



Volume 2020 Issue 4

Living Word Lutheran Church
Worship address: 2570 Northern Avenue
Mailing address 3880 Stockton Hill Rd. 103-300
Kingman, Arizona



April Devotion-

Coronavirus and EASTER

Easter is one of the most important holidays in the Christian religion. The spring-time holiday celebrates the belief that Christ resurrected from the dead. As we prepare for an Easter like we've never seen before in our lifetime with many of our churches closed and quarantine orders in place we should focus on the hope we have in Jesus Christ.

Easter celebrations will likely look a lot different as more than 1.5 billion people worldwide have been asked to stay home amid the spread of coronavirus. The U.S. has the most confirmed cases of COVID-19. President Donald Trump has extended coronavirus restrictions until at least the end of April. First Lady Melania Trump canceled the White House Easter Egg Roll this year "out of an abundance of caution" amid the coronavirus pandemic. Coronavirus is also forcing churches to embrace new ways of worshiping.

The biblical story of Easter says that three days after Jesus was murdered, he arose, and women who checked on his tomb Easter morning found it empty. On

the first day of the week the disciples had locked themselves away out of fear. Everything Jesus had taught, everything He had said or done all seemed like a distant memory now.

Something happened in that locked room that radically transformed them from fearful, anxious men into witnesses that would not be silenced, would not be ashamed, would not stop sharing what Jesus had done even at the cost of their own lives. Jesus appeared.

The resurrection was everything for them now. The cross had been the death of everything they had hoped or believed was true. But it wasn't the final end. It was only the end of who they had been, and it was the beginning of who they truly were meant to be. When Jesus came back to life, they came alive.

Easter is the good news about God's Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who came as a human baby. Historical records say he showed himself to 500 people at one gathering! Can you imagine witnessing his death and then seeing him walking around Jerusalem

three days later? What an amazing thing!

When Jesus was hanging on the cross, the skeptics and critics mocked him and said, "If you're the Son of God, why don't you just pull yourself down from that cross? Why don't you just come down and show that you're really God?" Jesus had something more spectacular planned. He said, "I'm going to let you bury me for three days, then I'll come back to life to prove that I am what I am."

Pastor Michael has encouraged us to focus on Faith, Hope and Love. Our friend Pastor Dan Storvick commented that "Whatever else you may say about COVID 19, methinks our Lord may be refining His church."

Coronavirus certainly will influence the **way** we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord in 2020. But coronavirus **will NOT change the impact** of the Resurrection of our Lord!

Let us use this Easter that comes in the midst of a coronavirus pandemic to be just the beginning of what Living Word Lutheran Church is truly meant to be!

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A compilation of parts of several past Easter devotions, current information about COVID 19, and the personal thoughts of the Editor.

April Scriptures

4/5/20 **PALM SUNDAY** Philippians 2: 5-11, Psalm 31:9-11, Matthew 27: 11-54

4/12/20 **EASTER SUNDAY** Acts 10: 34-43, Psalm 118: 1-2, 14-24, Matthew 28: 1-10

4/19/20 Acts 2:14a, 22-32, Psalm 16, John 20: 19-31

4/26/20 Acts 2:14a, 36-41, Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19, Luke 24:13-35

Prayer Requests

For continuing comfort and healing
Carolyn Krick, Lelanie Exbom, Donna Kowalske, Pat Bingham, Vern Parsons, Sue Bernard, Char and Dale Matheny, Barbara McCord, Floyd Morris, Holly Vautier, Carol Wostal, Lula Stroud, Andrew Johnson

If you know of someone who should be included in the monthly ongoing prayer list, or you yourself would like to be included, please contact Pastor Michael (509-710-3283).



Dear LW Brothers and Sisters,

During these tough times just know that your church is still here for you. Using Facebook, our Living Word website, parking lot worship options, and counseling/prayer/worship time with the pastor by appointment, are all available to you. We will also be phoning members to make sure everyone gets a "check up" call from the church. Stay tuned for the third part of the Faith-Hope-Love Sermon series on coping with this crisis. Please call on me ANYTIME.

