Our Church Council has finalized a Re-opening Plan so we will begin worshipping in our building again as of July 27 & 28. We wish to worship in a safe manner with the littlest amount of risk that we can provide.

You may have seen that churches are a “high risk” activity. Our church with high attendance is especially risky.

You may not know that 90% of United Methodist Churches across Western PA worship with 50 or less people in attendance every Sunday.

We have between 300 and 350 people in attendance each weekend on average. So we want to provide a “sanctuary” or safe space for each of us. We also wish to prevent any outbreak at our church.

Your pastors desire not to become “super-spreaders” as is possible when we go about our regular interactions at a worship service.

Our re-opening plan for Worship is printed on page 3 of this issue of The Steeple. Things will be different, but it will be good to be back inside our worship spaces and see each other face-to-face.

Even though we will be open for “in-person” worship we will continue to live stream our worship services of Contemporary Worship at 9:45am on Sunday and Traditional Worship at 11:00am. This way if you choose to continue to worship at a distance you can do that.

Also Children’s Summer Sunday School will continue online, and Miss Susan will have her Children’s Sermon on Facebook every Sunday.

Get email updates from Our Church

Have you been receiving the email blast the church has been sending every Friday for the last 4 weeks? Each week we’ve been updating you on worship and making sure you’ve had the lyrics for songs we’ve sung at drive-in church. We plan to continue using this form of communication in the weeks and months to come. If you have not received an email from the church, first please check your spam folder as some people have indicated this is where they have found the email. If you have not received any email at all, please send us your email address to info@chippewaumc.org so that we can add you to the list.

Did you know that you can receive the Steeple by email and by looking on our website? If you would prefer an email link instead of a paper copy please let the office know by emailing info@chippewaumc.org.
12 POWERFUL VERSES
TO PRAY AND POUR OVER OUR CHILDREN

Steeple

Strength
I can do all things through him who strengthens me. ~ Philippians 4:13

Courage
Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go. ~ Joshua 1:9

Peace
Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ~ Philippians 4:6

Provision
And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. ~ Phil. 4:19

Direction
Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. Proverbs 3:5-6

Protection
He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say to the Lord, “My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.”... Psalm 9:1-2

Joy
You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore. ~ Psalm 16:11

Compassion
Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you. ~ Ephesians 4:32

Justice
Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow’s cause. ~ Isaiah 1:17

Wisdom
If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. ~ James 1:5

Hope
May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope. ~ Romans 15:13

Love
Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. ~ 1 Corinthians 13
Worship Experience – We will continue online worship services even after our building re-opens.

We wish people to social distance in worship.
- We will not have Greeters. Ushers will be used only for offering.
- We eliminate the Passing of the Peace.
- We will block off every other pew and place greater space between rows of chairs in CLC.
- We will put out less chairs and tape off the bleachers in the CLC.

We wish to worship and sing safely.
- We will encourage the wearing of a mask, but masks will not be required.

We wish to keep a necessary inventory of hand sanitizer and appropriate cleansers.
- We have purchased supplies to open and will repurchase as we use up this supply.

We do not wish to turn people away.
- We will not turn people away. (This may become an issue for Christmas Eve.)

We wish to post instructions for ALL people worshipping.
- We will post guidelines on screens before services.

We wish to include music in our services.
- We will have congregational singing limited to two verses of each hymn in traditional and four songs in contemporary.

We wish to collect the offering, without passing the plate.
- Ushers will constantly hold plates. Also a plate will be on a stand in rear of each worship space.

We have removed all items from the pews including hymnals, Bibles, sign-in cards, and pens.
- We will post the scripture reading on screen before worship. (This will rotate with guidelines.)

We wish procedures to be in place to clean and care for those working sound and media technology.
- We will clean equipment between every worship service.
- We have created a system for microphone use during worship so there is no sharing of equipment.
- Pastors only will use microphones unless they are attached physically to a podium.

We wish to monitor and clean worship spaces and bathrooms.
- We will clean bathrooms between every worship service.
- We will wipe top of pew backs after every worship service.
- We will spray disinfect chairs in CLC before they are put away.
- We will change custodian schedule to have a custodian present all of Sunday morning.
- We will not have volunteers help with folding up the chairs at the CLC.

Contact Tracing
- We wish to contact people attending worship in the case of someone testing positive for Covid-19 who was in attendance.
- We will use our new “robo-call” to notify everyone that “someone tested positive” informing them on which date the person attended and which worship service that person attended.
We Wish to Check in with You

One of the things we learned over the last few months is that taking some time to update the church membership information would be very beneficial. We've found that some people in our database have moved, some have changed their phone number, some even attend a different congregation.

