



Bville FIRST

Newsletter of First Church
Barboursville United Methodist Church WV

ARE WE ON THE RIGHT PATH?

BY PASTOR TERESA

"Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God." 1 Peter 1:21

Through who? This is the question we are quickly discovering through this Pandemic. As followers of Jesus, we put our trust in God who raised Jesus from the dead and who, in the power of the Holy Spirit, sends us to be about God's mission of restoration, reconciliation and wholeness in the face of brokenness, alienation, and illness. Now is the time more than ever, for us to be the Church that God wants us and needs us to be. But how do we "be the church" when the church is closed or limited? We have a choice to remain on a path that is getting wider and wider filled with brokenness, alienation, and illness. And added to all of this, is a new fear of losing whatever church we have left! And unfortunately some are facing this reality sooner than expected. Without internet or the knowledge of Zoom or interacting with Facebook, we are quickly losing a generation that has kept the church afloat for the last 50 years. A generation that loves the church dearly, and in many cases, are left behind.

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My first three months...

BY PASTOR TERESA

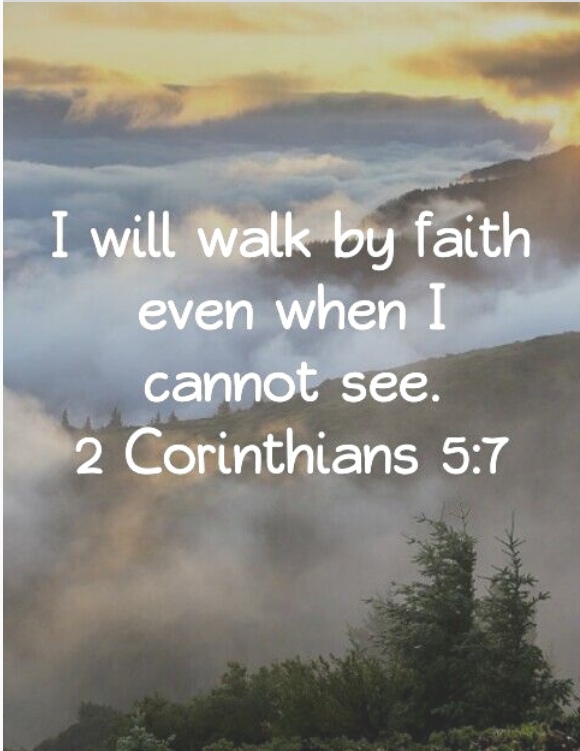
It doesn't seem like it has only been three months since we arrived in West Virginia! Many people have told me, "You came at the worst possible time." And in a lot of ways that could be true. But really, I don't think it would have mattered if we would have stayed or moved. It's bad everywhere! The Pandemic has touched everyone's lives in some way or form. And Christian or not, we are all having a difficult time.



Since I've been here though, the hardest part for me is trying to get to know you all. I miss the hugs at the door, the fellowship time, the gatherings for lunch after church. Visiting and meeting people for coffee. These are great ways to get to know people. I know it has been frustrating for you too. Having a new Pastor come in, worship service is different. How do you get to know your new Pastor? How do you watch your church service when you can't get your internet to stay on? How do you do Zoom? When will things get back to normal? As we face this together, I believe God brought us here to be with you. And my hope is, that we will discover new things about God's love and His grace together. You are all in my prayers and I here's to the next three months!

PRAYER
is the
CHRISTIAN'S
greatest
WEAPON

Billy Graham



I will walk by faith
even when I
cannot see.
2 Corinthians 5:7

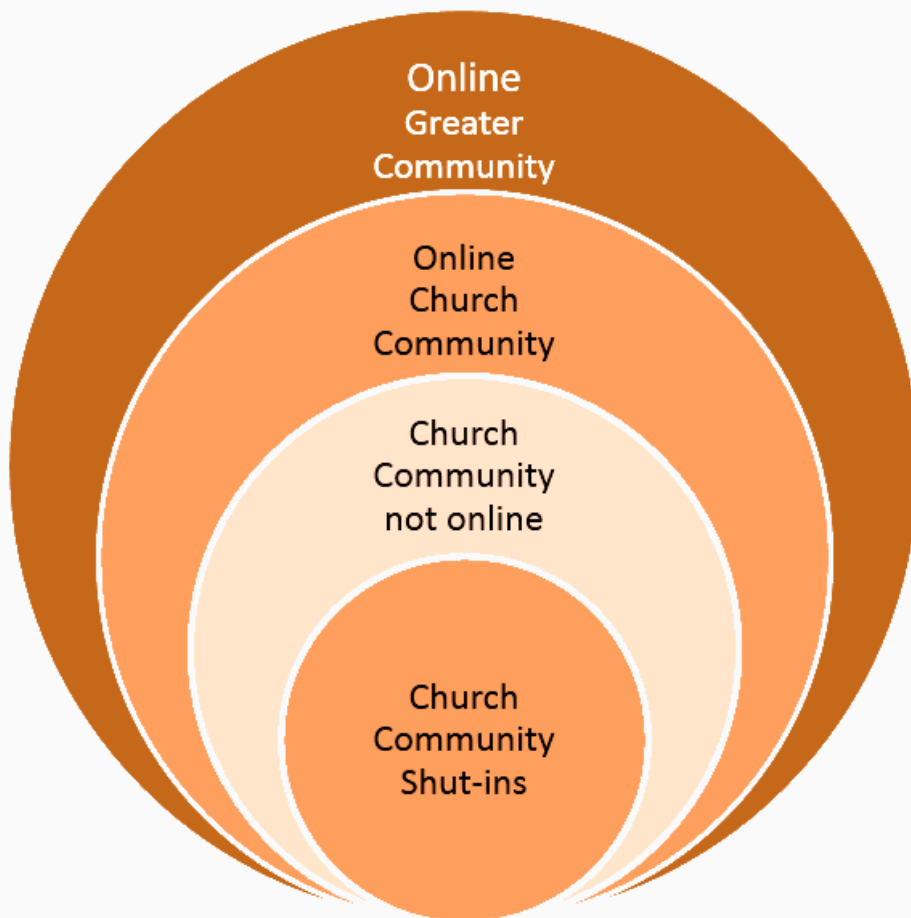


Creating new ministries to meet the needs in changing times...

