
The InnerNet

JUNE 2020

“WHILE YOU WERE OUT”

In the past, many businesses had the receptionist take a message on a pad that had this saying on the top indicating something important had taken place while you were unavailable.

While we have been out of the building, a few changes have taken place to make our space safer, more hospitable and welcoming to all. The most important one is the change to the restrooms downstairs and by the sanctuary. We have added (or will soon add) baby changing tables to all restrooms which did not have them, and have changed the locks to indicate “Occupied or Empty.” The signage is changed as well, from gender-specific to gender-inclusive; meaning that all persons are welcome to use this restroom, and to lock the door as a single person restroom. These restrooms are really single stall, and this change, “while we were out” is a means to help all our guests feel included and also gives us the ability to have 2 restrooms so there is no “waiting” during worship in these days of Covid 19 physical distancing. Both are available for anyone to use, as they choose.

We are people of welcome and hospitality, it is one of the things we value and what many notice and appreciate as they worship with us for the first or second time, your welcome. This change simply makes us even more welcoming and inclusive of the vast variety of humanity.

In Christ’s love,
Pastor Angela



FINAL ZOOM CASUAL WORSHIP AT 2 P.M. SUNDAY 5.31.20

Thank you to all who attended this Holy Experiment for the month of May. We will be reformatting worship experiences in June and will provide an additional worship opportunity at some point this summer as we move toward re-opening the church to worshippers.

THE WEDNESDAY NOON PRAYER FOR THE COVID 19 PANDEMIC will continue through the end of June. After that, we will suspend the prayer time for July and August and reevaluate the need. Thanks to all who participated.

IN-PERSON GATHERINGS OF 10 OR LESS are permitted by Governor Cooper's Phase 2 plan. Your small group, with appropriate physical distance (6' of space) is welcome to meet in the large educational space (Faith Forum) classroom, beginning June 8. Tables and chairs will be sanitized following each group meeting. Make "reservations" with Sherry (704-542-3626).

Face coverings are recommended, yet we cannot require them for group meetings. It is an individual decision. Remember, it protects you and the others by reducing the possible spread of the virus by asymptomatic persons.

Vulnerable populations (those over 65 and those with pre-existing health conditions) might consider meeting on-line as opposed to in-person.

As a congregation we are working to provide extra cleaning and attention to this area as groups are only permitted to meet in this space for the foreseeable future.

ALTAR FLOWERS

Beginning this Sunday, June 7, Altar Flowers will be placed in the Sanctuary for our Sunday Online YouTube worship services. Donors may pick up their flowers on Sunday afternoon or on Mondays. Thanks to the following for donating the flowers to the glory of God this month.

June 7—Bill and Sandy Larsen, in honor of our family.

June 14 - Rich and Caren Ballantine, in honor of our 45th Wedding Anniversary.

June 21 - The Thom Families, in loving memory of Caelen, whose birthdate was June 24, 2012.

June 28 - Sherry Wooldridge, in honor of Pastor Angela and Brian, Don Huff and Nancy Mersereau.

Offerings through April, 2020



General Fund	Actual	Compared to Budget
Contributions, etc.	\$113,263	\$(2,588)
Expenses & Transfers	<u>100,585</u>	<u>(9,464)</u>
Net Income (loss)	\$12,677	\$6,876

Facilities Reserve (formerly known as Forward from Forty)	Actual
Beginning balance: 1/31/2020	\$65,127
Transfer from General Fund	5,000
Contributions	2,875
Expenses to date	<u>0</u>
Balance at month end	\$73,002

Jim Huddle, Church Treasurer

Your Offerings: You may mail your offering to the church or make an on-line donation. We are continuing to pay salaries, maintain the building, and care for our neighbors. Whether we meet in person or via electronic means, God graciously provides, and asks us to generously share with others in loving response.

STEWARD YOUR NEW COMMUNITY



Like a caterpillar emerging from a cocoon to new life as a butterfly, we can help our congregation and community awaken from Covid-19 to a reality that is deeper, richer and more beautiful.

