



**Midweek Update for the week of
April 4 – April 10, 2021
Published April 7, 2021**

From the Pastor

The Derek Chauvin trial has the attention of the entire country and others throughout the world. In Minneapolis, every morning at 8am people of faith – of many faiths – from throughout the city and the world join together to pray for the healing of our city. Please join us.

An easy way to access it is through Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/healingourcity/>
It can be accessed at any time of the day.

Our Tuesday morning prayer group – which you are invited to join – asked that we all pray for justice and compassion to be carried out in the trial. Please pray for the jury, judge and lawyers and also all those who testify, those who prosecute and those who defend. Pray for the family of George Floyd, and also for the defendant Derek Chauvin and his family. Pray for the Minneapolis Police Department. We

pray for our city and for people who have been hurt throughout the world.

Faithfully yours,
Pastor Heidi

Anyone Still Need a Vaccine?

A note from Robin Councilman:
There is a problem with the way the vaccines have been packaged and rolled out with rural areas. They are getting more shots than they have arms for and urban areas are still short. That is to say, my sister, a doctor at the Mille Lacs Health System, has extra Pfizer vaccines for **tomorrow, Thursday, April 8th.**

It's a bit of a drive, and the process would have to be repeated in three (3) weeks — but 90 miles is a shorter distance that some people are traveling for the vaccine.

By the way, **the Pfizer vaccine is approved for teens down to 16 years old.**

Pfizer Clinic - Thursday April 8th 10am-3pm (540 doses) -- if you are able to drive all the way to Mille Lacs!

https://cw2-mlhs-production.herokuapp.com//clinic/private_registration/7yRfcEjgCM7VvjDYmk7RmJLhhaZQk8M8



Mission Updates

One Great Hour of Sharing

I would like to thank Frank Vardeman, Brenda Marten, and Eileen Bengry for their presentations on One Great Hour Sharing. They helped us to understand how this Offering lends a hand to communities experiencing disaster, hunger and the need to lead themselves. Your response to this Offering has been generous. Donations are still coming in so stay tuned in for a final count next week.

Mission Update

This week we received a thank you note from CLUES for our generous donation. CLUES is an organization that was founded in 1981. It is the largest non-profit Latino organization in Minnesota. Our donation went to

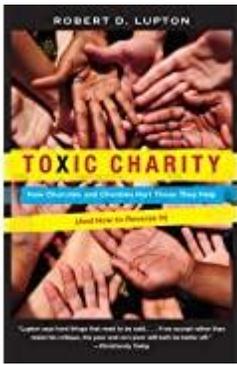
undocumented immigrants that may have been experiencing hardship during this pandemic. We continue to pray for those in need.

Pat Wilson

Liberia Project

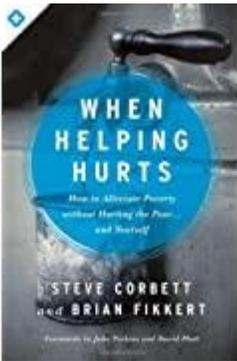
The Mission Committee continues to work with our young church member Elizabeth Greene and others on the possibility of establishing on-going work to make it possible for children in Liberia to be able to go to school. We had a Zoom meeting with Josh Heikkila, a missionary who serves as the Presbyterian denomination's national liaison for work in West Africa. At our April meeting, it decided that we will establish a Liberia Project fund in our church budget. 40% of what is donated to the Pentecost offering (a national offering taken in May) will be used to start up that fund.

As we prepare for the establishment of this fund, Mission Committee members are going to read and discuss two books that were suggested by Josh. They discuss the challenges that arise when well-meaning people in wealthy countries carry out mission work in countries that are poor. We invite all church members (and anyone else!) to join us in reading these books and discussing them. Please let the church office know if you would like to read either or both of these books and if you would like to join a Zoom or outdoor in-person discussion of these books. The books are available as e-book, downloadable audio and in paperback form. We are going to order several used copies. Let us know if you would like one or both.



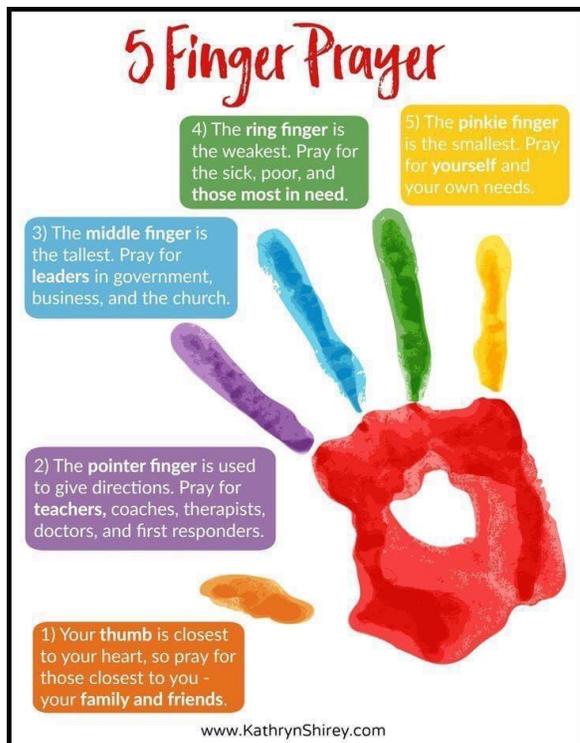
[Toxic Charity: How Churches and Charities Hurt Those They Help, And How to Reverse It](#)

by Robert D. Lupton



[When Helping Hurts: How to Alleviate Poverty Without Hurting the Poor . . . and Yourself](#)

by Steve Corbett



Legislative Action Alert

From Pastor Heidi: As I promised you at the beginning of the year, every month I will bring to you one piece of legislation that, if you feel so called, you could take action. The Minnesota legislature, which is in the session, is considering legislation to support the Emergency Services Program (ESP) for shelter services for the homeless. I encourage you to inform yourself about this proposal. If you feel that this would help to carry out Christ's instructions to serve "the least of these" our brothers and sisters, I encourage to contact your legislators to encourage them to support this bill. This action alert is from the Joint Religious Legislative Coalition of the Minnesota Council of Churches of which the Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area is a member.

