

Newburgh United Methodist Church

September 2020 Newsletter

IN PERSON WORSHIP REQUIRES PATIENCE AND COOPERATION

It has been an experience having people in the Sanctuary again. Believe it or not, it felt like my very first Sunday at NUMC again. I discovered that I was a bit nervous to preach to people again as I had finally gotten used to preaching to a camera lens. ADJUSTMENT and FLUIDITY are the key words these days. Just as I have had to adjust, so too will you.

WE HAVE DISCOVERED after these first weeks that we are above capacity in the Sanctuary. WE HAVE ALSO DISCOVERED that folks would prefer to be where the pastor and leadership team are as opposed to viewing the service on a screen in one of our three locations. So, as I write this today (August 15) we are already planning to move to 2 worship services in 2 locations so that more people can experience in person worship with appropriate social distancing.

THIS BEGS THE QUESTION, "So what time will they be and what about community time and will this be forever...." And on and on.

HERE IS THE STARTING POINT. If CDC and State Guidelines do not change, we will have one service at 8:30am in the Sanctuary and one service at 11:00am in the Life Center. Both worship services will be the same format but in the two locations. Community Time will also continue, but it will now be at 9:45am. This allows for existing groups and new groups to have a discipleship time on Sunday.

IF ALL GOES ACCORDING TO PLAN, the two-service model will begin on September 13th.

AS COVID CONTINUES, and as the weather changes we are looking at a more consistent and safe way to allow groups to meet inside. PATIENCE AND COOPERATION are needed from everyone.

LET ME SAY THAT ONE MORE TIME:

PATIENCE AND COOPERATION ARE NEEDED FROM EVERYONE

HOW YOU CAN HELP WHEN YOU COME TO IN PERSON WORSHIP:

- Meet the hostess at the Sanctuary doors and go the seat that she will assign you. Due to size of families and individual peoples' needs, we cannot have folks sit anywhere because then we will not be able to meet capacity. We are currently to capacity and beyond.
- When full, you will be asked to move to one of our overflow areas. Please be willing to be flexible.
- Resist moving about the sanctuary and visiting with folks. This is a Covid spreading issue.
- At the conclusion of the service, remain seated until the worship guides dismiss your row.

We can do this, if we work together.

- Pastor Craig

I 
SOCIAL
DISTANCING



LET US PRAY

During these months of pandemic, ironically, the amount of prayer requests has decreased. Yes, decreased. This is not because folks have less need of prayer, but rather do not have the consistent ability to share prayers through Sunday worship. The Newburgh UMC prayer team is still active and would like to pray for you. Human nature tells us that we do not want to bother someone else with our concerns.

PRAYER IS NOT A BOTHER BUT A PRIVILEGE.

Here are some ways to share your prayer need with us:

- Call the church office between 9:00am – Noon Monday through Thursday.
- Email any staff member. Staff email is simply the staff member's name with @newburghumc.org.

Example: Craig@newburghumc.org

- Call or text Pastor Craig directly: 812-677-0285
- Call or text our prayer team leader Liz Knox: 812-629-1120
- Drop a note of prayer request in the offering/contact basket as you leave worship.

We look forward to hearing or reading your prayer concerns.

A lot of times people think of Missions as strictly giving. Giving in terms of money or donations, but giving can also be in the form of prayer. After cleaning out the Missions mailbox, and yes, there was a pile of letters for various wants and needs, the mission team members want to ask you to pray for those families, individuals, organizations, etc, in need during these uncertain times. Just a few suggestions will follow and thank you for your prayers.

Dearest father, please lift all those in need especially the Coleman Connection and one Mission Society, Lowell and Claudia Wertz and Joy of the Harvest, Back2Back ministries, The Evansville Christian Center, Mission Guatemala, Bashor Children's Home, Midwest Mission, United Methodist Youth Home, Hope Central, One Mission Society, Teach Beyond and the Teichmer family, God is Good Foundation, and our own church and programs. We thank you for your continued Love and Guidance now and always, Amen.

