

<u>CAMPTON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH</u> <u>NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER and OCTOBER 2020</u> <u>PASTORS' CORNER</u>

Dear Friends,

It seems that over the past many months we have been asked the question, "What's New?" many times...often after a list of the weather etc. the return question is, "What's New with you?" "Nothing much," seems to be the response more often than not; in other words more of the same.

As this newsletter was taking shape the picture of the illness and of our situation seems to be, "no change." All of which got me thinking about our need for, "New," ... and I'd ask instead, "what's wrong with the old?"

My first thought in reaction was to hear the familiar words of the grand old hymn, "Tell Me The Story of Jesus," which we sing or hear on the radio quite often. Written in the late 1800s by Catherine Hankey, the last line of the chorus again states, "Tell me the Old Old Story of Jesus and His Love." This story and richer explanations of its meaning are shared on Sunday mornings as well as during the week, with many in our Church Family. This is our goal as we continue on this unprecedented journey.

So, back to the corona virus, situation, and the hesitation to reopen our Church for Sunday Worship and other activities; Again, "What's new?" We want to change back to what we had but we do not have to be distressed or worried about anything. If we truly believe that God is our constant companion, in happy times or difficult situations.

The most important thought in this difficult situation is to focus again on God's Loving Presence. The Triune God, the Creator of the universe, the Saviour of humanity, the constant companion of Spirit with spirit is our only real answer. To assist you in life's journey your Pastors are also available to you 24 hours a day 7 days each week. You may call, text, or e-mail. They will contact you and arrange time with you. Private Zoom meetings may also be requested to assist in keeping our connections with one another complete.

Because of the many virus cases linked to gatherings we will continue to meet on line for a time. We have the example of a house of Worship in Maine; from the gathering for worship, church, and through outreach 134 cases have been linked together and there are rising cases at the Universities to consider. The fact is in many places across the country cases are increasing. We must be diligent and continue to find ways to share our Christian Love with one another.

Your Ad Hoc committee, (comprised of Moderator Alan Hill, Brenda Boisvert, Patricia Williams, Juli Fleck, and Pastors Russ and Cindy) will continue to monitor the pandemic and strive to bring you Worship Services, Bible Studies, Prayer, and Fellowship Meetings that will keep our Church Family involved and active. Please share your questions and concerns with Moderator Alan Hill and he will bring them to the committee.

NEW WORSHIP VENUE FOR THOSE WITHOUT INTERNET ACCESS



Beginning on Sunday September 20th, a small number (12 max.) of our Church Family will be invited to join in the Fellowship Hall to share in our Sunday Worship Service. Contact Pastors at 603 539 7064 for a reservation. Masks are required while you are in the building and seating will be arranged to preserve the six feet social distancing. We pray that this will bring those of you without internet access back into our Worship.



May God Continue to Richly Bless You In Christian Love, Your Pastors, Russ and Cindy

PO Box 328, # 475 NH RT. 175, Campton, NH 03223 Office: 603-539-7064 Pastor Russell C. Petrie, M.Div. and Associate Pastor Cynthia B. Petrie, M.Div. To Talk please call Home 603-539-7064 to Text or Message please use Cell 603-515-6684 Like us on Face book *and* see www.camptoncongregationalchurch.org

