



## A NOTE FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear Members and Friends,

I have exciting news to share. At our June session meeting our Elders voted unanimously to resume worship in our sanctuary on July 4!

After a difficult year when the coronavirus forced us to be creative with how and where we worshiped together, returning to our beloved sanctuary is truly something to celebrate. However, the threat of COVID-19 is still very much with us, and while we will return to the sanctuary, we still need to remain vigilant to care for each other and protect against any possible transmission..

This is new to all of us, and we are each at different places in our comfort levels, so our returning to the sanctuary will be a phased re-opening. Initially we will need to follow some new procedures to help ease our transition back to the sanctuary and stay safe. The new protocols the Session voted to enact are as follows:

- Sign-in when entering the sanctuary (one sign-in per family unit)**
- Wear facemasks**
- Social distance in the pews (sit only in marked pews)**
- Sing or hum softly during the hymns**
- Speak softly during responsive readings**
- Place offering in plates as you leave sanctuary**
- Services will continue to be livestreamed on Facebook for those who do not yet feel comfortable returning to the sanctuary**

In addition to helping with contact tracing (in the event of a positive case), the sign-in sheet is a way for us to affirm that we will abide by our AFPC Covenant Agreement. This covenant states that we pledge to follow these protocols, so that as the body of Christ, we can demonstrate our love for each other . . . because we remember, Christ's commandment to each of us is to "Love thy neighbor as thyself" (Luke 10:27).

I pray that as people of faith we can rejoice that it is now safe enough to return to our sanctuary, while also rejoicing that God's Spirit has always been with us . . . and will continue to be with us!

Please share this exciting news with others and join us for worship on July 4th!

In Christ,

# Tending the Flock



## Happy Birthday July!

Happy Birthday to our Friends and Family members that are celebrating their birthday this month.

- |    |                   |    |                   |
|----|-------------------|----|-------------------|
| 2  | Doug Bondor       | 16 | Ashley Kunich     |
| 3  | Al Navarro        | 16 | Matthew Pardonner |
| 4  | Ashley Folmar     | 17 | Margo Abelman     |
| 4  | Susan Kunich      | 18 | Jed Mock          |
| 5  | Jackie Lubinski   | 19 | Lois Bondor       |
| 8  | Travis McGuire    | 22 | Kathy Krov        |
| 10 | Heidi Hedden      | 23 | Mike Torrey       |
| 12 | Victoria Kramer   | 24 | Lyla Fritsche     |
| 13 | Don Bone          | 24 | Charlotte Hatch   |
| 13 | Larry Cascio      | 24 | Carol Van Norman  |
| 13 | Amanda Lessig     | 25 | John Solomon      |
| 13 | Taylor McGuire    | 30 | Maggie Purcell    |
| 14 | Dave Schostkewitz | 31 | Shari Norgard     |
| 15 | Mackenzie Doyle   |    |                   |

## Youth Mission Trip

Alexandria Presbyterian Church is blessed to send our youth mission team to Dexter, Maine July 3-10. The participants are Lyla Fritsche, Willy Fritsche, Chris Jacob, Cole Kramer, Tory Kramer, Jake Maglio, Emily Norgard, Jake Norgard, Abby Schaefer, Avery Schaefer, Jack Skibinski, Tyler Unkert. Their leaders are Marty Gunderman, Jim Hansen, Renee Skibinski. The youth would like to extend their appreciation to the congregation, individual donors, and the Session for their support throughout the year. Let us hold each student and advisor in our prayers this week as they seek to serve the Lord.



## Share with us:

**SPECIAL MUSIC:** As we gather for worship in the sanctuary.

it would be wonderful to add special music to the service. If anyone would like to add a vocal piece ( soloist or small group) or a piano musical piece to worship, please contact the Worship and Music team. Chairpersons: LuAnn Keefe or Flora Nielsen.

## Sunday School Schedule

We will have Summer Sunday school every 2nd ,4th, 5th Sunday of the month in summer. In accordance with session vote for now, masks will be required if Sunday school is indoors. Weather permitting, we will also try to hold some outdoors, in which case, kids can remove the masks.

Here are the dates for July:

**7/11,7/18,7/25**

## Summer Reading 9/19

Are you looking for a book to read this summer? Maybe a book to read while traveling or sitting by the pool? If so, you are invited to read “More Than a Gift” by Nerva Altino and join us on September 19<sup>th</sup> to discuss it as we continue our conversation on our Christian response to racism.



# July

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 Sunday School	12	13	14 Lunch Bunch Session	15	16	17
18 Sunday School	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 Sunday School	26	27	28	29	30	31

## Church Office Hours are as follows:

M-F 9am-12pm

Please wear a mask upon entering

To reach office during non business hours please contact:

**Phone:** 908-996-4333

**E-Mail:** Churchoffice@alexpres.org



## What are some examples for contacting the Church?

- When a member of your family is admitted to the hospital or is ill
- When there is a death in your family
- When your class or group plans to use the church facilities for a meeting or function
- When either your home or business phone number or address is changed
- When a new baby arrives in your family or in the family of another member
- When a member of your family leaves for college, marries, or establishes a separate residence
- When you change your name
- When you feel the pastor, staff, or church can assist you in any way