



THE CHRONICLE

Monthly Newsletter of Whitney United
Methodist Church



A message from Rev. Christina

*Jesus invites us into the
work*

Jesus made it look so easy. “Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness.” (Matthew 9:35) Not only that, in the next verse it says that Jesus had “compassion for the crowds because they were harassed and helpless.” (9:36) All these diseases and sickness and people being harassed and helpless and Jesus cures them all. Whatever the need, Jesus gets it done.

But then Jesus calls his disciples (which would include us in case we were wondering) and invites them to this mission work of casting out unclean spirits and curing every disease and every sickness. We, like those first disciples, are confidently sent out to continue the work Jesus did so easily.

We are to cast out demons and cure every disease? Really? Every disease including the Coronavirus? How are we to do that? Scientists and doctors are struggling to cure it, and we are supposed to find a cure?

And what about all of this racism and violence we are confronted with? I believe Jesus would include it in his list of things we are to do something about. How do we confront and cure it? It is so much bigger than just one person can deal with. Jesus makes it look so easy, but it certainly does not appear to be easy to me.

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The reality is though, that I don't think Jesus would have said it was easy. There was opposition from various groups of people, including those who did not want to be cured. His disciples most of the time did not seem to understand what Jesus was doing or what he was talking about. And ultimately Jesus' work got him nailed to a cross.

Jesus would say to us, it is not easy, but it is worth doing. It is worth the work it takes to reach into the world with the Good News of Jesus and share God's love with others. It is worth the work it takes to confront diseases and to ask how we can be part of finding the cure. Even with the coronavirus, when I am wearing my mask, practicing social distancing, and continuing to self-isolate are small ways I am making a difference in this pandemic.

Jesus is also very clear that we do not do any of this work to spread the good news and cure diseases alone. Jesus sends his disciples out together and they have the authority of Jesus to do these things. So as we are called to share the good news, cure the sick, etc., we do so together in the power of Jesus by our actions.

This virus feels overwhelming especially as the numbers of those infected just keeps rising. But I was thinking the other day about all of the other sicknesses and diseases that humans have cured, found a vaccine for or at least slowed down—polio, typhoid, etc. Combating these diseases were done together—with the scientists, doctors, entomologists, and political leaders, working together with the public to find a cure/vaccine.

I, by myself am not going to find a vaccine for this virus. I just do not have those gifts. But I can pray for the scientists who are working to find a vaccine. I can pray for all of the doctors, nurses and hospital staff that are working tirelessly to heal those infected with COVID-19. I can pray for all of the political leaders in our nation and in the world as they continue to wrestle with this virus. And I can do my part in wearing my mask and social distancing.

The other challenge we are faced with—racism and violence feels much harder to confront. How do we even begin to confront racism and violence that is so embedded in our culture, in the history of our country and indeed in the history of the world?

I am even less sure about how to confront this challenge than I am with COVID. But I decided one thing I could do was to educate myself on the history of racism in our country. I know it is not enough. But it is a start. That is what Jesus did—he did one thing at a time and sent his disciples out to do the same.

Jesus invites us to join in the work he needs us to do. In the power of the Holy Spirit, we can make a difference by the actions we do, even if they feel small.

Blessings,
Rev. Christina

Church Closure - When will we ever return?

—Rich Keefe



Everyone I know is ready for the pandemic to be over. We are tired of staying home, tired of social distancing, and tired of not seeing our friends and families. We have learned to have a love/hate relationship with face masks. We yearn to hug and be hugged. We want to come together and worship God. We want to sing hymns and experience the band and choir as they share special music.

So, when is this going to happen?

There is no easy answer to this question. But our leaders at Whitney UMC are working diligently toward answers. A team is working on a detailed plan that will allow us to re-enter our building to worship and minister to peoples' needs. We will move through 4 stages of transition based on guidance from Bishop Elaine and our state and local public health authorities.

- You may view an online document from the Bishop's office that outlines the requirements for reopening — <https://greaternw.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Reimagining-Life-Together.pdf>
- A brief summary table of the requirements can be viewed at <https://greaternw.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/RLT-Chart.pdf>

During all these phases and even when we return to in-person worship, Whitney plans to continue offering online worship ministries.

