

MARS UP CHURCH



We are your hometown church: Faithful to Tradition, Loving in Fellowship & Reaching for Tomorrow!

APRIL 2020

Dear Friends in Christ,

Be merciful to me, LORD, for I am faint; O LORD, heal me, for my bones are in agony. My soul is in anguish. How long, O LORD, how long? (Psalm 6:2-3).

This letter is unlike what I have ever written. In 15+ years of ministry, I've written over 175 letters, some more difficult and challenging than others. But normally (!), as a church family approaches Palm Sunday, Holy Week, and Easter, the content is essentially the same.

Not this year! Social distancing! Self-isolation! Abundance of caution! How many verses of *Happy Birthday* have you sung? We are not together! We miss each other! Our lives are in disarray! Our health is under threat! We won't be able to celebrate Jesus' Passion and Resurrection together! No full sanctuary with joyous hymns this year! We cry out to God, "*How long, O LORD, how long?*"

Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from the will of your Father. And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered (Matthew 10:29-30).

My friends, God DOES hear our cries, and is with us during these difficult times. He knows what we are going through, and for whatever reason, he has allowed this to happen. Our world is broken – evil, sickness, and pain are part of our lives. During these difficult days we must rely upon and lean upon the Lord for comfort, provision, and hope. We must remain faithful and patient.

The Mars leadership team has stepped up and in! Our Elders and Deacons are reaching out to others – whose name has been placed on YOUR heart? I hope you've been able to see our Virtual Worship Service – as I write this, the March 22 service had 199 "views," and the 29th had 73. This means others outside our own family are hearing the Word. (*A comment from the 29th – I am not used to preaching from a wooden chair!*) We also encourage you to join the Virtual Tarry & Talk each Sunday at 11:00.

[The] men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen! (Luke 24:5-6).

Almost 2,000 years ago, terrified, grieving women went to a tomb – where they would care for the body of a dead friend. Those of us who have lost loved ones can imagine their grief and loss. But instead of finding their dead friend, *two men in dazzling clothes* gave them the greatest news ever received. *He is not here; he has risen!*

My friends, because of the risen Christ, we need not search among dead things for hope and assurance. Because Christ has been raised, we also can rise above any trial or tribulation. We must set our hope in the Lord, and remain hopeful and positive about the future. Because Jesus is alive – not dead – we also are alive.

I pray that, whatever the circumstances, you have a prayerful Holy Week and a joyous Easter. We WILL be back together, and having gone through this ordeal, we will resume worship and fellowship stronger than ever! Because *He is not here; he has risen!*

In Christ,

Pastor Jim

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

- Will have virtual worship only until further notice
- No activities in the building, individual groups can organize meetings
- Session will meet weekly to monitor developments
- Will hold "Virtual Tarry & Talk" on Sundays, 11:00 AM
- Elders calling various church members to keep in touch



OPTIONS AVAILABLE FOR US TO WORSHIP ARE:

WHEN: EVERY SUNDAY UNTIL FURTHER
NOTICE

WHERE: VIRTUAL WORSHIP ONLINE AT
OUR WEBSITE WWW.MARS-UP.ORG OR
OUR FACEBOOK PAGE
EMAILS WITH VIRTUAL LINK TO
SERMONS
SERMONS VIA MAILINGS

Sunday School Classes are also offering Virtual classes. If you would like to “attend virtually” please contact the office for info.

TARRY N TALK will also be offered every Sunday at 11:00 am. Watch for your email to see how to attend via zoom.us

MARS UP SESSION

CLASS OF 2020

KEITH CUYAR
LOUISE FOX
ANGELA BADGER
ALMA STASKIEWICZ
JOHN IVORY

CLASS OF 2021

KEITH NICHOLS
JOHN IVORY
BOB RIEFER
CHRISTI AUGUSTINE

Class of 2022

LINDA LEES
MIKE BOCHEFF
SUSAN COX
SALLY OLSEN

MARS UP DEACONS

CLASS OF 2020

CAROLINE KOPAR
MARIE MATTHEWS
NANCY HUGGINS

CLASS OF 2021

RUTH WILSON
MARSHA HALEY
JILL COOPER

CLASS OF 2022

JAY WILSON
DEE AIELLO
PAT JACKSON

PNC TEAM

Keith Cuyar, Angela Badger, Alma Staskiewicz, Herb Wellman, Roy Schmitt, Louise Fox, Jenny Ivory, Carol Kopar, Don Lewis



SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 2020

MUP FELLOWSHIP AT THE CHURCH



BOWLING AT MISTY LANES





MARS UP CHURCH WIDE PICNIC

JUNE 14TH AFTER CHURCH WORSHIP

Join us for a wonderful time of
fellowship at

ADAMS TOWNSHIP PARK!

