
Battery Park Christian Church

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Letter from our Pastor

Dear friends,

One of the first things we learn in seminary is that the role of the church is multifaceted. We are to be a pastoral place. We are to be a prophetic place. We are, always, called to be a place of worship. For many of us who had grown up in the church, these were still new concepts. These were concepts, our beloved professors told us, that we would need as pastors, Christian educators, and teachers.

The pastoral role of the church might feel familiar. It is a role that has become more apparently necessary in the last few months even as we have been able to be in the church building together. It is about care. It is about care for our fellow congregants and the communities in which we reside. In the days of the coronavirus this need for the church to care has become so vital. There are those of us who have suffered from the virus and there are more of us who had friends who suffered or who, as a result of the virus, now suffer loneliness, economic uncertainty, and fear. Letting folks know that we are praying for them goes a long way in our pastoral role. So also, of course, are cards, phone calls, and homemade dinners delivered to doorsteps. We are to care. We are to be a pastoral place.

Secondly, we learned, the church is to be a prophetic place. For some of us the idea of prophecy summoned an image of a fortune teller with a crystal ball letting us know what life events are right around the corner. However, in the church setting, the prophetic role means the role that follows the example of Christ in going beyond what our world is often willing to offer in (as the prophet Micah tells us) justice, kindness, and humility. With issues of race and disparity at our doorstep here in Richmond we are to answer the radical call to stand with the marginalized and the oppressed. For many this is an uncomfortable and perhaps partisan conversation. Yet the Biblical instruction is clear. The church needs to stand in solidarity with those who cry out for justice.

Finally we are a place of worship, currently and frustratingly not meeting in person. Yet what we continue to know even outside these walls is that our greatest allegiance is to the greatest love- offered to us by God in the person of Jesus Christ. All blessings come from God and it is in response to these blessings that we give thanks and sing of the Good News of the Gospel. We praise whenever we lift up and live into that Gospel, both pastorally and prophetically, and always with gusto.

I miss you, dear friends, and I hope to see you soon. Know that this church is only whole because of you. I know that we will rejoice when we can be in fellowship again.

Peace and grace,

Rev. Jonah

STAY CONNECTED

WE'RE NOT **CANCELLED**, WE'RE ONLINE!

Posted to BPCCC Facebook and BPCCC YouTube
(www.facebook.com/batteryparkchristianchurch)
(www.youtube.com "Battery Park Christian Church")

Sunday Sermons @ 11 am

Archived also on the Church Website



Socially Distant Prayer Services

Wednesdays 6:30 pm

Fellowship Hall



The church office is open physically twice per week and virtually anytime!

Church Office: Monday and Thursday 8am – 1pm

-Emails, Voicemails, Paper mail, and in house administration (bills, facility maintenance etc)

Virtually: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday

- Emails, Website, Tech Support, Prepping bi-weekly mailings and other duties as needed.

Tech Support

Do you need technology help? Zoom, WebEx, GoToMeeting, Livestream, Facebook? Today’s new virtual communications can be overwhelming! If you need help setting up your technology so you can connect with your family please contact Lisa and she can help you by phone or email for support!



Worship and Study Alternative Options

If you are not able to access our worship services online and would like a copy of Rev. Jonah’s sermon mailed to your home please request these to Jonah or Lisa.

Also we still have a few copies of “Our Daily Bread” Devotional available for members who would like this mailed out.



Income and Expenses, Jan 1 - June 30, 2020

Income	
Offering	36,120
Building use	14,350
Other	2,801
Total Income	53,271
Expenses	
Personnel	48,137
Utilities and Maintenance	24,447
Unexpected Major Expenses	2,495
Other	6,484
Total expenses	79,836
Net loss (taken from reserves)	(26,565)

July Birthdays

Scott Patterson	7/11
Seth Williams	7/11
Tom Carr	7/17
Harold Englert	7/20
Betty Huth	7/28
Billy Garthright Jr.	7/30