

# Press in Print



News and Information from the President's Office assembled by Dale Galusha and Gina Duncan

March 25, 2020

## Updates . . .

### What are we to do?

Self-preservation is a human instinct. We are wired to take whatever steps seem necessary to ensure our own survival. This is why store shelves have very little toilet paper, non-perishable food, and medicine in stock.



Disaster preparation is a good thing. However, we must not confuse responsible preparation with fear-based selfishness. Hoarding many months of supplies or price-gouging others, especially those in need, is not resourcefulness—it is sin.

In Luke 3, John the Baptist is traveling around the Jordan area, calling people to ask forgiveness of their sins and to leave their wickedness behind. Verses 7 and 8 say: "When the crowds came to John for baptism, he said, 'You brood of snakes! Who warned you to flee the coming wrath? Prove by the way you live that you have repented of your sins and turned to God.'" This is the Baptist's call to faith and Godly living.

John's listeners are so far from God that they're not even sure what Godly living looks like, so he clarifies for them. "The crowds asked, 'What should we do?' John replied, 'If you have two shirts, give one to the poor. If you have food, share it with those who are hungry.' Even corrupt tax collectors came to be baptized and asked, 'Teacher, what should we do?' He replied, 'Collect no more taxes than the government requires'" (verses 10–13).

This current worldwide Coronavirus pandemic is not the time for Christians to haughtily spout (often misapplied or incorrect interpretations of) Bible prophecy that builds fear in unbelievers. Instead, it is the time to quietly give our shirts to the poor and our food to the hungry. We must live out Romans 13 by abiding by the regulations of governing authorities (verses 1–7) and by loving our neighbors (verses 8–10).

What does this look like during the COVID-19 crisis and beyond? Reach out to elderly and disabled friends and neighbors and offer to share toilet paper

or to grocery shop for them. Encourage local grocery stores to implement seniors-only shopping hours. Bake bread or cook a pot of beans for those who find the store shelves empty or their livelihoods disrupted. Sew baby wipes and diapers for overwhelmed moms. Facetime or Skype with those who may be lonely. Provide childcare for those whose schools have closed but the parents still have to work.

You can also volunteer with organizations such as Meals on Wheels, donate money to charities that are providing resources during the crisis, deliver extra food to the local food bank, give blood, and so on. If your church doesn't already have one, consider spearheading an initiative to collect funds and supplies to help members directly affected by the virus via job loss, illness, etc.

Above all, be kind. Smile. Share. Hold the door (with your foot, of course). God is still in control. —Alicia Adams, Director of Marketing

### Pre-Retirement Seminar POSTPONED

Due to the rapidly changing guidelines surrounding COVID-19, the pre-retirement seminar has been postponed. We hope to reschedule in the fall and will be in touch with dates. — Kirsten Berger, HR Director

### Let's Pray for each other

Your prayer concerns are important! As Pacific Press family, we need to pray for one another and uplift one another.

We have a new section on PressNet where your prayer requests can be posted. If you have a request, you can email it or send it via Interoffice mail to Gina Duncan.

Make sure and check this section often so you can read the requests and pray for your friends and coworkers.

Thank you for the flowers, cards and all your thoughts & prayers. I've (finally!) been discharged from the hospital and out of rehab now. Your incredible support has meant so much to me and my family. —Bonnie Harlan



## Dateline . . .

### March

25 PAYDAY  
30 Chapel—NO CHAPEL

### April

6 Chapel—  
8 PAYDAY  
12 Easter  
13 Chapel—  
20 Chapel—  
22 PAYDAY  
27 Chapel—

# Spring is here!



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Spring has finally sprung! The first day of Spring was official Friday, March 20th! As we head into the vernal equinox, here are 10 fun facts about spring (including why it's called 'vernal equinox').

1. The first day of spring is called the vernal equinox. The term *vernal* is Latin for "spring" and *equinox* is Latin for "equal night."

2. The fall and spring equinoxes are the only two times during the year when the sun rises due east and sets due west.

3. On the first day of spring, a person at the North Pole would see the sun skimming across the horizon, beginning six months of uninterrupted daylight. A person at the South Pole would see the sun skimming across the horizon, signaling the start of six months of darkness.

4. One long-term study found that, at least in the Colorado Rocky Mountain region, spring begins, on average, about three weeks earlier than it did in the 1970s.

5. For the Japanese, the opening of the cherry blossom, Japan's national flower, in March or April signals the start of spring.

6. Easter always falls on the first Sunday after the first full moon after the spring equinox.

7. According to Greek myth, the return of spring coincides with the return of Persephone, the daughter of Demeter, who is the goddess of plants and fertility.

8. Every year, allergies constitute over 17 million outpatient office visits, mostly in the spring and fall.

9. Every year on the first day of spring, people in Poland gather to burn an effigy and throw it in the river to bid winter farewell.

10. If Pope Gregory XIII would not have established the Gregorian calendar, which most of the world now observes, in 1582, then every 128 years the vernal equinox would have come a full calendar day earlier, eventually putting Easter in midwinter.

<https://williamsonsource.com/10-spring-facts/>