

Pastor Drollinger's
Daily Devotionals for May 16-20, 2020

May 16, 2020 – Day 61

Greetings to Friends and Family of Hallie and Zion UMC,

We will be looking at the story of “Daniel in the Lion’s Den.” The Scripture lesson comes from Chapter 6 of the book of Daniel in the Bible. Sunday’s message will grow out of verses 19-27 of that Chapter. This is a great account of faith and, Sunday, we will consider how we can know an ‘Amazing May’ when we grow in our faith and trust in God. Abbie put together words that relate to the account of “Daniel in the Lion’s Den.” Abbie is from our Hallie church and Jadyn, from Zion, created the puzzle. Do the Word Search and prime the pump for Sunday’s message.

*27 He rescues and he saves; he performs signs and wonders in the heavens and on the earth.
He has rescued Daniel from the power of the lions.” Daniel 6:27*

Keep shining bright,

Pastor Don

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Hallie's Wordsearch

D	N	G	D	V	H	I	L	K	B	G	A	F	X	P	B	Q	U	S	E	R	X	K
A	L	I	F	F	X	A	N	G	E	L	C	O	I	M	I	C	J	Q	P	O	X	I
R	X	E	X	D	I	P	O	S	Z	V	O	E	Q	W	C	X	L	O	J	T	X	N
I	X	S	K	A	E	V	T	I	H	X	M	V	M	G	V	F	M	F	Q	B	C	N
U	G	J	G	D	O	G	U	N	C	L	M	N	O	C	R	I	M	E	Q	P	P	O
S	T	F	E	X	T	R	A	O	R	D	I	N	A	R	Y	S	P	I	R	I	T	C
P	N	A	X	C	P	H	K	T	B	I	S	F	L	Q	M	M	G	N	U	W	H	E
Y	E	N	G	A	D	W	V	H	T	B	S	Y	X	M	T	K	G	O	Z	L	S	N
R	D	S	P	P	L	V	L	A	R	F	I	S	A	Z	P	D	M	I	D	U	Z	T
U	S	M	S	Y	E	Q	S	R	U	I	O	S	R	G	D	Q	B	T	A	M	I	F
J	N	C	T	Z	Y	U	Y	M	S	T	N	E	M	U	C	O	D	C	W	L	X	A
N	O	M	X	P	E	J	Q	E	T	C	E	N	A	D	A	B	E	N	Q	J	V	A
I	I	Z	T	J	D	J	V	D	E	W	R	A	I	U	M	A	A	U	H	K	U	T
O	L	Z	E	Q	J	C	O	H	D	K	S	D	H	T	N	T	Y	J	B	E	B	Q
N	T	X	B	I	A	N	D	N	U	O	B	A	E	C	A	E	P	N	Z	O	Y	S
R	O	K	I	N	G	D	O	M	I	V	R	J	E	I	T	T	J	I	U	E	N	F

Find the following words in the puzzle.

Words are hidden     and .

ANGEL
COMMISSIONERS
DARIUS
DOCUMENT
EXTRAORDINARYSPIRIT
GOD

INJUNCTION
INNOCENT
KINGDOM
LIONSDEN
NOCRIME
NOINJURY

NOTHARMED
PEACEABOUND
TRUSTED

May 17, 2020 – Day 62

Greetings to Friends and Family of Hallie and Zion UMC,

Happy Sunday morning! Today's video will grow out of the story of "Daniel in the Lion's Den." From the Bible, in the book of Daniel, Chapter 6, we will continue our series called, "An Amazing May." Today, we will consider an "Amazing Faith." Daniel had the spiritual faith...

- To know the way
- To go the way
- To show the way

Reflection Questions:

1. Think of a person who knows the way of Jesus. What have you learned from that person?
2. Consider people you know who have shown you the way of Jesus. Share how you became a Christian.

Link to Pastor Don's message: <https://youtu.be/pxNN4Eba5bM>

Following the video message by Pastor Don, be sure to listen to the song, "Right Now/Precious Lord," written and arranged by Carol Dean and sung by Jacey Lea. Engineered by Dan Lea.

Musical Link: <https://youtu.be/hZAIPM3xrJQ>

A special update: After Pastor Don recorded this week's video, Bishop Jung and our District Superintendent, Barbara Certa-Werner, provided email guidance about reopening the United Methodist Churches in Wisconsin. Bishop Jung, in consultation with his COVID-19 Task Team, decided that **June 21st** would be the earliest possible Sunday for relaunching public worship in church buildings. Please be aware that this date may change as any new or additional public health information becomes available.

Keep shining bright,

Pastor Don

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May 18, 2020 – Day 63

Greetings to Friends and Family of Hallie and Zion UMC,

A Special Update: Bishop Jung and our District Superintendent, Barbara Certa-Werner, have provided email guidance about reopening the United Methodist Churches in Wisconsin. Bishop Jung, in consultation with his COVID-19 Task Team, decided that **June 21st** would be the earliest possible Sunday for relaunching public worship in church buildings. Please be aware that this date may change as any new or additional public health information becomes available.

Devotional, Day 63:

I hope you had an opportunity to view the message on an ‘Amazing Faith’ from yesterday (Sunday, May 17th). Daniel’s faith really was quite amazing. Yet, what allowed Daniel’s faith to be strong was the amazing faithfulness of God. As we continue together through this time of the COVID-19 virus, please be comforted in the fact that the God we serve will also have us in mind. As we continue through the journey that is uniquely yours, also be reminded our God has you in mind.

