

Connect

With Sunny Place Church of God

May, 2021

Take a Risk for Jesus

As an Operations Manager for two large (24/7) mission critical data center environments, one of my main responsibilities is to identify and mitigate risks that could potentially impact the availability of these data centers. Not all risks are equal in potential consequences. Some activities have a higher degree of risk with a potential adverse effect to the availability of the data centers. Then there are other activities which are more likely to occur but have a considerably smaller degree of risk. One of the prevailing risks to the availability of data centers is human error. There is a tendency as humans to schedule or perform maintenance activities out of convenience versus built-up knowledge of best practices that have been tested and proven to effectively mitigate risks. Another way of saying this is having a focus on self-interests versus the bigger picture of what is best for the overall availability of the data centers. Mitigation of risks has not always been instinctive for me. I had to learn from previous experiences over many years how to be effective at risk management.

In life, our choices and decisions also come with risks. Just like I mention above, not all risks are equal. Some of our decisions have a higher degree of risk and greater potential adverse consequences than others. This reminds me of the following saying my son (nephew), Ricky, would say time and time again when he was growing up. He found it to be a very helpful tool in reminding himself that there were consequences to his choices in life. This saying sounds very much like risk management.

Choices= Decisions=Results=Consequences

What you should ask yourself before you do it!

Who will this effect?

What will happen if I do this?

Will I get in trouble?

Am I doing the right thing?

How will this affect me?

At what cost are you willing to do it?

As Christians, we are called to step out in faith to have an effective impact for the Kingdom of God. Jesus is calling each of us to step out in faith and trust Him. Our flesh and human wisdom may be fearful, and we may perceive what Jesus is asking us to do as being beyond our abilities. Many are reluctant to take a risk for Jesus and would rather play it safe and be served versus serving others. Why do we get so wrapped up in the things of this world? If Jesus is calling you to trust Him and to step out of your comfort zone, you should take notice and listen. Maybe Jesus is calling you to give a sermon, share the gospel with a colleague or neighbor, help feed the hungry, care for the elderly, disciple a new believer, share your testimony, or perhaps serve in a prison ministry. God's work is plentiful. No matter what Jesus is calling you to do, put your trust in Him even if it may seem risky in the eyes of our worldly wisdom. We need to keep our focus on Jesus and be assured that when He is calling us to step out in faith, He is with us and will guide and protect us. With Jesus we have nothing to fear. Jesus is the foremost

(Continued on next page)

authority in risk management. Taking a risk for Jesus should be part of our daily walk with Him. The following scripture from Proverbs was one of the first scriptures that I learned many years ago. For me, this scripture speaks to the core of trusting and taking a risk for Jesus.

Proverbs 3:5-7 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight. Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord and shun evil."

As Christians, we know our God is great and powerful and all things are possible with our Lord. If Jesus is calling you to take a risk for Him, you should take that risk. Taking a risk for Jesus is safe. If you desire a life without fear, accept and become a follower of Jesus. It may sound counterintuitive to the world but following and trusting Jesus will save your life. Not trusting Jesus and ignoring His calling is very risky business that comes with adverse consequences.

Mark 8:35 "For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me and for the gospel will save it."

We ought to be risk takers for Jesus. For many of us, taking risks does not come naturally and others are inherently risk takers. Those who have real faith in Jesus will never need to be afraid to take a risk for Jesus. Put your trust in Jesus and do not be afraid. The Lord is our shield and deliverer. Accept Jesus and live a life without fear no matter what Jesus is calling you to do. As a Christ Follower, you have the promise of everlasting life and the assurance that our prayers will be answered according to His will. Jesus knows the future and what is ultimately the best for us and for the

Kingdom of God.

1 John 5:13-15 "I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life. This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us – whatever we ask – we know that we have what we asked of him."

Is it time for you to listen to His calling and to take a risk for Jesus? Do not let anything hold you back from taking a risk for Jesus. Do you believe when you risk it all for Him, Jesus will deliver you and provide everything you need? Don't let the circumstances of this life hold you back.

Proverbs 29:25 "Fear of man will prove to be a snare, but whoever trusts in the Lord is kept safe."

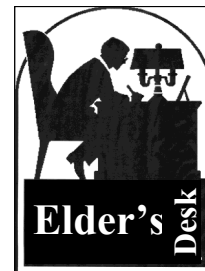
The things of this world won't last forever. It doesn't make sense for us to live as though they will. Real prosperity results from honoring Jesus and doing the good work which He calls us to do for the Kingdom of God. As His creation, the riskiest thing we could ever do is to ignore Jesus and His calling for each of us. I pray that each of you will put the cares of this world to the side and take a risk for Jesus.

Romans 10:9-10 "That if you confess with your mouth, Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved."

May the Lord bless you and your family.

