

MINDFUL MONDAY, MARCH 11TH

In a world where we ask for the cliff notes version of everything, many wonder what is the most important message or the one thing we should take away from the Bible? When Jesus is asked, “what commandment is the first of all”? Jesus answers, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. You shall love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these.”

This seems simple enough, right? Love God and love our neighbors. But our world falls short. With war and conflict, we fail. With hate, betrayal, and sin, we do not succeed in following the commandments Jesus provides. But what if? What if we started living our lives loving others and God, and we meant it? How would our world look if we followed these laws? Our scripture reading this week, Mark 12:28-44, is one that we should recite over and over, but also a passage that we should start following and living each day.

Cliff notes version... *“Seek me and live.”* Amos 5:4

There are many we have asked for prayers for this week. If you have a need we ask you to contact us and we will add your concern or joy to our prayers.

Please join us in praying for Candy Deel, recovering from a heart attack. We pray for her healing.

We continue to pray for Lucy Walker and the Walker family. They have received news that surgery on her forehead will not be needed as the first procedure went well. We pray for the WOW youth that worked hard to make posters and will be raising money to help support the family. This is an example of loving our neighbor and I am incredibly proud of how they live out God’s commandment.

We pray for Jan’s mother still needing answers and prayers for her health.

We lift up Steve’s family on the passing of his aunt Elaine. May they be comforted and at peace during this difficult time.

We continue to pray for Judi as she seeks answers to her back troubles.

We pray for a safe and relaxing Spring Break for students and teachers and those traveling this week.

We lift these prayers up to God and give thanks for joys and answers we receive.

The Upper Midwest Regional Prayer Calendar asks us to pray for the following congregations, pastors, and ministries.

Highland Park Christian Church, Des Moines, IA, Arlene Johnson, Interim

First Christian Church, Mount Ayr, IA, Rodney Glazebrook

First Christian Church, Perry, IA, Andrea Brownlee

Robert Haskin

Jessie Lent

Gary Freeland

Higher Education and Leadership Ministries – work in partnership with 17 colleges, 10 seminaries and 80 campus ministry programs