



BFCC e-Caller

April 2020

Reaching Outward to Connect People with God's Abundance

A Pastoral Note from Pastor Bruce

As I said in last Sunday's sermon, these are trying times. Pastor Helen and I long to be with you, just as we know that you all long to be with each other. The good news is that we are finding ways to be in touch and to stay together. Here are some updates:

Sunday Worship

At least 325 people viewed our virtual worship service! That's amazing!! Both Bedford and Bloomington FCC folk are included in that number. And it was wonderful to receive your text messages and Facebook posts during the virtual coffee hour after worship. We were the body of Christ last Sunday morning, and we will continue to be so.

We will continue with these online worship services for as long as we need to do so. There will be an Order of Service for Sunday, March 29. Just go to our webpage: fccbedford.org to download. Then tune in via YouTube at our regular 10:30 worship hour.

Your Offering

The work of the church continues, and thus we need your financial gifts. Mitzi and Steve are getting caught-up on many crucial tasks that have been postponed due to work load over many months. The Elders and I are addressing pastoral care needs. The building must be heated and sanitized. So please mail your weekly offering to the church. Or, you can drop it off on Wednesdays between 11 am and 1 pm. Religious entities have been defined as essential services. So a trip directly between home and church to drop off a check is an essential act that will help us maintain an essential service. Mitzi will buzz you in through the office door. Just slide your envelope under the door of Treasurer Linda Smith. It's the door immediately to the right of the Church Office door.

Office Hours

Wednesday, from 11 am – 1 pm. That's it. Mitzi is mostly working remotely. The building is locked. If you enter the building you must maintain a distance of at least six feet from other people. We can continue our essential service only if we practice this social distancing. That's the directive of Governor Holcomb's Executive Order.

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A Pastoral Note from Pastor Bruce cont.

Help the Hungry and Local Businesses

We have gift cards at the church for several local restaurants that, as far as we know, are still open for carryout. If you know someone who needs a meal, please come by the church during office hours, pick-up a card, pick-up a meal and deliver it to them. The gift cards are in a basket beneath the mailboxes outside of the Office door. Many thanks to one of our families for donating the cards.

L.I.F.E. Food Pantry remains open (according to their answering machine) on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10-11:30 am and 1-3:30 pm. They could use your food donations. And please point anyone in need of emergency food in that direction.

Prayer

Prayer requests are pouring in and the Prayer Team is on top of them. Better yet, God is on top of them! We have included an updated Prayer List in this Pastoral Note. Please be in prayer for our church members and neighbors who need the comfort, reassurance and healing presence of the Holy Spirit now more than ever. Please continue to direct your prayer requests through Bonnie Fye (bonniefye_1@comcast.net) All things are possible through God's mighty power of prayer!

A Closing Pastoral Thought

We are going to get through this. It may take a few weeks or a few months, but we will get through this. The Church and the nation have always been at their best in times of crisis. As Christians, we know that we can do all things through Christ who strengthens us. As Americans, we know that in times of crisis, divisions have been set aside and all have pulled together in the same direction for the common good. So hang in there, dear friends. Call, text, email and Facebook each other. Check-up on your neighbors. Help whomever you can as you are able to do so. We are the body of Christ! My prayers are with all of you. And my love – and God's! – surrounds you. We are not alone. The Crucified and Risen One can heal all afflictions. Thanks be to God!

**Blessings,
Pastor Bruce**



Prayer List

Prayer requests will remain in the e-caller for one month. If an individual for whom prayer has been requested still needs prayer after one month, please contact the church office, or email Bonnie Fye at bonniefye_1@comcast.net. Updates are always appreciated. And please remember those on our Prayer List during your daily prayers.

Please remember Our Family and Friends during your daily prayers: *Sally Allen, Bill and Winkie Bouldin, Danny Briscoe, Brandy Busz, the Men's Warming Center (guests, volunteers, and staff), Ryne Clapper, Rebecca Fields' daughter, Jeff Day, Linda Dunn, Janet Fiddler, Jim Hill, Jane Jernigan, Kennedy Knott, Laura Leach, Darren Lewis, Erika McKinney, Robin Riggs Medlock, Carol Mifflin, Steve Mills, Sheila Miskuf, Riley Osmon, Randy and Emily Roberts, Dick Sides, Ruby Sides, Candy Sykes, Greg VanCleave, Sharon Waggoner*

We offer our prayers, sympathy and condolences: *Donna Knotts Family and Friends, Parish of St. Mary, Parish of St. Vincent and the family and Friends of Father Rick.*

Those away from home serving: *the church, in military, civil service, education and work.*

Those unable to be with us in Worship: *Barbara Hall, Jacob Householder, Ellie Grissom, Shirley McMunn, Marilyn Olson, Laverne Speer, Carolyn Tumey, Jimmy Waggoner.*

A festive birthday banner with a blue background, colorful balloons (red, purple, yellow, green, blue), and a sunburst. The text 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY' is written in large, bold, colorful letters with a white outline. Below the banner, there is a list of birthdays for the month of April.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

April

- 4/10 Steve Harrell*
- 4/16 Janet Cooper*
- 4/21 Vahn Billberry*
- 4/26 Susan Maxwell Lewis*

*Happy Birthday to you,
Happy Birthday to you,
Happy Birthday dear friends,
Happy Birthday to you.*

**Please let our office know
if we don't have your birthday.**

First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

1101 15th Street - Bedford, Indiana - 47421 - 812-275-4497

We are Disciples of Christ.

A movement for wholeness in a fragmented world. As part of the one body of Christ, we welcome all to the Lord's Table as God has welcomed us.

*Disciples of Christ Statement of Identity

CHURCH STAFF:

Pastor:

Rev. Bruce Ervin

E-Mail:

pastor@firstccbedford.org

Music Ministry:

Choir Director:

Jono Palmer

E-Mail:

jonbpalm@iu.edu

Organist:

Mary Ruth Yates

Administrative Assistant:

Mitzi Flynn

E-Mail:

office@firstccbedford.org

Custodian:

Steve Harrell

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Wednesday:

11:00 am - 1:00 pm

CUSTODIAN'S HOURS:

Monday - Friday:

8:00 am - 12:00 pm

SOCIAL MEDIA

Web Page: www.firstccbedford.org

Facebook: First Christian Church Bedford - DOC

Camp Facebook: Bedford Christian Camp