



UNILU NEWS & EVENTS

March 18, 2020



FROM PASTOR JON

Dear Friends,

Grace and peace to you. How is it with your Spirit?
On an online gathering with other Clemson pastors, this was a question we asked one another. How is it with your Spirit?

I'm balancing the paradox of both hope and the reality that the worst of the COVID-19 crisis for the general population (not the folks in the Seattle area etc.) is yet to come. The seriousness you can catch up on with the CDC site and from the medical and scientific community, I'd like to talk about hope. Already I've seen this congregation kick into gear an additional intentionality about reaching out to one another and their neighbors. Up to this point Pastor Josh & I, while focusing on some interpersonal outreach, have really been about the big picture. How do we coordinate Worship on a Sunday? Preparing for our meeting with Council on Monday evening to help us address policies for this time of crisis. Quickly progressing up the learning curves of technology to see which online platforms may be best suited to help us maintain AND DEEPEN our sense of community while physically separate from one another.

Hope shined through this morning when Marty High helped coordinate 8 of us from the regular Wednesday morning Bible Study to meet online. My guess is half would self identify as novices to the technology. But our teacher walked us through the steps, helped us get connected and we spent a good forty minutes or so catching up with one another, seeing most everybody's faces, prayed together, laughed together, and heard one another's concerns and fears. In the words of Paul to a Christian community, we are *to share one another's joys and bear one another's burdens*.

A reality for us (Pastor Josh and I) is that there are two of us, and with students, close to 400 of you. Please call either of us if you are not regularly connected with anyone else in the congregation and we will make a connection with you. If you hear of pastoral needs we would rather hear twice or three times than not hear at all. Please call me [843-304-5664](tel:843-304-5664) if you'd like to talk, or text or email if you want to just share information.

Lastly is my peony. My mom had a peony in our yard when I was a kid. I've never had them in any other house we've lived in but now we do. There is a flower in that bud that is waiting to burst forth in all its glory. Our hope in God springs eternal.

God's peace & hope,
Pastor Jon



A CELEBRATION!

In these unusual times, I'm glad to have good news to bring you. Solomon Rex Childress was originally scheduled to be born Friday morning, but he decided to come a few days earlier. Monday I went into labor, and Solomon was born via C-section (as planned) at 4:42 pm. He was born at 38 weeks, 3 days, weighing 7lbs 7 oz, 19-1/2 inches long.

He's a sweet boy and a healthy eater. He's been feisty from the get-go, grabbing onto surgical instruments as the doctor pulled him into the world,

giving everyone a laugh. He is so precious.

Solomon and I are healthy and doing well, as is the rest of the family. We are still at the hospital, but will probably be going home Wednesday or Thursday. We've been planning as a family for months to isolate ourselves for a few weeks, we just had no idea that the rest of the world would isolate alongside of us.

Thank you all for your thoughts and prayers, church wide over the past months. Our prayers have been answered and Solomon is here and healthy and happy. We have been so very blessed, and we are very grateful. When the time is right, I look forward to introducing him to you and the larger church.

Thank you, Brie Childress

TAKE CARE



OF YOURSELF

LET'S DO OUR PART TO SLOW THE SPREAD OF THE CORONAVIRUS

Even if you are young, or otherwise healthy, you are at risk and your activities can increase the risk for others. It is critical that we all do our part to slow the spread of the coronavirus.

Listen to and follow the direction of your STATE and LOCAL AUTHORITIES

IF YOU FEEL SICK, stay home. Do not go to work. Call ahead to contact your medical provider.

IF YOUR CHILDREN ARE SICK, keep them at home. Do not send them to school. Contact your medical provider.

IF SOMEONE IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD HAS TESTED POSITIVE for the coronavirus, keep the entire household at home. Do not go to work. Do not go to school. Contact your medical provider.

IF YOU ARE AN OLDER PERSON, stay home and away from other people.

IF YOU ARE A PERSON WITH A SERIOUS UNDERLYING HEALTH CONDITION that can put you at increased risk (for example, a condition that impairs your lung or heart function or weakens your immune system). STAY HOME AND AWAY FROM OTHER PEOPLE.

AVOID SOCIAL GATHERINGS in groups of more than 10 people.

Avoid eating or drinking at bars, restaurants, and food courts. USE DRIVE-THRU, PICKUP, OR DELIVERY OPTIONS.

AVOID DISCRETIONARY TRAVEL, shopping trips, and social visits.

DO NOT VISIT nursing homes or retirement or long-term care facilities.

PRACTICE GOOD HYGIENE:

- **Wash your hands, especially after touching any frequently used item or surface.**
- **Avoid touching your face.**
- **Sneeze or cough into a tissue, or the inside of your elbow.**
- **Disinfect frequently used items and surfaces as much as possible.**

When I deployed to Afghanistan in 2011, I heard the phrase the *New Normal*. My usual routine was severely disrupted. Currently we are experiencing a *New Normal*. Some regular activities such as school, sports and social activities have been temporarily suspended. How we shop and connect with family and friends are being done in different ways. You may have found that some of your routine activities take longer to accomplish. Help with social isolation and reach out to family, friends and neighbors to share your caring. And remember, a little prayer and a bit of patience can go a long way as we adjust to our temporary *New Normal*.