Pastor Michael



How exciting was our worship on March 29 as we welcomed several into our growing family of faith through Christian Baptism! Congratulations to:

Dennie Lynn Hedges

Luna Devine Burgett

Alice Layne Burgett



Blessed and Unstoppable

*"The point is to become yourself, to use yourself completely – all your skills, gifts and energies – to be the **YOU** that you were born to be!" (original quote from Warren Bennis - revised)*

"Blessed and Unstoppable" is the working name of a group of Living Word professional women who have been getting together to work through a book of the same name written by Billy Alsbrooks. The intent of the group is to offer support through prayer, discussion, and experience in a small group environment for working women of various ages, life styles, and professions.

The group meets the 1st & 3rd Thursday of the month, at the IHOP restaurant. Grouping starts at 6:00 PM and ends at 7:00 PM, although they try to get there early (around 5:30) to eat and visit.

Due to COVID-19 compliance, they have decided not to "officially" meet until after at least after April 30th. They may decide to meet virtually depending on everyone's availability.



Sound interesting? They have room for additional participants! Contact Bev Valentine for more information. 928-377-2577

beverlyvalentine@citlink.net

April Celebrations

April 13 Barbara McCord

April 18 Don Bingham

April 25 Ken Bourlier

April 28 Cherie Bourlier



No

April

Anniversaries

Sharing the Faith!

Donna Pederson shared this flyer she created and passed out to her neighbors! **WAY TO GO DONNA!**

Living Word Lutheran Church, 2570 Northern Ave, Kingman, AZ invites you to hear the sermon of Pastor Michael Birnbaum on the timely subject of "FAITH". This is the first of a three part series on "Faith, Hope and Love."

Please go to "Living Word Lutheran Church, Kingman, AZ" on Facebook to hear the sermon of March 22, 2020. Pastor Michael also sends out regular updates on the Coronavirus situation and scripture that will encourage you in today's world. We all seek peace and comfort. Jesus is calling.

If you would like your email address to be added to the church newsletter list so you receive information and updates, please give me a call at 928-753-5762 and we will add

you to the list.

Our worship services are at 10:00 a.m. each Sunday. Some are hesitant to attend church due to the virus scare, which we understand, and prefer to follow Pastor Michael's sermons online. We hope you will join us in whatever manner is most comfortable for you. We are a small, warm and loving congregation.

God is good, Jesus loves you, the Holy Spirit is alive, Easter is coming and, as Pastor Michael said, "the sun will rise tomorrow." Praise God. Your neighbor, (name), (address)



Living Word Council Minutes-Meeting Summary 2/6/20

Pastor Michael Birnbaum, Pastor Assistant Eileen Pressler, President Ken Bourlier, Vice-President Bob Pressler, Treasurer Arlene Allison, Mission Coordinator Rosie Freeman & Secretary Sharon Peterson.

Meeting opened with Prayer. January minutes approved.

Pastor Assistant: Compensated Sundays off in 2020: 1/19 & 2/16

Planned off: 4/16 In place of Pastor Steve Bergeson personal appearance on 1/19 a video of Pastor Steve was used Pastor Jeff Johnson is confirmed for 2/16. Ash Wednesday worship service with imposition of ashes and communion on 2/26 at 7:00 pm Mid-week devotions begin on 3/4/2020 noon and 6 pm "To Seek and To Save"

Pastor's Report: Very pleased with the attendance and visitors last Sunday. We are starting to see a nice group of youngsters. Will be talking with Donna Pederson to see how we can incorporate them into the service. The next planned Sunday off, 2/16. Jeff Johnson will be here. 4/16 planning to be off and will

will see if Pastor Steve Bergeson will cover.

President: Along with Greg, Ken was moving the pots in front of the Church and one of them broke. They were able to clean them up. Motion was made to approve Eileen as Pastor Assistant. Approved by all. Eileen made a motion that Bob Pressler (current Vice President) fill in as Temporary Treasurer. Council approved.

Financial Report: Reviewed this month's financial report. Report approved Arlene turned in her keys, checkbook, computer. Everyone thanked Arlene for her time and service from the beginning. Eileen lead in a prayer of gratitude for Arlene.

Mission Coordinator: Don't have anything planned at this time. But working on St. Patty's Day Corned Beef and Cabbage. Eileen mentioned a few years ago the women had a Pampered Chef fundraiser and said that Janice Whitlow sells Pampered Chef. Rosie will look into this further.

