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Worship Online

Anytime at

www.christumcnb.org



CHURCH

Church is a funny word. When you think of the word "church" for some it means a building, for others it means the group of believers, and for others still it's the clergy who work inside. Merriam Webster isn't helpful in clarifying the various definitions, it simply lists them all. Did you know that there are two different Greek words translated as church: ekklesia and koinonia. These turn up A LOT in the New Testament. BUT, never once do they mean a building, not a physical building. In 1 Peter, Peter describes Christians as being built into a building.

The first churches were held in homes. They were gatherings of people around a table where they would remember Jesus' teachings, have communion, train people in the faith, and encourage one another. At some point this month we will return to having IN-PERSON worship. But it is my sincere hope that we do not think that this is a return to "Church."

We never stopped having church. We never ceased to be the church. We might not have been able to gather in our sanctuary, but we still worshipped, and were still the church. We will be phasing worship back in, so worship will not look like it has always looked—at least for a while. We will continue to offer livestream or recorded options of worship as well, because we know some may not be able to, or feel comfortable returning to the building yet.

In the mean time, and even as we slowly return to whatever the new normal is—why not be the church as it was in the early centuries of the church—in homes. Invite friends, neighbors, and/or fellow church members to worship with you via live stream. Enjoy a time of encouraging fellowship together and remember Jesus together.

Amazed by Grace, *Pastor Bridget*

RAISE UP IN FAITH

Renewal Leave

Renew literally means to make new again. Pastor Bridget has requested to take a two-month renewal leave. Operations Team has agreed. She was awarded a grant from the Florida United Methodist Foundation to cover the costs associated with this so it comes with no financial burden to the church. Her renewal leave will be August through September. While she is out Pastor Eileen Sloth will be the Pastor in charge. Pastor Carmen, Pastor Eileen, and some members of the congregation will all be working to fill the pulpit in this time. Pastor Bridget is very grateful for all who will be stepping into her various roles within the church. This has been a challenging year because of COVID, and the rest and renewal are greatly needed. During this time she will be focusing on renewing spiritually, working on her own spiritual development and spending time with her family. We look forward to having her back refreshed and renewed.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

9:15 am Sundays

Via conference call

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Dial: 717-275-8940
- Access Code: 655 4436

SUMMER BIBLE STUDY

Mondays

10 am or 6:30 pm

A new study on Ephesians began June 22. There is no homework and all are welcome to participate.

We are currently meeting through conference call.

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Dial: 717-275-8940
- Access Code: 655 4436

STAY CONNECTED—EVEN NOW!

You can access the latest contact information of your church family from your smart phone or your home computer. Visit <https://www.instantchurchdirectory.com/> on your computer. Go to the app store, either Play Store or Apple Store and download the Instant Church Directory application. Once it has loaded you will sign in using the email address you gave the church to put in the directory for you.

The church office also sends email blasts at least weekly with bulletin and news.

The church makes OneCallTellAll phone messages with urgent congregation wide news and important messages.

We just need your correct email address and phone number, and your permission, to connect you in all these ways. We would also like a digital picture for the church directory. Email or call the church office to get started, christumcnb@gmail.com (904) 249-5370

Dear Church Family,

For Christians, the experience of worship is vital to our relationship with God. Although worship can be a lifestyle and not just something we do at a specific time, we recognize that gathering to worship as the body of Christ is most meaningful. The recent restriction from in-person worship has been challenging and unprecedented.

We know that many of you are concerned about going out amongst others; but there are just as many who are eager to return to worship in our own Sanctuary and to see their friends (from six feet away!). We understand that this is a personal decision only you can make. The church leadership is doing everything it can to comply with all applicable guidance to minimize risk

Pastor Bridget and the church leadership commissioned a Task Team to study what needs to be done to safely resume services. The team, chaired by Nancy Russell, has been meeting (with masks and social distancing) to study CDC, State of Florida, and Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church guidelines for resuming in-person services.

