



The Good News

July/August 2020

In This Issue...

From the desk of...Pastor Nancy Pearson

What a crazy world we live in! Just when we think that “the curve is flattening” and we’re getting to a more normal state, Utah is experiencing a surge in positive COVID cases. Numbers in Iron County have remained low, and for that we are thankful. But we know that we are experiencing community spread in our city, and so we need to continue to be diligent about using safe practices.

Top 3 ways to keep yourself and others safe

1. Wear masks whenever you are around other people.
2. Maintain proper physical distancing (at least 6 feet) in all activities, especially indoors, even when wearing a mask.
3. Use good personal hygiene including handwashing, avoiding face touching and cleaning surfaces.

We are pleased that we are able to open the office part time now and are able to gather for in person worship with restrictions. It’s good to begin to be together, even if it is in a limited way.

Though it’s been a challenging time to be the church these last few months, it’s made me begin to think about how we need to re-imagine what church looks like. We suspect that these limitations on our activities will be around for a while, and so I wonder if we have an opportunity to explore together the new ways that we can grow in our faith, worship God, and share our lives. Perhaps these weeks and months give us an opportunity to think more deeply about what it means to be the church—not just weekly worship and potluck lunches, but a deeper connection with a smaller group of people who are able to meet and share their lives together. We’ll be thinking about “how to be the church” more in the weeks ahead. If you have thoughts, send me a quick email or call and we can have a chat.

Let’s re-imagine what it means to be the church during this time.

God’s blessings to you all,

Pastor Nancy

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Community Presbyterian Church

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Cedar City, UT 84721

Cedarpres.org

Worship in the Time of COVID-19

Sunday July 12 marked our first time gathering in person for worship in 16 weeks. Though restrictions were in place, it felt good to be together. 30 people joined us for this new service, through a reservation system in place through our church office.

Stephen Fish and Marty Shurtleff have been working tirelessly over these last months to deal with all video, audio and recording issues. They have worked many hours both here at the church and at home. They have now arranged for the recording of our live service, so that those who need to continue to worship from home can view the service online. Please thank them when you have the opportunity to do so.

As we move forward into the weeks ahead, we are hopeful that we will be able to continue to gather together. Recent virus surges may cause a need to close the doors again, but we are taking those decisions on a week to week basis.

In the meantime, we'll take weekly worship reservations by email (office@cedarpres.org) and by phone (435-586-8891). Face coverings are required for worship, social distancing of at least 6 feet between family groups will be observed, and pre-recorded music will be on the screens. We are currently working through the details for offering communion once a month in a safe way.

Thank you for your understanding and flexibility as we adjust to these new guidelines. We love our church family and pray that everyone can stay safe and healthy.

From a church newsletter:

From the superintendent

These students had perfect attendance, with zero absences.

Way to go!

Stay healthy to avoid absences!

Helping our Navajo neighbors

Most of you are aware that our neighbors in the Navajo nation in Utah, Arizona and Nevada have been especially hard hit by the COVID-19 pandemic. Not only are personal protective equipment and supplies difficult to access, but medical care is often miles away and inadequate.

Clean water is also in short supply as well as cleaning products and non perishable foods. We have been collecting these items at our church and all items are being flown by SUU to those in need.

In addition, we are pleased to be able to support a local effort to build simple "wash stations" to be delivered to those who need them. CPC's Session voted to send \$500 towards supplies for these wooden wash stations. Our own Jeff McCoy and Brad Phelps are involved with the construction of these products.

Needs are ongoing, and so we are again providing you with a list. If you'd like to contribute any of these items, please bring them to the church office and we will deliver them. Thank you for your donations.

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Bleach | Bottles of hand soap |
| Spray bottles | Laundry detergent |
| Hand sanitizer | Shampoo |
| Disinfectant wipes | Toothpaste |
| Disposable gloves | Tooth brushes |
| Paper towels | Disposable face masks |
| Toilet paper | Non perishable foods |
| Bars of hand soap | Gallons of drinking water |



Remembering Sue Ebersole



It was with great sadness that we bid farewell to our friend and longtime church member Sue Ebersole at a graveside service on Wednesday, July 8. Family and friends gathered on a beautiful breezy summer afternoon to remember Sue's life, after just six months ago gathering at the same spot to say good bye to her beloved husband Tim.

Sue was an East coast girl, born in Philadelphia, PA. Competitive swimming was her passion in her high school and college days. She spent a year in Denmark as a foreign exchange student, and attended Temple University graduating with a degree in Communication Arts. She worked as in international business executive out of Huntington Beach, CA with monthly trips to Brazil. She practiced real estate in California and in New Jersey.

Tim and Sue met in Brownsville, TX and enjoyed twelve years living there with their three daughters, Caylee, Sharleena and Jasmine while operating a medical consulting business. The family moved to Cedar City and were both an important part of the community here.

