



**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
129 Chestnut Street \* Toms River, New Jersey 08753-5306  
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March 25, 2020

Dear First Church Family,

I am hoping this email message finds you well in the midst of social distancing. As the people of God, we can truly be grateful that **GOD IS WITH US** no matter what our societal leaders tell us about self-quarantining.

Can the church say, "Amen?"  
I can hear you!

In this weekly email update let me share a few important items with you....

- 1. We were able to provide 44 Easter Baskets to the Hope Center.** This is great news because even more children will have something to open on Easter...Many thanks to Kathy Newsome for organizing this ministry and all of you who participated. God is good!
- 2. We also want to Reach Out** to our members who may have some **Grocery Needs**. If you are aware of any from our church family in need of groceries, please do one of two things: a) Find out what they need, buy it at the supermarket and deliver it to them. Or, if you know of more than you can handle by yourself - b) contact me at [ed@fumctr.com](mailto:ed@fumctr.com) and let me know. I will do my best to coordinate some grocery delivery. If you do buy groceries for someone, the Pastors' Discretionary Fund can reimburse you up to \$30. Just turn in your receipts to me and tell me for whom you purchased the groceries.
- 3. It is important that Everyone** is getting the information on these **Weekly Emails**. If you know of anyone who has an email address and is not getting the emails, please let us know at [office@fumctr.com](mailto:office@fumctr.com) - If you know of someone without an email address, please take on the ministry of passing all the information to them.
- 4. Please make sure that your Forward our Online Worship** to as many people as possible. I have already heard from folks in Canada who have received some comfort as they worshipped online with us. **God's word was meant to be Shared!** Forward at will! ALSO - if you watch the video on *Facebook*, please **Press the Like Button** - that way, you will get a notification anytime we post a video.
- 5. Thank you so much to those of you who have been Mailing your Offering** as well as using the **Electronic Giving** option on our website. Please keep in mind, that even though our in-person gatherings are not presently meeting there are still significant bills to pay and ministries to provide. I am receiving calls every day for all kinds of assistance and help. Your consistent giving to the **Ministry and Mission Line** on your offering envelope as well as any special gifts you can give at this time can help us dramatically through these next months. I realize that times are financially uncertain for all of us and I am grateful for your faithfulness through First Church. **It always inspires me.**

God will deliver us from this situation.  
God ALWAYS does!

If you need me, contact me anytime  
Much Love,

*Pastor Ed*  
[ed@fumctr.com](mailto:ed@fumctr.com)

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