

Announcements 9/13/2020

Parking Lot Worship Etiquette

- We are asking that each car park one space away from each other car.
- People can stay in their cars or get chairs out and set them up in front of their car.
- Though we will be outside, masks are encouraged.
- If anyone finds it necessary to use the rest room, please enter the Narthex through the front door and use the Narthex restroom only.
- There will be no collection of tithes and offerings at the service, so please continue to send in your offerings through the mail or online methods.
- The deacons will be handing out donuts afterwards. Use the right lane if you do not want a donut, the left lane if you do. The worship service will be the devotion that comes with the donut.

Let us join together (safely) to Kick-off the new program year!

A message from the Church Office: All Sunday bulletins will be attached with each week's Sunshine and posted on our website. The YouTube version of our Worship Services will be e-mailed out each Sunday afternoon and also posted on our website. If you need to get in touch with the church office, please call/text Leslie at (412)759-1634 or email at jmpc@johnmcmillanpc.org. The church office remains closed until further notice.

Children's Church: Join our class! Children's Church resumes on September 13, 2020; Online via Google Classroom (*Class code: 5jrloyq*). Text or email for details and questions: Emily Shubilla e.shubilla714@gmail.com; 724-984-8202 or Caitlin Smith smithce8@gmail.com; 412-508-7589

Devotion Books: The devotion books, "These Days" for October, November & December are available. If you would like one please contact Leslie and it will be mailed out to you next week.

How to be Resilient in Troubled Times Sermons Series: The Fantastic Four are a fictional team of superheroes appearing in Marvel Comics. The four individuals making up the Fantastic Four gained superpowers after exposure to cosmic rays. Two of them have superpowers worth comparing. "Mister Fantastic" can stretch his body into incredible lengths and shapes and then can return to his normal state. When attacked, say with a punch, he absorbs the blow into his rubberized body without harm. The "Thing" possesses tremendous durability because of his stone-like flesh. See the contrast? Mister Fantastic absorbs blows without harm. The Thing simply lets blows bounce off of him. Both of these superheroes have resilience. In times of stress or adversity, each uses their superpower to survive and to continue to function effectively in their world. But notice that their resiliency is personal to each of them. One absorbs the blows and one lets them bounce off. Which do you do? There is little doubt that we are in a time of stress and adversity. While

few of us are physically attacked, the verbal blows we encounter sometimes feel that way. How do we remain resilient? Do we absorb the blows? Do we let them bounce off? The problem is that we have not been exposed to cosmic rays and so aren't like Mister Fantastic or the Thing. Where do we get the ability to be resilient? What does the Bible teach about resilience? Pastor Jeff will preach a three-part series on "How to be Resilient in Troubled Times" beginning on September 20 and continuing for the next two Sundays. Join us at JMPC and hear what we can do when stress and adversity reign.

From Pastor Judy Slater: On behalf of First, Duquesne, I want to thank [JMPC] for the school supplies for the backpacks. You enabled us to fill some nice bags of school supplies! We were able to fill 50 backpacks with school supplies for the children in Duquesne. We gave 20 backpacks out Sunday evening at our Blessing of the Children event in the church yard, and the remaining 30 backpacks were given to the Duquesne Family Support Center for them to give out to the children in the families with which they work. This is a nice mission to do every year but this year it is very important as our students locally will go to school online so the students will need these supplies at home.

Racial Injustice Class: Rev. Judy Slater, pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Duquesne, our partner church, would like to invite members of JMPC to a Zoom class being planned by First Presbyterian of Duquesne on Racial Equity Tuesdays, September 8, 15, 22, 29 at 7:00-8:30pm via Zoom. Each session will include an educational element, testimonies, and suggested actions. The class is called: "Imagine Equity Series on Racial Justice". We will be looking at the situation of racial inequity in our society and how we can join in God's kingdom work of combating the sin of racism. You can sign up for this series by emailing me at judislater@gmail.com.

Book Club: September 28 - *The Alice Network* by Kate Quinn @ 7:00 - Zoomed or place to be determined. If you are interested in joining the book club, please email Pam Dobos @ dob914@aol.com.

In an enthralling new historical novel, *The Alice Network*, from national bestselling author Kate Quinn, two women—a female spy recruited to the real-life Alice Network in France during World War I and an unconventional American socialite searching for her cousin in 1947—are brought together in a mesmerizing story of courage and redemption.

