

First United Methodist Church 135 West Simpson Street Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania 17055 (717) 766-4611 www.fumchurch.com office@fumchurch.com

April 29, 2020

Dear First Church Family,

Last week Governor Tom Wolf announced that beginning May 8 some counties and regions within our Commonwealth may soon be ready to ease some restrictions. While we do not know when we can reopen the church building, our leaders and staff are already planning ahead. We will take one step at a time, ensuring your health and safety. We will keep you informed as plans develop.

In the meantime, we continue to **worship together** each Sunday (<u>www.fumchurch.com</u>). **This Sunday**, **May 3**, we will kick-off a five week sermon series based on themes from the recent film, "A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood." Mister Rogers taught generations of children that they are loved and invited us all to follow the example of Jesus. In this series we will focus on the large impact we can have by loving our neighbors.

I'm grateful for **your generous financial support** of our church's ministry. Your gifts through the mail, the church website, or electronically, are making a big difference in a time when people need the good news of Jesus Christ more than ever before. If you need assistance in your giving, please contact our Office Manager, Ellen Hill (office@funchurch.com).

Thank you for **your donations of food** for families in our community. More than 10,000 pounds of food has been collected over the past six weeks by our community churches. While the weekly collections at Mechanicsburg Brethren in Christ will end April 29, we still welcome you to donate to the Little Free Pantry at the end of our parking lot. Please contact our Director of Outreach, Lori Hoffnagle, (<u>outreach@fumchurch.com</u>) for additional **Service Opportunities**.

Many of you are still engaged in **spiritual growth**, meeting for Sunday school and Bible studies via Zoom. To participate in a group, or to arrange for your class or group to meet online, please contact our Director of Discipleship, Tina Eaton (<u>adultministry@fumchurch.com</u>).

Parents and students are also staying connected through **youth and children's activities**. Contact our Co-Directors of Children's Ministry, Dawn Fisher and Anna Harris (<u>kidscount@fumchurch.com</u>), or our Youth Pastor, Lisa Aronson (<u>uthrock@fumchurch.com</u>), for more information.

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 our Director of Congregational Care, Janice Bowen (<u>wecare@fumchurch.com</u>) or the church office at (717) 766-4611.

Friends, while we continue to stay safely at home, I want to remind you that this is a temporary time of crisis. Together, we will get through it. God will provide everything we need. We look to the future with hope because God is faithful!

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Denny

Opening Doors with Christ, One Another and Our Neighbors