



SALEM NEWS

2312 Marietta Avenue Lancaster, PA 17603

July & August 2020

Re-opening of Salem for Worship Services in Fellowship Hall

The Re-opening Team has been working prayerfully and diligently to plan for a safe re-opening of Salem for worship services in our Fellowship Hall. The targeted date for the re-opening is set for August 9, 2020. Please know that we are closely monitoring the reported number of new Covid 19 cases in Lancaster County. Should there be a sudden increase, this targeted date may change.

In the coming weeks, the Re-open Team, Church Council and the Worship and Music Committee will be strategically testing our proposed worship process to assure the health and safety of our members as well as to maximize the worship experience for those in attendance. We thank you for your patience and understanding and look forward to being able to safely worship together again.



Salem UCC Worship Service Re-open Guidelines and Expectations-Draft

Salem's Post-COVID 19 worship experience will be very different from what we have been used to. Our Re-open Team has reviewed the recommended safety protocols provided to us from the Medical experts as well as Penn Central Conference. In addition, and most importantly, they have responded to the congregation survey results that overwhelmingly indicate the desire to come back to worship AND also want to be assured of their health and safety. The following are the draft guidelines our Re-open Team have developed for safely re-opening Salem for in-person worship. Please know that this is a work in progress. As the Medical Community continues to learn more about the COVID 19 virus and new guidance is issued, these guidelines may change.

What to expect when arriving for Worship Service:

- Church Doors open to Welcome Worshipers at 9:30 AM
- Worshipers **MUST** be wearing masks **at all times** (masks will be provided for those who do not have one)
- Social Distancing will be maintained outside the FH doors waiting to enter
- Single worshipers or family units will be admitted one at a time
- Temperatures will be checked (persons with a temperature or 100.2 degrees Fahrenheit will be asked to return home to worship by accessing our Live Stream Service)
- Name (s) of worshipers will be checked off on list by Volunteer and temperatures guidelines noted as Yes/No
- Worshipers will be asked a list of questions (yet to be developed)
- Once cleared for entry, Worshipers will be asked to use the Hand Sanitizer prior to entering FH
- Gloves will be available for those who wish to wear them and do not have their own gloves
- Usher will monitor worshipers seating and assist as needed in order to assure 6 Feet social distancing
- We ask that children remain with parents and worship as a family unit at all times

What to expect during Worship Service:

- Music will be playing upon entering the FH
- The Pastor and Lay Reader will be standing 16 feet from the congregation.
- There will be no Greeter's Hand shakes and no Passing the Peace physical contact.
- There will be no congregational or choir singing
- We ask that responsive readings and prayers be said using a quiet voice.
- There will be no bulletins — the worship service will be displayed on the TV in the front of FH
- Offertory plate will be at the entrance to FH where worshipers can drop their offering into the plate
- Music will be playing upon exiting FH

What to expect at the end of the Worship Service:

- Ushers will excuse individuals or family units in order to maintain social distancing
- Hand sanitizer will be available for use upon exiting

As stated earlier, this is a work in progress. Please don't hesitate to reach out to the Re-open Team with any questions and/or suggestions for additional items that should be considered for inclusion in these guidelines.

Even though we will need to make many adjustments in our "new normal" worship service, the "smiling eyes" reflecting the smile behind the masks and the Warm Welcome will remain the same.

ALL ABOUT US



Open and Affirming Covenant

Salem UCC (Rohrerstown) believes that all people are created in God's image and thus are loved and blessed equally by God. We are a warm, welcoming congregation of imperfect people who invite and welcome to participate fully in the life of this church persons of every gender, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, ability, race, nationality and social status, faith background, marital standing and family structure as we seek to grow together in a safe and nurturing community where we live out the belief that God is still speaking. We strive to demonstrate in all ways that "No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here".

Core Values

We believe in the Triune God.

We believe that each person is unique and valuable.

We believe that each person is on a spiritual journey.

We believe that the persistent search for God produces an authentic relationship with God.

We believe that all the baptized belong body and soul to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

We believe that all people of faith are invited to join Christ at Christ's table for the sacrament of Communion.

We believe the UCC is called to be a united and uniting church.

We believe that God calls us to be servants in the service of others and to be good stewards of the earth's resources.

