

Advent-Christmas Letter

Dear Friends

It's been a while. It's been a very long time. But now **it's time to re-open the building to in-person**

worship. Are you ready? It won't be like it was; masks, social distancing, no congregational singing, much smaller numbers (distancing), no coffee hour. I know many of you aren't feeling safe yet to be with us. The good news is, thanks to Barry Paton, we will be making these services available online, at a later date. There is no pressure for you to come. But know this, we will miss you.

I want to specifically thank three people who have carried us these last nine months. **Barry Paton** has crafted the most beautiful, creative and polished services I have seen anywhere online. The hours, the spirit, the love. **Glen Knapp** has worked every single day of COVID to manage our building, oversee the restoration and work with our Uber talented contractor Phil Reardon to help bring us to this new day. **Linda Knechtel**, our Treasurer, has helped manage our resources and chair our Working Group that develop our Re-Opening Plan. We are truly blessed to have these three in our midst.

After all this time of COVID lockdown and building restoration we have come through it as a community that remains creatively connected, deeply compassionate and financially sound. We will demand safety protocols from each other, we will need to remain vigilant in our pledges to pay for these renovations, and we will need to find new ways to be together in the age of COVID. But here is thing, we want to be together. No minister, no clever strategy, can do this, it can only happen organically.

Advent is a new beginning, a journey, heightened expectation. Christmas is a celebration, of finding new birth and new life in unlikely places and people and rejoicing in the constant presence of God. Thus I share these upcoming services.

November 29 - First Sunday of Advent,

December 6 - Second Sunday of Advent,

December 13 - Third Sunday of Advent,

December 20 - Fourth Sunday of Advent,

December 24 - A Virtual Nativity Service (available online) and likely one or two in-person evening gatherings. To be announced soon...

All Sunday morning services 10:30 am.

Peace, Kevin Little - Minister

