

Bay City Wesleyan Church  
May 17, 2020

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Sunday Morning 05-17-2020 ONLINE

We are champions of hope on a mission with the Holy Spirit. We are convinced that since Jesus took the worst this broken world could dish out and overcame it all, he can help anyone, anywhere make it through any day.

<http://bible.com/events/14140982>

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Champions of Hope

New here? Click on the link below to find out how to join our church's Facebook group -- Champions of Hope.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/infusinghope>

Online Giving with Tithe.ly

Please, set up your account at Tithe.ly or download the Tithe.ly app for your phone. Follow the directions given at the website or in the app.

Once you've set up your account with Tithe.ly, click on the link to worship Jesus by giving to his church. If you'd prefer to mail a check to the church, our address is--Bay City Wesleyan Church 506 W North Union Street Bay City MI 48706

<https://tithe.ly/give?c=1331999>

Bay City Wesleyan Church Public Gathering Information

Determining and doing what the Holy Spirit wants for us shaped the Church Board's discussions about gathering publicly. That led us to seek a balance between protecting each other and meeting at our building. Our meetings will change, but Jesus won't. He still reigns as King of Heaven and Earth.

What did we decide? [Our plans may change depending on circumstances in our community.]

Â· If you are sick or have been exposed to someone who is sick, do not come to the church building. Thank you.

Â· We will continue to live stream Sunday Morning Worship on Facebook. Recordings are available both online and on CDs or DVDs. The Wednesday Prayer times and devotionals will still be posted online as well.

Â· The TENTATIVE date for our first face-to-face gathering is Sunday, June 21, at 10:45 a.m. for Morning Worship only. This will be a bare basics gathering.

Â· Childcare will not be provided at this time. The Nursery will be closed. Children do not understand and will not practice physical distancing.

Â· There will be no greeters or bulletins.

Â· Comments or prayer requests can be made via text, email, the church Facebook page, telephone, or in person.

Â· We will not pass the offering plates. A locked offering box will be provided next to the center doors to the worship area. You can continue to use Tithe.ly or to mail checks as well.

Â· Every other pew will be taped off. We recommend families sit together.

Â· Masks are not mandatory, but Pastor Mark recommends that you wear one. If you can bring your own, please do so. But masks will be available. After use, worshipers may take masks with them or deposit them in a container to be cleaned for reuse.

Â· We will provide hand sanitizer and facial tissues as much as possible. If you can bring your own, please do so.

Â· There are germ-killing soaps in restrooms.

MEET & GREET on ZOOM

Look for a link to be posted in the Champions of Hope group

John 6:5-13 NLT

<font color="#999999">5</font></small> Jesus soon saw a huge crowd of people coming to look for him. Turning to Philip, he asked, "Where can we buy bread to feed all these people?" <font color="#999999">6</font></small> He was testing Philip, for he already knew what he was going to do. <font color="#999999">7</font></small> Philip replied, "Even if we worked for months, we wouldn't have enough money to feed them!" <font color="#999999">8</font></small> Then Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, spoke up. <font color="#999999">9</font></small> "There's a young boy here with five barley loaves and two fish. But what good is that with this huge crowd?" <font color="#999999">10</font></small> "Tell everyone to sit down," Jesus said. So they all sat down on the grassy slopes. (The men alone numbered about 5,000.) <font color="#999999">11</font></small> Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks to God, and distributed them to the people. Afterward he did the same with the fish. And they all ate as much as they wanted. <font color="#999999">12</font></small> After everyone was full, Jesus told his disciples, "Now gather the leftovers, so that nothing is wasted." <font color="#999999">13</font></small> So they picked up the pieces and filled twelve baskets with scraps left by the people who had eaten from the five barley loaves.

<https://bible.com/bible/116/jhn.6.5-13.NLT>

[Image]

This thought challenged me when I saw it

<https://imageproxy.youversionapi.com/320x320/https://s3-us-west-2.amazonaws.com/mushroom-event-images-prod/5722009-1589688291956.jpg>

Matthew 9:35-38 NIV

<font color="#999999">35</font></small> Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. <font color="#999999">36</font></small> When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. <font color="#999999">37</font></small> Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. <font color="#999999">38</font></small> Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

<https://bible.com/bible/111/mat.9.35-38.NIV>

Why there and not here?

Why them and not us?

Why has our congregation been plateaued or declining since the 1970s?

We have a mission to carry out with Jesus. There are over 50,000 people in Bay County not claimed by any church. If we include Saginaw and Midland Counties, we are surrounded by over 200,000 unclaimed people. We ought to hear Jesus say, "The harvest is huge! Pray for workers."

What propelled the first-century church to effectively introduce people to Jesus even in the face of persecution?

We should be wondering.

Why then and not now?

Why over there and not here?

Why them and not us?

Romans 15:14-19 NLT

I am fully convinced, my dear brothers and sisters, that you are full of goodness. You know these things so well you can teach each other all about them. Even so, I have been bold enough to write about some of these points, knowing that all you need is this reminder. For by God's grace, I am a special messenger from Christ Jesus to you Gentiles. I bring you the Good News so that I might present you as an acceptable offering to God, made holy by the Holy Spirit. So I have reason to be enthusiastic about all Christ Jesus has done through me in my service to God. Yet I dare not boast about anything except what Christ has done through me, bringing the Gentiles to God by my message and by the way I worked among them. They were convinced by the power of miraculous signs and wonders and by the power of God's Spirit. In this way, I have fully presented the Good News of Christ from Jerusalem all the way to Illyricum.

<https://bible.com/bible/116/rom.15.14-19.NLT>

The Holy Spirit's powerful presence produced signs and wonders and combined with Paul's preaching about Jesus to transform people wherever he went. The number of Jesus-followers grows significantly only when the Holy Spirit works powerfully.

Sermon in a Sentence

We are powerless promises until the Holy Spirit works in and through us.

Acts of the Apostles 4:29-31 NLT

And now, O Lord, hear their threats, and give us, your servants, great boldness in preaching your word. Stretch out

your hand with healing power; may miraculous signs and wonders be done through the name of your holy servant Jesus.â€ <font color="#999999">31</font></small> After this prayer, the meeting place shook, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit. Then they preached the word of God with boldness.  
<https://bible.com/bible/116/act.4.29-31.NLT>

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