Sue will be missed, and we will continue to pray for the Ebersole girls as they now must live life without both the parents who loved them dearly.

Rest in Peace, Sue and Tim.

Giving in the Time of COVID-19

Just as worship has had a different look these last four months, so has our giving to our church. We've not been able to pass the offering plate on Sunday mornings, and so we've had to create some new ways to be able to give to the life and ministry of the church.

Many of you have used this time to establish new patterns of giving online. For those of you still interested in exploring this option, please know that you can go to our website cedarpres.org and give a one-time gift, or you can establish a pattern of recurring gifts. If you have questions about online giving, you can contact our church treasurer Jeanine Howells at jeaninehowells@gmail.com

Our thanks to those of you who continue to submit your checks to the office. I've been especially blessed by the notes you've sent with your gifts. Thank you for your faithful giving and for your encouraging words.

Offering plates are available at the in person worship service at the back of the sanctuary for your convenience.

God has blessed our congregation with faithful people who have continued to support the ministry of our church. Thank you for your giving.



Session News

Session held a called meeting on July 1, 2020. The purpose of the meeting was 1) to discuss the distribution of Mission Funds and 2) to discuss the resumption of in-person worship services.

Present were Jeff McCoy, Jane McCoy, Brad Phelps, Dana Covey, Rich Bontdelli, Linda Stetzenbach, Jeff Smith and Pastor Nancy Pearson.

After discussion, a motion was heard to move \$500.00 to the Navajo project led by SUU, from fund 606, General Missions. The motion was seconded and approved.

A motion was heard to move \$2000.00 to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance from fund 606, General Missions. The motion was seconded and approved.

A motion was heard to re-open in-person worship services on July 12, 2020, with all recommended COVID-19 precautions in place. If the governor moves SW Utah back to Orange status, services will be suspended. The motion was seconded and approved.

Dana Covey, Clerk of Session

July Birthdays

Audrey Lebbon	1
Robyn Eddy	2
Kathy Beck	5
Rick Osborn	6
Torrie Leonard	8
Beverly Dressen	9
Josie Hendrix	14
Susan Allman	16
Miranda Roelandt	18
John Ruhr	20
Mike Hill	23
Robert Vancil	24
Bob Pearson	26
Dana Covey	27
Earl Mulderink	30



August Birthdays

George Grohs	6
Celia Imbrescia	9
Bruce Hendrix	12
Diane Douglass	13
Virginia Stephenson-Toguchi	13
Fred Judd	14
LeRoy Kuehl	15
Amarante Vasquez	16
Gloria Cheeseman	17
Nadine Hansen	18
Brad Phelps	19
Elaine Moores	20
Laura Cotts	21
Becky Hill	21
Dawn Hendrix	21
Martha Bayer	23
Carolyn Goslin	23
Nancy Osborn	24
Deb Emans	27
Elijah Montoya	27
Shauna Mendini	31





Treasures Community Thrift Store

“Treasures” is celebrating 3 years of successful business!! It’s hard to believe that it’s been more than three years since your Session came to the congregation with a proposal to lease a building on South Main and establish a full time Thrift store. Many said it couldn’t be done! The main concern would be that we would not have enough merchandise to support a year round store. Boy, were we wrong!! Donations have outpaced our ability to sell, and the profits from the store have been more than we could have imagined.

Two years ago, all of you pitched in and we purchased the Treasures building. Since that time, many improvements have created a pleasant place to shop and expanded areas to display merchandise. Our team of volunteers has worked hard to keep the store running smoothly. Profits from Treasures have continued to be given to local mission organizations in our community: Care and Share, Canyon Creek Crisis Center, Family Support Center and more.

Special thanks to Jeri Coulston, who recently stepped down from managing Treasures anticipating her move to Las Vegas. We have appreciated Jeri’s leadership so much—her time and energy and enthusiasm helped our store to thrive over the last two years. Thank you Jeri!

Currently, Treasures is being managed by four committed people who are working hard making our store a viable and profitable enterprise. If you are interested in volunteering at Treasures, stop on by! We are in need of volunteers and you’ll find it’s great FUN!

Treasures Thrift Store

Volunteer-
Extraordinaire



These words completely describe

Treasures volunteer, Betty Summers. Betty comes to Treasures with a lot of thrift store experience. She was a faithful volunteer at WaCom, in Ridgecrest, California. This thrift store is on a military base. The customers are military families. WaCom donated half of its profits to the Navy relief society and the other half to community charities. During her four years of volunteering at WaCom, Betty learned how to maximize her time. Betty has brought this expertise with her to Treasures. We are learning how to start each prep day with a bucket of warm soapy water. Each donation is cleaned off before being priced and then set out in an organized way in the retail space. Betty is very organized in straightening out our displayed merchandise. Each item falls into a specific category and is placed in that area of Treasures. When an item is spotted in the wrong area, Betty quickly returns it to its proper place. Many have remarked that Betty “works harder than anyone else.” This really sums up our 84 year old Volunteer- Extraordinaire. Betty enjoys the people she works with at Treasures and loves visiting with the customers. A big “Thank You” to Betty for helping make our store run smoothly!

