Good Morning Pine Ridge,

We pray that you are all doing well and remaining healthy.

We do remind you to let us know of any prayer request, health concerns, or any other needs you may have. We cannot do all, but we and will do some! So please let us know if we can minister in your life.

The Deacons and Elders met last night to discuss our response to the new COVID 19 guidelines. The President has the issued guidelines, but it is each Governor who enacts them for his own state. Governor Holcomb has not issued any new ones and may not until his old guidelines run out on April 6th. So we have decided to meet each Monday for the time being as things change rapidly. The future meetings will be via the internet. Last night we had three men attend via the internet and it looks like we can all communicate that way in the future.

The decision for now is to continue the services but change to live stream. That means that the services will be conducted on Palm Sunday morning at the church and will be live. Previously we had taped them first and then uploaded them to the web. This has proved time consuming particularly for David.

So we will be at the Church Sunday morning. First just David and I will be live streaming the Adult Sunday school at 9. Then at 10 the music people and David and I will be doing the worship service.

Predicting the future is not my gift, but if I had to I would say that this will be the state of things for the month of April. This would eliminate Good Friday services and greatly curtail Easter. One suggestion is that we have Palm Sunday, Good Friday and Easter services intact but in May. This presupposes that May will be different than April. But, if you don’t plan, then things doesn’t happen.

We are still asking you to hold your offering until we meet again. The Church has enough money to comfortably cover this month and next. And that is not touching the building fund!

In my Scripture reading this morning I read from Colossians 1:9-12

*For this reason we also, from the day we heard about you, have not ceased praying for you and asking God to fill you with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so that you may live worthily of the Lord and please him in all respects—bearing fruit in every good deed, growing in the knowledge of God, being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might for the display of all patience and steadfastness, joyfully giving thanks to the Father who has qualified you to share in the saints’ inheritance in the light.*

In these new and different days we need to pray to be filled with the knowledge of His will. What is there for each of us in this quarantine? How do we still walk worthy and bear fruit? Verses 11 & 12 remind us that our attitude should be to rely on God’s power through this and to give thanks with sincere joy. We may not be moving mountains, but we can hone our faith in the God who is fully aware of this situation. Then He will give us opportunity to *“bear fruit in every good work.*”

May you be blessed this day in the power of Christ.

Pastor EA