

SUGGESTED HOME WORSHIP

For Salmon Days, October 4th, 2015

Yes, because of Salmon Days, we are choosing to cancel our regular worship service for Sunday, October 4th. Driving on Gilman Blvd., let alone parking in the lot, will be virtually impossible. However, that does not mean that all of us cannot worship on that day. Below I am suggesting a format for *home* worship on that day. You can use it as an individual, as a family or, you can invite other members and friends over to share in it together! Here is what I suggest:

1. If you have some CD's of Christian or inspirational music, set the mood by playing one or two. If you are computer savvy, you could also play a song from YouTube. I particularly like Jackie Evancho's song "To Believe"; and also "Why Me, Lord" sung by a variety of artists on YouTube. My favorites are by Johnny Cash, and also by Johnny Cash and Ray Charles.
2. Share together in prayer: Begin by thanking God for at least two blessings in your life right now. Then pray for three members or friends of the church who are struggling because of illness or other problems. Then pray for those who have lost loved ones, especially the family of Joe Shultice who passed away this past week. Then pray for one of the following national or world concerns: Roseburg victims and families, Syrian refugees; the fires down in California; racial tensions which continue in our country; or the plight of the homeless. Then pray for our church and God's blessings on our ministry. Finally, pray for the challenges you feel before you right now. If you have several people present, you can pray for each other's concerns.
3. Read this Scripture in as many translations as you would like: Romans 12:9-18. Meditate on the following (or if more than one person present, discuss it amongst yourselves): What does this say about my (our) life right now? What is the biggest challenge the passage presents to you right now? Who is it hardest for you to "live peaceably with" (vs.18)? Pray for God's strength and love in dealing with that person. What does it mean to you to "rejoice in hope"? What helps you to strengthen your sense of hope in your life? If there are things you don't quite understand, what questions would you like to ask Pastor Keith about the passage? Write these down to share with him.
4. Close by singing a short, simple song like the doxology.
5. After your worship experience, call the people you prayed for and tell them you have prayed for them today.