

Dear First Presbyterian Church Family,

Greetings to you all. We hope this letter finds you all safe and able to participate in all the different worship opportunities we are offering and will continue to offer throughout this Fall and Winter.

Your Session has been meeting every month to ensure the church continues to serve the purpose God has given to us here in North Bend/Coos Bay. As such, we want to update you with our current ministry status. After taking the past month to contact everyone on our membership and participant lists, asking the question: “Are you comfortable coming back to in-person worship”, we would like to report that the majority of you have answered that you would not be comfortable returning to in-person worship. Because of this, we in the Session believe we should take our cues from you and continue to provide virtual worship through our Livestream Service on Sundays and Bible Studies and Prayer Meetings through Zoom. We are very grateful to all of you who responded to this poll and for your feedback. If you have any questions about this decision don't hesitate to call or email the office.

541-756-4155 / nbpres@nbpresbyterian.org / eric@nbpresbyterian.org

As we continue to discern and pray for God's guidance during this time, we want you to know that we are still exploring new and exciting ways to connect and grow together as God's church. Stay tuned for those new programs, and make sure you are using these current platforms to worship with us...

1. Sunday Worship. Each Sunday, at 10:30am, we will continue to Live-Stream our Worship Service and keep it on our website for you to continue to access throughout the week. A big thank you to Jack, Trevor, Anne, and our team of readers, musicians, and Children Sermon givers! You are doing a great job!! If you haven't been contacted by Eric to participate in the “FirstPres Check-In”, call the office to set up a time for him to visit...

Use the links below to access this wonderful time of worship:

FirstPres Website:

<https://www.nbpresbyterian.org/sermons>

FirstPres YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCp8ExfWwS3KSzu3tY9tygZQ>

2. Sunday School. We are excited to report that our Children’s Ministry has begun offering Sunday School videos on our website. We hope to also offer Adult Sunday School very soon... Stay Tuned... ☺

3. Prayer. We will continue to offer “Prayers for the People” through Zoom, **every Monday-Thursday** from 12-1pm. Click on the link anytime between 12–1pm, Monday – Thursday for scripture, prayer, and support...

Link to ZOOM on your Computer/Smartphone:

<https://zoom.us/j/711245945>

Link to ZOOM on your Home Phone: If you don’t have a computer, smartphone and/or internet access, you can use your cell phone or home-phone to dial in to the meeting, no computer or smartphone required... Follow these instructions to DIAL IN WITH YOUR PHONE: Use one of these dial-in numbers: 1-669-900-6833 or 1-346-248-7799. Zoom message will first ask for Meeting ID plus the “pound” button, so when prompted dial - 711245945#. Zoom message will then ask for Participant ID plus the “pound” button. There is no Participant ID, so when prompted just dial - #. Then you are in :))

Our Prayer Team will also be available for personal Prayer. Here are individuals you can call during the week if you need someone to pray for you:

Jack	541-404-2627	Mary Jo	541-297-1913
Tricia	541-808-2789	Jody	541-404-1788
Andy & Sandy	541-756-6114		

4. Office Hours. FPC Office Staff has returned to their regular work schedule in the building. If you need to get in touch with Eric, Jody, or Cynthia, feel free to call the office between 8-12, Monday – Friday. The

building is still closed to the public, but the Office Staff will be available for assistance during those regular office hours.

Also, in accordance with the current mandate by the State of Oregon, and in our best attempt to help stop the transmission of Covid 19, anyone entering our church building to work or volunteer must follow the guidance that mandates wearing face coverings (mask and/or face shield). Follow the link below for more information:

<https://govstatus.egov.com/or-covid-19>

<https://sharedsystems.dhsoha.state.or.us/DHSForms/Served/le2288K.pdf>

5. Youth Group. Our Youth Director, Cynthia Baley, has been leading Youth Group for our young people 3rd Grade and above on ZOOM. If you or someone you know would like to be included in this wonderful time of fellowship, learning, support, and prayer please contact the office and we will forward you all the information you need. Thank you Cynthia for this powerful ministry!

6. Bible Study. Our Women's Bible Study group continues to meet every Saturday morning through ZOOM. If you are interested in joining or forming a group of your own, please contact the office and we will forward you all the information you need and get you started.

7. Choir. Our Choir has started meeting again on Zoom. Anne will be leading rehearsals on Wednesday nights at 7pm. If you are interested in joining, please contact the office and we will forward you all the information you need.

8. Food Cupboard. Our Food Cupboard remains open. We are very thankful to all of you who continue to give to our Food Cupboard. If you have any items you would like to donate, please drive up to the patio on Monday or Wednesday between 9-12 and we will receive your donation. We currently always need canned foods, mac and cheese, pasta, and pasta sauce. As the weather gets cooler and the rains start to return, we will also need coats, shoes, socks, sleeping bags, etc. For more information, contact the office.

9. Staying Connected. In an attempt to keep us all connected during this time of uncertainty, we have assigned one of our Elders or Deacons to stay connected to each and every one of you. Please let us know if you haven't heard from one of us. These Elders and Deacons will continue to call you to check in, answer any questions you might have, and offer any help they can. We hope this has been helpful. *In addition to these phone calls, please continue to stay connected to each other through phone, text, email, regular mail, etc...*

10. Giving. Thank you so much for your continued giving to God's ministry here at FirstPres. We have been overwhelmed with your generosity and faith. Please continue to give in the way that is most comfortable to you. In an attempt to make it easier to give, we have added a PayPal "donate" button on our website. Visit the GIVING page on our website to use it.

11. Stay Tuned & Stay Safe. Finally, stay tuned for all possible communications via email, website, or phone, which will contain important announcements, plans, and tools. For more information, continue to use these websites to stay informed:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>

<https://govstatus.egov.com/or-covid-19>

<https://www.cascadespresbytery.org/covid-19-resources/>

We know emotions can be high in this current pandemic, and understandably so. So, we leave you with the words of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ:

"Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Matthew 11:28-30

The Session and Staff of First Presbyterian Church, North Bend.