

Bucyrus United Methodist Church

God's Love In Action

Administrative/Outreach Center

216 Hopley Ave., Bucyrus, OH 44820

419-562-5061

Worship Center

227 South Walnut St., Bucyrus, OH 44820

Michael L. Corwin, Pastor

Becky Stephens, Pastor

www.bucyrusumc.com

Wednesday, March 19, 2020

Dear Friends,

I want to thank you for the many ways I have already seen our church being the hands and feet of Christ in our community. From offers to help others who are higher risk get groceries, to being willing to make sandwiches, and the list goes on! Most importantly, I am grateful for the many prayers that are being prayed over our church and its people, over our community, and over our world. Friends, your prayers don't go unheard. God hears our prayers. God answers our prayers. Keep the prayers coming!

I want to invite you to help as we are all quarantined for the next few weeks. Attached to this letter is our most up to date list of our nursing home residents and our homebound friends. As you know, nursing homes can no longer have visitors. I want to encourage you to send cards or make some phone calls to check in with our friends who are most vulnerable. If you have children or grandchildren, invite them to draw or color a picture and then mail it to them. If you need us to, we would be happy to mail them out for you when our office is open. This is a great time to get to know and reach out to our friends whom we never get to see because of their health. A great opportunity to share God's love.

You already know this, but just in case you missed it, ALL ministries in both of our buildings are cancelled until Easter (at least). We will re-evaluate as more information comes in. At this point, the only exception is funerals. As I type, we are awaiting the latest update from our President and Governor as to our next move. This is an incredibly fluid situation that is ever changing. Right now, our office is open fairly regular hours. I would advise calling before you come to make sure someone is there. Thank you for your patience as we work to do our best to make the right decisions to protect all of us.

Here are some ways that we hope to stay connected through worship and discipleship with you for now:

1. We are working diligently to get a recorded sermon out to you this week for this next Sunday. On Sunday, go to our website www.bucyrusumc.com or check Facebook.
2. All past sermons and their transcripts are already on our website and accessible to you at www.bucyrusumc.com
3. For those with children, you will receive a separate email with Sunday School lessons attached.

To remain faithful in giving God's tithes and our offerings, there are several ways to respond:

1. Mail your check to Bucyrus United Methodist Church, 216 Hopley Ave, Bucyrus OH 44820
2. Go to www.bucyrusumc.com and click on Electronic Giving and follow the steps through our secure site.
3. Grab an old bulletin and scan the QR code in the Order of Worship near the Offering. That will take you directly to our giving site.
4. Download the free app called "GivePlus". Make Bucyrus United Methodist Church your giving destination. This is a secure app that is used by many churches and agencies around the country.
5. You are welcome to also drop off your tithes and offerings at our main office at 216 Hopley Avenue. Our office hours are 9a.m. – 1p.m. but are subject to change as things develop. So please call before you come to ensure that we will be open.

I also want to invite you to think about the people who sit around you in worship. Please call those folks. Send them a card. Check in with each other. Take care of each other. If you need help with a name, address or phone number, please call me, I'd be happy to help. Also, if you or anyone around you is in need of pastoral care, please let either Pastor Mike or myself know. We are willing to respond as we need to.

In the meantime, stay in...stay safe...stay calm. I will share with you a verse that I have prayed over Olivia since before she was born that seems so fitting during this time of chaos, panic and fear. It is from Joshua 1:9...

Be strong and courageous!

Do not be afraid! Do not be discouraged!

God is with you wherever you go!

May it be so, my friends! So wash your hands and say your prayers, cause Jesus and germs are everywhere!

Peace and Blessings,

Pastor Becky