If you have questions or concerns, you may reach out to any of the members of the team drafting our reopening plan: Rich Keefe, Shelley Cooper, Diana Shea, Johnna Dunten, Malcom Dunten, Kimberly Gardner, and Rev. Christina Thompson

To view an expanded version of this article, [click here](#).

Worship Themes for July

During July, we will be "Walking with Jesus, Being the Church". Through scripture, sermon, mini lessons and music, we will explore:

- The abundant life we receive from Jesus the Good Shepherd.
- How to come to Jesus when we are weary and heavy burdened.
- And hear Jesus' parables about sowers, seeds and weeds!

Family Life

Welcoming our new Family Life Director

Unbelievably, July is here and July 1 is significant!



- It is "International Joke Day"!
- It is the beginning of Rev. Christina's 12th year as pastor at Whitney UMC.
- It is the first day of a new era, with Kimberly Gardner starting as Whitney's new "Family Life Director".

Life has changed a lot since Whitney's SPRC first hired Kimberly back in February (with the July 1 starting date) and many of the things that we had assumed she would be doing, are no longer an option (like a big Family Camp). But there are many different ways we have been exploring how to be a Family Life Director during a pandemic! This includes teaming up with Cathedral of the Rockies for a Virtual VBS!

Click [here](#) to view a draft of her revised job description and action plan.

Welcome on board, Kimberly. We are so glad to have you in this position.

How to contact Kimberly:

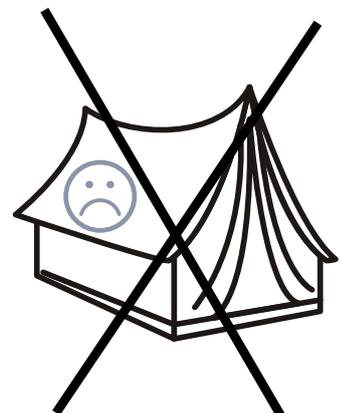
- Email is her preferred method and she has a new email address to go with a new job: FamilyLife@WhitneyUMC.org.
- But you can call her or text her at 208-921-4260.

Family Life Updates

Sadly, there will be no Family Camp at Sawtooth this year. Almost all camps and activities have been cancelled for the summer at all of our camps.

BUT!!!

We are teaming up with Cathedral of the Rockies for a virtual Vacation Bible School. Check page 5 of this newsletter for details!



Vacation Bible School!



**"Let us keep looking to Jesus. He is the one who started this journey of faith."
Hebrews 12:2**

**July 20
- July 23
2020**

**We are teaming up
with Cathedral of
the Rockies for a
Virtual VBS!**

 **Questions: contact Kimberly Gardner, Family Life Director, Whitney UMC familylife@whitneyumc.com**

For more details, [click here](#).

To go straight to the registration page, [click here](#).



Devotions



Do you need a source of devotional material, inspiration for a few quiet moments with God?

We have both May/June and July/August "Upper Room" booklets available in the office. Contact the office (3315whitneychurch@gmail.com) if you would like a copy mailed.

There are also online sources. Here's a possibility:

<https://www.upperroom.org/devotionals>

United Methodist Women

-- Lory Nesper

Quilts and Blanket Update

Thanks to Barbara Nolan, Ramona Walhof and Gena Waller for making some beautiful blankets which will be distributed as part of our Conference Quilt project. The photos of their quilts will be a part of a Conference video which will be shown at our annual meeting in the Fall. The blankets will be distributed to a social services agency in the Boise area.



Upcoming Events

- DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING - Sept. 19 - Nampa 1st UMC
- CONFERENCE ANNUAL MEETING - OCTOBER 17 - Cathedral of the Rockies - Boise.

All of events are subject to postponement or cancellation. Stay tuned.

All Whitney UMW meetings are canceled until Sept. 2, 2020 when hopefully we will be able to safely gather together.

Congratulations, Yuni

UMW congratulates our first UMW scholarship recipient, Yuni Rueda, on her graduation from Western Oregon State University. She'll attend George Fox University in the fall as she prepares for a Masters degree in Child Psychology.

Yuni is a member of Wilder Hispanic Ministry and has been appointed to the Oregon-Idaho UMW Conference leadership team as Language Coordinator. Because of her DACA status, Yuni has had to overcome many obstacles and we are proud to have been a part of her accomplishments. We look forward to watching her continue to grow in life and faith.



