

# The Air Hill Breezes



## 2020

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What have we learned with Covid-19?

Don't you wish that this virus would have been a blizzard? Let's pretend we had 24 inches of snow. We might be stranded in our homes. We might be stuck eating our own food; I don't mind that at all, but some do. Our backs may be sore from shoveling, for those of us who do not have a snow blower. Our hands may have developed callouses. We might miss a few days of work. All our activities may be cancelled. In the end, we camp out inside for a few days (unless you're a farmer). Then, it's over.

Listen to what Elihu tells Job about snow, "He (God) says to the snow, 'Fall on the earth,' and to the rain shower, 'Be a mighty downpour.' So that all men he has made may know his work, he stops every man from his labor" (Job 37:6-7). Why does God send the snow? He desires all people to know the work of God. How can God get people to know his work? He stops our labor.

The virus and snow are two different things. Why does God allow the virus? Ultimately, you must say it is God's sovereignty. Yes, our free will may have been part of its creation and may be part of its spread, but God has allowed it. And, yes, sickness and death entered the

world with our sin. How can God get people to know his work? He stops our labor.

While we are stopped, what should we learn?

**Who is in charge?** We humans are not in charge, but God is. We don't know how the virus began or how it will end. Quite frankly, it sounds like a plague from the Old Testament or that which is promised in the last days of Revelation 6:8. God allows these events to occur to remind us of who we are not; we are not God. To paraphrase Dr. Os Guinness recently stated that "the loss of control is at the heart of the fear caused by the pandemic. We have no control, though Westerners are control freaks."

**What is our view of death?** Do we recognize our mortality? We will all die. Do we know what happens after death? Do we know the source of eternal life?

**What occupies our soul?** It is when we have "free" time that we learn what we love. That is the focus of our soul. What we fill our time with shows what we value. Think about this: Who or what is on the throne of your heart?"

**Are we walking in humility?** AP News had an interesting article, "Coronavirus Shakes the Conceit of 'American Exceptionalism.'" We are self-absorbed as individuals and as a nation. The article focused on the pride we have

Cont. on pg. 2

### AIR HILL STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

"To grow a healthy, loving, Christ centered church family that has a passion for reaching the community and the world for Christ"

Cont. from pg. 1

of our medical technology, but it revealed the shortfalls of our medical system at this time: the shortages, the inconsistent decision making, and the lack of preparation.

On a personal basis, have you purchased all the toilet paper so that no one else may have any? Or, are you so haughty to think you would never get the virus? Beware! Even more, are you secretly, or not so secretly, angry at the government for them telling you to stay at home? How dare they? Facebook reveals that the spirit of rebellion is alive and well in the United States; we were founded on that spirit.

Yet, “rebellion is like the sin of divination and arrogance like the evil of idolatry” (1 Samuel 15:23).

No organization can thrive with a spirit of rebellion.

Instead, “**Are we praying for our government leaders?**” As I was exploring a quote from Pres.

Bush during 9/11 last week, I found these words of his in the Guardian, “There is no textbook on how to steady a nation rattled by a faceless enemy.” He is referring to the terrorist attack that just occurred and not the faceless enemy of a virus. Unfortunately, this virus has become politicized. Rather than joining a side, let’s pray for wisdom and guidance and humility before God for our leaders.

**What is the church?** If you haven’t noticed, the church is not a building. We haven’t met in the building since March and the church continues. We have met by Zoom. We worshiped by Facebook

Live. We have made and received calls, emails, Instagrams and even cards or letters by snail mail. I even got to see some people, can you believe it, in person! The church is people united in Jesus Christ.

**Are our hearts hurting for the broken?** People are grieving. They have lost loved ones. They have lost their health. They have lost jobs. Some have lost incomes. They have lost businesses. They have lost their freedom to move. Much loss leads to much grief. Ask the Holy Spirit to keep your heart and your eyes and your ears open to ways you may serve.

So, what did you learn? Schools may be closed, but you can still learn. Use these questions to let the Holy Spirit teach you.

