

March 27, 2020

Grace and Peace:

During lent, Christians sometimes talk about giving things up. I think we have all given up more this year than we had ever imagined we would. People have lost jobs, businesses have been injured. Our social fabric is becoming nearly non-existent. Some are losing their confidence.

As a church, we have given up much, as well. Hospital and nursing home visitation is all but entirely shut off. We are not seeing each other on Sunday mornings to greet and hug and catch up with each other. This all takes a toll.

Here's a very small silver lining. Since the only way we can worship together is via our church's website ([millerpresby.com](http://millerpresby.com)), we have all had the opportunity to become acquainted with that website. I invite you to poke around there a bit, because there is a lot of interesting material there.

Today I want to point out something great on the website that you may not have seen. If you go to the button that says About Our Church, and under that, click on Photo Gallery, it will take you to a page of different links to different sets of pictures. Near the top, you will find one that says Video of Our Church. Click on that, and you will find an amazing video made by Shane Sivertsen, who used his drone to take really spectacular pictures of the building, inside and out.

If you were able to see last week's service, I am glad. If you are having trouble getting to that, please call me (204-0625) and I will help you. I understand that on some people's computers, there were sound level issues. We believe we have fixed that issue, but let me know if there are still problems. Again this week, we will record the service, and have it on the website by 10:00 AM on Sunday. Last week, we noticed that it took a lot of clicking to watch the service and try to follow along in the bulletin or the hymn music, and we have a plan for that, too. We will try to keep improving the process, and we would really like your help in making it better, so please email me or call me and let me know what is working and what is not.

Some members of the congregation do not have email or access to the internet. I am afraid they are beginning to feel quite cut off. I have been having some phone conversations with some of them, but I hope you will, too.

Finally, the ministerial is setting up a system whereby volunteers from the churches will deliver groceries and medicine if necessary, to people who need it, but who cannot or should not go out. Please call me if you or someone you know needs such help. Also, call if you are willing to help make deliveries.

As of this date, all the professionals are telling us it is too risky to meet. I don't like

that, but I understand. And I pray for God's blessings on you all, and look forward to the time when we can be together again.

Brian Jones