Mask-making

As we prepare for opening the church, United Methodist Women have volunteered to be sure that there are masks for everyone. Several will be sewing and many are donating materials.

If you would like to be a part of this project, call Lory Nesper at 808-286-4829.



Connecting with You



Sunday Worship

Our worship services are being recorded and made available via our YouTube channel, "Whitney UMC Communications". Links to these recordings are sent out via email and are posted on our Facebook pages "Whitney United Methodist Church" and "Whitney United Methodist Church Group".

If you do not have access to the service via Youtube, there is audio only access at 10 am on Sundays.

- dial this number on any telephone: +1 301 715 8592 (sorry, there isn't a Boise number)
- enter this number when asked for your meeting ID: 821 125 516 , followed by the '#' key.
- stay on the line and we'll get everyone connected and play the video as audio only, over the phone line.

We also mail out as much of the service as possible. Please call Phyllis at 208-859-3039 to be added to the service mailing list.

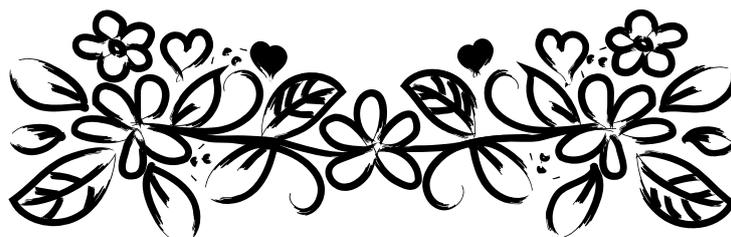
As well, our Radio Program "Reach Out and Trust" continues every Sunday morning at 7:30am and 11:30am on KBXL 94.1 FM, where you can hear past sermons by Rev. Christina.

Directory Update

We've updated the church directory. The newest edition is dated June 2020. As with the last e-version, this one is password protected. The password, which is good for opening, saving and printing, will come to you in a separate email on July 1.



Click the phone icon to download the latest version.



Craft Fair Update

--Lorrie Baer

Under the current guidance from our Conference, Area and Bishop Elaine, our annual craft fair as we know it will not be held this year.

We are sure, though, that during all of these Stay-at-Home / Stay-Safe weeks, many of you have been busy crafting for the fair. So do not despair! We will have a fair, but it will be different.

Please watch for the August Chronicle for details and exciting news regarding the fair.

Contact Lorrie Baer with questions.



Graduation



We celebrated our 2020 graduates during worship on June 14. They were:

Marissa Nesor from Borah High School, Boise, Idaho
Austen Furutani from Mililani High School, Mililani, Hawaii
Lexandrie Schachter from West Linn High School, West Linn, Oregon
Mark Jerome from West Point Military Academy
Alyson Teckemeyer from Brainerd High School, Brainerd, Minnesota
Laura Irish from the Coast Guard Academy
Ryan Johnson, from Oregon State University
Myah Catlin from Mountain View High School, Meridian, Idaho
Yuni Rueda from Western Oregon State University

We created a special video in their honor. View it by clicking the icon below:



Permissions Nightmares

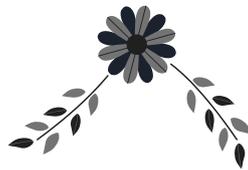
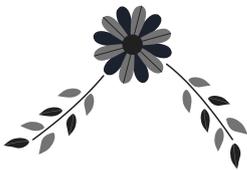
--Becky Platt

Last month, I talked about "Copyright Purgatory". This month, it is "Permissions Nightmares". Like the copyright issue, permission to use both photo and video that include people becomes a very big issue as we move most of our material on-line, whether it be email, the Chronicle, Facebook or a worship video.

IT IS ESPECIALLY CRITICAL THAT WE TAKE CARE WITH OUR CHILDREN. We will not knowingly violate requests to not share images of anyone, but especially our children.

So what does this mean to you?

If you have not completed a church permission slip telling us your preferences, please do so at your earliest convenience; we want to share the great things being done by the people of Whitney and we can't without permission. Click [HERE](#) to download the slip. You can mail it to the office or scan or photograph it and email it to communications@whitneyumc.org.



