

Zwingli United Church of Christ

Celebrating and Sharing God's Love

Zwingli Hill News

June 2020

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But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth. —John 4:23-24

...the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit. - Galatians 5:22-25

Just to be clear, the Church has not been closed, so it doesn't need to be re-opened. We have simply stopped worshipping in our buildings for a time to protect the health and well-being of our people and our communities. The Church does not require a building in order to be the Church. What is required is love, compassion and the presence of God. – Rev. Roger Lynn

I've been thinking a bit recently about what makes a community of people a church. This is the second time in a relatively short period that we at Zwingli have had to face this question. Many of us remember the fire of 2008 and how it shifted our thinking about what it meant to be Zwingli United Church of Christ when worship, fellowship, learning and serving could no longer be centered at 350 Wile Avenue. I remember the banner that hung in front of the congregation at the Boys and Girls Club that reminded us each week that "The Building is Gone, but the Ministry Goes On." It was a statement that spoke clearly about our faith and our emerging understanding of church. There was a lot that we had to let go of to come to that place of wisdom.

With COVID 19, we are being taught even deeper lessons about letting go and coming to understand church in ways we never could have imagined. God is expanding our awareness about the heart of faith and church. We are being driven to focus on the essentials like love, compassion and the presence of God. We are coming to see more clearly how important it is to cultivate the fruits of the Spirit mentioned in Galatians, especially patience. Humility and prayer are critical too, as are worship and praise, study, scripture, service, community and relationship.

There may be other things to add to our list of essentials, like Communion, passing the peace, singing together and fellowshipping after a service or at a picnic. Serving those in need and visiting at the hospital may also come to mind. What's difficult is that the typical ways of expressing our faith and community through our bodies (Christianity IS incarnational!) are not possible for a time. Even when we move into the "yellow phase" of the guidelines for return, some of the customary actions, practices and behaviors at the heart of our faith will still be limited in some way. The instructions from various health, Church and other entities is that we will need to limit gatherings to 25 or less, with no singing, no fellowship time, and no passing of the peace, while wearing masks and maintaining six-foot physical distancing. Those 60 and over, especially with underlying issues like heart problems, respiratory issues and diabetes, WE ARE INSTRUCTED, should continue to shelter in place (which, by the way, includes me).

So, what will our faith community look like as we move into the summer? More of the same as we have experienced the last few months? Will we begin to transition quickly, or be patient and wait for greater clarity

and safety? Some really like worshipping in their pajamas with coffee and breakfast nearby. For others, they've foregone worship because live streaming is just not worship to them. What about things like the Perkasie Park service, where we worship with friends from the park and enjoy great food and fellowship? What about the ways we can serve others? Will it be strange to limit gatherings at church when the Jersey shore is essentially open, when others are gathering without thought for the safety of others, when folk still do not know how to wear a mask? Do we feel like we've dealt with enough loss and distance and limitation and it's time to move on with it?

These and many other questions fill our minds and hearts as we make personal decisions and consider what is best for Zwingli. The uncertainty felt at the beginning of the "stay at home" orders will continue as we transition to whatever yellow or green may look like in the return to some "normal" routines. I also know that this will not be an easy time for leaders of the church since there will be 150 opinions about what direction to take, as well as prominent voices from several higher profile sources encouraging us, or telling us what to do. Some will speak from a place of faith, prayer, knowledge, wisdom and concern for others, while others will simply speak an opinion without reflecting on faith, facts, or a concern for the most vulnerable.

Whatever decisions are made about direction and "return," I hope that we can show the patience demonstrated after the fire. I trust that we will be led by a faith that tells us we can worship anywhere in Spirit and in truth. I believe that we are a people that can deal with uncertainty as long as we know God is with us. I know we are a church that exercises nurture and care, is unafraid of the questions (and some of the challenging answers), and that we yearn to follow the Spirit and do what is best and right and faithful.

There will be anxious times ahead, but with the grace of God, presence of Christ, and inspiration of the Spirit, we can truly walk together. May it be so.

Sorry for the long article. Thanks for reading. Take care, be well and stay safe.

