Speaker: 0

Good afternoon, South Lewiston, church, family, and friends. Glad that we're able to use this platform to talk, communicate a little bit. And we just want to give an update to you about South Lewiston life going forward. There'll be sea life going forward and for these, for this week and a little bit beyond as well. So before that, let me just read a Psalm 20 says for us, may the Lord answer you in the day of trouble, may the name of the God of Jacob protect you may he send you help from the sanctuary and give you support from Zion making grants, your hearts desire and fulfill all your plans.

Speaker: 0

Some trust in chariots and some in horses. But we trust in the name of the Lord, our God, they collapse and fall, but we rise and stand upright old Lord, save the King, making you answer us when we call, you know, it's just a great som for us to take in, to breathe in, to believe, to pray over for one another for our communities, state a nation. And so keep, keep the Psalms handy always, but especially when it comes to these times, they will bring great comfort and encouragement to your faith in God, into your life, into those around us, who will be depending on God as well, just a few things going forward. You know, this is a time to pray and to fast, this is a time to seek the Lord in a unique sense for unique times, and it's not going to last forever.

Speaker: 0

No fast does. And, and this virus won't last forever, but this is a time to seek the Lord to refrain from food as it were so that we can enlarge in our appetite for God, for the things of God, for his grace, his presence, to seek direction for wisdom, for the choices that we have to make as families, employers, employees, government leaders, church leaders. And so let's do that together through fasting and praying and seeing the Lord work in our hearts, our lives that way. Also just this Sunday, just to reminders. Most of this has been out there on Facebook emails as well. We'll be doing live stream Sunday morning and a slbc.church. And there's a tab at the top of the screen for live stream. You can also scroll down where it says Sunday, live links. We've sent emails out about that with directions.

Speaker: 0

If you have any questions, contact the church or the tech guys here appreciate Chris field and Chris Pomerleau, helping out with that and Jeannie as well with the website and some other things this week, including today, we're making improvements and God willing. That will be all set to go for Sunday at 10:00 AM. So join us. And it's obviously not the same, but it's something that can be a benefit for us all. And there'll be music songs, preaching time, prayer, of course, even a time to give. I know we'll, we'll see how that all, all that goes, but we're, that's what we're doing for this Sunday. Again, have any questions, please contact us, call the church, something like that, you know, just a, a word of encouragement and thank you to those that have been helping including today. As I've mentioned, some folks helping out with some church ministries as we help out with the community in different ways.

Speaker: 0

Just thank you, great job, keep it up and pace yourself as well. And it's just been a blessing to see this all across. So many churches and Louis and Auburn beyond all over the state of Maine, obviously across the country, come together to see communities and businesses work, to think of the elderly, those most vulnerable, the least of these as Christ has called them in. We have this opportunity to reach out. So it's been great to see that happening. Do you have any questions, concerns, please contact us regarding some of those needs as well. You know, obviously we're, we've got a lot of time on our hands with kids and God calls us no matter the time and no matter the season to be loving and instructing and teaching them, discipling them in the things of God. And to that end, I would just encourage us to be having, making some time throughout the week for family devotions, that this would become a habit.

Speaker: 0

If it hasn't become one, it would become one long after this virus is gone to read the word, sing the word, pray the word, you know, that's really what family worship basically consists of. And it could be three minutes. It could be one minute to be honest, depending on the kids, family, and all that, it can be any length of time really, but let the word be central. And as God's spirit brings life, you know, we can really stay encouraged. And obviously this is a way to teach and do what God has called us to do at any time as families and things like that. To that end, you know, maybe it's maybe you have an app on your phone that is helpful for devotions or something like that, but if you don't can I recommend the new city catechism app, new city catechism app it's been out for awhile actually, but it's a fantastic app, very, very systematic in its organization, how it was put together questions and answers, commentaries prayers, some songs geared to kids, small kids and things like that really helpful, really good, and that's free as well. So if you don't have something to give you maybe some structure and you you're kinda, you don't want to bounce around on the Bible. It's not really too helpful really, but something that has a design and, and order the, the new city catechism app is great. There's also hard cover books. You can get that have those same questions and answers if Amazon and other places are still shipping by all means go local. Even for that stuff too, if you can.

Speaker: 0

Yeah. You know, so just keep that in mind. It could be just a Psalm a day, some 20 for today, and it gives words for our emotions. It could be a proverb of the day where it gives us wisdom for the choices that we have. We have to make for the relationships that we have and to see the kind of flourishing that God wants, even in circumstances in a fallen world, obviously that we're living in. But these are just, you know, a couple options for us to be mindful of. We're doing our part, as I said, so many of you, and as a church, reaching out, touching base with folks in, within our church, body elderly and to those needs. And if we haven't, you know, we'll, we're doing so we're doing our best as a leadership team. We're going to be coming out with a bit of a plan and days ahead about dividing up specific certain groups and to touch base with pray with over the phone or on camera like this, perhaps in person, if, if it warrants and if that's wise and, and things like that.

Speaker: 0

So we're just trying to be mindful of these things. Bear with us. It's, we're all trying to get our bearings and with our own families and jobs and things like that. So it takes time to, to do that, but thank you so many have offered to help within leadership and within the body, within the church. And that's just been great to see so many people stepping up offering to help, and that that's been a, has been a huge benefit and a blessing to see as well. So continue doing what we're doing by God's grace and, you know, don't panic, don't hoard, but look, to give and to share, look, to give explicit words of encouragement to really everyone, every human being. I mean, we should do this all the time, but especially if you're there and you're at the local grocery store for, you know, thank those workers, the medical personnel, obviously my goodness, our prayers are with you.

Speaker: 0

We're praying for you and for our leaders that have been having to make tough decisions regarding schools and church stuff. You know, there's just a, obviously a lot on everyone's plate that, that no one asked for. And so give those timely words of encouragement. Thank you. Politeness kindness goes a long way. These are some of the fruit of the spirit. So God considers this a big deal. And so just be, just be mindful of, of those things that, that we can all do. Let me close this. Just this time here from Isaiah 40 verse 28, listen to this, have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary. His understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint and to him who has no, might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary.

Speaker: 0

And young men shall fall exhausted, but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength. They shall Mount up with wings like Eagles. They shall run and not be weary. They shall walk and not faint. May you receive this blessing from God's word, these promises for us to grab ahold of by faith. And when we can't trust his heart has Spurgeon said, when we can't trust his hand, when we can't see his hand, we can always trust his heart as the good old preacher Spurgeon reminded us hundreds of years ago. And so the church will rise to this occasion. We're doing it. We're trying, we're stumbling along, but God will raise us up. We will trust in him. May you receive this today and be encouraged. Other than that, we will be in touch in days ahead and tune in Sunday morning, 10:00 AM to join us in a worship to our God. Thank you.