

Well, here we go again, again ...

Santa Barbara County has been moved back into the purple tier by our state government. That means that, for the time being, we are not officially conducting face-to-face services.

Thankfully, by God's grace and good use of talents and work within our congregation, we have a very serviceable system for worshipping together online, using our live stream web broadcast and archived services at www.starlutheran.org.

We also continue to conduct Bible classes on Thursdays (10:00 a.m.) and Sundays (9:00 a.m.) via the computer and phone app "Zoom." For more information on those classes and the codes necessary to join in those meetings please contact Pastor Foley at (805) 937-0339 or revmikefoley@gmail.com.

Our Savior, who has promised he will never leave us or forsake us, is still Lord of his Church. He knows all that is going on and uses it for our benefit (whether we recognize those benefits or not). As his people, we look for opportunities to share the comfort and hope and salvation we have with others. One opportunity for *outreach* is directing people to our website and streamed services as well as to wels.net which provides many devotional and Christian informational materials. As a congregation, this would also be a good opportunity for working on and developing our *inreach*. There are many, even within our congregational family, who could use a phone call or letter now and then to give encouragement and show loving concern.

As things progress, please continue to pray and to do so with the sure confidence that our loving Father in heaven hears and answers.

Your servant in Christ, Pastor Michael Foley

Lord God, our Redeemer and Protector, we come to you seeking the help that only you can give. We ask that you spare people in our country and around the world from any harm to body and soul. Grant healing and comfort to those who may be afflicted with this or any other disease. Be with those who care for the sick and keep them from danger. Give wisdom and steadfastness to our nation's leaders and a spirit of courage and cooperation to our communities. Calm our fears of the unknown. Use your Word to work in us a strong faith and trust in your promise to use all things to work for the good of those who love you. We can be confident in you and your promises in this uncertain and difficult time because of the love and faithfulness you demonstrated in sending your Son to the cross for us and for all people. Help us to keep our eyes fixed on you, our Refuge and Strength. Amen.