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Welcome to our second week of not meeting in person! Not the most joyous of times, but we must make the most of it and reaching out to you is helping me get by.

We are blessed with so many people helping out in so many ways. Chris McDannell and all the deacons have helped with getting missing email addresses and finding out who would like to receive our weekly emails. They will also be contacting people who don't have emails or live by themselves or could just use a friendly phone call. Patti-Jo and Bill Dolph were planning on getting the lilies to adorn our sanctuary for Easter and they have been working on a Plan B (more to come on that below). Lori Siegle has spent countless hours trying to find ways to send videos via email and Facebook. Steve Walston has been in touch with her, helping figure out how we can jump into the electronic age. Vince DellaFera has been working with putting the message onto the radio station. Sylvia Miller continues to reach out to shut-ins and sends notes when there is a death. And so many of you have already been calling members of our congregation to check in on them to make sure they are alright and to keep them informed. Thank you all!!! I don't know what we'd do without you!

So, the first Sunday did not go as smoothly as we would have hoped. We did get the message out and that is all that's important. We'll try harder to make it work this Sunday. Rev. Rhonda Kruse is scheduled to be our leader this Sunday and will be doing a Facebook Live message. This will happen at 11:00am on Sunday, March 29. All you need to do is go on the church's Facebook page and at 11am the video should be up. Just click on it and you should be in business, or from your own Facebook page you can just click on Live which is to the left of your newsfeed. If you do not have a Facebook account, do not fear! We will also be posting it on our webpage and the audio will go on the radio. It will be on at 2pm on Sunday and then at 7pm on Wednesday. Rev. Kruse will be providing a transcript of her message so we'll be sure to send that out once we receive it early next week.

One of the ways we have always helped our neighbors is through our food bank. Known to be used in emergency circumstances, I can think of no worse of a time than what we're going through right now. Ginny Sodano has informed me that the food bank is still open. Praise the Lord! If anyone wants to drop off food, Ginny said that you can just leave it on her front porch or make an appointment with her to meet at the church. Her phone number is 570-476-9393 and her email address is gsodano@ptd.net. If you know of someone in need, please let Ginny know. Thank you, Ginny, for continuing this important outreach during this difficult time!

A number of you have already sent in money for Easter lilies. As I mentioned last week, the first Sunday back we will be celebrating Easter. Unfortunately, lilies will not be in season at

that time, but we have decided to adorn our sanctuary with whatever flowers are blooming. We want this to be a joyous celebration and flowers make everything better! So, we will be keeping the checks and information from those of you who sent them in early and will hopefully get in many more before we have our "Easter" service. We will still have an insert with "in honor of" and "in memory of", so you can use the same order form. We sent out an email earlier with that form, but if you cannot find it, I have included it as an attachment. Just mail it to the church with your check. The mailing address of the church is PO Box 145, Shawnee on Delaware, Pa. 18356. I'll be reminding you of this in the weeks to come.

Postponements

I'm including messages from the folks in charge of two of our biggest fundraisers regarding upcoming plans:

"At this point, during this pandemic, we have decided to postpone our annual Golf Tournament indefinitely...Even if this somehow would be all 'clear' by May 6th, we wouldn't have enough time to prepare for the tournament...Thank you for understanding..."

I hope everyone is safe at this point...Please continue to quarantine, so we can stop spreading this vicious disease...

We WILL get through this...one day at a time..."
Nancy Fish

"We have decided to postpone the Rummage Sale being held on April 24-25. We hope to reschedule at a later date, though we won't know when until this pandemic starts to lessen. You may still drop off items for the sale. You can either drop them off on a Tuesday or Thursday morning when Lori is in the office, or if you can't get in the CE Building, leave them in the breezeway of the back door. If you can get in the building, you may put them in the upstairs back room.

Thank you for your patience! We'll keep you posted!"
Sylvia and Sandy

Prayers

Please pray for the family of Frank Primrose, who passed away on March 18. Frank had been a member of our church since 1956 and a long time Shawnee resident. Prayers for his wife, Joy Primrose and his sister, Bette Holland.

Please pray for Deb Ballinger's friend, Ken Lasher, who is battling COVID-19 here in a local hospital. He is in critical condition. Also, prayers for his wife Lillian.

We are still working on an online giving program and hope that it will be up and running in a week or so. Until then, please consider mailing in your offerings to the church. You can do that on a regular basis or whenever you feel you can spare something. We know that this is a rough financial time for many of you, so we understand if you cannot help at this time. And also know, that if YOU need help, we are just a phone call away.

I have left in the list of live worship services being offered throughout the Presbytery. I will update this as I get in more information.

First Bethlehem (worship at 10:30am): <https://www.facebook.com/FirstPresBethlehem>

The Barn (worship at 10:10am): <https://www.facebook.com/theBarnLehighValley/>

First Allentown (worship at 10:00am): For those WITH a Facebook Account:

<https://www.facebook.com/firstpresbyterianchurchofallentown/> For those WITHOUT a Facebook

Account: <https://www.facebook.com/firstpresbyterianchurchofallentown/posts/10158018050529561>

East Stroudsburg (worship at 10:00am): <https://www.facebook.com/espresbyterian>

First Hokendauqua (worship at 10:00am): <https://www.facebook.com/HokeyPres> Pennside, Reading


(worship at 10:00am): <https://www.facebook.com/>

Pennside, Reading (worship at 10:00am): <https://www.facebook.com/PennsidePresbyterianChurch/>

I have added ways to "Stop the Spread" at the end of this. I know we have heard all this ad nauseam, but I'm hoping you won't mind another reminder.

I miss all of you and I hope that you are staying safe and healthy. Stay strong and stay faithful! We will get through this!

In His name,

Barb Dickinson 

Help Stop the Spread

Wash Your Hands

Washing your hands is one of the most important steps you can take in staying healthy. When you wash, make sure you:

1. Wet your hands with clean, running water (warm or cold), turn off the tap, and apply soap.
2. Lather your hands by rubbing them together with the soap. Lather the backs of your hands, between your fingers, and under your nails.
3. Scrub your hands for at least 20 seconds. Need a timer? Hum the "Happy Birthday" song from beginning to end twice.

4. Rinse your hands well under clean, running water.
5. Dry your hands using a clean towel or air dry them. Washing hands with soap and water is the best way to get rid of germs in most situations.

If soap and water are not readily available, you can use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60 percent alcohol.

Cover Your Mouth and Nose

Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your elbow when coughing or sneezing. It may prevent those around you from getting sick. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) does not recommend the routine use of face masks and respirators in the community. Most often, the spread of germs from person-to-person happens among close contacts (within 6 feet).

Avoid Touching Your Face

Avoid touching your face with unwashed hands. Germs are often spread when a person touches something that is contaminated with germs and then touches his or her eyes, nose, or mouth.

Clean Surfaces

Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces — especially when someone is ill.

Practice Social Distancing

- Stay home as much as you can
- Avoid public spaces
- Keep at least 6 feet between you and others if you must go out
- Don't attend or host large gatherings
- Avoid using mass transit