



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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*Prayer Chain: office@fumctr.com

August 18, 2020 – Office Hours 10-12:30 M-F (Closed Thursday)

Hi Everybody!

I don't know about you, but as we continue in our new normal, I find it very easy to feel sorry for myself. I am frustrated by what I cannot do, or where I cannot go, or who I cannot see...all I can see are limitations. Boo Hoo...poor me.

But in Jesus, I am reminded that I have everything I need. Peace, Hope and a vision for the future. The more I focus on what I have, the more joy I experience. I hope you will too!

Here's your weekly update...

“..Yet, when planted,
it grows and becomes the
largest of all garden
plants.”

~Mark 4:14



1. Re-Opening Training will be held at the church facility on **Tuesday, September 8th at 4pm and 6:30pm** (you only need to attend one of them – please wear your mask and socially distance).

As you know, 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. 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. **We need YOUR HELP to re-open!**

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. I said in the last update (8/4) that we hoped to open for worship in the fall. That is still my hope, however the Governor presently mandates that the allowable size for indoor gatherings is 25 persons due to the uptick of the virus. Please be praying for God's guidance as we move toward this goal.

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. You have always been so supportive of your church family - generously giving of your time, wisdom, experience, presence, passion, and financial resources to sustain and grow our work and ministries. As we continue bravely on through uncharted territory, it is my most sincere hope and prayer that First Church can count on your ongoing support.

Thank you with all my heart,

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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