



ST ANDREW'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

6118 CRAWFORDSVILLE RD
SPEEDWAY, INDIANA
(317) 243-6684

Guided by the Spirit, we share the love of Jesus
and walk with our community.

Easter 6 Sunday, May 17, 2020

Dear Members and Friends of St Andrew's Lutheran Church,

Grace and peace in the name of Jesus!

Today's second lesson begins with these words: *Now who will harm you if you are eager to do good?* Just three months ago, how many of us imagined a circumstance when doing good meant staying away from one another? But, here we are, aware that we could be the ones doing harm to ourselves or others just by congregating. So, out of love for one another, we remain apart. At least for a while longer. I'm grateful for the leaders at St Andrew's who take so much into consideration to contribute to the well-being of our congregation and the community. Thanks to each of you for making the sacrifices needed to do good in this way.

As we continue to shelter, congregational life is taking on new and (I think) exciting expressions. Our digital devotions (and their printed versions) will continue, even after we re-gather for worship. Thanks to our video wizard, Kelli Steuer, and our creative musician, Ed Bailey, the digital versions improve each week. It's also been wonderful to add the faces and voices of lectors! Thanks to those who are doing that. And we have more opportunities for more of you to participate, as well. Let us know! We are getting better at this and have heard from so many of you how much you appreciate the devotions, in both formats. So, the plan is to keep doing them. And to keep improving them as equipment and time permit.

This week we are adding the Adult Faith Formation Class. Everyone will receive the lesson each week, which is based on the second lectionary reading. All can read through the lesson as a personal faith practice. For those who are able, join the Zoom Adult Class from 7-8 pm on Sunday evenings, beginning Sunday, May 17. We'll use the lesson as a guide for our conversation and discussion. Join in whenever you are available. Bring your own drinks and desserts!

Don't forget to take a look at the Children's Sunday School lessons each week. They aren't just for kids! Everyone will learn and enjoy!

And beginning on the Sunday of Pentecost, May 31, we will again offer the opportunity for you to partake of Holy Communion in your home. A guideline for how and when this will take place will come in a separate email in the next few days.

For those of you with internet capability who would like to virtually connect with these opportunities to engage with the St Andrew's congregation, but may be having challenges with your equipment or process, please contact Kelli Steurer and she or one of her communication partners will assist you! The Holy Spirit works in many ways!

Blessings to you all,
Deacon Marilyn

Introduction

Jesus does not abandon his followers. Through the Holy Spirit, Jesus comes to abide with his disciples of every generation. As Pentecost draws near, we are reminded that the risen Christ dwells in us as the Spirit of truth. We receive this Spirit in baptism and pray that in our gathering around the Lord's table the Spirit will transform us to be the body of the risen Christ in the world.

Prelude: ELW 666

What Wondrous Love Is This



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when
3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to
4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and



won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this
I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when I was sink - ing down
God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb,
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free,



that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse for my
be - neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my
who is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will
I'll sing God's love for me, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?
soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.
sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.
on, I'll sing on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Text: North American folk hymn, 19th cent., alt.
Music: WONDROUS LOVE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

Invocation

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

We begin in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Thanksgiving for Baptism

You are invited to light a candle, have a small bowl of water ready to remember and give thanks for your baptism.

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are raised with him to new life. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning you created us in your image and planted us in a well-watered garden. In the desert you promised pools of water for the parched, and you gave us water from the rock. When we did not know the way, you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters. At the cross, you watered us from Jesus' wounded side, and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life. We praise you for your salvation through water, for this water, and for all water everywhere. Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love. Satisfy the thirsty, and give us the life only you can give. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Word

First Reading: Acts 17:22-31

In Athens, Paul faces the challenge of proclaiming the gospel to Greeks who know nothing of either Jewish or Christian tradition. He proclaims that the "unknown god" whom they worship is the true Lord of heaven and earth who will judge the world with justice through Jesus, whom God has raised from the dead.

22Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. 23For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. 24The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, 25nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. 26From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, 27so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. 28For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said,

'For we too are his offspring.'

29Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. 30While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, 31because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

Psalm: Psalm 66:8-20

Bless our God, you peoples; let the sound of praise be heard. (Ps. 66:8)

We read the psalm responsively

8 Bless our God, you peoples;

let the sound of praise be heard.

**9 Our God has kept us among the living
and has not allowed our feet to slip.**

10 For you, O God, have tested us;
you have tried us just as silver is tried.

**11 You brought us into the net;
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.**

12 You let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and water,
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.

**13 I will enter your house with burnt offerings
and will pay you my vows—**

14 those that I promised with my lips
and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.

**15 I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the smoke of rams;
I will give you oxen and goats.**

16 Come and listen, all you who believe,
and I will tell you what God has done for me.

**17 I called out to God with my mouth,
and praised the Lord with my tongue.**

18 If I had cherished evil in my heart,
the Lord would not have heard me;

**19 but in truth God has heard me
and has attended to the sound of my prayer.**

20 Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer,
nor withheld unfailing love from me.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:13-22

The author of 1 Peter encourages Christians to remain faithful even in the face of defamation and persecution. In baptism we are made clean to act in accordance with what is right.

13Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? 14But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, 15but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; 16yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. 17For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. 18For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, 19in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, 20who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. 21And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, 22who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Gospel: John 14:15-21

In final words to his disciples on the night of his arrest, Jesus encourages obedience to his commandments and speaks of the Spirit, who will be with them forever.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 15“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. 16And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. 17This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

18“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. 19In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. 20On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. 21They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

Meditation

Have you ever played the game Clue? Players try to solve a murder mystery by figuring out: who committed the murder, how was the victim killed, and where did the crime take place? Players hold cards of suspects, weapons, and rooms that are not involved in the crime. And the game progresses as players rule out possibilities until they are convinced that they know the identity of the murderer, the weapon, and the location. It’s a process of elimination to reveal the truth.

In today’s first lesson, Paul uses a similar strategy with the Athenians. These citizens of Athens, like just about everyone else at that time and since, had ideas and concepts about god, or in their case, gods. These ideas covered a range of thinking about gods that spanned a spectrum from Greek mythology to cult-like clubs and societies whose god was, to put it simply, a secret. Their religion was literally keeping secrets.

It is said that the Areopagus sector of Athens was crowded with numerous temples and shrines to many of these gods. And, just for good measure, perhaps to hedge their bets, there was an altar ‘To an unknown god.’ It might have been the altar for a secret society god. But, Paul knew an opportunity when he saw it. And Paul, who was looking for an audience to talk to about Jesus, just couldn’t pass it up.

Paul told the Athenians that he knew the unknown god. And he began to teach them about his God by eliminating the characteristics and attributes that the Athenians associated with their ideas of a god. Paul began with ideas that were familiar to them and then introduced new ideas about his God.

Paul told them that the God that they do not yet know is not like the ones they worship. Their gods existed at a distance or were trapped in temples and shrines. These gods of the Athenians required service or, as we might say “to be taken care of,” in order for the god to either continue to exist or to hold up its end of the relationship with those who worship it. Paul invited his listeners to eliminate that way of thinking of a god. The Athenians needed to do that in order to understand the God that Paul worshipped.

It’s hard for us to imagine what a radical idea Paul proposed: a God so close to humanity that it is the very breath of that God that gives life to all things; a God so beyond comprehension that God cannot be fashioned in an image; a God so concerned for God’s creation that God desired not service

from those who worship this God, but repentance, and new opportunities for everyone to live fully. And, Paul declared to them, this is the God who returns to life after death.

As we read in these verses in Acts, not all the Athenians were able to accept these radical ways that God reveals God's self. Perhaps they weren't able to eliminate their old ways of being in a relationship with their god.

But the Athenians weren't the first to struggle with new ways to understand who God is and how to be in relationship with that God.

Jesus' disciples were religious people. They knew the sacred teachings of their people. They knew the Law and the stories of the prophets that formed the foundation of what they understood about God. And what they understood was that their failure to keep the Law and heed the warnings of the prophets had separated them from God.

