

Note from Pastor Steve

Good day to all of you. As I am sitting here at the church, it feels a little odd to know we will not be gathering together during this Easter season. This takes my mind back to the first Easter where Jesus disciples were all scattered during Jesus trial and crucifixion. They were alone in a dark place not knowing where the end of their situation would come. The world that they knew was turned upside down.

Nevertheless, the empty tomb was just days before them. They did not know or could not think of Sunday because they were living in the darkness of Friday. We are living in our own darkness right now. We do not know when we will be able to return to normal. We can though rest in that just as God has always been faithful to lead His people from Friday to Sunday. He will lead us out of this too... There is hope that Sunday is Coming!

Tithes & Offerings

Just a reminder if you are wanting to give here are some options to support your church body. If you have questions please let Pastor Steve know. It is really important for us for you to continue to give to the work of the church.

Way to Give

1. Online Giving through Website.
2. Mail.
3. Drop them off at the church building.

Updates

Updates will be available on the website & Facebook page. If you have other questions feel free to call.

www.rmnaz.com

Pastor Steve Cell—559-905-7497

Prayer List

- Joyce Sear's Family
- Carolyn Norwood
- Barry's Brothers
- David Myers (Cancer)
- Judy Pollard (Health)
- Wayne Clark (Health)
- Sally Overton (Heart Surgery)
- Judy Pollard (Family's Health)
- Jackie Burke's Father
- John Fletcher (Health)
- Those impacted by Coronavirus
- Our Missionaries
- Students out of School
- Job Loss / Hours cut because of Virus
- Cindy Koontz's Son (Andy)

Prayer Update from the Church Body.

This week we have had a couple of our people in and out of the hospital that we need to lift up in prayer. Cecil was in Monday over night. He is having issues with his kidneys. He is home, but healing still needs to take place. Wilma Stephens is in the hospital dealing with breathing issues also.

Judy Pollard has requested prayer for her family members. Her sister-in-law, Carol Ashburn, is losing blood and they can not find out where it is going, her other sister-in-law, Edna Mae Ashburn is dealing with facial cancer, and her son Kenneth Ashburn has stage 4 prostate cancer.

Future Events

- **Communion**— We will be doing communion in our homes this week. I encourage you to watch the communion video as you take communion this week.
- **Joyce Sear's Gravesite**— This next Tuesday there will be a gravesite interment for Joyce. It is however closed to the public, including the church due to new state guidelines limiting the number of people to gather for a funeral to 10 people. We will have a celebrate of life service for Joyce when we are able to return to meeting together.

Devotional Note

During this difficult time we are all living, I believe God is attempting to get our attention, trying to teach us that it is not what we do for Him that matters but who we are in Him. It is not our strength and abilities He is interested in, but really our disposition and humility that matters most to him.

II Corinthians 12:7-10 says, "Therefore, in order to keep me from becoming conceited, I was given a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong."

Somewhere along the way, Paul learned a vital lesson: My weakness equals God's Strength. One commentator put it this way: "What is sent to torment Paul is transformed by God into a means of proclaiming Christ's power and grace. This surprising twist reflects the way God defeats Satan. God permits Satan to strike the apostle, but God turns the stricken Paul into an even greater instrument of his power. A proud, arrogant Paul would have only hindered the gospel's advance. A humiliated, frail Paul, led as a captive in God's triumph, has accelerated the gospel's progress so that the fragrance of knowing God spreads everywhere."

To borrow the commentator's words: "A proud, arrogant ___[my name]___ would have only hindered the gospel's advance. A humiliated, frail ___[my name]___ have accelerated the gospel's progress..."

That is why we can affirm that God isn't so much interested in our abilities; He's much more interested in our surrender. For it is our greatest difficulty that provides an opportunity for His greatest power to be revealed. So let us keep our eyes focused on Him as He guides us through this storm. "For He will deliver the needy who cry out, the afflicted who have no one to help. He will take pity on the weak and the needy and save the needy from death" (Psalm 72:12-13).

Be encouraged today! Blessings on you.

Until next time,

Pastor Steve

Church Elections - Congratulations

Our Church Board for this year

Janice Lazarte, Greg Howell, Cindy Koontz, Barry Adams, Rick Bowden, Donna Morris

District Assembly—Delegates

Barry Adams, Rick Bowden, Greg Howell

Available Resources On Website

- Weekly Video from Hebrews
- Pdf version of Daily Devotional Guide
- Weekly Mini Sermon w/Pastor Steve
- Special Music from Worship Team
- Weekly Video Announcement w/ Pastor Steve
- Palm Sunday Service with Dr. Mason

Wednesday Night Discussion

Wednesday Nights at 7pm we will be meeting online together for a time of discussion, prayer, and a short look at God's Word.

The Link for our Group is on the Main Page of the Website
rmnaz.com

Or you can Call In
(253) 215-8782

Our Meeting I.D. Is
841-791-7529
You will have to enter this after calling the number.