

# GOD'S NEW

# NORMAL

## APRIL 20-25 DEVOTIONAL GUIDE

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Decatur | Concord United Methodist



### Peace Investments:



#### MONDAY

**John 20:19-20**

This was the same passage that we read on Sunday during worship. Take time to read it again, slowly. What sticks out to you when you read it? What do you notice reading it now that you didn't notice before. Why do you think Jesus' first word to the disciples was "peace"? If you didn't already do this, write down 3 things you can do to invest in peace right now. Make a plan for how you will do them this week.

#### TUESDAY

**Matthew 5:1-12**

This passage is the beginning of the sermon on the mount and is often called the beatitudes. Beatitude comes from the Latin word meaning happy and blessed. In a world full of division, the path of peace is hard. Why do you think Jesus says blessed are the peacemakers? What in your life makes peace? Look at your list of peace and circle the things you have already done to invest in peace this week.

#### WEDNESDAY

**Psalms 34:11-14**

This passage from Psalm 34 opens with "Come, children, listen to me." Are you listening to God today? What do you need to hear from God today? What obstacles are in your way for investing in peace today? v.14 says "Seek peace & go after it!" How are you seeking peace today? Circle the things you have already done this week to invest in peace.

#### THURSDAY

**Colossians 3:1-17**

This passage speaks directly to the church, the family of God. Here you are encouraged to "put to death" the parts of you that keep you from loving God and others. What parts of your life need to be put to death? During these days of social distancing how can you cultivate the unity and love in your church that is written about here? Look at your list of peace investments, do you have any left to accomplish? Do you need to add to the list? What can you do to make sure you accomplish them all?

#### FRIDAY

**2 Thessalonians 3:16-18**

This is the end of a letter that Paul wrote the the Thessalonians. Before he sends the letter, he makes sure to send a blessing of peace to his readers. How have you shared peace with someone else this week today? Is there something you can do to share peace with someone today? Check your peace investments. How else can you promote peace?

#### SATURDAY

**James 3:13-18**

In our final passage on peace, James talks about sowing peace and how this will cause a harvest of righteousness. How have you sowed peace this week? How have you failed to sow peace? Pray to ask God to help you be a sower of peace so that you can bring God's New Normal of Peace into reality.

#### SUNDAY

**Worship @ 11am online and audio only**

decaturumc.com or

(646) 558-8656

Meeting ID: 170 368 050

Password: 145