

# Connect

With Sunny Place Church of God

March, 2022

## URGENCY!

### To Bring Salvation to the Ends of the Earth

Kids definition of urgency: The quality or state of requiring immediate action or attention. As most of you know, I always like the Kid's definition because it helps me understand the word better.

When I - *me, myself and I* - think of this word in a worldly way, there are a lot of things that come to mind; but I know God wants us to think of it in a godly way.

So I started as I always do, and did the Bible search for *urgency*: urgency (sorry, no results); *urgent*, 4 results; and *urgently*, 2 results. Needless to say I had a lot of Scripture to start with.

Now, I would hope we all know about Jonah and the big fish that spit him out. He began by going a day's journey into the city, proclaiming, "Forty more days and Nineveh will be over-thrown. Then the king said, let everyone call urgently on God. Let them give up their evil ways and their violence. Who knows? God may yet relent and with compassion turn from his fierce anger so that we will not perish."

When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he relented and did not bring the destruction he had threatened on them .

Then I looked at 2 Peter 3:8-9 (I started with verse 8 as you can see),

8 But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. 9 The Lord is not slow in keeping his promises, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

So, why the urgency? 2 Peter 3:3-7, 10-15, 18,

3 First of all, you must understand that in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own evil desires. 4 They will say, "Where is this 'coming' he promised? Ever since our ancestors died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation." 5 But they deliberately forget that long ago by God's word the heavens existed and the earth was formed out of water and by water. 6 By these waters also the world of that time was deluged and destroyed. 7 By the same word the present heavens and earth are reserved for fire, being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly.

10 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare. 11 Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives 12 as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. 13 But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of the righteousness. 14 So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him. 15 Bear in mind that our Lord's patience means salvation, just as our dear brother Paul also wrote you with the wisdom that God gave him.

18 But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.

I know we don't know the time, but what if somehow we learned we only had 40 more days to the end. Would you do anything differently or change whatever you're doing?

(Continued on next page )

URGENCY

Would you get a bullhorn and start proclaiming it like Jonah? Or what if it was 40 years, or 400 years. To be honest I'm glad I don't know, because I'm not sure what I would do differently if only forty more days were left. And the reason I say that, is not for my self, but for all those that are still unsaved, especially: family members, co-workers and friends.

By the way, I did a google search for the top 10 most requested prayers, and that was on the list in most of the Christian churches.

We do know in Zephaniah 1:14, "The great day of the LORD is near and coming quickly." And many more passages stating those similar words. Because I don't know the time, I can tell you that I will continue doing my best for the will of God.

Like it states in 1 Peter 4:1-2, 6-11,

1 Therefore, since Christ suffered in his body, arm yourselves also with the same attitude, because he who suffered in his body is done with sin. 2 As result, he does not live the rest of his earthly life for evil human desires, but rather for the will of God.

6 For this is the reason the gospel was preached even to those who are now dead, so that they might be judged according to human standards in regard to the body but live according to God in regard to the Spirit. 7 The end of all things is *near* (KJV at hand). Therefore be alert and of sober mind so that you may pray. 8 Above all, love each other deeply, because, love covers over a multitude of sins. 9 Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. 10 Each one should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of Gods grace in its various forms. 11 If anyone speaks, they should do as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ.

Also in 1 Thessalonians 5:14-18,

14 And we urge you, brothers and sisters, warn those who are idle and disruptive, encourage the disheartened, help the weak, be patient with everyone.

15 Make sure that nobody pays back wrong for wrong, but always strive to do what is good for each other and for everyone else. 16 Rejoice always, 17 pray continually, 18 give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

In my mind, I look at this like a race, a race to save as many of the unsaved as possible, and to do it with the mindset of Paul. Like he said in Acts 20:24, "However, I consider my life worth nothing to me; my only aim is to finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me - the task of testifying to the gospel of God's grace."

So when our time here on earth is done, we can all feel confident in making that statement that Paul did in 2 Timothy 4:7-8, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. 8 Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing."

Remember what Luke wrote in Acts 13:47, "For this is what the Lord has commended us: I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth."

So let's hurry up before it happens.

Matthew 24:12-14

12 Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, 13 but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved. 14 And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.

Revelation 22:12-13

12 "Look, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to each person according to what they have done. 13 I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the Last, the Beginning and the End."

No God, No Salvation!  
KNOW GOD, KNOW SALVATION!