Blessings and Peace, Butch

Table of Contents

1	Facebook Live, Zoom, Healthy Moments	7	Spiritual Call Line
3	Offering, ONA	9	June Birthdays
4	Christian Education	10	Kids' Page
5	A Heart for Missions		



JOIN FACEBOOK LIVE!

On Tuesdays and Thursdays at 12 noon of each week, Pastor Butch will provide a short 6-8-minute faith reflection on Zwingli's Facebook page. Please join in with other friends and members as we strive to make a connection and share our faith. You can simply go to Zwingli's Facebook page at the appropriate time, or connect using the link provided in an email to be sent Tuesday and Thursday mornings.

JOIN PASTOR BUTCH ON ZOOM

On Thursdays each week at 12:15 pm, Pastor Butch will host a zoom session with those interested for a deeper discussion of faith matters and questions during this challenging and uncertain time. An invitation will be sent with the appropriate link. If the church office does not have your email address and you want to participate, please be in touch with Lisa in the office at 215-723-1186 or office@zwingli.org. If you need help with setting up zoom (it's easy, even Pastor Butch can do it), please let us know!



Healthy Moments Wearing Masks and Gloves During Covid-19 Pandemic By Kristie Lowery, Faith Congregational Health Nurse

"Discretion will protect you, and understanding will guard you. "Proverbs 2:11

It has been eight weeks since the coronavirus arrived in our community. Since then, we have been inundated multiple times a day, on how to deal with the coronavirus. The talk shows, newspaper, and social media are full of advice for you to maneuver through this pandemic. It is important that we recognize the credible resources and who we can depend on to give us the best information to keep us safe and healthy while coping with our activities of daily living. A common question is when do we need to wear a mask and do we need to use aloves? The recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention(CDC) are credible and accurate, making them a reliable resource. Their information was used as a resource for this article.

Face Mask

The purpose of the face mask is to slow the spread of the virus and to keep people who may have the virus and do not know it, from transmitting it to others. The cloth face masks or coverings should fit snugly but comfortably against the side of the face. It should be secured with ties or ear loops and should include multiple layers of fabric. It should allow for breathing without restriction. The mask should extend from

above your nose and all the way down under your chin. It should not hang loosely on your face. Men with facial hair should be aware that the mask will not fit as snug to the face and can increase the risk of virus particles to leak out. The face mask worn by the general public should not be a surgical mask or the N-95 respirators. Those are to be reserved for healthcare workers and other medical first responders.

The cloth face covering should be worn in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain (i.e. grocery store), especially in areas of significant community-based transmission. Social distancing is to be maintained even while wearing a mask. The face mask or covering should not be placed on young children under age 2. Also, it should not be used by those having trouble breathing, or maybe unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the cloth face covering without assistance. When removing the mask, touch only the ties or elastic loops and avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth. Place mask in a paper bag until you can return home and launder it. Wash hands immediately after removing it. The masks should be laundered and machine dried without damage or change to shape.

When running errands or out shopping, the mask can be removed while in the car. If you are sharing the car and riding with someone else that you do not live with on a daily basis, you should wear a mask while in the car. A mask should definitely be worn when utilizing public transportation.

While walking or exercising outside, a mask is not needed if you will not be in close contact with other people. If walking in an area where it is not possible to pass each other 6 feet apart, the mask should be worn.

Gloves

For the general public, the CDC recommends wearing gloves when cleaning or caring for someone who is sick. In most other situations like running errands, wearing gloves is not necessary. It is recommended to practice every day preventive actions like keeping social distancing at least 6 feet from others, washing your hands with soap and water for 20 seconds (or hand sanitizer), and wearing a cloth face covering.

When routinely cleaning and disinfecting your home, wear gloves and use a disinfectant product. Wash your hands after you remove the gloves. If you are providing care to someone who is sick at home or in another non-healthcare setting, use disposable gloves when cleaning and disinfecting the area around the person who is sick or other surfaces that may be frequently touched in the home. After using disposable gloves, throw them out in a lined trash can. Do not disinfect or reuse the gloves.

Wearing gloves outside of these instances (i.e. using a shopping cart or using an ATM) will not necessarily protect you from getting the coronavirus. The best way to protect yourself from germs when running errands and after going out is to regularly wash your hands with soap and water for 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer. It is recommended that after you return home from shopping, disinfect your counters and areas in contact with your shopping bags.

