

Dear Tres Dias of Central Arizona Community,

Your Secretariat met last Tuesday, January 5th – our first meeting of the New Year, 2021. We spent some time talking about 2020 and how we were affected by such a tumultuous year. We also talked about how we could reach out to you, our brothers and sisters in the Lord, as we face yet another postponement of our cherished weekends. We came up with the idea of writing a letter to the community, composed by each one of us contributing a few lines describing how 2020 affected our Fourth Day. Here is the compilation of those individual thoughts – we send this to you with our prayers and wishes for a grace filled New Year.

From Karen Turyan - I learned better how to seek the Peace of God through the (Covid year) 2020 (forever to be remembered as that, unless we change our perspectives) by getting out into God's creation. It started with more walks with my dogs and focusing on taking pictures of flowers and creatures and anything that looked like it might present a good photo op. That transitioned into going to the Salt River (because of a dear friend's suggestion - I have to admit I never considered that even having been raised here) to capture the beauty of the wild horses and nature. As a result of that my passion for horses resulted in the purchase of my own horse in November. And through that I've reconnected with family, met some wonderful horse AND GOD loving people and continue my photo op quests of God's creation, only now, also on horseback.

From Eric Dreos - To my brothers and sisters of TDCA, I wanted to share my 4th Day in 2020 with you. Though it has been a challenging and somewhat disappointing not being able to get up the hill for weekends and gatherings (Sequels) in person, this time has placed a more concerted focus on Christ and Family. I have seen healing within my family where fractured relationships were the standard. There have been other opportunities to serve closer to home where our time, talent and treasures have been a blessing.

My sincere hope is that all are healthy and safe. We on the Secretariat are continuing to work through how we can safely come together and get back to our weekend's blessing on new Pilgrims and sharing time together as a family. May God keep you safe till we come together soon!!! DeColores!

From Rhonda Kaiser - My 4th day during 2020. There have been many ups and downs during 2020 for me, but during it all God has shown me is that He is always consistent no matter what I am going through. I have also learned to have a greater appreciation of my family, friends, and people in general during my 2020 4th day.

From Kenda Witbeck - My 4th Day Has been on the more positive side. I got married on 2/8/20, right before the Covid 19 hit AZ. Having my husband working from home has definitely made our marriage stronger. My husband and I were positive for Covid-19 in July. He had flu symptoms for 10 days, but I had one day of fatigue. Since that time we have been active with our ministries at our church, Bridgebuilders ministry, prayer groups, and for me Secretariat. I love being with my brothers and sisters at Secretariat, but I do miss the rest of my TDCA family.

From Big Mike Withrow - My 4th Day in 2020 My 2020, like many, was a very strange and different year. It was filled with uncertainty, unrest in the world, a pandemic like we have never seen and lastly, I had to move my wife into a facility because of her dementia. Yet, through it all, it is well with my soul! Even though there was uncertainty in my life, my work and the world in general, my walk is stronger than ever. In a world that, for some, was full of fear and worry, I trusted in God more than ever and my

trust in Him grew daily. My 4th day has been awesome and I have grown in my piety, my study and my action. Through tools, like ZOOM and the telephone, I stayed connected. Our reunion group, The Band Of Brothers, never missed a week...for me, a solid 4TH Day depends on connection to community!

From Al Macklin - How has COVID and 2020 impacted my 4th Day? Wow, what a year! I have to say that I have battled with what or who I hold as King in my life. Is it a political party? Is it my love of country? Is it my freedom? Is it these lives or those lives that matter? Is it to wear a mask or not wear a mask? It seems this year more than any other year has put into perspective my ability to put or lean toward holding a great deal of these things up as counterfeit god's in my life and the lives of others around me. God has shown me more-over this year or should I say re-confirmed in me my need to truly surrender and bend a knee to His Lordship over my life and what that really means. I am not in control of anything other than my emotions and reactions that I have to the environment around me. Psalm 27:1-14 De Colores!

From Jasmine Medina - 2020, can there even be words to explain!

My 4th day in combination with 2020, taught me more of myself than anything else.

Emotions rolled freely since it felt like that was the only thing I could control, until I realized even then, it wasn't my emotions I could control, but more, how I reacted to what was going on. Time became essential, time is what many asked for, or I did in so many ways.

Time for my family, time for myself, time to breathe, and more time to reconnect with my King. I was given that time, ask and you should receive it's said.

This time, HE gave me reconsolidation of broken years of relationships within my immediate family, He rebuilt what no one else could. Time for sincere connections, even from afar. This time, I was given what I had allowed others to take so freely, my inner love for myself, through knowing whose daughter I am!