Enjoy the Word Search, below, that grows out of the story of “Daniel and the Lion’s Den.” Today’s words and puzzle were created by Jadyn from our Zion church. Today is also Jadyn’s birthday. Here’s a big shout out of thanks and we wish you a very Happy Birthday, Jadyn!

*4 Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.
5 For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.
Psalm 100:4-5*

Keep shining bright,

Pastor Don

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Name: _____

Date: _____

Daniel and the Lions Den

F U G A F Q Y O P E Z T I Z U K X
G P Q N V C L A N H L O Q W T G H
C L P W I D Q O G X P H A Y O O P
Y M M B Z K R Q N F R W R G Q D J
X O I B Y I O Q M A O M F A I T H
L N R F E O J G P W T D A I Z O B
S K S D D M Q S I F E A B J X Q Z
G M D A N I E L R W C X R H V P Q
W O R L D H N X W O T L Z J R D Q
B R G A Q H V L N R I P Z A E G J
Y N J E H I C T H S O D Y P B I H
H I V E Y Z P T S H N S D L E L H
D N R B A N R B P I J L B S V A T
V G S X S L I W L P N I T V U I J
X N A N N K O I K I F O Y O D P N
B M C C E G E U Y S D N E G J N N
O Y F T F D E K S N C S M L O H A

lied Pray morning protection Den Jealous Worship King Faith God
Lions Daniel

May 19, 2020 – Day 64

Greetings to Friends and Family of Hallie and Zion UMC,

The following devotion is from our Bishop Jung of the Wisconsin Conference of the United Methodist Church. God's words for us to consider as we continue in the prevention of the COVID-19 virus.

By Bishop Jung

*Bless our God, O peoples,
let the sound of his praise be heard,
who has kept us among the living,
and has not let our feet slip.
For you, O God, have tested us;
you have tried us as silver is tried.
You brought us into the net;
you laid burdens on our backs;
you let people ride over our heads;
we went through fire and through water;
yet you have brought us out to a spacious place.*(Psalm 66:8-12)

My growing concern as the COVID-19 pandemic stretches out is for people's mental health. Most people are dealing with a higher level of stress than at any other time of their lives, and for a much longer sustained period. We have not been prepared with adequate coping mechanisms for the current situation. For many, the default way to deal with stress is to talk with others about it. At the very least, one remedy for stress is to socialize and have a good time with friends. Personal isolation and even too much time with the same few people escalates the stress instead of relieving it. We are social creatures, and we are members of a connectional and relational faith. This is a true test of all our faith and feelings.

It can be very difficult to hold fast to the core tenets of our Christian faith. We echo the Psalmist who cries out, "How long, O Lord, how long?" When will this end? When can we reconnect? How can we let off steam in non-harmful and healing ways?

I only want to say to you again, God is with us. God cares deeply for us, and it breaks the heart of God when the children suffer. God will see us through coronavirus. God will see us through social and physical distancing. God will see us through economic upheaval and personal distress and challenge. God will do these things. And even though we are physically separated, remember to reach out. Call each other. Email each other. Touch base by social media. Send a text to a friend or loved one. Remember that in the hardest times, we can be a lifeline to each other.

God of redemption and holiness help us to remember who we are. We are your people, now and forever. When we are threatened, you are with us. When we are frightened, you are there. When

we are despondent and sad, you hold us. When we see only trouble, you carry us through. Restore our faith and give us the strength we need to emerge in the “spacious place” that you promise. We claim this in our faith and confidence. Amen.

With all the turmoil whirling around us in response to the COVID-19 virus pandemic, many of us are caught up in anxiety and worry. Plus, in the church, we are working full time to make plans to care for others who are struggling, to change how we worship and offer connection virtually or through phone calls and emails, and we are caring for people we love in our own families and connections. We are inundated with emails and posts and calls and news giving us latest reports and ideas for ways to respond and mis-information and latest information about healthy protections. We wonder what will happen to our churches and finances. Many of us are overloaded and overwhelmed.

In the midst of all of this, there are people reaching out to make a difference, offering generous care to neighbors and community, posting positive life-giving reflections and being the best of who we can be as individuals and as communities of faith. Thank you for all you are doing. Keep breathing. Keep safe. Know that we all rest in the grace and Spirit of God.

Keep shining bright,

Pastor Don

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May 20, 2020 – Day 65

Greetings to Friends and Family of Hallie and Zion UMC,

During this month of May, our churches are invited to give generously to missions in the community. With the consequences of COVID-19, many businesses are struggling, and many families are hurting with the loss of jobs in our current economy. Let me, again, offer great Thanksgiving for the many places that you are blessing and helping our friends and neighbors in need.

Our mission emphasis this month are the following:

- **Community Closet**
- **Mobile Food Pantry**
- **Salvation Army**
- **Free Open Door Clinic**

(Be sure to designate which mission your gift should bless on your check's memo line.)

² We always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers. ³ We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴ For we know, brothers and sisters loved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵ because our gospel came to you not simply with words but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and deep conviction. You know how we lived among you for your sake. ⁶ You became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you welcomed the message in the midst of severe suffering with the joy given by the Holy Spirit.

1st Thessalonians 1:2-6

Keep shining bright,

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