But Jesus challenged that way of knowing God. Jesus knew the Law and the prophets, too. But the Law and the prophets' warnings didn't cause a separation between Jesus and God. Instead, Jesus seemed so close to God that they appeared to be like Father and Son. That close. It was a new way to understand God. It was a new way to understand Jesus. But there was a process of elimination that was required before they could have a relationship with God that Jesus did.

Jesus taught the disciples and all those who followed him that they would have to eliminate thinking that the Law was something to separate people from God, and from each other. What Jesus showed was that the Law was there to bring people together to care for one another. And caring for each other is the way to know and be in relationship with God. Jesus told them, *If you love me, you will keep my commandments. (John 14:15)* In the previous chapter of John's gospel we read that Jesus had only one commandment: *I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. (John 13:34).*

The truth of knowing God is accepting the love that God is and the love that God has. Without qualifications. Humans want there to be qualifications: God loves us because.....; God loves us when.....; God loves us if..... But, scour these chapters of John's gospel; scour the entire gospel; scour all the gospels and you won't find qualifiers from Jesus about the love of God. What you will find is Jesus condemning those who put obstacles into place that interfere with people knowing and experiencing the love that God has always desired for God's creation. So, that's it, according to Jesus: *Love one another.*

I cannot speak for you. But these lessons have caused me to wonder what I need to eliminate from the way I think about God so that I can more fully embrace the truth that God is love? Do I still think of God in the way that the Athenians did? Do I believe that God is limited and confined? Is that why I don't take God seriously as the guide to the choices that I make? Do I imagine that God needs to be served and that God looks more favorably on those who live in certain ways or do certain things.....or, perhaps don't do certain things? I may claim to know the God that Paul worships. But, in reality, am I fashioning my own ideas of God?

During this time when I have the privilege of a "time out" I've been confronted with my own complicity through the choices that I make for my life that result in others being more vulnerable to contagion and having less resources to care for themselves. How have I thoughtlessly failed to care

for creation through my over consumption? How have my wants made it more difficult for others to take care of their needs? Have I made up my own god?

I have no excuse. Brothers and sisters, we have no excuse. Because Jesus, who came to live among and die the death of a human being and rise again, we know what God is like. God is love. If we claim to love Jesus there are a lot of ideas about being a follower of Jesus that we need to eliminate so that we can more fully embrace the thing that Jesus wanted us to know: *You should love one another.*

Amen

Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

Uplifted by the promised hope of healing and resurrection, we join the people of God in all times and places in praying for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Abiding God, you have revealed yourself to us in the form of your Son, Jesus Christ. Embolden your church, as your followers, to reveal your love to everyone in our speaking and in our living. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You are the creator of heaven and earth. Revitalize the health of oceans, rivers, lakes, springs, glaciers, and other bodies of water that give life to your creatures: Eagle Creek, the White River, and the Great Lakes. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You call all people of the world your children. Judge the nations justly, show mercy to the oppressed, and speak truth to power through your prophets. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You come near to us when we are lost, and you hear our distress. We pray for those who suffer in any way those we lift before you now aloud or in our hearts. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Your commands are good and merciful. Give us courage to take hold of our baptismal promises to work for justice, advocate for the voiceless, and free the oppressed and imprisoned in body, mind, or spirit. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, you sent your own Son into this world as the child of Mary and Joseph. We thank you for the life of this child entrusted to Kelsey and to Justin. Help us to remember that we are all your children, and so to love and nurture her that she may attain to that full stature intended for her in your eternal kingdom for the sake of Jesus Christ your son our lord. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You send your comfort with the promise of resurrection to all who mourn. We lift before you Bob and Thelma Holtman and all who mourn the death of their brother-in-law Bob White. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You remain with us always, O God, and your kingdom has no end. We remember the saints who have gone before us, especially Bob White. Unite us forever in your final victory over death. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Joined together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray the prayer that Jesus taught:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaving.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive those**

**who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

Offering

We thank you for your generous gifts that support the missions we have set forth to carry out. It is our continuing goal to continue being a presence not only in your lives but in the lives of others. Thank you for making that possible!

God is always around us. He is walking beside us in this uncertain time. We would love to hear from you. How are you seeing God? How are you experiencing the love of Jesus? God is working in our lives. Let's share our stories!