October - *The Nickel Boys* by Cotton Whitehead

November - *Amity and Prosperity* by Eliza Griswold

Church Officer Nominating Committee: The Church Officer Nominating Committee (otherwise known as CONC) will be meeting next week to begin the identification and recruitment of JMPC members believed to be gifted in the skills JMPC needs in its leaders. We need two members to serve on Session and three to serve on the Deacon Board among a few other offices. If you are interested in or have questions about serving, please contact Pastor Jeff and he will fill you in on what it means to be ordained into the ministry of JMPC.

Worship in the sanctuary: The Reopening Task Force continues to monitor the guidelines and recommendations of the CDC and various Health Departments as well as the actions of other communities of faith in deciding when and how JMPC will come back together in our sanctuary for worship. To date, the task force has maintained its initial recommendation that to gather in the sanctuary for worship risks the health of all those present. The Task Force recognizes that the Preschool and Sunday worship are sufficiently different that the opening of one does not require the opening of the other. We will continue to update the JMPC membership as matters change.

Do you miss your church friends? We do too! Please join "John McMillan Presbyterian Community" Facebook page. You can post inspirational messages, join in activities, and connect with the people of the church.

SHIM Garden: Thanks be to God, we have harvested over 900 pounds of fresh produce for SHIM so far this year. Our volunteers join together every Monday evening at 6:00 (weather permitting) to tend the garden. You are welcome to be a part of this ministry by helping in the garden or providing monetary support. Carolyn Brow has more information. You can contact her at worb5@comcast.net or (724) 941-0197. Be sure to specify your donation as "SHIM GARDEN."

Peace and Global Witness Offering: October 4th we will receive the Peace and Global Witness Offering, a special offering of the PCUSA. As we do each year the Outreach Pillar will donate 25% of this offering to a program of our choice. This year it is SHIM. The South Hills Interfaith Movement provides food, clothing and services to people in need in Pittsburgh's southern suburban neighborhoods.

The League of Women Voters of Greater Pittsburgh invites you and your organization to **join our campaign to recruit Allegheny County poll workers for Election Day, November 3.** Please take a moment to review our [Poll Worker Recruitment Tool Kit](#), including digital, social media and other tools **specific to Allegheny County.** They are designed for your use to encourage co-workers, members, and community members to **Be a Poll Worker and Make This Election Count.** The Tool Kit provides details on how to sign up, as well as poll worker duties, training, and compensation. More information is available on Allegheny County's website at www.alleghenycounty.us/elections/poll-workers.aspx. COVID-19 and a busy Presidential Election have created an urgent need for new poll workers, particularly younger individuals. You can help bridge that gap by helping spread the word. ***Perhaps "A Day at the Polls" can be your group's next community service initiative.*** If you have questions about this or other League programs, please reply to this email address or contact our office, 412-261-4284. Many thanks, Karen Lightell, **League of Women Voters of Greater Pittsburgh Poll Worker Recruitment Committee**

The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan, non-profit organization committed to helping ensure every citizen can and does register and vote.

Weekly prayers for JMPC:

Fred & Judy Founds
Barbara, Travis, Ava & Carter Friday
Douglas, Elizabeth, Landon & Benjamin Froelich
Dan & Heather Fuller
Jared, Lauren, Vincent & Joseph Gaudelli

New Joys and Concerns

(Please contact the Church Office with any Joys & Concerns)

Prayers & Sympathy for Wendy Edgar and family on the passing of her mother.
Continued prayers for Betty Dillon's cousin, Jay Greenberg. He was diagnosed with West Nile and has pneumonia.

Last Week's Joys and Concerns

Sympathy & Prayers Bonnie Grueso on the passing of her husband, John.
Pray for Karen Lightell, friend of Pastor Jeff and Karen Timko, and frequent visitor of JMPC, who has a recurrence of cancer.
Alice Wargo has also requested prayers. She recently fell and broke her wrist.
A prayer concern from Donna Kovell: My 29-year-old niece has been diagnosed with MS. Her name is Arianne Gmutza. She just found out and is reeling with the news. She is a single mother with two daughters.
Prayers for our new Preschool Directory, Kim Dougherty and our teachers, Enid Campos, Brooke Dudjak, Melissa Kim, Lisa Vilsack, Katie Strickland & Amelie Colletti in addition to school teachers, administrators, boards and students as we struggle with the plan for the upcoming school year.