



Equipping the Saints

Ultimate Hope

“Hope” is commonly used to mean a wish, which can be strengthened with our prayers. We hope for good fortune, we hope for changing or sustaining things in our lives. Hope for passing a test, getting a promotion, finding work; hope for health, hope for a better year. I think in many ways we make New Year’s resolutions as a way to start the year with new hope.

What are your hopes?

“Hope” can also include an expectation. In a Biblical-sense hope is the confident expectation of what God has promised and its strength is in His faithfulness. This time of year, we celebrate the ultimate hope that came in the birth of Jesus Christ.

Jesus came to reconcile us with God. The hope of Jesus was prophesized to the Jews, it was given to the shepherds through the angels and shared with foreign wisemen who followed a celestial sign.

Luke 2:8-11 And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. 9An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 10But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. 11Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord...”

Isaiah 53:5-6 But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed. 6We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

John 10:14-15 “I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me– 15just as the Father knows me and I know the Father –and I lay down my life for the sheep.”

I am thankful God loves us more than we can comprehend and shares His promise, strength and faithfulness with us.

Hope as a wish and without question as the ultimate hope is needed to get us through tough times and challenges and to avoid them.

I hope we all have more peace, joy, happiness and normality in 2021 than we did in 2020. I hope your wishes come true but most of all, I hope we can all experience the joy that comes with the “ultimate hope” and allow it in our daily lives during the good times and the bad.

God Bless,
King of Glory Elders

Pastor's Columnn

To Be A Mission Christian in January

Maybe this describes you. It's your typical January. You've just expended an incredible amount of effort and emotion into all the various manifestations of the holidays: buying, wrapping and sending presents...parties – arranged and attended...concerts – participated in and/or attended ...cards written and sent...travel arranged and accomplished...relatives met and interacted with. Wheeww. I'm tired just writing this stuff down – and, like the Christmas/New Year season, a bit concerned (paranoid) that I might have forgotten something.

Then comes January. Then comes new debts, old work that you put off, and ice and wind and cold and sleet and snow and snow shoveling and taking all the decorations down and...and...am I missing something? Oh, yeah. It gets dark most of the time.

For a long time, it had no name, this feeling that comes over some of us. Now it's called "Seasonal Affective Disorder [S.A.D.]," and though you may get only a touch of it (that's me), it still is difficult to get through. A severe or mild form of depression, it can affect everything that you do – or, should I say, DON'T do. Is there a Christian response to this? Yes.

As I write this, it's two weeks before Christmas and I am contemplating a sermon related to the gift of JOY. Ah, joy. It's not happiness, I hope you know. Happiness comes and goes depending upon life's daily circumstances (as they "happen"), but joy is a gift from God that we can never be "out of," unless we reject Christ's gift. The Spirit gives it to us (Galatians 5:22) in unlimited supply.

Unlimited? How can that be possible? Well, for one thing, joy can be with us even though we are not happy at the moment. Joy is related to the gratitude we have for the blessings we have received – even if some of those blessings are gone or changed. Some of those blessings are good deeds that God was able to do through us for others...good deeds that give us a never-ending sense of fulfillment, of contentment, of gratification, and of satisfaction. Joy is also related to future blessings that we believe we will one day receive: salvation and redemption.

You see, no matter how we feel in January – either down in the dumps or tired or angry or worried or fearful – we can take those feelings, give them to God, and get joy in return. No matter how things are going for us in the winter months, we are thankful that we are a living part of God's mission on earth; we are His Heart, Hands and Voice; we are helping Christ spread His kingdom of love and grace.

As a pastor I have experienced people who, at any given time, are either optimistic or pessimistic. We've been told by our culture that we have to be one or the other. But more and more I realize that Christians are neither – instead, we are "MISSIONISTIC" – we approach each day and each problem as an excuse to consult the Spirit of God, discern God's will, and move forward into this or that new situation with faith in God and love for our neighbor.

No Christmas letdown or dark, cold January can take away the joy of THAT godly mission. For when we are sad or "S.A.D." or just plain ornery, I know that God can and does still use us to do amazing and wonderful things – all the more amazing and wonderful because they happen when no one expects it, when the cold has come.

- - Pastor David - -



Our Youth Rock!

Thank you to all of the Youth Group and Catechism families who contributed to making a brighter Christmas for the family we sponsored through Nora Elementary! Our combined efforts collected 42 wrapped presents as well as over \$200 in gift cards to buy groceries. Attached is a photo of the presents before sending them to the family.

Giving Tree 2020

Then the King will say to those at his right hand, "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me."

Matthew 25:34-37

This has been a challenging year for all of us, yet you did exactly what God has called us to do by giving to those in need. In need of food, in need of encouragement, in need of knowing someone else cares, in need of providing Christmas gifts for children. This year with all the difficulties and financial hardships you have given even more than last year! We raised over \$6000 worth of gifts and meals for the Giving Tree.

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You. You are the Heart, Hands and Voice of Christ to a hurting world.

And More Christmas Generosity

The entire staff wants to thank the congregation for their generous gift this Christmas season and for their encouragement throughout the year. We don't know what 2021 holds, but we do know our KOG family makes the most of every opportunity and we are looking forward to all the ministry we will share together this year (masks or no!).

Parish Nurse

Yes, you still need to wear a mask after you get the COVID-19 vaccine. Here's why.

by Grace Dickinson, Posted: December 16, 2020



The country's first coronavirus vaccinations are now being distributed. The FDA granted the Pfizer vaccine and the Moderna vaccine emergency authorization for use. In trials, the Pfizer vaccine was 95% effective in preventing COVID-19, and the Moderna vaccine stands at 94%, both significantly more effective than many scientists anticipated.