Doing No Harm

We all know that John Wesley offered three simple rules to those of us called Methodists:

--Do No Harm. Do Good. And Stay in Love with God--

As we navigate these times, doing no harm means:

- wear your mask
- wash your hands
- practice physical distancing
- stay home as best you can.

If you need a mask, please contact the church office; we have a supply and will mail you one.



Meet Bob and Maggie Storm!

--profile by Ramona Walhof

Maggie Storm grew up in New Jersey and went to school to become a cosmetologist. She moved with her first husband to Phoenix, Denver, then Boise. Along the way, she joined Alanon where she met Pastor Paul Self-Price and his wife; she came to Whitney church about the turn of the century. She says: Whitney brought me closer to God and saved my life. Rev. Paul was personally very helpful, and the entire church was riendly and welcoming. Besides being a part of the Whitney community, Maggie spent that last 30 years of her career doing hair at Becky and Friends on Vista. She says "In that work you get to know your customers and become friends with them and their families. It gets to be your whole life."

Bob Storm's father was in the airforce, so he lived in many locations, but primarily in the western part of the US, graduating from Mountain Home High School and attending both Boise Junior College and Links Business School where he received an associates degree in business and accounting. His first job was with Firestone Tire in Boise, and the last 20 years of his career was working for U-Haul as both store and area manager at many locations in Idaho and Montana.

Bob has been active in the Lions Club since 1961, serving as District Governor and then as Council Chair covering all of southern Idaho and bits of Oregon. It was at a Lions event in 2002 that Bob and Maggie were first introduced and they have since traveled to Lions International conventions in 7 different cities as varied as Hong Kong and Detroit. Maggie is not officially a member of any Lions Club but works with Bob and the Boise Bench Lions on all kinds of service projects.

Although his family had been in the Christian church, Bob came with Maggie to Whitney. They were married in 2003. They help with Friday Community Dinners, Sunday morning greeting and communion, and Bob is a part of the Methodist Men.

Bob has 3 grown children in Twin Falls, Meridian, and Ogden, Utah. He has 7 grandchildren and 6 great grandchildren and is expecting another. They have become Maggie's family, too. She particularly enjoys the little ones as they arrive and grow.



After retirement from U-Haul, Bob drove a tour bus for several years, just for fun; then he drove a truck (for the money) for a time. Now he and Maggie like to travel in their RV, often with Mel and Cathie Slocum with whom they are very good friends. The Lions, the church and family keep them busy.



- 3 - Kathy Skov
- 5 - Nancy Kerns
- 5 - Janice Spencer
- 5 - Marv Wolfe
- 7 - Thekla Owens
- 8 - Becky Platt
- 11 - Noa Nesar
- 15 - Svetlana Maddox
- 20 - Linda Jordan
- 24 - Barbara Nolan
- 26 - Tyke Carr
- 27 - Beverly Buttram
- 27 - Jana Hedges
- 29 - Julie Hall
- 30 - Carla Biersdorff
- 30 - Ellen Herzinger



- 1 - Carl & Dotty Harden
- 15 - AJ & Becky Gris
- 21 - Dave and Carol Adams
- 26 - Eric & Sharon Tabb
- 29 - Rev. Christina Thompson/Clint Wachi



Rev. Christina Thompson, Judith Alexander, Coronavirus victims, Dale Thompson, Kerri Outen and her mother, Brenda Marvin Wolfe and family

SHUT-INS TO PRAY FOR THIS MONTH

Dortha Bixler, Don Halsey, Richard Miller, Micky Vail

INCESSANT PRAYERS

Cheri Carter, Ruthie Carter, Ruthie's Grandson, Carter, Richard Miller, Bonnie Hawk, Sue Frear, Marlys Tudehope, Keith Gillespie, the Family of Ron Jordan, the Family of Don Hutchinson, the Family of Glenna Finley