Emergency Shelter Action Alert - Funding for the Emergency Services Program JRLC Advocates: We need your help! Vulnerable neighbors across the state need your support for the Emergency Services Program (ESP) for shelter services – for veterans, families and children, single adults and youth. This program provides funds directly to shelter programs and provides flexibility to address local needs – staff, housing, food, transportation, street outreach and more. Emergency shelters provide individuals or families experiencing homelessness a clean, safe place to sleep.

The Emergency Services Program bills are [HF 315](#) and [SF455](#), and they add \$15 million per biennium to the base budget.

Take Action: Please!

1. Email Your State Representative and State Senator. Who Represents Me?
2. Email Senator Jim Abeler, sen.jim.abeler@senate.mn, Chair of the Human Services Reform Finance and Policy Committee
3. Share this Action Alert with others in your network and congregation!
4. Respond to Joan at jmiltnerberger@jrlc.org to confirm your action.

Key Facts - consider using one or more in your email:

* Nearly 8,000 Minnesotans across the state are homeless on any given night. Almost one-third of these are children and more than 60 percent are people of color.

* Many of our neighbors are facing serious financial challenges as a result of the pandemic.

* The Emergency Services Program allows providers to determine the best use of these funds to address the needs of their local community and homeless population.

* Our existing shelter system is stretched thin and we need to invest in people through these services.

* Shelter saves lives and creates a bridge to stability.

* Share what you see in your community - why is this important?

Share that you are a person of faith and member of the Joint Religious Legislative Coalition and ask legislators to support HF 315 and SF 455.

Upcoming Online Events

Westminster Church is a great resource for online forums and workshops. Each of these upcoming events can be accessed here - <https://westminsternpls.online.church/> - and will be available later on YouTube:

Adult Ed: Lean In, Lament, Leverage

April 11 @ 9:15 am - 10:30 am

Stephanie Williams O'Brien, Pastor of Mill City Church in Minneapolis, joins Adult Ed this week for a roundtable discussion on "Lean In, Lament, Leverage — Dismantling our Privilege in our Everyday Spaces." She is the author of *Stay Curious: How Questions and Doubts Can Save Your Faith*.

Social Justice Forum: Health Justice

April 11 @ 9:15 am - 10:30 am

Stella Whitne-West, CEO of Northpoint Health and Wellness Clinic, will join Social Justice Forum on April 11 for a discussion on "Health Justice – How to be a Good Neighbor."



Stages Theatre in Hopkins has an upcoming FREE online event for all ages on Sunday, April 18th from 6:30 to 7:00 p.m. Join in an interactive "happy dance" led

by their amazing artists. You can register here: <https://my.stagestheatre.org/springevents/happiness>



Zoom Gatherings This Week

Thursday, April 8

10:30 am – Bible Study, on Zoom. We will be studying John 20: 19-31, Jesus Appears to the Disciples

7:00 pm. Special meeting of the Session to discuss a proposal we have received from U.S. Internet to allow them to place a piece of equipment in our church building in exchange for free internet service.

Sunday, April 11

10:30 am – Worship on Zoom

If You Have Information that needs to be in the weekly update such as meeting dates and times, special events or prayer requests, please get this information to our office manager Patrice by Wednesday morning. Please email or call peaceprezSLP@gmail.com or 952-545-2586.



Upcoming Birthdays

Marian Ostendorf	April 7
Steve Howard	April 8
Aaron Councilman	April 16
Florian Okronglis	April 18
Sam Schmeling	April 21
Karen Meyer	April 23



Calendar

This Week

Thursday, April 8

10:30 am – Bible Study, on Zoom.

Sunday, April 11

10:30 am – Worship on Zoom.

This Week

Tuesday, April 13

10:30 am – Morning conversation and prayer, on Zoom. Everyone welcome!

Thursday, April 15

10:30 am – Bible Study, on Zoom.

Sunday, April 18

10:30 am – Worship on Zoom.

Upcoming Events

Thursday, April 21

7:00 p.m. Session Meeting, on Zoom.

Saturday, April 24

10:00 am - Book Club, on Zoom.

Worship Resources

You can click on this link to join the zoom meeting, for Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday meetings:

<https://zoom.us/j/5046768135>

To dial in, call 312-626-6799 (long-distance).

The meeting ID is 504-676-8135.

If you need a phone buddy, call the church beforehand at (952) 545-2586, leave a message and we will set it up for you.

To watch previous worship recordings on our YouTube channel, go to

www.youtube.com/channel/UCvOa5jl8xld1VtI105h6ZRA/. They are also on our website at

<https://www.peaceprez.com/worship-recordings/>. We will continue to post Sunday bulletins ahead of the service on our website at <https://www.peaceprez.com/news/publications/>