**This is your May Spiritual Exercise.** Use this “stay at home” time to answer those questions for yourself or with the help of others.

Dr. Os Guinness stated in a recent webinar that he prays these words almost daily, “Lord, teach us to count our days so we can make our days count.”

Pastor John

### **CHURCH BOARD HIGHLIGHTS**

- Meeting was via ZOOM
- \$70,000 investment into the Franklin Fund is paused for now.
- Secretary and Custodians are permitted to continue to work during the stay home order. Motion was made to pay their regular wages whether they have work at the church or not.
- Marriage and Wedding policy was discussed and a draft will be presented at the next meeting for approval.
- Air Hill will be ready and willing to get involved with Roxbury’s project of providing meals on Tuesdays and Fridays during the pandemic. We had the opportunity to send \$1500 to help financially.
- We will start to explore ways to be more involved with Gospel Tide.

## The Gospel Challenge: May

The challenge: This year read and meditate through the gospels. Begin each day (you may choose another time) and for at least 15 minutes read and ponder the gospel reading for the day. Before you begin each reading, ask God to help you know Jesus more. For added benefit to your life, write down every insight you gain from that time or from your thoughts about the gospel as you think of it throughout the day.

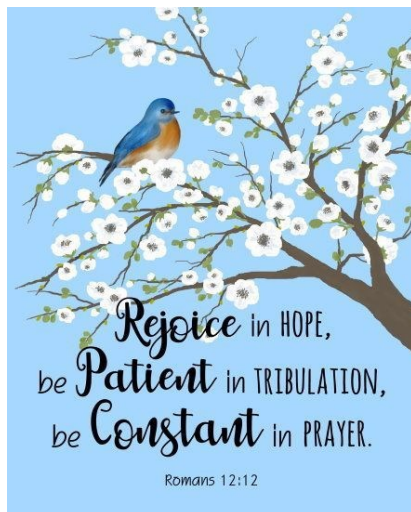
Each month I will give you the next month's readings. (It will take three months to go through each gospel.) Note: I will give you 25 readings for a month. If you miss a day, you may catch up another day.

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|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Mark 9:33-50   | 14. Mark 13:32-37 |
| 2. Mark 10:1-16   | 15. Mark 14:1-11  |
| 3. Mark 10:17-34  | 16. Mark 14:12-31 |
| 4. Mark 10:35-52  | 17. Mark 14:32-42 |
| 5. Mark 11:1-11   | 18. Mark 14:43-52 |
| 6. Mark 11:12-26  | 19. Mark 14:53-65 |
| 7. Mark 11:27-33  | 20. Mark 14:66-72 |
| 8. Mark 12:1-12   | 21. Mark 15:1-15  |
| 9. Mark 12:13-27  | 22. Mark 15:16-32 |
| 10. Mark 12:28-34 | 23. Mark 15:33-41 |
| 11. Mark 12:35-44 | 24. Mark 15:42-47 |
| 12. Mark 13:1-13  | 25. Mark 16       |
| 13. Mark 13:4-31  |                   |

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Journal Reading Plan  
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### Cumberland Valley Relief Center...Meat Canning 2020

Thank you to over 500 volunteers who made the week of meat canning a success. We canned 45,000 pounds of boneless, skinless turkey thighs. That amounted to 28,332 cans that will be used as food aid to people in need worldwide.



## ORVILLE & CHERYL HADE UPDATE

Dear Prayer Partners,

As we all know much has changed since our March 18 update, due to the impact of the corona-virus. So, we will give a brief update as follows:

1. In Cabo Delgado, the BIC church communities that were under threat from militants, the people returned to their homes recently. However, the situation there is very unstable and the people live day to day with the risk of needing to flee their homes again. Per various reports the militants are continuing to geographically expand their activities. Please continue to pray that peaceful resolution may be found.
2. Both Cheryl and I remain well and are taking increasing measures of social distancing and virus mitigation. Yet, at the same time, we are ministering in various limited ways.
3. To the best of our knowledge, although with very limited testing available in Mozambique, the C virus has not yet had a big impact here. The government has taken steps to restrict group meetings and issued various guidelines. However, we all must live with the reality of things not being certain without testing available.
4. Danny, a short-term missionary with the Reformed Church arrived here in Milange on March 14 from South Africa. He spent one night at our house and then traveled to Nampula for several days. Upon his return he was sick with symptoms like the flu or corona-virus. He self-isolated himself in a nearby house. The local medical staff said he must be there for 14 days. During this time we have helped him with meals and various things he needed. He expects to leave isolation any day, but he plans to stay in Milange until he is permitted to return to South Africa.

