

Bi-Monthly Newsletter April May 2020

SUNDAY HAS COME and Gone

It was Friday, and to a little band of people in that first century, there was nothing good about it. Their hopes and dreams, aspirations and plans and practically unshakeable confidence had been dashed to the ground beneath a blood soaked cruel wooden instrument of torture and death. The Master, their mentor and friend was dead. They had lost friendships, risked the respect of their countrymen, elicited scorn of religious leaders and now, they found themselves at the mercy of their enemies. Their grief was unspeakable; their fear overwhelming.

Then, Sunday came and everything changed. Jesus was alive. He had risen. Death was conquered in His resurrection, proving that never again would it have the final say. Never again would there be reason for ultimate despair because the One who claimed victory over the grave offered that same victory to all who followed Him.

For over two millennia now the followers of Jesus Christ have celebrated that most wonderful event. The glory of the resurrection has been observed through worship on the first day of the week, the picture of baptism, and so many special traditions associated with the holiday season just past. Traditions may vary within the Christian world, but the resurrection of Jesus Christ remains the keystone of Biblical faith.

Perhaps a bit of emptiness enveloped many of us around this season as so many special events which have been customary in our celebration of Resurrection Sunday were not held, Good Friday services, worship at sunrise, fellowship breakfasts, baptisms, choral anthems, as well as individual family gatherings were cancelled or drastically altered. Resurrection Sunday has come now gone but the great truth and global effects of that event have not diminished.

As we move ahead in largely uncharted waters, we can find great assurance in the fact that the victory won on Calvary and its affirmation several days later proves forever that the truth of the gospel is forever, as Paul the apostle stated, *"It is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes."*

ON BELAY?

In the sport of rock climbing, a climber signals his readiness to climb with the question, "on belay?" to the one holding his or her belay. If the climbing partner is ready, the response is, "belay on," meaning that tension on the belay rope has been secured, making it safe to climb.

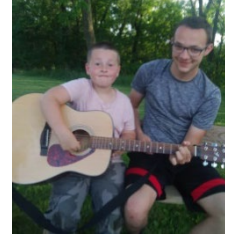
In this time of uncertainty around the world, Appanoose Ministries wants to signal our friends and supporters that we are "on belay," ready to serve as the Lord, through our support team, provides enablement.

In coming weeks and months, Pastor Pat will be sharing a weekly blog in which he will share

from his own experience the values which have propelled this ministry for so many years now.

Most certainly we affirm, "Belay On!"





WE NEED YOU - While it is certainly our goal to be in full operation with camp programs this summer, we along with our association of around 900 Christian camps, continue to monitor conditions and projections affecting our ministries during this time of global pandemic. With a great summer program lined up and one of the strongest staff teams in our history, we are listening to the growing human needs which tend to incubate and grow in families and communities during crisis times. Camp Appanoose is poised for ministry at such a time as this as soon as conditions permit. It is our desire to come out strong on the other end of the crisis. We need your help, because even in this time of limited ministry, so many of our expense obligations continue. It is our goal to minister to people now whenever possible and to be ready to meet needs as they emerge.

Please, prayerfully consider:

- Making a generous contribution at this time
- If your stimulus check is not critical to family needs you may want to make a donation to Appanoose Ministries, Inc. at this time.
- Any program funds for programs which cannot be held due to the national emergency will be fully refunded, or held as a voucher for future programs, or moved to a youth assistance fund for young people who may not be able to attend camp because of hardship. If you have paid, or will pay camp fees, it will be your call as to the use of those funds.

Above all else, let's seek God's guidance as we serve Him in this present time.

WE CONGRATULATE Ky and Nikki Gevock Martin, who were married in Ottumwa, IA on December 13, 2019! Ky has served many years as summer worship leader, summer counselor and rifle and target sports instructor at Camp Appanoose.

CONGRATULATIONS! The wedding was small (following all current guidelines,) but the celebration was large, as Meredith Calhoun and Gary Gannon were joined in marriage on Saturday, April 11 at Westkirk Presbyterian Church in Urbandale. Meredith was one of our first campers and grew to be one of our very faithful volunteers, at times coming down nearly every weekend to volunteer in many different capacities. Gary works in his family's business in Des Moines. Both are members of Westkirk Presbyterian Church. Congratulations Meredith and Gary!

MOST NEEDED

\$3500.00 for Kitchen Walk Units repair
 \$11,000 & Volunteers - Sewer project
 Camper Assistance Funds

WISH LIST

Burn Cage \$700
 \$2000.00 Pond Aerator
 Two 30-gallon Air Compressors
 \$4000.00 for Bridge completion

Gifts may be sent by US mail or by PayPal at campappanoose.org. **All gifts are tax deductible. *You may be able to give through your employer. Some employers will match your gift. Check with your employer for details.*