Old Business: Getting name tags for everyone

New Business: Re-view counting process and ways to improve. Need to look at moving from LCMC

and being an independent Lutheran Church. Pastor made a motion to add Rosie Freeman along with Bob Pressler and Sharon Peterson to the bank account (add signature). Also have Rosie have a bank card. Council approved.

Next meeting March 4, 2020 at 4:00 pm

Meeting was closed with Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted

Sharon Peterson, Secretary

Things have changed dramatically since our March newsletter due to the Coronavirus Pandemic! We have changed from group worship on Sunday mornings to online worship on our Facebook page. This has resulted in several members asking for additional information about the best way to continue their tithes and offerings during this time they are worshipping at home.

Tithing/offering is an important part of our worship life. By tithing/offering, we give ourselves a regular reminder that we should depend on God. In good times, tithing helps us remember the source of all our blessings and in bad, it helps to remember God's faithfulness and trust in the Lord for all our needs.



Here are several methods we could easily use to continue to make our offerings on a regular basis:

- 1-Of course, you could continue to send checks **not to our worship address but to our mailing address below.**
- 2-You could send your tithe digitally by using the Venmo app, a free app for your cell phone. Venmo works by linking with your bank account and/or a credit or debit card. Transactions made with either your bank account, debit card, or with your Venmo balance are free, while a standard 3 percent fee is added to credit card transactions.
- 3-You could contribute by using something as simple as Bill Pay, available through your bank. This easy method allows us to send our offerings if we are worshipping at home, on vacation, or just forgot to bring our checkbook to church with us! Here is the easy and free process :

