



**EPC**

A Global Movement of  
Evangelical Presbyterian Churches

**EXTRA Edition**

**April 13, 2020**

The LORD is my rock and my  
fortress and my deliverer, my God,  
my rock, in whom I take refuge, my  
shield, and the horn of my  
salvation, my stronghold.

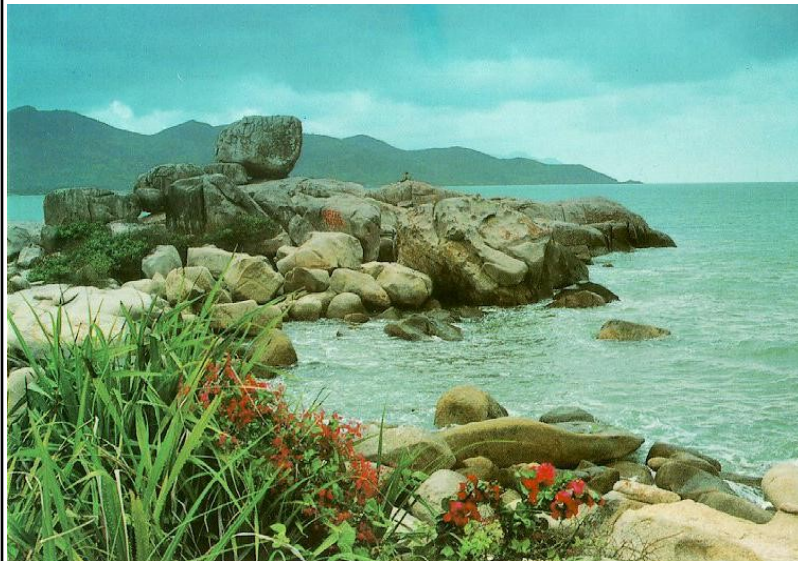
I call upon the LORD, who is  
worthy to be praised, and I am  
saved from my enemies.

—Psalm 18:2-3 (ESV)



*Vox audita perit, littera scripta manet:* The heard voice perishes, the written letter remains.

# Good News



**Nha  
Trang  
Beach,  
Vietnam  
In the  
distance  
is Hon Tre  
Island**

When I walked by this rock, as I did almost daily for a year (1970-71), the beach was part of a war zone. The surrounding area was the scene of abject poverty and great grief. Hon Tre Island (in the background, about 3 miles offshore) was a military signal site— a high value target. It was frequently the objective of infiltrators and amphibious assault forces— and was therefore a free-fire zone.

Now the battles are elsewhere and the war in Vietnam is no more. The death and destruction are gone, and the beach has become the centerpiece of a booming vacation resort city. Hon Tre Island is now a nature preserve. Beauty and peace have returned, replacing the horror and chaos of war. The rock, however, has not changed.

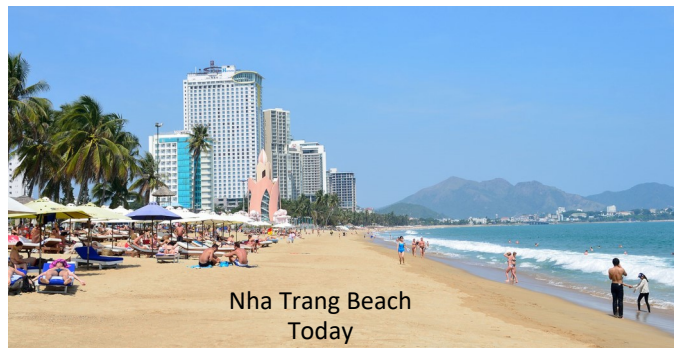
We rarely know in advance where our crises will take us— nor how long they shall last. But we do always know that we can trust God's plan for our lives. The dangers are real and the perils great, but we fear not— because the universe itself is subject to the power of our God.

May the Peace that Passeth Understanding fill you in these days.

*Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.* —Psalm 23:4 (KJV)

It is, after all, only the shadow— and we do not walk the valley alone.

Because our Rock never changes, either. ✠



Nha Trang Beach  
Today

Good News is the monthly newsletter of the  
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For Compliance with Current COVID-19 Guidelines

# Face Masks

If you live in Indiana (or anywhere else on planet Earth), current COVID-19 guidelines call for face masks for everyone who ventures outside, anywhere in public. So far, compliance in the US has been optional and somewhat spotty. This is partly because it is virtually impossible to purchase the recommended N95 masks— there just aren't any to be had. What limited supply there is has (rightly!) been dedicated to health care workers and first responders; front line warriors deserve the best protection. So, what about the rest of us?

Cindy Engelkes (and unknown thousands of others across the nation) have the beginning of an answer. Cindy has a sewing machine, a supply of cotton cloth left over from previous projects, and a few hundred yards of elastic cord. What she creates is a functional face mask, complete with a small wire for shaping over the nose, and a pocket for a disposable filter element. She has offered to make as many masks as she can, and distribute them free of charge to friends and family— including her church family. This is what Cindy has to say:



*"Please be aware I am making these because I love each and every one of you and my Father God gave me the ability to sew."*

The cloth masks, of course, are not N95 compliant, but they are way better than a double folded bandana (TV stagecoach hold-up style), and even the bandana is better than a bare face. The filter insert is cut from the filter element of a household furnace filter, recommended to be rated MERV-10 (Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value, an HVAC industry standard) or higher.

Cindy's masks are created in a non-sterile environment (dogs in the house) so they need to be sterilized before use. And the masks need to be sanitized again after each outdoor adventure. A trip through the laundry and a dryer cycle serves that purpose. Don't try to heat them in your microwave— the microwave won't like the copper wire insert, and you won't like the ensuing fireworks!

If you would like Cindy to add you to her manufacturing schedule, contact her at 815.732.6773. The masks can be delivered over her back fence, or by mail. Cindy does not charge for the masks, but if you request mail delivery, help with the postage would not be out of order.



The New 'Normal' Changes Everything

# His Tithes, Our Offerings

—George Ellsworth, Financial Secretary

His Tithes, and our offerings. These have been the source of this congregation's financial support for all the days of its existence. So what's wrong with the offering plate at right?



The new normal has prevented us from passing that plate, now four consecutive Sundays, and it will block an unknown number of Sundays in the future.

Fortunately, many of you have recognized that "His Tithes," and "Your Offerings" are not suspended just because we can't meet in our building. Missions and missionaries (including Pastor Shawn) are still counting on us for support. Utility bills and other expenses have to be paid.

If you want to present God's Tithes and your offerings in this time of trial, please mail your gifts to the church:

Attica-Williamsport EPC  
300 E. Main St  
Attica, IN 47918-1324

**ATTN: GEORGE** (so nobody else will open your envelope) ✝

# Blankets of Love



Masks are the order of the day at Blankets of Love. So far, the ladies of BOL have donated over 50 masks to the local nursing home, and more are in the works. National shortages have made it difficult to find the elastic needed for the ear loops, and fabric donations (or cash in lieu thereof) are always welcome. The fabric must be 100% cotton with no synthetic



component. The elastic must be 1/8" (or no more than 1/4") wide. Pecuniary donations should be sent to the church, **ATTN: GEORGE** (so nobody else will open your envelope). Inside the envelope, the gift should be clearly marked '**BLANKETS**' or just '**BOL.**' Blankets of Love is a funded activity of the church, and designated funds will immediately be available for the needed materials.

It sounds like an old cliché— but if everybody does what they can, what's needed— gets done. Every little bit helps.

