

June 30, 2021 – Congregational Letter #26 regarding COVID-19

Dear Friends and Members of Our Saviour's;

“Sticking Together”

They “devoted” themselves“ to the apostle’ teaching, and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.” Acts 2:42

The last few days have been pretty **“sticky”**!! Having hit all time high temperatures throughout the Pacific Northwest has left most of us sticky, sweaty, smelly, and looking for some relief. Two days ago, at 4 p.m., the temperature gauge inside my house registered 93.4 degrees. I stripped down to my lightest gym shorts, positioned myself under the ceiling fan, and laid down on my leather couch with the largest glass I could find filled with ice water. Getting off that leather couch was definitely a “sticky” wicket. Each time I left the couch, my skin would slowly peel off the hide as if I was pulling off the back side of a square, do-it-yourself “peel and stick” piece of tile.

Funny thing. Last night, with the “cool down” underway, my house cooled to 73 degrees. With the windows and doors still open, I became chilled and actually put on a fleece sweater. What a difference a day makes.

So, what about this **“stickiness”**. After the early church was filled with the Holy Spirit, in Acts chapter 2, we are told that they devoted themselves to four primary activities: **Teaching, Fellowship, Holy Communion and Prayer**. It’s interesting that the word, **“devoted”**, can be translated, **“sticking together”**. The early church was “sticking together” as they worshipped, ate meals, shared the Lord’s Supper and prayed.

Over the last 16 months, we’ve had to find creative ways to “stick together”. It seems like we have been able to weather the heat of the moment in pretty solid fashion, keeping our cool. As our lives begin to return to normal, I pray that we will continue the devoted “stickiness” that has kept us calm, cool and connected.

During the upcoming “dog days” of summer, there are a number of new events and activities that might stick with you.

8:15 a.m. Traditional Worship – begins this Sunday, July 4th, thru Sept. 5th (Labor Day).

9:45 a.m. Drive-In/Fellowship Hall Worship - remains the same thru Sept. 5th (Labor Day).

Sunday School and Youth continue to meet at 9:45 a.m. during the summer.

Pancake Breakfast – This Sunday, July 4th – 9:00 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. (between services)

Women’s Bible study – Each Wednesday morning at 9:00 a.m.

Men’s Fraternity – Each Tuesday morning at 7:30 a.m.

Church Hike – Larrabee State Park - Sunday, July 11th after church – EASY HIKE FOR FAMILIES and SENIORS.

Community/Church BBQ – In Our Saviour’s Playground AREA - Saturday, July 24th - Beginning at Noon.

Youth Ministry:

“**Branches**” – **Elementary** Youth – every Wednesday at 6:00 p.m.

“**Grafted**” – **Middle School** Youth – every Thursday at 6:00 p.m.

“**The Vine**” – **High School** Youth – every Friday at 6:00 p.m.

- Final Notes:

If you are planning to attend the 8:15 a.m. worship service, please park in the area near the Caring Place, if you are able. We hope to keep parking open around the platform for the Drive-In Worship at 9:45 a.m.

We will no longer be sending the worship bulletins through email. Instead, we will be using paper bulletins for both the 8:15 and 9:45 a.m. services as we did previously.

If you have air conditioning at home – you might check the filters – often they get overlooked, and they need to be changed just as your forced air heater.

God Bless You – and I’m happy to “**SHTICK**” with you anytime!!

Pastor Mark