



First Presbyterian Church, Union MO

Volume 39; May 2020

## Letter from Pastor Bill Vincent

*He is risen! He is risen indeed!*  
Remember that...always.

Even so, we have questions, and concerns.  
When will we get back together?  
How long will this new reality last?  
Has life been altered permanently?  
How can we stay safe?  
How can we stay in touch?

The Session is working on plans not only for *when* to come back together for in-person gatherings, but also *how* to do that. And be aware, things might look differently as we do it.



We don't want to rush too fast: I've heard that concern from many of you. But we do want to get back together in person, face to face at some time: I've heard that from many of you, too. But we want to be smart about it; we want to be caring about it. And safe: safe for ourselves and for each other and for our community.

So please pray for guidance and wisdom as we make these decisions and seek to lead this congregation in hope-affirming steps and a life-affirming direction.

The Session and I continue to try to reach out and touch base with everyone. If you have not heard from us, or if you have and you're still feeling the need, or just need to hear someone else's voice, do not hesitate to reach out to us. Give us a call! We want to be here for you.

If you are able, and as you feel led, please continue to support the church financially. We still have bills to pay, and the ministry of the church – our ministry – still takes money, as well as time, effort, and prayer. (You can mail your checks to the church: our mail continues to be checked regularly.)

I hope the worship resources being provided are supporting you in this time and in your life. (I am learning a great deal through this process!) Videos will continue to be made available and hard copies will continue to be mailed out.

Until then (whenever)...

- \*Wash your hands.
- \*Stay six feet apart.
- \*Cover your coughs and sneezes.
- \*Stay home if you're sick and call the doctor if you need to.
- \*Call someone up and have a chat, just to be in contact with someone – if you need it, they probably could use it, too.
- \*Encourage one another.
- \*Pray for each other.
- \*Stay safe.

And remember: *He is risen! He is risen indeed!* And he is with us every step of the way.

*Peace in Christ,  
Bill Vincent*



## *Pentecost Sunday May 31st*

Please be thinking of the great commissioning and how we can contribute to a very important offering that the PC(USA) features during the month of May.

A foundation of faith established during childhood through young adulthood helps ensure lifelong faith and service. When you give to the Pentecost Offering, you are helping to provide opportunities for young people to grow and share in their faith in Christ.

40%, or the greatest portion of the offering, stays with our congregation to develop and support young people.

25% goes to Young Adult Volunteers (YAV) who serve in communities around the world, and grow as leaders through transformative Christian service.

25% goes to supporting ministries that inspire and guide youth as they grow and walk with Christ.

10% provides advocacy to protect - and education that nurtures, our children and youth.

Please make checks out to our church and write Pentecost Offering in the subject line.

### *Obituary: Patricia Stover*

Many of you knew Patricia Stover. She passed away Monday, April 6 at Frene Valley Nursing home, Hermann. Patt, who was a resident of New Haven, was 93 year old. Patt loved her Irish heritage and was so happy to visit Ireland with her husband, Jim. Patt's obituary appeared in the Wednesday, April 29 issue of The Missourian. There will be a celebration of her life at a later date at the United Church of Christ, New Haven.

*Worshiping and serving God, loving and accepting all*



Second Blessings Food pantry will continue to be open as long as possible. Premade bags of food will be available on Tuesdays from 10am -1:00pm and Thursdays from 12:30 – 2:30pm. Everything will be done outside.

By following the Social Distancing guidelines, we ask that you, please wait in your car away from others until you see a volunteer come outside. Then you may start a line on the sidewalk next to the church (with at least 6 feet between you and the next person). One person per household may stand in line. Someone will be outside to guide you through the process. All must still be registered with us to receive food, but registration is easy. If you would like to make a donation, monetary or in food items call 636-649-4545 or email at [secondblessingspantry@yahoo.com](mailto:secondblessingspantry@yahoo.com).