BY PASTOR TERESA

Change is in the air! It's all around us. But this Fall finds many of us weary and tired. We have endured change all through the summer months with wearing face coverings and social distancing. We hoped that by the Fall things would change for the better. But it doesn't seem to be getting better.

In my prayers, I ask for God's guidance in what we should be focusing on during this Pandemic. And through these prayers, I have come up with 4 areas of need.



THANKSGIVING *Blessing Box*

WE NEED YOU TO DONATE A BOX

Fill a box with a Thanksgiving meal to bless a family in our Community. Bring your filled box to the Parsonage porch November the 15th. the Sunday before Thanksgiving. *Please text Pastor Teresa before you come by so that she will be ready to take the box.*

SHOPPING LIST

for blessing box

\$25.00 GIFT CARD from Kroger
for the purchase of a Turkey and pie.
2 cans of green beans, peas or mixed.
1 large box of instant mashed potatoes.
2 jars of Turkey gravy.
1 large jar of applesauce.
1 box of stuffing
1 can of cranberry sauce
Anything else you would like to add.



PRAY for the family who will receive your blessing box and pray for our volunteers delivering the boxes.

THANK YOU!



A ministry of BvilleFIRST

Creating new ministries...

CONTINUED...

COMMUNITY NEEDING HOPE – Outside of our church walls are families struggling to get by. Some of them have been receiving monthly Food cards.

NEEDS – Form a new ministry that would continue to offer hope and assistance to these families.

ONLINE COMMUNITY- We are gathering a new community of visitors watching our online messages. These people have never attended our church.

NEEDS- An online website that would offer them an online church experience. Providing a Message, music, small group, prayer, discipleship, etc.

ONLINE CHURCH COMMUNITY- We have about half of our church watching sermons online. And about an 1/8 are trying new technology like ZOOM and Tithley giving.

NEEDS- Education in using online applications to connect them better to church. Finding ways to encourage them to try small groups and bible studies by zoom.

CHURCH COMMUNITY NOT ONLINE

– We have about ¼ of the church that has no interest in new technology. Some of these members have little or no internet. Some are SHUT-INS. Many of them are just waiting for things to be normal again.

NEEDS – Finding ways to connect with them without internet. Providing Newsletters, sermons on DVD, Hymns and music CDs. Porch visits, calls, cards, emails, etc.



SO WHAT'S AHEAD?

BY PASTOR TERESA ADAMS

IT'S NOT WHAT WE CAN DO FOR GOD...
IT'S WHAT GOD CAN DO THROUGH US.



"Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil." Ephesians 5:15-16

We are forming a new ministry called **SHARECARE**. It has been taking shape since I talked about the "ROOTED IN CHRIST" idea a few months ago. And as this ministry grows, I'm sure many of you will end up being a part of it.

The mission of **SHARECARE** is to research, plan and develop new ways to address these four needs.

Here are some of the things we are doing...

"Care Packages of Love." They will contain things like the Newsletter, Upper room, Sermon DVD's Music DVD's, and Trina's father recorded ten hymns for a CD and the Pastor made copies for the baskets. There will be gift cards and other things. We will be making care packages for our shut-ins and those having no means to use zoom or Facebook. You have seen the announcement in your bulletin.

Thanksgiving blessings boxes. See the box in this Newsletter for more information on this project.

Pre-recorded LIVE traditional service

Pastor Teresa has been doing the Traditional service as a live service prerecorded, and then posting it on Facebook on Sundays at 11:00 am. She has added prayer request to the service. Please email your prayer request.

Contemporary style worship service

Pastor Teresa records a separate Contemporary style worship service along with Contemporary worship music and posts the link and the service online. The Contemporary service can be watched whenever you like.

Morning devotional

Pastor Teresa is planning to start a morning devotional LIVE on Facebook.

CALLING TREE to check in on our church family / Prayer requests.

Worship Music recordings. Available on DVD, Youtube and in the future, BANDCAMP.

What's happened at church since July?

Cleaned out and painted Office

Purchased TV's for Sanctuary.

KROGER GIFT CARDS - Gave out all we had in July. Need to decide how we want to continue this.

Started Birthday Cards again

PORCH VISITS - Going well. Now the weather is changing.

Church Charge Conference September 29th.

Updated Social distancing in Sanctuary

Scott and Shem set up sound system in Sanctuary.

Recording Traditional service.

"Caring Conversations" that was on Sunday at 6:00 P.M. didn't have enough participation. We're thinking about a better day for the Caring Conversation and making it more of a gathering and fellowship time via zoom.

Hymn

Sing-along - not enough participation –
and bad recording sound on zoom.

Set up Tithley giving app online.

Start up Newsletter

Start new ministry group "SHARE CARE"

**Traditional pre-recorded LIVE service begins -
NO INHOUSE WORSHIP until further notice**

