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Bing generated a desktop photo on my computer of an Alpine mountain scene somewhere in southern Europe and sent my thoughts to mountains. I thought about coming down from a mountain as a metaphor, perhaps, of what many of us are feeling right now. For some families, the mountain was the weeks of anticipation and planning for a Spring Break week of play and rest, or of travel to Branson or Destin (or somewhere, anywhere, else), or plans to visit grandparents, or something else special.

And then Covid-19 hit – we’ve stumbled down from the mountain.

Two Bible stories recall when other Godly people came down from a mountain into a chaotic world below. Moses was up on Mount Sinai for a long time in the presence of God himself receiving instructions on how the Israelites were to worship God properly. God told Moses to go down to see for himself that the people bowing down to a calf idol. Our stress level today cannot even compare with what Moses must have felt then. One moment, he was in the middle of a pleasant and literal mountain-top experience, learning from God about righteousness and leadership. The next, he was asking a righteous and angry Lord to choose grace over justice, to protect the sinful people down in the valley below. And then Moses still had the hike down a rugged mountain, no doubt formulating what he would say to the Israelite camp.

Jesus was on a mountain with three of his disciples when he was transfigured before them, met with historic figures from Israel’s past, and heard the very voice of God thunder. Wow! Can you imagine a greater “mountain-top” experience? As he and the disciples descended the mountain, immediately he was approached by a man with a legitimate gripe that Jesus’ disciples who remained behind couldn’t heal his son.

Both Jesus and Moses went on from each of these “valley-low” moments to continue doing what God had called them to do. Many of us may feel like this time is about the lowest of valleys – can’t gather for face-to-face meetings like church, school, many types of jobs, social activities, not sure about how much I should buy or if I can shop at all, fear of the virus itself for ourselves, family members, friends, fear of each other if too close. Moses made it beyond his valley-low to lead and serve for about 40 years more. Jesus made it through his to the cross and beyond so that we can be with him. Check out these stories (Genesis 32 and Matthew 17). Look for ways Moses or Jesus made it through the valley that will help you move through this valley. I’d love to hear what you think.

*Billy*

## Prayer List:

- **For the health of our nation**, both physically in the face of the virus crisis and spiritually as we seek God's help and healing.
- **For our Health Care workers** – we have many in our church family actively involved in medical care. Let's pray daily for their health, energy and strength as they serve during this time.
- **For the Economic impact** – for individuals and families in our church family whose financial stability and job security has been upended by the crisis.
- **James Chandler**, Judy Whittington's dad, is being treated for respiratory issues.
- **Oliver DeSpain** has been diagnosed with possible cancer cells in the stomach and will undergo tests to further diagnose.
- **Bill Loe**, Jan Hastings' dad, was transferred from UAMS into a nursing/rehab facility in Prescott.
- **Aubrey McNeely**, Robert's dad, went home last Thursday after being hospitalized last week.
- **Margaret Organ** is in Alcoa Pines Health & Rehab.
- **Randy Townsend** is now at home.
- **Sissy Treat** has completed all tests and will receive results from Mayo Clinic telemedicine on April 7.

## Youth Minister Musings:

Greetings!

Again, I hope you are all doing well!

We have been having a great turnout in our digital class on Wednesdays. We will continue to do these until we are able to assemble in person once again.

We will meet every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. and every Sunday evening at 5:30 p.m. via ZOOM online.

I am also very interested in spending some time with your family over video call just to check in, to take some time for everyone to process what they are feeling and thinking over the last two weeks, and to pray.

I would like to have these virtual visits anytime between 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. on any evening your family is free.

My prayer is that we will be able to resume class in person soon.

Stay well!

-Evan

*Our sympathy to **Jarred Crow** and his extended family on the passing of Jarred's grandmother, Bernice Holder. A private, graveside service was held Friday in Harrison.*

## Continue to remember:

Joe Campbell  
Charles Caradine  
Cash Clancy  
Susan Dorsey  
Sue Edwards  
Don & Patricia Flowers  
Kelley Geurin  
Cathy Hagameier  
Betty Humphries  
Glenn & Sylvia Kays  
Rod Kirk  
Wilma Lunsford  
James & Margarete Mayberry  
Sharon Pearson  
Joe Peevy  
Diana Richard  
Catherine Roberts  
Bess Sanders  
Johnny Scroggins  
Micah Sexson  
Patsy Steele  
Phil Stinnett  
Letha Styles  
Fred & Edith Swaim  
Billie Wilson  
Bartha Wise  
Syble Womack

## Children's Ministry:

We hope that you are picking up packets for your kids to continue with their Bible learning during the quarantine. Our hope at this time is in God, and that this will be over soon, so we are going ahead with plans for camp.

Register your children at:

[www.northsidecofc.inf/crcc](http://www.northsidecofc.inf/crcc)

-Stephanie & Kim