We have many other talented and extraordinary volunteers at Treasures. These volunteers are all focusing on the same thing, Treasures. You, too, can find satisfaction, joy, friendship, and a lot of fun by joining the team of volunteers at Treasures.



Summer 2020 Preaching

The Life & Lessons of Moses

- July 12** Get Ready for Moses
Exodus 1:6-22; Exodus 2:1-10
- July 19** God & Moses:
Who am I and Who are YOU?
Exodus 3
- July 26** Plagues and Passover
Exodus 7-13
- August 2** Susan Allman preaching
Passing Through the Sea
Exodus 14
- August 9** Wilderness Grumbings
Exodus 15:22-27; Exodus 16, 17
- August 16** Mt Sinai & The 10 Commandments
Exodus 19 & 20
- August 23** The Tabernacle &
The Presence of God
Exodus 25-26; Exodus 33:12-23;
Exodus 40
- August 30** Guest preacher



*"By this all people will know
that you are my disciples, if you
have love for one another."*

JOHN 13:35, ESV



As a church family, we count it a privilege to be able to share each other's joys and sorrows. Thank you for your faithful prayers for members of our congregation, especially during this time of crisis.

Give thanks that we have begun to worship again in person! Pray that we can continue to stay safe as we gather with some restrictions.

Give thanks for those who are making the worship services possible, both online and in person. It takes nine people to produce the live service!

Give thanks for successful surgeries for:

Sonny Enneper (shoulder)

Lee Bechtel (back)

Debbie Corum (lung)

Please pray for their continued healing and recovery.

Please continue to pray for Lorraine Lilley recovering from a fractured pelvis at Cedar Medical & Rehab Center. Pray for healing and for patience.

Pray for those who are grieving:

Caylee, Sharleena, Jasmine Ebersole in the loss of their mother Sue

Cathy Ewert & the Dischben family in the sudden loss of David

Pray for our church family as we continue to be apart from each other. Pray that we would continue to be diligent and patient about staying safe.

Thank you for your prayers.

(We apologize if we missed your request. We continue to receive prayer requests in the church office.)

Cedar City Summer Lunch Program

The Summer Lunch program in Cedar City has been fully operational since May 26. Nine employees and assorted volunteers prepare healthy lunches here at CPC in our church kitchen five nights per week. Lunches are then distributed Monday through Friday to children at Main Street Park and at Enoch Elementary School. Up to 400 free lunches are distributed each day.

The Summer Lunch program has been operating as a partnership between Community Presbyterian Church and Southern Utah University for many years through a USDA grant. Rita Osborn oversees this program and Danielle Dominguez is the on site coordinator.

The Lunch program will continue through mid August, and is an important service provided in our community for students who rely on free or reduced lunch programs through the Iron County School District during the school year.



For those who are tired of being locked up!

The side effect of being quarantined is that it is really hard to end phone calls. I keep wanting to say "OK, I really have to run," when everyone knows there is no where to run to!!

I need to practice social distancing from my refrigerator!! (Have you heard of the COVID 15? That's the 15 lbs you've put on while staying at home!)

It's crazy that we live in a time when everyone says to stay home and take a nap, and we're upset over it!!

(from Pastor Jeff Garrison)

Patient attention, valuable discoveries

For many people, the coronavirus pandemic has been a test of patience — or worse. Medically vulnerable people face an anxious time of hypervigilance. Furloughed workers wait on hold or in lines for assistance. Special events have been canceled or rescheduled.

Those not impacted directly deal with assorted frustrations and inconveniences. Many people are learning the benefit of slowing down, being present (even virtually) to others and practicing patient attention.

Interestingly, scientist Isaac Newton did some of his best work when the plague forced Cambridge University to close. At home, the inquisitive student invented calculus and developed groundbreaking theories of gravity and optics. Later Newton called 1666 his *annus mirabilis* ("year of wonders") and reportedly said, "If I have made any valuable discoveries, it [owes] more to patient attention than to any other talent."

What have you discovered during the Covid-19 crisis? What appreciations have you developed for aspects of life you may have previously taken for granted? What has social distancing taught you about the value of neighbors, church, community volunteering?

During the pandemic, what have you learned about persistence and God's presence? What empathy do you now feel for writers of words such as "I wait for the LORD, my whole being waits, and in his word I put my hope" (Psalm 130:5, NIV)? (From the *NEWSLETTERnewsletter*)

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We are especially thankful for...



The Session

Class of 2021

Dana Covey, Brad Phelps, Linda Stetzenbach

Class of 2022

Rich Bontadelli, Jane McCoy, Jeff McCoy, Jeff Smith

The Board of Deacons

Class of 2022

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Community Presbyterian Church

"Reach, Grow, Send"