The Coronavirus (COVID-19) is a respiratory virus and is mainly spread through droplets created when a person who is infected coughs, sneezes, or talks. You can protect yourself and others by implementing the preventive actions as described previously (social distancing, washing hands) throughout your day. The important thing is that we stay safe and healthy!!

References

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) When to Wear Gloves. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. May 9, 2020.

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/gloves.html
Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Use of Cloth Face Coverings to Help Slow the Spread of COVID-19. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html



SOCIAL DISTANCING AND GIVING WHILE OUR REGULAR WAY OF LIFE IS TEMPORARILY GONE, THE MINISTRY GOES ON!

We've been worshipping online for over two months now. One difference with distance worshiping is that we can't pass our offering envelope through the computer or smartphone screen to the offering plate. Through this crisis, the church continues to need your financial support. The Ministry of Stewards are grateful for those members who practice electronic giving and we encourage more to sign-up. To do so, go to Zwingli's Stewardship web page at https://zwingli.org/stewardship.php and scroll down to e-Giving. Click on the link to the e-giving form, print and complete the form and mail it to the church office.

We understand that there are some folks who are experiencing a significant cut in their income and feel a need to cut back on their giving. There may be others who are not impacted who might contribute more for a while during this lean time for

others. If you are in either situation and are currently electronically giving, you can use the e-giving form to change your offering amount during this crisis. Another convenient way to fulfill your faith promise is to go to Zwingli's main web page at https://zwingli.org/index.php, click on the yellow oval button that says "Donate" and use PayPal to transfer your offering to the church. If you already have a PayPal account, you can easily send your offering using the PayPal app on your smartphone. Just search for Zwingli UCC and the church's account will come up as Church Office (office@zwingli.org). Enter the offering amount, specify in the note section if it is for general fund, missions, or building fund. Add your envelope number if you have it handy. PayPal does charge a small fee. Of course, mailing your offering to the church office is an easy, fee-free option. Contact Rick Rogers, Chair, Ministry of Stewardship (rikrogers@verizon.net or call or text 215-527-9119) if you have any questions or need help using these alternative methods of supporting your church.



Very recently, Saturday, May 9th to be exact, a number of 'Zwingli's Family Members' took advantage of what has been described as an "Absolutely fantastic LGBTQIA+ Cultural Competency Training on-line session".

The event was organized by Weesie Lauher who is the Office Manager and Event Coordinator at Boehm's UCC in Blue Bell. Weesie noted that "We at Boehm's are incredibly grateful to Melissa Buchminster and the Montgomery County LGBT

business Bureau for their support and partnership in making the event happen. The session was skillfully presented by Todd Snovel of The Penna. College of Art and Design.

Todd describes himself this way:

"I am a learner. I am an extrovert. I am driven. I am inspired. I am self-aware. I am an educator."

His career includes 15 years of experience in government, higher education, and non-profit settings delivering on constituent/student experiences, seizing opportunities to innovate, and cultivating highly successful relationships and partnerships. He is currently leading the nation's first statewide commission for LGBTQ Affairs.

Todd led the group thru the process of building skills and understandings within the ongoing process of showing respect and offering inclusion for the LGBTQIA+ community.

He identified important issues, strategies and possible resolutions to consider when working to build an open and affirming organization. Todd also spoke on how and why the use of language is so important in the establishment of any church or business community's culture.

It was an interesting, informative and reinforcing three hours.

We look forward to being together again to continue our study of becoming and open and affirming congregation.

Earl Ludwig



GRADUATE RECOGNITION

Although graduations will likely be celebrated in different ways this year, Zwingli has always felt it is important to recognize our graduates and all of their hard work. This year is no exception. We plan to acknowledge all of our graduates on May 31st during the regularly scheduled church service.



TEACHER APPRECIATION - JUNE 7th

While the Educators are not able to show our appreciation for all of our teachers in the way we originally planned, we will virtually show our appreciation on June 7th with the help of our Sunday School families. Thanks again for all you have done and all you continue to do!



