



Kitchissippi

UNITED CHURCH

Sunday, May 10, 2020
Third after Easter



A note from Rev. Jenni

Good Friday afternoon!

Hope this Friday File finds you and your family well!

Rev. Steve, Rev. Elizabeth and I have been doing some forward planning and while we don't know when things will 'go back to usual', we have planned into the summer, just in case. This Sunday is Mother's Day and while we would have been enjoying Frank Chapman and Gavan leading the men in singing to the mothers and women of the congregation if we were at Kitchissippi, what will happen is physically distanced worship, providing all with safety. We will miss that though, Frank and Gavan, and will look forward to next May when it will be exponentially enjoyed!

We have also planned that I will be off on Study leave from Sunday May 17 - 23rd, attending the virtual Festival of Homiletics (which I attended in person last year at this time in Minneapolis, MN). Rev. Elizabeth will also be attending and off on Study leave that week, but we are taking different Sundays off (me the 17th and her the 24th). We are planning to celebrate communion on May 31st - Pentecost, celebrate Pride Sunday on June 7th with a special guest (hopefully), and observe Indigenous Day of Prayer on June 21st, again with a special guest (hopefully). As per their usual, Rev. Steve will take the month of July off and Rev. Elizabeth the month of August. I will likely take 2 weeks in July and 2 weeks in August, as is our custom. Denise and the Worship Circle of Kitchissippi are working on Services in the summer and what might be possible. Thanks to this group of volunteers!

Personally, I'm lamenting that I am not going on Sabbatical this summer (would have started on Monday, May 11th). It was the right decision for me and my family and the church, but first I will lament the loss of plans that we've been looking forward to, lament the loss of expanses of time without the rigor of church work and a break for thinking, dreaming and Spirit. I will move through the loss, as we all have had to and will eventually embrace what is and what will be. I know we are all lamenting loss of gathering for church, loss of community, loss of physical touch with family and loved ones. We are all lamenting and grieving - and it is valid. Moving through it, instead of ignoring it or pushing it away, is the healthy way: acknowledge, grieve, lament, process...pray all the way through...the path towards healing and eventually rejoicing. Talking your way through it is also important, so please be in touch if you'd like to talk?

Blessings for a weekend of grieving, lamenting, rejoicing - whatever you have planned! Stay home, stay well, God loves you,
Jenni

p.s. I am including this image, as I sent the wrong one previously. Be gentle with yourselves!

← Unvirtuous Abbey



Unvirtuous Abbey



1 hr · 

This kind of nonsense that I'm hearing from the motivational speaker tribe and happy pastor culture is my new thing to actively resist.

Be sad. Be tired. God loves you. Take your meds. We're in this together. This pandemic won't make us better people. A lot of people are suffering right now. No one has extra time to do these kinds of things. In fact, we have less time.



Jonathan Shalit OBE (Hon Prof) 

@jonathanshalit



If you don't come out of this quarantine with

- 1) a new skill,
- 2) your side hustle started
- 3) more knowledge

— you never lacked time. You lacked discipline.



Write a comment...



MAY 8, 2020

We are here for you! Please reach out!

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**CHURCH OFFICE
CLOSED UNTIL
FURTHER NOTICE DUE
TO THE COVID-19
PANDEMIC**

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