Note: Danny was able to bring some much needed parts for our truck from South Africa. However, due to virus issues, we have been unable to travel to our mechanic in Blantyre.

5. Cheryl and I continue to look for ways to "do the good we can do", while also following govt guidelines, and good health practices. We need your prayers for wisdom on all things.

Ongoing prayer needs:

- a. Supt Francisco - for fully recovery from his head injury
- b. New church constitution and registration: just as we began working with the Maputo lawyer, the virus impact sidetracked things again
- c. DIRE for Cheryl: not yet arrived

Orville's mom, Margaret Hade (Walker), 91 years old, husband was Donald C. Hade, peacefully passed away April 25th. She had very recently been diagnosed with corona virus. Please pray for Orville's four siblings as they work together to make funeral plans, etc., while we are here in Mozambique.

The Lord says,  
I have called you by name.  
You are Mine!"  
**ISAIAH 43:1**

## **Anthony & Shawna Myers**

Dear Faithful Supporters and Friends;

What an unusual time we are living in right now! We, like probably most of you, are in a stay-at-home order for the Covid-19 virus. So we are working from home and keeping up things here with the volunteer and staff housing on Heavenly Street. We are also getting a few things done at home that we just have not had the time to do. We are actually thankful for this time to slow down a bit and listen to the Lord!

We had a wonderful family time in the Keys, just before all this started. The Keys closed the day after our vacation ended! Not sure when we had a family vacation like that, but we loved being together. John surprised Jessie by flying down half way through our time there, and proposed to her! So it was an exciting time and we were all blessed to be a part (yes, we did know ahead of time, but it was hard to keep the secret!). Brandon and Brooke are doing well and are back in PA. Darin is doing school from home and seems to have more homework than when he went to school each day! He is missing not doing Spring Football.

We want you to know that we are so thankful for you and pray for you daily. In this time of uncertainty with many things, we are thankful that one thing remains certain...that Christ is here with us and He is in control.

We love you and appreciate your continued encouragement through your support and prayers. Pray for those who will be making decisions for the upcoming summer teams and bases. We would love to hear how you are doing during this time. We hope all of you and your families are staying safe and healthy.

## **KARINA THRUSH**

Less than 4 months to go! It is hard to believe, but I only have 3 1/2 months of full-time language study left. I am excited to be able to shift my focus back to ministry at SYME, but still feel the need to continue language study after graduating. Japanese is very difficult and complicated. I am thankful for the progress God has blessed me with so far and the ability He has given me to have simple conversations with people. However, because I would love to use Japanese in a deeper discipleship and counseling setting, I need to continue studying and practicing even after I graduate. So, now I am in the process of starting to figure out what my job will be when I return to SYME and how I can continue language studies on a part time level as well.

Currently, I have picked up some work at SYME in the graphics field. I have enjoyed creating flyers and promotional materials for our school (SYME), camps, and ministry outreach events. I am also cooking one meal a week for our students and staff. Please pray with me for wisdom as to what part of the ministry I will fit into best and how I can use the Japanese I have learned in discipleship with our female students.

祈る事とサポートを支える事も 本当にありがとうございます！

Thank you so much for your prayers and support!

Hello Dear Friends,

## **FROM THE OBERHOLSERS**

Here are several prayer points and updates from our family. Please feel free to share with us how we can be praying for you as well.

### **Family:**

After several rounds of antibiotics, we think we finally have the Strep under control in our household. However, several of the children still exhibit minor symptoms of illness from time to time. Pray for us to have wisdom as we care for our children's health.