Vacation Bible Camp Save the Date -8/3/20 to 8/7/20 - PLEASE NOTE - THIS WILL NOW BE A VIRTUAL EVENT

Climb aboard - 8/3/20 to 8/7/20 for mountains of fun at Rocky Railway! On this faith-filled adventure, kids discover that trusting Jesus pulls them through life's ups and downs. What a powerful message for these times. Keep an eye on church communications to see how campers can register as well as how you can help.



OUR FINAL ZOOM SUNDAY SCHOOL JUNE 7TH

We will complete our series of zoom Sunday School sessions on June 7th and stay in touch with our kids over the summer with less formal opportunities, notes, Vacation Bible Camp (see that article), and maybe at some point (when allowed and safe) a picnic. Kids' bulletins will still be sent for worship each week with activities related to the scripture readings. Keep watch for notices about stories or games that may pop up to keep us connected.



LYFT FELLOWSHIP CONTINUES

We've done virtual games and gatherings. Please watch your emails for more upcoming events. If you have any requests or suggestions for fun ways to gather virtually, please let Pastor Elaine know atpastor elaine@yahoo.com or 215-915-4370.



THANKFUL FOR QUALITY CARE

We know how hard long-term care facilities have been working to keep their residents and staff healthy throughout this pandemic. While Phoebe Healthcare is not as close as many, it is a ministry of the United Church of Christ and has been a blessing to many of our members and friends. This

link https://phoebe.org/connecthearts/ takes you to a page showing many ways folks are helping Phoebe continue to provide quality care. Once there, I encourage you to look at the "Connect with Phoebe's Heroes" link. This is one of the ministries supported with our Missions funds each year.

CONVALESCENT PLASMA AND BLOOD DONORS NEEDED

Each year Zwingli and Zion Mennonite Church partner with Miller-Keystone Blood Centers of Reading and Bethlehem to conduct four blood drives. Miller-Keystone is the sole provider of blood products to 29 hospitals, including Grandview, St. Luke's, and Lehigh Valley. The organization also provides products to five additional hospitals on an as needed basis. With the current pandemic, we have the opportunity to partner on a larger scale. When a person contracts a virus, such as COVID-19, their immune system creates antibodies to fight against the virus. The antibodies stay in the blood plasma even after recovery. This convalescent plasma may be collected from the recovered person and transfused into moderately or severely ill patients to boost their immune system.

Miller-Keystone is participating in the COVIDPlasma.org initiative. Miller-Keystone's first unit of convalescent plasma was used to treat a patient who was sedated and on a ventilator. On April 14th, Miller-Keystone received notification that the patient was off the ventilator and recovering. Since then, Miller-Keystone has had 22 additional requests for convalescent plasma. If you know someone who has recovered andhas been symptom free for 28 days, please encourage him or her to consider donating plasma. If you have not had COVID-19, you can still give blood. One blood donation can save up to three lives. Go to www.giveapint.org for more information.



FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

As COVID-19 continues to spread where people come in contact with each other, Keystone's Food Pantry has switched to contactless home delivery of clients' monthly food distributions. By doing "knock and drop" home deliveries, Keystone helps clients save gas money by not having to drive to the pantry. What's more, we will be following public health stay at home guidance and eliminating the need for groups of volunteers to work together in the very small food pantry where social distancing is simply not possible. Current and new clients may contact the Food Pantry at 215-723-5430 x101 or email Contact@KeystoneOpp.org.

Additionally, donated items may be dropped off at Keystone's Offsite Storage Site on Mondays from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. Keystone is not accepting any donated items at our office or Pantry. Keystone's Offsite Storage Site is on Duke Alley in Souderton.



SIMPLE WAYS TO HELP THE GENERAL FUND BUDGET

Fasageo's Italian Restaurant and Pizzeria Fundraiser

Offering Delivery and Drop Off at no charge! See website for more information

https://www.fasageos.com/
We have partnered with Fasageo's Italian
Restaurant and Pizzeria, 724 Ridge Rd.,
Sellersville, PA for an ongoing fundraiser.

Fasageo's will return 10% of any food sales purchased to Zwingli. You just need to inform them when placing your order for dine in (when available), pick up, or delivery that you are a member of Zwingli. It's that simple!

