

Friday Letter April 5, 2024

Good Friday Friends,

I pray you all had a wonderful Holy week and a blessed Easter, Resurrection Sunday! And I pray everyone made it without any problems through the storms we had Sunday night and Monday! We had a lot of down trees around our home and on fences, but we were blessed with no damage to our home our barns our animals! Our daughter wasn't so lucky it looks like a horror movie at their home with trees uprooted huge probably 150-year-old trees uprooted. One evidently hit their roof before falling to the ground and when the adjuster came, they found that they have 15 trusses in their roof line that are broken several of them have come through the ceiling in her hallway and back bedrooms. It is now said that it is confirmed we had a tornado come through our area! We must all be so careful through this springtime season when the storms can develop so quickly!



I will be speaking in Mount Vernon on May 6<sup>th</sup>. They are working out their flyer and invitations. I am looking forward to joining them. I will also be at Warrensburg Missouri on June 19<sup>th</sup>. Let me know if you have special events coming up, so if I can work it into my schedule, I can be there with you.

I hope you have marked on your calendars our Regional Assembly on August 8 -10 in St Joseph Missouri! We will have our Disciples' Women's luncheon again on that Saturday. I'm looking forward to our time together.

I'm excited we're going to have our first Bible Study of 2024 from the new Just Women, Embracing Life, Through the Looking Glass; seeing the world through the eyes of faith! Our first study comes from Sandyha Jha, the scripture references are from Deuteronomy 6:4 and 5 and Leviticus 19:18. Her questions to ponder:

One. Who is the biblical ancestor who tried to engage people different from them in a loving way? If you could ask them questions, what would they be? What might be their responses to those questions.

Two. Who in the community is different from you, who don't know well, who have you had conflict with? Who from the Bible might be able to relate to your situation and what might their advice be?

Three. Activist Grace Lee Boggs of Detroit talked about " putting the neighbor back in the hood. " Thinking about that last story, are there any small acts that could help you connect more deeply with your own neighbors so you're all in a relationship with each other?

Our gathering via Zoom is Saturday morning April 27<sup>th</sup> from wherever you choose. Don't have a Just Women? No worries, read the scriptures and the questions and join your sisters of faith.

News from the farm:

The night of the storm we had our grandsons with us, and we could hear off in the distance the loud obnoxious roar. When the alarm came on for a tornado warning we all went to the basement, on three separate occasions! At about 2:00 in the morning we

checked outside to see how the weather was doing and it was a calm. We decided we better drive to the County Road and check the fences for our livestock. Fortunately, we did, a tree had fallen on the fence at the County Road it was down to the ground. And of course, the cows were all right up there. We drove back to the house and Tim got his new blue tractor and we all met back up at the County Road to remove the tree from the fence line and patch the fence. We could see the cows just yards from the fence of course, curiosity. One of our neighbors came out to see what we were doing in the middle of the night lol they were frightened to and had been in their bathroom waiting out the storm. As we were working, we looked in the sky and saw that there was another round coming so we hurried to get the fence patched and get home.

None of us had much sleep that night we slept with one eye and one ear open to the sounds of mother nature. The next morning when we got up, we could see the devastation among the trees. We were blessed All of our livestock were present and accounted for, the barns the tractors the vehicles our home was all in good shape. Not so for our daughter across the river. But they were all safe!

Oddly they were coming home the day of the storm, and their first flight was delayed for over 2 hours, causing them to miss the flight coming home and had to stay over in Atlanta. They still don't know why their plane was delayed, but with it being delayed they were not present when the storm hit!

God cares for us in those small yet unbelievably large ways, if we would just open our hearts to see and hear Him! Stand back and be amazed!

Have a wonderfully blessed week full of God's love and grace.

Blessings,

Pastor Jennifer

Jennifer Long is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Disciples Women

Time: Apr 27, 2024 09:00 AM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85103457025?pwd=cE9jT2JzWEJ0MUZRUXQ0ZFdkE9VgrUT09>

Meeting ID: 851 0345 7025

Passcode: 859436

Dial by your location

• +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85103457025>

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Micah 6:8 Message: Do what is fair and just to your neighbor,

be compassionate and loyal in your love, And don't take yourself too seriously— take God seriously.

C.S. Lewis : "Believe in God like you believe in the sunrise. Not because you can see it, but because you can see all it touches."