



Coronavirus Update

August 7, 2020

Church is not something you go to. It's a family you belong to.

I have been aware of this phrase for many years however, it has really taken on new meaning ever since March 11th when we needed to suspend all activities in the building. I never thought all this would last so long but here we are still facing COVID-19 as we are about to move into the Fall season. This time of year is usually a time of rest and renewal as our Family of Faith anticipates Rally Day and all the Fall activities and programs. It is different this year. This is an extremely unusual, unsettling, and uncertain time.

Our Revision Team continues to meet and are developing a plan for resuming in-person worship in the House of Worship. The question, for which we have no definite answer, at this time, is *when will this be?* When we believe it to be safe there will be strict guidelines including a reservation process for a maximum of 60 people; wearing masks will be required; no congregational singing; and other regulations following State and The United Church of Christ Conference guidelines.

We are continuing to discuss how we can offer experiences through which we may safely and socially connect with one another. The virtual Worship Services will continue. Keep "tuning in." Go to our Web Site Home page and scroll down and click on the worship box or click on the Link in Sunday's email or go to our Facebook page. A Podcast of the weekly message is now available on our Facebook page.

There is another phrase I have known for a longtime that has new meaning now:

*It is not about going to church once a week
but how we act towards others seven days a week!*

There is no doubt in my mind, heart and soul, that our Family of Faith will get through this time. When everything does return to what we can consider "normal" we will be stronger and even more faithful *because* we have been living our faith and sharing God's love seven days a week!

With Love,
John