



What is happening at church? And what does it mean for our community?

Dear friends,

As promised, we are continuing our communication with you regarding the coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic. In the span of a few short days, federal, state and local governments have imposed more limitations on personal contact via social distancing. We understand these are necessary actions to improve the long-term health of all Americans – even though they may leave us feeling uncomfortable, lonely or disconnected in the short term. And, we have faith that our church and community will follow Jesus' footsteps, serving others through prayer and sacrifice during these unprecedented times.

To help us all stay connected, Towson Church has responded swiftly by modifying our life-saving mission endeavors and creating virtual worship and meeting opportunities (such as this newly-formatted email note, an active YouTube page, and Zoom committee meetings). At this time, the church building is closed to the public through March 2020 and all of our communal activities are suspended. But we are still united!

This Week at Towson Church

- **Food Pantry OPEN on 3/22**
This event is still ON as a "drive by/pickup" pantry. Contact Val Wehrle at valw4321@yahoo.com for volunteer instructions; and call 410.823.3649 for guest instructions. Bags will be distributed at the front door in a streamlined process between 9:00-10:30 AM with no building access. We have an abundance of food and are so grateful for church and community donations to support this program!
- **Virtual Worship 3/22**
Tune in Sunday morning for another inspiring worship service. We are pre-recording this week to ensure the best sound and video quality. Join us in worship on [YouTube](#), [Facebook](#) or our website at www.towsonchurch.org. We'll be responding live to Facebook comments on Sunday mornings!
- **March Mission Communion Offering = Heifer International**
Give the gift of an animal to help a family provide food, wool, and more – leading to a sustainable livelihood. Text 410.514.3014 with a note to direct funds to "Heifer". Or, give directly to church [HERE](#).
- **Hop to It! Easter Fudge Bunny SALE**
Looking for "something special" for that "special someone" this Easter Season? We have a sweet deal for you --- personalized homemade fudge bunnies for \$10 each from local confectioner Silver Arrow Fudge Shoppe in Ellicott City, MD. 8 ounces each of delectable vanilla, chocolate, and maple flavors. Yum! Click [HERE](#) to print an order form and send it to church with your \$\$ before March 29 for April 5 in-person DRIVE BY pick up at Towson UMC. Pay [HERE](#).
- **Easter Plantable Flowers**
Order Easter flowers in honor or memory of someone special in your life. Send your plants to a homebound member or take them home after Easter Sunday. Click [HERE](#) to print a form and send it to church with your \$\$ before April 5. Plants are \$20 each. Pay [HERE](#).
- **Prayer Labyrinth**
Our Prayer Labyrinth is in excellent condition for visitors! Drive to church. Wander into the woods. Walk the labyrinth path into this safe, peaceful space.
- **Get Out HERE!**
Need to stretch your legs? Get some fresh air? Lace up a decent pair of walking shoes. Drive to church and stroll, power walk or jog the perimeter of our church lot. It's a safe, sturdy surface for anyone who needs exercise.

Community Needs

- **Blood Drive OFF 3/22** Since we are unable to gather in our church building, this activity was canceled. Please donate blood if you are well and willing. Call 800-RED_CROSS or visit www.redcrossblood to find a donation center nearby.
- **ACTC is OPEN 3/23 Food Drive** The Assistance Center of Towson Churches (ACTC) has decided to remain open to provide for food insecure people in our community. During the upcoming weeks, the need will be increasing and the supply of food will become greatly depleted. With churches closed, it's difficult to collect food right now. **HERE'S WHAT WE CAN DO TOGETHER...** Drop off food on **Monday 3/23 between noon- 2:00 PM at the parking lot across the street from Ascension Lutheran Church**, 7601 York Rd. in Towson. Simply place your food in the truck waiting for this purpose. Items needed: cereal, oatmeal, apple sauce, grape jelly, peanut butter, spaghetti sauce and noodles, dry pasta – all shapes and sizes, canned foods (peas, carrots, diced tomato, pasta meals, hearty soups), and any paper goods or toiletries. www.actconline.info

Stay in Touch!

- **Worship** Check out our Sunday virtual worship experiences online at our [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#), and website www.towsonchurch.org pages. By the way, thanks for sticking with us through sound and live tech glitches this past weekend. We are working diligently to improve your experience in the weeks to come!
- **Give** Remember to continue your generous giving—either electronically or by check—to enable us to do Jesus' good work in our community and beyond. We are needed now more than ever! Give [HERE](#).
- **Reach Out to Others** –Make calls. Send notes. Check in with one another. Call the church office to let us know if someone needs prayer or assistance. Most especially, reach out to the folks who do not have internet access or email capabilities.
- **Call for Care 410.823.6511, prompt #3** – Call the church and press #3 to leave a message for Congregational Care. Someone from our Pastoral/Administrative team will reply within 24 hours.

Watch for more email news from Towson Church in the days ahead. This timely vehicle of communication temporarily replaces the bi-monthly *inSpire* and U.S. Mail letters as our most-efficient and cost-effective way to share important news and information with members and friends during these challenging times. Please share our news with anyone who wants to stay connected!

Grace and Peace,
Mark, Margery, Doug, Rachel, Kim, Bob and Maryanne



These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace.
In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.
— John 16:33

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