BULLETIN MAILINGS

Would you like a bulletin mailed to you on a weekly basis? If so, please call the church office and we will add you to our weekly bulletin mailing list.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO JOIN THE MAILING CREW?

When things clear up, we will begin to meet again to send out the monthly mailing. If you are interested in joining us, we meet the last Wednesday each month (except for July & December) at 9 am in the Conference Room as we talk and laugh and put together the monthly mailing.



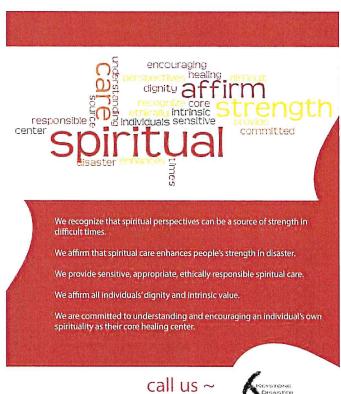
IF YOU ARE HOSPITALIZED

Due to privacy procedures implemented by all healthcare facilities, it is much more difficult for the church to obtain information about patients than it has been in the past. If you or a member of your family is hospitalized, or at a rehab or other health facility, please let the church office and the pastor(s) know directly. This is the only way you can be certain this information will be received.

SPIRITUAL CARE CALL LINE

In response to the unique challenges presented by COVID-19 to the people of Pennsylvania, the Keystone Disaster Spiritual Care Network has established a Spiritual Care Call Line to provide appropriate and respectful disaster spiritual care to people of all ages, races, and religions.

24 Hours a Day/7 Days a Week 717-303-3538 OR 888-255-6520



1-888-255-6520



DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING MAILING ARTICLES FOR THEJULY/AUGUST MAILING IS

MONDAY, JUNE 22

PLEASE INCLUDE ANY INFORMATION FOR ALL OF JULY AND AUGUST AND THE FIRST TWO WEEKS IN SEPTEMBER.

Note to the Mailing Crew and anyone else who wants to help: If permitted, we will meet on Wednesday, July 1at 9 am to send out the mailing next month.

Zwingli UCC Staff

Butch Kuykendall, D.Min.	Senior Pastor		
Elaine Ely	Interim Associate Director		
Steve Emery Interim Music Director, Bell Choir Dir.			
Lisa Cinciripini	Office Administrator		
Kristie Lowery	Office Assistant		
Linda Cuddahy	Nursery Caregiver		

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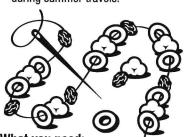






ROAD TRIP() TREAT

Make this snack necklace to enjoy during summer travels.

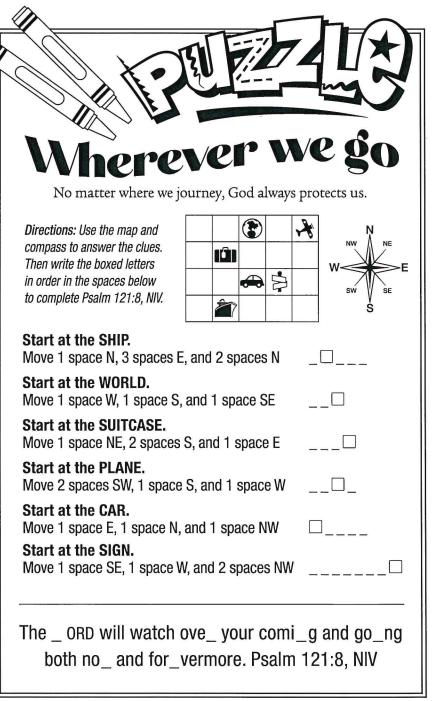


What you need:

- Dental floss
- Sewing needle
- O-shaped cereal
- Raisins
- Popcorn



- 1. Carefully thread a yard of floss through the needle.
- 2. String a pattern of cereal, raisins and popcorn on the floss until only 4 inches remain on either end. Tie the two ends together.
- 3. Repeat to make necklaces for your whole family.
- When you're ready to eat, simply bite off each "bead." Experiment with other non-perishable foods.



Answer: plane, car, sign, ship, world, suitcase. The LORD will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore. Psalm 121:8, MIV