

Dear lovely Adoration members:

This is an all-congregation update on things that matter about God's church on 38th and Edgerton:

**1. Curbside Communion:** We are having a Curbside Communion this coming Sunday, August 2, 2020 from 9AM to 10AM. Please read the following directions for coming to Adoration that day to receive the sacrament from your car. You should already have received these in a separate email:

### **Guidance for Drive-through Holy Communion**

From 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. on August 2, 2020, you are welcome to come to Adoration to receive Holy Communion from Pastor Debra while remaining in your car in the parking lot. This will last until we are finished distributing Holy Communion to those who come—or 10 a.m. if there is no one left to receive. We are also asking, if you wish to, that you also bring a pair or package of socks for homeless individuals in the greater Milwaukee community. God's work, our hands.

### **We also ask that you follow these guidelines:**

- Please come in a vehicle. We are not able to accommodate foot traffic at this time. Make sure you are all wearing a mask. We will provide you with them if you forget.
- You will enter the parking lot from the west. An attendant will be there to welcome you and help guide you.
- It is likely that a line may form on Edgerton Ave in either direction. Please follow the vehicle in front of you and be mindful of our neighbors' driveways.
- Please wear a mask when you are in front of Pastor Debra. Again, if you don't have a mask, an attendant will be available in the parking lot with disposable masks.
- When you are the vehicle "on deck" to receive Holy Communion from Pastor Debra, please stay one vehicle length back for safety and privacy purposes. You will be coming to her with the driver's side near the church, the car facing east.
- The church will be closed and you will not be able to go into the church while you are coming to receive Holy Communion.
- When you reach Pastor Debra near the walkway that enters into the church, Pastor will give you Holy Communion that will already have been consecrated in a pre-packaged set and give it to you through the driver's window along with a sheet of prayers to use when receiving. Pastor Debra will provide a blessing. Pastor will be wearing a mask, as will you, to protect both of you. There will be no physical contact.

- After you have received the elements of Holy Communion, please immediately exit the parking lot using the east entrance so that you do not cause a back up or congestion in the parking lot.
- If you have also brought socks then someone will come to the passenger's side, also masked, as should be any of your passengers, and you can put your socks into the receptacle provided. Again, after you receive Communion, please proceed out of the east exit/entrance to the parking lot so that others can now come into the lot.
- We will be here even if it rains. If there is severe weather forecast we will cancel. Call Pastor Debra (414-339-9266) or Ted Lazaris (414-690-6554) if you have any questions or concerns.

**2. Trial Annual Meeting:** On August 9, 2020 at 11AM will we have a Zoom Annual Meeting trial. Our actual Annual meeting, using Zoom, will be on August 30. (You will need to register for the actual Annual Meeting (and the eventual Call Meeting for your new Pastor.) For this meeting you will simply need to come and in place of fellowship we are going to try out the voting process that you will need to use for the Annual Meeting and to vote for your new Pastor. Everyone already gets an invitation each week to come to virtual Fellowship.

**3. Update from Call Committee:** The Adoration call committee is continuing on their mission of calling a new pastor. After finalizing their interview questions, they conducted a virtual mock interview with a retired pastor on Wednesday, July 8th and received thoughtful and supportive feedback. The call committee is now extremely confident and is ready to move forward with interviewing actual candidates. Pastor Kristin from the synod will be guiding us with this next step. Thank you for your trust and prayers as they continue to move forward, *From the Call Committee (Sandy Young, Chair; Mardy Lazaris; Jessica Hodgson; Jim Haas; Jennifer Anderson; and Gloria Becker.)*

#### **4. Ministry opportunities--Updates from Jessica Hodgson**

##### **A. ERAS (used to be Southwest Interfaith) Mum Sale**

ERAS (previously Southwest Interfaith) has continued to provide services to older adults throughout the pandemic. These services help older adults stay independent as long as possible.

The mum sale is a fundraiser for ERAS and is timed to coincide with Grandparents Day, Sept 13th. All mums must be pre-ordered this year. Orders can be sent to Jess Hodgson via e-mail at [jess.hodgson@erassouthwest.org](mailto:jess.hodgson@erassouthwest.org) or called in to Judy Goodwin at 414-281-9368. All orders must be submitted by Sunday, August 30th.

As in years past, a variety of colors will be available on a first come-first served basis. Prices remain at 1 plant for \$8, 2 plants for \$15, 3 plants for \$20, more at \$6.50 each. Pick up and pay at church on Friday 9/11 from 2-5 pm, Saturday 9/12 from 9-noon, or by arranging another time with Judy or Jess. Pick up will be outside the church.

## **B. Habitat for Humanity**

Date: Saturday, 8/15/2020

Location: 2429 W. Garfield Avenue

Task: Framing

Hours: 8:15am-3pm

Volunteer group size: up to 5

Lunch: All volunteers are required to bring their own lunches. We ask that folks not share food, stay socially distanced during all breaks and not order food or leave to pick up food.

### **COVID 19 Information**

- Currently we are restricting volunteers to those who are 18-64. This requirement may change over the summer and we will reach out with more information if/when that changes.

- Masks are required: please bring one to wear (and maybe 2-3 in warm weather to change them out.) Please let me know ahead of time if you need one.

- No carpooling with people not in your household

- Bring your own water bottle and lunch.

