpyu.org/podcast.

Be sure to check out Episode 102 titled "Mental Health for Families in our Current Crisis" with Julie Lowe



CPYU
CENTER FOR PARENT/YOUTH UNDERSTANDING

FROM THE WORD

What do you consider to be the "necessary" aspects of your job as a parent? We would all agree that we need to provide our children with the physical sustenance that ensures that they will grow from childhood into a healthy adulthood. This includes food, water, shelter, medical care, immunizations, etc. We would also agree that it would be horribly irresponsible if we didn't provide our children with an education that prepares them for independent living in the world. In addition, we might include some of the cultural requirements expected of parents in today's world. . . things like getting our kids into extracurricular activities and a variety of social settings. When done correctly and with attention to balance, these things are "necessary" and good.

"WOE TO ME IF I DO NOT PREACH THE GOSPEL!"
1 CORINTHIANS 9:16

But do we consider the spiritual nurture of our children a "necessity?" And if we do, what level of importance do we give to spiritual nurture? The dictionary defines "necessity" as something that is required or indispensable. The Apostle Paul told the Corinthians that it was necessary for him to preach the Gospel. Preaching was an obligation that Paul felt and a necessity that he could not ignore or escape. Because of his God-given calling, Paul tells the Corinthians very simply, "Woe to me if I do not preach the Gospel!" (I Cor. 9:16). In *The Message*, Eugene Peterson translates this verse as reading, "I'm *compelled* to do it, and doomed if I don't!" That's some strong language that captures just how important the communication of the Good News about Jesus Christ really is.

Because you have been given the gift of children, it follows that you have been called by God to nurture your children. . . physically, emotionally, relationally, intellectually, *and* spiritually. In fact, the spiritual nurture of our children should be primary, shaping and informing all the other aspects of nurture. Parents, get to know the Gospel. Consume it. Embrace it. Live it. And then, be a conduit of the Gospel to your kids.

HELPFUL RESOURCE

One of the many good things that has come out of this crisis is that families are spending more time together. In fact, families are rediscovering the joy of sitting down at the dinner table together to share a meal and time in conversation. And, as we navigate the questions, fear, and anxiety that have come with living in this cultural moment, we realize that our kids are ripe and ready to hear the truths of God's word. We've been given a great opportunity to nurture our children and teens in the faith! Here at CPYU, we've launched a family tabletalk initiative designed to provide your family with tools to help you dig deeper into and apply God's word. We've recruited a team of gifted thinkers and writers to create several weeks worth of "Family Tabletalk" daily devotional guides. The guides give you a Scripture passage to read together at the dinner table, some commentary on the passage to spark your thinking, some questions to help you apply and discuss what you've read, and a short prayer to pray together. These Family Tabletalk devotional guides are all free. Scan the QR code to the left, or visit www.cpyu.org/ftt.

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Maranatha Free Lutheran Church Monthly Financial Summary Glyndon, MN

	3/31/2020
March GENERAL FUND INCOME	**$29,490.65**
GENERAL FUND EXPENSES	
Deacons	$15,634.14
Education	$267.19
Finance	$4,695.80
Trustees	$6,046.67
Worship & Music	$423.89
March GENERAL FUND EXPENSES	**$27,067.69**
Other Income (Rent, Interest, etc)	$3.72
General Fund Balance Change	**$2,426.68**
March GENERAL FUND BALANCE	**$60,570.57**

Special Funds	2/29/2020 Previous Balance	Income	Expenses	3/31/2020 Ending Balance	
Building Fund	$ 19,093.72			$ 19,093.72	
Compassion Child - Narcise	$ -			$ -	
Cookbook Sales for Missions	$ 10.00			$ 10.00	
Designated Donations	$ 150.00	$50.00		$ 200.00	
Gear Head Fund	$ 1,184.59			$ 1,184.59	
Good Samaritan Fund	$ 2,593.71	$25.00		$ 2,618.71	
Holiday Baskets	$ 383.84			$ 383.84	
Lent Offering	$ 345.00	$405.00		$ 750.00	
Memorial Fund	$ 7,489.37	$55.00		$ 7,544.37	
Men's Fellowship	$ 921.32	$20.00		$ 941.32	
Men's Fraternity	$ 317.55			$ 317.55	
Outreach Ministries	$ 166.42			$ 166.42	
Parking Lot	$ 1,671.74			$ 1,671.74	
Sunday Fellowship Fund	$ 467.31			$ 467.31	
Sunday School Missions	$ 80.08	$35.83		$ 115.91	
Thanksgiving Offering	$ 319.00			$ 319.00	
Trails End Ranch	$ 1,716.00			$ 1,716.00	
VBS Blanket Project	$ 130.00			$ 130.00	
Wedding Fund	$ 1,909.99			$ 1,909.99	
Wednesday Suppers	$ 3,614.45			$ 3,614.45	
World Missions Fund	$ 9,895.92	$185.00		$ 10,080.92	
Youth Activities Fund	$ 361.00			$ 361.00	
Youth FLY Fund	$ 4,944.87	$1,006.34	$190.97	$ 5,760.24	
Special Funds Balance	**$ 57,765.88**	**$ 1,782.17**	**$ 190.97**	**$ 59,357.08**	
General Fund Balance	**$ 58,143.89**			**$ 60,570.57**	$ (0.00)
CHECKBOOK BALANCE	**$ 115,909.77**			**$ 119,927.65**	
PETTY CASH BALANCE	**20.00**			**$ 20.00**	

Financial Snapshot - Maranatha Glyndon

General Fund	Current Month	Year to Date	Total Budget	Monthly Contributions Needed to Meet Budget	Percent of Budget Received / Expended YTD
Contributions	$29,490.65	**$67,376.52**		$ 30,836.25	18.21%
Expenditures	$27,063.97	**$76,994.08**	$370,035.00		20.81%
		-$9,617.56			

Questions may be directed to Amanda Larson - Treasurer *treasurer_maranatha@outlook.com* *(701) 793-5177*

Detailed financial reports are available in the Glyndon office.

An estimated quick look for April: Donations were $24,595. Estimated expenses will be over $27,000, which will roughly be a shortage of $(3,000) for April. That would put us at an estimated shortage of $(12,600) YTD.

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May 2020

… "where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom." II Corinthians 3:17

Members of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations