



# First Press Lite

FIRST EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FRANKFORT, INDIANA

*Focus on God, Equip God's People, Proclaim Christ, Change the World*

A monthly summary of activities at First Evangelical Presbyterian Church

May 2020

## Special Request from the FEPC Staff

FEPC Family,

In Psalm 27:1, David reminds us that the Lord is our light, our salvation, and the stronghold of our lives. He then goes on to ask the question, "Whom shall I fear?" The assumed response being, "No one," because these previous statements about the Lord are true. The prayer of the leadership here at FEPC is that you, like David, would find your strength, courage, patience, and hope in the One True God during this time (and always!).

We are in a unique situation never before experienced by any of our current generations. It is in the rarest of seasons where God desires to teach and grow us the most.

In the past, we have had a congregation-created Advent devotional...and we would like to try that again this year. This new devotional would be based on what God is teaching each of us during this time. Advent is a time of waiting. Of preparing. How much waiting and preparing have we been doing lately? Consider how long the Jews waited from the time of the prophets to the arrival of the Messiah.

This devotional would contain your individual thoughts and reflections in regard to what God has been teaching you during this time of waiting, how God has been calling you to grow in this unique season, or in what ways God has been nurturing a longing in you for His Church and Christ's return. Perhaps visit some of the prophetic Scriptures about the Messiah's coming or the passages leading up to Jesus' birth and consider what significance they have in our current circumstances.

To help shape these devotions, please utilize the following format:

1. A short passage of Scripture for us to read
2. Your thoughts/reflections based off of the passage and what God has been teaching you (during this time) about waiting/His character/our holiness/etc.
3. A short prayer to close

Each congregational devotional entry will be one day's reading during our 2020 Advent season. We would like to have all entries back in the office by the end of the month of May.

Even though we are "isolated" during this time, we are the Body of Christ. We believe as we share with each other in these short writings about our struggles and breakthroughs, our fears and our joys, in how God has revealed himself to us during this time, that we will be blessed.

Remember, God is our light and our salvation, and the stronghold of our lives.

Come, Lord Jesus.

## FIRST PRESS LITE

is published monthly by First Evangelical  
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### Sunday Morning Schedule

Sunday Fellowship: 8:30 a.m. (coffee and donuts)  
Worship Service: 9:00 a.m.  
Sunday School (all ages): 10:15 a.m.  
\*Staffed Nursery all morning

For week day staff office hours, please visit  
www.fepcfrankfort.org, or phone the church.

Prayer Requests brasilianheart@gmail.com

**First Press Lite will be published on  
the 1st of each month. Deadlines for  
submitting articles or information  
for the monthly calendar will be the  
last Tuesday of each month.**

## SERMON INFORMATION

### *Sermon Series: Colossians*

**May 3** - "The Heart of the Gospel:  
Jesus Christ, Lord of All"  
Colossians 1:15-20

**May 10** - *Mother's Day*  
"The Hope of the Gospel"  
Colossians 1:21-23

**May 17** - *Senior Sunday*  
"The Goal of the Gospel:  
Maturity in Christ"  
Colossians 1:24-2:3

**May 24** - "Warnings About Dangerous  
Teaching"  
Colossians 2:4-15

**May 31** - *Pentecost*  
Acts 2

### *Children in Worship*

**May 3** - Who is Greatest

**May 10** - Great Commission

**May 17** - Ascension

**May 24** - God's Gift of the Holy Spirit

**May 31** - TBA

First Evangelical Presbyterian Church  
352 West Clinton Street  
Frankfort, IN 46041

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Focus on God — Equip God's People — Proclaim Christ — Change the World!

If you received this issue by U.S. mail but would like to receive First Press electronically, please email [kalen@fepcfrankfort.org](mailto:kalen@fepcfrankfort.org).



## *Life in the Body of Christ*

### Thank You to

- Pastor Kelly, Heidi Troyer, Terri Calvin, Amanda Trent, and the sound and media teams for leading us in virtual worship each Sunday during this season of pandemic.

### Condolences to

- Sonja & Bill Miller on the loss of Sonja's father, Foster E. Awman, who died April 18
- Chuck Queen and family on the recent loss of Chuck's mother
- Karen Biery and Joyce Peters on the loss of their cousin, Diane Percy who Died April 8
- Kim Calloway & Susan on the loss of Kim's uncle, Joseph Calloway, who died April 8

## Congregational Care Ministry

As a reminder, should any congregational care needs arise, you can contact the church office, your Elder Shepherd, or any of the members of the Congregational Care Committee:

Connie Timmons, Karen Biery, Joyce Peters or Patty Nash.



## Stephen Ministry at FEPC

### Stephen Ministry Myth #3

#### **Myth: Stephen Ministers are Spiritual Superheroes**

This was not on the list of Stephen Ministry (SM) myths I planned to touch on this year, but it seems a good time for us all to be reminded that Stephen Ministers (and pastors...and other ministry leaders) are simply regular people who are ministering in a visible way the giftedness that God has provided. They have hopes and fears and family concerns, and...well, the same challenges you may be experiencing. They may have endured past crises, deep griefs, and various disappointments, and they have to examine and grow in their faith just as you do. Therefore they can be compassionate, caring listeners when you have a need, and right now it seems that circumstances are magnifying everyone's needs. Stephen Ministers' training has taught them how to be with hurting people and walk beside someone for as long as it takes to work through an issue or dilemma. The SMs are currently using Telecare visits with their Care Receivers and are finding it a useful way to listen and encourage others. And we have several SMs without Care Receivers just waiting to hear from someone like you. So please be in touch to request a referral to a Stephen Minister. All requests and information are confidential. Contact Marty Rodkey at [mrodkey@hotmail.com](mailto:mrodkey@hotmail.com) or 765-379-3112, or Pastor Kelly.

## B2B Update

### Remembering Marilyn

Marilyn Spencer was a member of the Frankfort community who passed away recently. When you waved at Marilyn as she rode her bike around town or sat with her at WFPC dinners or helped her with a need at her house through B2B, you were acknowledging her as a part of the fabric of our town and of FEPC, which she considered "her" church. If Marilyn accepted a little help from you, that meant she trusted you. She may have even told you she loved God, believed in Jesus, and liked to sing. Marilyn is now with her Savior in a place of heavenly peace, enjoying God forever. I'm thankful for the Marilyn's in our lives who help us learn to accept people who may be way different from us, serving them in Christ's love and strength rather than our own, and coming to understand it's not about us, but about Him and them. We can honor Marilyn's memory by noticing people who have a need and offering them relationship and encouragement even when it's uncomfortable or their needs are beyond us. Everyone has a need to belong, and what better place than within the family of God?!

- Marty Rodkey

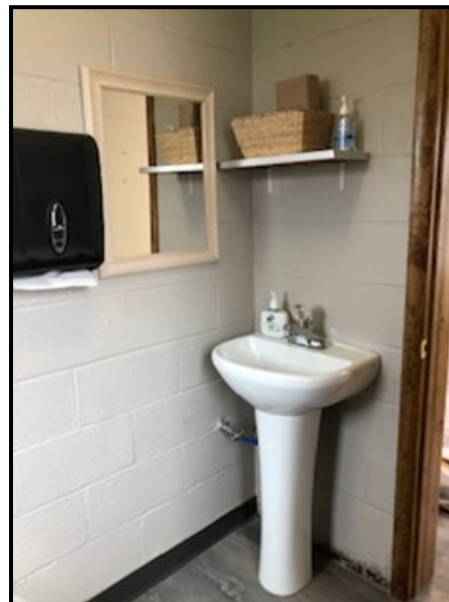
# CHURCH CONSTRUCTION

Dear Church Family,

As you can see from the pictures, we have made great progress in a month. There is still some painting and finishing of doors etc. The bathrooms are all functional, and the nursery is ready to go. The offices will be moved once internet is set up in there. Thank you to Chris and Chuck Queen for helping with the painting.

The finishing of the locking system has been put on hold until May 15.

Colleen Spencer



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

## May

3—Barry Hall

Wayne Williams

4—Ryan Swinford

5—Betty Moloney

6—Andrew Stewart

7—Matt Beardsley

Sara Williams

8—Linda Bergum

9—Ethan McClain

11—Jeff Hardesty

14—Lillian Stewart

15—Kimber Jackson

Bob Shaffer

20—Nancy Clossin

22—Mark Calvin

23—Carol Dupler

24—Mandy Dudley

25—Doyal Bell

Ed Pluhar

28—Susan Calloway

Lorrie Dorsey

Dan Rodkey

30—Eric Davis

31—Justin Trent

## May Anniversaries

2—Don & Marvel Albitz

15—Dick & Karen Sutton

17—Eric & Colleen Spencer

25—Kim & Susan Calloway

28—Bill & Sonya Miller

Wayne & Glenda Jones



## Honoring Our 2020 High School Graduates

### Kurumi Katano



**Parents:** Shunichi & Hiromi Katano

**Host Parents:** Gary and Susie Plunkitt

**Home City/Country:** Tsumima, Aichi, Japan

**High School:** Frankfort High School

**School Activities:** Football manager, Girls basketball jv player, Photography club, Choir

**Church Activities:** Nursery, Ski trip, Game night, Study at Kurths.

**Special Achievements/Awards:** Photography entries into school art show at library, Presentations at brown bag lunch and Frankfort middle school

**Future Plans:** I have two more high school years in Japan. Then I want to go to college four years in the US. My dream isn't sure yet, but I want to use English for my job. I had two dreams lately, interpreter/ translator or elementary school teacher, but I'm not sure these are what I want to do in the future yet. I'm still thinking of my future. I want to do something I enjoy and not something I would regret my whole life, so I'll chose carefully about everything.

**Bible Verse:** I don't know that I have a favorite verse.

### Ethan McClain



**Parents:** Matt McClain and Brooke McClain

**High School:** Homeschool

**School Activities:** Being homeschooled over seas was an adventure on its own, and everyday brought different activities that weren't normal for a regular curriculum. I remember early on studying hermit crabs at the beach or going to parks and recording plants that we saw in nature.

**Church Activities:** For many years I participated in some of the worship teams of the churches we were attending. I was also very active in the youth group, translating from Spanish to English for the other missionary kids who were still learning Spanish.

**Future Plans:** I don't know what the future holds or what I want to do yet. I have a lot of different interests ranging from going to community college for the practical education like carpentry or all around handy man working, or even on the artistic side with film school. Only time will tell, but I want to get out and enjoy life and really know what I want to do.

**Bible Verse:** Be thou my strong habitation, whereunto I may continually resort: thou hast given commandment to save me; for thou art my rock and my fortress. (Psalm 71:3, KJV)

## Honoring Our 2020 High School Graduates

### Izzy McClain

**Parents:** Matt and Brooke McClain.

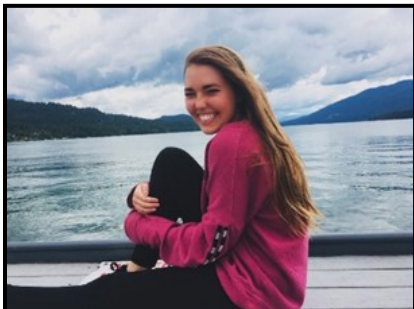
**High School:** Homeschooled — I am a missionary and have been one since I was 5 years old.

**School Activities and Hobbies:** Playing guitar and piano, painting, and photography.

**Church Activities:** I love working with kids, so I've always loved helping out at church and playing with kids for Sunday school.

**Future Plans:** Uncertain, but if I decide to go to college, it would most likely be online schooling of some sort, and I know that I can trust the Lord with that. I love photography and I also love marine biology.

**Bible Verse:** Ecclesiastes 3:1-8.



### Emma Price

**Parents:** Kevin and Cathy Price

**High School:** Clinton Prairie High School

**School Activities:** FFA, National Honor Society, Key Club, Student Council, Science Club, Learning to Lead, Clinton Prairie Motorsports, Fierce Females Committee, Zonta Club, 4H, Coach Kids, Drama Club, Revue, Prom Committee, Girls Golf, Boys Basketball Manager, Boys Golf Manager

**Special Achievements/Awards:** American Legion Auxiliary Hoosier Girls State, Clinton County Chamber of Commerce Career and Technical Education Award, Clinton Prairie Citizenship Award, Clinton Prairie Presidential Award

**Church Activities:** Guatemala Mission Team, Wednesday night dinners, Great Escape, youth group, VBS, Nominating Committee, Sunday night high school discussion group

**Future Plans:** Attend Purdue University, majoring in Exploratory Studies

**Bible Verse:** Joshua 1:9 "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go."



## Honoring Our 2020 High School Graduates

### Logan Robbins



**Parents:** Mindy Robbins, Mark and Jenny Robbins .

**High School:** Lafayette Jefferson High School

**School Activities and Interests:** Best Buddies, video games, WWE wrestling

**Church Activities:** Worship and Youth Group

**Future Plans:** Attend Shine On University in Lafayette

**Bible Verse:** John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son."

### Madeline Kelley Swinford



**Parents:** Josh and Erin Swinford

**High School:** Clinton Prairie High School

**School Activities:** Girls' Golf, Manager for Boys' Golf, FCA, Key Club, Youth Rise, Tennis

**Special Achievements/Awards:** Sportsmanship Award, Dave Clark Award, Star Student

**Church Activities:** Youth Group, Nominating Committee, Great Escape

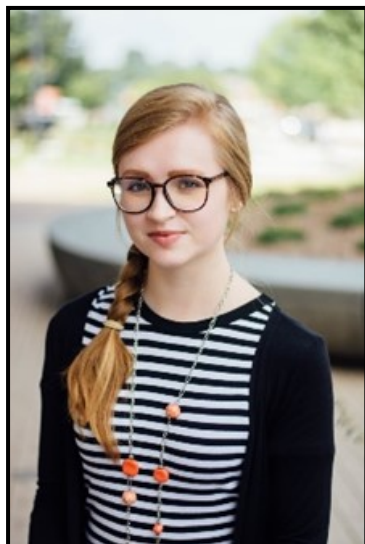
**Future Plans:** Attend Indiana State University and major in Elementary Education

**Bible Verse:** Jeremiah 29:11 For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.



## Honoring Our 2020 College Graduates

### Katie Crawford



**Parents:** Matt and Amy Crawford

**College:** Ball State University

**Major:** Dietetics

**College Activities:** Ball State Dietetics Association President, Honors Peer Mentor Fellow, Association of Collegiate A Cappella Community Outreach Chair

**Special Achievements/Awards:** Indiana Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics 2020 Outstanding Student of the Year

**Future Plans:** In May, I will begin Ball State's graduate program in Dietetics and Nutrition with an anticipated graduation of December 2021. After completing my master's degree, I plan to pursue a career as a clinical registered dietitian specializing in renal nutrition or critical care nutrition.

**Bible Verse:** Zephaniah 3:17

### Mackenna Rose Eldredge



**Parents:** Susan and Joe Ruch

**College:** University of Findlay, Findlay, Ohio

**Degree:** Bachelor of Science - Animal Science/Industry

**College Activities:** Student Ambassador at the University of Findlay (Sept 2017 to March 2020), Orientation Leader (August 2018 and August 2019), Gillig Winery - server

**Special Achievements/Awards:** Member of Sigma Kappa, Member of the University of Findlay Women's Rugby team (4 years), University of Findlay's 2019 Homecoming Court, Oilers Serving Abroad Program Mission Trip (December 2018) - traveled to the Dominican Republic to serve at an orphanage, and perform manual labor in a low income community, Loop Abroad (May-June 2018) - traveled to Chiang Mai, Thailand, for a two week veterinary service study

abroad - volunteering and gaining animal experience at Elephant Nature Preserve (ENP) and Animal Rescue Kingdom (ARK), Winner of 2018 Cleveland Browns Edge Partnership Scholarship (October 2018), Winner of 2018 Run the World Study Abroad Scholarship, and Gateway to the World Scholarship (2018)

**Future Plans:** Mackenna is currently pursuing jobs as a zookeeper or zoo educator. Zookeepers are involved in training, diets, enrichment, and exhibit maintenance. Zoo educators work with ambassador animals educating the public on the species, conservation, etc. She hopes to one day be a curator at a zoo where she will be responsible for overseeing the staff and animals in an area of the zoo's collection. Another passion of Mackenna's is traveling, so she hopes to do some of that as well!

## Honoring Our 2020 College Graduates



### **Jeremiah Herin**

**Parents:** Dwight and Lydia Herin

**College:** Purdue University

**Field of Study:** Construction Management

**Future Plans:** Working with The Blakely Corporation in Indianapolis



### **Jacob Price**

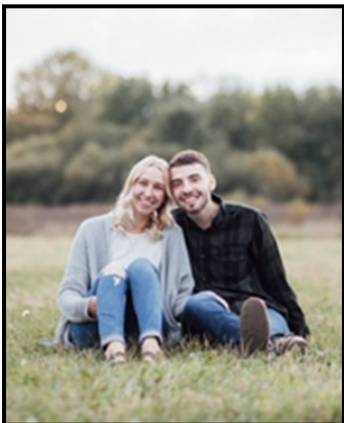
**Parents:** Kevin and Cathy Price

**College:** Butler University

**Field of Study:** Strategic Communications

**Future Plans:** Finding a job once companies begin hiring again. Hoping to work and live in Indianapolis.

**Bible Verse:** "The Lord is my light and my salvation - whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life - of whom shall I be afraid?" Psalm 27:1



### **Alexander Rockhold**

**Parents:** John and Amy Rockhold

**College:** Purdue University

**Field of Study:** Mechatronics Engineering Technology with a minor in Spanish

**Special Achievements/Awards:** Alpha Lambda Delta national honor society

**Future Plans:** Getting married on May 23rd to Jessica Mercer. She is going to be an intern for Reformed University Fellowship at Georgia Tech in Atlanta. I am searching for a job in Atlanta.

**Bible Verse:** John 19:30 "When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, "It is finished," and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit."

I like this verse particularly for the phrase "It is finished". It helps me see the gravity of Jesus death and how important him dying on the cross is for us.

## Honoring Our 2020 Post-Graduate Degree Achievements



### **Amy Crawford**

**Family:** Matt and Katie Crawford

**School:** Purdue University online

**Degree:** Master of Science in Curriculum and Instruction

**Future Plans:** To keep teaching for a few more years, and then maybe look into working for an educational publishing company or as an independent curriculum coach.

**Favorite Verse:** Ephesians 3:20

### **Courtney Jameson**



**Parents:** Tom and Cindy Jameson

**College:** Indiana University Jacobs School of Music

**Degree:** Doctorate of Music

**Special Achievements and Awards:** A graduate of Taylor University, she received a Masters of Music at IU while performing in several operas such as The (R) evolution of Steve Jobs, Rodelinda, Dido and Aeneas, and Cosi fan tutti. She has also received

many awards, being the winner of the 2020 St. Louis District of the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions, First Place in the Artist Division of the NOA's Carolyn Bailey and Dominick Argento Vocal Competition, and First Prize and Encouragement Award from the MONC Auditions in 2016 and 2018.

**Special Note (from Carol Downs):** We here at FEPC were blessed to follow Courtney's journey through her elementary, middle school and high school years as she excelled in piano, cello and voice, participating in worship with our choir and praise team, and playing cello, piano, and organ. Several of our congregation have attended her Bachelor's and Doctoral solo recitals, and were amazed at her beauty and talent. But above all, her Christian faith shone through as she sang to God's glory. We look forward to see how God continues to work in her life. For more information, go to this website: <https://www.courtneyjameson.com/>

## Blast from the Past ...

### Former FEPC Member, Nick Hagemeyer Named as 2020 Presidential Fellow at ETSU



As one of three faculty members named as Presidential Fellows for the fall semester, Dr. Nicholas Hagemeyer will develop and execute a project that is aligned with one of the university's major initiatives in teaching, learning and service. The fellows will work closely with President Noland, his leadership team and ETSU Center for Teaching Excellence staff.

**Hagemeyer** has been at East Tennessee State University since 2011. He is vice chair and associate professor of Pharmacy Practice and director of Student Professional Development at Bill Gatton College of Pharmacy. He also serves as director of ETSU's Pharmacy Practice Research Fellowship.

Nick earned his Pharm.D., M.S., and Ph.D. degrees from Purdue University. He was awarded National Institutes of Health funding to conduct research on the role of pharmacists in preventing opioid-related morbidity and mortality and has presented opioid- and wellbeing-related research nationally. He was appointed to the U.S. Health and Human Services Pain Management Best Practices Interagency Task Force in 2018.

Hagemeyer's project will focus on meeting wellbeing-related initiatives in ETSU's Strategic Plan.

## Tithes and Offerings — Online Giving Option

We now have an online giving/tithing option available. Click this link to get started:

<https://epc.org/donate/firststepcfrankfort/>

Be sure to bookmark this link if you plan to use this option weekly.

**Please note**, the online giving option comes with a 3% fee, charged to FEPC. If you would like to help us offset this cost, please include 3% in your gift. If you have questions, contact Kalen at [kalen@fepcfrankfort.org](mailto:kalen@fepcfrankfort.org)

If you prefer not to use the online giving option, please mail your tithes and offerings to the church:

First Evangelical Presbyterian Church  
352 West Clinton Street  
Frankfort, Indiana 46041

## 5th Sunday Offering

**May 31** is a 5th Sunday. Deacon's have designated the 5th Sunday Offering this month to be used for the Elevator and Renovation projects. If you feel led to give a 'special' offering on this Sunday, please designate the gift as **5th Sunday Offering** and use either the Online Giving or mail it to the church. Thank you for giving.

## Pray for Mountain Mission School

The first positive case of the Covid-19 virus at Mountain Mission School in Grundy was announced on April 6. On April 15 it was reported that there were 12 positive coronavirus cases.

