



# April Newsletter

In this season of distancing, I wanted to reach out to those of you who may not be online. Normally, we utilize our newsletter to let you know what activities are coming up. But, we are pretty certain that our closures in March are going to extend into April, and possibly into May as well. We did want to let you know of things we are doing to try to stay connected during this time.

If there is anything you need from us, please call my cell phone (assuming that the office might be closed soon as well) at 612-423-3009.

- We are creating a worship service each week that we post online. You can access it through the website.
- The youth continue to gather twice a week utilizing an online site called Zoom that is utilized by many colleges for distance learning.
- Various committees and other groups are meeting using a variety of social media technology.
- We are committed to continuing to pay our staff throughout this time. They are doing an amazing job of adapting, and then adapting again the next week, as situations change and so does ministry.
- We will of course, celebrate Easter on Easter Sunday, but if we are still worshipping online, we will save the big celebration – including singing the Hallelujah Chorus – for the first Sunday we are back in person.
- We are creating a list of people who are willing to help, in a variety of ways (shop for groceries, watch children, volunteer at the Food Shelf). If you hear of anyone who needs something, please call me so we can match up needs with helping hands.
- As of the time of this writing, the Food Shelf is continuing to operate, utilizing good sanitation practices and trying to keep workers and clients as safe as possible.
- MinneHarvest is scheduled to happen in March. But, due to a previously planned change of warehouses in April, Second Harvest Heartland is unable to supply food for our April distribution.
- General Conference, the global gathering of the United Methodist Church, was scheduled this year for May in Minneapolis. Due to Covid-19, the conference is postponed. A new date and location has not yet been announced.
- If you have an email address, are not receiving our (now daily) enews, and would like to be added to the list, please send your email to Jenia Strom and myself (we are assuming the office will get closed in the next few days) at [jeniastrom@gmail.com](mailto:jeniastrom@gmail.com) and [becky@minnehaha.org](mailto:becky@minnehaha.org).

We hope that our May newsletter is a little more normal looking! Know that our community is strong, and that we miss seeing you all in person. We look forward to all the ways our congregation will continue to do ministry in our community and in the world.