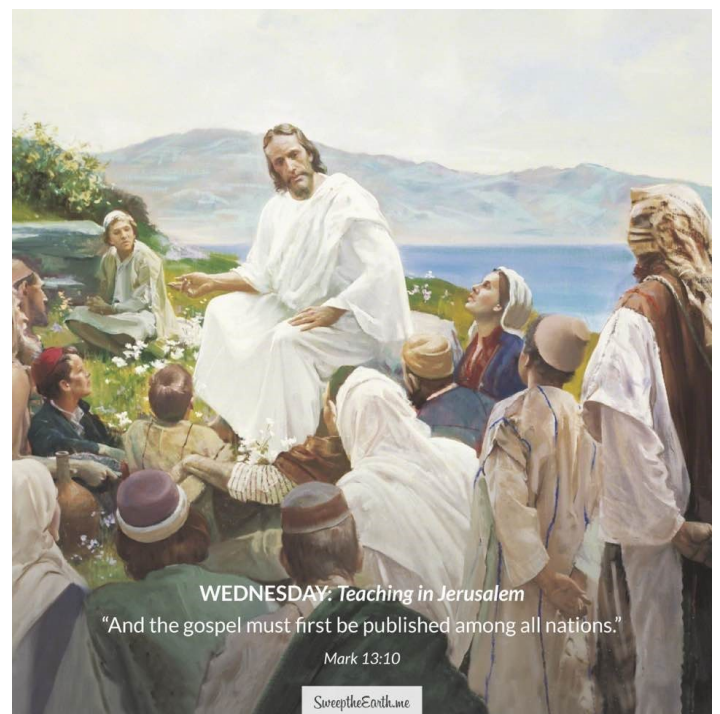
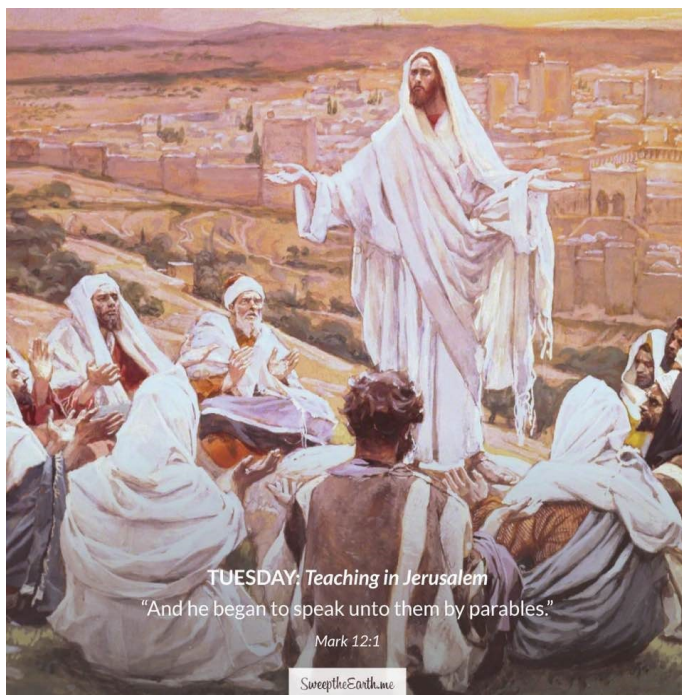
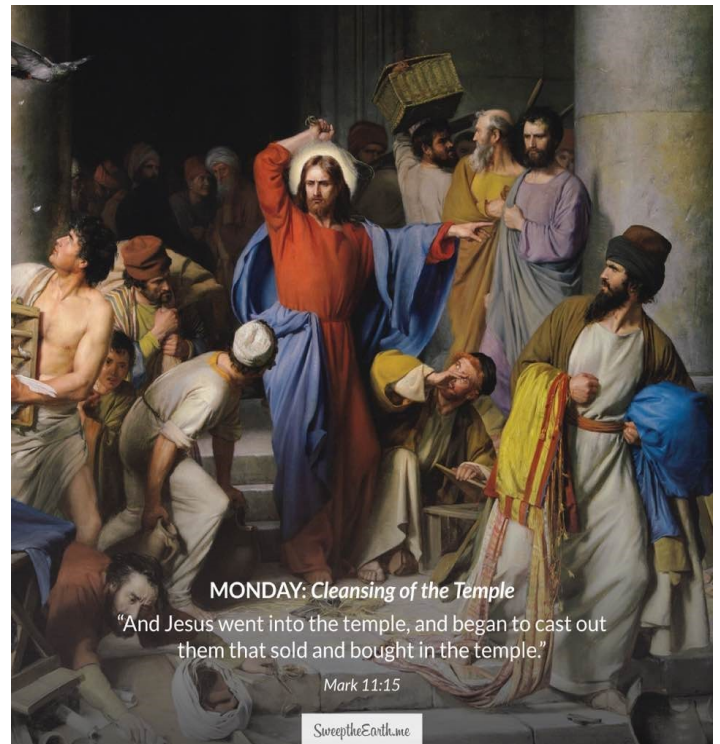
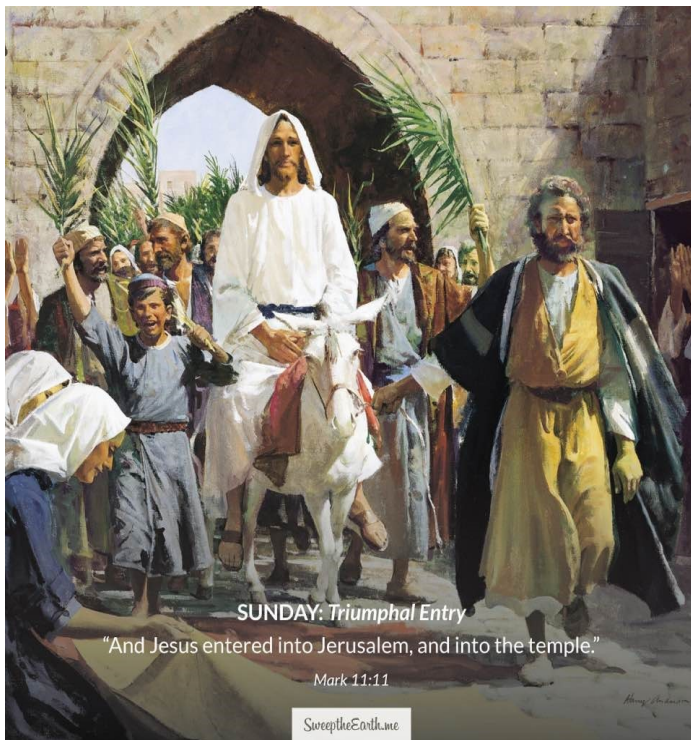
- ◆ Contact your bank (either in person or via their website) to set up bill pay services
- ◆ During the bill pay set up, your bank will ask for the address and perhaps the telephone number of the church.