Please reach out to Kelli Steurer or Marilyn if you'd like to learn more!

Offering Prayer

Merciful God, our ordinary gifts seem small for such a celebration, but you make of them an abundance, just as you do with our lives. Feed us again at this table for service in your name, in the strength of the risen Christ. Amen.

Blessing

May the One who brought forth Jesus from the dead raise you to new life, fill you with hope, and turn your mourning into dancing. Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. Amen.

Postlude: ELW 595

Jesus Loves Me!



1 Je - sus loves me! this I know, for the Bi - ble tells me so;
2 Je - sus loves me! he who died heav - en's gates to o - pen wide;
3 Je - sus loves me! he will stay close be - side me all the way;



lit - tle ones to him be - long, they are weak, but he is strong.
he will wash a - way my sin, let his lit - tle child come in.
when at last I come to die, he will take me home on high.

Refrain



Yes, Je - sus loves me, yes, Je - sus loves me,



yes, Je - sus loves me, the Bi - ble tells me so.

Families on the Prayer List

Rev. & Mrs. Rudy (Nancy) Mueller

Ms. Ashley Muston

Mr. & Mrs. Christopher (Jaime) Oeffinger, Jenna, Jillian and Jessa

Mrs. Bonnie Parker

Additional Prayers for Recent, Current, or Upcoming Medical Care:

Vicki Alleman, daughter of Bonnie Parker

Christine Claprodt, daughter of Norma Sweeney

Fred and Darlene Fairchild, parents of Erin Browning's friend

Ron Wojtowicz, friend of Deacon Marilyn

Sylvia McCollum, cousin of Jeanette Burbrink

John Racek, brother-in-law of Jamie Shake

Janet Walsh, friend of Susan Hahn Johnson

Tim Walter, nephew of Bob & Thelma Holtman

Angel Kaulfers, the wife of Rose Jones' coworker

David, friend of Ed & Bev Bailey

Patrick Frepan, friend of the Hills

Jeannie Hermerding

Marlon, brother of Ellen Shupe

David Tryon, son of Mary

Denise Hollman

Pat Tumey

Keith Johnson, husband of Susan

Jeanne Wall

Those with Ongoing Special Need of Prayer:

Jerid Edwards, great nephew of MJ Lynch

Ruth Tingle

Remember to Pray for Nursing Home Residents and Shut-Ins:

Thelma Jones

Penny Kalk

Martha Larson

Norma Petraits

David Royer

David Schmalz

Bob White

The Harrison

Lynn Bigelow

Alton Dahl

Remember to Pray for those Serving in our Armed Forces:

Michael Joseph

Jerry Shake

Calendar Update

Good news! All of us are eager to get back in our lovely sanctuary. The Council is too! We met on Thursday evening, (via Zoom of course) and have agreed and voted to use **July 12th as our target date**. By waiting until after July 4th we will be able to see the effect of the re-opening process that our governor has laid out for us and it will allow us to develop a comprehensive plan to safely open the building. There are lots of resources out there for this process and our bishop has sent his guidelines as well (see attached). We know that when we re-convene in person there will be lots of changes. And we know that a few/several/many of us will not be able/comfortable gathering, and that is fine. We will continue to offer our service online for the foreseeable future. Until there is a vaccine available, life at St. Andrew's will look very different. But, that is true for any place we go in our current situation.

So mark your calendars, in pencil, and watch for updates as we move forward. Please do not hesitate to contact your Council representative with any questions. And please understand that this is our "target" date, if circumstances change for the worse, we will move that date later, in the interest of safety. The date will not be earlier.

Also, we want to let you know that we are working hard to continue the call process so that you will be able to meet our candidate virtually. Stay tuned for that!

Peace,

The Church Council

Calendar

- **Monday, May 18** Zoom Staff Meeting 10am
- **Thursday, May 21** Zoom Council Meeting 6pm
- **Sunday, May 24** Zoom Coffee Hour 10am
- **Sunday, May 24** Zoom Adult Faith Formation 7pm

Announcements

CANDIDATE UPDATE

As we navigate what social distancing means for our congregation in the coming weeks and months, we are also navigating creative ways to present the candidate. We are not sure exactly what the logistics will be at this time. Together with Faith's council, we are looking at a variety of options. As always, you will be updated as we ourselves know more. Please continue to pray that we move forward as God sees fit.