God's Peace,

Lena Jones, RN BSN MS

**THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND AS WE NAVIGATE
COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY TOGETHER
(Subject to Change as Circumstances Change)**

- All worship services and church meetings will be conducted online through April 4 in accordance with current government recommendations. Sunday school and Bible studies will not meet. Sunday service livestreamed at 9 AM on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/uniluclemson/> and later posted to our website www.uniluclemson.org.
- Council has requested that the pastors not have in-person pastoral visits, except in the case of life-threatening emergency.
- Pastors will use telecare or other methods for the duration of this public health emergency.
- Pastors can be reached via cell phone 24/7. Please **DO NOT CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE**. Pastor Jon: 843-304-5664; Pastor Josh: 919-744-1590.
- Church administrative assistant, Abi Donhauser will work remotely from her home office. She can be reached during normal office hours Monday - Thursday, 7 am to 12 noon & 1 pm to 2:30 pm; Friday 8 am to 12 noon at 864-722-5504 or by email; unilusecretary@gmail.com.
- LCM meals will be provided as boxed/to-go meals rather than usual group meals. A small number of people will help with meal preparation.
- This public health emergency may leave people feeling isolated. To combat this, Council and others in the congregation, who desire to do so, (volunteers are welcome!) will be asked to contact others regularly to check in (lists will be provided).
- Church facilities remain available to congregation members, but we suggest that this be for **INDIVIDUALS ONLY AND NOT FOR GATHERINGS/MEETINGS**.
- Clemson Community Care will continue their regular schedule of operations. Donations can be made at the church (baskets in narthex) or can be brought directly to their facility. Online monetary donations are also greatly appreciated.

A NOVEL BUNCH

**The March 19th Meeting of a *Novel Bunch* has been cancelled due to
Coronavirus concerns.**

Our March book selection, *One Foot in Eden* by Ron Rash, has been moved for discussion to our next meeting on April 16th with the book previously scheduled for April being bumped up to May.

Will keep you posted.

-Calvin Schoulties, reporter.

Fellowship & Service

A REFLECTION FROM JEAN MEHLMAN

Tuesdays Together Friends,

It seems strange to be sitting here at 9:30 am on Tuesday morning and not heading to church. I am glad that we finished our Bible Study before COVID-19 so significantly affected our lives.

I would like to share part of my daily devotion with you. It comes from the *ELCA Word in Season* which is a daily devotional that I do. The readings for today are Psalm 81, Genesis 29:1-14, and I Corinthians 10:1-4. The verse for the day is I Corinthians 10:4. *For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ.* This fits right in with our bible studies. The devotion for today comes from Martin Wiles who lives in Greenwood, SC and is the founder of *Love Lines from God* and serves as managing editor for *Christian Devotion*. Here are the last two paragraphs:

Paul reminded the early Christians of how God had cared for the Israelites. God delivered them from some four hundred years of slavery. On their way to the promised land, God gave them manna, water from rocks, and a cloud and a pillar of fire to lead them.

God promises to provide for us too. God's provision may come in unique ways, but the provision will be sufficient. It might not be what we want, but it will be what God knows is best at the moment. Our responsibility is to thank God for providing us with what we need and to love the Lord with all of our heart. God is always good.

A schedule that was busier than I liked at times is becoming much freer. I thank God for our communication capabilities. I have had several very meaningful posts people have shared. There have also been some posts with very good insights from people in the know about the virus.

May God's peace be with you and your families at this difficult time,
Jean

CONGRATULATIONS!

Three UniLu youth, Sarah Smith, Zara Espinoza and Peter Caterino, recently received the *Integrity Award* at Clemson Elementary School. These students were selected by their teachers for doing the right thing, even when no one is watching. Congratulations!



GOD'S GLOBAL BARNYARD

LENTEN OFFERING

NOW THRU APRIL 12 (Easter)

Save your coins and help purchase barnyard gifts such as: sheep, fish, cows, pigs, goats, honey bees and oxen.

These gifts make a world of difference for a family in need.

Barnyard coin boxes available in the Narthex.

You may also give by check through the church or directly to *ELCA Good Gifts*.

Questions: Karen Dreher

UniLu Concerns & Celebrations

UNILU PRAYER CONCERNS

PRAYER CONCERNS for University Lutheran Members, Family and Friends:
Ada Lou Steirer; Herm Spitzer; Gail Paul; Pat Wagner; Rosalyn Flanigan;
George Harris; Tony Quesada; Gene Copenhaver; Randy Gilchrist; Larry Bock; Joyce Lillehamer; Judy Morrison's nephew, Christopher Stott;

expecting parents, Donny & Cathy Harris .

UNILU CELEBRATIONS

Celebrating Birthdays this Coming Week: Jackie Broadwell; Lucy Mero; Julia Summers; Erika Summers; John McGavin; John Dreher; Karen Dreher; Bill Shields; Allen Barrow.

Celebrating Wedding Anniversaries this Week: Richard & Cindy Sanders.

Parish Information

Click [HERE](#) for UniLu Calendar

Click [HERE](#) for Prayer Fellowship List

LINKS

[SC LUTHERAN MAGAZINE](#)

[UNILU WEBSITE](#) • [LECTIONARY/READINGS](#)

[LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY](#) • [SC SYNOD](#)

[ELCA GOOD GIFTS](#)

* Sunday Worship at 8:30 am and 11 am. Sunday School at 9:45 am

* Miss a service? The recorded church sermons, audio and video, are posted weekly to the website: www.uniluclemson.org and to the University Lutheran Facebook page.

* Church Office Hours *

Monday–Thursday 7 AM–12 PM; 1 PM–2:30 PM

Fridays 8 AM - 12 PM

University Lutheran Church Mission Statement

University Lutheran is a family of faith, called by the Holy Spirit to be one ministry serving both our community and university. The Spirit calls us to make known, by word and deed, the story of God's love in Jesus. Our worship together empowers us to grow as disciples as we receive, celebrate, and share God's gifts with all of God's creation and created ones.