



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
W I N T E R P A R K

November 5 2020

Dear Church Family,

These are challenging times. The Pandemic continues - bringing isolation, grief, and financial hardship. As I write this, the national election remains unresolved. It's partisanship and polarization test our patience and kindness. Life as we knew it seems a distant memory. We wonder when we will be able to resume church, school, work, travel and family gatherings with some semblance of "normalcy".

***In spite of this, our church family is working hard to be the church in our neighborhood and our world!***

Thank you for the many ways you have supported our church family! Your generosity - with your time and your gifts - has enabled us to offer worship online and on-campus. It has provided the resources for small faith groups to meet and support and grow and learn together. It has enabled our pre-schools to open and provide loving, Christian care to hundreds of children - allowing hundreds of families to return to work. Your support has allowed us to re-open our dance studio and our brain fitness ministry. It has enabled us to continue to support those aging out of the foster care system and mentor hundreds of young adults in Kenya. Funerals and weddings are now taking place, helping families in their milestone moments. These ministries and many others possible because of your giving. Thank you!

We are currently working to plan for the coming year. And, we need your help! 2021 will be a challenging year of rebuilding after the Pandemic. Please consider the following ways to help your church family:

- ***Praying.*** The Bible says the prayers of a righteous person accomplish much.
- ***Participating.*** Both in our Count Your Blessings focus and in worship.
- ***Pledging.*** We understand that things change and may need amendment. But pledging helps us plan.

We will be posting the latest financial information as well as our upcoming stewardship goals in the coming weeks. Be looking especially for my Friday updates on our website and daily emails. During this season, we are focusing on gratitude and God's blessing during our Sunday worship services.

***One of the best ways to endure challenges is to count one's blessings.***

With this in mind, I have included a bookmark to use as a daily prompt to count your blessings. And, I have included a pledge card. We will be collecting the pledge cards the first two weeks of December. We certainly invite you to mail your pledge card to the church office early. Or, you may even visit [www.fumcwp.org/give](http://www.fumcwp.org/give) to submit your pledge digitally. Thank you for your help!

God be with you!

Rev. David Miller  
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*A vibrant family built on God's grace, who share a passion for the Word of God,  
living and serving in the image of Jesus the Christ.*