So over the rest of the summer months you can expect to receive a phone call from someone in the church office. We'll be checking in with you to see how you're doing and asking a few questions so that we can be sure we have the most up-to-date database for connecting with you.

Prayers for the Healing of the Nations

Holy and living God, In you “we live and move and exist” (Acts 17:28) In you we find our shelter and strength, In you our hearts are being filled with joy each morning, In you we sing praises with a new song, In you we trust that your promises are the way.

Like those disciples in Acts 1 experiencing the time in between, Witnessing Ascension of Jesus Christ and awaiting the descent of the Holy Spirit, A time in between staring into heaven and staying in one place.

During our time in between, We wait with hope for you are the source of every hope, We wait with patience for your timing is always perfect, We wait with prayer for you are listening intently,

We wait with praise for you take all our anxieties as we cast them on you.

During this time, we pray especially for... Those who are graduates with uncertainty hindering their future, Those who lost their jobs and are finding ways to meet their financial needs, Those who lost their loved ones, and their funeral services are limited or postponed, Those who are fighting against addiction and are unable to meet with their recovery groups, Those who feel fear as hate crimes and incidents arise.

During this time, O God, Enter into our sorrows, worries, addictions, financial burdens, fears, and injustices, Fill us with your grace, hope, and joy abundantly,

Turn each home into a place of peace, unity, and love for each other, Renew our hearts and minds to seek the knowledge of your mercy and love, Help our souls to be united in incessant prayer.

Let us receive this prayer of Apostle Paul: “I ask—ask the God of our Master, Jesus Christ, the God of glory—to make you intelligent and discerning in knowing [God] personally, your eyes focused and clear, so that you can see exactly what it is [God] is calling you to do, grasp the immensity of this glorious way of life [God] has for [you], oh, the utter extravagance of [God’s] work in us who trust [the Lord]—endless energy, boundless strength!” Let it be so. Amen.

By Rev. Taesung Kang, New Hampshire District Superintendent

Acts 1:1-11; 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11; Ephesians 1:15-23

MSG Translation
Thank You Cards

We received Thank you cards from Huntington Bank and WesBanco.
These cards were sent in response to our church delivering “Sweet Thanks” to essential workers in the branch offices.

Thank You
We feel so blessed to have so many friends in our church family and we would like to Thank everyone for their thoughts and prayers on the passing of our Dad. Your thoughtfulness and love were greatly appreciated. Thank you again.

The Lewis and Ratkovich families

Births

We celebrate with members of our staff on becoming grandparents again.

Congratulations to Mike and Lisa Gasper. Their daughter and son-in-law, Kaitlyn Gasper & Devin Sharek are proud parents of Lorenzo Sharek born March 12, 2020. (Right)

Congratulations to Jim and Jim Perza. Their daughter and son-in-law, Abby & Mike Wise are proud parents of Lucas Michael Wise born on May 29, 2020. (Right)

Sympathy and Memorial Fund

We lift the following in Christian Sympathy:

Lisa Lipp and family at the loss of her mother, Mary Lou Schollaert.

Marge Stoker and family at the loss of her brother, Leonard Nix, and niece, Denise White.

Dr. Dan Stinson and family at the loss of his sister, Jane Deus.

We received Memorial Fund gifts in Memory of:

Bev Rimbey given by Joan Lansberry.

Fran Beaumont given by Tom & Kathryn Gumpf.

Donna Angle given by Susan Gaudio, Cecil & Barbara Brown, Chris & Donna Laitkep, Patsy Hammett, Bill & Joan Freeman, Margo & Jon Best, Don & Nita Payne, Janet Pruitt, Bill & Lynn Fell
Steeple

Summertime is a great time to read. We need your help with the 2020 United Methodist Women Reading Program. We are required to have a person Read 1 book from each of the five categories (that is 5 books in 1 year). This requirement is to enable us to keep our “Diamond Status” for our Unit (which we have held on to for several years). The purpose of the Reading Program is to better understand and participate in God’s

**Education For Mission**
- Chasing the Divine in the Holy Land-Ruth Everhart
- Journey With John Wesley: John Wesley’s Ride Through Methodist History
- Without You, There Is No Us By SUKI KIM **
- Threading My Prayer Rug : One Woman's Journey from Pakistani Muslim to American Muslim - Sabeeha Rehman
- When Others Shuddered: Eight Women Who Refused to Give Up -JAMIE JANOSZ **

**Spiritual Growth**
- Tilly: a Story of Hope and Resilience- Monique Gray Smith
- Adventure of Ascent: Field Notes from a Lifelong Journey - Luci Shaw **
- Spoken into Being: Divine Encounters through Story - Michael E. Williams **
- Classic Tales for the Holy Season - Selma Lagerlof, Leo Nikolayevich Tolstoy, C. S. Lewis **

