

AS WE BEGIN TO GATHER IN PERSON

You don't have to come to the church to worship!

We will continue having virtual services on line!

- If you are in an at-risk group or if you care for someone who is in a high-risk group, please attend the virtual services. No one will think any less of you.
- If you do not feel well or think you may have been exposed to someone with the Corona virus, attend the virtual service. Please do not come and risk infecting others.
- If you are concerned that infection rates have been rising in SC and do not feel comfortable attending our outdoor service, then please continue attending our virtual services.

Before you come: Make some choices

8:30 am (note the new time)

Drive-In or Lawn Chair

Drive in: Park in the side of the parking lot near the Mission and Fellowship Center. Tune your car radio into the AM 1510 on which we will be broadcasting the service.

Lawn Chair: Bring a blanket or lawn chair. Beach umbrellas are welcome too. Park in the back side of the parking lot near Jackson Terrace and go to the grassy area behind the parking lot. Find a flag and your family can sit around it. Flags will be spaced 20 feet apart so that if everyone stays within three feet of their flag then everybody will be safely spaced.

While at the Service

DOORS AND MASKS: The only door that will be open is the back door to the kitchen to access the bathroom there. Someone will be at the door to open and close it! Per the CDC guidelines, we strongly encourage you to wear a mask especially when leaving your car or lawn location. If you do not have a mask, we have some beautiful masks made by members of First UMC.

NO TOUCHING! LEAVE ROOM FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT: It's hard! We know! But no shaking hands, hugging, fist bumps or anything like that. Practice good social distancing, leaving the recommended 6 ft between you and another person.

YOUR OFFERING: We will not be taking up an offering. You are encouraged to give on-line or to mail your offering to the church's PO Box 225. First UMC members have been faithful about giving since the pandemic started, and we believe that will continue.

SOME OTHER THINGS TO NOTE

NURSERY & CHILDREN'S BULLETINS

At this service, we will not have a nursery or children's sermon, but the service will be shorter than usual. If you will be bringing children, we ask that you print out and bring the children's bulletins we send out with the Godly Play video if you can.

"SING" A NEW SONG

"God loves a new song!" And that's what we're singing right now. Except, we can't actually sing. Singing is one of the most effective ways of spreading the Coronavirus. So, we will find creative ways to praise God without singing out loud. We're in a new season and we're going to have to get creative, but God will be glorified. Many of these new things will change as we forge a path in this new season. Let's "sing" with joy - and patience.

BAD WEATHER

If we have bad weather, we will call off the outdoor service for that Sunday, and our virtual service will be the fall back option.

WHEN IN DOUBT, REMEMBER 1 CORINTHIANS 10:23

"All things are lawful, but not all things are beneficial.
All things are lawful, but not all things build up."

Paul wrote these words to the Corinthian church and we've found them helpful today. The staff and leadership have been working for months preparing for this day. We've thought about everything from where signs need to go, to which restrooms, to how the worship service flows. We may not always get it right, but these are the things that have been keeping us awake at night! We know that many of these changes may feel odd or restrictive, but our primary goal is to glorify God and to love one another.