- We have not determined a date for reopening yet; but are looking at mid to late July.
- When we reopen our protocol will include the following items.
 - There will be limited seating.
 - Reservations will be made on the church website or by calling the office.
- Attendees will be screened with a no-touch thermometer. Those with temperatures above 99° will not be allowed to enter.
- Masks or face shields must be properly worn at all times. Bring yours, but we will have extra masks in case you forget.
- Ushers/greeters will assist in seating you to meet social distancing requirements. Please do not move once seated.
- Families can be seated together, but groups will be six feet apart.
- The services will be shorter – perhaps 30-45 minutes.
- We will not be singing. Music will be provided in some form.
- There will be boxes at the entrance and exit for your offerings.
- The lavatories will be closed except for emergencies. Plan accordingly!
- Departure after the service concludes will be organized and directed by the ushers to ensure social distancing is met.
- For Communion on first Sundays of the month, the elements will be blessed during the service and available as you leave the Sanctuary, to be consumed as you desire once outside.
- You will see signs urging use of masks, social distancing, and hand washing.

We will keep you posted on further developments and an opening date. We pray that in these uncertain times you will know the peace of God, the joy of faith in Jesus, and the presence of the Holy Spirit.

The Re-Opening Taskforce



Pastor Bridget Thornton



Nancy Russell, chair

Members: Jacquie Berry, Carol Boyd, Mona Ewest, Wanda Lee, Karen Long,
Ann Marie McCurdy, Sonni McEvoy, Sandy Pavlick, Jim Ransom, Bob Strachan

HOSPITALITY AT CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Our church's mission is to be and make disciples of Jesus Christ. We say "The Church has left the building" and we are a friendly church and welcome newcomers into our midst. But can we do more? What can we do on the inside so that those on the outside will be comfortable the moment they arrive?

In the book "The Art of Hospitality" the authors, Debi Nixon and Yvonne Gentile tell a story about a man released from prison, living in a halfway house, who visited their church the first weekend he was released. His only reason was to pick up a bulletin so that he could prove to his parole officer he went to church. But he was greeted by someone at the door who looked him in the eye, shook his hand and genuinely welcomed him. An usher helped him find a seat and introduced him to the man seated next to him. And that man welcomed him. The music started and somehow, he decided to stay and see it through. He had been seen, warmly greeted, he mattered as a person. He met Christ through acts of hospitality, practiced by individuals, sharing their love of Christ.

We too are a welcoming church. We can show it with the 3 Minute Rule. Please spend 3 minutes before church and 3 minutes after church greeting and getting to know people you do not know.* Yes, we are all glad to be back among our friends and have a lot of catching up to do. But the result can be that visitors are ignored and no one speaks to them. Be intentional about greeting and getting to know others.

Be disciples and make disciples!

Cindy Kastner, Relate Coordinator

** However, please maintain social distancing and observe COVID-19 safety protocols at all times, whether inside the buildings and outside spaces.*

SECURITY CORNER

Stay Alert, Stay Alive

Celebrate
THE
FOURTH

ANNIVERSARIES AND BIRTHDAYS FOR JUNE



1 Michael and Karen Kenjosian
12 Bob and Nell Webster
13 Mona and Tony Ewest
19 Richard and Laura Adams
21 Dick and Carolyn Galphin
23 Jerry and Pat Ferguson
31 William (Woody) and Heather Wood



1 Linda Bryan	18 Hanna Thomas
4 Joe Bryan	22 Cindy Kastner
6 Joel McCullough	24 Chris Thompson
6 Seth Buswell	24 Mark Scott
7 Westley Gustafson	25 Brian Walker
8 Jackie Fairbairn	26 Johnna Ware
8 Virginia Sherrill	29 Tanya Roche
10 Gwen Bradley	29 Amanda Oventrop
13 Joyce Bishopp	

THANK YOU SPOT

Thank you for making my birthday special with cards and calls. Dorothy Boutwell



A Special Thanks

The work at church has gone up, not down, during this time of social distancing and stay at home. And a lot of it has been different work that we have not done before. I thank everyone who has helped keep our church connected during this time, making calls, running errands, just being a friend. I thank these people in particular:

Pastor Bridget – for quickly transitioning to distance worship and continuing to provide pastoral care and leadership with a house full of people, including her 2 boys.

Mona – for being the office hub around which everything continued to flow.

Tony – for the extra disinfecting and cleaning

Pastor Carmen and Nancy – for Bible by phone classes

The Mask Makers – for making masks for those in need

Johnna – for getting food and supplies from those donating it to those in need

Becky, Shirley, Edith and Sonni – for staying in touch with and helping people sheltering in place.

We could not have done it without you. We need you and everyone else going forward to help us stay connected as a church.

Cindy Kastner, R Coordinator - Connect

CHILDREN'S PAGE

Prayer:

"Dear God, know my worries and my needs. Help me trust in you. Amen."

