



Faith United Methodist Church

Rev. C. Victor Waters

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To Faith United Methodist Church Members:

It has been a long two months with everyone practicing the “shelter in place”. We are getting to know terms that we didn’t know existed before and our lives have been changed, and will continue to change going forward in the next several months. This may be the new normal for us in the future, time will tell us for sure. We are happy to announce we are planning on gathering as a church family on **Sunday, June 14, 2020 at 9:30AM** for an indoor church service. This will be the last Sunday Pastor Victor will be leading our church service. Pastor Victor and Patrice will be on a well deserved vacation for the next 2 weeks. Rev. Bob Hunter is available during this time if you are in need of a pastoral call. His phone number is listed in the church directory if you have one, or you can contact the church office for his number.

We can’t say ‘Thank You’ enough for all those individuals who called different members to check in on them and to see if there was anything that they may need. We would like to say a special 'Thank You' to Pastor Victor and Patrice for their telephone calls and notes of encouragement to each member of the church. Also a 'Thank You' to those who did things that we don’t know about but wanted to make sure we stayed connected to each other. Finally, an enormous 'Thank You' to our members for their continued faithful financial support for the ministries of our congregation.

When we meet as a church family, you will notice there will be several changes in place for a period of time. We want to err on the side of safety for all our church members and visitors. We also need to remember part of the new normal is social distancing and we will need to practice that while we are at church. Some of the changes you will see are as follows:

- **It will be mandatory that everyone is to wear a face mask while inside the church at all times, unless you have a medical reason not to. This recommendation is from our Church Conference and we MUST abide by their directive. We will have extra masks available if you do not have one.**
- We will be asking everyone not to congregate in the narthex like we have done in the past, but going directly to the sanctuary. There will be ushers in the back and the front of the sanctuary who will direct you where to sit.
- There will be hand sanitizer available to everyone before entering the sanctuary.
- There will be no Greeters because we need to keep 6 feet social distancing. There may be someone greeting you from a distance.
- When entering the sanctuary, there will be a table with the church bulletins on it and we will be asking you to take your own bulletin.
- Remember to keep social distancing while sitting in the pews. People will be sitting in the odd numbered pews by the windows. The pews by the inter-wall will be the even numbered seating. On both sides every other pew will be empty. We will have the

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pews numbered to which pews individuals can sit. This should allow us to be 6 feet apart.

- There will be no singing of hymns during the service. The reason for this is because when singing, your voice releases moisture in the atmosphere that can carry up to 12 - 15 feet from your mouth.
- Passing of the Peace will be omitted for a period of time.
- Communion will be cancelled until we are able to purchase individual, pre-filled communion cups.
- There will be a children's time but the children will remain in the pews and there will be no Sunday school because of social distancing.
- Announcements and Prayer Requests: Any announcements or prayer requests that you want shared at Sunday service should be emailed to faithwaseca@gmail.com by Thursday. If you do not have access to email you may call the church office at 835-3167. We will not be passing the microphone around during the service for announcements and prayer requests for a period of time.
- Sermon: We will be asking Pastor Victor to stay at the pulpit to give his sermon.
- Offering: There will be an offering plate by each door to place your offering, or you can still mail in your offering to the church.
- After the worship service, Pastor Victor will not be shaking individual's hands or greeting you as you leave worship.
- The ushers will be dismissing you by rows starting at the back of the sanctuary and moving to the front portion of the sanctuary. We will be asking you to pick up your items that you brought and leave the church immediately after you have been released (no gathering in the narthex).
- There will be no fellowship time for the balance of the month of June, and maybe longer.
- If you are not able to attend church for any reason, we will still provide the bulletins and the sermon online.

We know that this is a change for all of us as to how we worship, but we want to err on the side of safety for everyone. We will be implementing these elements back into the worship service when we feel comfortable in doing so.

We would love to see everyone again at church, coming together to celebrate being together again. We will still be asking everyone, if you are not feeling well on Sunday, if coughing, sneezing, or have any other health conditions, to please stay at home until you feel better and listen to the sermon online. The bulletins are also available online. We want everyone to stay healthy and to come when you can enjoy your time at worship with everyone.

We thank you for your understanding during this period of time that we are going through. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the following individuals:

Dave Baldini – 835-3697 or dsbaldini@gmail.com

Jarod True – 833-3103 or jarodtrue@hotmail.com

Please take care and God bless. We will see each other soon. We wish you and your family good health and together we will get through this crisis.