

Dear Beaver Church,

Because of the uncertainty with our plans for May, it was felt that a normal newsletter was not warranted. Instead I have included a Pastor's Peace for May, and I have written this letter, which includes some other information. We will be continuing in May with what we have been doing in April, and therefore all of the information from the April newsletter pertains to May as well.

I had really hoped by now to have some clearer idea of what is going on in terms of the church, plans for meeting in person, and other church activities. Unfortunately, I still do not know when we will be able to resume meeting together. I do know that a shelter in place order has been extended to May 29th and that includes limiting gatherings of larger than 10 people. In consulting with the consistory, and looking at guidelines from our denomination, as well as looking at what other denominations are doing, it was decided that we will continue to suspend in person services at least through May 29th, and most likely all of May. Essentially we are looking for guidance from the state for when it would be deemed mostly safe for us to congregate again. I am hoping that might be sometime in June, but I have learned during this pandemic that things are constantly changing, and so I can make no promises about such a date. When we do decide to have in person services again, we will thoroughly announce it.

On a positive note, our florist, Beavercreek Florist, has opened again for deliveries, and being that we as a church decided to support this business, we have restarted our flower service with them. We currently have flower spots available for May 17th and 31st. If anyone would like to sign up for either of those dates, please email me at PastorBrian@BeaverUCC.org and let me know what the flowers are in honor or memory of.

We also have a little time left for high school seniors associated with the church to apply for the Greene Memorial Scholarship. If you are receiving this letter via email, an application has been attached. If you are getting a physical copy of this letter, because you don't use email, please call me at 937-469-1383 if you would like a copy of the application mailed to you. Completed applications can be mailed to the church and must be postmarked by May 17th.

As my dad used to say, that is all that is fit for print. I continue to pray for everyone as they deal with all of the various complications regarding this pandemic. As I say in my Pastor's Peace, I am not sure of the future, but I know God is part of it and that we will gather in worship again some day. In the meantime we will have to suffice with virtual services with lots of real love shared across the miles that separate us.

Blessings,
Pastor Brian