



First United Methodist Church

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April 22, 2020

Dear First Church Family,

As I write to you again this week, our building is still closed, but our church is alive and active!

- We have had many positive responses to our **weekly worship services** at www.fumchurch.com, including the weekly bulletin, the worship and the sermon. Every week new people are joining us! This is a great time for you to welcome others to visit us.
- We are still committed to **spiritual growth**! More than 130 of you are engaged in Sunday school classes and small groups via zoom. Staff and ministry partners are connecting in creative ways with parents and students through our children and youth ministries and our Little Friends Preschool.
- With the approval of our Administrative Board, our church has applied for and received a federally funded loan through the **Payroll Protection Plan**. Since we are not holding on site services, our giving is down. This loan bridges the gap in a time of national crisis, when the ministry of our church is now needed more than ever. **Your offerings** by mail to the church office, through the website, or electronically are vitally important. Ellen Hill will be glad to assist you at office@fumchurch.com.
- **This Sunday, April 26**, is Disability Awareness Sunday. Members of our Rejoicing Spirits community will help lead the service, with a message from Pastor John. On **Monday, April 27**, Nancy Rouch will lead a live webinar on www.fumchurch.com from 6:30-8:00 p.m., "Know the 10 Warning Signs of Alzheimer's." Please register on the website.
- **Next Sunday, May 3**, we will kick-off a five week sermon series based on the recent film, "A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood." This series will focus on the large impact we can have by loving our neighbors, inspired by the ministry of Mister Rogers to generations of children through television.
- You continue to support one another in countless ways! If you know someone that does not have computer access to view worship, they can still receive our **Sunday worship services on DVD**. To receive DVDs, the **May edition of the First News First newsletter**, the **May/June issue of the Upper Room**, or a **facemask**, or if you have a **prayer request**, please contact Janice Bowen at wecare@fumchurch.com or the church office at (717) 766-4611.
- Our building will **remain closed at least through May 8**, but we will reopen whenever it is safe for us to do so. We will not be able to immediately return to church as it was before COVID-19, but our leaders and staff are carefully considering what is needed to ensure the health and safety of everyone when we do return. We will keep you informed as plans develop.

Keep looking up, friends. God is faithful!

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Denny

Opening Doors with Christ, One Another and Our Neighbors