



## FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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*July 7, 2020 – Office Hours 10-12:30 M-F (Closed Thursday)*

Dear First Church,

The active, Christian life is an amazing journey! It allows us to possess hope and share that same hope with everyone we encounter. God has created us to be “Hope Cultivators” who plant seeds of his hope into the lives of people. So, even in this crazy time in history, please look for ways to cultivate hope every day. That is exactly why we are here!

Here’s your weekly update...

“..Go out to the roads and  
country lanes and convince them  
to come in, so that my house will  
be full.”  
~Luke 14:23

1. The church council approved re-opening policy for public worship is posted online. Even though we do not have a re-opening date, please take a peek at the policy and prepare for a new way to gather, so when we do re-open you will be prepared. Pastor Wes and I are busy considering all the details that will be required for re-opening the facilities (they are countless!) and will be reaching out to church members and constituents for assistance with those details as we assemble a list of needs (which is much more involved than our general policy). Thank you for your patience and your prayers.

2. Please note that the church office schedule has been adjusted - the office will now be ***closed on Thursdays*** (it is open on Mon, Tues, Wed & Fri from 10-12:30pm)

3. Please continue to forward our videos to everyone you know. We are ministering to many persons who have not previously had a connection to First Church. This is a great blessing. So, press “forward” and make the blessing ever greater! Thank you for letting us know about those from our church family in need. Pastor Wes and I are happy to follow up with any information you pass onto us!

4. One of God’s mysteries is the love and salvation he gifts to us by grace. And in exchange, we are only asked to be trustworthy. What does God put at our disposal with that gift? Well, the whole of creation is ours to use and look after. God’s provision is enough to meet our needs and more – and all he asks is that we honor and care for it and use it in ways that serve others. So how can we not say, “yes” to being faithful to God’s gracious gift? I want to *thank you* for saying “YES!” to the ministry of First Church as you share your time, talent and financial resources so that others know the same hope we have!

I still love you,

*Pastor Ed*

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ATTN: Financial Secretary, First UMC

129 Chestnut Street, Toms River, NJ 08753

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