



First United Methodist Church

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Come Grow With Us

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Dear Church Family,

I hope each of you had a fun and safe 4th of July. As the weeks of this year roll on, I have become mindful of the fact that 2020 has been a year like none other in my lifetime. When the pandemic started in the USA back in March, I thought for sure that by now we would be in a better place, but alas we are not. As you may have heard, the church council and I made the decision to move worship back to live stream only, in the wake of the now over 200 cases in the past two weeks in Matagorda County, plus there is the mandatory mask order placed on counties with 20+ cases by Governor Abbott.

This past Sunday was the first time being back on live stream only, and you know what? I enjoyed it. Do I miss y'all? Ask anyone, and they will tell you yes. But when we had in-person, plus live stream during June, it was almost divided into two groups: Those in the sanctuary and those online. And that is not what we at FUMC Bay City are about! We are about togetherness; we are about being a church family who stands as one through the ups and downs. So, while live stream only seems like a step back, to me, it is a step in the right direction.

My friends, I know it doesn't seem like it, but this too shall pass. The pandemic won't last forever, and who we are, as individuals, and as a church on the other side, will be greater. For, God is with us, and God will take this and make something better from it. What we learn in the storm shall make us grow in the harvest. Ask anybody in farming and ranching, and they will tell you that nothing grows without rain. As Jesus puts it: "For God makes the sun rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain to the just and the unjust" (Matt. 5:45). I have said it before and I will say it again, we are all in this together.

If you need anything please call, email, or text me or Ronica. Know that I am here for you and am praying for each of you.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Wade

