



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
129 Chestnut Street * Toms River, New Jersey 08753-5306
Phone 732-349-8155 ~ www.fumctr.com
*Prayer Chain: office@fumctr.com

*“All of them were filled
with the Holy Spirit...”*
~ Acts 2:4

May 26, 2020

Dear First Church,
This Sunday is Pentecost. It is the day when we remember the Holy Spirit's arrival in a unique and unexpected way. In this Covid-19 world, I encourage you to be on the lookout for the unexpected presence of God!

Here's your weekly update...

- 1 Due to the numerous safety concerns connected with public gatherings and the Governor's executive order limiting group sizes, the facilities of First Church will remain closed through the month of June. Please remember that our church is not closed...just the building. We are still doing ministry, preaching the word, bringing comfort and helping the struggling. The 2020 version just looks a little different!
2. In a few weeks, the church council will have a few Zoom meetings to establish a practical policy regarding re-opening the facilities for public worship. We need to prepare now so that whenever it is safe to open, we will be ready. This policy will not set a date to re-open. I will be sharing the dates for the meetings next week.
3. *Do you know anyone who has a pressing need?* Make sure you contact me or Pastor Wes at any time if you or someone you know has a need to connect. We are doing our best to stay in touch with as many as possible, but sometimes need to hear from YOU about the needs of others that may not have yet reached our ears.
4. While some have not felt the financial impact profoundly to this point, we know many are struggling to make ends meet. Perhaps the loss of a job and all the security that comes with it, or the emotional pain from feeling lonely has only amplified the situation. Certainly, the needs are great. We, as a church, want to be able to minister to people who are in need. Often, one of the very first places people reach out to is the local church. Government and other charities can be difficult to get in touch with and are even quite slow in delivering on many of the promises they make. But First Church is part of the greater Toms River Community and we want to bring help with the love of Jesus. Your regular giving to the *Ministry and Mission* line on your envelopes (or the *Ministry and Mission* check-box online) makes First Church's outreach possible, both in the neighborhood and the world.

Thank you for your faithfulness. God is using you every day!

Electronic Giving Address: www.fumctr.com/donate

To Mail Your Offering (*thank you for the gift of a stamp!*)
ATTN: Financial Secretary, First UMC
129 Chestnut Street, Toms River, NJ 08753

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Love you a lot,
Pastor Ed
ed@fumctr.com
(c) 609-617-5182