

*I was glad when they said unto me,
Let us go into the house of the LORD.*
Psalm 122:1

Dear Friends in Christ,

It is so wonderful to be able to be back together, worshipping in our beautiful sanctuary. Our first Sunday back together, was on June 7th, 2020. As anticipated, our numbers in the pews are lower as we come back. Understandably, there are many who still do not feel comfortable coming out (given all of our present COVID-19 restrictions) and may find it preferable to still worship from home.

Again this month, I want to say a very ***BIG THANK YOU*** to our FELC Worship Recording Team: Tom Sarbach, Todd Heichel, Ed Farner, Becky Pittman, and Scott Berry. Because of their great commitment and wonderful skills, we never missed producing a single Sunday Service for our congregation during this Covid-19 pandemic. Admittedly, we are all still learning a lot, and working on ways to improve the recording of our Sunday Worship Service that is now being provided on both our FELC website and also our FELC Facebook page. Our Worship Committee desires to continue to provide this additional opportunity for outreach. A Worship Tech Team has been working hard to put together a plan for how we can continue to live-stream our worship services on Sunday mornings.

Looking back, I am truly blessed to see the many ways God's people at FELC have continued to remain focused on our Mission: ***"Pointing People to Jesus Through Intentional Relationships!"*** Thank you to everyone for your faithfulness to make our Lord Jesus known and experienced through being the Living Body of Jesus in the world. You are "Jesus with Skin-On" as we all embrace Christ's daily opportunities to connect with one another and show Christ's Love.

Life these days continues to be filled with many different virtual meetings and phone calls, as we all work together locally, regionally and nationally to stay connected and to continue the day to day ministry of Christ's Church. For many of us, myself included, this has been an opportunity to embrace new technology and all the new challenges that come with that learning curve. Again, I want to express my thanks to those patient people who have helped me to learn some new tech skills and virtual platforms for communicating!

Our Church Offices re-opened on Monday, June 1, 2020. Working together with our FELC Staff and Todd Heichel, Chairperson of our Personnel Committee, a plan with specific guidelines has been put in place so that we could safely re-open. Our Early Learning Center also re-opened on Monday, June 1, 2020. The Ohio State guidelines for preschools to reopen are very strict. But under the great leadership of Angie Murphy, our Early Learning Center Director, her wonderful ELC Team is making it happen.

Everyone should be aware, that even parents of the ELC students will NOT be allowed in the building at this point. ALL Parents must drop off their children at the alley-way entrance.

ALL employees MUST check their temperature at home before coming to work. NO employee should come to work if they are feeling at all ill and/or running any temperature.

Office Staff will use the side entrance to Luther Hall to access the building. The outside vestibule door will be unlocked. The inside vestibule door will remain on the magnetic lock. Michelle (ELC Secretary will buzz you in.) There will be NO Public Restrooms for outsiders to use. UPS and the mail carrier will be buzzed into the building.

I have asked Andy Kershaw (Property Manager) to make arrangements to add the capability for the Parish Secretary's Office and the Bookkeeper's Office to be able to also "BUZZ" people into the building using the same magnetic door lock. This, long-term, will create a safer work environment for our FELC Staff.

ALL Staff MUST be wearing facemasks upon entering the building. ALL outsiders are asked to wear a face mask.

ALL staff and ALL outsiders are REQUIRED to use the hand cleanser upon entering the building.

Both our Parish Secretary (Angie Cockrell) and our FELC Bookkeeper (Nicole Goddard) are still able to do most of their jobs from home. We will therefore continue to seek to minimize their risk of infection. Nicole and Angie will develop a schedule between the two of them so that one of them will be available at the

church from Mondays through Fridays from 8:30am until 4:00pm. If parishioners need to speak to either of them face-to-face, they can contact them to make an appointment.

If you are walking into either Angie Cockrell's office or Nicole Goddard's office you **MUST** be wearing a face mask. Angie Cockrell is directed to keep the glass windows to her office shut. People can speak to her through the glass. **As much as possible, please stay out of staff offices.** The more surfaces you touch, the less safe it is for our Staff.

ONLY the Early Learning Center Staff are allowed to be on the ELC floors and in their classrooms and offices. They will be handling **ALL** of their cleaning and disinfecting. **NO ONE** (Accept ELC Staff) is allowed to walk through the second floor ELC areas or the third floor ELC areas. This includes the ELC hallways, ELC classrooms and ELC offices.

The very exciting news this month is that our Early Learning Center has just received a **5-STAR** rating from the State. This is the very highest rating! This is all thanks to our Director, Angie Murphy, our Assistant Director, Cindy Sprang and all of our teachers and aides. They have put tremendous work into making this happen. ***Congratulations!***

**Serving Together in Christ's Love,
Pastor Paul L. Larson**