Both versions of the vaccine require two injections. If you get them both, your chances of getting infected with the coronavirus are likely low. But even if you get vaccinated in the near future, experts say it'll be months until you can ditch the masks and hug everyone around you.



Nora Family Gifts

Why we have to continue to wear masks

The main challenge? Studies of the COVID-19 vaccines only measured whether vaccinated people developed symptoms, not whether they got infected. We know that you can become infected with the coronavirus and be asymptomatic, meaning you never develop symptoms. Asymptomatic people can still spread COVID-19 to others. So we don't know whether a vaccine prevents asymptomatic infections and/or if there's still the possibility that a vaccinated person could transmit the virus without knowing it.

“The vaccine is probably the most important tool we have right now in controlling this pandemic, but it's not perfect and it's not a magic bullet that can end this for good right away,” says Neal Goldstein, assistant research professor of epidemiology and biostatistics at Drexel University.

We wear masks for two reasons: to protect ourselves, and to protect others. Because there's still a chance that you could be a silent carrier even after getting vaccinated, wearing a mask, practicing social distancing, and hand-washing all remain important.

How is it possible to be vaccinated but potentially carry the coronavirus?

The Pfizer and Moderna vaccines work by generating a body-wide immune response. They are injected deep into the muscles and travel through the bloodstream where the body creates antibodies and other types of white blood cells important for immunity.

“For a respiratory germ, like COVID-19, the point of entry into the body is through the respiratory tract, predominantly nose and mouth,” says Goldstein. “An important question is whether the vaccines elicit a strong immune response at these locations, [the nose and mouth], or the immune system destroys the virus elsewhere in the body.”

Researchers are trying to figure out whether you could still carry the virus in your respiratory tract, even if you're protected from getting sick. In theory, it's possible not enough antibodies will circulate in the blood to the mucosa, the moist tissue that lines the nose and mouth. In this case, the virus could potentially live in your respiratory tract, but not make you sick because your body is fending it off elsewhere. If it does remain in your mouth or nose, this means you could sneeze, cough, or breathe out contagious virus particles and still infect others. But the answer is still unknown.

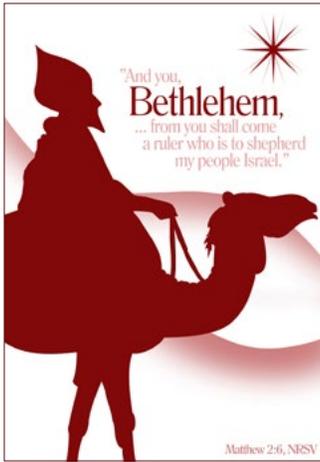
There's also the rare chance that you get vaccinated and still end up getting sick. While the two front-runners are “close to being perfect,” says Goldstein, no vaccine is 100% effective, which means there's always the chance you could still get infected. But again, that's uncommon, and the more people who get vaccinated, the less easily the virus can spread.

“As long as you have enough people who are vaccinated, then if in the odd chance someone gets infected, there are very few susceptible people to spread it to,” explains Sachinwalla.

So, when can we say goodbye to masks?

Experts estimate that around 70% of the population — more than 200 million people — in the U.S. would need to gain immunity, either from coronavirus infection or a vaccine, for the pandemic to end.

“It's going to take months, not weeks, but at the same time also not years, until we can end these mitigation measures. Not everyone can get vaccinated, not everyone will get vaccinated, and we're still learning about the vaccination, so everything else we've been doing all along is still so important,” says Goldstein.



January 1
 Marion Loyda
 Judy Naaman
 Nehemiah Xiong

January 2
 Harry Pettibone
 Andrew Wimer

January 3
 Jenny Calcamuggio
 Tom Hillebrands
 Olivia Short

January 4
 Vickie Bogner
 Craig Elliils
 Alex Gottwald

January 4
 Elsa Munkvold
 Molly Palecek
 Bill Reilly
 Guy Vreeman

January 5
 David Baugh
 Judie Buddenbaum
 Sally Strand

January 6
 Ann Harlow

January 7
 Jaclyn Copeland

January 8
 Samuel Gagen
 Paul Retzlaff
 Stephen Scheier

January 9
 Lyn Scheier
 Jason Swift

January 12
 Mark Saffen

January 13
 Ethan Davis

January 15
 Garrett James

January 16
 Maranda Bruckner
 Ryan Jack

January 18
 Laura Miller

January 19
 Sherri Hunt

January 21
 Lydia Abbott

January 22
 Owen DeWitt

January 23
 Michael Kaforke
 Carly Miller

January 26
 Elijah Flaa

January 30
 Roxanne Larson

January 31
 Kevin Delaney



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 Paul Retzlaff Craig Tieman
 Deann Wimer Pastor David

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Jim Bogner Greg Frazier
 Julie Hayden Brandon Hulse
 Bob Inskeep Susan Kraabel
 Hans Loyda Carole Rahn

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Fellowship, Cheryl Hazelrigg
Finance, David Baugh
Lifelong Learning, Julie Hayden
Ministry Development, Hans Loyda
Mission Support, Carole Rahn
Preschool, Sherri Hunt
Property, Greg Frazier
Risk Management, Marty Culver
Stewardship, Brandon Hulse
Worship & Music, Jim Bogner

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 Administrative Assistant Leslie French
 Music Ministers. David Moscrip & Julie Shadinger
 Parish Nurse Donna Frazier
 Director of Gloryland Diane Hewitt
 Director of Preschool Michelle Chaille

Office Hours:

Currently only one staff member is
 in the building at a time.

Please call if you need assistance or
 would like to come into the church.

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