Bible Verse:

"Hear me Lord, for I am poor and needy"

Psalm 86:1



TRIVIA:

Courtesy of
Paul Krouse

Years ago we were members of the largest English speaking church in Latin America. What was the name and where was that church?

Balboa Union Church, Panama
Canal Zone, Panama

NEW STUDY SERIES!



NEW SERIES:

Every single one of us has experience pain, loss, embarrassment, humiliation, and suffering. We can either be crushed by those experiences, and we can grow from them...learning to be more resilient and strong.

Starting in July we will begin a new study series that you will not want to miss. Every Thursday (for the remainder of the quarantine), we will meet virtually in our Zoom meeting (see the specifics at the bottom of this article) to learn about what it takes to become Stronger. Stronger in your faith, stronger in your relationships, stronger in your confidence, and stronger emotionally.

This four week series will dive deep into the hurts and pains that we all experience and show us how to come out on the other side of conflict and suffering as a stronger person.

Week 1: Jesus can redeem what's gone wrong.

Week 2: When life doesn't make sense, God can be trusted.

Week 3: When life goes wrong, God gives us each other.

Week 4: When life gets hard, God helps us persevere.

I hope that you will make it a point to join in on the discussion. Invite a friend or two to join us and share in the conversation. The more, the merrier.

SUNDAY SCHOOL:

We will be starting to have a virtual Sunday School meeting on Sunday mornings during the regular time. Miss Witney will lead you through a new series that will prepare you for worship. She will join you via Zoom meetings. Make sure to follow us on Instagram and Facebook for up to date information and details as the time draws nearer.

Youth News

INFORMATION YOU CAN USE

CONFIRMATION:

Even though we have had to postpone our confirmation studies, we will be rescheduling confirmation classes and camp as soon as possible. It is not too late to make sure you are participating. Everyone is encouraged and expected to participate so that you can learn about being an active member of the United Methodist Church. Pastor Bridget will be joining us and leading several classes. She will also be with us during our confirmation camp at Warren Willis. Please direct your questions and concerns to Karen and continue to follow us on social media and on our website for updates.

SUMMER ACTIVITIES:

Just because we are still under meeting size restrictions doesn't mean that we can't participate in summer activities. As soon as we are allowed to meet in person, we will have some meetups for fun! But before that happens, I need to know what you want to do.

Go to our Instagram account to take a poll on the activities you want to do. Here are some options:



Join us every week for fellowship using Zoom every **THURSDAY** at 5:00. The meeting ID is **296 170 8434**.

I can't wait to see you all in person again! Until then; stay safe, stay home, stay strong! Karen





YouVersion



FOLLOW US

July 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>5 9:15 am Sunday School via Conference Call 10:15 am Worship Online</p>	 <p>6 10 am Bible Study via conference call 1 pm Reopening Mtg 6:30 pm Bible Study via conference call</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>1 10 am Preschool Chapel 2 pm Worship Design</p>	<p>2 5:30 pm Youth Group via Zoom</p>	<p>3 Independence Day Holiday Preschool and Office closed</p>	<p>4 Independence Day</p> 
<p>12 9:15 am Sunday School via Conference Call 10:15 am Worship Online</p>	<p>13 10 am Bible Study via conference call 1 pm Reopening Mtg 6:30 pm Bible Study via conference call</p>	<p>14 7 pm R Coordinators Mtg. Wilson Hall</p>	<p>15 10 am Preschool Chapel 2 pm Worship Design</p>	<p>16 10 am Cong. Care Mtg. 5:30 pm Youth Group via Zoom</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19 9:15 am Sunday School via Conference Call 10:15 am Worship Online</p>	<p>20 10 am Bible Study via conference call 1 pm Reopening Mtg 6:30 pm Bible Study via conference call</p>	<p>21 6:15 pm Church Council Mtg</p>	<p>22 10 am Preschool Chapel 2 pm Worship Design</p>	<p>23 5:30 pm Youth Group via Zoom</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26 9:15 am Sunday School via Conference Call 10:15 am Worship Online</p>	<p>27 10 am Bible Study via conference call 1 pm Reopening Mtg 6:30 pm Bible Study via conference call</p>	<p>28 6:15 pm Operations Team Mtg.</p>	<p>29 10 am Preschool Chapel 2 pm Worship Design</p>	<p>30 5:30 pm Youth Group via Zoom</p>	<p>31</p>	