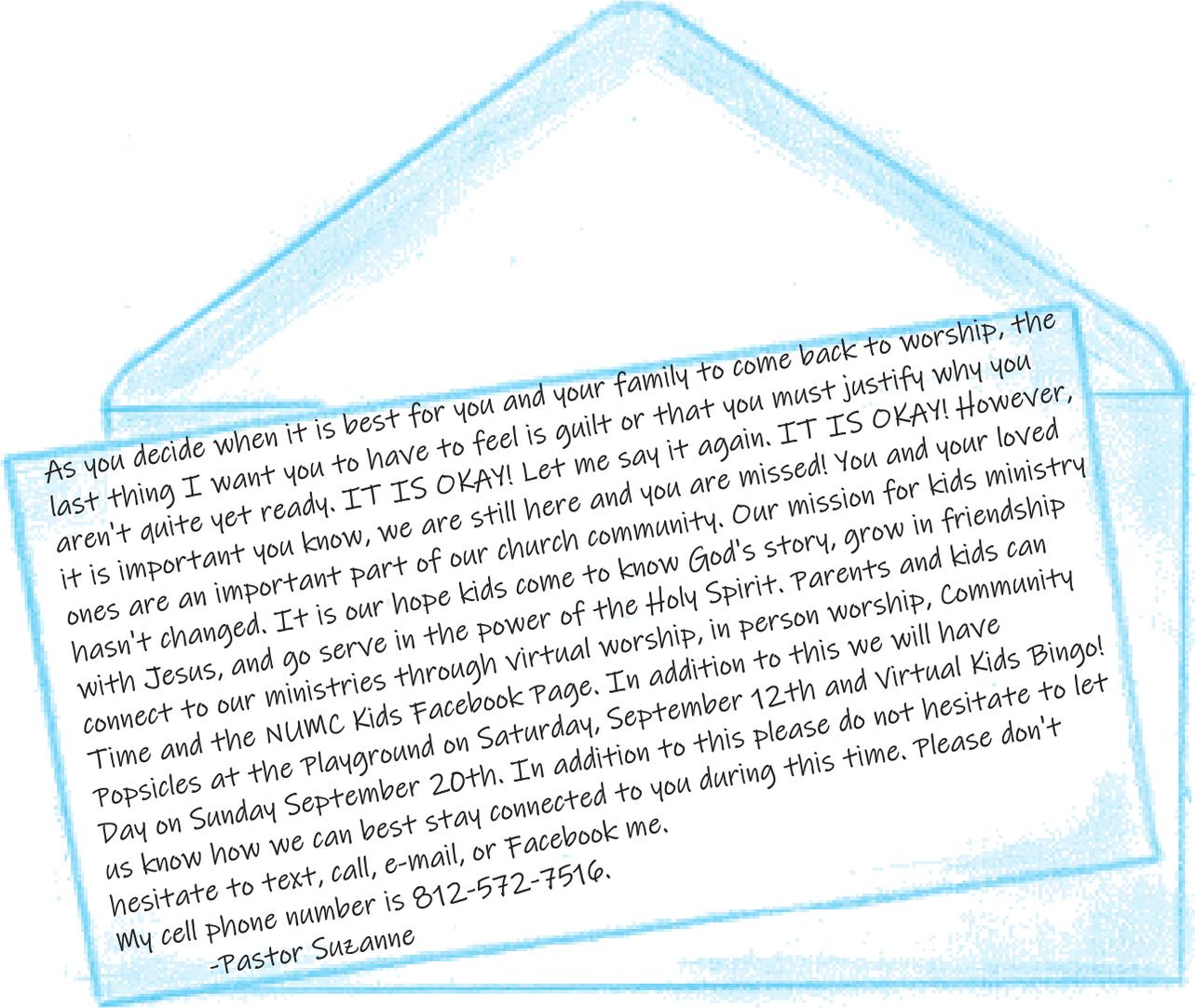
THE POWER OF PRAYER

WORSHIP GUIDES FOR WORSHIP ARE ALWAYS NEEDED

Being a worship guide on Sunday morning, is a great way to serve God. Each Sunday persons are needed at each worship entrance to pass out masks, direct folks to their seats, answer questions, give instruction, dismiss the congregation and sanitize the worship area after worship is over.

You must be willing to support the importance of seating arrangements and social distancing and mask wearing.

If you are interested in serving this way, please contact Judy or Erin at the church office: 853-2946.



As you decide when it is best for you and your family to come back to worship, the last thing I want you to have to feel is guilt or that you must justify why you aren't quite yet ready. IT IS OKAY! Let me say it again. IT IS OKAY! However, it is important you know, we are still here and you are missed! You and your loved ones are an important part of our church community. Our mission for kids ministry hasn't changed. It is our hope kids come to know God's story, grow in friendship with Jesus, and go serve in the power of the Holy Spirit. Parents and kids can connect to our ministries through virtual worship, in person worship, Community Time and the NUMC Kids Facebook Page. In addition to this we will have Popsicles at the Playground on Saturday, September 12th and Virtual Kids Bingo! Day on Sunday September 20th. In addition to this please do not hesitate to let us know how we can best stay connected to you during this time. Please don't hesitate to text, call, e-mail, or Facebook me.
My cell phone number is 812-572-7516.
-Pastor Suzanne



We want to give a big thank you to Sophie Fanok who served as our ministry intern at NUMC this summer. Sophie mainly helped out with children's and youth ministries, but she also plugged in whenever and wherever needed. She lent a helping hand during the summer of pandemic and ever changing ministry. Sophie is back at Purdue now and we hope to see her on school breaks.

We also want to thank the F5 Sunday School Class and friends that gave the Life Center a much needed fresh coat of paint on the walls. Make sure to check out their hard work when you come back to worship!



