

# GATHERING

#### WORSHIP

Great Are You Lord (English) Great Are You Lord (Spanish) A Mighty Fortress

# CONFESSION

#### **GREETING TIME**

We miss being and worshiping together. Please take this time to text, call, facetime, skype, beep, send a pigeon to your friends, family, and Villagers during this time. And please enjoy the greetings submitted by our Villagers!

#### OFFERING

We practice worship through giving. Please continue to partner with us to meet our monthly budgeted needs, to zero out our deficit every quarter and to increase our Cash Reserve Fund. As we grapple with increasing effects of the COVID-19 virus on our Sunday worship service attendance, we humbly ask that you continue to give as though you attend Sunday worship services. 70% of our congregation currently gives in person in a Sunday service. You are welcome to mail in your offering, drop it off at the locked box outside our Front Office, or utilize Pushpay.



## **IN LOVING MEMORY**

On March 31, long-time Village member Walter Friesen was called home to the Lord. He is survived by his wife, Helen, five adult children, their spouses, and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. A memorial service for Walt is planned for early this summer. Cards to Helen should be sent to her daughter, Bev Ecker, 13540 SW Hiteon Lane, Beaverton, OR 97008.

On April 5, our beloved usher and church member, Dick Bech, graduated to be with the Lord. He is survived by his wife, Sharon, daughters Janice and Kim, and other family members. A service in Dick's memory is planned for later this summer.

## SUPPORTING THOSE IN NEED

On Sunday we emailed you information about how our giving will directly impact those impacted most severely by COVID-19. Your giving can bring not only hope and love, but life itself. Please consider a gift above and beyond your normal giving to one of these three opportunities directly connected to Village. For those of us receiving stimulus money and are financially able, consider giving those funds to support others.

1. Donate via **Pushpay** and select "Grace Fund" from the options, to support Villagers who are among so many who have lost their jobs or are facing financial hardship. You can also mail a check and put "Grace Fund" on the memo line. If your employer uses Benevity, look for the Village Baptist Church fund.

2. Two weeks ago, India placed its entire country on lock-down with only a few hours notice. This created several hundred thousand internal refugees. Families with small children and elderly parents are trying to reach their villages on foot as all transportation was suspended. Fear is spreading across the country as some families are without money and food while being faced with walking hundreds of miles. Your gift towards our \$4,000 goal will allow churches in Gujarat state to serve these migrant workers as they make the journey back to their villages.



How to give: Donate via **Pushpay** and select "Disaster Relief" from the options or mail a check and put "Disaster Relief" on the memo line.

3. In hopes of containing COVID-19, the Lebanese military quarantined refugees but, in the process, also made it difficult for nonprofits to provide food or other needed supplies. Your gift toward our goal of \$4,000 will provide medical supplies for Christian Lebanese physicians caring for refugees during the COVID-19 outbreak.

How to give: Donate via **Pushpay** and select "Disaster Relief" from the options or mail a check and put "Disaster Relief" on the memo line.

### **MEALS ON WHEELS**

Serving local senior citizens, Meals on Wheels People have added 700 new clients in recent weeks. To help support this need, Village in partnership with MOW will be collecting food donations at Village this Sunday, from 1-3pm, at the Worship Center doors.

Meals on Wheels is asking for the following food items:

Applesauce cups

Fruit cups

Fresh Fruit

Cereal Bars

Non-medical gloves for food prep

Hand sanitizer or antibacterial wipes

\*Please do not drop off additional items as Village is not currently distributing food. Questions?



## **DONATE DIAPERS & FEMALE HEALTH PRODUCTS**

Village has been partnering with Washington County's Emergency Operations Center as we all mobilize to meet the growing needs in our community in light of COVID 19. One special request to us was for diapers. This necessary item is now in great need for our families facing income insecurity. If you are able, please add this to your shopping list and drop off at Village on Sunday, April 19, from 1-3pm.

We are also taking donations of female health products to support our community in this time. Please drop off unopened boxes of product on Sunday, from 1-3pm.

### **CONNECT WITH A SMALL GROUP**

Social distancing does not require relational isolation! We now have new zoom groups for men's Bible study, women's Bible study, groups on the Macdonald, Tolkien and Lewis, and a sermon based group. Check out your options to **get plugged in here**.

#### LOVE HOPE MOVEMENT

Our goal is to see a movement of Love throughout the Portland Metro area. We want people to be a beacon of Hope to family, friends, co-workers, church connections, acquaintances, strangers, and even cashiers at the grocery store. Our neighbors needs to know that they are heard, they are cared for, and they are loved. Join the Love Hope Movement in spreading God's love throughout your communities. At Village, we will soon have Love Hope stickers and yard signs available in the Front Office. If you are self-isolating, we are more than happy to leave them outside the front office door for you. Visit the Love Hope Movement website for social media graphics: https://www.villagebeaverton.com/thelovehopemovement/

Connect with others participating in the Love Hope Movement. -Hashtag #lovehopemovement



-Tag us on Facebook or Instagram, @villagebeaverton

-Email photos of you participating in the Love Hope Movement to communications@villagebeaverton.com

## PRAYER

Merciful God We come together to worship longing for tenderness because this world can be hard. We are longing for light because our lives are crowded with shadows. We are in desperate need of your direction. Fill us today with your peace: your spirit is our peace and our path. God, let this be a fruitful day! As we worship, open our eyes to beauty, tune our ears to harmony. The fragrance of your love permeating every moment. The touch of your hand guiding all we do. Together, we want to taste with delight the joy of your presence wherever we may be.

Amen!



Lead Pastor – Ken Wytsma *My Refuge* Psalm 142

## COMMUNION

As you feel comfortable, we encourage you to partake in communion with your family, friends, neighbors as we remember the sacrifice Christ made on the cross.

## SENDING

#### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- 1. David wrote Psalm 142 on his experience being alone, feeling helpless, and being isolated in a cave. Does any of this resonate with you right now? If so, what encouragement does David offer when he speaks of God as his refuge and his portion?
- 2. What are some ways that the metaphors of God being a strong tower, a refuge, a mighty fortress etc. relevant in our lives as believers? How can we take this knowledge into our hearts in meaningful ways that doesn't make it a platitude?



3. What are some spiritual disciplines that have kept you focused on God through hard times and changing seasons? Are there some familiar scripture passages that have blessed you through the years that underscore the central theme of God as our rock and refuge?

