



A Message from Pastor Becca

I am writing to you from my desk at home this month. I am listening to birdsong, bamboo windchimes, and a large construction project on the sidewalk out front. While I do enjoy the birdsong and chimes, I have begun to miss terribly the sounds of our Small World students going about their day. No one pops in to say hello (except the pets) or ask a question, there is no ringing phone or doorbell. My workdays have changed in so many ways. From the place, to the sounds, to the rhythm of my days, it is all different. Now between worship prep and pastoral care we squeeze in math assignments.

I imagine the rhythm of your days has changed as well. None of us has experienced a change in rhythm quite like this before. Some of us will adapt easily to our new rhythms and others will struggle every day to maintain their mental health. I want you to know I am just a phone call, text, or email away. If you need to talk please reach out! I am looking forward to hearing from you. Please check in and let me know how you are spending your time, where you are grateful and where you are struggling. If you need anything, please do let the deacons or myself know. A handful of folks have found their way to my personal Facebook page, it has long been my personal boundary to not accept friend requests from current church members. However, in this ever-changing world I have decided now is a great time to connect via our social media accounts and I have begun accepting your requests.



Moving forward, when we are able to gather again in worship, it is likely worship will not look the same as it did before this experience. The Session is working and praying to figure out what this might look like when it is permissible for us to gather. We are exploring everything from will we need face masks to will we continue to offer streaming worship.

Speaking of worship, you may have noticed that there is a different loaf of bread on the patten each week we gather online. I need to confess I am a terrible bread baker; those works of delicious art are baked by Paul. I hope in the future we might keep up this tradition in worship and expand to include all our talented bread bakers.

I want to thank you all for your notes of encouragement!


In Christ's Love,

Pastor Becca



A Moment for DEACONS

Dear Deacons, Thank You!

Your kind gesture in delivering pansies brought a smile to every one of us. We are reminded of all the love we share as a congregation. Thanks for all you do! 



Help Us Feed Our Neighbors!

Our Board of Deacons is busy trying to help out our community and those in need during this pandemic. We are focusing on providing food to those who are hungry and re-stocking our food shelf is a priority. We'd love to have your help! We have put a bin right outside the back door marked "Deacons Food Donations."



Here are some suggested items:

Peanut Butter
Jelly
Cereal- especially cereals adults might enjoy
Oatmeal packets
Hearty soups
Crackers
Canned Fruit
Canned Tuna and Chicken
Pancake Mix
Spaghetti Sauce- regular size jars

We still have **homemade soups** in the freezer - if you'd like some, please contact Kay Galberg (609-953-1344) for contactless delivery! The Deacons are here for you, so please reach out if there is anything that we can do to help.





INFO@FAITH

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"May the LORD keep watch between
you and me when we are away from
each other." *Genesis 31:49*

Thank you for sending in your photos! Next month, we'll be asking for photos of your garden plants and flowers!



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Hello Sunday School Families! We miss you all so much and look forward to when we can be together again. Meanwhile, we'll continue to keep in touch with lessons and activity pages that you can do at home together. Thank you for sharing these wonderful photos of what you've been up to!



Remember! **Sunday May 10th is Mother's Day!**

Do something special for the moms and grandmoms in your life!



Celebrating New Life! CONGRATULATIONS to Janet and Ed Sharpe on the birth of their first great granddaughter, Colbie Janet, and to Ginny and Neil Magnus on the birth of their granddaughter, Nova Lee Louise. Many blessings to all!



One Great Hour of Sharing

Deadline for donations

Sunday May 10th

Thank you to those church members who have already donated to the One Great Hour of Sharing campaign. There are 10 more days for those who may have forgotten, or became distracted by the upsetting situation in the world right now.

If you are able, please help those people who were already in dire straits even before the pandemic struck.

Your donation will support hunger, disaster & development programs around the world.

Please mail your check, made out to One Great Hour of Sharing, to Faith Presbyterian Church 318 Stokes Road, Medford NJ 08055. Thank you from your Mission Committee.

Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. Hebrews 13:16



HOPE GARDEN NEWS

The HOPE Garden mission sends out a big THANK YOU to **Medford Tree Service** for donating wood chips, and to ALL who helped to spread these along the pathways! Cool weather crops of escarole, carrots, radishes, lettuce and spinach are starting to pop up already. HOPE Garden 2020 is off to a great start!



Calling All At-Home Knitters!



The Prayer Shawl Ministry team has a request for knitters and crocheters looking for a project to do at home. There is a need for the following items: **scarves** for next year's winter scarf project, 7"x9" **rectangles** for bed coverlets, and newborn **baby hats**. If you'd like to help, please contact Janet Sharpe for more detail.



Small World News

Since March 16th, Small World has been very busy learning how to teach virtually. The staff does weekly Zoom meetings to keep up to date.

Transitional Kindergarten and **Pre-K** classes hold Zoom meetings two times a week along with daily YouTube story times, lessons and art sessions.



Three-year and **Two-year** old classes hold Zoom meetings once a week, along with every other day YouTube story times, lessons and art activities.

Our **CAPS** program has been doing daily YouTube science lessons and experiments.

Attached please see some of their awesome videos:

https://youtu.be/no9KZEC_uiQ

https://youtu.be/Ea6e_-b8GM

<https://youtu.be/HBRY9T-PupY>

https://youtu.be/hD7t_f9ONMo

These are definitely unprecedented times and I'm extremely proud of the Small World staff. They have put their whole heart into providing our children with the best possible educational experience under these circumstances. They have done it through the kindness of their hearts not knowing if they would get paid for any of it. They are truly the best!!

Please stay safe and hope to see you all soon!! ~ Submitted by Jayne Norcross, Director

The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing. ~ Zephaniah 3:17



May 2020 Session Report

Recently Session received the wonderful news that Jim Slamon bequeathed from his estate a nice amount of money for Faith Church. Jim served Faith as treasurer for several years. In other news, Faith will be conducting communion now during the online worship services. Pastor Becca will send an email to members of what items could be used for the elements. Session is asking participants to email the church of their participation in communion because we are required to have an official count. Session approved a request by the Deacon's to apply for a WJ Presbytery grant to supplement the food shelf in this time of great need. Finally, Session started a discussion on what an action plan might be for Faith Church when we are allowed to reopen for services. Congregational members are urged to share their thoughts with a Session member. - Ginny Magnus, Clerk of Session

Did You Know?

If you bank online, you can set up an automatic payment for your contribution to Faith Church. You'll never have to worry about forgetting your envelope!