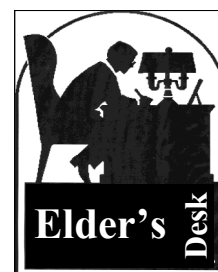
Your humble servant in Christ,  
Ted Gehman

**Connect**

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# TLC

Together Loving Christ

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

**J**oin with us in our Adult Study Group Via Zoom every Thursday at 7:00 p. m.

**Grow in the Word!**



## Sunny Place Church is open for Sunday Morning Services

We are happy to announce that the COVID-19 policy at Sunny Place has come to an end. The level of risk has lowered significantly to the point where we can allow masks to be optional. There will also be no social distancing limits or roped off pews.

We are grateful to God for taking us through this unusual and challenging ordeal. He has kept us safe and provided for us in many ways so that we could continue in worship and ministry throughout the entire fourteen plus months.

We will continue using Zoom for some waiting to finish getting vaccinated or transitioning to in-person activity. If not vaccinated and have not had COVID-19, we recommend you wear a mask. But the decision is up to you.

**Our Sunday Morning Worship Services and Mid-Week meetings, are also being held on Zoom. Please send us an email with your name and contact information to: [sunnyplacecog@gmail.com](mailto:sunnyplacecog@gmail.com) to request a link to be sent to you**

Visit us at: [www.SunnyPlaceChurch.org](http://www.SunnyPlaceChurch.org)



901 E. Oak Street, Addison, IL 60101

**Connecting Families With The Love Of Christ**

# Elders Minutes of Meeting held, Feb. 2, 2022

Attended by Pastor Pete Weber, Phyllis Clark, Erik Wierchering, Ted Gehman, Sam Jacob, Glenda Kasza and Nona Koivula

Devotion: “ Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) and find out what pleases the Lord. Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret. Be very careful, then, how you live – not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity (redeeming the time) because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord’s will is. *Ephesians 5: 1-2, 8-12, 15-17*

Election of Officers: Nona moved to elect Sam as President. Phyllis seconded the motion and it passed. Nona moved to elect Phyllis as Vice President. Ted seconded the motion and it passed. Phyllis moved to elect Nona as Secretary. Ted seconded the motion and it passed.

## Ministry Reports

**Treasurer:** Budgeted Bank Balance \$1,095.15, Giving \$9,759, Expenses \$13,090.68, Faith Promise \$11,742.

**Worship & Prayer:** There will be a Worship Wednesday on February 16 at 6pm in the Wierchering Home. All are invited. Please let Effie or Erik know your plans to attend. There was a Worship team meeting held Feb. 6 to schedule vocalists and technical teams.

**Christian Education & Fellowship:** Pastor Pete said there will be some changes to the Ministry team. There will be a time of fellowship on Sunday Feb 27. After Worship Service, a light luncheon will be available then time to participate in games.

**Pastoral Care & Encouragement:** Anyone wishing Pastoral Care Counseling please contact Sam Jacob to schedule time together. The Encouragement Ministry sends cards and flowers to our congregation.

**Outreach & Missions:** There will be a Senior Luncheon on Saturday Feb. 12 with a Valentine’s Day theme. Phyllis is talking with our Missionaries to find a guest speaker for the Missions Festival weekend on May 1.

**Stewardship & Support Services:** The fire alarms and panel were inspected last month and were found to be working properly.

## New and Old Business

- Pastor Pete asked the Elders to encourage Ministry Team leaders to plan Ministry meetings. Also if there are plans for events, please inform Lynn to schedule these events on the church calendar.
- An Elders Retreat is scheduled for Saturday March 26

Next Elders meeting March 2



HOW DOES REALIZING TODAY IS THE DAY OF SALVATION AFFECT YOUR ACTIONS TOWARDS OTHERS? DO YOU LIVE WITH AN URGENCY TO SHARE THE GOSPEL?

# Sunny Place Church – March Events

**You are Invited**

**2nd Saturday Senior Luncheon**  
 Saturday, March 12th, 11:30 am


**Sunny Place Church**  
 Free for Seniors 55+  
Register at 630/398-2314



***Song Requests***

**Hymn Request Sunday**  
 Sunday, March 27th

**Request your favorite song from our church hymnals during Service.**



**Adult Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.**

**”Jesus’ Teaching for the Blessed”**  
 A Study of the Sermon on the Mount.  
 Led by Pastor Pete

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

7:00 p.m. **THURSDAY**

**“A Counselor for You”**

A Study of the Work of the Holy Spirit

Led by Pastor Pete  
 7:00 p.m. On Zoom only

Our Sunday Worship Services, and Thursday night Bible Study 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](mailto: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](http://sunnyplacechurch.org/resources/audio-sermons).