

THE MESSENGER

Franklin United Brethren Church

7171 Central College Road
New Albany, OH 43054

WWW.FRANKLINUB.ORG

Sunday Service 10:15am

JUNE 2020

“WIN – TRAIN – SEND”

FRANKLIN CHURCH: WE GET IT!

One of the things Chris and I were told within months of arriving at Franklin Church was: “If it’s something we really need or should do; Franklin Church gets it done”. Over the years we have watched that come true many times, that’s the sign of a sacrificial church. Something the church really gets is knowing that God’s kingdom is bigger than Franklin Church or the denomination: Church of the United Brethren In Christ (U.B.). God’s not going to check the name of our church or denomination at the pearly gates!

In 1990 we organized a small group of people to help a sister U.B. church get started in Hilliard. In 1991 you allowed me to use a few hours a month to restart the New Albany Ministerial Association, thus, re-starting community worship events. Over the next 15-18 years we helped launch a Hispanic U.B. church on the Hilltop, the Northpointe U.B. church in Lewis Center, and held a couple of combined Sunday morning A.M. United Brethren worship services. Outside our denomination we gave Living Waters Baptist Church a place to worship for over a year and just a few years ago we gave Clearview Grace Brethren space to meet and worship (we made it work as they used the youth room for about 40 people while we worshipped in the sanctuary at the same time!). When our Jewish friends’ daycare was flooded, we gave them a temporary place to hold their daycare. God’s love is demonstrated beyond Franklin Church.

Now...another opportunity to demonstrate that God’s kingdom is bigger than Franklin Church has arrived: our brothers and sisters of the **New Albany Evangelical Presbyterian Church (NAEP)** have a temporary space need, they need a place to worship. Long story short: due to COVID19 they are not able to worship at the New Albany schools (where they had been meeting until March 8th). On March 15th they worshipped at Franklin, then we both suspended our worship service.

The important details are such: they have requested to worship until at least July 5th, then the school should make a decision about outside users. The church’s normal meeting times were 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. At this time, due to COVID19 it is expected, like us, that their attendance will be cut in half or more. They expect around 100 or so in attendance, a few more or less. At least until numbers climb they will only hold one service. They will follow ALL our protocols, perhaps more. The Franklin Church Management Team recently invited them to hold their worship service here on a temporary basis. Mostly for safety and comfort level, our Management Team said Franklin should temporarily meet at 9:00 a.m. An email survey to all regular attenders as of March 15th was sent and a paper ballot was sent to those whose email address we do not have. The ballot/survey asked one simple question: “Are you in favor of a 9:00 a.m. worship service for now or not in favor”. The “in favor” vote was overwhelmingly yes.

So, how will this work and what sanitation steps will take place? **For now, we will worship at 9:00 a.m. and NAEP will worship at 10:30 a.m.** It will be our responsibility to sanitize the areas we use after our service, they will be responsible to sanitize the areas they use after their worship. To ensure this is done extremely well, they have a professional \$700-\$800 Evaclean electrostatic sanitizing “gun”. This system is used in hospitals, schools, and companies all around the world. It kills Coronavirus on contact, including COVID19. Electrostatic cleaning means you spray any object and it literally wraps around that object at 360 degrees and kills all germs. Google it, it’s pretty cool! The spraying area we will need to do will take 10-15 minutes at the most. Additionally, they are using all their own

sound system and childcare materials (they have no plans to offer childcare at the moment). Are we letting them worship here free? Unfortunately we cannot do that and they insisted on paying us so they will pay at least \$100 per month. There will be some “bumps in the road” even if they are only here for 3-4 weeks. Will it take some adjustments on both our parts? Yes, most definitely. But...Franklin Church gets it, the Kingdom of God is bigger than Franklin Church. Additional note: we have asked and they have agreed to seek a volunteer office administrator for us 3-5 hours a week, no limit in sight (yes, absolutely free!).

In Christ's Love, Pastor Mike

PRAYER NEEDS

All those impacted by COVID19, Cao & Tang Lee – trying to get back from China, Yuan & her son David as they go back to China, Joy Fugate recovery from arm surgery & infection, Stan Eller (kidney complications)

Missionary of the Month: Pastor Michael Muwongee (Uganda)

Shut-Ins: Helen Smith, Melvin & Mildred Burdette, Barb Pittenger, Jeanne Teele, Lorei Less, members who have become shut-in due to COVID19

SCRIPTURE OF THE MONTH

“The Lord is my light and my salvation, whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strong hold of my life – of whom shall I be afraid?”

- Psalm 27:1

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Beginning Sunday, June 7th WORSHIP SERVICE TIME CHANGES, TEMPORARILY, 9:00 a.m. Why? See article above!

Limited Calendar & Activities: Until further notice you will see that our activities are light. NOTHING is suspended, we are just “re-opening” slow!

Never Miss Church Service Again Because You Are Shut-In: It's finally here...we are live-streaming Sunday morning worship. Find the Franklin Church **Facebook** page on the internet, then search for the live-streaming point and you will see the service broadcast on our Facebook page. Some of you have been asking for this ability to watch the worship service so you can feel connected again, so, thanks to several people pulling together it's here! If you have questions call the church office and leave a message.

Financial Update: Miss church? Please don't miss your offering. A few times the several weeks offerings have not come-in at budget level needed. Please be sure to send your offering in if you are not yet coming in! Let's get on budget or better!