



## JUNE 2020 EDITION

### MEET THE DUMC TEAM

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*The Lord has done it this very day; let us rejoice today and be glad.*

*Psalm 118:24*

# A LETTER FROM YOUR LEAD PASTOR



Dear Friends,

By the time you read this, Governor Holcomb will have moved the size of allowed gatherings from 10 or fewer persons to 25 to 100 or fewer. And on June 14, that number is scheduled to rise to 250, with July 4 set as the target to open Indiana without restrictions. All of that, of course, hinges on the surge in COVID-19 cases and deaths being moderate and less than a huge spike.

We know this: cases of COVID-19 will go up as social distancing restrictions are relaxed. Flattening the curve never promised the virus would be eradicated. The idea all along was to keep its spreading under some control in order to minimize the number of deaths by keeping the health care system from being slammed to overcapacity. That strategy has worked in most of our state, and certainly in Tippecanoe county, where we have so far had just over 200 confirmed cases and only two deaths as I write this. I thank God that COVID-19 is not Ebola, and that most of the persons infected have, in fact, recovered.

Where is God in all this? God is working, whether we are aware of His moving or not. God is sustaining us as we seek to survive the emotional, psychological, social and financial effects of the two-month quarantine. Some of us are finding the curtailing of our “normal” lives to be a time of praying more and growing closer to Jesus!

God is stirring up His people to care for others in the ways we can, and stirring up others to seek Him in prayer and even in livestream worship who might otherwise have continued in a pretty much self-sufficient life. Our Dayton UMC livestream videos on Facebook have had 600 to 800 “click to views” by people who watched at least part of the worship service. And every click averages 1.5 to 2 persons watching, since families often watch together. I believe we are actually reaching more people. And livestreaming will go forward permanently.

God is directing physicians and scientist and nurses in the quest to understand COVID-19, to devise effective treatments and to isolate an effective vaccine. He is protecting medical staff as they take every precaution and work to heal COVID-19 infected patients day after day. He is stirring other hearts to pour out love and support for the tireless work of those on the front lines of battling the virus.

And I believe God is bringing us to a humble realization that our lives are simply not self-sufficient. We cannot snap our fingers and make bad things go away. Someone once said, “There are no atheists in a foxhole.” Thrust into a crisis, most human beings pray. Most people seek God. Our need for our Redeemer is made plain when other things are stripped away.

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We will begin worship in person at Dayton UMC on Sunday, May 31. We will practice social distancing guidelines while we are together. We will prop open doors to limit touching handles. We will neither greet one another in the service nor pass offering bags. We will block off every other pew. We will sanitize between services. In the hallways and among the pews, I will wear a mask, and I encourage you to do so if you choose to come to in-person worship. When I am preaching from the worship platform, 20 feet from anyone, I will go mask-free, and so will our musicians.

If you are at risk because of age or an underlying medical condition, we ask that you continue to worship via livestream. I understand that some of us (perhaps many of us) will choose not to worship in person again until the spread of COVID-19 is diminished greatly, effective treatment is clearly available, and/or a vaccine is available. I pray we can, as much as possible, return to being together in one place without causing harm. Please join me in praying for that!

All for Jesus,  
Pastor Mike



With the coronavirus pandemic at the center of everyone's attention, Trinity Life Ministry's two Lost, Then Found Thrift Stores, one in Lafayette, one in Crawfordsville, are focusing especially on those people in need. The stores are currently taking donation of household items, furniture, clothing, toys, etc. from 9:00am to 5:00pm. Monday thru Saturday.

All proceeds from the thrift stores go directly to help offset Trinity Life Ministry's 12-month, Christ-centered addiction-rehabilitation and discipling residency program for men. Now in its 35th year, the program houses, feeds, teaches, counsels, and trains over 40 men at its facility, located at the outskirts of Crawfordsville. With an annual cost of approximately \$12,000 per person, the thrift stores are an important part of offsetting those costs!

Perhaps some of you have been sorting through your "stuff" during this stay-at-home order. If you have no-longer-used or needed items, please consider donating to Trinity Life Ministry's Lost, Then Found Thrift Stores to help support a wonderful cause. The Lafayette store is at 2324 Shoshone Court, and the Crawfordsville store is at 121 West Market Street.

For more information about Trinity Life Ministry, its life-changing restoration/discipling program, and its two thrift stores, go to [www.trinitylifeministry.com](http://www.trinitylifeministry.com), or email [ken@trinitylifeministry.com](mailto:ken@trinitylifeministry.com), or call 765-742-1060.



See [daytonumc.org](http://daytonumc.org)  
page for complete  
article

## Practice Outreach in Your Own Neighborhood

### POWERSOURCE

#### ASK JESUS:

1. To help your family form close ties to neighbors of all ages.
2. To show you areas of need in your neighborhood—and ways you can meet them.
3. To give family members a heart for reaching out to all people.