We believe that the UCC is called to be a prophetic church.

We believe in the power of peace.

We are a people of possibility.

God is still speaking...

Mission Statement

As Followers of Christ, we are:

EMBRACING each other, neighbors and world community

ENGAGING service, worship and justice

EVOLVING spiritually, socially and individually

WORSHIP

July 5, 2020 The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Theme: Romance – Abraham Style

Scripture: Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67; Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

Narrative: The children's song, "The Farmer in the Dell," comes to mind when reading the lesson from Genesis. Isaac has grown up. It's time for him to get married. After all, he is the child of Sarah and Abraham who will begin the great nation process. It's time for another custom to emerge. Isaac is not permitted to find his own partner. Someone is found for him. Truly, "The farmer takes a wife. The farmer takes a wife. Hi-ho, the derry-o, the farmer takes a wife!"

July 12, 2020 The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Theme: Sibling Rivalry, Part 1

Scripture: Genesis 25:19-34, Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Narrative: The story of Abraham and Sarah has completely moved to Isaac and Rebekah as the patriarch and matriarch. Once again, the matriarch is identified as "barren." This sets the stage for another miraculous conception and birth. This time it's twins: Esau and Jacob. Favoritism abounds as it sometimes does in families today. What is it about "second" children that makes them unique? With Jesus as our brother, we are "second" children of God. How do we or do we resemble Jacob?

Epistle of James:

Re-imagining Inertia

Grace and peace from the God of Sarah and Abraham, Mary and Joseph, and you and me.

According to Wikipedia, the phrase, *thinking outside the box*, originated in the 70s and 80s. The expression refers to "novel or creative thinking." [Novel. There's that word again!] The challenge to think outside the box often included a task to complete the nine-dots puzzle. [puzzle located elsewhere]

The new catchphrase for thinking outside the box is "re-imagine." It has appeared in some major advertising over the past few years. More recently, it has been applied to life in the midst of a pandemic.

For me, re-imagining means overcoming inertia. Inertia is *the resistance of any physical object to any change in its velocity* [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/inertia]. I'm not sure if I learned it in physics or driver's ed. The first process in moving a car forward or backward is overcoming inertia. In driver's ed I did learn that it was not appropriate to go from 0 to 60 in an instant. The driver was to overcome inertia and then gather speed. [I want you to know I never tried the 0 to 60 in a few seconds process!]

This Friday Lancaster County becomes a green county. This means the light has changed, and the car can resume its journey. In our thinking about overcoming inertia, we need to put aside an experiment of 0 to 60 in a few seconds. This certainly takes re-imagining.

As we all are aware, the Church is not immune to the effects of a pandemic. Re-imagining needs to be applied to every aspect of church life. Salem has found itself spinning to re-imagine – worship, committees, outside groups.

There are some who would us to take the 0 to 60 challenge; there are others who prefer to suggest they are content the ways things are right now. Re-imagining starts with one concept, such as worship. We need to look at what it was in February and then begin to dissect the components and figure out what needs to be done to refashion the concept, so everyone is safe. It's like trying to complete the 9-dot puzzle.

Let us reimagine what our inertia will look like.

Blessings, Pastor Jim

Property Committee



Ron Matterness Retirement Plans

After about 2 years of service, Ron Matterness announced that he intends to retire as our custodian by the end of the year. Ron has done an exceptional job taking care of the weekly cleaning and building maintenance needs. During the past three months of Coronavirus shutdown he has taken on many extra projects including: refinishing all hard surface floors; painting the lobby, Pastor's office, and exterior railings; and restriping the parking lot lines. Ron has brought significant expertise to the position and contributed greatly to the maintenance of our church facility. The property committee appreciates Ron's talents and will miss working with him. We have begun the search process and will announce Ron's end date once a new custodian has been hired.

Other Property News

During the past year, the property committee oversaw the installation of a separate gas hot water boiler to heat the offices and Christian Education wing. So far, the new furnace is meeting our expectations of increasing reliability, reducing wear and tear on our steam boiler, and lowering our energy costs.

In anticipation of the time we need to replace the Fellowship Hall's aging HVAC units, we continue to seek contributions to our capital improvement fund. To date we have accumulated about half of the \$40,000 in estimated replacement costs.

