



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

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*Prayer Chain: office@fumctr.com

August 25, 2020 – Office Hours 10-12:30 M-F (Closed Thursday)

Hi Friends!

Today, I hope this update finds you well and at peace – even if your “cabin fever” is in overdrive. For the first time in my life I think I can say - with few exceptions – “*I know exactly how you feel!*”

Thank goodness we don’t have to wait for a once in a lifetime event with God. He knows exactly how we feel every day. How do I know? Well, “*Surely he has born our griefs and carried our sorrows...*” (Isa 53:4) – Spend some time with God this week. He really does know!

Here’s your weekly update...

“.....No, new wine
must be poured into
new wineskins...”

~*Luke 5:38*



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). *Please go to the building at which you’d like to help!* Thank you ☺

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. **We Still Need MORE HELP to re-open!** Thank you ☺

2 Remember, First Church IS NOT CLOSED! So, in the meantime, please review the online reopening policy so that you will be well-prepared when the time to open public worship arrives. 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 still hoping to open for worship in the fall.. **When we do, it does look like we will have to take reservations** for those attending (because of space issues). Please be praying for God’s guidance as we move toward this goal. When a re-opening date is set, it will be announced in this weekly update.

4. Thank you so very much for your faithful support over these last months. As you might expect, our giving is down from last year but God is making a way for ministry and he is using you! I am so grateful for the faithfulness of God’s people!! That being said - we find ourselves at the end of August, when giving tends to slow down. So, please continue regularly to give your offerings, tithes and, if the Lord is leading you, other special gifts to the ministry of your church family. We can make it through this crisis if we continue to be committed to Jesus and his church!

Peace,

Pastor Ed (cell: 609-617-5182)

August Birthdays this Week:

Manny Pinto (22); Lee Lim (23)
Christine Ientile (27); Janice
Lattig (29); Judy Frick (31)

August Anniversaries:

Don & Nancy Kaulback (24);
George & Adrienne Melnyk (25);
John & Lynn DeVoe (28);
Pete & Edie Rich (28)

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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-click the update button and scroll down