September 9, 2020

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Our weekly worship is on our website (<a href="www.oakmontpresbyterianchurch.org">www.oakmontpresbyterianchurch.org</a>). In-person worship beginning this Sunday moves to 11 a.m. Please reserve a seat by using "Reserve a Seat" on our website or call the church office. We will receive six new members: Amber & Johnny Brennan, Marcia Ewing (no relation to Don & Lin), Rev. Hydie Houston and Nicole & Joe Kuntz. A reception for these new members will be scheduled post-COVID. This Sunday a brief congregational meeting follows worship to elect new officers.

## Worship plans for September include:

- 13<sup>th</sup> Striking While the Iron is Cold based on Matthew 18:15-20
- 20<sup>th</sup> Do Words Count Any More? based on Psalm 25:1-9 & Matthew 21:23-32
- 27<sup>th</sup> One Thing We Can Do for Children based on 1 Corinthians 12:31-14:1 & Acts 2:37-47

Your Session continues to meet monthly via Zoom. At our September 8<sup>th</sup> meeting Session affirmed that we may now offer vocal music safely during our in-person Sunday worship, with a limited number of masked singers - a soloist up to a quartet - who are physically distant from each other and the congregation. We will begin with a soloist on Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup>.

Education for children and youth - By now you have received a letter from our Director of Education for Children and Youth, Ronnie Bailey. Since in-person Sunday school is being suspended through December we are going to be using technology (online videos and curriculum) and mail (packets) to help with our spiritual formation. We plan on meeting once a month in person to gather if restrictions allow. For more information email Ronnie at r.bailey@oakmontpresby.org or call her (330-708-4713).

## Three opportunities for adult spiritual nurture exist.

- The first is **Don's Tuesday Zoom Bible study**, now on Ecclesiastes. Email Don (dewing@oakmontpresby.org) for a zoom invitation.
- The second opportunity will be a **Sunday morning Zoom "gathering**". Beginning September 20<sup>th</sup> I will lead the Sunday adult zoom gathering with a presentation and discussion on "Meeting God in God's Cathedral (Creation)". On September 27<sup>th</sup> I will lead a presentation and discussion on "Our Bodies as Instruments of Prayer" which will focus on some historical aspects of embodied prayer and opportunities for embodied prayer. To receive a Zoom invitation please email me (swilson@oakmontpresby.org) or call the church office.
- Lastly, beginning September 16<sup>th</sup>, I will lead a **weekly outdoor prayer gathering, Wednesdays at noon** at the pavilion (closest to the High School) at Riverside Park. Bring a brown bag if you would like to stay for lunch.

We are staying in touch by email, phone or in person. Please contact me for pastoral support.

Thank you for your continuing generosity. Elders and trustees are living within their revised budgets, spiritual nurture and pastoral care are happening, building expenses are covered, we continue to support people in need in our congregation, in our community, in our nation and around the world.

Yours in Christ,

Steve