God showed up in my household, He actually never left, God saved us when all the world was in chaos, I learned to enjoy His presence, while ignoring the outside noise. I learned to hear and not speak!

Ephesians 6:10-17 De Colores!

From James Madison - My 4th day. 2020 was a great year for my family full of Blessings and Lessons! Despite all the distractions and craziness in the world, God continued to show up faithfully and deliver on His promises. He allowed the whole world to shift and break the things off us that we didn't need to serve Him and left us with what we needed or still need to deal with in our hearts.

I personally got closer to God through increased worship time of study, prayer, giving and fasting and I learned to rely on the Holy Spirit for constant direction. Fellowship increased through numerous virtual small groups we actually grew closer online as the Holy Spirit showed up. I was disciplined and disciplined others with more time to focus and be intentional. Opportunities for service increased and I continued to say "Yes & Amen" when God presented them. Witnessing to non-believers about the goodness of our God was easier because the world was in so much fear and darkness.

We are all entering 2021 stronger than ever and excited to continue watching God show up even when we don't see him, He's working!!

The scripture we are standing on, as a family, in 2021 is Phil 4:19 -- *And my God shall supply all your needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.*

From Paul Rogers - How has 2020 affected my 4th day? To start with, 2020 allowed me to become more isolated. Fortunately both my home bible study and reunion group moved on-line during this time. While an on-line/virtual Abrazo is NOT the same, I am still grateful for the connections. I have grown closer to God during this time and look forward with eager anticipation to a time when we can all safely meet physically.

From Suzette Coggins - What a year 2020 has been for each of us! Ric & I began 2020 with a trip to Israel, serving a week in the Israel Defense forces at a base volunteering. COVID struck... the program ended unexpectedly! Off to 5 lovely days in the old city of Jerusalem Jaffa Gate in an 1895 Hotel. Then '40' of us began an 8 day tour of the country learning the Hebrew roots of Christian faith! Sunday March 15, only two groups toured The Temple Mount where we prayed for our country, COVID & the world (NO guards following us to prohibit prayers, scripture reading even praying hands!) The country had emptied out with no new arrivals! Safely back at home, with TP thanks to our kids, we were back to reality! Socially, this has been hard on extroverts like me, a little easier on introverts like my hubby Ric! Personally, thanks to Secretariat and my reunion group I have stayed connected to some TD friends, and definitely looking forward to the future! Praying for peace, calm and the LOVE of Jehovah our GOD for each of you, in Yeshua's name!

From Jim Langdal - How has 2020 affected my Fourth Day? I supported Penny through her breast cancer episode, thankfully all is well and that is now behind us. I stayed busy with numerous building projects around our house, our church and with friends and family. I watched our TDCA community struggle through now 3 postponements of our cherished weekends, and I feel the disappointment along with everyone else. I maintained my participation with church and at least a couple small groups that survived by shifting to virtual formats, but I am also eager to get back to sharing face to face with my friends. 2020 was a wakeup call that life is precious, it can change at a moment's notice, and we need to find our strength and foundation in the One who created us and loves us through all life's ups and downs.

From Kelly Doucette - For me 2020 brought many internal challenges. I found myself very confused and sad at times. As we say in Tres Dias "But God". He – God - kept reminding me that He lives in me and "He has overcome the world". He put a song in my heart that brought me comfort - "I'm coming back to the heart of worship". The next part of that song changed my course, "I'm sorry Lord for the thing I've made it, it's all about You". God kept reminding me to try and understand, rather than to try and be understood. I am reaching out to my brothers and sisters because like all of you I miss our time of worship together. I ask myself why is it so important to participate in community? For me it is out of gratitude for the many blessings this great community of Tres Dias has given to me. I pray that I see you all soon and we can worship together again. Even if has to be on a zoom Sequela for now. Love...Your Brother in Christ

In closing – We pray that these thoughts and comments have helped keep you in touch with our community. Please consider joining us on January 30th for our next Secuela – check out tdcaz.org or look for a NewsBlast. As has been announced, it is a combination "in home small group" meeting as well as a Zoom meeting of all of us together – hopefully combining the best of both worlds in a safe manner. If you, like our Secretariat, have any thoughts about how 2020 affected your Fourth Day,

please email Jim Langdal at azdansk@gmail.com. Perhaps we can take some time at the Secuela and continue our sharing. We pray health, safety and God's richest blessings on you for 2021!

The TDCA Secretariat