CTK Community Group Sermon Discussion Questions & Announcements Week of 11/29/20

Please take a few moments to share these announcements with members of your community group and take some time to pray for the life of the church. Thank you!

Sermon Discussion Questions | Luke 1:5-25, 57-80

(Note that the sermon mostly focused on vv. 67-80)

- 1. Can you identify with the need to find hope in the midst of waiting?(!) What gives you hope, day to day? Whether your answer to that question is "Jesus" or not, how would you describe your experience of maintaining hope during this season of waiting?
- 2. Which of the following images of sin resonate most deeply with you:
 - a. A power (vv. 71, 74)
 - b. A condition, like darkness/blindness (v. 79)
 - c. A debt that must be paid (v. 68)
 - d. A guilt that must be cleared (v. 77)

(Read Colossians 2:13-15 to see how Jesus dealt with them all!)

- 3. Zechariah may have been praying for a son, or he may have been praying for the deliverance of Israel (he got both!). What are some signs in his song that he was longing for the latter?
- 4. What do you make of Zechariah's rejoicing that the result of God having delivered us from our enemies is that we might *serve* him without fear?
- 5. Zechariah can rejoice as though he has already seen the Messiah, even though his son is only the one who goes before the Messiah. Why is that? How can we find similar hope in what God has done in the past, for the uncertainties that face us in the future?
- 6. Pray for our church in a season of waiting and transition:

so that [we] should set [our] hope in God and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments; (Ps. 78:7)

Transition Updates:

The pastoral search committee (PSC) will begin training with McGowan & Associates in early December. Please pray for them as they go through that training, as they appoint a chair and assign roles, and as they find a time to start meeting together regularly.

Announcements:

On Saturday, December 12, Starlight Ministries will hold their Annual Christmas Banquet here at CTK.

Normally this is an actual sit-down meal that serves the homeless community of Cambridge with a warm meal, music, and gifts. Out of concern for the safety of visitors and volunteers, this year it will be a drop-by event where guests can receive a packaged meal and a gift. Starlight needs help packing these things and greeting guests, so if you'd like to volunteer, there's a link to a spreadsheet in the Reader where you can sign up, or you can email the deacons at deacons@ctkcambridge.org.

Celebrate the Advent season with singing at **CTK's Eighth Annual Christmas Concert**, this year online! Come join CTK's talented musicians for an evening of festive performances and rousing caroling on Saturday, December 12, at 6:30pm. Stay tuned for links and other information, and contact amanda@ctkcambridge.org with questions.