The children continue with their homeschooling routines, but they do miss not being able to see their friends. Several weeks ago, as part of a history assignment, the kids made a makeshift museum describing various aspects of history from western states. A video of it was posted to Facebook, perhaps some of you saw it.

Our family was disappointed that we couldn't participate in regular community Easter activities this year, but we were grateful to be able to share a few Easter songs with our neighbors Easter morning by standing in their yard and singing (much like people do when they Christmas Carol).

### **Ministry:**

We continue to move forward with our new goals of establishing a network of house churches. We are looking into creative ways for meeting new people and building relationships that lead to life transformation. Pray for us to have wisdom and guidance from above, and divine appointments for interacting with people.

Jason meets regularly with Anthony. We praise God for his openness to learn. Pray that Anthony would remember what he's learning and that he would develop creative ways to share the gospel with others.

### **COVID-19**

The Coronavirus continues to infect many people in our region. The Navajo Nation has been particularly hit hard, it's considered a major hot spot in the nation. Nightly and weekend curfews have been implemented across the Navajo Nation, unfortunately many citations have been issued to people not obeying the law.

Pray for healthcare workers who are tirelessly working to care for people. Many of them are isolating themselves from their families out of safety concerns. Pray for our Navajo friend Lenora who hasn't physically seen her special needs son in several weeks, it's been hard for him to understand why his mother can't come home.

Pray for people to respect authority figures and do as they are asked to, even when they don't feel like it.

Pray for the spread of the virus to slow down and for people to have peace in the midst of pain and sorrow. A member of a local church we're connected with recently lost her mother and brother because of the virus. It was heartbreaking that the family couldn't gather together for a funeral.

Thanks for the many ways you lift us up in prayer and encourage us!!

Jason, Bekah, Christy, Abby, Jessie, Caleb, Josh, Amos Oberholser

## MOTHERS DAY AND HOW IT ALL BEGAN

The official Mother's Day holiday arose in the 1900s as a result of the efforts of Anna Jarvis, daughter of Ann Reeves Jarvis. Following her mother's 1905 death, Anna Jarvis conceived of Mother's Day as a way of honoring the sacrifices mothers made for their children.

After gaining financial backing from a Philadelphia department store owner named John Wanamaker, in May 1908 she organized the first official Mother's Day celebration at a Methodist church in Grafton, West Virginia. That same day also saw thousands of people attend a Mother's Day event at one of Wanamaker's retail stores in Philadelphia.

Following the success of her first Mother's Day, Jarvis—who remained unmarried and childless her whole life—resolved to see her holiday added to the national calendar. Arguing that American holidays were biased toward male achievements, she started a massive letter writing campaign to newspapers and prominent politicians urging the adoption of a special day honoring motherhood.

By 1912 many states, towns and churches had adopted Mother's Day as an annual holiday, and Jarvis had established the Mother's Day International Association to help promote her cause. Her persistence paid off in 1914 when President Woodrow Wilson signed a measure officially establishing the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day.

### Jarvis Decries Commercialized Mother's Day

Anna Jarvis had originally conceived of Mother's Day as a day of personal celebration between mothers and families. Her version of the day involved wearing a white carnation as a badge and visiting one's mother or attending church services. But once Mother's Day became a national holiday, it was not long before florists, card companies and other merchants capitalized on its popularity.

While Jarvis had initially worked with the floral industry to help raise Mother's Day's profile, by 1920 she had become disgusted with how the holiday had been commercialized. She outwardly denounced the transformation and urged people to stop buying Mother's Day flowers, cards and candies.

Jarvis eventually resorted to an open campaign against Mother's Day profiteers, speaking out against confectioners, florists and even charities. She also launched countless lawsuits against groups that had used the name "Mother's Day," eventually spending most of her personal wealth in legal fees. By the time of her death in 1948 Jarvis had disowned the holiday altogether, and even actively lobbied the government to see it removed from the American calendar.

Happy  
*Mother's*  
Day