

Hello Beloved of God on Blessed Hump Day March 25, 2020

After week one of staying at home, I have to admit it feels a bit disorientating. It feels like a vacation but it's not. Ministry continues. My "job" now is to stay connected with the two parishes which I am in charge of pastoring as best as I can. I've been in regular contact with vestry members from both parishes and working with the lay leadership to figure out how to stay connected to parishioners. I have a zoom account now and have learned to have many meetings via zoom. I need to figure out how to create new boundaries between work and home, since I am in Saskatoon. Most of my time is taken up in zoom meetings and figuring out how to do ministry in a new way.

I'm hoping to send you some reflections and learnings every Wednesday for your personal and spiritual edification. I'm also hoping to start some zoom open space gathering times for parishioners. I'll explain what this might look like next week. I'm trying to work it out in my head first.

For this week, I have three things to share.

First, there's something I was moved to write. It was inadvertently prompted by the bishop. (Long story) He said found it is a much needed message and that I should send it out to my contacts. I call it a letter of support and encouragement. I've attached it to this email.

Second, I'm sending you a Youtube video of a Leonard Cohen song, which I feel speaks well and deeply to the times we and whole of humanity find ourselves in.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AA9VExCEV_k

This next link is a reflection on that song which was written on the occasion of Cohen's death.

<https://www.tabletmag.com/jewish-arts-and-culture/music/217897/leonard-cohens-come-healing>

If the link doesn't work, then google the following title and author, e.g.,

"The wisdom of brokenness in Leonard Cohen's "Come Healing" by Elliot R. Wolfson

This article is a bit esoteric. But I trust the Holy Spirit to teach you what you need to understand from reading it. My favourite line from the article is: "Mercy, as the kabbalists teach, holds sway betwixt divine wrath and divine love, the response appropriate for the one un-deserving of cruelty or grace."

I find this sentence to be very profound and full of truth.

Third, is a link to the Bible Project. Their website is <https://bibleproject.com/>

They also have a Youtube channel <https://www.youtube.com/user/jointhebibleproject>

I find the videos entertaining and informative. I'm hoping to make an opportunity for us to share our learnings at some point. Stay tuned!

Please contact me via these ways:

My email is yeen@sasktel.net
My home phone is 306-249-3217.
My cell is 306-261-4059.

I'm available for personal conversation and prayers over the phone or via zoom 9 am - 5 pm Tuesday through Friday.

May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. May the Lord look upon you with favour and grant you peace. In the name of the + Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Take care everyone, as the Lord is taking care of creation.