Tristan Evans, a member of our scout Troop 64, completed his Eagle Scout project by planting a butterfly rain garden and four trees to replace those that were removed. The rain garden will provide habitat for monarch butterflies and direct some of our parking lot storm water into the soil. The trees were purchased by members of the congregation.

Since Pastor Verne vacated the Parsonage about 2 years ago, we have rented the house while at the same time made improvements including installing a few new appliances, replacing the kitchen's flooring, and refinishing the hardwood floors. The house will continue to be used for either the pastor's housing or rented through a local property management company.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

July Birthdays

7/04 Peggy Ann Graves
7/05 Sandra Chillas
7/06 Virginia Deaner
7/07 Dave Serfass
7/07 Eileen Shipe
7/13 Linda Reitz
7/13 Jessica Shifflet
7/17 Vera Johnson
7/17 Justin Simmons
7/18 Emersyn Chehi
7/19 Verna Kauffman
7/20 Eileen Zeigler
7/21 Kathy Fenstermacher
7/22 Cheryl Breneisen
7/23 Laura Chehi
7/25 Melissa Paup
7/26 Dylan Manganella
7/31 Alex DiMarzio

August Birthdays

8/02 David Sahn
8/03 Lauren McNeely
8/03 Mary Lou Sahn
8/07 Gail Bubernack
8/07 Ryan Manganella
8/07 Kendra Zimmerman
8/09 Shelby Sweigert
8/12 Edward Crafton
8/12 Carolyn Walters
8/15 Mary Stauffer
8/17 Daniel Brandt
8/23 Duane Reitz
8/23 Cassandra Squires
8/23 Susan Wolf
8/25 Wesley Martzall
8/26 Mary Lou Stauffer
8/26 Colette Stetler
8/27 Robert Hinkle
8/29 Miles Sweigert
8/31 Michael Kline



SPECIAL MUSIC VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

JULY 12TH-SEPTEMBER 6TH

If you are interested doing special music during these months, please see attached sign up sheet and let Jim Zeigler know which dates you are interested in by calling 717-824-6092 or emailing jdzsackbut@aol.com

**Please send cards
and let them know
we miss them.**



Robert Hinkle

Skilled Nursing Unit
Homestead Village
1800 Marietta Ave
(717)-397-4831
Birthday: August 27

Arlene Holbein

900 Rivergate Court

Millersville, PA 17551
(717)-872-0560
Birthday: March 28

Lois Jones

970 Corvair Road
Lancaster, PA 17601
(717) 898-8120
Birthday: December 26

Verna Kauffman

99 Bethany Road, PC
117
Ephrata PA 17522
(717) 738-7417
Birthday: July 19

Nancy Kraybill

300 Saint Mark
Ave APT 610
Lititz, PA 17543
(717) 626-2766
Birthday: February 10

Betty Reidenbach

17 Park Circle Drive
Lancaster, PA 17603
(717)394-3462
Birthday: May 27

Marty Sheetz

Homestead Village
1800 Village Circle
Lancaster, PA 17603

(717) 299-1389
Birthday: June 22

Doris Starr

310 Meadow Run, 3rd
Floor
1520 Harrisburg Pike
Lancaster PA 17601
(717) 735-2508
Birthday: April 10

Marion Stehman

Woodcrest Villa ML 105
2001 Harrisburg Pike
Lancaster, PA 17601
(717)390-4167
November 15

OFFICE HOURS

The church office is open Monday through Thursday, 9:00am–2:00 pm.
The office is closed on Friday.

Church Staff

Rev. James Yoder, Bridge Pastor (Tues/Thurs 9AM-12PM)

***In order to adhere with social distancing guidelines, we ask that you
make an appointment if you would like to meet with the Pastor during
his office hours.

Kelli Baughman, Administrative Assistant

Jim Zeigler, Dir. of Music & Choir Dir.

Mike Shoher, Organist

Ron Matterness – Custodian



SALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST OF ROHRERSTOWN

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Website: www.salemuccroh.org

www.facebook.com/Salem-UCC-Rohrerstown

USE PASTOR CELL NUMBER FOR EMERGENCIES
ONLY AT (717)405-8236

Pastor.jimyoder@gmail.com