



April 22, 2020

Good Morning TUCC!

A Letter from the Board of Stewards



Hello TUCC, from our homes to yours!

These are daunting times right now; for you, for society and for TUCC. There are so many questions out there that cannot be answered yet: How long will this Coronavirus Pandemic last, is it getting better? What will society look like when we return to normal? Will I have a job and financial security? Can I keep myself safe while working at my essential job? Will this global event alter the way our local normal will be?

The Board of Stewards is wrestling with these same questions; both personally and regarding our congregation's members, building needs and programs. This would normally be the time to conduct our annual campaign. But these are not normal times. And we recognize that now is not the time to ask you anything other than how we can help.

"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace." First Peter 4:10



To be good Stewards, we need to take care of ourselves. That means that when we are going through a stressful health event, we need to listen to our health experts and follow their advice to keep ourselves safe.

Once we've committed to taking care of the Steward, let's think about the people and communities that are important to us. Let's go back to that definition of Stewardship: the responsible overseeing and protection of something considered worth caring for and preserving. Who is that in your life? What is it? Who and what is something worth caring for and preserving?

How can we be good Stewards in a time of great anxiety? The specific things you decide to do as a Steward of your church family will vary by person, but here is an idea: This is a great time to check in on each other - especially those who might fall into a higher risk group. Give them a call. Do you still have an old church directory? Look through it, who do you see that might appreciate a call or a video chat? We might even learn a different way of communicating.

What about your own pledge, whether time and talent or monetary? If you can still make them, please do it. In times of anxiety, people can forget that the church still has those essential bills to keep the church property viable. If the pledge payments stop, that can create havoc with the mission of the church. Bills still need to be paid, and ministries still need to be funded. If we stop talking about ministries, we will lose that fellowship.



Caring for the caregivers. Sometimes we expect our clergy or leadership to shoulder the worry and anxiety all themselves. But they need self-care and your concern (and prayers) too. Maybe a call or emails to let them know you're thinking about them? Keep the boards communicating and committees busy collectively at home.

We all hope we will get to some sort of normal soon enough, but in the meantime, let's practice strengthening our "Stewardship muscles." We'll all feel a little bit better as a result.

Stay well and may God bless us all.

Church Connections

Phone: 315.696.8066. All calls are forwarded to Rick's cell phone.

Snail Mail – 5872 Meetinghouse Rd., Tully 13159

Email – tullyunitedcc@gmail.com will be received by Dawn

Website – tullychurch.org

Facebook Page – Tully United Community Church

“Like” the FB page to always receive the links to new devotional and sermon postings.

Prayer Requests

Lydia Aris's mother, Zdena, hospitalized in Prague, Czech Republic with COVID-19.

Sue Bickelhaupt, whose Uncle Ted passed at 100 due to COVID-19.

David Klem at home with Hospicare for cancer.

Pam Falge, Jim and Kay Butkus' daughter, has completed radiation treatments to her spine. Awaits chemo.

Nancy Colonna, Butkus's good friend, is at home with cancer.

Mary Thompson diagnosed with myelofibrosis and continues testing at Roswell.

Continued prayers for Don Bickelhaupt, Beverly LaForse, Robbie MacCrea and new military recruits, and all of us facing the uncertain times presented by COVID-19.

Are you, or someone you care about, in need of prayer? Please email the church, tullyunitedcc@gmail.com, and we will include your need.

Sanctuary Open for Prayer

Our beautiful sanctuary is open daytimes for anyone who would like a quiet place to pray or meditate. Hand sanitizer is provided by the door. Homemade masks are available for you to wear and take for added protection during COVID19.

Need a Mask?

Homemade facial masks are available just inside the church door for your taking. Thanks, Jaci and Janet! Cover your nose and mouth with a mask for everyone's protection from the virus and always when you cannot maintain 6' of social distance.

Happy Birthday Card Shower

Edie Cook's 87th birthday is on April 23rd. Let's wish her a happy day and year ahead. Her address is: 2648 Lafayette Road, Lafayette, NY 13084.

Trustee Update

Item One: Save-the-date, May 17, for yard work at the church/parsonage property. More details to come.

Item Two: The Board has been successful in reducing the woodchuck population!

Offerings for Ministry

The Church Council voted Sunday to support the St. Leo's Food Pantry and Outreach with a \$1000.00 donation. Barb Kohberger, Fisherman's Net coordinator, said this will offer local families fresh fruit and vegetables to eat during this crisis. Your donations to Fisherman's Net help meet this basic need of our neighbors.

Food Pantry at St. Leos

Please continue with your regular donations of sauce, tuna, canned veggies, PB, jelly, toiletries, paper products, etc., etc.. Donations for the Food Pantry can be left just inside St. Leo's hall between 9am – 2pm or just outside the door.

Sunday Service Link

The Zoom link for all Sunday services is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/135746765> Meeting ID: 135 746 765

The link for the sermon on Youtube is sent a day or two before via email.

Remember: Wash your hands. Cover your cough. Keep 6' between you and others. Stay home and stay well!