MISSION TEAM

Hi everyone! Schools are back in session. Church is back in session. People are happy to have a little “normal” in their routine. It’s nice when we can see one another, even in a smaller setting, 6 feet apart. *Thanks to all the staff and volunteers* that help make our families safe and provide clean up after everyone leaves. It’s been a crazy 5 months hasn’t it? You know what has been consistent? Our Food Pantry and its volunteers. Families in our community have continued to be blessed with food for their families and personal care items as needed. Every Monday, men and women from our church and community have been present filling orders and taking them out to families. Making trips to Rulers for food donations to stock the freezers when able, as well as the pantry. People have continued to donate necessary items as well. *Thank you Paul Stoops* for organizing all the volunteers to help. What a tribute of helping our brothers and sisters. Then the clothing bank opened and they have been a huge help to families needing clothing supplies. *Thank you Penny Utley and Marianne Salpietra* for arranging your volunteers too. Now add the backpack ministry that Susan Burgdorf has managed for the past 15 plus years. *Thank you Susan and Lisa Newton* for shopping and gathering school supplies for our families that are counting on a little something for their children as they begin school preparations at home or in the classroom. *Thank you to the congregation members* for your continued contributions to the Missions Team and Faith Promise. Without your support, we could not fund ongoing relief for our community.

Please continue to support the food pantry with your food donations. Cereal, pancake mx, syrup, canned carrots and pea, peanut butter and jelly are just a few of the staples people come to depend on. They also provide dish soap and other personal care items as available. The clothing closet can always use socks and underwear, in all sizes and gender. Get ready for cooler weather today, so watch for gloves, hats and scarves when they become available. We have always been a supportive church and a leader in the community with our food pantry and clothing closet. Help us continue this tradition and stay safe. Wear a mask.

Join us for Open Gym:

Volleyball - Tuesdays 6:30-8:30pm

Pickleball - Wednesdays and Thursdays 6:30-8:30pm

We have a small group of fun-loving players and we encourage you to come out and enjoy some recreation time with your friends and family.

You can still socially distance and have tons of fun!

The softball field and sand volleyball court are available for use!

Please email me at angie@newburghumc.org to sign up for any of our activities or reserve the ball field and sand court.

Stay Active, My Friends! - Angie

RECREATION MINISTRY





Virtual Kids BINGO! Sunday September 20th @4pm

All kids K-5th grade are invited to play Virtual Bingo with Pastor Suzanne and all their church friends on September 20th at 4pm via Zoom! Pastor Suzanne will call BINGO, the kids will play, and we will all have fun! There will be prizes, mailed of course! All you need to do is let Pastor Suzanne know you want to play by texting (812-572-7516) or e-mailing (suzanne@newburghumc.org). You will arrange to either have your bingo card and chips mailed to you or you will pick them up from the church! Younger kids might need some help from a parent, that is okay!!! **Let Pastor Suzanne know you plan to play by Sunday, September 13th so that your supplies arrive to you on time!**

Popsicle at the Playground: Saturday September 12th 1-3pm

I'll be at Fortress of Fun on Saturday, September 12th from 1-3pm. Meet me at the playground for a popsicle! Come say hi. Play for a little bit. Don't play at all. Get a popsicle either way!



Community Time: Sundays

Kids (Preschool - 5th Grade) and a loved one are invited to join us during community time on Sundays, September 6th from 11am-12pm and September 13th, 20th, and 27th from 10-11am. Community time is a time to dive deeper into knowing God's Story and our place in it. It is also a time to safely connect in person outside. Join us on the north side of the building under the trees by the ballfield.

Drive Thru Adventure

We had 12 teams compete in the August Drive Thru adventure event. It was a fun and friendly competition around town. In the end the Hostetter and Friends team took home the trophy. We are already thinking of clues for next summer! *Thank you to Billy and Wanda Kavanaugh for loaning their yard out as a clue site.*



Youth Ministry

We have enjoyed our youth time at the Shelter House in July and August. We have had the chance to spend time together through games and conversation.

Plans are still being made for September; parents and students will be notified when they are finished. Current youth information can always be found on the Youth Ministry page on the church website as well as

notifications on the youth Instagram page and parent Facebook group. We welcome all 6th - 12th grade students for times of safe social distance gatherings. Instagram is used during the week for teaching follow up in the feed and games in the story. Follow us at @numcyouth

Adopt a College Student!

Many college students are back on campus so it is time for us to support our students, especially during these challenging times. If you have a college student, away or at home, please email Linda with their name and address so we can support them this year. If you are interested in "adopting" a college student by sending mail, care packages, encouraging messages, etc. please let Linda know also. Send all email to linda@newburghumc.org.



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Newburgh United Methodist Church
4178 S.R. 261
Newburgh, IN 47630
(812) 853-2946
www.newburghumc.org



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U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
NEWBURGH, IN 47630
PERMIT NO. 24