



## *The Pastor's Ponderings*

### **Pilgrims in a Strange Land**

As we continue to traverse this ever changing territory on our journey through the time of Covid-19, perhaps we might look on ourselves as Pilgrims, venturing forth in faith and expectation that God will, in God's time and love, guide us to a place where we can best serve in the manner of Jesus.

Along the Journey let's notice and document the beauty, mercy, and miracles we observe and experience, and share them generously, to lift spirits and lighten the loads of our fellow Pilgrims.

### **Journeying in Safety**

By now you probably already know that Abbey Road Christian Church, along with most churches in our town have decided not to begin worshipping in person quite yet.

There's an old adage that says "Just because you can, doesn't mean you should".

Ask any teen and they are likely to tell you that their parents invented this bit of folk wisdom with the express purpose of annoying them and restricting their fun and adventure. But we know better.

So online worship and devotions, and Zoom meetings continue thru the month of May at least, while we watch and wait and measure safety of meeting face to face.

### **Prayer Changes Things**

Meanwhile let us all hold the people of Missouri and all states which are beginning to loosen pandemic restrictions. For wisdom to continue safe distancing, mask wearing to protect those who are at risk and our copious hand-washing rituals.

Let's bless all those who must return to work and service even if they do not feel safe doing so. We add them to our already offered prayers for all who have been serving throughout this time quarantine.

Let us pray for wisdom to prevail at all levels of leadership as we continue to learn about the Covid-19 virus and its practices and effects.

Let us pray for our siblings all over the earth who live in unsafe situations, are poor, unhoused, unable to exist in sanitary conditions.

Let us ask God for wisdom and mercy ourselves so that we may serve our congregation and community with intelligence and joy and compassion.

### **Coffee Hour During Quarantine?**

You better believe it! Seven ARCC folk met on Zoom by computer, smart phone and landlines to laugh and visit, just for the fellowship of it! Several tried to get in but were unable due to unknown technical difficulties, which we will continue to smooth out as time goes by.

I have heard from friends who have had up to 50 folk gathered together in this way from children to aged 97!

Zoom offers the ability to offer "break out rooms" so that the larger group after an initial gathering time can break out into smaller groups for easier conversation and to get to know each other better. We can try this too, if we like, as we grow in number at our own Zoom Coffee Hour.

I will resend the Zoom Coffee Hour invitation later in the week. The meeting number should remain that same, tho we may add a password as another layer of internet safety.

### **Thanks, Roanne!**

Each week our one Worship has grown more diverse and interesting as our Music Director, Roanne Dean, has added to her editing skill set. Last week we saw evidence in the Dean Team Good News video and the Virtual Labyrinth Walking experience which she created along with Anne McDonough and David Dickey.

We are both grateful and impressed!

God be with each one of you this week as we enter this new leg of our journey.

Be safe! Be Smart! Wear your mask and wash your hands!

And please know just how much you are loved and missed!

*Pastor Elaine*



**ABBEY ROAD CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)**

2411 Abbey Road  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Rev. Elaine Schoepf, Pastor  
562-396-8039 pastorelaines@gmail.com

David Dickey, Associate Minister  
573-450-1013 dldhistorian@gmail.com

Phone: 573-335-3422

Fax: 573-335-6996

E-mail: capearcc@gmail.com

www.abbeyroadchristianchurch.com

 FACEBOOK.COM/ARCCDOC/

**2020 Board of Elders Officers**

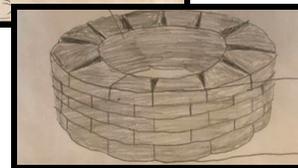
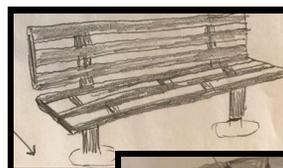
**Chair:** Jim Main  
**Chair-Elect:** Leslee Pollina  
**Past Chair:** Steven Piker  
**Finance Chair:** Deborah Balsano  
**Board Secretary:** Judy McLain  
**Trustee Chair:** Dennis Underwood  
**Elder At-Large:** Darla Snider

A BIG **Thank You** to **Dave Dickey** for filming a walk on the labyrinth and to **Roanne Dean** for narrating, editing, and "putting it all together" for the virtual walk for World Labyrinth Day's "Walk as One at 1" for world peace. Great job and much appreciated!



We have reached our goal!! **THANK YOU** to everyone who contributed to the Eagle Scout project of the construction of a fire pit and 2 benches on the south lawn of the church.

Hopefully, work will begin soon & we'll be able to enjoy this new addition to the property.



- ⚙ Even though we are not able to have worship services at the church yet, our expenses continue & your financial support is still needed! Please keep your pledge current! Thank you.
- ⚙ **DVDs of our worship services are available for the asking! Call Pastor Elaine (562-396-8039) if you would like to receive DVDs. Elaine will deliver them to you, or you may pick them up from her porch, or they can be mailed.**
- ⚙ Remember that church offices hours have changed: Melanie will be in the office Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday at 9am until noon & sometimes later, depending on the work load.
- ⚙ Join us from the comfort of your home each Sunday afternoon at 2:30 , for group meditation/centering prayer for 20 minutes or less. This Sunday, May 10, the intent is "Sheltering Peace". Contact David Dickey or Anne McDonough with any questions.
- ⚙ If you would like to make a donation for the Islamic Center rebuilding efforts, you may send a check to ARCC (designate "Islamic Center") or you may donate on the Go Fund Me link: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/fundraiser-for-islamic-center-of-cape-girardeau> <https://www.gofundme.com/f/fundraiser-for-islamic-center-of-cape-girardeau> (CTRL + click to follow link)



John & Deborah Browne, Luther Hunt, Maxie McKenzie & family, Mark Faith, Bill Cox, Joe Robb Blattner, Debbie McCormick, Susan Spooler, Carol Gleason, Liz Meyer, Debbie Bradley, Thelma Nelson, Dawn Knoderer, Kim Farrar Frank, George Amick, Bill & Iris Likens, Pat Murray & Wally Allstun, Ed Sheridan & Nita Brackin, Pauline Filla, Ruth Dockins, Kim Wells Schott, Mary Hendrix, Ken Bohnsack, Martha D., essential workers, relatives & friends serving in the military, all who are hurting, lonely, and afraid. **Do you have someone to add to our prayer list? Please inform the church office or fill out a form found at**

**the back of the sanctuary.**