MILITARY PRAYERS

David L. Hawk, Mark Jerome, Laura Irish, Adam Whistler

STUDENTS IN SCHOOLS OF HIGHER LEARNING

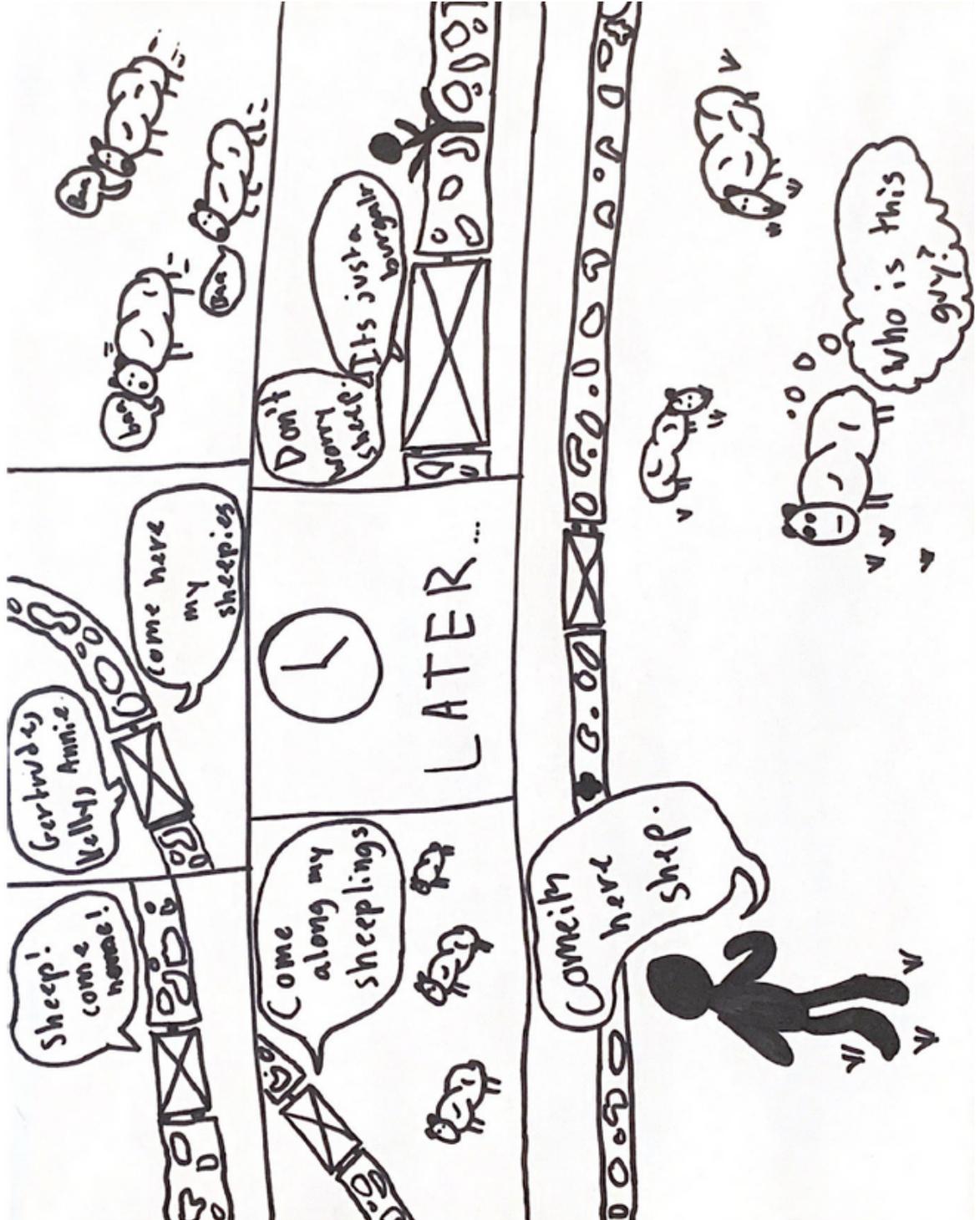
Jenneth McNeas-Ayodele, Justine Niyogushimwa, Marissa Jerome, Nicole Jerome, Nick Nesar, Braeden Dunten, Spencer Jordan, Jordyn Walhof, Marissa Nesar, Christopher Kozama, Masson Furitami, Austen Furitami