**Leadership & Development**
- The Andrew Paradigm: How to Be a Lead Follower of Jesus -Michael J. Coyner -
- Falling Into Place: A Memoir of Overcoming-Hattie Kauffman
- 50 Women Every Christian Should Know: Learning from Heroines of the Faith-Michelle DeRusha **
- Eleanor: A Spiritual Biography: The Faith of the 20th Century’s Most Influential Woman - Harold Ivan Smith **

**Social Action**
- Rewilding Our Hearts: Building Pathways of Compassion and Coexistence - Marc Bekoff
- Wage Theft Comics-Crime & Justice #1
- Born on Third Base: A One Percenter Makes the Case for Tackling Inequality, Bringing Wealth Home, and Committing to the Common Good - Chuck Collins **
- Where Do We Go from Here: Chaos or Community? - Martin Luther King Jr **
- Midnight Teacher: Lilly Ann Granderson and Her Secret School - Janet Halfmann **

**Nurturing For Community**
- House of Purple Cedar -Tim Tingle
- Slowing Time: Seeing the Sacred Outside Your Kitchen Door - Barbara Mahany
- Good Health, Good Life: 12 Keys to Enjoying Physical and Spiritual Wellness - Joyce Meyer **
- When Did Everybody Else Get So Old?: Indignities, Compromises, and the Unexpected Grace of Midlife -Jennifer Grant **
- Tilly and the Crazy Eights - Monique Gray Smith **

Please Take this Time to read
Reading Helps Us Grow

If you are interested in participating in this program please contact Judy Rogers at 724-495-3850.

**Women’s Ministry of the UMW**
**Ice Cream Social for Women**
Friday, July 10th at 7pm
in Fellowship Hall

It has been such a long time since we have been together that this is the perfect opportunity to relax with other ladies. To make your reservation by July 5th, we ask that you please sign up by emailing or calling the church office at (724) 843-4828. Reservations are needed. Precautions will be taken. We will take a love offering. Hope to see you then.

**After the author—Judy already has this book**
Agape Circle

HEADS UP!!!

Agape Circle has changed their meeting schedule. They will now be meeting the 3rd Saturday of every month starting in September - June. Next meeting will be held September 19, 2020.

Stuff the Bus

Dear Chippewa United Methodist Church,

THANK YOU so much for letting us use your parking lot for our STUFF -A-BUS food drive. We stuffed 3 BUSES FULL OF FOOD AND RAISED $6,667.00 for the Darlington Food Pantry.

We couldn’t have done it without you. We appreciate you helping us support our community.

Sincerely,
The Blackhawk Education Association

Men’s Corner

Hello Brothers in Christ,

Prayerfully all is well with you and your family.

Without Church or fellowship, here is a short message to keep us focused.

Scripture: Hebrews 10:16-18

Forgiveness is the key which unlocks the door of resentment and the handcuffs of hatred. It breaks the chains of bitterness and shackles of selfishness. The forgiveness of Jesus not only takes away our sins, it makes them as if they have never happened. These two scriptures say a lot.

Hebrews 10:17 "Their sins and lawless deeds I will remember no more."

Mark 11:25 "Whenever you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone, forgive him, that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses."

Hanging on to past failures and sins distorts God’s view of who we are in Christ. He tells us that we are new creatures, saved and redeemed, but guilt and shame keep us from looking up into His wondrous face of love and acceptance. By focusing on the past, we block God’s future intent for our lives.

Buying into false guilt leads to feelings of defeat that may end in hopelessness and fear. When we struggle with lingering guilt we often have a hard time accepting God’s love, we cannot imagine how the Lord could possibly use them for His glory, especially when we think about our past sins.

But we need to think that if this is true, God would never have chosen Moses, David, and Paul for His Holy work. There is a saying "When God forgives our sins, He buries them in the deepest sea and puts up a No fishing sign", When Christ forgives He also forgets!!! Men, Let’s not block God’s future intent for our lives.

Prayer: Dear Lord, we pray not to get in your way for our future. We give you all the honor and glory you so richly deserve.

Amen.

Stay focused men.

Love ya Brothers.

If anyone is in need of prayer, please text or call. I would be honored to pray with you or for you.

Brother Al Stoker

"WHEN GOD FORGIVES OUR SINS, HE BURIES THEM IN THE DEEPEST SEA AND PUTS UP A ‘NO FISHING’ SIGN"
…… Worship at Chippewa

This month we re-open for “In-Person” Worship along with live streaming on Facebook every Sunday morning at 9:45 and 11:00am.

Saturday
5:30pm Saturday Night Worship

Sunday
8:30am Traditional Worship
9:45am “AM Joy” Contemporary Worship (live steamed)
11:00am Traditional Worship (live streamed)