

Happy Saturday, WFMC Family,

[Link to Morning Worship Live-stream, January 10, 2021 \(becomes live at 8:30a\)](#)

**Morning Worship and Programming Changes:** Tomorrow we return to our “normal” Sunday schedule, with worship gatherings at 8:30a and 11:00a, and Sunday school, and Youth and Adult Bible Fellowships at 9:30a. Tomorrow, we also begin using the hymnals and worship supplements again, as research increasingly shows very low transmission rates due to touch...and...since the hymnals lie unused for seven days each week. We will continue to use individual communion services and the offering box instead of passing plates.

Again, for our in-home worshippers, the live-stream begins at 8:30 and the worship folder, including song-sheets, is attached.

In-person worshippers, please wear masks at least while moving and singing, and be careful to keep social distancing protocols in place. Although somewhere around 50 persons in our church have been diagnosed with Covid with varying degrees of symptom severity, we have had no incidents of contamination or outbreak in any on-campus worship, prayer or discipleship context. We're very grateful to God for that...and we want to do all we can to keep it that way.

**Kids! Do you Need a Fun Activity for a Gloomy Winter Afternoon?** Print the attached scavenger hunts and let them see how quickly they can search for different clues found in each book of the Old and New Testaments. There are also printed packets of them in the church foyer.

**What Can One Say After a Week Like This?** Of course the Church speaks against the violence and lawlessness – and all who instigated it – that was demonstrated this past Wednesday in Washington D. C.; just as we've spoken against the violence and lawlessness – and those who instigated it – that's occurred in months past in Portland and Seattle and Minneapolis, etc. We pray for those who are victims as well as for those who perpetrate...and for light and truth to come to bear on the underlying issues that provoke such behavior.

At the same time, we must realize what we're becoming as a nation and why. These are not solely political or social or policy or economic or relational issues that we're facing. These are spiritual issues; the consequences of poor spiritual health. The weak spiritual pulse of our country is the sickness that is causing all these symptoms, and has been for some time.

As we were cleaning out a bit over the holidays, I unearthed an article that I wrote for the Lexington Herald Leader in response to the 2008 financial crisis – the 'Great Recession.' Check it out, and remember, it was written twelve years ago:

*The economic realities of our time and the feelings of insecurity they produce cannot be ignored. Pastors who don't feel it necessary to address these things and speak to where people are living today – may I say this politely? – have their heads in the sand.*

*Over the past eight months or so, many members of my congregation have kindly congratulated me for addressing these issues without being political or attacking some political party. They always seem pleasantly surprised – sometimes amazed – that I can “pull this off.”*

*You know, there's really no big secret to this. The reason I don't get political is because the problems our country and our world faces are not really political. At their core, our problems are spiritual.*

*There used to be a critical mass of people in leadership in our country, both in business and government, who let basic Judeo-Christian principles guide their lives and decisions – principles such as trust, honesty, generosity, mercy, compassion and justice.*

*Sure, there were some skunks in there, too. The Madoffs have always been with us – in both business and government – but usually, the principled people won out.*

*I'm afraid that's not the case anymore. We've become, predominantly, a nation of greed, from the highest positions of leadership all the way down. You see it in the business practices of failed companies, which threw honesty to the wind in order to make all the money they could at any cost. You see it in the highest levels of government, where legislation is being passed that will amass and hold power over more people than ever before – at any cost.*

*The problem with our country, and much of our world, is that we've lost our spiritual bearing. We're out for ourselves, with no real regard for the common good. Pundits and talk shows can debate the stimulus package all they want, but I don't hear anyone addressing the core issue. In fact, we've banned religion from even being a viable topic of public discussion.*

*History clearly shows us that when nations get to the point of disintegration that the United States is at today, their only hope is spiritual revival. We need God to come and visit us powerfully and remind us of the realities of faith and the spiritual world. We need Him to impress upon us once again the eternal principles of virtue and the basic difference between right and wrong.*

*Yes, there are symptoms we have the power to treat, and we should, but a spiritual healing is the only thing that will truly fix our nation.*

Some things simply don't change...and won't change...apart from genuine spiritual renewal. Beyond all else, that is what we need in our nation – to turn our focus and locus of life to God and His will and way. This is the message of the Church of Jesus Christ, which offers true hope to our nation and world...and neighbors.

**On The Importance Of The Bible and Society:** *“The Bible is the chief moral cause of all that is good, and the best book for regulating the concerns of men...the man, therefore, who weakens or destroys the divine authority of that book may be accessory to all the public disorders which society is doomed to suffer...”*

~ Peter Marshall (former chaplain of the U. S. Senate – we need another one like him, don't we?)

**Yes, The Times are Challenging,** but an eternal perspective on earthly things always allows the Christian a sense of humor:



### **Arminians Storm God's Throne Room To Protest Election**

Peace and Blessings, Sisters and Brothers,  
Pastor Daryl