Online sign up:

- Direct your team to go to: ,

- Use join code "Adoration" when prompted. If folks have registered in previous years, they can add this join code by going to the top right and selecting admin, then adding the join code.

- Please note that participants will both "create an account" as a user (or sign in if you have used the system before) AND register for an event.

- People can contact me directly at if they have any problems with the system.

\*\*If you are unable to sign-up online but would like to volunteer or have other questions about this volunteer opportunity contact Jess Hodgson at or 608-797-2948.

**5. Funerals:** Some of you have been wondering what is happening around funerals and memorials. This is just a hard, hard time as families are seeking celebration of the lives of their loved ones according to the Christian tradition, alongside closure. Some families are still waiting. Others are moving forward in different ways.

Joe Bettin's family is choosing to honor his life privately right now with their family at a lake that Joe loved. We hope at some point to be able to have a more full celebration of his life at Adoration.

Wayne Duris' family is making the same kind of choice. I will be presiding at a family-only service in the next few weeks (small group, all wearing masks and using social distancing protocols) and they also hope to have an memorial service in the church when it is safe to do so.

Vernon Shelly's family (Note: Vernon Shelly is Crystal Willm's beloved grandfather) is opting to have a large service at the Max Sass funeral home to celebrate his life. I regret that I will not be doing that service for them having been present as he was dying. We have had several other deaths in the parish since the pandemic began and details are not available for those yet.

Please pray for these family's who have not been able to grieve using the fullness of their faith during this pandemic.

**6. Stewardship:** A reminder that the bills of the church are still needing to be paid. Thank you to all of you who continue to send your financial commitments into the church. And a special thank you to those who have signed up for Simply Giving. If you want to be part of Simply Giving, an automatic deduction program, please contact Sharon Anderson and she can get you started. and0058@sbcglobal.net

**7. Notes from the Pastor:** During this time of the pandemic when we are not meeting on Sunday's in our church, communication between and among members of the church becomes even more important. If you need something, call. If you know something, call. Or email. Or text. Or use Instant message. Or send a carrier pigeon. Please keep us updated on email, phone, address changes.

Zoom will be increasingly important as we hold our Annual meeting on August 3 and our Call meeting sometime in the fall. We have a Zoom Guru in Jim Haas. You can get on Zoom using a laptop, an iPad, or a phone--either a Smart phone or a regular phone. Jim can get you onto Zoom with any of those devices and then will practice with you.

Please keep in contact with us during this time when we are not worshipping in our church building.

I can be reached:

**Pastor Debra Trakel**, Interim Pastor

262-255-9266 (home)

414-339-9266 (cell)

**Ted Lazaris**, Council President:

414-421-0848 (home)

414-690-6554 (cell)

**Jim Haas**, (Council Vice-President--and local ZOOM expert!)

414-882-3916

jimhaas1057@gmail.com

**8. Notes from Kirk:** Hi, Kirk here again. My Mom is very busy this week working on something called a Curbside Communion service. So decided to step in and help her out sending you some thoughts for your all congregation update. My dog-Mom always used to say, "many paws make light work!"

I've had another exciting week. We have several young humans and one of them got to stay with me for three whole days. He is learning not to pull on my ears. But I really like him to be here because he drops lots of food on the floor for me to eat. I think he really likes me!

For a long time I have been doing on two walks every day. Now, sometimes, it's THREE walks because my Moms are both home so much and I think they really, really love me.

Sometimes we walk down to the pond near our house (Ed. note: Riverside Park). I love to see the baby ducks and the heron. (Well, if I am being honest, as Mom has taught me to be, I really like to jump at the baby ducks. The Mama duck does not seem to like that very much and flapped at me. It scared me so now I don't do that anymore.)

But every day, twice a day, we walk around all the houses in our neighborhood and I get to check out all of the mailbox posts for "messages" that my friends might have left me. Sometimes we go down to the pond, but I know the pond and it's smells. I love our pond. I love the sameness of our walks. It makes me feel safe.

This past week, Mom said to me, "Come on, Kirk. Let's go for a ride." Now, I love her and I usually trust her, but sometimes our rides end up at the dog Doctor and I have to get shots and things. I don't like that very much. So, I went very slowly to the car with my ears back and my tail hanging down to let her know that I was not very happy that we weren't going on our regular walk. I got into the car. But I was not happy. After a short drive she stopped the car and I jumped out. We were in a very different place. (Ed. note: Rotary Park.)

There was a big field with dirt and some sort of sacks on it, and grass all around it (Ed. note: a baseball diamond.). I ran from sack to sack and tried to pick them up. Mom yelled at me to "drop it," and so I had to stop. But gosh it was fun! Then we found a river and all sorts of new smells. And there were other dogs that I had never met before walking on the path. I was so excited I almost wiggled out of my fur. It was great!

When we got back in the car to go back home Mom reminded me that not all new things are bad. She said that's how it is with God and us. We sometimes find ourselves in new situations that we did not want to be in and God still makes good come out of those situations if we are open to it. Mom says, "God, who is all good, can work with anything to bring good."

I'm going to try and remember that the next time Mom asks me to do something that is new. Mom loves me like God loves you. I know that she would never do anything to hurt me; that she only wants good things for me. But sometimes, in order for good things to happen, I have to try something new. I'm glad I did.

I'll write again. Now I am going to take a nap. This writing stuff tires me out. Woof. Kirk