TITHE.LY GIVING IS LIVE

Tithe.ly Giving is live! It is user friendly with a great support team! Please go ahead and test out this great resource! Simple follow this link: https://tithe.ly/give_new/www/#/tithely/give-one-time/1254623. You can go ahead and start giving today! Watch your email for more details.

OFFERING

Though we are social distancing, our mission continues on. If you feel so moved and do not wish to use Tithe.ly, please mail your offering to the church. Please do not drop off your envelopes.

Here is the church address:

6118 Crawfordsville Rd
Speedway, IN 46224

WEBSITE UPDATE

Our new website is coming along! But YOUR help is needed!! Do you have something you'd LOVE to see on there? Let Kelli know! Do you have photos that show the congregation in action - doing our mission work or in worship? Send them to Kelli! These are all needed to personalize our website experience for YOU and for OUR VISITORS! Reach out to Kelli at sta.communicationsdirector@gmail.com.

AN UPDATE ON SAVING PLASTIC BAGS FROM JAN SMITH

Please continue to save your plastic grocery bags for the Mats for Homeless project. After several days they will be safe to use and when we are able to work with them again we will use the oldest ones first. Perhaps gather them in a paper bag to save for bringing to the church. Jan asks that you do not wade them up and if at all possible smooth out flat. To process the bags they must be flat and smooth for cutting into strips which is difficult if they have been waded into balls. If you're not able to flatten them just keep as flat as possible.

“DRIVE TO FIGHT HUNGER” TO RESTOCK LOCAL FOOD PANTRIES

This unprecedented situation means more families need support from local food pantries as the supplies the pantries can purchase are being limited. The “Drive to Fight Hunger” will help restock the shelves at Storehouse Food Pantry and St. Chris Outreach Food Pantry that feed Speedway and surrounding area families. Beginning Saturday, May 2nd, drive-up donation drop-offs between 10am and 2pm will rotate between Speedway Christian Church and St. Christopher Catholic Church for Saturdays in May.

- May 23rd: St. Christopher (5301 W. 16th St.)

Suggested donations include, but are not limited to: 15 ounce cans of fruit and vegetables, cereal, peanut butter, and other non-perishable food items. Many of the families they serve do not have access to supplies that could protect them from COVID-19, therefore they are accepting donations of masks, gloves and cleaning supplies. Also the Book Fairy Pantry Project of the Storehouse Food Pantry accepts new and gently used children's books and these can be donated at the Speedway Christian Church drop off site. Thank you for your support.

CREATING CONNECTION

As we all know, this is a trying time. We would like to encourage you to send cards to Roald Smith. As you may know, those in assisted living and nursing homes are not allowed to see anyone. In Roald's case, he is not even allowed to leave his room. These simple gestures mean so much and bring so many smiles! Roald's address has recently been updated. Here it is again:

Roald Smith
1251 W 96th St Apt. 20A
Indianapolis, IN 46260

To help stagger our offerings of hope and joy, we are asking that we follow this plan based on the letter your last name begins with:

- Week of May 4: Letters A-E
- Week of May 11: Letters F-J
- Week of May 18: Letters K-O
- Week of May 25: Letters P-T
- Week of June 1: Letters U-Z

If you feel so included and are willing, we also encourage you to send cards to our shut-ins and those living in nursing homes. These members may also be under similar circumstances.

SPEEDWAY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH BLESSING BOX

The church is putting up a Blessing Box which can be accessed by the church sign on 16th Street. The idea is to serve the community by putting nonperishable food items in the box from donations. Anyone in the community can take what they need or leave donations. Please note start time and date is subject to change.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to new parents Justin and Kelsey Martin. They welcomed their daughter Madalyn Rose into the world on May 13, 2020. Congratulations also to grandparents Rick and Jan Joseph!

WITH DEEPEST SYMPATHY

Please keep Bob and Thelma Holtman in your prayers. Their brother-in-law Bob White passed away this week.