Location: Adams Township Park Pavilion (near Play-
ground)

Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Beverages Provided, Everyone bring a covered dish.

Watch upcoming Bulletins for more Details!!

Although our church is temporarily closed to worship services, we still need to consider the lights are on, the staff is still working, and the day to day expenses are still part of MUP church.



If you are able, please consider sending in your giving to the office,
Mars UP Church PO Box 805, Mars, PA 16046 or go online at
www.mars-up.org

Thank You

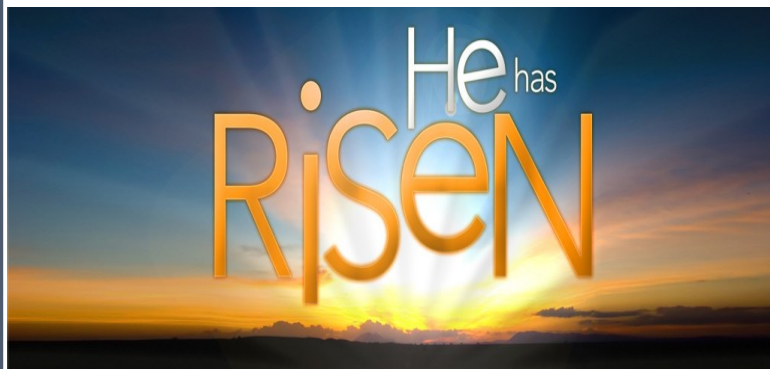
The Stewardship Committee



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website gives the steps to prevent illness for the coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19). There is currently no vaccine.

The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus. The virus is spread mainly person-to-person, between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet). Through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes. Steps to protect yourself are the following: 1) Clean your hands often. 2) Avoid close contact. 3) Stay home if you're sick. 4) Cover coughs and sneezes. 5) Wear a facemask if you are sick 6) Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily. This includes tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, and sinks. If surfaces are dirty, clean them.

For more details on up to date information, continue checking this website www.cdc.gov/coronavirus



He is Risen!

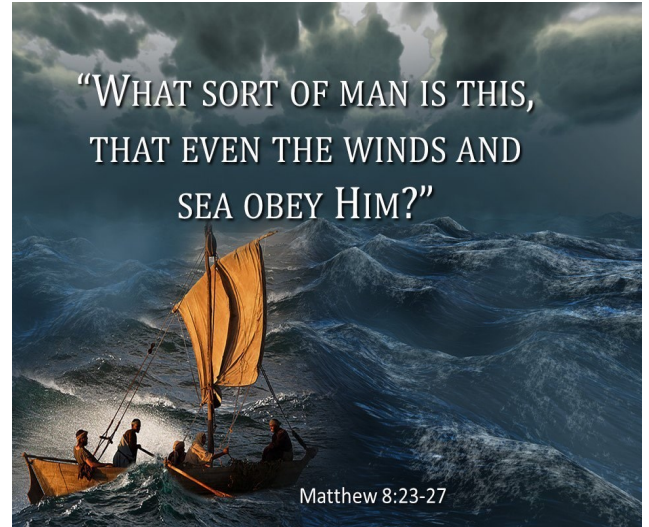
Sunday, April 12, 2020

Online Worship

Fear or Faith

A question to ponder..... In the storms of life, Will you walk in Fear or Faith?

1. Storms are an inevitable part of life.
 - A. They often come without warning
 - B. They come with great severity.
 - C. They always come for our testing
2. Storms reveal our spiritual condition.
 - A. Fear is the natural response to a raging storm.
 - B. Fear always wants to project the worst.
 - C. Fear must be confronted with faith.
 1. Faith trusts the Lord's word.
 2. Faith believes the Lord's love and care.
 3. Faith keeps on moving forward.
3. Storms help us see Jesus more clearly.
 - A. He is completely calm in the storm.
 - B. He is more than able in the storm.
 - C. He is all we need in the storm.



No need to fear if Jesus is in your life. Is Jesus in your boat????

Mark 4:35-41



**excerpt from inhisheart ministries with Pastor Jeff Schreve

As the storm rages.....March 31, 2020

Save the Date and Time:

Virtual Tarry N Talk Every Sunday at 11am



Contact Us

Stop by the office, email or give us a call for more information.

Mars UP Church

232 Crowe Ave
PO Box 805
Mars, PA 16046

(724) 625-1365
marsup@mars-up.org

Visit us on the web at
www.mars-up.org

We're also on Facebook!!

Join us for Worship
Sunday's Virtual

Prayer Chain:
mjaiken@zoominternet.net

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