Reports are that all staff and children seem to be in decent health at this point and do not require hospitalization. The student residents are being restricted to the campus so the isolation of the virus is more easily maintained.

Mountain Mission School is residence to nearly 200 children from ages 2 to 20 from throughout the United States and several foreign countries. The home provides housing, education, religious services, sports and college prep courses through private donors.

### McClain Family Update — Highlights from their April Prayer Letter

Like all of you, we've been sheltering-at-home for some time now. Admittedly, this is an unusual time for everyone in the world. For our family, it has been the source of both joy and grief; peace and turmoil; understanding and also frustration.

"...*and yet*..."

These are the words of hope that we continue to cling to.

Covid-19 has forced the world to come to a screeching halt over the past few months. *And yet*, we hear of online church services reaching over one million people and thousands coming to Christ through those services.

Due to closed borders, restricted travel, and financial limitations we are in an indefinite waiting period. We do not have a foreseeable departure date, and are unable to plan for one until we see these things resume back to normal. *And yet*, we do still believe the Lord will make a way for us to serve Him in Ukraine. We believe in His perfect timing and we believe in His perfect plan, even when the circumstances and events that will bring about His plan might appear unconventional to us.

For our family, we have enjoyed learning new board games, watching old movies together, putting together puzzles, exercising together outside, taking walks, and have found a new hobby in fishing

This is a time of much uncertainty; *and yet*, **surely** the Lord's hand is still upon us. We all find ourselves in quarantine in our homes, isolated from our normal routine, *and yet*, **surely** the Lord will continue to meet to us. Due to this pandemic, our lives were abruptly changed, in ways beyond our control, and we are unable to assess for sure when normal will return. *And yet*, **surely** the Lord our God, our RISEN KING, will continue to speak with us.



## April News From Judy Hill ...

### *The Past*

From the time I went to Ethiopia in 1974 there were difficult times due to civil unrest and a lack of water where we all held on to a truth David had declared centuries earlier: "My times are in your hands" (Ps. 31.15). Later the military and civil disruptions in Bangui in the 1990s and the 2000s were most definitely marked by the comfort of another Psalm: "God is our refuge and strength, an ever present help in trouble.... Be still and know that I am God" (Ps. 46.1, 10).

Those verses and years of meditating on Scripture have inevitably led me to a conclusion that never ceases to fortify me: God is wise, mighty, and good. No matter the circumstances, he is still the sovereign Lord of the universe who will do what is right.

### *The Present*

That truth is of course true for the present realities, with Covid-19 impacting the globe and our own daily lives. I thank the Lord for giving us his peace in uncertain times.

I returned to Michigan in mid-February, where I continue working with my students and colleagues at the seminary in French-speaking Africa. Both campuses (Yaoundé, Cameroon and Bangui, Central African Republic) have been closed for health reasons. Since putting courses online is not a viable option for them, it is unknown whether they will have the opportunity to complete the school year. As the coronavirus begins to make an impact on Africa, the implications are serious, given the fragile state of the national healthcare systems.

### *The Future*

In that light, I have not been working on many plans for "down the road." I expect that the work I accomplish now, though, will lead to later goals, such as completed doctoral work for some of my students. I look forward also to the time when churches here will re-open, and we can fellowship together in person, hugs and all. One of my doctoral students is working on the letter of James in the New Testament. Reading the student's work has kept James 4.13-15 in my mind: "Now listen, you who say, 'Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city.' ... Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. ... Instead, you ought to say, 'If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that.'" Trusting God is a daily commitment, recognizing that he is sovereign and wants to lead us step-by-step.

### *Praying Together*

Praying together is something that can be done at a great distance here below, since we all meet together at God's throne of grace. Please feel free to share any prayer requests you may have. Here are some current concerns that I would like you to pray about.

1. PRAISE the Lord: Dr. William reports that his health situation has improved, and he was able to return to teaching before the campus in Yaoundé, Cameroon, was closed.
2. PRAY for God's mercy on Africa as it confronts the coronavirus. Its healthcare possibilities are generally severely limited.
3. My doctoral student Kuzundelu was to have had his dissertation defense (on the book of Hebrews) in March. With poor internet connections, a video conference for that purpose is not a possibility, and the jury members are widely scattered. PRAY for wisdom and patience as a solution is sought.

May your own experience of staying at home because of the coronavirus threat not frustrate you but instead provide you with opportunities you may not often have had in busier days. The Lord is in control — a truth that should encourage us all!

Every blessing,

*Judy Hill*