

Arms of Faith

May

2020

Welcome to May. We're about six weeks into the Covid-19 Era here at Faith Church. We've been streaming worship since March 22, also offering the chance to connect audibly with worship over conference call. Last week your program and office staff decided we needed to have a little fun in the midst of lockdown. So we have some puzzles and contests we hope will keep you challenged and engaged until we're able to meet again in person to worship. Before we get to those—we need to announce the winner of The Hosanna Challenge. Some of you remember that on Palm Sunday, Pastor Tom challenged those watching the worship service to guess at how many times "Hosanna" was sung and spoken. We are delighted to announce that **Ann Tresemer** is the winner of *both* challenges. Her guesses were closest to the actual number of Hosannas—43 sung and 15 spoken. Ann, we will present you with your fabulous prize the next time we worship together. Until then, accept our hearty congratulations—and get ready for this month's contests!

Pandemic Pandemonium

Quarantine Exercise: Can you find the names of sixteen (16) books of the Bible hidden in the paragraph below?

I once made a remark about the hidden books of the Bible (merely by a fluke). It kept people looking so hard for the facts and for others it was a revelation. Some were in a jam, especially since the name of the books were not capitalized, but the truth finally struck home to numbers of readers. To others it was a real job. We want it to be a most fascinating few moments for you. Yes, there will be some really easy ones to spot. Others may require judges to help them. I will quickly admit it usually takes a minister to find one of them, and there will be loud lamentations when it is found. A little lady says she brews a cup of tea so she can concentrate better. See how well you can compete. Relax now.

Clothing Give Away News

The July Clothing Give Away has been postponed. We will let you know when a new date has been set.

We are not accepting donations at this time.

Thank you for your support and to those who have already donated items.

Sending out a heartfelt thanks to our Faith Family for all the support, prayers and cards I received during my surgeries. All of these were truly felt and appreciated. We miss our church family and want to thank all the people that have made streaming the services possible. We know it doesn't "just happen." It's great to see familiar faces and hear familiar voices. Our prayers are that we are soon back on Giles Road with all of you.

Ruth Tresemer

Faith Presbyterian Church

"To know, to grow, and to show Christ to all people"

April Session News

Session report

You Session met over Skype on Thursday, April 16, starting about 7:00 p.m. All but one ruling elders were visually present, as were the Stated Clerk, Joe Seda, and Pastor Tom. Another participated over the telephone. Worship Committee chair, Debbie Eggers, shared a report including all the adjustments that Faith Church has made as we switched to streaming worship over Facebook. Many, many talented, faithful people have made this a remarkably smooth adjustment. We are keeping the number of people in the building under 10, per the governor's recommendation. "Attendance" has been higher since we stopped worshipping in real life! The efforts we made in reaching our members—delivering palms, bulletins and communion elements have been well-received.

The Session decided to seek dues relief for 25% of our obligation to the Board of Pensions for the pastor's insurance and pension. The Board of Pensions is able to offer this to churches because of its strong financial position.

The Support Committee reported that revenue from the church's investments has declined substantially, *but* members are staying current with their pledges. Many are using on-line giving through the website. This financial support reflects the deep commitment of Faith Church's members.

The Session began discussing what we will need to have in place when we decide to worship again in real life. By consensus Session agreed to continue streaming and offering the conference call option to our members.

Elder Debbie Kippley reported that the nation of Malawi is going into lock down this coming Saturday. She was able to connect with our friends in that country. They are holding up bravely, as it appears people are all over the world. So goes the work of you Session.

More Pandemic Pandemonium

UNSCRAMBLE THE FRUIT!

PLSAPE _____ ○
HECIRERS _____ ○
GERONAS _____ ○
EBERYRBLU _____ ○
MEOLN _____ ○
ANRINETGE _____ ○
BNAANS _____ ○
HAPESEC _____ ○
RAFRTIUGPE _____ ○
MLIE _____ ○

SECRET MESSAGE:
_____ !

INSTRUCTIONS:

Unscramble the letters for these common fruits and write them in the spaces provided across from the fruit name. Now unscramble the letters that are circled. You will then be able to see the secret message.

Now for the fun part! After you have discovered the message, search your kitchen for these fruits, take a picture of as many of them as you can get into one picture, and send it along with your scramble solution to Anne at Anne@Faith-Presbyterian.com! Here is the ultimate challenge for those of you who are daring: use what ever fruit you wish to use, it can be one or several and make a tasty dish and write the recipe down and send a picture of it. No salads allowed! There will be a panel of judges deciding the winners and a prize will be given out at the next potluck when we gather. Be ready to make it to impress the crowd! Have fun!!



May 2 Colleen Hunt
May 2 Coleman Mavity
May 2 Kathy White
May 3 Emily Kasprzak
May 4 Phil Westerfield
May 5 Ray Glesmann
May 8 Julie Bosserdet
May 8 Cathy Hadley
May 9 Judi Crick
May 13 Sally Frick
May 14 Dottie DeBoer
May 19 Nellie Gray
May 21 Patty Vavra
May 22 Norma McGinnis
May 23 Kathy Pfeffer
May 24 Tyrus Ernst
May 24 Weston Ernst
May 30 Justin Essi