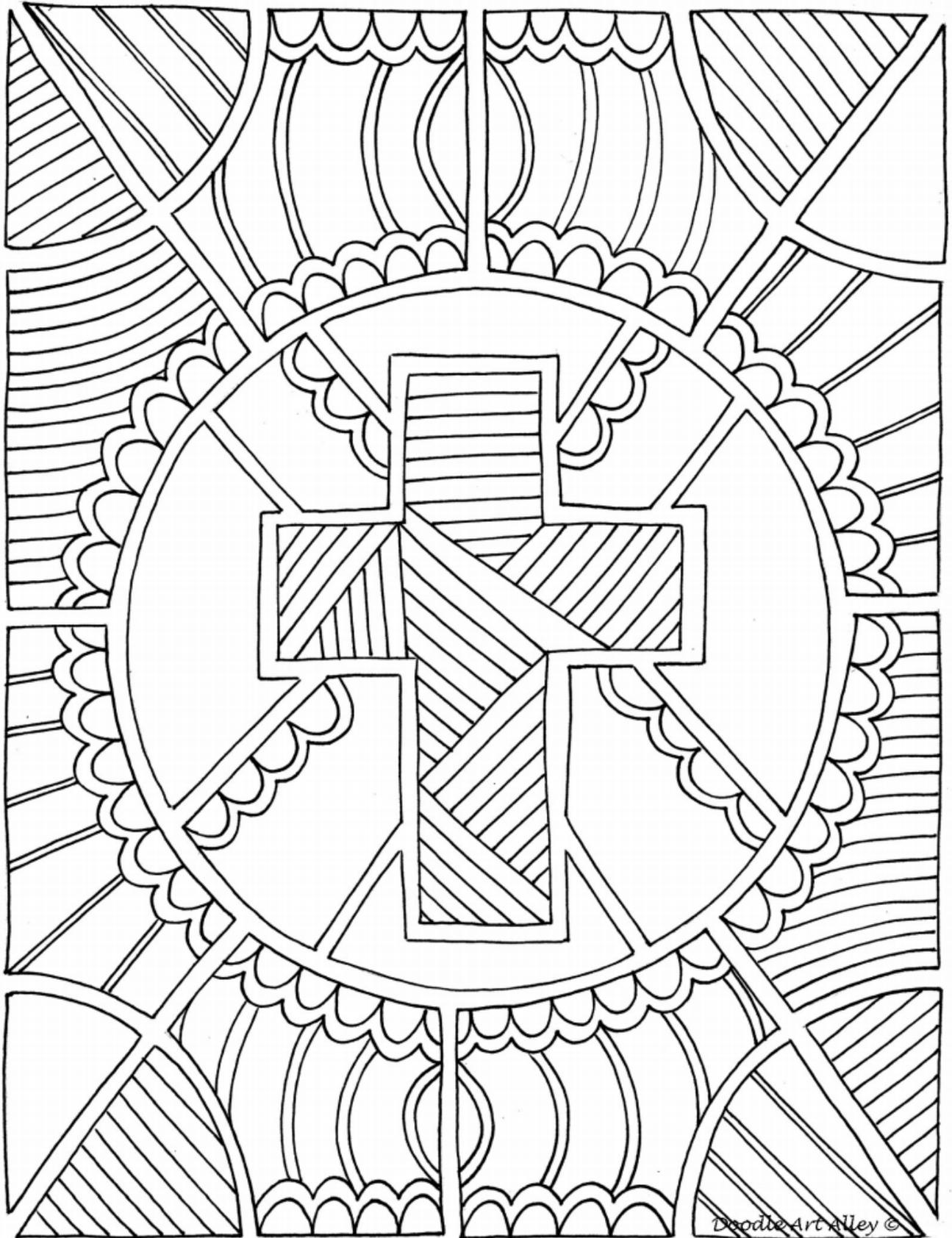
Please submit names to the office for listing on this new Prayer List feature.

"Pulpit" by Miriam Fridel

"He calls his own sheep by name but the sheep do not listen to the thief."

-- Based on John 10





Doodle Art Alley ©

Walking with Jesus, Being the Church

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

SOULS
INSTRUCTIONS
FOLLOWERS
HUMBLE
GOOD NEWS
BEING
REST
WALKING
CHURCH
SHEPHERD
FAITH
TREASURE
JESUS
DISCIPLES
GENTLE
SOWER
BAPTIZE
SEEDS
TEACHING
CROSS

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/1282839/>

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