



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

129 Chestnut Street * Toms River, New Jersey 08753-5306

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*Prayer Chain: office@fumctr.com

August 4, 2020 – Office Hours 10-12:30 M-F (Closed Thursday)

Hi Everybody!

I am so grateful for all your prayers, cards and phone calls while I was in the hospital for a couple days last week. I haven't been able to return all your calls yet (so sorry) but will try to do so soon. There are still various tests to go through and I am looking forward to putting this episode behind me. In the meantime, your prayers are a constant blessing.

Thank you!

Here's your weekly update...

“..Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these”

~Matthew 19:14



1. I said in the last update (7/21) that we hoped to open for worship in the fall. That is still my hope, however on Monday, Governor Murphy reduced the allowable size for indoor gatherings to 25 persons due to the uptick of the virus. Please be praying for God's guidance as we move toward this goal.

2 In the meantime, please review the online reopening policy so that you will be well-prepared when the time to open public worship arrives. Remember, First Church IS NOT CLOSED! We are simply doing ministry in a different way in the midst of a crisis. Thank you for your patience and your prayers.

3. We are in need of volunteers to staff all the necessary public worship duties that arise in a pandemic. Please contact me at ed@fumctr.com if you would like to be a part of a training that will take place in early September (date will be announced in next week's update). We will need ushers (more than usual), temperature takers, door openers, bathroom attendants, parking lot coordinators, etc. Please read the reopening policy online and see what responsibilities you would like to adopt as your ministry – then, let me know through the email above or by leaving a message at the church office. Thank you.

4. Thank you for always 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!

5. Your weekly and monthly gifts allow us to preach the gospel, make disciples, and support others in our community who need help. Even in the pandemic we are doing ministry that, I believe, is changing lives. We're present for our church family and our greater community and it's all thanks to contributors like you. We earnestly appreciate your ongoing support and want to let you know we're here for you. If there's ever anything we can do for you and your family (or you know of someone else who needs help), reach out and let us know. You are a valued member of our church family. And your financial support is making a difference.

I love you,

Pastor Ed

ed@fumctr.com

(c) 609-617-5182

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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