

From the Pastor - *"Make Things Right"*

Dear Church,

Although this Easter was a new and different experience, and although you most likely were not able to gather with your family as you might have, I hope that you had a happy Easter and found new ways to be close and connected.



As I have stated before, I am not a big fan of the use of the phrase social distancing. In my mind that phrase is not what we are being asked to do in order to flatten the curve - reduce additional infection of Covid19. It is important that we continue to be *physically* distant from one another to achieve that goal, but we do not need to be socially distant from one another. To be social means to be part of a community, connected with one another, and belonging to each other. That is who we are as people who live in covenant with God and one another. And technology, now more than ever, helps us to keep that connection. Our covenant in church membership says:

"We welcome [one another] with joy in the common life of this church. We promise each other friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of the risen Savior." (Book of Worship United Church of Christ, p.163.)

As followers of Jesus, we are called out to work together, to share the message and impact of God's love for and with our communities and the world. The covenant of being the church is like that of a married couple, we don't give up on each other, we seek to stay at the table even when things get tough or disagreements surface. In the church, love must win. That means that we must be willing to reconcile with one another when there are disputes.

The Gospel of Matthew reminds us of Jesus' call to us when he said,

"This is how I want you to conduct yourself in these matters. If you enter your place of worship and, about to make an offering, you suddenly remember a grudge a friend has against you, abandon your offering, leave immediately, go to this friend and make things right. Then and only then, come back and work things out with God." (Matthew 5.23-26 *The Message*)

In these days of staying at home perhaps there are times when things get touchy or frustrating, not only with those who may be with you at home, but even if you live alone emails and texts can get hot and irritation can work its way in. As followers of Jesus our way of dealing with this is to be reconciled, forgive one another, own your behavior and ask for forgiveness, hold fast to being in relationship as children of God, members of the church - the Body of Christ.

Journey well, be safe, and keep washing your hands!

Blessings!



Sunday, April 19, 2020

Second Sunday of Easter

Phone-in (audio only) at 10:30a on Sundays by dialing either: 1 929 205 6099 or 1 312 626 6799 and then follow the prompts. The meeting ID is: 952 499 133 The participant ID is: #

[Click here](#) to Login and to print the bulletin.



Virtual Zoom Bible Study

Starting Thursday, April 26th - *Psalms of Lament*

Thursdays at 7:00p to 8:00p

Sign up here: Pastor@StJohnChurch.net

Pastoral Care and Vital Assistance

If you need prayer, spiritual direction, or assistance with essential needs contact the pastor. All contacts are by phone, text, or email.

The Rev. Keith M. Haithcock, Pastor & Teacher

Email: Pastor@StJohnChurch.net; Office: 859.261.2066, ext.202; Cell/Text: 859.466.7572

Some Ways to Stay Connected:

- Call a friend and share what you are experiencing.
- Have a conversation that does not include talking about Covid19.
- Write a note to someone without email and let them know you're thinking of them.
- Join the virtual Zoom Bible Study that's forming. Sign up here: Pastor@StJohnChurch.net
- FaceTime 8a Wednesday Morning Prayer. Sign up here: Pastor@StJohnChurch.net
- Share a prayer concern for the Prayer List: PrayerList@StJohnChurch.net

Continue to Support St. John Church

[Click here](#) to donate on-line or mail a check payable to St. John United Church of Christ, 520 -Fairfield Ave., Bellevue, KY 41073. Your continued support is vital to the mission.

Information - Pass It On

If you know of someone who does not have electronic connection, please let the office know so we may US Mail a copy of The e-Weekly to them. Thank you for your help in this effort.

Keith M. Haithcock
Pastor & Teacher

(Typical Office Hours:
Tues. & Wed. 9:00a to 4:00p)

-Always available by
appointment-

Pastor@StJohnChurch.net
859.261.2066 ext. 202

Linda Schuster

All in-person gatherings are suspended through the month of May.

Jeff Draper, Strategic Leadership Council President
Cell/Text: 425.905.0827

Let's flatten the curve!

- Wash your hands.
- Cover your cough/sneeze into elbow bend or Kleenex.
- Stay 6 feet away from each other.
- Sanitize surfaces (counter tops, phones, computer keyboards, etc.)



Administrative Assistant
to the Pastor

Typical Office Hours:
Tues. & Wed. 9:00a to 4:00p
Office@StJohnChurch.net
859.261.2066 ext. 201

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[April 2020 Calendar -
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Prayer of the Week

Wonderful Creator, you have populated your world with so many creatures, and we human beings are but one example of your handiwork. Help us to see your majesty in all your animals, from the roaring lion, to the courageous kitten. Amen. -from *OMG Devotionals for teens and young adults*

Rummage Sale to be Re-Scheduled

The annual rummage sale will be re-scheduled for a later date when we can safely return to the building. Save your donations as we look forward to a new date. Contact Dale Clark by phone (513) 673-4260 if needed.

Tentative 2020 Annual Congregational Meeting

Mark your calendars now!
Sunday, May 31, 2020 following worship



St. John
**United Church
of Christ**

The e-Weekly Deadline reminder

Blurbs for The e-Weekly should be submitted to eweekly@StJohnChurch.net and are always due on Monday to be included for the following week.



St. John United Church of Christ Bellevue | 520 Fairfield Avenue | Bellevue | KY | 41073