During the past few months, the coronavirus pandemic has caused lots of stress, separation, and cancellations. Yet several bright spots have brought much-needed light to the dark times. For example, families, neighbors, churches, and communities are coming together in creative ways to offer support and to meet a variety of needs. Acts of love, whether simple (waving, posting signs) or more involved (running errands for the elderly, donating gift cards to the unemployed) are lifting spirits and easing tensions. These deeds forge connections among neighbors who may not even know one another's names. And they give family members purposeful projects to tackle together

while much of society must remain unnaturally apart. As social-distancing restrictions gradually ease up in some areas, outreach methods can expand a bit, too. But that doesn't necessarily mean serving your neighbors will require more time and money—unless you have extra you'd like to give. In fact, parents can use this out-of-the-ordinary period to show kids just how far a little kindness can go. Resist the temptation to self-isolate (unless you're sick, of course). Instead, search for ways your family can make life a bit easier—and more cheerful—for people around you. To get started, check out the suggestions on the following page. May God bless your outreach efforts!



## TEACHABLE MOMENTS

### The Samaritan Shuffle

Use this activity to teach kids about neighborliness while helping them release pent-up energy. On slips of paper, write one of these events from the parable of the Good Samaritan:

- A man walks to Jericho.
- Robbers beat up the man.
- A priest walks past the hurt man.
- A Levite walks past the hurt man.
- A Samaritan stops to bandage the man's wounds.
- A Samaritan puts the wounded man onto an animal.
- A Samaritan takes the wounded man to a motel.
- A Samaritan pays the motel manager to care for the man.

Put each slip into a different balloon. Inflate and tie off the balloons. Have family members bat the balloons around. When you yell, "Stop and pop!" everyone grabs a balloon (or two), pops it, and retrieves the slip. Work together to figure out the correct sequence. Then read Luke 10:30-37 to see how you did. Pray, thanking Jesus for opportunities to love your neighbors.

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## "Who is my neighbor?"

In Luke 10:25, a legal expert asks Jesus about the path to eternal life. Jesus tells him to follow the two greatest commandments—love God and love your neighbors. Yet the man presses for more detail, following up by asking "And who is my neighbor?" (verse 29). Then Jesus tells the parable of the Good Samaritan, teaching that neighbors can be anyone, not just people who look, act, and believe as we do. In this era of wariness and extra caution, it takes effort to know our neighbors, let alone to serve them. But serving others helps us get to know people as individuals and also allows Jesus to work through us, as living examples of his love.

**Rockin' the Walk** More people are taking walks these days, so provide strollers with some inspiration.

Paint rocks with bright colors and write or draw simple messages on them. Set them along sidewalks or near flower beds to make people smile. Kids also can write Bible verses on your sidewalk with chalk.

**Free for All!** Instead of setting up a lemonade stand to earn money, kids can give away free bottled drinks (or individually wrapped treats). Display signs such as "Jesus is the Living Water" or "Free gift: Jesus quenches your thirst!" Instead of taking money, set out a jar for prayer requests.

**Give & Take** If you're handy, help kids build a Little Free Library or a Little Free Pantry (instructions are available online). With permission, you might be able to place it on your church grounds. Contributors can fill a library with books and Bibles and a pantry with toiletries and nonperishable food items.

**Sing 'n' Serve** Teach children the joy of serving by finding age-appropriate tasks they can do with your supervision. Summertime examples include washing cars, watering people's plants, and watching a neighbor's pet. With younger kids, sing simple

refrains while you work. To the tune of "London Bridge," for example, sing "God loves me, so I love you, I love you, I love you. God loves me, so I love you. Love each other!"

**Prayer Pals** Craft-loving kids can make colorful cards for elderly people who remain homebound. Include your phone number on a note that says: "Please share how we can help you—and how we can pray for you!"

**Award-Winning Acts** Although the Summer Olympics have been postponed, you can cheer on people's good deeds. Using ribbon and card stock, create a bunch of ribbons that say Medal of Honor. Read aloud Hebrews 10:24. Tell family members their goal is to "catch" people being kind and give them a medal. After complimenting the good deed, they tell the honoree to pass along the medal to someone else who they catch in the act of kindness.

**Crops of Kindness** If you have a garden or fruit trees, deliver extra produce to homebound neighbors. Add notes with fun messages such as "Lettuce know if you need anything!" "You're the apple of God's eye!" and "We'd be in a pickle without good neighbors!"

All these commands and all others are really only one rule: "Love your neighbor as you love yourself."  
...Loving is obeying all the law.  
—Romans 13:9-10, NCV



## A LETTER FROM YOUR BUSINESS MANAGER

Hello Church Family,

I hope everyone had a nice Memorial Day and weekend! Thank you to all of our veterans and active service men and women! We appreciate your service for our country!!

