

Hi friends!

I hope that you are staying safe and healthy at home. The latest update that I can give you about things happening/not happening at church is that our Governor has extended the “stay at home” proclamation to May 4th. That means that we will be continuing to do our worship gatherings completely online and that each of our worship team will be producing those parts from home, so that we can compile them into a worship service. Although it is a bit odd, it is also a great opportunity to invite you to be a part of those worship services. If you would like to participate in the worship service by reading scripture or singing a song, we would love to include you! If you would like to read scripture shoot Pastor Mark an email at Mark@kennewickfirst.com and he can get you lined up on the date and scripture. If you would like to play a special piece of music, send Amberley an email at Amberley@kennewickfirst.com or if you have another idea for something you would like to offer as a way to help us worship God together, send Pastor Mark an email about it. No guarantees we can make it happen in this format, but what better time now to get creative?! The videos don’t need to be professional recordings, doing them on our computers or on our phones is fine! AND please join us this Sunday for our Palm Sunday Worship service and the Last Sunday of Lent, on our YouTube channel at 10:30 am. Here is a link to follow <https://www.youtube.com/user/PiratesoftheColumbia>.

I have heard from some other churches that they have had some problems with misinformation spreading about meetings or events at their churches. We haven’t had much problem with “I heard the church is doing...” kind of rumors spreading, but I wanted you all to be aware that unless you see or hear information about the church from one of our official communication channels, please don’t spread it around. Our Official communication channels are

- 1) Phone calls from Staff members of the church
- 2) The Clarion Newsletter
- 3) the Church’s Webpage – www.KennewickFirst.com
- 4) Weekly Constant Contact Emails... such as this one...
- 5) Kennewick First UMC’s Facebook Page. To streamline the information, we need to get out to each of us, these will be the channels we use.

Those are the house keeping kind of things you need to be aware of, but on a personal note, I wanted to thank you all for the kind messages you have been leaving for me and the rest of our church staff and leadership. I have said it a few times but... this Lent has been the Lengthiest Lent I have ever Lented! If Lent is a time to examine our hearts in terms of faith and things that matter, 2020 has challenged all of us. BUT I also know that I have never been more convinced that “we are and are becoming the Church”, rather than merely “going to church”.

Thank you, friends! Stay home, stay healthy and WASH YOUR HANDS!

Pastor Mark