

Another Word April 15, 2025

To our family and friends of King Road Christian Church

It is Holy Week. Our prayer is that this past Lent season with its prayers, scripture readings, Devotional readings, and weekly messages have drawn you much closer to Jesus and the love He shared with the world.

We hope you can come to our Maundy Thursday Service this Thursday at 7 pm. This service begins with Jesus' new commandment, "To love one another as I have loved you," during the last meal with His disciples, and ending with His death on the cross. We hope you can join us for this moving experience. If you need a ride please call the church office or me direct.

On the 18th, the Ashland Christian Ministerial Association will again present the last words spoken from the cross by Jesus. The service begins at noon at Trinity Lutheran Church on Center Street.

Our Easter Service, beginning at 10:30, will include our bell choir, scripture readings of Psalm 118: 1-2, 14-24, John 20:1-8, and special music. Come, bring a friend, and let's celebrate together the greatest day ever in recorded history; The Resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ.

Our baby bottle campaign is coming to an end. If you haven't yet, please return your bottle this Sunday.

Oh, and things are progressing with our name change. You may now officially write your checks to King Road Christian Church.

As we go to prayer, thank God for His abounding Love!

May we pray.

O Holy and gracious God, we come to you today with wonderment in our hearts. Over the past 6 weeks we have heard and read the stories of what Jesus endured for us. Sadly, we see the same brutality being used on others even today. But you continue to love us, to care for us, direct us, and guide us to better lives. You are unchanging regardless of the time or place. We ask for your strength to be strong, and filled with courage to stand, like Jesus, and pass your love on to others, for it's the only way to change the world. This is your message of Easter. It's a message of love and compassion, a message that leads us to victory. In Jesus' perfect name we pray, Amen.

I was watching Donita put together a puzzle one day during a very cold day just after the first of the year. She would separate pieces by color, then find all the pieces with straight edges. Next, she studied the picture on the box lid and began putting together the outside edge. Once the edge was done, she would start matching colors from the different piles and work until it was completed. During the assembly, she would constantly check the picture on the box top to be sure she was on the right track. Eventually, the picture would begin to take shape and after a few days, would be complete.

I remember we tried an experiment with our youth group years ago. We took pages from a magazine and ripped them up into small pieces. We then divided the group up into pairs, gave each a page and told them that the first to put the page together won a prize. No one finished! Then it occurred to us. The pages were printed on both sides and no one had any idea of what they were reassembling. No one had seen the

original picture. Oh, eventually a few did get them put back together, but what a “flop” this fun learning exercise became.

But isn't that what life seems to be? A puzzle? All our lives have many intricate pieces to it. Family, friends, jobs, health, successes, failures, even finances. Yes, I've only just scratched the surface as to how many pieces. Sometimes, I'm sure we all have been like those in our youth group when nothing in our lives seems clear, nothing makes sense, that nothing fits together. If that's the case, then there is only one thing missing. The one clear picture that is needed to help put the puzzle of life together.

The one verse in the Bible that I think explains it all is Colossians 1:6, “All things were created by Him and for Him.” These are words that bring all the pieces of our lives together. The bottom line is, God created us to live for Him, yet we often try to live for us. Sin has separated us from God, and that is what makes it so difficult to bring the pieces of our lives together. Sin blocks us from seeing the finished picture.

Jesus then comes along and takes all our sins from us and nails them to His cross. This allows us to clearly see Jesus as the finished picture that allows us to put the pieces of our lives together, to have faith, and to live for Him. May God, through Jesus, our Savior, bless you All.

Happy Easter! In His Peace,

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