Quick building updates:

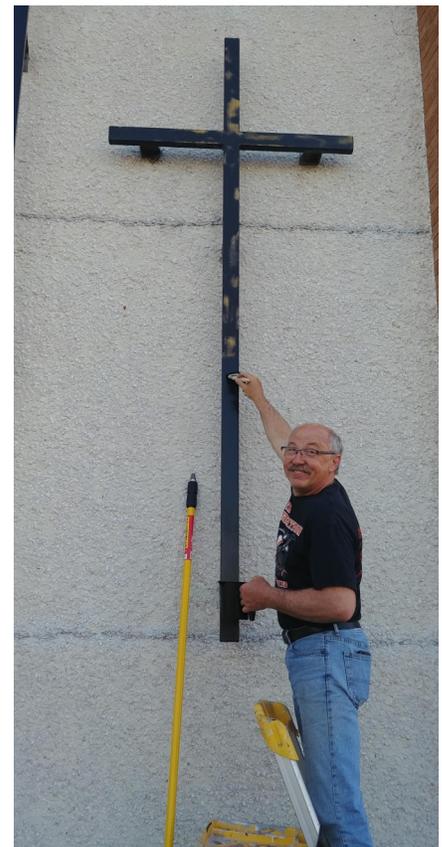
- Sewer line construction along the easement in front of our church has begun and will be well under way as we approach June 1st. There was no charge to the church for this project as this is to provide service utilities to the new subdivision development down the road. They will also restore our driveway and parking lot lane once completed.
- A New roof was installed over the flat office section and both sides and entrances of The Shop.
- The trustees approved the replacement of 2 new air conditioning units that have failed since last fall. Those will be installed over the next couple weeks.
- Parking lot crack filling and sealing was approved and will be completed in next few weeks
- We are seeking bids to update the children's ministry bathrooms, new stall dividers, new vanities, mirrors and flooring.
- I appreciate our guys coming in to help out with prayer and repair! Picture of Matt Koors this month painting the crosses outside – Saturday we were blessed with beautiful weather for it!

We continue to be blessed by the faithful giving of our congregation! Thank you church! Please be in prayer for those that need our help. We have the benevolence fund available to help those in need for utility bills, assistance with rent or a mortgage payment. If you are aware of someone struggling, please have them reach out to us. We want to encourage, help and show them the love of Christ!

Kindergarten or College - Congrats again to all those graduates! Everyone have a great start to the summer season!

Peace and Blessings,

Matt Bowers  
Business Manager





## A LETTER FROM YOUR YOUTH PASTOR

Hello Dayton UMC!

We are so excited to be back home and now a part of the Dayton UMC staff! As we settle into this new position and time in our life, we are so eager to see all the things God has planned to work in this Youth Group, this church, and this community. This church has such a deep place in my heart and, I look back at all the ways God worked in my life here. I am so ready to see Him continue that work in the lives of generations to come. We welcome your prayers as we begin this time.

A little about me for any who may not know me; I am married to my amazing wife and ministry partner, Hannah and we have a daughter, Nollynn, who is 4 months old. We also have an English lab named Ollie (a lovable 100 lbs). Hannah and I graduated from Olivet Nazarene University in the spring of 2016. I graduated with a degree in Youth Ministry and Hannah with a degree in Social Work. In the spring of 2019, Hannah graduated from IUPUI with her Master's in School Social Work. I am beginning my 4th year in full time Youth Ministry. My call to ministry took place here at DUMC in the spring of 2011 and, it has been an adventure following that call further into ministry. Hannah and I are so blessed that God has chosen us to walk with teens and guide them to a personal decision to follow Him. God's plan is so good and our pursuit of Him each day has led us into loving and serving students and calling them to make real, wholehearted decisions to follow Jesus.

This is a bit of a crazy time to begin, but I believe God is going to use this unique time (as He always does) to instill in us renewed faith in His plan and renewed passion to share His message. I am so excited to walk with students during these formative years and share in the awe of watching God work in ways only God can work. We are so excited to begin meeting back in-person as we look towards the summer and the fall. Whatever that may bring, my prayer is that our hearts are found faithful to God and His plan, and passionate about sharing His truth with everyone we meet.

We look forward to meeting or connecting with you all in the coming weeks and months. If you would like to connect or have any questions for Hannah or I, please feel free to email me any time at [caleb.cornell@daytonumc.org](mailto:caleb.cornell@daytonumc.org).

In Christ,  
Caleb

# dayton um church

Know Christ. Grow faith. Go witness.

**DON'T THROW ME AWAY!** If you don't read our newsletter, please let us know. It costs money and time to print the newsletter, keep the mailing list updated, and prepare the newsletter for mailing. So PLEASE drop us a note or call us at 296-3155 and we will remove your name from the list. Thank You so much!

## JOIN US FOR WORSHIP

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11:00 AM | Sundays

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