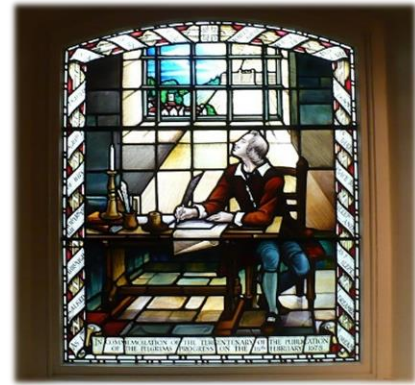


April 4, 2020

Good morning, Everybody.

Actually, it's afternoon now. The morning has flown by (*Ohhhhh*). But there are several things that I'd like to mention before the day gets completely away.



Additions to the Health Care Folks' List

Yesterday I sent a list of all the folks in our church who are working in Health Care. Four more names were sent to the office. The revised list is now:

Helen Berman (nurse in Zambia)
Lisa Custard (lab tech sending covid-19 specimens almost every day)
Dan Dahlhausen (doctor)
Karen Diachenko (secretary in a doctor's office)
Anne Dreisbach (nurse in Suriname)
Flora Earnest (nurse)
Helen Houtz (nurse)
Tom Kendall (doctor)
Sharon Lambright (nurse)
Rachel Langendorfer (nurse in PNG)
Maria Largent (nurse)
Mary Larsen (nurse)
Jennifer Pearson (nurse in PNG)
Benson Quattlebaum (nurse)
Judah Smith (medical scribe in an emergency room)
Asher Vincent (nurse)
September Washer (nurse)
Liz White (nurse)

If you know of others in our church who should be on this list, please let the office know. But just a word of request that's a little hard to have to ask (but that I know that you'll understand). Many of us may have family members or other friends outside of our church who are also on the "front lines" with this virus. Perhaps those names could be sent in for our SS class lists, the Wed. night prayer sheets, or for the congregational e-mail prayer list that we will be sending out this coming Tuesday. That way we can keep this list narrowly focused in order not to dilute the special attention that we want to assure our own church folks that we're giving to them (smile).

The Lord's Table

We observe the Lord's Table on the first Lord's Day evening of each month. How disappointing that we won't be able to do so tomorrow night. But the Lord certainly understands the impossibility. Perhaps it was in view of just such circumstances that He didn't mandate an inflexible schedule by which we must observe this ordinance rigorously.

We'll resume just as soon as we're able. And undoubtedly, our being providentially prevented from partaking of it for now will make the Lord's Table all the more precious to us in the future.

The Lord's Day

Though we aren't able to observe the Lord's Table, we're still able to enjoy the Lord's **Day** together in an abbreviated, distanced way. We should **seize** these opportunities eagerly as long as they're afforded to us.

George Swinnock (1627-1673) composed a substantive, spiritually-minded "good wish" for his own enjoyment of the Lord's Day. Beginning today, I'm going to plan to send you (Lord willing) a sentence or two from Swinnock's "wish" each Saturday for as long as we're not able to resume services. Here's the first "wish" to make our own for tomorrow (the **emphases** are mine).

*I wish, in general, that **as the Spirit may be in me in the weekdays, so I may be in the Spirit on the Lord's Day, filled therewith, and enabled thereby to have my conversation all the day long in Heaven.***

If any of you want to read Swinnock's "wish" for yourself, you can find it at Google Books. Look for an edition of *The Christian Man's Calling* that is listed as being available to "read" (some are not). Search it for "Martha," or "magnet," or "Lord's Day," and the "good wish" section should come up.

Well . . . I should close. I trust that you're having a good, profitable day; getting something done around the house or in the yard that will give you a happy, satisfied feeling when you retire for the night. But do be sure to prepare your heart for tomorrow. Formulate your own "wish," pray about it, and then watch for the "return" of your prayers (smile).

Praying for You Today,

Pastor Minnick