

From the Worship Committee

Pat Hurst

September will bring new beginnings to our congregation and to the Worship Committee. Our new minister will meet with our committee and begin a new working relationship for the coming year. We look forward to celebrating Rev. Bob's first service at an outdoor service with a picnic on the front lawn of the sanctuary on **September 5**. The service and picnic will be Zoomed to those at home.

In-person services

Some have asked when will the congregation be getting back to in-person. Happily, a first step will be used in case of rain for the September 5 service. This plan (endorsed by the Board of Trustees) is new and appropriate for our times as we deal with the continuing Covid-19 pandemic. The Board and this committee's main concerns are that our members and guests are as safe as possible, and it is their choice to attend an indoor service.

If it is forecast to rain on the morning of Sunday September 5, the picnic will be cancelled but we will move the 10:30 am service indoors where it will be Zoomed to those at home. Rev. Bob will be at the pulpit in the sanctuary along others participating in the service. Our goal is to have approximate 20 members and guests (selected by the process below) to be inside as well.

Step One:

To be eligible to attend in-person you will be required to provide the following two items ahead of time:

- a copy of your vaccination record showing full vaccination (a digital picture such as one taken by your Smart-phone)
- a statement agreeing to wear a mask inside

Please send these by email to Pat Hurst or call to make other arrangement.

phurst64@gmail.com or (540) 447-4476

Your name will be added to a list in order of being received.

Multiple family members will need to sign-up separately. Unfortunately, young children will not be able to attend in-person.

Step Two:

The week before the service the first 20 people on the eligible list (plus a few more to allow for no-shows) will receive an email stating that in case of rain, the service will be moved indoors and that they are invited to attend in-person.

Step Three:

At 8:30 am on the morning of the service, if the forecast is for rain the outdoor service and picnic will be cancelled.

ALL members will receive an email to this effect and will be asked to stay home and view the service on Zoom.

Those first 20 on the eligibility list will receive a separate email saying that the service will be indoors and that they are welcome to come. They should plan on coming to the sanctuary for the 10:30 am service.

Please do not show up without being invited through this process (even if you hear that another person who was planning to attend changed their mind). For everyone's safety, control of the size of the audience needs to be respected.

For other outdoor services in September and October

The same procedure will be used with some adjustments.

- (1) Those that signed up for September 5th will remain on the list. You do not have to sign-up again. Other members and guests can sign up anytime and you will be added to the list in the order received.

- (2) For services after September 5, the next 20 people on the eligible list will be invited and so on. When the end of the list is reached, we will go back to the top of the list and proceed.
However, if it does not rain on a Sunday then that same list of invitees will be re-used for the following outdoor service.

Please feel free to contact Pat Hurst if you have questions.