

November 22, 2020  
First UCC – Quakertown  
215-536-4447

Dear Church Friend,

In an effort to make sure that you can stay easily up-to-date on our church announcements are uploaded to our [website](#) on a weekly basis. Daily announcement will continue to be included in our daily emails.

If you have use of a tablet or smart phone or smart tv, our weekday devotionals and bedtime stories, weekly worship services, pastors' chats, and medical chats with Dr. Mike can be accessed on our [Facebook page](#) and all videos of the above can be accessed on the [First UCC YouTube channel](#). If you have access to email and would like to join our email mailing list, please contact the church office 215-536-4447 (church office voicemail is regularly checked) or email us at [info@firstucc.net](mailto:info@firstucc.net).

OFFICE HOURS – In an effort to regain a safe presence in the church office, we have begun having staggered church office hours as follows: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 9:00 am-12:00 pm. Pastors Doug and Joyce will be in the office on Mondays, Jon will be in on Wednesdays, and Lisa will be in on Fridays. Feel free to phone the office staff during these times. *Visits inside with staff are by appointment only.*

CONTACT US – If you need something, please contact us! 215-536-4447 (church office voicemail is regularly checked) or email us at [info@firstucc.net](mailto:info@firstucc.net).

PRAYER REQUESTS – If you have any prayer requests, please call the church office so that we can will be praying for these persons, as well as every other kind of prayer request.

WHAT TO EXPECT FOR IN-PERSON WORSHIP - Our Return to Church Plan has been developed by guidance from the CDC and State health department guidelines, along with feedback from church council, our congregation, First Church and UCC leadership, and guidance from Dr. Mike.

Everyone's health and safety is our top concern and we ask that you worship virtually and **stay home if you are:**

- Experiencing any cold/flu/Covid symptoms, or
- Uncomfortable returning to church at this time.

**If you receive a diagnosis of COVID-19,**  
please inform the church office  
*(anonymity will be maintained)*  
for contact tracing purposes & to keep the remainder  
of the congregation safe and healthy. *Thank you!*

For everyone planning to attend in person, we've outlined what to expect below:

1. Wear your Mask. We ask that everyone please wear a mask while in the church building and during worship. If you forget your mask or don't have one that day, a mask will be provided.

2. Socially Distanced Seating. Ushers will show worshipers to designated seats for the day's service to ensure we can keep families together and provide space between pews.
3. Hand Sanitizer. Hand sanitizer will be available throughout the church and it's a best practice to sanitize your hands upon entering and exiting the building.
4. Single-Use Bulletins. We will provide bulletins and we ask that you don't share your bulletin with others. We'll have stations to collect/recycle bulletins as you exit the sanctuary.
5. Ventilation Enhancements and Open Doors. We will adjust the ventilation in the sanctuary and plan to keep the Fourth Street doors open to maximize fresh air flow throughout the sanctuary. Doors will be held/propped open upon entering/exiting the building to minimize the need to touch surfaces.

If you would like to respond to the call to worship and prayers, please plan to use a (provided) N95 mask. *An usher can assist you.*

We look forward to continuing to worship Christ together as a First Church Family and continue on our Journey of Loving God, Helping Others and Finding Joy!

THE FOLLOWING ANNOUNCEMENTS are this week's announcements:

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### FAMILY THANKOFFERING 2020

*From Barbara S., Women's Guild President*

I apologize that this announcement did not come out sooner. I am out of kilter and I imagine many of you are too. The guild has not been able to meet since February but we hope to remedy that very soon. The weeks seem to go slowly and yet, we wonder where the months have gone. Even though our wood is stacked in preparation for winter, mentally I am not ready!

Our traditional guild Family Thankoffering was not able to be held on October 11<sup>th</sup> (the second Sunday in October) due to COVID. However, as always, we **are** taking the Thankoffering and there is a special envelope in your packet. **COVID has disrupted our lives but not our hearts!**

Seeing the recent devastation of the hurricanes in the south and the flooding that followed, the guild is designating that the offering be sent to the UCC Disaster fund for 2020 hurricane and flood damage in Louisiana, Florida, and Alabama. I think that many of you, like me, are acutely aware of the damage flooding can do.

We understand that not everyone is in a position to give large amounts, but anything you can give to help these individuals and families that have suffered such a terrible loss would be very much appreciated.

Donations to Thankoffering can be made for through November. If you have misplaced your Thankoffering envelope or wish to make an additional offering, please write

Family Thankoffering on the check or other envelope. And if you want credit please be sure you name or envelope number is enclosed with your donation.

Questions can be directed to Barbara by calling her or by email [womensguild@firstucc.net](mailto:womensguild@firstucc.net). Thank you in advance for your gift to help these folks in need.

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please inform the church office (*anonymity will be maintained*)  
for contact tracing purposes & to keep the remainder  
of the congregation safe and healthy. *Thank you!*

Please note that there will be NO in-person worship next Sunday, November 29.

Please pray for the family and friends of Betty Zuck, who passed away on November 17.

JOIN US THIS AFTERNOON for the worship service ordaining and installing Jon Bauman as Associate Pastor. *Please note that this service is available **virtually only** if you have not pre-registered:* Live Streaming on our Facebook, Zoom Call-In & Video Worship, (to call in from your phone (audio only) call: 1 301 715 8592, if required, please enter meeting ID 965 905 9323), to join the zoom video worship, please go to: <https://zoom.us/j/9659059323>, and to view the recorded Worship (available after worship has ended) [at](#) our YouTube channel. Please join us in celebrating and congratulating Jon by sending cards to him at the church office!

November 26 - THANKSGIVING DINNER - We look forward to a take-out style Thanksgiving dinner for the community and congregation - in-person outside and grab-and-go style on Thursday, November 26 beginning at 12:30. If you can help to set up or clean up, please reach out to Alyse F. or Daniel S. if you are interested in helping pull this together. We are looking for bagged cookies or brownies and monetary gifts, which can be brought to church on during office hours (Monday or Wednesday from 9:00 am to 12:00 p.m.) *Thank you!*

HARVEST HOME OFFERING - This offering is being evenly split for two worthy causes between First Church's local benevolence mission (which is used by the pastors to assist people in our church and local community who are in need) and the Pennsylvania Southeast Conference's special assistance for retired pastors (which supplements the cost of retired pastors' health benefits). As we give thanks for God's blessings, let us share with others in this time of Thanksgiving. *Contributions to the Harvest Home Offering may be made until noon on December 30.*

BETHANY CHILDREN'S HOME - The Women's Guild is accepting donations toward the Bethany Children's Home Christmas. If you would like to contribute, please place your donation in an envelope and mark it Women's Guild for Bethany. Checks are to be made payable to First UCC Women's Guild.

November 30 - HAPPY 99<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY to Agnes L. Please celebrate with Agnes by sending cards to her at home or through the Church Office.

NOMINATIONS ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED for 2021 Church Council. If you are interested in serving, or if you have questions about serving on Church Council, please speak to the Pastors or any Council member.

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