



Out of My Mind

I know that you are looking forward to the day when we can finally worship together again in the sanctuary. Like you, I hope that time will be sooner rather than later. The Deacons are actively monitoring the COVID19 rates for our area and as soon as they meet our criteria for meeting in person again, they will let us know.

In the meantime, we have hope that one day, things are going to be better. One day we'll be back in the sanctuary for worship together, have in person Sunday School classes, have covered dish dinners and maybe even a church picnic!

But even though those things will happen one day, I want to caution you that even when we are able to be back together, things still won't be like they used to be. As my father would often tell me "Used to be doesn't live here anymore."

We all yearn for life to get back to normal, for things to return to the way they were, to get back to the former, the familiar, the previous comfortable routine. The problem is that time has passed and it won't ever quite be like the way it used to be again.

There are people who were a part of our church family then who now reside in heaven, there are people who were active in our gatherings then who, for a variety of reasons, may not come back, at least for a while. And we will miss seeing each of them when we regather.

When we do come back together, at least at first, we will still need to wear masks, practice social distancing as well as refrain from singing. And all those hugs we long to give and receive will need to wait for a while longer. And then there is the fact that this time of the Pandemic has changed us all. Because of everything we've gone through, witnessed and experienced in these unsettling and unprecedented times we're different people than we were before. We can't simply go back to the way things were.

And while it is right to miss those days, and even grieve over lost opportunities, lost loved ones and friends, I remind you that God is in the business of making all things new. Rather than recreating what was, God is leading us into a new day as a church – a day with new opportunities, new times of fellowship, new joys, and new chances to serve him. With Jesus, the best is always yet to be.

So rather than focusing on what was, let us look forward with joy to what will be. For "this is the day that the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it." (*Psalm 118:24 NRSV*)

Your Pastor,
Mike



Join us online each Thursday at noon for the Community Lenten Services.

March 4th - Rachel & Casey Clark of New Monmouth Presbyterian

March 11th - Joe Callies of Trinity United Methodist

March 18th - Tuck Bowerfind of Grace Episcopal

March 25th - Open



Sunday morning, **March 14**, daylight savings time will start! Please remember to set your clocks forward 1 hour before bed on Saturday night, March 13.



Item of the month for March is rice or pasta.

Please drop all donations off at RARA (350 Spotswood Drive, Lexington). Thank you!

Manly Memorial Baptist Church
202 South Main Street
Lexington, VA 24450
www.manlybaptist.com
(540) 463-4181

Daily BIBLE READING



- 8 Dale Raymond
- 9 Everette Huger
- 11 Dee Fuller
- 12 Braeden Hartbarger
Garner Fleming
- 13 Clyde Keen
- 15 Carol Bozeman
- 16 Hunter Grist
- 22 Alicia Raymond
- 28 Fred Huger
- 31 Clyde Mull

- March 1st – Psalm 121
- March 2nd – Psalm 122
- March 3rd – Psalm 123
- March 4th – Psalm 124
- March 5th – Psalm 125

- March 8th – Psalm 126
- March 9th – Psalm 127
- March 10th – Psalm 128
- March 11th – Psalm 129
- March 12th – Psalm 130

- March 15th – Psalm 131
- March 16th – Psalm 132
- March 17th – Psalm 133
- March 18th – Psalm 134
- March 19th – Psalm 135

- March 22nd – Psalm 136
- March 23rd – Psalm 137
- March 24th – Psalm 138
- March 25th – Psalm 139
- March 26th – Psalm 140

- March 29th – Psalm 141
- March 30th – Psalm 142
- March 31st – Psalm 143



Our project for March will be to continue collecting household supplies for Lisa's House. Items still needed are toilet paper, paper towels, antiseptic wipes and antiseptic cleaners. We have a box located on the table across from the office for donations.

If you have a suggestion for a mission project, please contact Patsy Paxton (patsypaxton@comcast.net) or the church office (office@manlybaptist.com). Ideas are always welcome!!!



Psalm 34:3 O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together.

Our journey approaches a full year this coming month. We anxiously anticipate the time we are able to resume in-person services, allowing us to worship and praise God together. The indicators are encouraging both locally and nationally. Increasing numbers receive the vaccination.

Prayerfully, during the weeks ahead, we will continue to see a positive trend allowing us to come together as a church family once again. We have also missed our corporate communion services, among a host of other significant services and events. "Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love; the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above". That hymn will have a renewed sense of meaning when we once again gather.

Psalm 102:22 When the peoples are gathered together . . . to serve the Lord.

Dale Raymond



As Paul said to the Philippians:

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:6-7)

During these unprecedented times, we ask that you please continue to give to our church. It's very important that we remain steadfast in this area, even though we are not meeting together, in order to sustain our budget, pay our staff, and maintain our building.

You can continue your support in several ways: mail your offering envelope to the church; designate the church to receive automatic transfers from your local bank; or click on the give button on Manly's website and follow the directions on how to use Paypal.

We certainly understand that some people are not able to give or give as much right now due to the COVID-19 situation. If you have financial or other needs, please let Pastor Mike or the church office know how we might help.

Curtis Caylor



Molly Kay Moore will continue to be in the church office on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 am till 1:30 pm during the month of March. All other days she will be working from home. You may still contact her by email (office@manlybaptist.com) or phone (540-461-6074) with any questions or needs.



Little Faith Ministries
MATTHEW 17:20
If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, nothing will be impossible!

Children are invited to attend a private party at Mulberry DIY Workshop (223 South Main Street, Lexington) on **Saturday, March 13 at 2:00 pm**. If you and your child would like to attend, **please RSVP with Katlyn Smals before Saturday, March 6th** to reserve your spot! Also keep an eye out on our new Facebook page Little Faith Ministries for weekly activities for your children to interact with. These include games, activities, bible lessons, music videos and much more! Any feedback is greatly appreciated as we try to work through new ways to reach our children during this time!

Stay well and safe,
Katlyn Smals



Our various music groups continue to record pieces to enhance your worship while we are "away from home." I am amazed at our musicians' commitment to worship music as it takes a considerable amount of rehearsal and recording time to put together a piece that lasts only a few minutes.

Please feel free to give us some feedback if something is particularly meaningful to you. It would be much appreciated.

Thinking of all of you,
Lucy Wilkins



"Do Something" Bible Study

Whether it's the kid being bullied at school, the children in other countries without enough to eat, or someone in their neighborhood being judged by the color of their skin, chances are our youth have all seen or experienced injustice in the world around them. And it's probably caused them to stop and think, "Someone should do something about that!"

All the questions they are asking about why it is happening, what they should do, and where God is in the midst of it? In this "Do Something" series, we are going to try and answer those questions as we discover how much Jesus cares about injustice and how we can see something, say something, and do something in response!

Week 1—Matthew 25:41-46

Before you do something about injustice, you have to see it!

Week 2 - Daniel 3:24-27

When you experience injustice, you don't have to face it alone!

Week 3 - Matthew 9:35-37, Isaiah 61:8 & 1 Corinthians 12:27

God is doing something about injustice!

Week 4 - James 2:15-17

When it comes to injustice, never stop doing something!