It is important to use only our mailing address for all donations:

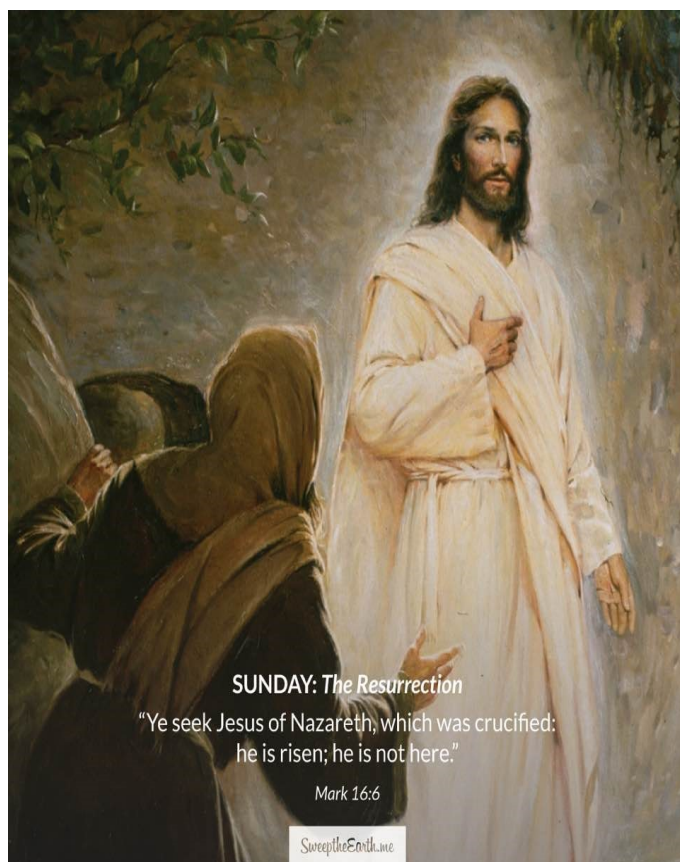
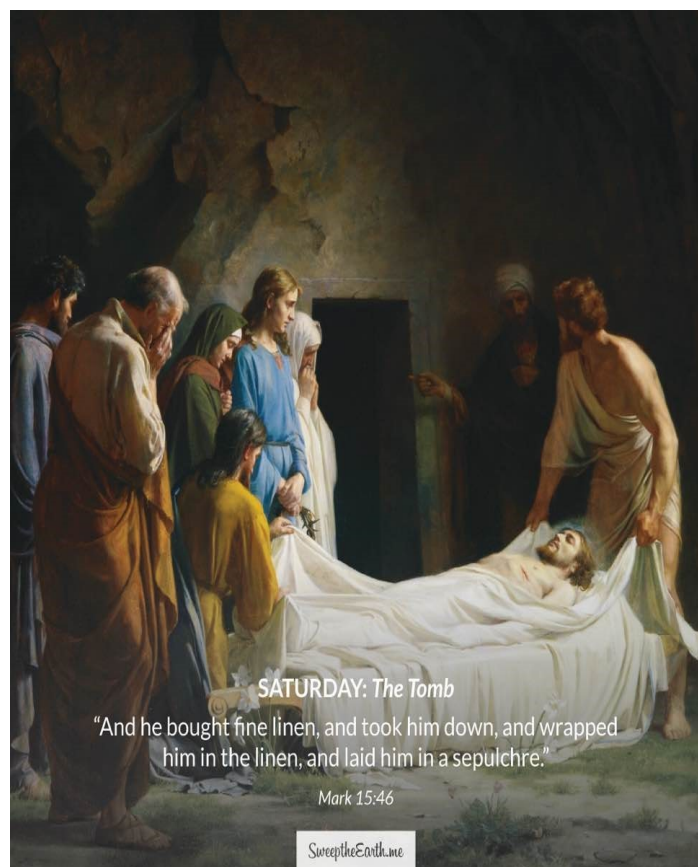
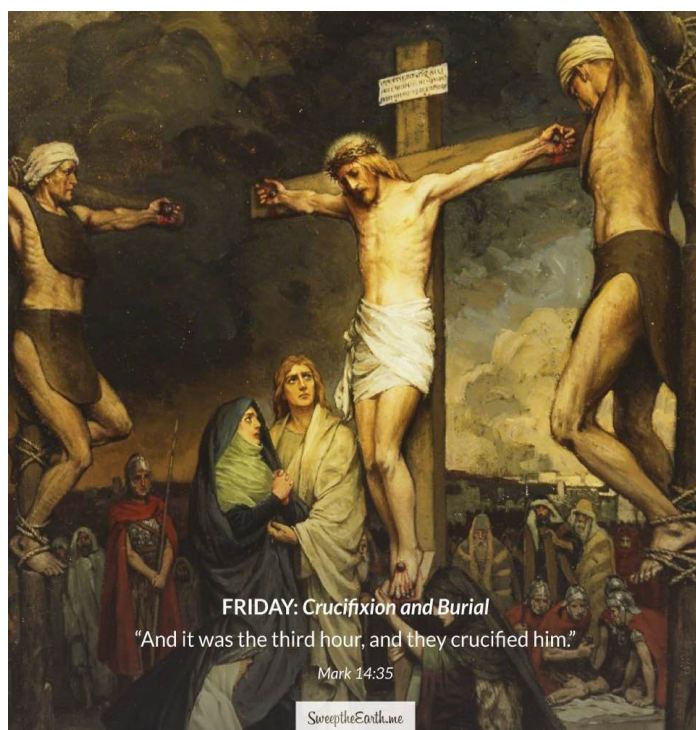
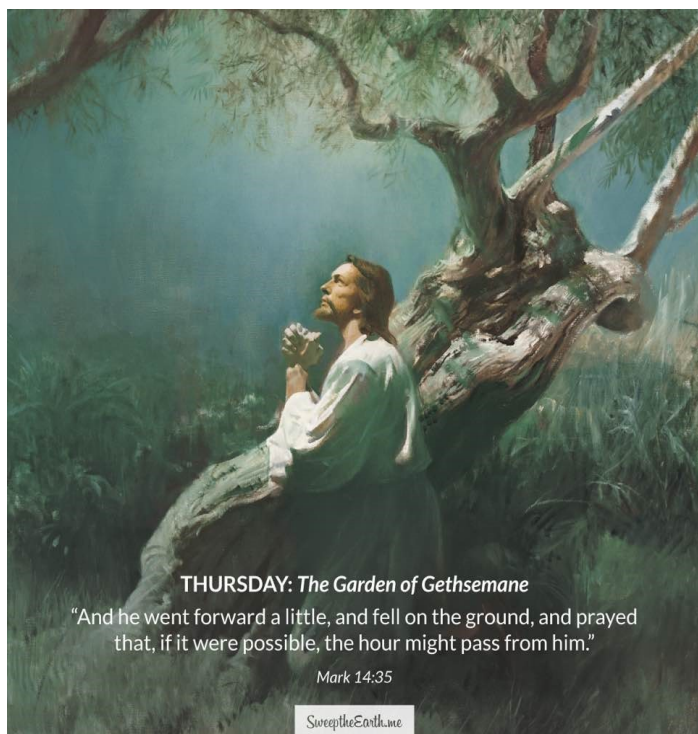
Living Word Lutheran Church
3880 Stockton Hill Rd. 103-300, Kingman, Arizona 86409
928-753-5952

- ◆ Make your contributions. The bill payment service will send your check directly to our Living Word mailing address and even pay the postage!

EVENTS OF HOLY WEEK



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Kingman, Arizona 86409
Phone: 928-753-5952

We're on the web!

www.livingwordkingman.com

Facebook Living Word

Vision Statement

Our vision is to be a welcoming, scripturally based community intentionally serving Christ through missions.

Mission Statement

Living and growing in faith together as a spirit filled church with the

Word of God as our foundation and reaching out through missions showing the

Love of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, to

Create a hunger in others to embrace the Word of God, salvation through Jesus Christ and guidance of the Holy Spirit.

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(See John 20:1-18)

03-29-2002

I WANT YOU TO FOLD UP MY BURIAL CLOTHES,
WAIT FOR MARY, AND REMEMBER THAT THIS IS
SERIOUS ... NO HIDING AND YELLING "BOO"