In Christ Service,

Tim Kasza



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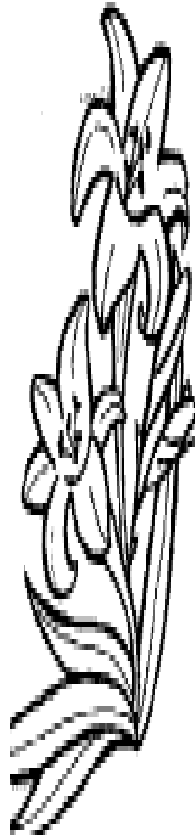
TLC

Together Loving Christ

Are you sharing in the exciting and spiritual blessings of studying God's Word and discovering how it applies to your contemporary life?

Join with us in our Adult Study Group at Sunny Place every Thursday at 7:00 p. m.

Grow in the Word!



Sunny Place Church is open for Sunday Morning Services

Some COVID safety restrictions will apply:

- A mask is required anytime you will be walking around. Once seated, in the sanctuary or at a class in the Fellowship hall, mask can be removed.
- Masks will be required if the congregation is asked to sing.
- Sanctuary seating will be every other row
 - Please bring your own bibles.
- Bible study classes in the fellowship hall, will have tables spread out, and can seat 4 at each table.
- Social distance will be important inside the building, although gathering in the Narthex, Sanctuary, and Fellowship hall will be allowed.

Our Church has always been about connecting with God and one another in spirit. While many are ready to begin worship in a live setting, some are not. We will have zoom service available.

Our Sunday Morning Worship Services and Mid-Week meetings, are also being held on Zoom. Please contact us in order to have the invitations and links sent to you. The contact information is inside on the Church Events page.

Visit us at: www.SunnyPlaceChurch.org



901 E. Oak Street, Addison, IL 60101

Connecting Families With The Love Of Christ

Elders Minutes of Meeting held April 7, 2021

Attended by: Pastor Pete Weber, Phyllis Clark, Tim Kasza, Ted Gehman, Glenda Kasza and Nona Koivula

Prayer and Devotion:

Mark 10:42-45 “Jesus called them together and said, “You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

Ministry Reports:

Treasurer: Budgeted Bank Balanced: \$ 2,934.57, Giving: \$ 18,443, Expense: \$10,164.49

Worship & Prayer: Our congregation was spiritually lifted and nourished during the Good Friday Worship Service, the fellowship afterwards, and also the Easter Sunday Worship Service. Many attendees commented on the music and spiritual depth of the services. The Worship leadership team is meeting on a regular schedule for prayer, encouragement, unity and planning. The Worship team suggested the Home Worship on Wednesday evenings be considered for the near future, possibly June or July. Everyone would be invited.

Christian Education & Fellowship: There are two Bible Studies each week led by Pastor Pete. They are Thursday evenings at 7pm on Zoom and Sunday Mornings in person at church and Zoom. Anyone wishing to participate just needs to contact Jacob for the access link.

Pastoral Care & Encouragement: led by Pastor Sam continues and is available to anyone who reaches out to him. Encouragement cards and phone calls continue.

Outreach & Missions: The second Saturday Senior Luncheon drive-by continues. There will be a Missions Sunday on May 2. Missionaries who are in the US on home assignments will be invited to our church. There may be a slightly different schedule this year. In the past there was a Mission Fest for three days, this year there may be several Mission Fest Sundays with invited missionaries as guest speakers.

Stewardship & Support Services: This ministry monitors and repairs any equipment that needs fixing and maintains the church building and property. The air conditioner needed repair and there are motion sensors that may need to be replaced.

New and Old Business

- When participating on Zoom, there will be a direct link to the meeting. There will no longer be a delay in a waiting room.
- Regarding Faithlife, Pastor Pete will continue to post scriptures and messages. Everyone is encouraged to communicate on Faithlife.
- The Church of God North America Convention will be held June 26-29 in Denver, Colorado. Pastor Pete and Pastor Sam will attend. People can register and attend in person or register to participate virtually on line for \$49.00 Go to Jesusisthesubject.org for Convention details.

Next Elders meeting May 5 2021

Missions Sunday, May 2nd

Reaching the Nations, Walking by Faith

Sri Lanka: 3 Decades, 3 Churches.
Celebrating 30 years of ministry!



Bobby & Jenny Mihsill
Missionaries to Cote d'Ivoire



Our Sunday Worship Services, and Thursday night Bible will be held at the scheduled times. If you would like to join us for a service or study via ZOOM, send an email with your name and contact information to sunnyplacecog@gmail.com to request a link to be sent to you. You can also listen to the audio sermons, within a few days afterwards, by selecting either version on: sunnyplacechurch.org/resources/audio-sermons.

2nd Saturday Senior Luncheon Saturday, May 8th, 11:30 am



Saturday, May 15th, 9-1:00 p.m.
At Sunny Place Church

Volunteers Needed, See Tim



Adult Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.
"The Church of God Revealed in Scripture"

Sunday Worship Services, 10:45 a.m.
In-person and on Zoom

7:00 p.m.



"The Gospel and the Children of Abraham"

A Study of the book of Galatians

Led by Pastor Pete
On Zoom only