The last several months have taught us many lessons:

- **Life is precious.** Everyone counts. No exceptions.
- **We suffer together.** Shared pain builds strong bonds.
- **Serving brings fulfillment.** Many people are sacrificing joyfully.
- **We need each other.** Going it alone is no option.
- **We miss each other.** Despite our differences, we crave human interaction.
- **Personal contact is sublime.** Zoom and telephone are great, but nothing beats face-to-face.
- **We are grateful.** Thank God for what we have.
- **We are wiser.** We know what's important.

The worst may be behind us, but much pain lies ahead. Even with a “flattened curve,” the virus will claim many more of our family and neighbors. And many families will suffer economically.

Anticipating tough times, we are wise to recall how poorly we had stewarded our communities before the crisis. The economy was booming, but we had allowed ourselves to splinter along racial, ideological and political lines. Hate and distrust were on the rise. Our churches struggled for unity and purpose.

Chastened by our forced time apart, we now have the insight to re-form in community, smarter and more aware of the blessings that God intends for us. God commands us to love one another. We live most faithfully and joyously in relationship. We aren't supposed to be alone. We need one another. We are stronger together.

Stewarding our communities with prayerful intentionality, we can emerge from our Covid-19 cocoon renewed with joy, purpose and solidarity.

--Rob Blezard

Copyright © 2020, Rev. Robert Blezard. Pastor Blezard serves as an assistant to the bishop of the Lower Susquehanna Synod, ELCA, and works as content editor for www.stewardshipoflife.org. He blogs at www.thestewardshipguy.com.

Dawn Schaeffer is leading a 3 week study of God's Covenants on Zoom. All are welcome to participate and learn together. Help this seminary student from Living Saviour learn about teaching and leading a zoom meeting.

Topic: Wednesday study God's Covenants

Time: Jun 3, 2020 10:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Every week on Wed, 3 occurrence(s)

Jun 3, 2020 10:00 AM

Jun 10, 2020 10:00 AM

Jun 17, 2020 10:00 AM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85023328514?pwd=QVFrSXBKY09qY1dlWFR3TCtYZHhQQT09>

Meeting ID: 850 2332 8514 Password: 904105

JUNE 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Online Zoom Bible Study at 2 pm	3 Online Zoom Book Study at 10 am	4	5	6
7 Worship will be Live Streamed at 10:30 am	8	9 Online Zoom Bible Study at 2 pm	10 Online Zoom Book Study at 10 am Online Zoom Prayer Service at Noon (30 minutes)	11	12	13
14 Worship will be Live Streamed at 10:30 am	15	16 Online Zoom Bible Study at 2 pm	17 Online Zoom Book Study at 10 am Online Zoom Prayer Service at Noon (30 minutes)	18	19	20
21 Worship will be Live Streamed at 10:30 am Online Zoom Casual Worship at 2:00 pm	22	23 Online Zoom Bible Study at 2 pm	24 Online Zoom Book Study at 10 am Online Zoom Prayer Service at Noon (30 minutes)	25	26	27
28Worship will be Live Streamed at 10:30 am	29	30 Online Zoom Bible Study at 2 pm				

June Birthdays

6/1 Dan Haseley
 6/2 Addison Noonkester, Andrew Thom
 6/7 Gary Borley, Charles Gribble, Derek Thom
 6/9 Dawn Schaeffer
 6/11 David Tobin
 6/12 Frank Kuhn
 6/13 Zacharay Greve
 6/16 Linda Honeycutt
 6/17 Bob Loges
 6/18 Linda Frixen
 6/19 Tanner Axtman, Jonas Campbell
 6/20 Sandy Larsen
 6/21 David Frixen, Sherry Wooldridge
 6/22 Moss Hathcock
 6/27 Bruce Melosh
 6/28 Pat Sipe
 6/30 Ande Malinowski, Doug Thompson

June Anniversaries

6/9 Matthew and Jennifer Noonkester
 6/10 Tim and Sue Goldbach, Ray and Glenda Kilminster,
 Bill and Sandy Larsen, Kyle and Lauren Morosko
 6/11 Fred and Rita Potthoff
 6/14 Rich and Caren Ballantine,
 Pastor Jay and Geraldine Harbinson
 6/15 Andrew and Amanda Thom, Doug and Jenni Thompson
 6/20 Jeff and Maripat Brown, Greg and P.J. Krause
 6/21 Chuck and Rene Moore
 6/27 Bob and Shari Fleischacker, Bruce and Sara Melosh
 6/29 George and Cathy Shabla

