

Hello friends,

I am thinking of you all and praying for the Okanagan, most especially the people and creatures threatened by the current fires. I know there are good neighbours throughout the region who will take in family and friends displaced, but it is a stressful experience, especially with COVID-19 in the mix, and then the smoke can cause discomfort and illness. Please take care of yourselves and don't hesitate to phone the respective offices with any prayer requests.

What's in this email:

- Scripture passages for this Sunday
- Some thoughts on hope
- Links to good news sites
- Questions for Today's Takeaway on Sunday

SUNDAY

- We will be reading from **Psalm 10**, in the New Revised Standard Version translation, and **Romans 8:18-25**, from the Common English Bible translation.
- A note on translations: you might have noticed that I use a variety of Biblical translations. This is because some, like this week's passage from Romans, are easier to follow. Others might be a more accurate translation of the original meaning or language. And

others, like Psalm 10 this week, are more poetic and feel richer.

HOPE

- The need for hope was a subject of our post-service discussion last Sunday.
- This Sunday, we will be exploring what hope looks like when the going is rough.
- Dietrich Bonhoeffer was a German Lutheran pastor who protested against the Nazi regime when most churches endorsed Hitler. Here is a link to a sermon of his on overcoming fear: <https://www.sermoncentral.com/sermons/overcoming-fear-dietrich-bonhoeffer-sermon-on-anxiety-168650?page=1&wc=800>
- And here is a link about a leader who is not defeated by despair: <http://www.mslatoshabrown.com>

GOOD NEWS

- We need some in our lives! Have a look at these links.
- American comedian and actor John Krasinski has a series called “Some Good News”: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oilZ1hNZPRM>

- And around the world! <https://www.readersdigest.ca/culture/good-news-stories-world/>

SUNDAY'S TAKEAWAY

- Last week we had a lot of success with a post-service chat called “Today’s Takeaway.”
- For this Sunday, if you want some questions in mind through the service:
 - What gives you hope?
 - When have you felt hopeful?
 - Who are people who inspire hope for you?
 - When have you given others hope?